



**St. John's Chapel  
United Church of Christ**

4344 S. Fremont Ave.  
Springfield, MO 65804-7306  
[www.stjohnschapel.org](http://www.stjohnschapel.org)

On the fifth and sixth days of creation, You called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land. You inspired St. Francis to call all animals his brothers and sisters.

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**Feast of St. Francis of Assisi**

October 10, 2019  
Liturgist: Nancy Anderson

10:30 A.M.  
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

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*(\*Denotes when all who are able to please stand.)*

**Gathering**

Meditative Music

played by Kyle Aho

*As we gather for worship we invite you to observe silence and enter into reflection.*

*The theme of today's worship will focus on the companionship and unconditional love freely given by our pets. This morning, reflect on the pets in your life, both past and present, and what these creatures have taught us about love.*

*Space to write down your thoughts: \_\_\_\_\_*

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*Or you may wish to light a candle at the communion table to symbolize the concerns or joys you carry with you to worship, or whatever is in your heart and mind. Or you may wish to reflect where you are seated, or if you reflect better walking, please walk around the sanctuary and reflect upon the images you encounter.*

**Lighting of Candles**

Acolyte: Carsen Glaser

**Ringing of Bells**

**Introit**

"Allegro"

Handel

The St. John's Chapel Bell Choir

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **\*Hymn of Celebration**

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

No. 77

### **\*Call to Celebration**

Leader: We have come together to rejoice with God, the Creator of the all that surrounds around us. O God, You love all things that exist, and despise no living thing, for You have made nothing You didn't love.

You are filled with love for all creatures, for they are Yours, for Your immortal Spirit is in all things.

**People: Let us sing to God a new song, a song for all the creatures of the earth.**

Leader: Let us rejoice in the goodness of God, shown in the beauty of little things.

**People: Let us marvel at the little creatures who are innocent in God's sight.**

Leader: Let us extol God's handiwork in the complexity of their lives.

**Unison: Let us rejoice in the other worlds, sublime and mysterious, that God has made—**

**The world of earthworms burrowing deep, the world of skylarks soaring above, the world of plunging dolphins in damaged oceans, and the world of fawns playing in the meadow.**

Leader: Let us hear the Divine rejoicing throughout the whole earth: “The earth is mine and the fullness thereof.” (Psalm 24:1)

### **\*Call to Confession**

Leader: Through Christ we are wed to God and to one another.

**People: Let us confess our separation from God, from one another, and from God's creation,**

Leader: Confident that God holds us in an unbreakable covenant.

### **\*Prayer of Confession**-All, lead by Pastor

**Our loving God, we are often too proud to see You in each other, and especially in those creatures we deem beneath us. We often forget that Your goodness lies in “all creatures great and small”, for we deem many as lesser wanting only to benefit from their strength and slaughter. We have lost sight of the integrity of Your creation: the value of all creatures in and of themselves, and our interconnectedness in Your universe as parts of the infinite, diverse whole. We have lost sight of Your intent for us to be stewards of Your creation, and instead have become devouring consumers. We are sorrowful because our relationship with Your creation is beyond our power to mend, and so we pray Thee, let Your grace heal our world and all the creatures herein, and in so doing, may our hearts be also healed. Amen.**

## **Silent Meditation and Personal Confession**

*During this time of inward reflection and repentance, you may want to use “Examen,” which simply means an examining of our lives in a prayerful way. It is different from a prayer of confession in that it reviews both the good and the bad of our lives. You pause to look back over your week, or as many days as you wish to examine, and notice where you have partnered with God. In other words, when were you trying to do it alone and when did you ask God to assist you? You can also remember the events, encounters or insights that felt like gifts from God and those that did not. Or remember the times in the day when you gave and received love, and when you did not give or receive love. Once your days are reviewed and examined, you may journal what you have uncovered, or simply imagine offering your insight up to God to let God love you just as you are.*

### **\*Assurance of Forgiveness-Pastor**

Pastor: God made us for a shared life, for we live in the earthly garden. Christ cleanses and purifies us of the things that separate us from God, each other, and from the universe teaming with life.

**People: It is in the mingling of our lives that we know the power of God to forgive and to make us forgiving.**

Pastor: Hear the good news: In Christ we are forgiven.

### **\*Gloria Patri**

(“Glory Be to the Father” No. 9 in *Sing to the Lord*)

### **Franciscan Animal Blessing**

The Rev. Stephan Scharf, Associate Pastor

*(Children may now exit for Children’s Choir).*

### **Prayer of the People, Lord’s Prayer** *(debts and debtors)*

#### **Offertory**

Beautiful Savior arr. James Klein  
The St. John’s Chapel Bell Choir

### **\*Doxology and Dedication Prayer**

(“Praise God” No. 7 in *Sing to the Lord*)

#### **\*Hymn**

“For the Beauty of the Earth” No. 776

#### **Reading of Holy Scripture**

Romans 8: 18-25, Liturgist p. 1030  
Genesis 9: 1-5, Pastor p. 7

#### **Sermon**

“What Could Animals Hope For” by The Rev. Stephan Scharf

**\*Hymn**

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

No. 737

**\*Apostles’ Creed** (*Apostle’s Creed is found on page two of Worship Resources in your pew pocket*).

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the One Holy Universal Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*Benediction**-Pastor

And now, may the power of God’s love open your eyes to the glory of God all around you—a universe teeming with creatures that nourish you, clothe you, transport you, entertain, fascinate and love you—and may you be filled with the beauty of all that is God.

Go forth under the blessing of our God:

God bless you and keep you.  
God make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
God lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.  
Amen. And the people said, “Amen”.

**\*Carillon Response**

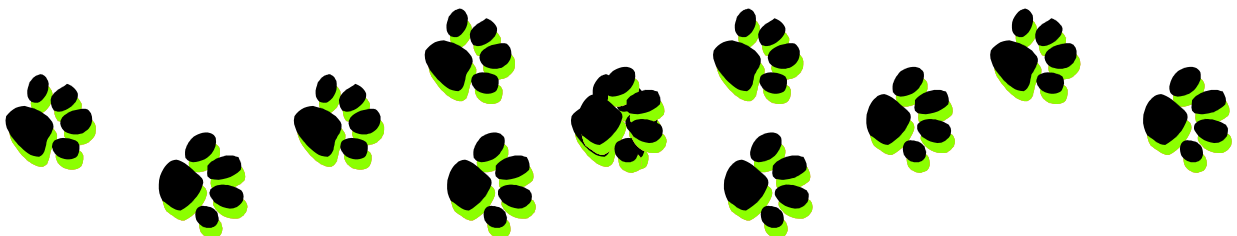
“Allegro”

Handel

The St. John’s Chapel Bell Choir

**Postlude**

performed by Kyle Aho



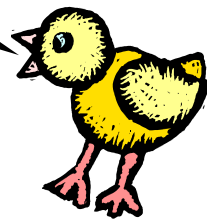
**TODAY...**

# **The Feast of St. Francis Blessing of Animals**



**WELL BEHAVED PETS, PLEASE BRING  
YOUR HUMAN FRIENDS FORWARD WHEN SUMMONED  
DURING THIS MORNING'S SERVICE~**

**CHILDREN, PLEASE COME TO THE SANCTU-  
ARY WITH YOUR PARENTS, YOUR PETS, OR  
YOUR PICTURE OF AN ANIMAL. YOU ARE  
PART OF THIS MORNING'S BLESSING OF  
ANIMALS. AFTER WE SING THE ANTHEM,  
YOU MAY GO TO CHILDREN'S CHOIR~**



**EVERYONE,  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOVE OF  
ANIMALS, AND A SPECIAL THANK  
YOU FOR THOSE WHO BROUGHT  
THEIR PETS TO SERVICE TODAY~**

**AND PLEASE COME AT 4 PM TODAY  
WHEN PASTOR STEPHAN WILL LEAD  
A SPECIAL BLESSING AND LABY-  
RINTH WALK FOR OUR FOUR LEGGED  
FRIENDS~**

*You are invited...*

Please place on your calendar the date of our UHE Fund Annual Dinner, Thursday, November 4th, 6:30 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1551 E. Portland. This is an exciting time for the ministry as we unveil the new housing project and celebrate 49 years of campus ministry. Please RSVP to Rev. Howard Cavner at the House, 865-8711, by October 28. If you have further questions contact Tona Griggs or Gary Tebbenkamp.

Thanks,  
Gary

*Celebrating 49 years of campus ministry...*

Sunday, October 24

**DR. MARC A. WESSELS**  
Assoc. Conference Minister

Will lead our worship  
focusing on

Anticipation & Assurance  
of  
God & His Goodness

SJC CROP WALK 2010

raised approximately \$1,300.00 and counting.  
Thank you everyone for an excellent effort!

Sunday, October 31

**REFORMATION SUNDAY**

A Worship Service in the German-style  
by  
The Rev. Stephan Scharf

**Family and Friends:**

**Peggy Gilbert:** (Friend of Tona Griggs & friend & colleague of Melissa Burnett) thanks the congregation for our continued prayers as she takes oral chemotherapy during remission of her breast cancer.

**Josephine Walker:** (Jeanne Kruger's mother) is in Magnolia Square, Room 228.

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**This week's "special offering basket" in the Narthex is for the  
COUNCIL OF CHURCHES~**

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**Our Stewardship for Sunday, October 3, 2010**

Worship: 61                      Offering: \$2,541.00  
Sunday School: 15              Offering: \$17.00

*The average weekly offering needed to meet annual budget is \$2,704.00*



## **FALL BAZAAR**

November 6, 2010—8:00 am - 2:00 pm



The **LIBRARY** will be holding a used book sale again this year. Please gather up those used books sitting around and bring them in for our sale. As budgeted monies are limited, we will be depending on proceeds as our only source of operating funds for the upcoming year. We also will accept used DVDs and video tapes. Place donations in a bag or box labeled **LIBRARY SALE** and place them in the library before Oct. 31st.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE will have a **TRASH AND TREASURES** table for those items you have around the house that are too good to dispose of but you no longer have a need. (Knick-knacks, candles, kitchen items, etc). Please price them before bringing the week of Nov. 1. These proceeds will be used to help fund our outreach such as Crosslines, etc.

All our nuts on hand will be sold at a reduced price during the month of October. Please see Eleanor Berger or Beverly Graham for details. Submitted by Rita Allen.



## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**OCTOBER 23, 5:00 PM  
THE DATEMA FARM**

### **St. John's Chapel UCC Staff**

Pastor — Rev. Becky Hebert  
Associate Pastor — Stephan Scharf

Secretary — Debra Hall

Music Director - Chris Brammer  
Organist - Kyle Aho

Pastor's Home - 882-0415  
Pastor's Cell - 773-6702  
Pastor's E-mail - [pastor@stjohnschapel.org](mailto:pastor@stjohnschapel.org)  
Church Office - 881-5175  
FAX - 881-1647  
Church E-mail - [sec@stjohnschapel.org](mailto:sec@stjohnschapel.org)

Nursery Attendant - Lea Ann Kruger  
Custodian - Lee Bartell

**You, whether a member or guest,** are an important and valuable part of this St. John's Chapel Community. Your participation in this worship service is a blessing. May you always know God's gift of unending love.

**A nursery** is available during worship for children up through three years of age. If you need help locating the nursery, you are hard of hearing.

**Hearing-assistance devices** are available for use during worship. If you would like to use one, please ask an usher to get one for you.



Course in Parables — 9:00 AM  
 Worship — 10:30 AM  
 Pastor's Day Off — Friday

Secretary's Office Hours: 8:30 AM — 1:30 PM Monday-Friday

**October 10, 2010**

Elaine Tebbenkamp will open the church for the month of October~

TODAY: Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost ..... 10:30 am  
 Feast of St. Francis, Blessing of Animals  
 Bring Crosslines Food  
 Independent Women ..... 1:00 pm  
 Animal Blessing and Walk at the Labyrinth ..... 4:00 pm

Monday: NO Grace & Weight today  
 Council Meeting ..... 6:30 pm

Tuesday: Brotherhood ..... 8:00 am  
 Fish Day  
 Centering Prayer ..... 12:30 pm

Wednesday: Bells ..... 6:30 pm  
 Choir Practice ..... 7:40 pm

Thursday: Women's Guild ..... 1:00 pm

Friday-Saturday: Spiritual Development Weekend Retreat is cancelled.

Sunday: Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost ..... 10:30 am  
 Serve at The Kitchen ..... 4:15 pm

**An Updated Announcement—**

**Service of Recognition**  
**REV. STEPHAN SCHARF**  
**Sunday, November 14, 2010**  
**St. John's Chapel UCC**  
**Springfield, Missouri**

*More details will be forthcoming as announced~  
 Please plan to attend this important day in the life of our church~*

**Our Mission Statement**

St. John's Chapel UCC is called to love unconditionally, seek justice, foster spiritual growth, and embrace diversity of thought and body as taught by Jesus Christ.