

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Joyfully Sharing God's Love, with each other and our community.

The Feast of St. Francis

A Litany for All Creation and Blessing of Animals

Eucharistic Prayer 1 from Enriching Our Worship

"BCP" is the black Book of Common Prayer. Hymnals are the blue books. The + symbol indicates an appropriate time to make the sign of the Cross. Some bow while saying the italicized words in the Nicene Creed and when the Name of Jesus is said. These optional practices are noted as a convenience for those who choose to do so.

the Rev'd Jeanne Rasmussen Associate Priest

the Rev'd Dave Rickert Vicar

Prelude

Bless the Beasts & the Children

Please stand at the ringing of the bell.

The Word of God

Celebrant Blessed be the God of all creation

People **And blessed be God's holy Name forever. Amen.**

Opening Hymn *All Creatures of Our God and King* **Hymnal #400; v1, 7**

Celebrant 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**

Summary of the Law *Matthew 22:37-40*

Hear what our Lord *Jesus* Christ tells us: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,

almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks,

we praise you for your glory.

Lord *Jesus* Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father:

receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord

you alone are the Most High,

***Jesus* Christ, with the Holy Spirit,**

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

The Collect for the Feast of St. Francis

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 perfect joy; through *Jesus* Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

A Reading from the Hebrew Scripture *Genesis 1:20–22a, 24–26a, 28, 31a*

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them. ... And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make humankind." ...God blessed them. ... God saw everything that God had made, and indeed, it was very good.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm *Psalms 104: 10-25*

- 10 You send the springs into the valleys; *
they flow between the mountains.
- 11 All the beasts of the field drink their fill from them, *
and the wild asses quench their thirst.
- 12 Beside them the birds of the air make their nests *
and sing among the branches.
- 13 You water the mountains from your dwelling on high; *
the earth is fully satisfied by the fruit of your works.
- 14 You make grass grow for flocks and herds *
and plants to serve mankind;
- 15 That they may bring forth food from the earth, *
and wine to gladden our hearts,
- 16 Oil to make a cheerful countenance, *
and bread to strengthen the heart.
- 17 The trees of the LORD are full of sap, *
the cedars of Lebanon which he planted,
- 18 In which the birds build their nests, *
and in whose tops the stork makes his dwelling.
- 19 The high hills are a refuge for the mountain goats, *
and the stony cliffs for the rock badgers.
- 20 You appointed the moon to mark the seasons, *
and the sun knows the time of its setting.
- 21 You make darkness that it may be night, *
in which all the beasts of the forest prowl.

- 22 The lions roar after their prey *
and seek their food from God.
- 23 The sun rises, and they slip away *
and lay themselves down in their dens.
- 24 Man goes forth to his work *
and to his labor until the evening.
- 25 O LORD, how manifold are your works! *
in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

A Reading

Walt Whitman, excerpt from preface to *Leaves of Grass*

This is what you shall do:

Love the earth and sun and the animals,
 Despise riches, give alms to everyone that asks,
 Stand up for the stupid and crazy,
 Devote your income and labors to others,
 Hate tyrants, argue not concerning God,
 Have patience and indulgence toward the people,
 Take off your hat to nothing known or unknown,
 Or to any man or number of men,
 Go freely with powerful uneducated persons,
 And with the young and with the mothers of families,
 Read these leaves in the open air,
 Every season of every year of your life,
 Reexamine all you have been told,
 At school, at church, or in any book,
 Dismiss whatever insults your own soul,
 And your very flesh shall be a great poem,
 And have the richest fluency not only in its words,
 But in the silent lines of its lips and face,
 And between the lashes of your eyes,
 And in every motion and joint of your body.

Reader Wisdom Words for Holy People
 People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel *Luke 12.22-32*

Please stand

Sequence Hymn

All Things Bright and Beautiful **Hymnal #405**

Played before and after reading of the Gospel

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior *Jesus* Christ according to Luke

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you— you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you

are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed *Please stand*

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: was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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 *Kneeling or standing*

Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth,

Have mercy upon us.

Holy and Mighty, Redeemer of the world,

Have mercy upon us.

Holy Immortal One, Sanctifier of the faithful,

Have mercy upon us.

We pray for all bishops, especially Justin; Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael; our Presiding Bishop, Jennifer; our Bishop, Dave and Jeanne: our priests, and all deacons. We pray for all who govern, especially Donald; our President and Doug; our Governor and all those who hold authority in the nations of the world. We pray for our service men & women at home and abroad. Grant that all your creatures may serve you in peace with thanksgiving.

Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.

We acknowledge the traditional peoples of the land on which we stand; especially the ancient people of the Hohokam and Pima; and the ancestors of the O'odham, Ak Chin and Gila River peoples. We pay our respects to them through: Remembrance, Recognition, Reconciliation and Relationship. Open our eyes to the wonder of creation, that we may see you in all your works.

Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.

Grant favorable weather, temperate rain, and fruitful seasons, providing food and drink for all your creatures. Remind us daily that we gain life through the bounty of your creation.

Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.

Forgive us who waste and pollute your creation and strengthen us to restore what we have disregarded.

Make us wise and faithful stewards of our home; caring for the earth, waters, air, and all that live therein.

Stir in us the desire to care for your creation.

Look with compassion on those that suffer. We pray for all who are affected by incarceration. We pray for those struggling with the natural disasters and violence in our world. Show us their dignity in your creation.

Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.

The celebrant then adds prayers and names, then the people add their own petitions, silently or aloud.

Celebrant We thank you for the unconditional love showered on us by our pets. Remember those creatures that have died yet remain dear to us that they may rejoice in your new creation. Call out the names of those animals for whom we care and the names of those animals who are no longer with us. *Please call out pet's names*

Priest Holy Immortal One: No sparrow falls without your knowing it; nothing dies but is remembered by you; nothing comes into being that you do not see. Give us courage and resolve to build up the common good, holding fast to the hope of a new creation in which all shall dwell eternally, through *Jesus* Christ, our Risen Savior. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin *Please remain kneeling or standing*

Celebrant Let us confess to God our sins against creation.

Silence

Celebrant and People

God of compassion, we confess that we have squandered your creation and mistreated those you give into our care. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may care for all that you have made, according to your will and in the fullness of your love; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

The Priest Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of *Jesus* Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Blessing of the Animals

Celebrant God's animals inhabit the skies, the land, and the sea; we share the earth with them, and like them rely on God's blessing to sustain and preserve us. We gather today in communion and friendship with Francis of Assisi who preached to animals and moved throughout the known world sharing God's unconditional love for all beings. Remembering the love by St. Francis for all God's creatures, bring forward the animals entrusted to your care that we may bless them.

Please remain in your chairs and the priest will come to you for your pet's blessing.

When all have been blessed the Celebrant prays God of all creation: we give you thanks and praise. Open our eyes to see your hand at work in all creation. May your bountiful blessing be upon us all, God our Redeemer, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace *Please stand*

Celebrant The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements and Blessings

Offertory Offertory Hymn

Make me a Channel of Your Peace

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there is hatred let me bring your love
Where there is injury, your pardon Lord
And where there's doubt, true faith in you

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope
Where there is darkness, only light
And where there's sadness ever joy

Oh, master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love with all my soul

Make me a channel of your peace
It isn't pardoning that we are pardoned
In giving to all men let we receive
And in dying that we're born to turn around

Oh, master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love with all my soul

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope
Where there is darkness, only light
And where there's sadness ever joy

Doxology *Please stand*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Him, all creatures here below;
praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Celebrant All things come of you, O God
People **And of your own have we given you.**

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer 1 *Please stand*

Enriching Our Worship

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in *Jesus Christ* and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we say:

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one + who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Sarah and Abraham you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in *Jesus*. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life. On the night before he died for us, Our Savior *Jesus* Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, *Jesus* took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior *Jesus* Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body + in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with The Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Francis, and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.

The priest will bring Communion to your chair. To receive a blessing instead of Communion, please cross your arms in front of your chest.

Communion Hymn

His Eye is on the Sparrow

The post Communion Prayer *adapted from prayer by St. Francis*

Celebrant & People **Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you as St. Francis did; 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 through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing *Please stand*

Closing Hymn *Lord, Make us Servants of Your Peace* **Hymnal #593**

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

I, The Lord of Sea and Sky

More on The Feast Day of St. Francis (1182-1226): Francis, son of a prosperous merchant of Assisi, spent his youth in revelry and fruitless attempts to win military glory. Encounters with beggars and lepers pricked the young man's conscience, and he embraced a life devoted to Lady Poverty. Despite his father's intense opposition, Francis totally renounced all material values, and devoted himself to serve the poor. In 1210, he began the Order of Friars Minor, a name Francis chose to emphasize his desire to be numbered among the "least" of God's servants. By 1221 Francis lost control of the fast growing order, since his ideal of strict and absolute poverty was found too difficult to maintain. His last years were spent in much suffering of body and spirit, but his unconquerable joy never failed. Not long before his death, during a retreat on Mount La Verna, Francis received, on September 14, Holy Cross Day, the marks of the Lord's wounds, the stigmata, in his own hands, feet and side.

-adapted from *Holy Women, Holy Men Celebrating the Saints*