



St. Matthias
Anglican Church



THE
ABBHEY
CHURCH



**Feast of St Francis
in the Season of Creation**

October 4th, 2020 + 3pm

Welcome & Announcements / Land Acknowledgement

Bell x3

Opening Responses

We gather in the name of the Creator

Who is a community of love.

We gather in the name of the Redeemer

who reconciles all of creation.

We gather in the presence of the Life Giver

Who inspires new life and renews it.

Come. Let us worship the Triune God!

Poem and Collect

When Francis preached love to the birds

They listened, fluttered, throttled up

Into the blue like a flock of words

Released for fun from his holy lips.

Then wheeled back, whirred about his head,

Pirouetted on brothers' capes.

Danced on the wing, for sheer joy played

And sang, like images took flight.

Which was the best poem Francis made,

His argument true, his tone light.

St. Francis and the Birds by Seamus Heaney

Let us pray. O God, you have made us and all living things. Today we thank you for giving us these animals who bring you delight and us joy and companionship. 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. Remember, loving God, the animals who have died this year, receive them into your loving care and comfort all who grieve. Amen.

*During this next Song, we invite you to bring forward your
animal companions (or pictures or stuffies)*

Each animal is blessed

*"May you be blessed in the Name of God who created you+,
and may you and your human companion be an example of
Gods love for all of creation."*

Song: All Creatures Worship God Most High!

All creatures, worship God most high!
Sound every voice in earth and sky: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright,
sing, sister moon and stars of night:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain
you grow the gifts of fruit and grain: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear sister water, useful, clear,
make music for your Lord to hear: Alleluia...

Sing, brother fire, so mirthful, strong;
drive far the shadows, join the throng: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear mother earth, so rich in care,
praise God in colors bright and rare: Alleluia...

All who for love of God forgive,
all who in pain or sorrow grieve: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;
still make your song amid the tears: Alleluia...

And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom, fair is the
night that leads us home. Alleluia...

O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart: Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit Three in One: Alleluia...)

St. Francis of Assisi / Augsburg Fortress / Evangelical Lutheran Worship 835 /
OneLicense

Let us pray,

Oh God, You who created them and called them good:
bless again these creatures who come to us as a blessing
fashioned of fur or feather or fin, formed of flesh that
breathes with your own breath, that you have made from
sheer delight, that you have given in dazzling variety.
Bless them who curl themselves around our hearts who
twine themselves through our days who companion us in
our labor who call us to come and play. Bless them who
will never be entirely tamed and so remind us that you
love what is wild, that you rejoice in what lives close to the
earth, that your heart beats in the heart of these creatures
you have entrusted to our care. In Jesus name we pray.

Amen.

Readings

Psalm 148:7-14

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise God in the heights!
Praise God, all the angels; praise God, all God's host!
Praise God, sun and moon; praise God,
all you shining stars!
Praise God, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!
Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for God commanded and they were created.
God established them forever and ever;

God fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.
Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps,
fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling God's command!
Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!
Wild animals and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds!
Sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!
Young men and women alike, old and young together!
Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for God's name alone is exalted;
God's glory is above earth and heaven. God has raised up a
horn for God's people, praise for all God's faithful, for the
people of Israel who are close to God. Praise the Lord!
[ending with] ...Glory to you Source of all Being, Eternal
Word and Holy Spirit

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen**

Epistle Reading: Galatians 6:14-18

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Let us prepare our hearts to hear the Gospel.

Word that formed creation, earth and sea and sky;
Word that brings salvation, Word that will not die;
Speak now in us that we might hear your call;
Living Word of Jesus, sound within us all.

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

... The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

God of all creation, form our hearts anew;
God of our salvation, lead us home to you;
Spirit, inspire our hearts to hear your call;
Living God of Jesus, come renew us all!

Marty Haugen (b1950) Tune: Noel Nouvelet; Traditional French,
arr Martin Shaw (1875-1958) / OneLicense

Sermon: Rob Crosby-Shearer, EC

Bell / Silence / Bell

Affirmation of Faith

Hear, O Israel,
the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first and the great commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.

Prayers of the People

Confession

Resting in the knowledge of God's loving desire to refresh and renew the face of the earth, let us turn to the light and confess our sins

Silence

Creator God, we confess that we have not honoured you. We have broken our relationships with one another, abused your fragile creation, wounded your love and marred your holy image in us. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. Forgive us. Lead us from apathy to love. Strengthen us as stewards of your precious people and of your glorious creation, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen

Absolution

Offertory Song: Instruments of Peace

Lord make me an instrument of peace
An instrument of peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love
Where there is darkness, let me sow light
For in the giving we shall receive

And in the dying were given life
Lord make me an instrument of peace

Where there is sorrow let me sow hope
Where there is doubt , let me sow faith
Where there is injury your pardon give
Your consolation to those in pain.

Lord make me an instrument of peace, an instrument of
peace - Amen.

Wardell/Vice/Palmer/Fox/Sach - 2020 Porter's Gate / CCLI (Various Publisher -
Integrity, etc)

Prayer Over The Gifts

Creator, you bless us with many good gifts returned to you
from your creation. Feed us with the Bread of Life, your
Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God of all of Creation

It is right to give God thanks and praise

Celebrant: We praise you and we bless you, holy and
gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time
you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the
deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and
stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your
ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far
away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you
would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live
in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with
Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings

through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we now say:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends, took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon

these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.
Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us
your new creation. In the fullness of time bring us with St.
Francis and all your saints, to feast at the banquet
prepared from the foundation of the world.
Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity
of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for
ever and ever. **Amen.**

As beloved children of a loving parent we pray as Jesus
taught us...

Our Father *(in a language or paraphrase of your choice)*

Silence.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God given for
the life of the world! **Thanks be to God!**

*All are welcome to receive at Christ's table, if you would
prefer gluten free please let the person distributing know.*

Communion Song: Lord Make Us Servants

Lord, make us servants of your peace;
Where there is hate, may we sow love;
Where there is hurt, may we forgive;
Where there is strife, may we make one.

Where all is doubt, may we sow faith;
Where all is gloom, may we sow hope;
Where all is night, may we sow light;
Where all is tears, may we sow joy.

Jesus, our Lord, may we not seek
To be consoled, but to console,
Nor look to understanding hearts,
But look for hearts to understand.

May we not look for love's return,
But seek to love unselfishly,
For in our giving we receive,
And in forgiving are forgiven.

Dying, we live, and are reborn
Through death's dark night to endless day;
Lord, make us servants of your peace,
To wake at last in heaven's light.

Attributed to St. Francis of Assisi / Para. James Winscott, SJ (OneLicense)

Eat This Bread

Eat this Bread, drink this cup
Come to me and never be hungry
Eat this bread, drink this cup
Trust in me and you will not thirst

Ateliers et Presses de Taize / Taize Community, France / OneLicense

Prayer after Communion

Oh God, we thank you that you have fed us with your body, your life given for the world. May this meal nourish us in our care for creation. May we be joyful and generous in our service and live with eyes open to wonder and awake to your presence in your creation. Through Christ our lord, Amen.

Blessing

Therefore, let us desire nothing else, let us want nothing else, let nothing else please us and cause us delight except our Creator, Redeemer and Savior, the only true God, Who is the fullness of good... Who, without beginning and end, is unchangeable, invisible, indescribable, incomprehensible, unfathomable, blessed, praiseworthy, glorious, exalted, sublime, most high, gentle, lovable, delightful, and totally desirable above all else for ever*. And the blessing of this God, the Source of All Being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit, be with you this day and remain with you always!

*"Earlier Rule" of Saint Francis of Assisi

Closing Song

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:

*Refrain: Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.*

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars
of light: [Refrain]

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:
[Refrain]

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above; for all gentle thoughts
and mild: [Refrain]

For each perfect gift of thine,
peace on earth and joy in heav'n;
for thyself, best gift divine, to our world so freely giv'n:
[Refrain]

Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt. / DIX - Public Domain

Sending

Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has
always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in
peace to follow the good road*. Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia

*St Clare of Assisi