



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

The Source of Science and Faith
ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton Weekly Video Message
April 30, 2021

I'm a proud graduate of the College of Wooster. Our school motto was "Scientia et religio ex uno fonte." Or science, knowledge and religion from the same source.

We believe that in the Lutheran movement and have since the very beginning. Science and religion come from the same source, and we believe that that source is God. Martin Luther himself was a college professor. So there is no disparity between science and religion, or faith and science. They're both ways of knowing God and knowing God's creation.

Some people are still expressing hesitancy to receive the COVID-19 vaccine because it might seem that they're being less than faithful if they trust the science and the vaccine and not God. Nothing could be further from the truth. God has given us the gift of knowledge, the gift of inquiring minds, the gift of curiosity, the gift of discovery, to be used for the betterment of all creation and for all human beings.

If you have not yet gotten the vaccine, don't consider it a test of faith. Go, get vaccinated. The more of us who get vaccinated, the sooner that we can come back and be together in person. And remember this: there's nothing about being anti-intellectual about our faith.

The Episcopalians once had this slogan, which I thought was so clever but important. It said that "Jesus died to take away our sins, not our minds."

Get vaccinated. Be well, dear church.