



St. Timothy's Anglican Church, Agincourt



Outdoor Creation Service for the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi with Blessing of Animals

Leader & Preacher – The Rev. Canon Andrea Christensen
Deacon– Pastor Elaine Vanderwerf

Readers – Alma Asheria/Soniya Thomas
Music – Marianne Gast, Ann-Marie Barrett-Tandy
& the Classic Choir
Sub-deacon: Patrick Allen

PRELUDE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF INDIGENOUS TERRITORY

OPENING HYMN #3 Morning Has Broken

Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

THE GREETING

Leader The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love
of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be
with you all.

All And also with you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, the source of all grace, whose glory shines in your
saints: Grant that as your servant Francis was given a heart of
love for you and for all your creatures, so your people may
ever adore you in your works of creation, and serve you in
faith and charity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION

Leader: Let us confess our forgetfulness of the needs of
the poor, and repent of the ways in which we
waste the resources of the world.

Silence for Reflection

We confess our sin, and the sins of our society, in the misuse of God's creation. God our Father, we are sorry for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly, and acted ungratefully. Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:

All: forgive us and help us.

Leader: We enjoy the fruits of the harvest, but sometimes forget that you have given them to us. Father, in your mercy:

All: forgive us and help us.

Leader: We belong to a people who are full and satisfied, but ignore the cry of the hungry. Father, in your mercy:

All: forgive us and help us.

Leader: We are thoughtless, and do not care enough for the world you have made. Father, in your mercy:

All: forgive us and help us.

Leader: We store up goods for ourselves alone, as if there were no God and no heaven. Father, in your mercy:

All: forgive us and help us.

ABSOLUTION

Leader: May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins, and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Galatians 6: 14-18

Psalm 148:7-14

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

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

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

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

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

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

Reader Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name
only is exalted, his splendour is over earth and
heaven.

**All 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!**

Reader Let us pray: **Blessed are you, Lord our God,
creator of heaven and earth; you open our
eyes to see the wonders around us, and our
hearts and mouths to praise you. Now give us
strength for loving service, through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Gospel: Matthew 11: 25-30

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ/Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

All: We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named. We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love. We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader: This is our faith, the faith of the Church:

All: We believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Let us pray to God, that he will bring to fruition all that he desires for his creation.

You have given the human race a rich land, a land of streams and springs, wheat and barley, vines and oil and honey. We have made by sin a world of suffering and sorrow. We pray for those who bear the weight of affliction, that they may come to share the life of wholeness and plenty. Father, Lord of creation,

All: in your mercy, hear us.

Leader: You have created the universe by your eternal Word, and have blessed humankind in making us stewards of the earth. We pray for your world, that we may share and conserve its resources, and live in reverence for the creation and in harmony with one another. Father, Lord of creation,

All: in your mercy, hear us.

Leader: You have created such richness and diversity of animal life; fish, birds, insects, reptiles and mammals. We thank you for animals of pasture, for those trained to search and rescue and those animals that enable people who are hearing or visually impaired, to live independently. For animals who give us faithful companionship, joy when we are happy, and comfort when we are sad. For veterinarians and all who work to relieve pain and suffering; for those who provide safety and shelter to animals who are abused, injured or homeless, and for those who protect endangered species. For the memory of animals we have loved who have died. Thank you Father, Lord of Creation,

All: in your mercy, hear us.

Leader: In Christ you call us to a new way of life, loving our neighbours before ourselves. Help us to treat with care and respect the world as it is as we live in hope and anticipation of the world as it will be when your kingdom comes and your will is done. Thank you for those, living and departed, who have shown a true respect for your creation ... Help us to follow in their footsteps, until, with them, we see you face to face, where all is made new in Christ our Lord.

**All: Merciful Father, accept these prayers for
the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus
Christ. Amen.**

THE PEACE

You shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. **Amen.**

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

If you have brought an item from your garden or a local park, you are invited to place it on the tray being circulated by a sidesperson during the offertory hymn.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

God of creation bless all our animals for the enrichment of your Kingdom, and for the joy of their human companions.
Amen.

Please raise your hand to indicate that you would like the priest to bless your pet.

OFFERTORY HYMN #355 All Creatures of Our God and King
(verses 1 -5, 7)

All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voices, let us sing:
 alleluia, alleluia!
Bright burning sun and golden beams,
pale silver moon that gently gleams,
 alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
 alleluia, alleluia!

Great rushing winds and breezes soft,
you clouds that ride the heavens aloft,
O sing now, alleluia!
Fair rising morn, with praise rejoice,
stars nightly shining, find a voice:
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia!

Swift flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for your Lord to hear,
alleluia, alleluia!
Fire, so intense and fiercely bright,
you give to us both warmth and light,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia!

Earth ever fertile, day by day
unfold your blessings on our way,
O sing now, alleluia!
All flowers and fruits that in you grow,
God's glory let them also show:
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia!

All you with mercy in your heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
alleluia, alleluia!
All you that pain and sorrow bear,
praise God, and cast on God your care:
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their creator bless,
and worship God in humbleness,
 alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise God the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three-in-One:
 alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
 alleluia, alleluia!

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Creator of all things, Giver of life and sustenance, thank you for your boundless generosity. All good gifts come from you. Please take these tokens of our love, our tithes and the mementos from our gardens. We praise you for the beauty of every bloom, the nourishment of every harvest, a fresh-picked tomato or a bundle of herbs that brings life to our homes, for these things we offer our heartfelt gratitude. May these gifts remind us of your constant care and love, and inspire us to be mindful stewards of your creation. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is meet and right to give thanks to you always, O God, for you are the source of all life. Since the beginning of time, you have sustained us through the environment that you established in creation. You rule the universe with balance and generosity, for which all creation never ceases to

praise you. Joining with the company of heaven
and all the creatures of the skies, earth, and
seas, we joyfully praise your holy name, singing:

All Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

O God, our creator, you placed us in this world, but did not leave us to live alone. You surrounded us with your wondrous creation that we might live in harmony with it, taking only what is necessary to preserve our common life. Of the world you made a garden for the flourishing of your people, yet we strayed from your path.

We judged ourselves powerful and mighty, planting destruction between us and nature, and creating a world of inequity, imbalance, and discontent. Countless times, your prophets led us to repentance and new life, yet we chose to walk in other ways and persist in our selfish error.

In the fullness of time and in your infinite mercy, you sent us your Son Jesus Christ, the source of new life. He taught us to live in unity with you, opening the doors to a new creation: one reconciled to you and sustained by your love.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread. Having given thanks to you, he broke it and gave it to those who were with him, saying, "Take, eat. This is my Body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, and having given thanks to you, he gave it to them, saying, "Take, drink. This is my Blood of the new and eternal Covenant which is shed for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.

Therefore, we proclaim the wondrous mystery:

**All: Christ has died. Christ has risen.
Christ will come again.**

And, giving thanks to you for restoring us in the ways of your Kingdom, we offer you these gifts of bread and wine: fruits of the earth and of your creation. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit, that they may be for us the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that in union with Christ we may fill the world with your love, renewing it with the gift of your Gospel.

Preserve us in rebuilding the world around us and restoring the balance of nature. Grant that we may see in your creation that splendid garden, worthy of respect and care. Evermore strengthen your Church in the struggle to preserve the environment and the diversity of life within it. And, at the last day, bring us to your heavenly Kingdom, where in the company of St. Francis and all your saints, we may never cease to glorify you in the new creation of Jesus Christ.

By Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, an honor and glory are yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are
confident to 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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Leader: Blessed are you Lord God of all creation
You bring forth bread from the earth.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

Leader: Blessed are you Lord God of all creation
You create the fruit of the vine.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

THE COMMUNION

Leader: The gifts of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

♪ LAMB OF GOD

**Lamb of God You take away the sins of the world,
Miserere nobis**

**Lamb of God You take away the sins of the world,
Miserere nobis**

**Lamb of God You take away the sins of the world,
Dona nobis pacem
Dona nobis pacem.**

COMMUNION HYMNS #73 One Bread, One Body

Refrain

One bread, one body, one Lord of all;
one cup of blessing which we bless-
and we, though many, throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more.

Refrain

Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all.

Refrain

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one for all.

Refrain

#415 All Things Bright and Beautiful

Refrain:

All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.

Each radiant flower that opens,
each vibrant bird that sings,
God made their glowing colours,
God made their lively wings. [Refrain]

The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruit in the garden,
God made them every one. [Refrain]

The rocky mountain splendour,
the loon's wild, haunting call,
the great lakes and the prairies,
the forest in the fall. [Refrain]

God gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is the Creator,
who has made all things well. [Refrain]

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's injury, your pardon, Lord,
And where there's doubt, true faith in You.

Make me a channel of Your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
In giving ourselves that we receive,
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

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's darkness, only light,
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

Text: Prayer of St. Francis; adapt. by Sebastian Temple, 1928–1997 Tune: Sebastian Temple, 1928–1997; acc. by Robert J. Batastini, b.1942 © 1967, OCP Dedicated to Mrs. Frances Tracy

THE BLESSING

God the Father, who created the world, give you grace to be
wise stewards of his creation. **Amen.**

God the Son, who redeemed the world, inspire you to go out as labourers into his harvest. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit, whose breath fills the whole creation, help you to bear his fruits of love, joy and peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN #619 Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus,
ruler of all nature,
O thou the Godhead's human son:
Thee will I cherish,
Thee will I honor,
thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows,
fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer
who makes the troubled heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine,
fairer still the moonlight,
and fair the twinkling, starry host:
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
than all the angels heaven can boast.

All fairest beauty,
heavenly and earthly,

Wondrously, Jesus, is found in thee;
None can be nearer,
Fairer, or dearer
Than thou, my Saviour, art to me.

THE SENDING OUT

Leader: Lord God, you made your church rich through the poverty of blessed Francis: help us like him not to trust in earthly things but to seek your heavenly gifts; Most loving God,

**All: you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with
courage in the power of your Spirit.**

THE DISMISSAL


Leader Tend the earth, care for God's good creation, and bring forth the fruits of righteousness. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All Thanks be to God. Amen.

Please remember in your prayers this week

Parish Prayer Cycle: Bill, Michael & Brenda

Special Needs: Barbara, Nola, Audrey, Ann-Marie, Grace, Monica, Louise & Family.

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