

Worship Booklet for Sheltering-in-Place
=== Morning Prayer ===
The Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost: October 4, 2020
The Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi
THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Introduction – Rev. Dr. Lois Williams

Opening Hymn – Hymnal #210 (“The Day of Resurrection”) with alternate text
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Alternate title: “O God, Your Creatures Fill the Earth,” v. 1, 2 & 4

Verse 1:

O God, your creatures fill the earth
with wonder and delight,
and every living thing has worth
and beauty in your sight.
So playful dolphins dance and swim;
your sheep bow down and graze.
Your songbirds share a morning hymn
to offer you their praise.

Verse 2:

You made the pets we welcome in;
they’re wondrous blessings, too.
With paws and whiskers, wings and fins,
they offer praise to you.
O Lord, you call us to embrace
these creatures in our care.
May we show kindness, love, and grace
to all pets everywhere.

Verse 4:

Your creatures live in every land;
they fill the sky and sea.
O Lord, you give us your command
to love them tenderly.
We’re called to have dominion here,
to care for them always.
By loving creatures you hold dear,
we offer you our praise.

Officiant Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
Philippians 1:2

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All ***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.

Priest 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.*

Officiant Lord, open our lips.
Response And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

*All Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

Officiant The earth is the Lord's for he made it: Come let us adore him.

Jubilate *Psalm 100 Jubilate Deo*

A Reader leads the recitation

Reader and People together

*Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.*

*Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.*

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.*

*For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.*

Psalm *Psalm 148:7-14 Laudate Dominum*

A Reader leads the recitation

Reader and People together

*Praise the Lord from the earth, *
you sea-monsters and all deeps;*

*Fire and hail, snow and fog, *
tempestuous wind, doing his will;*

*Mountains and all hills, *
fruit trees and all cedars;*

*Wild beasts and all cattle, *
creeping things and winged birds;*

*Kings of the earth and all peoples, *
princes and all rulers of the world;*

*Young men and maidens, *
old and young together.*

*Let them praise the Name of the Lord, *
for his Name only is exalted,
his splendor is over earth and heaven.*

*He has raised up strength for his people
and praise for all his loyal servants, *
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.
Hallelujah!*

The Old Testament – Genesis 1:24-28

Reader:

And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so. And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the cattle according to their kinds, and everything that creeps upon the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.” So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them, and God said them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Response Thanks be to God.

The Epistle – Galatians 6:14-18

Reader:

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Response Thanks be to God.

*Gradual -- Celtic Alleluia

After a brief introduction, sing two times through

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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The Gospel – Matthew 11:25-30

Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Response *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Officiant The Gospel of our Savior.

Response *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

A Reflection – Rev. Lois. Followed by Sandy McNeel and Lissa Parker reciting a poem in readers-theater style, entitled “Creator, I begin here” from Carol J. Adams’s *Prayers for Animals*.

The Prayer of Saint Francis

Reader and People together.

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

A Reader leads the recitation

Reader and People together

*We believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Officiant The Lord be with you.

Response ***And also with you.***

Officiant Let us pray.

All ***Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.***

Give us today our daily bread.

***Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.***

***Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.***

***For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.***

Officiant Let us now pray:

Suffrage B

A Reader leads each versicle (V.) and the People respond (R.) :

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.

V. Day by day we bless you;

R. We praise your Name for ever.

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;
R. For we put our trust in you.
V. In you, Lord, is our hope;
R. And we shall never hope in vain.

Reader: Holy God, you call us to be made holy, to be made in your image. We trust in your generosity, and so are free to be generous ourselves, opening our hearts and sharing our treasure freely. Bless the gifts that we have made in support of Christ the Lord Church and our community, thereby giving to the work of your church in our world. **Amen.**

Add your prayers for yourself and the world, and thanks for God's blessings, out loud or in the chat.

Blessing of the Animals

Please have your animal(s) at the ready and Rev. Lois will do the blessing (with all those participating on Mute.)

Officiant May you, (*name of pet*), continue to be a blessing to your family and all creation through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for The Feast of Saint Francis

Officiant 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.**

A Prayer for Animals (*written by Albert Schweitzer*)

Reader: Hear our humble prayer, O God, for our friends the animals, especially for animals who are suffering; for any that are hunted or lost or deserted or frightened or hungry; for all that must be put to sleep. We entreat for them all your mercy and pity, and for those who deal with them we ask a heart of compassion and gentle hands and kindly words. Make us be true friends to animals and so to share the blessings of the merciful. **Amen.**

A Prayer of Gratitude for Creation (*by Fiona Murdoch, Eco-Congregation Ireland*)

Reader: God of the universe, we thank you for your many good gifts—for the beauty of Creation and its rich and varied fruits, for clean water and fresh air, for food and shelter, animals and plants. Forgive us for the times we have taken the earth's resources for granted and wasted what you have given us. Transform our hearts and minds so that we would learn to care and share, to touch the earth with gentleness and with love, respecting all living things.

We pray for all those who suffer as a result of our waste, greed, and indifference, and we pray that the day would come when everyone has enough food and clean water. Help us to respect the rights of all people and all species, and help us to willingly share your gifts today and always. *Amen.*

A Collect for Mission

Reader: Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. *Amen.*

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People together

*Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.*

*We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.*

*And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up ourselves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;*

*through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom [KRIS-us-tum]

Reader: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

Response *Thanks be to God.*

Closing Hymn – Hymnal #400, “All Creatures of Our God and King,” v. 1, 4 & 7

Verse 1:

All creatures of our God and King,
life up your voices, let us sing:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Bright burning sun with golden beams,
pale silver moon that gently gleams,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia . . . alleluia!

Verse 4:

Dear mother earth, you day by day
unfold your blessings on our way,
O praise him, Alleluia!
All flowers and fruits that in you grow,
let them his glory also show:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia . . . alleluia!

Verse 7:

Let all things their creator bless,
and worship him in himbleness,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Praise God the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia . . . alleluia!

Officiant Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask
or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in
Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen. Ephesians 3:20,21*

Don't forget to join us for virtual coffee hour after the service
through Zoom! Check your email from Sandy for details.