

Sherwood Episcopal Church

Five Sherwood Road
Cockeysville-Hunt Valley, MD 21030

410-666-2180

sherwoodcockeysville.org

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
10 am

October 31, 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, Rector

HYMN – 551

Rise up, ye saints of God

1 Rise up, ye saints of God!
Have done with lesser things,
give heart and soul and mind and strength
to serve the King of kings.

2 Rise up, ye saints of God!
His kingdom tarries long:
Lord, bring the day of truth and love
and end the night of wrong.

3 Lift high the cross of Christ!
Tread where his feet have trod;
and quickened by the Spirit's power,
rise up, ye saints of God!

Please stand as you are able.

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

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.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS – Hymn S 277

Setting by David Hurd

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.

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift that your faithful people offer you true and laudable service: Grant that we may run without stumbling to obtain your heavenly promises; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING

Ruth 1:1-18

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and

remained there. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband. Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had considered his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me." Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. So she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; Where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die, I will die — there will I be buried. May the Lord do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!" When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul! *

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

**2 Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, *
for there is no help in them.**

3 When they breathe their last, they return to earth, *
and in that day their thoughts perish.

**4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
whose hope is in the LORD their God;**

5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise for ever;

**6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.**

7 The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; *
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

**8 The LORD loves the righteous;
the LORD cares for the stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.**

9 The LORD shall reign for ever, *
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL AFFIRMATION

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

One of the scribes came near and heard the Saducees disputing with one another, and seeing that Jesus answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,' — this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

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

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We especially pray for those impacted by COVID-19 as well those on our parish prayer list: Virginia, Timothy, Margaret S. & family, Louis, Shannon T., Marisa, Bill P., Casey, Betsey, Kiernan & Colleen, Lou D., Wayne L., Nancy C., Sheila, and Hoa.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We thank you for the blessings of this life, including those celebrating birthdays, especially Jean B., as well as anniversaries.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

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 (sherwoodcokeysville.org/give) or if you would prefer, mail your contribution to 5 Sherwood Road, Cokeysville, 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 - 432

O praise ye the Lord!

1 O praise ye the Lord!
Praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word,
ye angels of light;
ye heavens, adore him
by whom ye were made,
and worship before him,
in brightness arrayed.

2 O praise ye the Lord!
Praise him upon earth,
in tuneful accord,
all ye of new birth;
praise him who hath brought you
his grace from above,
praise him who hath taught you
to sing of his love.

3 O praise ye the Lord!
All things that give sound;
each jubilant chord
re-echo around;
loud organs, his glory
forth tell in deep tone,
and sweet harp, the story
of what he hath done.

4 O praise ye the Lord!
Thanksgiving and song
to him be outpoured
all ages along!
For love in creation,
for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation,
O praise ye the Lord!

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.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

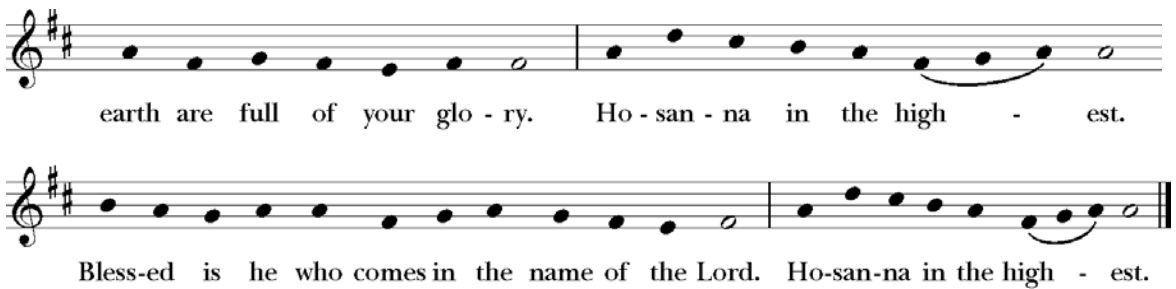
By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS – S124





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

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

The Celebrant continues

Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the bread.

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic prayer and at the conclusion says

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **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 - 688

A mighty fortress is our God

1 A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
our helper he amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing:
for still our ancient foe

doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great,
and, armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

2 Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing;
were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing:
dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his Name,
from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

3 And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us;
we will not fear, for God hath willed
his truth to triumph through us;
the prince of darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure,
for lo! his doom is sure,
one little word shall fell him.

4 That word above all earthly powers,
no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours
through him who with us sideth:
let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
the body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still,
his kingdom is for ever.

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 *Praise, my soul, the King of heaven* Op. 58, No. 6 - Basil Harwood

Worship Participants

Celebrant: The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey

Music Director: Greg Sesek

Cantor: Cassidy Dixon

Lector: Loretta Cunninghame

Acolyte: Kevin Hennessey

Usher: Kevin Hennessey

Broadcast Engineer: Anne Wismer

Hospitality: Bill & Karyn Galetto

Lay Participants for Sunday, November 7

Lector: Laure Covert

Acolyte: Seminarian Karen Mercer

Usher: Sandy Thompson

Broadcast Engineer: Stephanie Everts

Hospitality: Loretta Cunninghame

Please keep those with ongoing needs in your prayers: Sally, Debbie, Shannon, Norma, Joyce, Christine, Kendall, Marge, Sarah, Gail, Steve W., Michelle, Joe G., Jeanetta, Christina, Khalil, Danny, Joe C., Marisa, Bill P., Dante, David D., Sandy & Jack, Alice, and Debbie R.

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-newsletter, please contact Carey Mednick at sherwoodparish@gmail.com.

This Week @ Sherwood

Monday

Mother Nancy's day off

Office closed

Wednesday

Office hours 10 am-3 pm

Saturday

Spondylitis Support Group, 11 am-1 pm, Church Wing

Faith Forum:

Join us for our faith forum immediately following worship on November 7, 2021 in the sanctuary. Karen Mercer and Jennifer Grimelli, both candidates for Holy Orders, will be our speakers for the first forum for Fall 2021. Their presentation, **What It Means to Be An Episcopalian and Embodying Anglican Theology-The Book of Common Prayer**, will include a 30-minute presentation with discussion and a 15-minute Q&A. So bring those questions you have always wanted to ask. See you then!

Van in the Parking Lot:

You may have noticed the brown van parked in the corner of the Sherwood parking lot. Mother Nancy was contacted by a staff member at UCAN working with the van's owner who needed a safe place to store it. The van will be here for approximately one month.

Pantry on the Go:

St. Francis Episcopal Parish & Community Center is hosting their monthly drive-through Pantry on the Go on **Tuesday, November 2 from 4 to 6 pm**. This month they will have 100 boxes of fresh produce to distribute, as well as a smaller amount of boxes of rice, beans, and maseca.

Volunteers are needed **starting at 3:30** to:

- Set up tables, signs, check in other volunteers
- Welcome and count the families who attend the event
- Direct traffic

- Load boxes into trunks of cars
- Put away tables, signs at the end of the event, general clean-up

In compliance with the directive of the Diocese of Maryland, all volunteers are required to be vaccinated against COVID-19 (attestation forms will be available at the event), wear masks, and practice social distancing at the event. If you need food, know someone who does, and/or would like to volunteer at this event, they would love to see you. To volunteer, please [contact Rev. Amy](mailto:revamy@stfrancismd.org). (revamy@stfrancismd.org)

Trail of Souls–Research Your Church’s History:

This virtual workshop takes place on November 6, 10 am-noon. Diocesan archivist, Mary Klein and members of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission will demonstrate how to research your church’s history as we continue our work toward racial reconciliation and healing. [Register online](https://episcopalmaryland.org/event/research-your-churchs-history) to join this Zoom workshop. (https://episcopalmaryland.org/event/research-your-churchs-history)

The 80th General Convention of The Episcopal Church ...

is happening July 7-14, 2022, in person at the Baltimore Convention Center.

Volunteers are needed, [complete this online form](https://dfms.formstack.com/forms/volunteer_interest) to learn more and register as a General Convention volunteer.

(https://dfms.formstack.com/forms/volunteer_interest)

Education for Ministry (EfM) in Our Diocese:

EfM invites participants into small, facilitated groups that provide the framework for understanding life and shaping actions as Christian faith is deepened. This four-year course program studies Christian Scripture, history, and theology and teaches a method to apply our Christian tradition to the experiences of our lives. You will learn how to articulate your faith and how to shape your faith into action. [Learn more and register to attend](https://episcopalmaryland.org/2021/10/13/education-for-ministry-information-sessions).

(https://episcopalmaryland.org/2021/10/13/education-for-ministry-information-sessions)

Attention Worship Team Volunteers:

You should have received an email from Senior Warden, BerNee Arnold and Mother Nancy, explaining the pastoral directive from Bishops Sutton and Ilhoff on COVID-19 vaccinations. They are requiring all clergy, staff, and volunteers whose service or ministry requires continuous in-person contact with others to be vaccinated. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to speak to Mother Nancy or BerNee Arnold. This is one more step towards putting COVID-19 in our rear view mirror.

Stewardship 2022 ~ Caring for our Congregation, our Community, and God's Creation:

The vestry will begin putting together the 2022 financial budget soon and your stewardship pledge is an important component to our planning. Stewardship letters will be sent out early next week and we hope you will all prayerfully consider how you will share your wisdom, wealth, and work with the Sherwood community.

Protecting God's Creation, Part 10

This is the last article in the series about Sherwood's Water Management Initiative by Bronwyn Mitchell-Strong, Sherwood Hill Green Team Leader.

We thank Bronwyn for her wonderful, informative work and you may read the series in its entirety on the Sherwood website. <https://sherwoodcockeysville.org/protecting-gods-creation/>

The "Butterfly Effect" surmises that the flap of a butterfly's wings in one part of the world can generate a series of cascading events resulting in a hurricane in another part of the world. Its cousins are the Ripple and Domino effects. Einstein had his take on the matter (pun intended), for every action, there is a reaction which parents translate and use liberally as, actions have consequences. The Buddhists and Hindu have Karma. The Muslims, Kifarah. And Christians, well they reap what they sow.

When looking at the natural world, environmentalists and naturalists often turn to John Muir who wrote, "When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe."

For good or evil, whether you like it or not, we are all connected. And when I say we, I mean the collective. We are a part of the whole of God's creation. We are all butterflies flapping our wings. With free will, we can choose to flap in one direction or another. Understanding our connection to the whole and therefore the holy can help us to flap more responsibly. This includes integrating new knowledge into equations and our personal actions.

How do we take what we have learned about water and watersheds and start flapping in a positive direction?

Water is a finite resource that all living things on earth need to survive. Use God's gifts wisely, so we all may share the life-giving powers. Are there ways to reduce the amount of water you use daily not as a personal sacrifice but as a gift for others?

Clean water is unavailable to many of our neighbors worldwide. Be thankful that the water that comes so easily into our homes is safe to drink. The infrastructure necessary to make this happens is reliant upon taxes.

Impervious surfaces disrupt the environmental health of a watershed. The insects, fish, birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians are also our neighbors, were also created by God. What are some creative ways we can employ to manage storm water in a way that causes no harm to human and non-human habitats?

Pollution is a collective exercise. We are all polluters. In what ways big and small can you reduce your pollution footprint?

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. Romans CH12