



Celebrating St. Francis

with Virtual Blessing of the Animals

St. George's Church † Glenn Dale, Maryland

The Episcopal Diocese of Washington

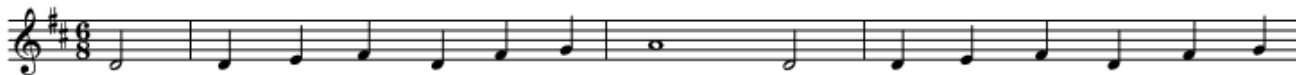
October 4, 2020

Welcome to St. George's! We are glad to see you this morning, whether in person or virtually. This service booklet for online participants has everything you need for today's worship service, including scripture readings as well as prayers and music.

Prelude: *Lasst Uns Erfreuen* (All Creatures of Our God and King/Now All The Vault of Heaven Resound) arr. Eric Carlson

Opening Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #400 *All Creatures of Our God and King*

Words: St. Francis of Assisi tr. William H. Draper. Music: *Last uns erfreuen* adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



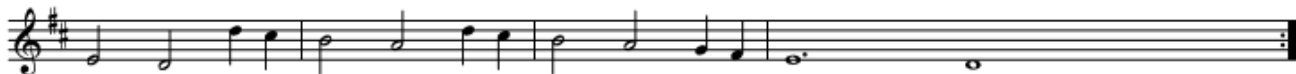
All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us
Dear moth - er earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our
All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your



sing: Al le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing sun with gold - en
way; O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and fruits that in you
part, O sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that pain and sor - row



beams, pale sil - ver moon that gent - ly gleams, O praise him, O
grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show: O praise him, O
bear, praise God, and cast on him your care: O praise him, O



praise him, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
praise him, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
praise him, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Opening Sentence:

Celebrant: Let every creature in heaven, on earth, in the sea and in the depths, give praise, glory, and honor.

People: Blessing to Christ who suffered so much for us and who gave us so many good things.

All pray together: **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Gloria: Hymnal 1982 S280 Sung by St. George's Virtual Choir

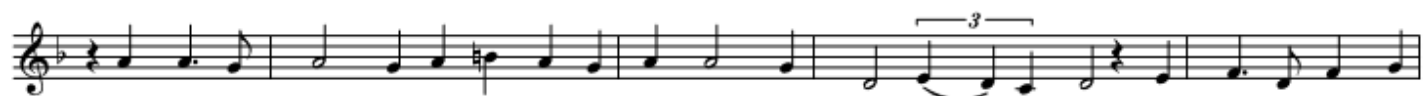
Robert Powell Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-



- might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our



prayer. For you a-lone are the Ho-y One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a-lone are the Most



High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther, A - men.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray together the Collect of the day: **Lord Jesus Christ, when the world was growing cold you raised up blessed Francis, who bore in his body the marks of your suffering, to warm our hearts with the fire of your love. Help us always to turn to you with true hearts, and to bear the Cross for love of you; who lives and reigns with the Creator and Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

A Prayer for Racial Justice:

O God who calls us to love kindness and do justice: in the midst of violence and injustice in our country we pray that you grant us grace to fearlessly contend against the evils of racism, and that you give us strength and courage to stand against oppression with our words and with our deeds, through Jesus Christ our strength and our guide. Amen.

Jeremiah 22:13-16

Read by James Hsu

Woe to him who builds his house by unrighteousness, and his upper rooms by injustice; who makes his neighbors work for nothing, and does not give them their wages; who says, "I will build myself a spacious house with large upper rooms", and who cuts out windows for it, paneling it with cedar, and painting it with vermilion. Are you a king because you compete in cedar? Did not your father eat and drink and do justice and righteousness? Then it was well with him. He judged the cause of the poor and needy; then it was well. Is not this to know me? says the Lord. The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Canticle of the Creatures by St. Francis of Assisi

To You, Most High, all praises be sung. Honor and glory, blessings are yours.

Sing out God's praises, Brother Sun. You warm our days and give us your light.

Sing Sister Moon and shimmering stars. Precious and clear, you beam through the night,

Sing God's praises, Brother Wind. Blow the clouds soft and serene.

Sing Sister Water, humble and pure. Sing Brother Fire, joyful and fierce.

Sing out God's praises, Mother Earth. You give us fruit and flowers that delight.

Be praised Most High by those who forgive. Love that bears all, so patient and kind.

Sing God's praises, Sister Peace. Tune our hearts for charity.

Be praised Most High by those who endure hate and injustice, all for your sake.

Sing out God's praises, Sister Death, in joy will we rest in heavenly light.

To You, Most High, all praises be sung! Honor and glory, blessings are yours.

Sing out God's praises Little Ones. Serve with great humility.

Galatians 6:14-18

Read by Lydia Murray

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. **People: Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according Matthew. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Matthew 11:25-30

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 the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon: The Rev. Connie Reinhardt

Affirmation of Faith

We trust in God, Spirit of life, Creator of all that is and all that is to come; who surrounds us and fills us; who speaks the Word of life in us; and so we listen. We listen to Jesus, Revealer of God, our brother and teacher; who lived in prayer and in love.

Listening to God's voice and doing God's will, he gave his life in love; but God raised him to life that is eternal; and so we follow him.

We follow in the power of the Holy Spirit, God alive in us, for the sake of the healing of the world.

We trust in the power of forgiveness, the reality of resurrection, the gift of the universal Church as the body of Christ, and the mystery of eternal life. Amen.

St. Francis Prayers of the People *Led by John Rebstock*

O God, Most High, we pray this day and sing your praises for all the good things that you have bestowed upon your creation. We pray for all of its creatures from the humblest to those who are rightly exalted. O God, Most High, **all praise and glory be to you!**

O God, we pray for our planet Earth. We praise you in thanksgiving for the sun and moon and stars, for water, wind and fire. We pray that we may be faithful stewards of your creation, and that we may use its resources wisely and justly to ensure the well-being and wholeness of all. O God, Most High, **all praise and glory be to you!**

O God, we pray for forgiveness and peace at this time of trouble in our society as forest fires rage, tempers flare, and racial injustice wounds our souls and inflicts bodily harm and death on those who suffer from hatred. Give courage to the leaders of our society to speak and act with integrity, to honor truth, and to seek the common good. O God, Most High, **all praise and glory be to you!**

O God, we pray for healing of body, mind, and soul as we live through the trials that confront us with the Covid-19 pandemic. We give thanks for scientists and medical authorities, doctors and nurses, social workers and psychologists, and those who offer pastoral care who soothe the pain we feel. O God, Most High, **all praise and glory be to you!**

O God, we pray for all who have died, especially those we name before you now...We pray as well for the more than 200,000 lives lost to the pandemic in our country and for those around the globe, now in excess of a million people, who have died. May they all rest in your peace. We pray in thanksgiving for their lives, and we ask your comfort and peace for all who mourn. O God, Most High, **all praise and glory be to you!**

O God, inspire your Church here and throughout the world to serve with great humility. Open our hearts to serve those most in need. We pray for the children and families of Gaywood Elementary School, for the homeless guests of the Warm Nights program, and for all those in need, especially those who are poor and those who are hungry. O God, Most High, **all praise and glory be to you!**

O God, we thank you for all of the gifts of our lives. We pray that we may live always in gratitude to you and ever sing your praises. . O God, Most High, **all praise and glory be to you!**

We offer our prayers to you, O God, in whom we live and move and have our being. **Amen.**

Prayer for Virtual Blessing of the Animals

The Celebrant says

Blessed are you Lord God of the universe. In your infinite wisdom you created the world and blessed us with all living creatures. We especially thank you for entrusting us with animal companions, who bring us so much happiness and whose presence helps us get through trying times. We pray you make us to have love for all of your creatures, and to act always with care for your whole creation.

And now Merciful Lord, in the name of Christ who blesses us, we ask you to bless with your divine care the health and safety of each of our animals we love. May they experience love and joy even as they bring love and joy to their families; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer of Remembrance for Those Animals Who Have Died

The Celebrant lights the Candle of Remembrance, and says:

Holy God, as we light this candle we remember our animal companions who have died. We give thanks for the gifts they gave us and the variety of ways they enriched and blessed our lives. Bring comfort to those who mourn the loss of a companion animal, and give us confidence to know that you continue to care for them. In Christ's name, **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Announcements and Blessings for Birthdays & Anniversaries

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants N. as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Offertory

The Celebrant says

Do good works and share what you have, for these are the sacrifices pleasing to God.

Traditionally this would be the time for the basket to be passed to receive financial donations from those worshipping in person. For safety reasons, that practice has changed. We encourage you to give electronically wherever possible. You can use your phone to text stgeodragon to 72356. Or just use your web browser to go to www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give. If your bank offers Zelle, you can use your banking app to send a donation via Zelle to donations@stgeo.comcastbiz.net. There are also baskets at the entrance and exit doors of the Sanctuary for donations of checks or cash. Many thanks for your financial support of St. George's.

Offertory Anthem: *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* by Sebastian temple, arr. Mark Barnard Sung by the St. George's Virtual Choir

*Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.*

*O Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
To be understood as to understand,
to be loved, as to love with all soul, my soul Lord.*

*Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, only light,
and where there's sadness every joy.*

*Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.
In giving of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.
Make me a channel of your peace, your peace.*

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues:

All Powerful, Most High, Supreme Good Lord, we praise you and thank you for bringing your light to the darkness of our lives. By your Word at creation you brought forth our brother sun and sister moon, and your loving gaze looked upon all that you had made to find it very good. But by sin the world was blinded; by sin we lost our way. Then through your Son you revealed the light of your love, that by his light we may see and become the light.

And now joining with saints and angels and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we break forth in song to sing your joyous praise:

Hymnal 1982 S 128 Sanctus

William Mathias Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The Celebrant continues:

You are worthy, O God, to be worshipped and praised by all that you have made. For you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son that all might find new life in him. By your Holy Spirit, you anointed Jesus to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim freedom for prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, and to release those who are oppressed.

Living among us Jesus revealed your glory, full of grace and truth. Yet the world rejected him, opposing his mission and witness.

And now we remember that on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; when he had given thanks to you, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he 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."

We remember O God that in all humility, Christ accepted betrayal and death upon a cross for our redemption. Therefore, O Lord, you raised him from the dead and made the whole creation new. And so we praise you for your love and mercy revealed in Jesus Christ our crucified and risen Lord, and we offer all we have and all we are to you.

As we await the return of Christ in glory, we pray to you O God to let your Holy Spirit come upon this bread and wine and upon us, that we may be filled with your power and grace through this sacrament of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

Unite us to your Son, our Lord, who brings us out of darkness into the wonderful light.

All this we ask through our Savior Jesus Christ, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Celebrant says

Mindful that not all are present physically to receive the sacrament, we pray with those who receive spiritual Holy Communion this day:

Lord Jesus, in union with your faithful people, we offer to you our praise and thanks. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we pray that you to come spiritually into our hearts. Strengthen us with your grace, O Lord, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now in the Spirit of Christ, we pray,

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. 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.

The Breaking of the Bread

The bread is broken and silence is kept

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose again for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Communion

Wherever you are on your journey, whatever you believe or don't believe, know that you are welcome at this table. For this is Christ's table, and all are welcome.



Communion Hymn: NCH #286 *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*

James K. Manley © 1978 James K. Manley. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Spir-it, spir-it of gen-tle-ness, blow through the wil-der-ness, call-ing and free. Spir-it,



spir-it of rest-less-ness, stir me from plac-id-ness, wind, wind on the sea.



You moved on the wa-ters, you called to the deep, then you coaxed up the
You swept through the des-ert, you stung with the sand, and you goad-ed your
You sang in a sta-ble, your cried from a hill, then you whis-pered in
You call from to-mor-row, you break an-cient schemes. From the bond-age of



moun-tains from the val-leys of sleep; And o-ver the e-ons you
peo-ple with a law and a land; And when they were blind-ed with
si-lence when the whole world was still; And down in the ci-ty you
sor-row all the cap-tives dream dreams; Our wom-en see vi-sions, our



called to each thing, "A-wake from your slum-bers and rise on your wings."
i-dols and lies, then you spoke through your pro-phets to o-pen their eyes.
called once a-gain, when you blew through your peo-ple on the rush of the wind.
men clear their eyes. With bold new de-ci-sions your peo-ple a-rise.

Post-Communion Prayer

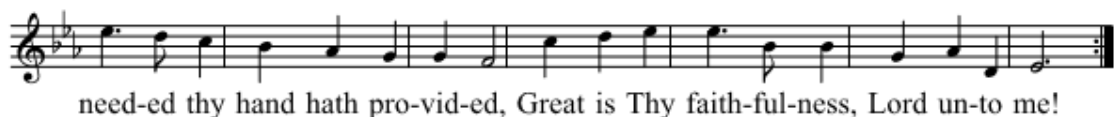
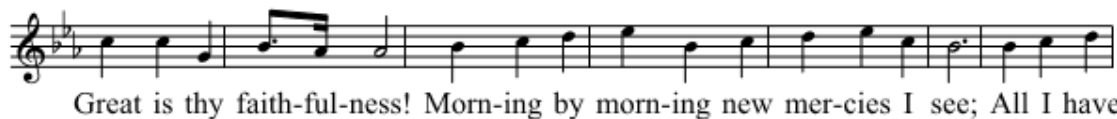
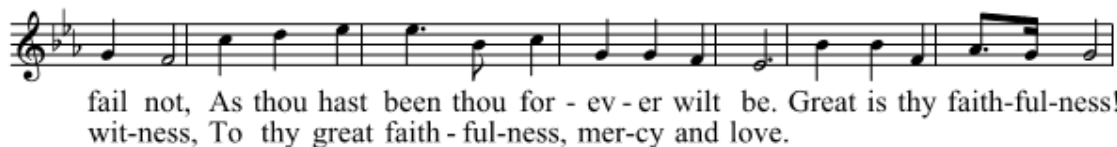
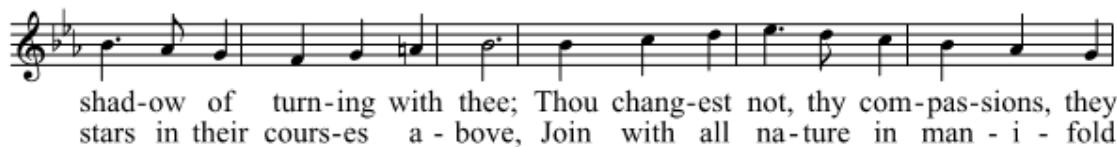
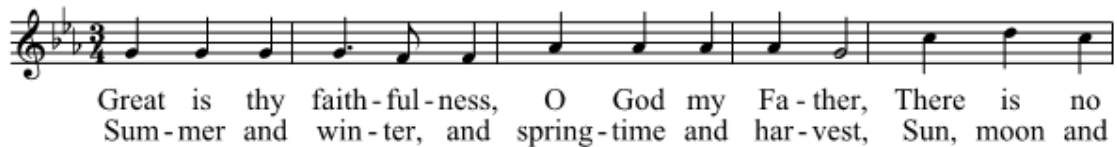
Celebrant: Let us pray: Lord make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred let me sow love. Where there is injury, pardon. Where there is doubt, faith. Where there is despair, hope. Where there is darkness, light. And where there is sadness, joy. O divine master grant that I may not so much 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 Blessing

May God give you grace to risk something big for something good, and grace to remember that the world is too dangerous for anything but truth and too small for anything but Love. And may the blessing of God who created us, Christ Jesus who brings us new life, and the Holy Spirit who guides and sustains us be with you now and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Dismissal Hymn: LEVAS #189 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Words: Thomas Chisholm, Music: William M. Runyan. © Renewal 1951 Hope Publishing Co. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God and our neighbor. **People: Thanks be to God!**

Postlude: *Le carnaval des animaux* (The Carnival of the Animals) by Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921), arr. Lucien Garban (1877-1959)

IV. "Tortues" (Tortoises) V. "L'Éléphant" (The Elephant)