

Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi, October 4th, 2020
Blessing of Pets and All Creatures Great and Small
Zoom Service 10:30 AM
Immanuel Lutheran Church

Prelude ELW 556, Morning Has Broken

1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black - bird has
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the

spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965
 Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version
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Announcements

Greeting

In the name of God, who creates all life,
In the name of Jesus Christ, who redeems all life,
and the name of the Spirit, who renews all life,
We assemble with all God's creatures in this circle of life on this St. Francis Day and cry:
Shalom!

Shalom!

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, creator of the universe. You open wide your hand to satisfy the needs of every living creature. May all creation praise the Lord!

All human caretakers;

Praise the Lord!

All dogs and cats, large and small:

Praise the Lord!

All rabbits, hamsters, and guinea pigs:

Praise the Lord!

All goldfish, guppies, and swimming creatures:

Praise the Lord!

All robins, wrens, and singing birds:

Praise the Lord!

All racoons, squirrels, and deer:

Praise the Lord!

All horses, cows, and sheep:

Praise the Lord!

All lizards, snakes and creeping things:

Praise the Lord!

Every animal in the sky, the sea, and the forest:

Praise the Lord!

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Most high, almighty and good Lord, you have surrounded us with so great a cloud of witnesses. Grant that we, encouraged by the example of your servant Francis, may joyfully persevere in the course that is set before us, to be living signs of the Gospel and at last, with all the saints, to share in your eternal joy; through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

A Amen.

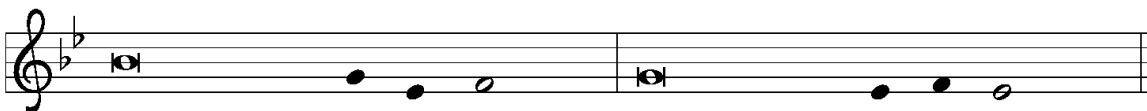
Reading from the Old Testament, Micah 6:6-8

⁶"With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

Psalm 9:1-10



¹I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart;
I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

²**I will be glad and exult in you;
I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.**

³When my enemies turned back,
they stumbled and perished before you.

⁴**For you have maintained my just cause;
you have sat on the throne giving righteous judgment.**

⁵You have rebuked the nations, you have destroyed the wicked;
you have blotted out their name forever and ever.

⁶**The enemies have vanished in everlasting ruins;
their cities you have rooted out;
the very memory of them has perished.**

⁷But the LORD sits enthroned forever,
he has established his throne for judgment.

⁸**He judges the world with righteousness;
he judges the peoples with equity.**

⁹The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed,
a stronghold in times of trouble.

¹⁰**And those who know your name put their trust in you,
for you, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you.**

Reading from the New Testament, Galatians 6:14-18

¹⁴May 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. ¹⁵For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! ¹⁶As for those who will follow this rule — peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

¹⁷From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body.

¹⁸May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:25-30

²⁵At 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; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All 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.

²⁸Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Sermon

HYMN: Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices, ELW 833

1 Oh, that I had a thou - sand voic - es to praise my
 2 Let ev - 'ry pow'r in me im - plant - ed a - rise, keep
 3 You for - est leaves so green and ten - der that dance for
 4 All crea - tures that have breath and mo - tion, that throug the
 5 Cre - a - tor, hum - bly I im - plore you to lis - ten

God with thou - sand tongues! My heart, which in the Lord re -
 si - lence now no more; put forth the strength that God has
 joy in sum - mer air, you mead - ow grass - es, bright and
 earth, the sea, the sky, come, share with me my heart's de -
 to my earth - ly song un - til that day when I a -

joic - es, would then pro - claim in grate - ful songs to all, wher -
 grant - ed! Your no - blest work is to a - dore! O soul and
 slen - der, you flow'rs so fra - grant and so fair, you live to
 vo - tion, help me to sing God's prais - es high! My ut - most
 dore you, when I will join the an - gel throug and raise to

ev - er I might be, what great things God has done for me!
 bod - y, join to raise with heart - felt joy your mak - er's praise!
 show forth praise a - lone. Join me to make God's glo - ry known!
 pow'rs can nev - er quite de - clare the won - ders of God's might!
 you with joy - ful cry ten thou - sand hal - le - lu - jahs high!

Text: Johann Mentzer, 1658-1734; tr. composite
 Music: O DASS ICH TAUSEND ZUNGEN HÄTTE, Johann B. König, 1691-1758
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Blessing of the Animals

Dear friends in Christ, the animals of God's creation inhabit the skies, the earth, and the sea. They share in the ways of human beings in their work, play, and service. They have a part in our lives. Francis of Assisi, commemorated today as a renewer of the church recognized this when he called the animals – both wild and tame – his brothers and sisters. Remembering Francis' love for these, our brothers and sisters in creation we ask God's blessing on these animals: those that work, those that provide companionship and those that provide food, and we thank God for letting us share the earth with them.

- *Each worshiper with animals to bless should "raise your hand" in Zoom by opening up the participant panel. At the bottom of the participant panel, click the raise hand button at the bottom. If you're on a mobile device, click the "more" button to see the raise hand option.*
- *When you are called upon, please un-mute yourself and introduce your pet(s) for blessing.*
- *If you are on a phone, you can raise your hand by pressing *9. To unmute to introduce yourself and your pet, press *6. Then to mute, press *6 again.*

_____ (Name), may God bless you with life, sustain you to praise your Creator, and bind and bless you and your human partner in grace, love and care. Amen.

When all the pets have been blessed:

Lord, for all the animals in the whole wide world,

We thank you, God!

Lord, for all the fun and friendship we have with animals,

We thank you, God!

For our beloved pets that have departed this earth,

We thank you, God!

May we like our sibling Francis joyfully provide for their wellbeing and safety. As we continue to work for the good stewardship of all creation, may we in doing so glimpse the glory of the eternal which is Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers of the People

Sustained and nurtured by our generous God, we speak together, both muted and unmuted, to pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

God most high, we pray for the church: for our bishops Elizabeth and Yehiel, pastor Kim, our president Scott, our council, call committee, and reopening team. We pray for the ministry of Pope Francis; for the work of Franciscan friars and sisters; and for churches that are struggling with few resources. May all the baptized produce good fruit, sowing faith where there is doubt. Lord, in your mercy:
receive our prayer.

We pray for peace: between nations; in our cities; among political rivals; throughout our coming election; between generations; between long-time citizens and new immigrants; in our churches and in our homes. May we become instruments of your peace, sowing union where there is discord. Lord, in your mercy:

receive our prayer.

We pray for those who are poor: for those who are unemployed; for migrants; for those who are marginalized by prejudice; for orphans; for school children with no digital access. May we give assistance where there is poverty and need. Lord in your mercy:

receive our prayer.

We pray for all afflicted by the pandemic. Bring meaningful work to those furloughed. Guide and watch over all first responders and essential workers. Surround with your presence family and friends who are anxious for those on the front lines of crisis. Inspire healthcare workers and medical researchers. Be a powerful presence with those in quarantine and all student, faculty and staff in academic communities. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

We pray for all who are suffering: for those laid low by the coronavirus; for those living with anxiety; for those whose sorrow is known only to you; for those who will die this day; and for Steve Andes, Maren Baylaender, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Babs Deacon, Laura Burdick, Lucas Forzley, Bob Fried, Kim Gann, Jennifer Grethe, John and Nancy, Judith Kratochvil, Ernie LeVon, Rowan Lopes, the Lamberg and Garcia Families, Alfhild Wikstrom, Elaine Nelson, Darryl Simchak, Alyssa Steinberg, Scott Weidler, and those whose names we call out to you here, muted or un-muted: . . . *A brief silence.* May we sow hope where there is despair. Lord, in your mercy:

receive our prayer.

We pray, finally for ourselves. Strengthen our faith in Christ, and hear our personal petitions now spoken silently or aloud. *A longer period of silence.* May we sow pardon where there is injury and love where there has been hatred. Lord, in your mercy:

receive our prayer.

We praise you, God most high, for all the faithful who have gone before us into the fullness of your life. At our end, where there is darkness, may we join in your light forever. Lord, in your mercy:

receive our prayer.

Enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, as we trust in your salvation through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Peace

Offertory: Choir Anthem, All Creatures of Our God and King, William Henry Draper/Ralph Vaughan Williams

We worship God with our offerings. We give thanks for those who support Immanuel's life and mission and [we invite you to do that online](#) by mail, by automatic giving, with your presence, your prayer, and your talents.

Offertory Prayer

As we bring forward our offerings this week we pray:

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 sadness, joy.

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 Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE: AUTUMN

Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,

you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.

You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,

and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.

You sent your Son to eat with sinners

and to become food for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,

his life given for us

and his rising from the grave,

we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

For this we pray:

Amen! Come Lord Jesus!

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:

strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,

and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.

For this we pray:

Amen! Come, Holy Spirit!

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,

in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen**

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

A Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Communion

Come for all things are now ready; the gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

This is the body of Christ, given for you.

All communing may receive their bit of bread from God's hand, and may share with others in their household also using these words.

This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

All communing may drink of the cup they have prepared, and may share with others in their household also using these words.

For those fasting, receive this prayer of blessing in God's presence:

May God who loves you be truly present with the Spirit of grace, mercy and joy, uplifting and blessing you in the promise of your baptism.

Table Dismissal

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you, and keep you in God's grace.
Amen.

Benediction

May the God of heaven and earth shower grace and favor upon you.
May God's holy angels minister to you in your times of need.
May you stand with the saints and all the angels of heaven before Christ's eternal throne.
And may God almighty, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **C. Amen**

Go in peace, serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Coffee hour/chat

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THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL October 4-10

Property Committee

7 - 8 pm Tuesday on zoom

Midweek Adult Spiritual Growth – Join us as we reflect on next Sunday's readings

7 pm Wednesday on zoom

Cottage Meeting for Discussion on Reopening Survey and Recommendations

7 pm Thursday on zoom

NEXT SUNDAY OCTOBER 11 11:30 -12 noon

God's Work, Our Hands Zoom-a-thon for meals at Swedish Covenant follows worship!!

LOOKING AHEAD

White Fragility Book Discussion – Tuesday, October 13 7-8:30 pm Chapters 4-7

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

Voter Registration Phone Banking For Illinois Poor People's Campaign – Monday October 5

We Must Do M.O.R.E phone banking is an opportunity to call or text poor and low-income voters in Illinois where their vote can have an impact on the election. You will sign voters up for election reminders, help them develop a voting plan, and connect them to the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival.

There is a 1/2 hour training at the beginning of our virtual phone bank. This will be followed by 1 1/2 hours of phone banking. The total commitment for each phone bank is 2 hours.

- **Monday, Oct 5th @ 6-8 pm**
To RSVP & get the link Email: joycebrody63@yahoo.com

FREE LITTLE PANTRY AT GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Hello Friends, It has been such a long time since last met and I for one miss seeing and working with you. The work of the church has not stopped and Grace Church is focusing on food issues. We have received a grant to support an existing Little Pantry. It is modeled after the Little Libraries I am sure you have seen. I know that many of your parishioners do not live in the immediate area of Grace, however in the course of our daily lives we run into people who might benefit from the free food we offer. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at conniewood44@gmail.com or 847.869.2289

SAMARACARE VIRTUAL EXPLORING GRIEF GROUPS IN THE NORTH SHORE

Are you or someone you know grieving the loss of a family member, partner, or friend? If so, find comfort and support in our Exploring Grief Groups, which are now offered virtually. Local congregations have come together to sponsor this program, making it available at no cost to participants. Our Exploring Grief Groups provide a confidential, educational, and nonjudgmental environment. They encourage attendees to cope with their loss and continue to find meaning in their lives. These groups are facilitated by professional counselors.

The fall session will be held virtually on Thursdays from 7pm-8:30pm on October 15, October 22, October 29, November 5, November 12, November 19, December 3, and December 10. There will not be a meeting on November 26th due to Thanksgiving.

To register, please contact Joellen at 847-446-6955, ext. 19 or jhosler@samaracarecounseling.org. Space is limited.