
St. James'-Rosemount United Church

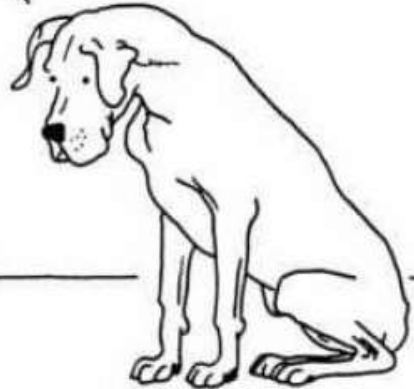
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God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith

MY ANCESTORS
WORKED IN PACKS
TO BRING DOWN
BISON. I'M AN OLD
LADY'S LAPDOG.

YOU PROTECT A
MEMBER OF YOUR
PACK FROM LONELINESS
AND THE COLD. YOUR
ANCESTORS WOULD
BE PROUD.



@DRAWINGSof DOGS

June 28, 2020 – Blessing of the Animals

Welcome!

Welcome to worship!

We hope it will be a quiet space for you as you prepare to spend time with God amid life's busyness and storms.

We honour each other's desire for peace as we gather.

We're glad you're here!

WE GATHER IN GOD'S HOPE

VU: Voices United

MV: More Voices

* Please rise in body and/or Spirit as you are able.

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the Haldimand Tract, traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples.

Welcome & Announcements

Shared services

443 lbs donated to Food Bank – Monica Place

O Canada

VU 524

Lighting the Christ Candle

Prelude

Pets Appreciating Classical Music

Call to Worship

One: God stretches out the heavens
and shapes the earth.

All: Come and give thanks!

One: God raises up the mountains
and pours water into the seas.

All: Come and give thanks!

One: God calls forth plants from the soil
and forms animals in infinite variety.

All: Come and give thanks!

One: God breathes upon each of us, our diverse creation,
and fills us with life.

All: Come lift your voices in praise!

One: God gives our lives meaning

through laughter and tears.

All: Come lift your voices in praise!

One: God touches our hearts
through family and friends and pets!

All: Come lift your voices in praise!

One: God loves us and blesses us
with everything good.

All: Come and worship!

One: God loves us and overwhelms us
with never-ending generosity.

All: Come and worship!

One: God loves us and surrounds us
with love in abundance!

All: Come and worship!

Opening Hymn All Things Bright and Beautiful VU291

Refrain *All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful:
in love, God made them all.*

1 *Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colours,
God made their tiny wings.* Refrain

2 *The purpleheaded mountains,
the river running by,
the sunset and the morning
that brightens up the sky;* Refrain

3 *The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden:
God made them every one.* Refrain

4 *The rocky mountain splendour,
the lone wolf's haunting call,
the great lakes and the prairies,
the forest in the fall;* Refrain

**5 *God gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God our maker,
who has made all things well.*** Refrain

Opening Prayer

One: We treat the world as if it were full of dullness and ugliness. We have brought so much pain to our planet, to the animals, and to one another. Our creation cries out, and in response, we cry out, Lord have mercy...Christ have mercy...

**Kyrie Kyrie eleison – Lord have mercy
Christe eleison – Christ have mercy**

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission Care for Creation

Readings from the Scriptures (CEB) Psalm 148

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from heaven!

Praise God on the heights!

² Praise God, all of you who are his messengers!

Praise God, all of you who comprise his heavenly forces!

³ Sun and moon, praise God!

All of you bright stars, praise God!

⁴ You highest heaven, praise God!

Do the same, you waters that are above the sky!

⁵ Let all of these praise the Lord's name

because God gave the command and they were created!

⁶ God set them in place always and forever.

God made a law that will not be broken.

⁷ Praise the Lord from the earth,

you sea monsters and all you ocean depths!

⁸ Do the same, fire and hail, snow and smoke,

stormy wind that does what God says!

⁹ Do the same, you mountains, every single hill,

fruit trees, and every single cedar!

¹⁰ Do the same, you animals—wild or tame—

you creatures that creep along and you birds that fly!

¹¹ Do the same, you kings of the earth and every single person,
you princes and every single ruler on earth!

- ¹² Do the same, you young men—young women too!—
you who are old together with you who are young!
- ¹³ Let all of these praise the Lord's name
because only God's name is high over all.
Only God's majesty is over earth and heaven.
- ¹⁴ God raised the strength of his people,
the praise of all his faithful ones—
that's the Israelites, the people who are close to God.
Praise the Lord!

Reflection "We Give Thanks For The Animals" Gary Kowalski

We give thanks for the animals
Who live close to nature,
Who remind us of the sanctities of birth and death,
Who do not trouble their lives with foreboding or grief,
Who let go each moment as it passes,
And accept each new one as it comes
With serenity and grace.
Enable us to walk in beauty as they do
At one with the turning seasons,
Welcoming the sunrise and at peace with sunset.
And as we hallow the memory of good friends now departed,
Who loved abundantly and in their time were loved,
Who freely gave us their affection and loyalty,
Let us not be anxious for tomorrow
But ask only that kindness and gratitude fill our hearts,
Day by day, into the passing years.

Blessing of the Animals

[Name of animal], may you live a long, happy, and blessed
life—may there be food in your belly, a warm place to sleep
and joy in your days.

"Blessing for All" by L. Annie Foerster (adapted)

My furry, feathered and scaled friends, We greet you. You come from the same life force of creation that we do and we greet you as a sister and brother. May your days be filled with love and whatever else you may desire. May your tummy always be full and may you always have a place to rest. May you have many days of love with your human friends. May you play together and work together in gentleness and respect for one another...My furry, feathered and scaled friends, I say farewell. We are happy to have met you. May your life be blessed.

Reflective Hymn

His Eye is On the Sparrow

*Why should I feel discouraged
Why should the shadows come
Why should my heart feel lonely
And long for heaven and home
When Jesus is my portion
A constant friend is He
His eye is on the sparrow
And I know He watches over me
His eye is on the sparrow
And I know He watches me*

*I sing because I'm happy
I sing because I'm free
His eye is on the sparrow
And I know He watches me (He watches me)
His eye is on the sparrow
And I know He watches
I know He watches
I know He watches me*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering

(Donate online at sjruc.ca)

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

All: 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,
and 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,
the power and the glory.

For ever and ever. Amen.

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

Closing Hymn Let all things now living VU 242

*1 Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God our Creator triumphantly raise;*

*who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
by guiding us on to the end of our days.*

*God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night;*

*till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into Light.*

*2 By law God enforces, the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;*

*the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.*

*We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise:*

*till all things now living unite in thanksgiving,
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise.*

Commissioning

One: Go and be at peace,
 with yourself and with all of creation.
 For God has surrounded us with signs of life,
 Filled with the spark of light.
 In all the beauty, in all the ugliness of this life,
 In life, in death, in life beyond death,
 God is with us, we are not alone.
 Thanks be to God.

Postlude Cows mesmerized by Irish music