

# Sherwood Episcopal Church

Five Sherwood Road  
Cockeysville-Hunt Valley, MD 21030

410-666-2180

[sherwoodcockeysville.org](http://sherwoodcockeysville.org)

**Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**10 am**

**August 22, 2021**  
**Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

*Watch live on our Facebook page and our website at 10 am, and on our YouTube channel after the service.*

## THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

The Reverend Nancy H. Hennessey

*Please stand as you are able.*

THE OPENING SENTENCES

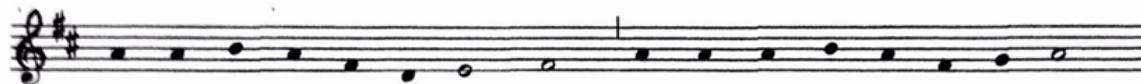
BCP pg. 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



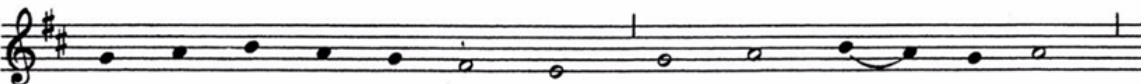
1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



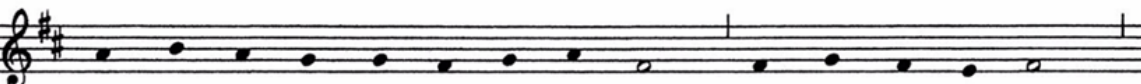
2. Lord God, hea-ven-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you,



we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,



on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



4. you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



6. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



7. You a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE FIRST READING

Ephesians 6:10-20

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer

and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 84

*Read responsively by whole verse*

**1** How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! \*

My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

**2** **The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \***  
**by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,  
my King and my God.**

**3** Happy are they who dwell in your house! \*  
they will always be praising you.

**4** **Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \***  
**whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.**

**5** Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, \*  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

**6** **They will climb from height to height, \***  
**and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.**

**7** LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; \*  
hearken, O God of Jacob.

**8** **Behold our defender, O God; \***  
**and look upon the face of your Anointed.**

**9** For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, \*  
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God  
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

**10** **For the LORD God is both sun and shield; \***  
**he will give grace and glory;**

11 No good thing will the LORD withhold \*  
from those who walk with integrity.

12 O LORD of hosts, \*  
**happy are they who put their trust in you!**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GOSPEL AFFIRMATION



## THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 6:56-69

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father." Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to

whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.*

THE SERMON

The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey

THE NICENE CREED

BCP pg. 358

*Said by all, standing as you are able.*

**We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

**he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this town of Cockeysville, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

We especially pray for those impacted by COVID-19 as well as those on our parish prayer list: Sally, Debbie, Shannon, Jeff & Kim, Norma, Joyce, Christine, Kendall, Marge, Sarah, Gail, Steve W., Michelle, Joe G., Steve & Debbie, Jeanetta, Christina, Khalil, Samantha, Courtney, Debbie H., Danny, Sandy & Jack, Virginia, Jacqui, Susie H., Linda P., Timothy, Bill H., Margaret S. & family, Jackie & Rick, Louis, David D., Caitlyn, Alice, Shannon T., Marisa, Jay, Debbie R., Tom T., Bill & his family, Casey, Ron L., Ron S., John C., Nicholas, and the people of Haiti and Afghanistan. Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the blessings of this life, especially for those celebrating birthdays including Bernice, Lee, and C.J., as well as anniversaries, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

**To thee, O Lord our God.**



*Silence.*

*Concluding Collect:*

Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

## THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

*The people will greet one another with a sign of God's peace. Don't forget to show the sign of peace to our friends who are worshiping with us virtually.*

*Please be seated.*

*We continue to do God's work and your contributions of any size make a huge difference. Give online ([sherwoodcockeyville.org/give](http://sherwoodcockeyville.org/give)) or if you would prefer, mail your contribution to 5 Sherwood Road, Cockeysville, 21030. Thank you!*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

*Please remain seated in your pew and Mother Nancy will come to you during the Eucharist. If you would prefer a blessing in lieu of Communion, please cross your arms on your chest.*

OFFERTORY

*His eye is on the sparrow - arr. Mark Hayes  
Zoë Sheller, soprano*

1 Why should I feel discouraged,  
Why should the shadows come,  
Why should my heart be lonely,  
And long for heav'n and home;  
When Jesus is my portion?  
My constant Friend is he;  
His eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know he watches me;  
His eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know he watches me.

Refrain:

I sing because I'm happy,  
I sing because I'm free;  
For his eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know he watches me.

2 Whenever I am tempted,  
Whenever clouds arise;  
When songs give place to sighing,  
When hope within me dies,  
I draw the closer to him,

From care he sets me free;  
His eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know he watches me;  
His eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know he watches me. [Refrain]

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B – BCP pg. 361

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant offers thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available in Christ, and in response the people sing:*

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS – S124

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and  
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Celebrant gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's passion and resurrection and prayers over the bread and wine.*

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic prayer and at the conclusion says*  
By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and  
glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP pg. 364

*The Celebrant says*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## AGNUS DEI - S161

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

*For those who are not able to be present for communion, please pray the Spiritual Communion Prayer while Mother Nancy distributes communion to those present.*

### A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*Episcopal Prayer Book for the Armed Forces (1988)*

*In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. And since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.*

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP pg. 365

Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food**

**of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Celebrant pronounces a blessing over the people, and the people respond, **Amen.***

RECESSIONAL HYMN - 460

*Alleluia! sing to Jesus!*

1 Alleluia! sing to Jesus!  
his the scepter, his the throne;  
Alleluia! his the triumph,  
his the victory alone;  
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood;  
Jesus out of every nation  
hath redeemed us by his blood.

2 Alleluia! not as orphans  
are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! he is near us,  
faith believes, nor questions how:  
though the cloud from sight received him,  
when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his promise,  
"I am with you evermore"?

3 Alleluia! bread of Heaven,  
Thou on earth our food, our stay!  
Alleluia! here the sinful

flee to thee from day to day:  
Intercessor, friend of sinners,  
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,  
where the songs of all the sinless  
sweep across the crystal sea.

4 Alleluia! King eternal,  
thee the Lord of lords we own:  
Alleluia! born of Mary,  
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:  
thou within the veil hast entered,  
robed in flesh, our great High Priest:  
thou on earth both Priest and Victim  
in the eucharistic feast.

5 Alleluia! sing to Jesus!  
his the scepter, his the throne;  
Alleluia! his the triumph,  
his the victory alone;  
Hark! the songs of holy Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood;  
Jesus out of every nation  
hath redeemed us by his blood.

## THE DISMISSAL

As we go forth into the world, refreshed and renewed, we reaffirm our  
commitment to our mission as a congregation:

**God commands us to enthusiastically cast open our doors to embrace all,  
impacting lives through bold service, no exceptions.**

Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Postlude

## **Worship Participants**

Officiant: The Reverend Nancy H. Hennessey

Music Director & Organist: Greg Sesek

Guest Cantor: Zoë Sheller

Lector: Sheila Fitzgerald

Acolyte: Seminarian Karen Mercer

Ushers: Bill & Karyn Galetto

Broadcast Engineer: Robin Rouleau

Hospitality: Susan Boucher

## **Lay Participants for Sunday, August 29**

Lector: Loretta Cunninghame

Acolyte: Seminarian Karen Mercer

Usher: Kevin Hennessey

Broadcast Engineer: Stephanie Everts

Hospitality: Greg Davis

*Thank you for joining us for worship. Please be sure to check out our Facebook page for updates and also remember to subscribe to our YouTube channel. If you are interested in receiving our e-newslette, please contact Carey Mednick at [sherwoodparish@gmail.com](mailto:sherwoodparish@gmail.com).*

## **Announcing Our Adult and Youth Formation Schedule!**

Mother Nancy and Seminarian Karen Mercer have been working hard to create a full year of formation book studies, discussions, and classes. This is a great opportunity to come together as a community to dive deeper into our faith. Take a look at the offerings below and please note that this schedule may change. If you are interested in joining us for any of these opportunities, please email Carey Mednick. ([sherwoodparish@gmail.com](mailto:sherwoodparish@gmail.com) or call 410-666-2180) You will find more details below about the sessions starting in September, the Book of Esther and Beginnings. We look forward to seeing you!



## ADULT FORMATION

- ***Waking Up White Book Study***                      Dates/Times TBD
- **Book of Esther Bible Study**                      Sundays, 9/12-10/10
- **Fall Faith Forums**                                      Oct.-Nov. Dates/Times TBD
- ***Faithful: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph Book Study***                      Sundays, 11-21-12/19
- **The Way of Love During Lent**                      Sundays, 3/6-3/22
- **Lenten Activities**                                      Sunday 4/3
- **Stations of the Cross**                                      Friday 4/15
- **Spring Faith Forums**                                      Sundays, 5/15 & 5/22

## YOUTH FORMATION

- **New Year--*Beginnings***  
9/12 Creation, 9/19 Fall, 9/26 Suffering, 10/3 Flood, 10/10 Tower of Babel
- **Advent--*Jesus' Early Life***  
11/21 Annunciation, 11/27 Nativity, 12/5 Consecration, 12/12 Herod, 12/19 Authority
- **Preparation for Lent & Lenten Season--*Jesus' Ministry***  
3/6 Baptism, 3/13 12 Disciples, 3/20 Parables, 3/27 Healings & Teachings, 4/3 Lenten Studies & Stations of the Cross, 4/10 Palm Activity, 4/15 Presentation of Stations of the Cross
- **Summer--5/15 End-of-Year Activity**

## **The Book of Esther ...**

THE SETTING: *A lavish feast in the opulent Persian Empire*

THE EVENT: *A beauty contest*

THE PLOT: *Save a nation from annihilation*

*Adapted from Chosen, by Donna Snow*

Members of all ages are invited to join us as we dig deeper into God's Word and explore how to relate it to our daily lives. Beginning September 12, we will engage in an exciting six-week study on Esther, a timeless and incredible story of how God can take an ordinary young girl and make her queen of the most powerful nation of her day. The story is about the bravery of Esther and her commitment to doing the right thing in the midst of uncertainty. Come and share in the lively discussions that are sure to be ignited by this study. Please [reach out to Carey](#) by August 30 if you plan to join us.

### **Getting to Know the Book of Genesis:**

This fall our youth will have an opportunity to read, study, and discuss some of the important stories in the Book of Genesis. Starting with creation, we will explore some familiar stories using the Sparkhouse curriculum. The five classes will be held via Zoom on a day/time that works for our young people. Parents, look for an email from Seminarian Karen Mercer with all the details. We have a team of teachers—Stephanie Everts, Sarah Parker, Seminarian Karen, and Mother Nancy who are looking forward to gathering once again with our youth. [Email Carey](#) (sherwoodparish@gmail.com) if you'd like to sign your child or children up.

### **Shelter in Dire Need of Towels and Washcloths:**

With the recent seizure of 92 dogs from a local "rescue" (some later found to be sick with distemper) Baltimore County Animal Services has been through the wringer lately. They're asking for donations of old towels and washcloths, and we're hoping the good people of Sherwood will deliver. Please leave your donations in the blue bin on the parish office church. Anne Wismer, who volunteers at the shelter, will deliver them. They will be grateful for anything you can spare. Thank you!

## **Thank you!**

A big thank you to everyone who helped keep things humming along at Sherwood while I was away. My family and I had a wonderful and relaxing time away. And now my sights are on *Welcome Sunday* scheduled for September 12. Mark your calendar and stay tuned!

## **Protecting God's Creation, Part 1**

*A New Series About Sherwood's Water Management Initiative by  
Bronwyn Mitchell-Strong, Sherwood Hill Green Team Leader*

The Story of the Good Samaritan was the way Jesus answered the lawyer's question, "Who is my neighbor?" Using a Samaritan as the hero of the story forced the lawyer to see the world not in the arbitrary classifications and hierarchies created by humans but rather to see the world through God's eyes and the lens of love. As leader of the Sherwood Green Team, I am asking each of you to ask yourself the same question the lawyer asked of Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?" For it is within this lens that we will explore our natural world, God's gift to us; and seek ways to heal, repair, and mend what is broken.

Since it was water that brought us to this moment in time in Sherwood's history—water rushing down a hill scouring the land behind the church and the water of baptism that binds us together as a community of Christ, I thought it may be a good idea to take a deeper dive (pun intended) into water.

Water may be the first, and for some, the only chemical formula you know—H<sub>2</sub>O. That translates to two atoms of hydrogen and one of oxygen. But where did the hydrogen and oxygen come from, and how did they combine to make water and how did that water find its way to earth and inside each one of us?

Here is what we know. The hydrogen for water came from the Big Bang and the Oxygen from dying stars. As Carl Sagan said, "We are made of star stuff". There is a lot of water in space bound up in asteroids, meteors and comets. When our

sun formed, it was a hot mess, spewing solar winds all over the place. Earth formed, 4.5 billion years ago as dry, rocky planet.

As a reminder, science is a never-ending quest for knowledge. New knowledge can confirm older knowledge or render that old knowledge wrong or incomplete. For a while now, scientists believed that the earth was watered by asteroids. New research has recently emerged that is turning that theory on its head. Scientists have found that some of the rocks that make up earth contain hydrogen and oxygen necessary to make water. They theorize that, under pressure, these rocks may have melted in the earth's mantle releasing water that erupted out as vapor, cooled, condensed, and fell to earth as rain filling in all the nooks and crannies with water from asteroids adding about 5% of the total volume.

While it's not exactly Moses striking a rock and water gushing out like in Exodus, but in Genesis, first there was light and then water was separated from the land. And it is a good thing because water is essential for all living things.

*Up to 60% of the human adult body is water. According to H.H. Mitchell, Journal of Biological Chemistry 158, the brain and heart are composed of 73% water, and the lungs are about 83% water. The skin contains 64% water, muscles and kidneys are 79%, and even the bones are watery: 31%.*

Next time we will swim through the Water Cycle.