

To You alone, Most High, do they belong,
and no one is worthy to mention Your name.

Praised be You, my Creator, with all your creatures;
especially Brother Sun, who is the day,
and through whom You give us light.

And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendour,
and bears a likeness to You, Most Holy One.

Praised be You, my Creator,
through Sister Moon and the stars;
in heaven You formed them clear and precious and beautiful.

Praised be You, my Creator, through Brother Wind,
and through the air, cloudy and serene,
and every kind of weather
through which You give sustenance to Your creatures.

Praised be You, my Creator, through Sister Water,
which is very useful and humble and precious and chaste.

Praised be You, my Creator, through Brother Fire,
through whom You light the night;
and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.

Praised be You, my Creator, through Sister Mother Earth,
who sustains us and governs us and who produces
varied fruits with colored flowers and herbs.

Praised be You, my Creator,
through those who give pardon for Your love,
and bear infirmity and tribulation.

Blessed are those who endure in peace
for by You, Most High, they shall be crowned.

Praised be You, my Creator,
through our Sister Bodily Death,
from whom no living person can escape.

Blessed are those whom death will find in Your most holy will,
for the second death shall do them no harm.

Praise and bless our Creator,
and give thanks,
and serve them with great humility.
Amen.

Postlude

Thank you for coming!

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS ON THE LAWN

October | 6 | 10:30am
Fairlawn Avenue United Church
28 Fairlawn Avenue

Prizes from
petvalu
Teedington!

Ensure dogs are
leashed, cats are in
carriers and other
pets are suitably
contained.

Free Pet Portraits
*max. 2/family
www.fairlawnchurch.ca



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Website
<https://www.fairlawnchurch.ca/>

Events Calendar
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Online Worship
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<https://www.facebook.com/FairlawnAveChurch>

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Video – Pizza Boy Productions Inc.
Josh Dela Cruz, Amanda Phillips

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FAIRLAWN

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Blessing of the Animals

Fairlawn Avenue United Church
Sunday, October 6, 2024
Worship Service 10:30am

Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts
Eleanor Daley, Director of Music
Soloist – Amy Dodington

Please ensure dogs are leashed, cats are in
carriers and other pets are suitably contained.

*Indicates when the congregation is to stand, as able.
Congregational responses, singing and readings in unison are indicated in **bold text**.

Part I: The Blessing of the Animals

Welcome and Acknowledgements

Don't Worry About the Noise Psalm 148 CEB (adapted)

Praise the CREATOR!
Praise the Creator wherever you are!
On the heights!
In the valleys!
On the waters!
In the sky!

Sun and moon, praise the Creator!
And all of you bright stars!
The rain and clouds and snow remind us to be thankful for this universe,
A universe filled with love.

The power and order of this world remind us we are small, and we are care-takers.
Caretakers of all creatures, seen and unseen,
Caretakers of possibilities
Caretakers of imagination
Caretakers of a planet with enough resources to feed us all
Caretakers of a planet of power and fragility.

Trees and animals and fish and bugs remind us we are responsible to care.
All of us, young and not so young.
We have been created capable and compassionate.
Praise the Creator!

"All Dogs Go To Heaven"

Blessings

Prayer

Jesus, we are here together with your creatures in this circle of life.

Thanks for being in our circle to celebrate with us.

Jesus, we celebrate this Creation.

May it be blessed with peace.

May our animals know how important they are to us.

May all the world know how important it is to us.

In the name of the Creator we cry with all in the circle of life,
Thank you for this life!

Thanks

[The service will now move inside. You are welcome to join us for the next half hour or so for some music, a little more praying, and a brief time to think about what it means to care for our world.]

Part II: The Feast of Saint Francis

***Hymn** God of the Sparrow VU #229

**God of the sparrow, God of the whale,
God of the swirling stars,
How does the creature say Awe?
How does the creature say Praise?**

**God of the earthquake, God of the storm,
God of the trumpet blast,
How does the creature say Woe?
How does the creature cry Save?**

**God of the rainbow, God of the cross,
God of the empty grave,
How does the creature say Grace?
How does the creature say Thanks?**

**God of the hungry, God of the sick,
God of the prodigal,
How does the creature say Care?
How does the creature say Life?**

**God of the neighbour, God of the foe,
God of the pruning hook,
How does the creature say Love?
How does the creature say Peace?**

**God of the ages, God near at hand,
God of the loving heart,
How do your children say Joy?
How do your children say Home?**

Words of Comfort Matthew 11:25-29 (CEB)

Jesus said, "I praise you, Holy Parent, Creator of heaven and earth, because you've hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have shown them to babies. Indeed, Holy Parent, this brings you happiness.

"My Parent, who is your parent, has handed all things over to me. No one knows the Child except the Parent. And nobody knows the Parent except the Child and anyone to whom the Child wants to reveal Them.

"Come to me, all you who are struggling hard and carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Put on my yoke, and learn from me. I'm gentle and humble. And you will find rest for yourselves.

Solo Come Unto Him (from *Messiah*) G. F. Handel (1685-1759)
Amy Dodington – Soprano

Come unto Him, all ye that labour,
come unto Him that are heavy laden,
and He will give you rest.
Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him,
for He is meek and lowly of heart,
and ye shall find rest unto your souls.
(Matthew 11: 28-29)

Words of Challenge The Life of Francis of Assisi

Saint Francis' Words to Take Us Home in Celebration
The Canticle of the Sun/Creatures

Most High, all-powerful, good Creator,
Yours are the praises, the glory, the honour,
and all blessings.