



MAIN STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

221 South Main Street - Reidsville - North Carolina

A Church for All God's People

Pet Blessing

Sunday, October 6, 2019 @ 4pm

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

GATHERING

One: Jesus Christ, we assemble with all your creatures in this circle of life.

People: **We ask you to join our circle and celebrate with us.**

One: Jesus Christ, as we join in celebration with you and all creation,

People: **We ask for your blessing on the creatures present here that we love and on all creatures celebrating in the wild.**

One: In the name of God, who creates all life, in the name of Jesus Christ, who redeems all life, and in the name of the Spirit, who renews all life, we cry with all in the circle of life:

People: **May your blessing come!**

SONG

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

***For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies;
(Refrain) Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.***

***For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light;
(Refrain) Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.***

***For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild;
(Refrain) Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.***

***For thyself, best Gift Divine, to the world so freely given,
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth, and joy in heaven:
(Refrain) Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.***

A VERSION OF PSALM 148

One: All dogs and cats, large and small:

All: **Praise the Lord!**

One: All rabbits, hamsters, and guinea pigs:

All: **Praise the Lord!**

One: All goldfish, guppies, and swimming creatures:

All: **Praise the Lord!**

One: All robins, wrens, and singing birds:

All: **Praise the Lord!**

One: All bats, squirrels, and raccoons:

All: **Praise the Lord!**

One: All horses, cows, and sheep:

All: **Praise the Lord!**

One: All lizards, snakes and creeping things:

All: **Praise the Lord!**

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

All: **Praise the Lord!**

CHRIST HAVE MERCY

One: As we come home to Earth.

All: **Christ, have mercy.**

One: As we seek to love our home.

All: **Christ, have mercy.**

One: As we seek to care for our kin.

All: **Christ, have mercy.**

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

God, our Creator, help us to love all creatures as our kin, all animals as our partners on Earth, all birds as messengers of praise, all small beings as expressions of your mysterious design and all frogs as voices of hope.

All: **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

First Lesson Revelation 5:11-14

Gospel Matthew 6:25-29

A Reading from a Sermon of St. Francis

PASSING THE PEACE

One: Let us share the peace of the Lord with one another and to our animal friends.

All: **The peace of the Lord be with you.**

BLESSING

Pastor: *(Name of Pet)* May God's blessing fill your life, bind you always to your human family and lead you all to praise your Creator.

All: **Amen.**

SENDING FORTH

One: Christ calls you to be his disciples, to serve him with love and compassion, to serve Earth by caring for her creatures. Will you continue to care for creation?

All: **We will care for creation!**

We will nurture our animal friends!

We will celebrate life with them!

One: May the Spirit of God, who is above all and in all and through all, fill you with the knowledge of God's presence in Earth and the presence of Christ within you.

Go in peace!

Serve Christ and love all creatures!

All: **We go in peace, serving Christ and loving our animal kin.
Thanks be to God.**