

**Prayer after Communion:**

Father, your word and sacrament give us food and life.  
May we who have shared in holy things bear fruit to  
your honour and glory, in the name of Jesus Christ the  
Lord. Amen..

**Doxology:**

Glory to God, whose power working in us  
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.  
Glory to God from generation to generation in the  
church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Blessing:**

C: May God the Creator bless you,  
May Christ the redeemer take care of you,  
May the Holy Spirit, the giver of life  
Enlighten you all the days of your life.

**All: Amen.**

**Announcements**

**CLOSING SONG:**     *The Trees of the Fields*



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# Welcome to St. Paul's Anglican Church

**The Right Rev. John Chapman,  
Bishop of Ottawa**

**The Rev. Karen Coxon, Interim Priest in Charge**

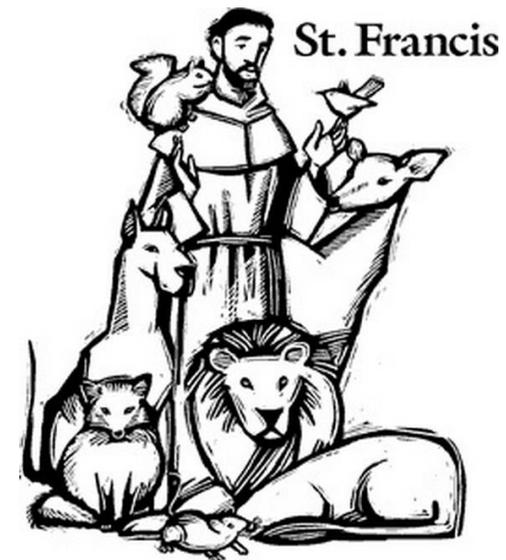


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## *A Blessing of the Animals* Sunday, September 9, 2018 10:30 a.m.

**Greeters:** Irene Emig and Karen Luyendyk

**Server/Chalice:** Katrina Ayling

**Readers:** Inez McCreery and Ron Ayling

**Prayers of the People:** David McCreery

We ask that members please refrain from wearing perfumes or colognes

We gather today on the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin  
Anishnabe Nation. May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

## GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

**C:** The earth belongs to God

**All:** **The earth and all its creatures.**

**C:** How good and lovely it is

**All:** **to live together in unity.**

**C:** Love and faith come together

**All:** **justice and peace join hands.**

**C:** Lord, open our lips

**All:** **and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

**OPENING SONG:** *A Song for St. Paul's*

**Collect for the Day:**

**O God who made all the earth and every creature that dwells therein: help us, we pray, to treat with compassion all living creatures entrusted to our care, that they may not suffer from neglect nor become the victims of 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.**

**FIRST READING:** Genesis 1:1-34 (abbreviated)

Reader: The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**C:** Blessed are you, Lord our God,  
Whenever you drink it,  
do this for the remembrance of me.”

**All: Glory to you for ever and ever.**

**C:** Gracious God,

... may share the divine life of Christ our Lord.

**All: Glory to you for ever and ever.**

**C:** Pour out your Spirit upon the whole earth

...

all honour and glory are yours, creator of all.

**All: Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**C:** As our Saviour taught us, let us 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  
forever. Amen.**

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

**C:** Creator of all, you gave us golden fields of wheat, whose many grains we have gathered and made into this one bread.

**All: So may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

## COMMUNION

*All are welcome at our Lord's Table once musicians have received.*

*For hygienic reasons please refrain from dipping the bread in the wine*

**COMMUNION SONG:** *As The Deer Pants for the Water*  
*A brief time of reflective silence*

## THE EUCHARIST

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

**C:** Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

**C:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

**C:** It is right to give you thanks and praise,  
O Lord, our God, sustainer of the universe,  
you are worthy of glory and praise.

**All:** Glory to you for ever and ever.

**C:** At your command all things came to be: ...  
... by your will they were created and have their being.

**All: Glory to you for ever and ever.**

**C:** From the primal elements ...  
... you made us the stewards of creation.

**All: Glory to you for ever and ever.**

**C:** But we turn against you, and betray your trust;  
...  
the way of freedom and peace.

**All: Glory to you for ever and ever.**

**C:** Therefore we praise you, ...  
... in their unending hymn:

**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.**

...

## PSALM 8 (*responsively*)

1 O Lord our governor, \* how exalted is your name in all the world!

2 Out of the mouths of infants and children \* your majesty is praised above the heavens.

3 You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, \* to quell the enemy and the avenger.

4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, \* the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

5 What is man that you should be mindful of him? \* the son of man that you should seek him out?

6 You have made him but little lower than the angels; \* you adorn him with glory and honour;

7 You give him mastery over the works of your hands; \* you put all things under his feet;

8 All sheep and oxen, \* even the wild beasts of the field,

9 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, \* and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.

10 O Lord our governor, \* how exalted is your name in all the world!

## PRAYER AFTER THE PSALM

**All: Blessed are you, creator of heaven and earth; amid the immensity of the universe, you are mindful of us and seek us out. Blessed are you for the gift of your Son, who humbled himself to share our life that we might be raised with him to glory and splendour. Blessed be your holy name, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

## GRADUAL ACCLAMATION:

Lead us Lord, lead us in Your righteousness.

Make your way plain before our face.

## GOSPEL: Matthew 6:25 – 34

## REFLECTION

*A brief time of silent reflection*

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Leader: Creator God, through your Word, you have made all that is. In all creation, your Word echoes, so that even the stones proclaim you as God. The whales and all that move in the water, the birds of the air, the beasts of the wild, you call all of us to praise and worship you. But our human lips are often silent – our praise unspoken, and our thankfulness forgotten.

**All: Holy Spirit, renew us.**

L: You made the earth a home for all creatures, and made it holy by your presence among us, teaching us to learn your compassion by loving and caring for earth's creatures. But we often pass by those creatures weaker and poorer than ourselves, and from those we fear.

**All: Holy Spirit, renew us.**

L: In you all creatures find the well spring of life and you give us earth's water to sustain us. You give many of your creatures eyes to see and ears to hear, but we often refuse to see and hear the pain of the earth and her creatures because of our indifference, greed, and carelessness.

**All: Holy Spirit, renew us.**

L: We pray for all the animals and creatures, their habitats and environments, their health and well-being that they may continue to teach us of your wisdom and grace.

**All: God of steadfast love, hear us.**

L: We pray for animal companions everywhere, for those who support and care for the animal and for a growing awareness of our own responsibility for the care and nurture of all life. And we pray for those animals who have died. Comfort all who mourn the loss of a beloved pet.

**All: God of steadfast love, hear us.**

## THE BLESSING OF THE PETS

**C:** God of all creation, at the beginning of time you gave us all the creatures of the earth to be our helpers, and like all good things from you, they became more than that. They became our companions and friends. We ask you then to bless these, our animal friends, that they may have long and joyful lives. Keep them safe when we cannot be with them, protect them from sickness and harm, and heal their wounds. When the end of their lives come, grant them a peaceful death, free from pain and suffering.

And bless us too, their human companions, with your Holy Spirit, that we may care for them well and be wise and gentle stewards of your creation. May our relationship with them mirror your love as we strive to imitate the love of Jesus Christ and your servant Francis. **Amen.**

**Blessing:** (*pet name*), may you be blessed in the name of God who created you, and may you and (*owner name*) enjoy life together with God.

**BLESSING SONG**      *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

### THE PEACE

**OFFERTORY HYMN:** *Fairest Lord Jesus*

### PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS:

**Great and holy God, accept our offering of labour and love. May we bring you true and spiritual worship and be one with you. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**