



2022 ELCA  
CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY  
August 8-12, 2022  
Columbus, Ohio



## ELCA Churchwide Assembly Bible Study Guide: Dr. Jay Alanís, July 10, 2022

### Devotional Presenter on Luke 24:13-35. The Walk to Emaus, *La Caminata a Emaús*

#### **Liminality Defined:**

Relating to a transitional or initial stage of a process or threshold ...

A threshold for sacred encounter: *Encuentro* – the place of epiphanies ... new awareness ... new consciousness ... *concientización*

Defines the Christian way of being in the world: Living in two realms, Living in the “Kin-dom” now but not yet fully realized ... for we are awaiting the promised future ... an in-between sacred third space ...

Experienced as a state of being or a state of living in tension and ambiguity ... it is a both/and existential reality ... living in two cultures or identities at the same time ...

Often experienced at a geo-political or cultural boundary-crossing, where one stands on both sides of the border at the same time ... as in the U.S. - Mexico border

#### **Interstice or Intersection Defined: “Standing in Third Spaces”**

A Third Space between two cultures as in the space in a border fence/wall

A Liminal Space between two identities: “Living in the Hyphen,” as in Mexican-American, etc. Gender non-binary identities ...

A [holy] space of [Spirit] ENCOUNTER between people, cultures, and the Sacred

#### **Question:**

What or where are your “third spaces,” your liminal or in-between spaces as a person or as a congregation or community of faith? What creative tension do you identify as your growing edges? What is your walk of exile, diaspora and hope? ¿Cual es su caminata del exilio, de la diáspora y de la esperanza?

¿Cuales son sus “espacios de tercer lugar,” su espacio liminal o el lugar de estar o ser entre-medio en su iglesia o su comunidad de fe? ¿Que tipo de tensión creativa surge en Usted o en su congregación como el ánimo del Espíritu para crecer?