

## Blessing of the Animals

Leader: Blessed be God, Creator of Heaven and Earth.  
All: **All creation sings your praises.**

**Hymn:** *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

*Refrain:*

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful, the lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,  
He made their glowing colors, he made their tiny wings.

*Refrain*

The purple-headed mountain, the river running by,  
The sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky.

*Refrain*

The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,  
The ripe fruits in the garden, he made them every one.

*Refrain*

He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.

*Refrain*

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray:

All: **Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen**

**Psalm 148:1-5, 7-13** *Read responsively by verse.*

- 1 Hallelujah!  
Praise the LORD from the heavens;\*  
praise the LORD in the heights.
- 2 Praise the LORD, all you holy angels;\*  
praise the LORD, all heavenly host.
- 3 Praise the LORD, sun and moon;\*  
praise the LORD, all you shining stars.
- 4 Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,\*  
and you waters above the heavens.
- 5 Let them praise the name of the LORD,\*  
who commanded, and they were created.
- 7 Praise the LORD from the earth,\*  
you sea-monsters and all deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, snow and fog,\*  
tempestuous wind, obeying God's will;
- 9 Mountains and all hills,\*  
fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 Wild beasts and all cattle,\*

- creeping things and winged birds;  
11 Kings of the earth and all peoples,\*  
rulers and all judges of the world;  
12 Young men and women,\*  
old and young together.  
13 Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
for the name of the LORD only is exalted,\*  
and the splendor of the LORD is over earth and heaven.  
Hallelujah!

**A Reading:** Genesis 1:20-25

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Prayer for Pets**

Leader: Almighty and everlasting God, Creator of all things and giver of all life, let your blessing be upon all these animals. May our relationships with them mirror your love, and our care for them be an example of your bountiful mercy. Grant the animals health and peace. Strengthen us to love and care for them as we strive to imitate the love of Jesus Christ our Lord and God's servant Francis. Amen.

**Blessing of Animals**

*You are welcome to bring your pet forward for an individual blessing.*

**The Prayer of St. Francis**

Leader: Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

**All: Where there is hatred, let us sow love;**

Leader: Where there is injury, pardon;

**All: Where there is doubt, faith;**

Leader: Where there is despair, hope;

**All: Where there is darkness, light;**

Leader: Where there is sadness, joy.

Leader: O Divine Master, Grant that we may

**All: not so much seek to be consoled as to console;**

Leader: To be understood as to understand;

**All: To be loved as to love.**

Leader: For it is in giving that we receive;

**All: It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;**

Leader: And it is in dying that we are born to eternal live. Amen

**The Blessing (From St. Clare)**

Leader: Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always. Amen

**The Dismissal**

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Acknowledgement:**

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