

The Hymn

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

Refrain

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,

Fine

all things wise and won - der - ful, in love God made them all. (Solo) Each
(Solo) The
(Solo) The
(All) He

lit - tle flower that op - ens, each lit - tle bird that sings, God
pur - ple head - ed moun - tain, the riv - er run - ning by, the
cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun, the
gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how

made their glow - ing col - ors, and made their tin - y wings.
sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.
ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.
great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

The Closing Prayer (unison)†

(text omitted)

†From an online resource of the Episcopal Church.



A Service of Worship for the Blessing of Animals

September 30, 2018

6:00 p.m.

The Call to Worship (responsive)

Psalm 148

- Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights!
- People: **Praise the Lord, all you angels; praise God, you heavenly host!**
- Leader: Praise the Lord, sun and moon; praise God, all you shining stars!
- People: **Praise the Lord, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**
- Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for God commanded and they were created.
- People: **God established them for ever and ever and fixed their bounds which cannot be passed.**
- Leader: Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,
- People: **fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling God's command!**
- Leader: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!
- People: **Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!**
- Leader: Rulers of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!
- People: **Young men and women alike, old and young together!**
- Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for God's name alone is exalted;
- People: **God's glory is above earth and heaven.**
- Leader: The Lord has raised up a horn for God's people, praise for all the faithful,
- People: **for the people of Israel who are close to God.**
- All: **Praise the Lord!**

The Invocation

The Hymn

“All Creatures of our God and King”

All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing:
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Thou rising morn in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening, find a voice:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright
that givest us both warmth and light,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

All ye who are of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
sing his praises, Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on him cast your care,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son
and praise the Spirit, Three in One,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Words of Welcome

The Hebrew Bible

Genesis 1:20-31; 9:8-17

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

The Christian Testament

Romans 8:18-25

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The Gospel

Luke 15:3-7

So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.'" Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.

The Prayer of Remembrance for Animal Friends We Have Lost

The Prayer of Thanks (responsive)†

(text omitted)

The Blessing of the Animals