Welcome

Opening songs

Opening litany

Leader Help us to wonder, Lord,

to stand in awe, to stand and stare, and to praise you

for the richness of the world you have laid before us.

All **God of the universe, all creatures praise you:**

**the sun setting on the lake,**

**the birds flying upward toward the heavens,**

**the growl of the bear, the wide eyes of the tiger,**

**the purring of the cat, the swift legs of the cheetah,**

**the jumping of the bunnies, the leaping of the dog,**

**the descent of the dove.**

Leader God of a thousand ears,

the music of your creatures echoes throughout creation

and in heaven a symphony is made.

All**Help us to wonder, Lord**

**to stand in awe, to stand and stare, and to praise you**

**for the richness of the world you have laid before us.**

Praise Moments

Readings

Sermon

Response Song

Blessing of the Animals

Leader: ‘ [insert name], you were created by God, and you are loved by God. May you and your human family experience joy and companionship together and continue to be a blessing to each other. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Amen.’

Prayers

Leader Christ in all things, restore our senses

and give us again that experience of joy

in all created things. Expand our hearts,

that we may share your love and compassion

with all your creatures.

*Pause for reflection*

For animals neglected and ill-treated, Give us new hearts, O God.

For animals exhibited for entertainment, Give us new hearts, O God.

For animals suffering in laboratories and in captivity, Give us new hearts O God.

*O Lord, we pause and give thanks for the memories of those pets we have lost. We pray for their owners who continue to mourn their loss. But most of all, we give thanks for their memory and for the ways in which they enriched our lives.*

Compassionate God awaken within us a sense of feeling for all living creatures you have placed among us; give us a compassionate heart for all who suffer and make us visible signs of your peaceable kingdom for which all creation longs.

Holy God, you alone make all things new; send your Holy Spirit upon us; give us new hearts to feel, new ears to hear, new eyes to see the unity of all creatures in Christ; and to proclaim all living beings as fellow creatures with us in your wonderful creation.

Lord’s Prayer

Communion

“Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. You called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land…May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation…

Communion song

Closing Prayer

Leader Heavenly God, your Holy Spirit gives breath to all living beings; renew us by the same Spirit that we may learn to respect what you have given and care for what you have made. Remind us how to love even the least among us, give us the courage to care for all living creatures and provide us the strength to defend even the weakest of all. Amen.

**Blessing & Dismissal**

May God, the Creator of all that is, God the Redeemer of all Creation, and God the life-giving Spirit, bless you all, now and forever. Amen.

Slide Show