

### **Discussion Guide- *Laudato Si* in spoken word**

1. The poem highlights many ways in which we are abusing what Pope Francis calls “our common home.” How does hearing all of this make you feel?
2. Pope Francis recalls us to an experience of our createdness as “the caress of God.” How do you think about God being involved in making your life?
3. At the center of the pope’s encyclical is the idea that we have failed because of how we as a society have defined “progress.” What do you think is real, truly meaningful social “progress,” and in what ways do we instead choose “fake progress” that is ultimately destructive of the planet?
4. Since all humans share “our common home,” we have to create agreements for its use. How would you go about seeking global agreements that would take better care of our common home?
5. The pope asks us to let go of “self-reliance, money, and success.” This may be his hardest but most powerful message for our hearts. In what ways could you change your life to let go of these things and experience the “ecological conversion” Francis calls for?

This discussion guide was written by **David Cloutier, Ph.D**, Professor of moral theology at Catholic University of America, author of *Reading, Praying, Living Pope Francis’s Laudato Si: a Faith Formation Guide*, and *Walking God’s Earth: The Environment and Catholic Faith*