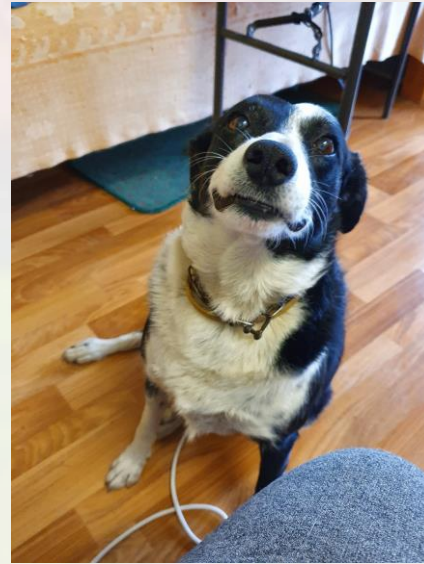




# Welcome to Worship Pet blessing

2021



HOLY HERMITS ONLINE



## *The greeting*

The Spirit of the Lord is with us.

**All: And with all creation.**

Let us praise our Creator.

**All: And give thanks for the wonderful earth.**

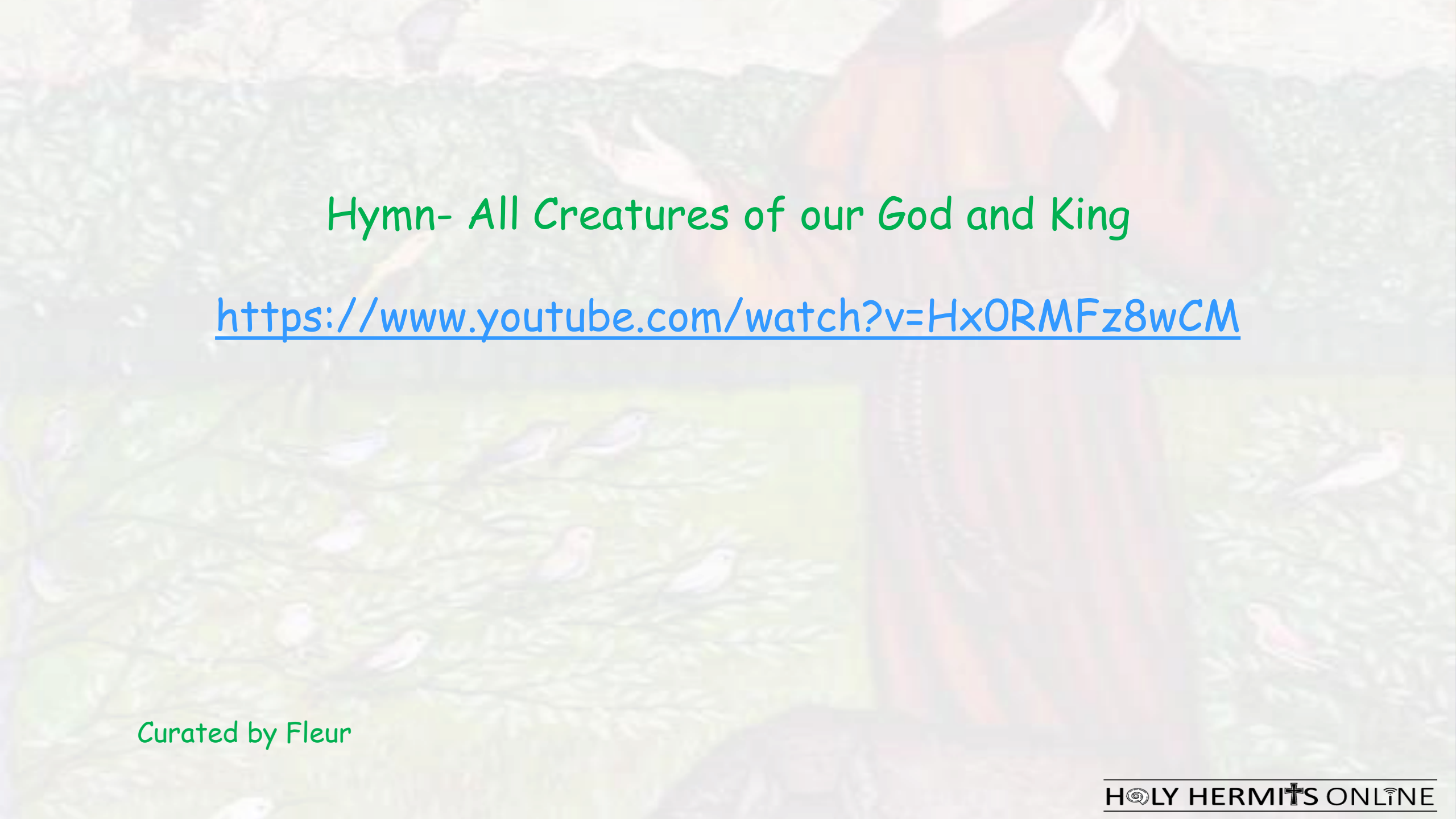
Let us sing a song of praise with the whole creation.

**All: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.**

## Sentence

LA: Whoever does not receive the kingdom of God  
as a little child will never enter it.

Mark 10.15

The background of the slide features a religious painting. On the right, a figure in a long red robe, possibly a saint or a religious leader, is shown from the waist up, looking down. On the left, there is a large, leafy branch with several small, light-colored birds perched on it. The overall tone is soft and reverent.

## Hymn- All Creatures of our God and King

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hx0RMFz8wCM>

Curated by Fleur

We gather in the name of God, Creator, Redeemer,  
and Sustainer of the Earth and all its creatures!  
Praise be to the Holy Trinity!

God is sound and life, Creator of the Universe,  
Source of all life, whom the angels sing;  
wondrous Light of all mysteries known  
or unknown to humankind, and life that lives in all.  
(Hildegard of Bingen, 13th Century)



## Confession

We confess our sins, and the sins of our society, in the misuse of God's creation.

**God our Creator, we are sorry for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly, and acted ungratefully.**

Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:  
**forgive us and help us.**

**We enjoy the fruits of the harvest, but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.**

Creator, in your mercy:  
**forgive us and help us.**

**We belong to a people who are full and satisfied, but  
ignore the cry of the hungry.**

**Creator, in your mercy:  
forgive us and help us.**

**We are thoughtless,  
and do not care enough for the world you have made,  
by plundering it's resources and polluting the future,  
we are acting against your will for us as caretakers**

**Creator, in your mercy:  
forgive us and help us.**

**We store up goods for ourselves alone,  
as if there were no God and no heaven.  
We withhold our love from other creatures,  
by selfishly using them and their lives for our own ends.**

**Creator, in your mercy:  
forgive us and help us.**




## *The Absolution*

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn  
to him in faith:  
pardon you and set you free from your sins, strengthen you in  
all goodness and keep you in eternal life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## *Collect Prayer*

O God,  
your Son has taught us that we must receive your sovereign  
rule like a little child:  
help us to turn to you in faith and simplicity of heart,  
so that we may receive your blessing  
and enter the kingdom your Son has promised;  
through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.  
**Amen.**



## *Kids' Time*



## The 1st Reading is from the book of *Genesis* chapter 2

<sup>18</sup> Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' <sup>19</sup> So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup> The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. <sup>21</sup> So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. <sup>22</sup> And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup> Then the man said, 'This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.' <sup>24</sup> Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

*Genesis 2. 18-24*

For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 8

- <sup>1</sup> O Lord our Governor:  
**how glorious is your name in all the earth!**
- <sup>2</sup> Your majesty above the heavens is yet recounted:  
**by the mouths of babes and sucklings.**
- <sup>3</sup> You have founded a strong defence against your adversaries:  
**to quell the enemy and the avenger.**
- <sup>4</sup> When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers:  
**the moon and the stars which you have set in order,**
- <sup>5</sup> What are we, that you should be mindful of us:  
**what are we, that you should care for us?**

- <sup>6</sup> Yet you have made us little less than gods:  
**and have crowned us with glory and honour.**
- <sup>7</sup> You have given us dominion over your handiwork:  
**and have put all things in subjection beneath our feet,**
- <sup>8</sup> All sheep and oxen:  
**and all the creatures of the field,**
- <sup>9</sup> The birds of the air and the fish of the sea:  
**and everything that moves in the pathways of the great waters.**
- <sup>10</sup> O Lord our Governor:  
**how glorious is your name in all the earth!**



The 2nd Reading is from the book of Hebrews chapters 1 & 2 various verses

<sup>1</sup> Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,  
<sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup> He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup> having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. <sup>5</sup> Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. <sup>6</sup> But someone has testified somewhere, 'What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? <sup>7</sup> You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honour, <sup>8</sup> subjecting all things under their feet.' Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control.

As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, <sup>9</sup> but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. <sup>10</sup> It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. <sup>11</sup> For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, <sup>12</sup> saying, 'I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.'

Hebrews 1.1-4, 2.5-12

For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## *Prayer before Gospel*

*All: God takes us in his arms and blesses us.  
God loves us and protects us.  
When we come to God in a true spirit of repentance,  
from the littlest 'sorry' of the youngest child,  
to the biggest 'Father forgive' of those old enough  
to know better,  
God hears us and welcomes us with open and loving arms.  
We are blessed.  
Amen.*



*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Mark  
chapter 10 beginning at the 2nd verse.*

***All: Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ***

<sup>2</sup> Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?' <sup>3</sup> He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' <sup>4</sup> They said, 'Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.' <sup>5</sup> But Jesus said to them, 'Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. <sup>6</sup> But from the beginning of creation, "God made them male and female." <sup>7</sup> "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, <sup>8</sup> and the two shall become one flesh." So they are no longer two, but one flesh. <sup>9</sup> Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.' <sup>10</sup> Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. <sup>11</sup> He said to them, 'Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; <sup>12</sup> and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.'

<sup>13</sup> People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. <sup>14</sup> But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. <sup>15</sup> Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' <sup>16</sup> And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Mark 10.2-16

*This is the Gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.*

HOLY HERMITS ONLINE



# *The Sermon*





## Hymn- The Creatures We Love

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ntw78EYczWQ>

Curated by Fleur

## *The Greeting of Peace*

We are the body of Christ  
**His Spirit is with us**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

## *Prayer of Thanksgiving before Intercessions*

Lord, make us an instrument of your peace,  
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy;

O Divine Master, 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.



## Intercessions

We pray for animals today:

for donkeys that carry heavy loads and who are treated cruelly;

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

for animals in cages that are too small and who never run free;

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

for animals that are abandoned and have no food or shelter;

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

for those who help animals around the world;

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

for the RSPCA and other welfare organisations;

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

for our own animals,

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

may we look after them well and give thanks for all the love and fun they bring us.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

## Prayers of the People

Most high, all powerful, all good Lord!  
All praise is yours, all glory, all honor, and all blessing.  
And, it is to you alone, Most High, that we pray.

You are praised, O Lord by our Brother, Sun,  
who brings the day; and you give light through him.  
May light be shed on your Church,  
That your faithful people may bear your likeness.  
**O God, hear us.**

You are praised, O Lord, through our Sister,  
Moon, and the stars;  
in the heavens you have made them bright,  
precious and beautiful.  
May the nations of the earth, whom they look  
down upon each night  
Be blessed with your peace.  
**O God, hear us.**



You are praised, O Lord, through our Brothers,  
Wind and Air,  
and clouds and storms, and all the weather;  
May you rain down your grace upon our nation,  
and it's leaders and people, especially places  
afflicted by drought and fire.  
**O God, hear us.**

You are praised, O Lord, through our Sister, Water;  
Quench the thirst of the poor, the downtrodden,  
and those who are ill, or in trouble of any kind.  
**O God, hear us.**

You are praised, O Lord, through our Brother, Fire,  
through whom you brighten the night; We pray you to  
brighten your Kingdom, where the souls of the  
faithful departed rest.  
For them, as you, may there be no night.  
**O God, hear us.**

You are praised, O Lord,  
through our sister, and Mother, Earth,  
who feeds us and rules us, and produces various  
fruits with coloured flowers and herbs; Give us  
the will to care for her, as you created her.  
**O God, hear us.**



Be praised, my Lord,  
through those who forgive for love of you;  
through those who endure sickness and trial.  
Happy those who endure in peace,  
for by you, Most High, they will be crowned.  
**O God, hear us.**

O Lord, we praise and bless you,  
and we give you thanks,  
and with all of creation,  
we serve you and pray to you with great humility.  
**Amen.**

# *Pray Daily Cycle of Prayer*

- The Church in Wales
- The Diocese of Armidale: †Rodney Chiswell; Clergy and People
- The Parish of Sunnybank: Scott Windred
- Sunshine Coast hospital ministry: Mary Coates-Kavanagh and volunteers
- Cannon Hill Anglican College, Cannon Hill: Principal -Gary O'Brien; Chaplain - Br Nathan James; Chair of College Council -Bruce Moy; members of College Council; staff & students
- R.I.P Brother Daniel

*Let us join together in the prayer which Jesus gave us saying:*

**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.**



## A Prayer in the Midst of a Crisis

All: Holy God, who created us for and from love, in this time of social distancing, hold us close in your arms. Comfort those who are afraid, enliven those who are bored, give courage to those who are distressed, and warm those who feel the cold touch of loneliness. Breathe in, with and through us as we walk through uncertainty into a new future knowing that you are with us now and await us there. In the name of Christ the Beloved we pray. Amen.

*By the Rev. Canon Dr. Ellen Clark-King, Vice Dean and Canon for Social Justice  
at Grace Cathedral, San Francisco*



# Devotions

O God, we thank you for making the animals to brighten our lives.  
Help us to save them from danger as Noah did.  
Help us to love them and care for them as St. Francis did.  
And when we see the animals that you have made, help us to remember  
that you are holy and worthy of praise.  
In the name of the Father (who thought up the giraffe and the zebra)  
and of the Son (who was named after the beautiful  
white Lamb)  
and the Holy Spirit (who came to us as a Dove.)

**Amen.**



O God, who has made all the earth and every creature that dwells therein:

Help us, we pray you, to treat with compassion the living creatures entrusted to our care, that they may not suffer from our neglect nor become the victims of any cruelty;

and grant that in caring for them we may find a deeper understanding of your love for all creation;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We give you thanks, most gracious God, for the beauty of earth and sky and sea; for the richness of mountains, plains, and rivers; for the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers.

We praise you for these good gifts, and pray that we may safeguard them for our posterity.

Grant that we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation, to the honor and glory of your Name, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Lord God, you have made all living things, and you are even more wonderful than the things you have made.

We thank you for giving us our pets who are our friends and who give us so much joy in life. We cherish the pets we have now, and we remember the pets we have loved and lost.

May we always be reminded of the joy they have given to us.

May we likewise, realize that as our pets trust us to take care of them, so we should trust you to take care of us, and in our taking care of them we share in your love for all your creatures.

**Grant this through Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**



Blessed are you, Lord God, for all living creatures you have made.  
You keep them in your care and not one of them is lost without you  
knowing. They glorify you, each in its own way, and speak to us of your  
beauty and love.  
Bless them and keep them from harm.  
They unquestionably accept their place in the rhythm of your creation.  
May we respect them and cherish them for they are your gift to us;  
through them may we come to know you  
better and praise you, their Creator.  
Blessed be the love and joy that they  
bring to us. **Amen.**

## Liturgy for Sick Animals

We have come together to proclaim the work of Christ our liberator: the very agent of God who abolishes death, heals the sick, identifies with the outcast, defends the vulnerable, cares for the poor, frees us from evil, and inaugurates a kingdom of peace and justice for all creatures.

We praise you who liberates us and all creation from suffering and injustice. As Christ cared for the human poor and despised, so we must care for those in our power and especially our fellow creatures abused and tortured in our midst. Especially we pray for these innocent animals who suffer through no fault of their own and for whom Christ also died.

Christ the healer

Christ the redeemer

Christ the new creature

**liberate you from pain.**

**restore you to health.**

**make you whole.**

May the Lord give us courage to defend the weak and the vulnerable, and make us strong in mercy and generosity to advance God's justice until the end of our time on earth. **Amen.**



## Thanksgiving for departed Pets

O God, you are infinite, unbounded Love, and will not allow the love which exists between your creatures to perish: We pray for those animals who have died. Especially for those who gave joy to us during their lives and who trusted us with their care... Thank you for showing your love for us through them, and the memories we have of our time with them. Comfort all those who mourn, especially those who have lost a beloved pet. **Amen.**

Let us pray. This we know: every living thing is yours and returns to you. As we ponder this mystery we give you thanks for the lives of ... *(name our past animals)* and we now commit them into your loving hands.





Gentle God: fragile is your world,  
delicate are your creatures,  
and costly is your love which bears and redeems us all.  
Holy Creator, give us eyes to see and ears to hear how every living thing  
speaks to us of your love.  
Let us be awestruck at your creation and daily sing your praises.  
Especially, create within us a spirit of gratitude for the life of these  
beloved pets who have lived among us and given us freely of their love.  
Even in our sorrow we have cause for joy for we  
know that all creatures who died on earth shall  
live again in your new creation. **Amen.**

## Thanksgiving for pets and renewal of promises

All living creatures you have put under our protection and we are to care for them as you care for us.

Mindful of the great responsibility you have placed upon us, we now renew our covenant with these creatures in our care, and pray that we may be faithful to them as you are faithful to us.

May the unity of peace which you have established between all species never be broken by our violence, and may our lives reflect that generosity of spirit which we see manifest in your Son, Jesus Christ.

God of unity and peace, send us now your Holy Spirit that we may feel a deeper kinship with all living creatures and by this act of renewal reaffirm the bond of covenant with all animals in our care.

Leader Will you name these creatures?  
Respondents **(The names of the animals are given.)**

Leader Will you care for them as God's own creatures?  
All **I will with God's grace.**

Leader Will you be mindful of their Christ-like vulnerability?  
All **I will with God's grace.**

Leader Will you love and protect them so long as they live?  
All **I will with God's grace.**

Leader Will you be faithful and kind in good times and bad?  
All **I will with God's grace.**

*The family is invited to touch/pat/stroke the animals as a sign of the covenant reaffirmed between them.*

May the God of the new covenant of Jesus Christ grant us grace to fulfill our promise and to show mercy to other creatures as God has shown mercy to us. **Amen.**



Lord, we give you thanks for and ask your blessings on the pets of our community:



Taco



Ralphie



Dolly



Dexter



Meggsie



Wiggles



Jasmine



Angel



WALTER



Monty & Maizie



Meggie



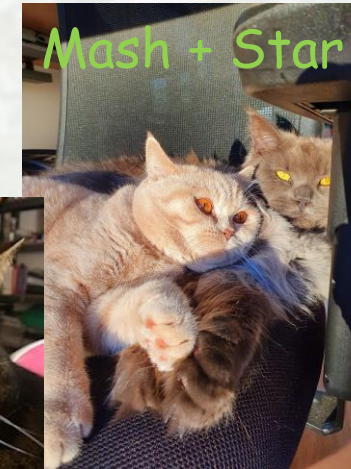
Tubby



Roly



Darcy



Mash + Star



Les



Ruby



Michigan + Jay



Hannibal



Poppy



Delilah



Casey



Selene



Kitty



O God, you ever delight to reveal yourself  
to the child-like and lowly of heart:  
grant that, following the example of the blessèd Francis,  
we may count the wisdom of this world as foolishness  
and know only Jesus Christ and him crucified,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*All: Generous God,*  
whose hand is open to fill all things living with plenteousness:  
make us ever thankful for your goodness,  
and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day  
give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty; through Jesus  
Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Statement of Faith

Let us proclaim together our conviction of, and commitment to, God's purpose in creation:

We believe that God gave birth to the universe and all that is in it,  
and we proclaim that God's life is beyond and within it all.



We believe that, in Jesus, God was revealed in human flesh, and we proclaim that all is recreated through Christ's saving work.

We believe that God's spirit energises the created order, and we proclaim that all things are one, and everything lives in God.  
Amen.

## Closing devotions prayer

*All:* God of manifold blessings, source of all that is good and true and holy, raise us up to see the world through your eyes so that we may treasure each blessed creature alive with your Spirit and touched by your creative hand; and may the blessing of this wonderful God Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier be upon us now and forever. Amen.

The background of the slide is a faint, artistic illustration. It depicts a campfire with a tent in the background and several birds perched on branches in the foreground. The colors are muted and the overall style is soft and painterly.

## Hymn- An Australian Blessing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2LO2sb98YIE>

Curated by Bob



## The Pet Blessing

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.

**Bless them, God of creativity.**

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

**Bless them, God who loves relationship.**

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.

**Bless them, God of grace.**



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 these 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.**

## Closing prayer

*All:* O God, who made everything good, teach us to love  
what you have made.

Help us to see you in the stars and planets, the trees and  
flowers, the rocks and the rivers, and especially in these  
pets of ours you have entrusted to our care.

How great is your name,  
O Lord our God, through all the earth. Amen.

## The Blessing (From St. Clare)

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.**



# Notices:

- Contemplative Prayer with St Therese tonight at 6pm
- Kieron's baptism next Sunday at 11.30am!

*Dismissal.*

Go in peace to love and  
serve God's creation.

**In the name of Christ,  
Amen.**



"St Francis of Assisi"  
by Małgorzata Wrochna

