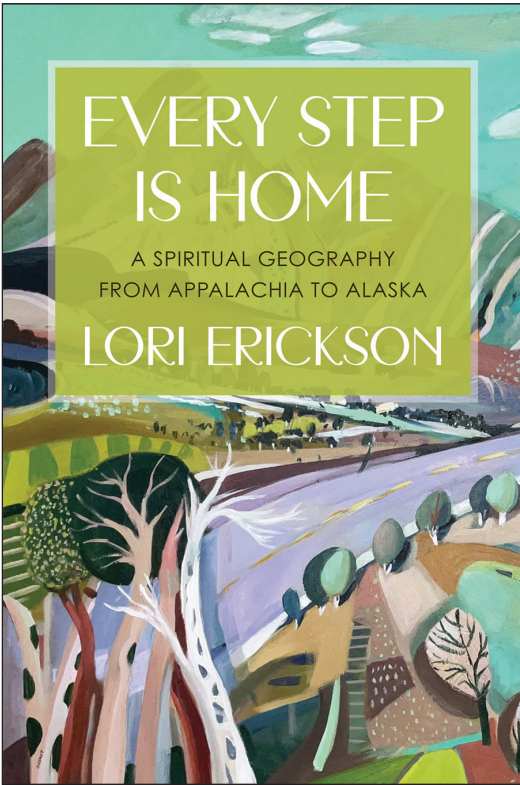# Book Club Questions for
Lori Erickson's *Every Step Is Home*

Have you been to any of the sites Erickson visits in the book or to other sites that illustrate the themes she explores?

Of the elements and themes featured in each chapter—dirt, air, earthen mounds, stones, trees, caves, water, animals, lights, fire, and astronomy—which are most challenging for you to find spiritual meaning in? Which come most naturally to you?

Erickson comments that water is both a source of awe and potentially dangerous. Fire, too, shares this razor's edge. Does the potential of danger enhance something's spiritual power for you, or does it have the opposite effect?

One of the themes in the book is the idea of a multilevel world. In your life, have you wandered through an underground realm of darkness or felt the presence of a heavenly realm? If so, what did you learn?

Erickson writes this about the Ancestral Puebloans: "The people were on a journey, and when it was time for them to leave, they moved on. . . . On pilgrimage, time is irrelevant. You might stay for a day, a week, or a century, but eventually the time will come to move once again." What would it mean for you to view life as a journey, both physically and spiritually?

Erickson writes about specific places, but her overarching theme is that entrances to the holy are anywhere and everywhere. In what places have you experienced the sacred?

How did the COVID-19 pandemic affect your spiritual life? Do your pandemic experiences continue to influence you? What spiritual changes do you think the pandemic has brought to the larger world?

What insights into spirituality did you gain from reading this book? Are there any practices or places you would like to experience as a result of reading this book? Why do they call to you?