

**The Blessing of the Animals**  
**October 3, 2021 • 10:00 AM Service**  
**Peace Park**

# Blessing of the Animals



Episcopal Church of the

**GOOD  
SHEPHERD**

639 Edgewater Drive • Dunedin, FL 34698

(727) 733-4125

[www.COGSDunedin.com](http://www.COGSDunedin.com)

E-Mail the church office: [info@cogsdunedin.com](mailto:info@cogsdunedin.com)

Sunday Services at 8 and 10 AM • Wed. Service at 10 AM • Sat. Service at 5 PM

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**We want you to know how welcome you are here!** The people of this parish community are here to create a safe and inspiring place to pursue your own life's journey and if we can be of assistance on that journey please let us know. The Episcopal Church is part of the world-wide Anglican Communion. Our worship style has its roots in the earliest forms of Christian worship, balancing both word and sacrament. We hope you will find in us a place and a community to call yours. We're glad you are here!

**Everyone who brings a pet** to be blessed will have their photograph taken during the blessing. The pictures will be posted on the church web site ([www.COGSDunedin.com](http://www.COGSDunedin.com)) and our Facebook page for you to download and print.

# GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

MORNING SONGS

arr. Paul A. Tate

VOLUNTARY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MISSION MOMENT

GATHERING HYMN

*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 little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,  
He made their glowing colors, he made their tiny wings.*** Refrain

***He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell  
how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.*** Refrain

GATHERING PRAYER

☐ Most high, omnipotent good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy. O God, you have made us and all living things. You are even 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 your help that we might take care of those who trust us to look after them. By doing this, we share in your own love for all creation. We ask this in Jesus' name.

☒ **Amen.**

## WORD OF GOD

THE READINGS: Job 1:1,2:1-10 • Psalm 26 • Hebrew 1:1-4,2:5-12 • Mark 10:2-16

THE FIRST READING:

☒ *The First Reading is taken from Job, chapter 1...*

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil. One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord. The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the Lord, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." The Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason."

Then Satan answered the Lord, "Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face." The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life." So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes. Then his wife said to him, "Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die." But he said to her, "You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM:26

TUNE: WINCHESTER NEW

H 510 vs 1-4

***Give judgment, Lord, for I have lived With trust and honor all my days;  
O test me, Lord, and try my life: My heart and mind and all my ways.***

***I set your love before my eyes And walk in faithfulness with you;  
I have not sat with worthless folk Nor met with those who are not true.***

***The evildoers' company And wicked people, these I hate;  
I wash my hands in innocence And 'round your altar celebrate.***

***I sing aloud in thankfulness, Your wondrous deeds I will retell;  
I love your glory's resting-place, The house, Lord, where you choose to dwell.***

THE SECOND READING:

📖 *The Second Reading is taken from Hebrew, chapter 1...*

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, 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. 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, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere, "What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, 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, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. 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. 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, saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL:

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. 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. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

HOMILY

Rev. Whitney Burton

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**☩ I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**☩** As grateful children of God our Father, who has given us so much, we now rededicate our lives to God's purposes:

*[The Leader and People pray responsively]*

**☩** God created us and placed us on this earth to be stewards of all living things and so to proclaim the glory of their Creator. Even the plants praise God, with their beauty; we are blessed with the flowers given today to the Glory of God, and for the birthdays this coming week of Marilyn Ringquist, Allie Fisher, Amy Heindel, Nancy Vallely, Sandra Powers, Kam McDaniel, Michael Lloveras, and for those celebrating anniversaries this week, Martha and Vic Howarth, Scott & Diane Hood. Let us, then, praise God, saying:

**☩ Blessed be God for ever.**

**☩** Blessed are you, O Lord, who created the animals and gave us the ability to train them to help us in our work.

**☩ Blessed be God for ever.**

**☩** Blessed are you, O Lord, who gave us food from animals to replenish our energies.

**☩ Blessed be God for ever.**

**☩** Blessed are you, O Lord, who for the sake of our comfort gave us domestic animals as companions.

**☩ Blessed be God for ever.**

℣ Blessed are you, O Lord, who shows us a sign of your providence, as your Son told us, by caring for the birds of the air.

☞ **Blessed be God for ever.**

℣ Blessed are you, O Lord, who through your lowliest creatures never ceases to draw us toward your love.

☞ **Blessed be God for ever.**

℣ Let us pray... O God, you have done all things wisely; in your goodness you have made us in your image and given us care over other living things. Reach out with your right hand and grant that we may be a blessing to our companion animals, as they are a blessing to us. May the love you have shown to us in creation and through Jesus Christ, our Lord, teach us to love all those with whom we share your Creation, both human and animal, in the present and into the future. We ask this through the power of your Holy Spirit.

☞ **Amen.**

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE [Ephesians 5:2]

℣ Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

OFFERTORY

God of the Sparrow

Carl Schalk  
Julina Guini, Tenor

PRESENTATION HYMN:

*Doxology*

℣ God of all creation, all you have made is good.  
Nourish us and all the world with these gifts.

☞ ***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

HOLY COMMUNION

*[The Priest will lead the congregation in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.]*

COMMUNION

One Bread, One Body

John B. Foley  
Julina Guini, Tenor

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**☩ Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**P** The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## COMMUNION AND BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

- *Anyone (with or without pets) who wishes to receive communion, please proceed down center aisle to receive communion.*
- *After receiving communion, those with pets, proceed to Whitney for a blessing. Those without pets can proceed back to their seat.*
- *Anyone wishing to receive a pet blessing, but not communion, can proceed directly to Whitney.*

## COMMUNION

One Bread, One Body

John B. Foley  
Julina Guini, Tenor

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**P** Please join me now in praying the Prayer of St. Francis, in whose honor we gather this day.

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

**☩ Where there is hatred, let us sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is discord, union;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.**

**P** 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. Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION

- P** May God, who created the animals of this earth to be the helpers and companions of humanity, bless you with grateful hearts and gentle hands to care for all living things as he cares for us. And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.
- G Amen.**

SENDING HYMN *All Creatures of Our God and King* H. 400, stanzas 1,4,7

- G** *He's got the whole world in His hands, All creatures of our God and King,  
liff up your voices, let us sing: alleluia, alleluia!  
Bright burning sun with golden beams, Pale silver moon that gently gleams,  
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*Dear mother earth, you day by day unfold your blessings on our way;  
O praise him, Alleluia!*

*All flowers and fruits that in you grow, let them his glory also show:  
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 God the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One:  
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

THE DISMISSAL

**SERVING US TODAY**

<b>Celebrant</b>	Whitney Burton
<b>Deacon</b>	Cindy Roehl
<b>Keyboard</b>	Tom Huffman
<b>Crucifer/Server</b>	Pat Cates
<b>Lectors</b>	Nancy Fisher Maureen Belote
<b>Prayers of the People</b>	Mary Ratliff
<b>Ushers</b>	Caroline Maisel Steve Maisel Alan Mackay
<b>Building &amp; Grounds</b>	Robin Megel
<b>Photographer</b>	Rhianna Sharpe