

GREEN  
TEAM  
kuc.org



# EARTH MONTH

WEEK THREE: APRIL 15–21

RETHINKING  
TRANSPORT

## READINGS

Psalm 8:3–9

## PRAYER

Gracious and Merciful God,  
Help us to be open to just transitions  
so that the web of life may be  
mended through individual actions  
that limit overall carbon emissions.

We pray that love and wisdom might  
inspire our personal actions so that  
we may, with integrity, look into the  
eyes of our brothers and sisters, and  
of all beings and truthfully say, we are  
doing our part to care for them and  
the future. May love transform us and  
our world with new steps toward life.  
Amen.<sup>[i]</sup>

## REFLECTION

For your next trip by plane, consider  
buying carbon offsets for the miles  
that you travel. Organizations such as  
Cool Effect or Native Energy which  
allow you to easily calculate and buy  
carbon offsets for air travel.

Or

Envision whether your next spring  
break or other vacation might be a  
destination where travelers are part of  
the solution:

- [52 Places for a Change World](#)
- [Responsible Travel](#)

## LEARNING

[Calculate your personal carbon  
footprint.](#)

## FACTS

Fuel consumption rises 2.5% for every  
10 lbs/sq inch that a tire  
is underinflated.

Cars and trucks account for 25% of  
carbon dioxide emissions.<sup>[ii]</sup>



## POETRY

### Shared Journeys

God who made us, teach us to share—  
The space on the train, the chat on the bus—  
And make friends of strangers.

God beside us, teach us to share  
The joy of the car, to share the load,  
Never travel alone.

God all-holy, teach me to share  
My life with you.  
To let go control of the driving wheel  
Into your Wisdom.<sup>[iii]</sup>  
—Chris Polhill

## CHALLENGE

Reducing the amount of miles you drive is the best way to  
reduce air pollution from motor vehicles. A typical  
passenger vehicle emits about 4.6 metric tons of carbon  
dioxide per year. (EPA.gov) Help the Green Team celebrate  
Earth Day by walking or biking to church on April 23 and  
you will emit zero pollutants. Or consider carpooling if you  
can't walk or bike!

**Incentive:** For those who post a Earth Day picture to their  
Instagram or Facebook account using the following  
hashtags: #biketochurch #walktochurch #kenilworthunion  
#greenteam #gogreen will receive a package of seeds for  
their garden!

<sup>[i]</sup> Excerpt from Interfaith Prayer for National Climate Prayer.  
<https://www.faithclimateactionweek.org/prayers-and-climate-blessings/>

<sup>[ii]</sup> Lent 2020 *Care of Creation*, Diocese of Worcester, MA.

<sup>[iii]</sup> Iona Community devotional, taken from *A Heart for Creation* by Chris Polhill.