

St. James' Episcopal Church  
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*St. James' Episcopal Church welcomes you to our service of worship.  
If you are searching for a spiritual home, we invite you to become  
part of our community of faith and love.*

*The mission of St. James' Church derives from the nature of the church.  
It exists for the good of all people, to spread the word of God's Salvation  
and to bring people to know Jesus Christ.*



**A Service commemorating St. Francis  
with the of Blessing of Pets and Animals  
3 October 2020 4 PM**

Welcome to our service. We are happy to have you and your beloved friends join us for this service. We ask that you maintain safe physical distance of at least 6 feet from others. We also ask that you comply with wearing a mask while you are on the campus of St. James. Please make sure that your pets are properly restrained or contained and be mindful of the fact that others may not wish to interact with your animals. Kindly clean any messes that may be made.

Blessed be the God of all creation. **And blessed be God's holy Name forever.**  
Bless your Creator, all animals of the land. **Praise and exalt our Creator forever.**  
Bless your Creator, all birds of the air. **Praise and exalt our Creator forever.**  
Bless your Creator, all creatures of the sea. **Praise and exalt our Creator forever.**  
Bless your Creator, all children of God.  
**With all of creation, we praise your name.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray. Most high, omnipotent, good Lord: Grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfect joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Reading

Luke 12.22-32

*A Reading from the Gospel of Luke.*

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep

worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. *The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 104:10-25

You, LORD God, send the springs into the valleys; \*  
**they flow between the mountains.**

All the beasts of the field drink their fill from them, \*  
**and the wild asses quench their thirst.**

Beside them the birds of the air make their nests \*  
**and sing among the branches.**

You water the mountains from your dwelling on high; \*  
**the earth is fully satisfied by the fruit of your works.**

You make grass grow for flocks and herds \* **and plants to serve humankind;**  
That they may bring forth food from the earth, \*  
**and wine to gladden our hearts,**

Oil to make a cheerful countenance, \* **and bread to strengthen the heart.**

The trees of the LORD are full of sap, \*  
**the cedars of Lebanon which God planted,**

In which the birds build their nests, \*  
**and in whose tops the stork makes a dwelling.**

The high hills are a refuge for the mountain goats, \*  
**and the stony cliffs for the rock badgers.**

You appointed the moon to mark the seasons, \*  
**and the sun knows the time of its setting.**

You make darkness that it may be night, \*  
**in which all the beasts of the forest prowl.**

The lions roar after their prey \* **and seek their food from God.**

The sun rises, and they slip away \* **and lay themselves down in their dens.**

People go forth to their work \* **and to their labor until the evening.**

O LORD, how manifold are your works! \*

**in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.**

Call out the names of those animals for whom we care.

Call out the names of those animals who are no longer with us.

Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth, **Have mercy upon us.**

Holy and Mighty, Redeemer of the world, **Have mercy upon us.**

Holy Immortal One, Sanctifier of the faithful, **Have mercy upon us.**

Grant that all your creatures may serve you with thanksgiving; **Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.**

Grant favorable weather, temperate rain, and fruitful seasons, providing food and drink for all your creatures; **Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.**

Open our eyes to the wonder of creation, that we may see you in all your works; **Pour out your blessing on earth,**

Stir in us the desire to care for your creation; **Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.**

Make us wise and faithful stewards of creation, caring for the earth, the waters, the air, and all that live therein; **Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.**

Forgive us who waste and pollute your creation and strengthen us to restore what we have disregarded; **Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.**

Look with compassion on those that are abused and mistreated, show us their dignity in your creation; **Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.**

Remember those creatures that have died yet remain dear to us that, that they may rejoice in your new creation; **Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.**

Holy Immortal One: No sparrow falls without your knowing it; nothing dies but is remembered by you; nothing comes into being that you do not see. Give us courage and resolve to build up the common good, holding fast to the hope of a new

creation in which all shall dwell eternally, through Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior.  
**Amen.**

### **The Blessing of the Animals**

Almighty and everlasting God, Creator of all things and Giver of all life: Let your blessing be upon these and all animals. May our love and care for them reflect your compassion and safekeeping of all creation. Grant these animals health, peace, and safety. Strengthen us to love and care for them following the good example of Francis of Assisi, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray. **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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



The Most Rev'd Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate  
The Right Rev'd Lawrence Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island  
The Right Rev'd Geralyn Wolf, Assistant Bishop  
The Right Rev'd Daniel Allotey, Assisting Bishop  
The Right Rev'd William Franklin, Assisting Bishop  
The Rev'd Hickman Alexandre, Vicar  
Carolyn Walsh, Organist  
Faith Donohue, Parish Administrator

Bishop's Committee  
Dawn Herrmann -21 & Sharon Smith -22; Wardens  
Doreen Vaz, Treasurer  
Ted Anderson -21, Kamala Browne -22, Judy McCadden-23

Tracy Rentz McLeod -21, John Ryley -23, Walt Thomas -22