



TED TALKS EARTH CARE EDITION

Rev. Alexandra Mauney, May 17, 2020
First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, NC

Throughout May, our TED Talk selections for this Church School class deal with themes of earth care. We're thinking together about God's call to care for creation, and how that call influences the way that we live in the world as Christians. This week, we will turn our attention to the wisdom of indigenous peoples. This is not something that Christians have been particularly good at, historically speaking: Our track record with learning from and loving indigenous communities is spotty at best. When it comes to the current climate crisis, we cannot afford not to learn from the wisdom of indigenous peoples all around the globe. Many of these communities know and love the earth in ways that we would all do well to emulate. So, I invite you to join me in learning from Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim in today's TED Talk! And just a note – if you have trouble hearing or understanding the speaker, you can find a transcript of the talk just below the video.

- Rev. Alexandra Mauney

Read: Find a Bible and read 1 Corinthians 12 (the whole chapter). If you had to summarize the apostle Paul's primary message in this chapter, what might that summary be?

Watch: Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, "[Indigenous knowledge meets science to solve climate change](#)"

Questions for discussion or reflection:

Check in with yourself. What from this talk resonated with you? What failed to resonate? Did anything challenge you?

Ibrahim says that the knowledge of indigenous communities is underutilized in the fight against climate change. She posits that if the worlds of science, technology, and indigenous wisdom would come together in meaningful dialogue, advances in climate justice would come far more quickly than they have in the past. Returning to the 1 Corinthians passage, what might Paul have to say about this argument?

Visit [this website](#), type in your address, and find out the name of the indigenous groups who once inhabited the land you call home. How might you give thanks this week for the wisdom and witness of Native peoples around the world?

Pray: Holy God, you are the author of all creation. Help us to learn from the rhythms of the earth, honoring the sacred patterns of rest and flourishing. Guide us to listen to the voices of those whose communities are affected by climate change, and grant us the courage to listen to them. In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ; Amen.