



St. John the Baptist

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St. John's Chapel United Church of Christ

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St. John's Chapel United Church of Christ
The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi
Animal Blessing
October 11, 2009

Greetings

Call to Worship

Pastor: O Breather of Sacred Unity, whose breath gives life to the world,

People: You have established Your covenant with us despite our fickleness;

Pastor: But not only with ourselves but with all living creatures is Your covenant established.

People: All these living creatures You have put under our protection for us to care for as You care for us.

Pastor: Bless us as their caregiver, that we may never neglect their true needs or the trust they place in us.

People: With the blessing You placed upon our heart, we lift our voices in the joy of Your remarkable love.

Hymn "All Things Bright and Beautiful"

As we sing please begin to lead your animal friend to the center of the labyrinth. Stop before the center and wait for your furry faced friend to receive a blessing.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "All Things Bright and Beautiful". It is written for a unison voice and piano accompaniment. The score is in 4/4 time and the key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is simple and consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "Refrain: All things bright and beau-ti-ful, All crea-tures great and small, And all things wise and won-der-ful- The Lord God made them all." The score ends with a "Fine" marking.

1. Each lit - tle flow'r that o - pens up, Each lit - tle bird that sings -
 2. The cold wind in the win - ter - time, The pleas - ant sum - mer sun,

He made their glow - ing col - ors, and He made their ti - ny wings. The
 The ripe fruits in the gar - den now - He made them - ev - 'ry one. He

pur - ple - head - ed moun - tain, The riv - er run - ning by, The
 gave us eyes to see them all, And lips that we might tell How

sun - set and the morn - ing light That bright - ens up the sky,
 great is the Al - might - y God Who has made all things well.

D.C. al Fine

Franciscan Animal Blessing

For All Animals (in unison)

Blessed are You, God, maker of all living creatures.

**On the fifth and sixth day of creation, You called forth
 fish in the sea, birds in the air, and animals of the land.**

**You inspired St. Francis to call all animals his brothers
 and sisters. We ask You to bless these animals. By the
 power of Your love, enable them to live according to Your
 plan. May we always praise You for all Your beauty in
 creation. Blessed are You, Most Holy God, in all Your
 creatures! Amen.**

Closing Prayer

Pastor: O Breather of Life, we thank You for these creatures who live alongside us as our companions and friends; for their loyalty, love, and trust which enriches our lives and gives us joy.

People: Teach us to value the kindness, the power, and the strength of gentleness they give to us.

Pastor: O God, our God, You are the wish for harmony in chaos. You are the dream for peace in the midst of war. May Your wish for harmony and Your wish for unity in Your Creation resonate from here to spread across this land. Amen.

Benediction



Sunday School — 9 AM
Worship — 10:30 AM
Pastor's Day Off — Friday
Secretary's Office Hours: 8:30 AM — 1:00 PM
Monday-Friday

The Friendship Circle Annual Bazaar will be held Saturday, November 7th and will feature both crafts and antiques for sale this year. Anyone interested in a vendor table please call Beverly Graham, 881-3034 to apply.



Help major disaster victims of Typhoon Ketsana, the South Pacific tsunamis and the Sumatra earthquake now. The UCC has set a goal of \$250,000 to send in aid to disaster victims dealt a deadly and triple blow of natural disasters in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Learn more about UCC's efforts and donate at:

www.ucc.org

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.