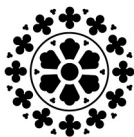




CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, VICTORIA, BC

Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, October 4, 2025 10.00 a.m.



**CHRIST CHURCH
CATHEDRAL**
A CATHEDRAL FOR THE CITY



**ANGLICAN DIOCESE
OF ISLANDS AND INLETS**
RENEWED HEARTS. RENEWED SPIRITS. RENEWED PEOPLE

10.00 a.m. **Blessing of the Animals**

Clergy: The Very Reverend Jonathan Thomas & The Reverend Canon Bill Tarter, CFC

Opening Sentences

Presider Blessed be the God of all creation.
People **And blessed be God's holy Name for ever and ever.**

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

Presider O God, you have made us and all living things. You are ever more wonderful than what you have made. We thank you for giving us these pets who bring us joy. As you take care of us, so also we ask you help that we might take care of those who trust to look after them. By doing this, we share in your own love for all creation. We ask this in Jesus' name, Amen.

Psalm 104.1, 10-15, 25

Bless the Lord, O my soul;
O Lord my God, how excellent is your greatness!
you are clothed with majesty and splendor.

**You send the springs into the valleys;
they flow between the mountains.**

All the beasts of the field drink their fill from them,
and the wild asses quench their thirst.

**Beside them the birds of the air make their nests
and sing among the branches.**

You water the mountains from your dwelling on high;
the earth is fully satisfied by the fruit of your works.

**You make grass grow for flocks and herds
and plants to serve humankind;**

That they may bring forth food from the earth,
and wine to gladden our hearts,

**O Lord, how manifold are your works!
in wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.**

Prayers of the People

Presider Grant that all your creatures may thank and serve you;
People **Shower your blessing on earth, O God.**

Presider Open our eyes to the joy and beauty of creation, that we may see your presence
in all your works;
People **Shower your blessing on earth, O God.**

Presider Look with favour upon all who care for the earth, the water, and the air, that the
riches of creation may abound for all your creatures;
People **Shower your blessing on earth, O God.**

Presider Make us faithful stewards of creation, wisely caring for the earth, the air, the
seas, and all the life they bear;
People **Shower your blessing on earth, O God.**

Presider Awaken us to our responsibility for the care of creation;
People **Shower your blessing on earth, O God.**

Presider Forgive us our waste and pollution of creation and strengthen us to heal wounds
we have inflicted;
People **Shower your blessing on earth, O God.**

Presider Remember all in captivity and those who are hunted, trapped, deserted, or
abused, that they may find safety in homes of loving care;
People **Shower your blessing on earth, O God.**

Presider Do not forget those animals who have died yet remain dear to us, that they may
rejoice in your new creation;
People **Shower your blessing on earth, O God.**

Presider Holy God: No sparrow falls without your attention; nothing dies that is lost to
you; nothing comes into being without your love. Give us just and compassionate
hearts, that we may serve the earth and all its creatures, holding fast to the
vision of your peaceable reign in which all will live with you eternally; through
the Risen One, Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

The Blessing of the Animals

Presider Almighty and everlasting God, Creator of all things and Giver of all life: Let your blessing be upon these and all animals. May our relationships with them mirror your love, and may our care for them follow the example of your bountiful mercy. Grant these animals health and peace. Strengthen us to love and care for them as we strive, like Francis of Assisi, to imitate the love of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The priests will come around to individually bless pets.

A prayer attributed to Saint Francis

Presider Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
People **Where there is injury, pardon;**
Presider Where there is doubt, faith;
People **Where there is despair, hope;**
Presider Where there is darkness, light;
People **Where there is sadness, joy.**
Presider O Divine Master, grant that we may seek
People **not so much to be consoled as to console;**
Presider To be understood as to understand;
People **To be loved as to love.**
Presider For it is in giving that we receive;
People **It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;**
Presider And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
People **Amen.**

The Blessing of St Clare

Presider 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.
People **Amen.**

The Peace

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

Thank you for being part of this morning's service.