



Blessing of the Animals

Augsburg University Daily Chapel

Friday, September 30, 2022

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

LITANY FROM PSALM 148

with All God's Creatures Got a Place in the Choir

L: Praise the Lord!
 Across the heavens,
 from the heights,
 all you angels, heavenly beings
 sing praise, sing praise!

Sun and moon, glittering stars,
sing praise, sing praise.
Highest heavens, sing praise.

All: **All God's Creatures Got a Place in the Choir**



All God's crea-tures got a place in the choir. Some sing low



Some sing high-er some sing out loud on a te-le-phone wire, and



some just clap their hands, or paws, or a-ny-thing they've got now.

L: Praise God's name,
 whose word called you forth
 and fixed you in place for ever
 by eternal decree

Let there be praise:
from depths of the earth,
from creatures of the deep.

L: Fire and hail, snow and mist,
storms, winds,
mountains, hills,
fruit trees and cedars,
wild beasts and tame,
snakes and birds,

All: Sung response (All God's Creatures)

L: rulers of the earth,
and all people,
all genders alike,
old and young together,
praise, praise the holy name,
this name beyond all names.

God's spendor above the earth,
above the heavens,
gives strength to the nation,
glory to the faithful,
a people close to the Lord.
Israel, let there be peace.

All: Sung response (All God's Creatures)

READING "You Never Know Where a Conversation is Going to Go"
from *Dog Songs* by Mary Oliver

REFLECTION

Ellen Weber

BLESSING OF ANIMALS

L: You who created them
and called them good:
bless again these creatures
who come to us
as a blessing
fashioned of fur
or feather
or fin,
formed of flesh
that breathes with
your own breath,
that you have made
from sheer delight,
that you have given
in dazzling variety.

L: Bless them
who curl themselves
around our hearts,
who twine themselves
through our days,
who companion us
in our labor,
who call us
to come and play.

Those with animals or pictures of their beloved companion are welcomed to come to the center for a blessing. The pastors will offer offer a blessing for each animal.

BLESSING (based on Psalm 148)

L: Praise God for (name of animal),
And bless (name of animal),
A creature of God's creating.

C: Thanks be to God for (name of animal)!

CONCLUDING PRAYER

L: Bless them
who will never be
entirely tamed
and so remind us
that you love
what is wild,
that you rejoice
in what lives close
to the earth,
that your heart beats
in the heart of these creatures
you have entrusted
to our care.

CLOSING SONG All Creatures, Worship God Most High ELW 835



- 1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and
- 2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
- 3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth - ful, strong; drive far the shad - ows, join the
- 4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor
 grain: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,
 throng: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in
 grief: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:
 clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
 care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare:
 fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



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

- 5 And you, most gentle sister death,
 waiting to hush our final breath:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
 fair is the night that leads us home.
 Alleluia.

- 6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
 and worship God with humble heart:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
 and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
 Alleluia.

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiders: The Rev. John Schwehn, University Pastor; Rev. Babette Chatman, University Pastor and Director of Campus Ministry; Hannah Sackett, Pastoral Intern

Speakers: Ellen Weber, Christensen Center for Vocation Program Associate

Organist/Pianist: Brian De Young, Campus Ministry Musician

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CREDIT

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A special THANK YOU to Jennifer Troy, Executive Director of Paws for Learning, for joining us today with her furry friends. Paws For Learning provides K9 assisted academic support teams and K9 assisted care teams in schools and colleges and also in communities in the wake of tragic loss.

Paws For Learning provides a unique learning environment between adult volunteers, their canine companions and so many students, staff and families in Minnesota. School communities can see the real difference our ongoing visits make in the lives of students. Together we can help students as they improve their skills in the areas of math, reading, writing, work completion, attendance, time on task, wellness, or social-emotional/behavioral health. For more information and to learn how you can support Jennifer in her work: www.pawsforlearning.org

St. Francis of Assisi: On October 4, people all over the world are celebrating St. Francis Day in honor of the Patron Saint of Animals, Saint Francis of Assisi. In remembrance of his love for all sentient beings, guardians sometimes take their animal companions to church for a Blessing of the Animals.

UPCOMING DAILY CHAPEL

MWF @ 10:40am & TTh @ 11:30am

Monday (10/3)	Monday Mysteries and Text: A Time of Contemplation
Tuesday (10/4)	Natalie Romero '08, Director of Youth and Family Ministry, St. Michael's Lutheran Church
Wednesday (10/5)	Kaylie Johnson '17, Music Therapist, Fairview Health Services
Thursday (10/6)	Rev. Marty Wyatt '12, Associate Pastor, Roseville Lutheran Church
Friday (10/6)	Rev. Babette Chatman '06, University Pastor and Director of Campus Ministry