

# *Blessing of Animals*



**Please standby – Worship will  
begin at 10:00 am.**

**Reformation Lutheran Church**

102 West Rose Tree Road

Media, PA 19063

October 3, 2020

10:00 am

*GATHERING*

Leader: Bless your Creator all animals of the land.

**All: Let us praise our Creator together.**

Leader: Bless your Creator all birds of the air.

**All: Let us praise our Creator together.**

Leader: Bless your Creator all creatures of the sea.

**All: Let us praise our Creator together.**

Leader: Bless your Creator all children of God.

**All: Let us praise our Creator together.**

*PRAYER*

Leader: Let us pray. Gracious God and Creator of us all, everything that you have made is precious in your sight. As we gather this day as people who care for animals, we pray that you would bless these working animals and pets with good health. We pray that you would bless us as we care for these animals, and that you would help us to always see them as the wonderful gifts that you have given us.

**All: Amen**

*READING*

Genesis 1:20-25

God said, “I command the ocean to be full of living creatures, and I command birds to fly above the earth.” So God made the giant sea monsters and all the living creatures that swim in the ocean. He also made every kind of bird. God looked at what he had done, and it was good. Then he gave the living creatures his blessing – he told the ocean creatures to live everywhere in the ocean and the birds to live everywhere on earth. Evening came and then morning – that was the fifth day.

God said, “I command the earth to give life to all kinds of tame animals, wild animals, and reptiles.” And that’s what happened. God made every one of them. Then he looked at what he had done, and it was good.

Leader: The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*PSALM 148 (paraphrased)*

Leader: All dogs and cats, large and small:

**All: Praise the Lord!**

Leader: All rabbits, hamsters, and guinea pigs:

**All: Praise the Lord!**

Leader: All goldfish, guppies, and swimming creatures:

**All: Praise the Lord!**

Leader: All robins, wrens, and singing birds:

**All: Praise the Lord!**

Leader: All raccoons, squirrels, and deer:

**All: Praise the Lord!**

Leader: All horses, cows, and sheep:

**All: Praise the Lord!**

Leader: All lizards, snakes and creeping things:

**All: Praise the Lord!**

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

**All: Praise the Lord!**

*BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS*

*All are invited to place hands on their pets while the leader prays this blessing for them.*

May God bless you and all who are involved in your care and protection. May you be healthy and live in harmony with all God's creatures. Amen.

*PRAYERS*

Leader: For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, Lord, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: For God's mercy and protection upon all animals, and especially those that are injured or abused, hungry or deserted, lost or dying, Lord, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: For grateful hearts and gentle hands and for a spirit of respect and wonder for the animals entrusted to our care, Lord, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: For God's blessing on the animals who give us their loyal companionship and continually remind us of God's unconditional love for us and all creation, Lord, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, creator of the universe, for making every creature that lives in earth and sea and sky. By the power of your love, enable every creature to live according to your plan. May all your works forever praise you, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen**

*BLESSING*

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

**All: Amen**

*DISMISSAL*

Leader: Go in peace, serving Christ and loving all creatures!

**All: Thanks be to God!**



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