# The Feast of St. Francis with a Blessing of the Animals

### Christ Church Cathedral



October 4, 2014 10:00 a.m.

> 900 Broadway Nashville, TN 37203 615.255.7729, christcathedral.org

## The Feast of Saint Francis with a Blessing of the Animals

**OPENING VOLUNTARY** 

**WELCOME** 

#### The Word of God

#### **OPENING PROCESSION**

As the animals and their escorts enter the Nave, the congregation remains seated.

#### OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP, p. 355)

SONG OF PRAISE HYMN 400 - All creatures of our God and King



Celebrant: 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 perfectness of Joy; through Jesus Christ Our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

People: Amen.

The congregation is seated.

#### A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GALATIANS 6:14-18

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is every thing! As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. *Amen*. The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

#### A READING FROM PSALM 148

Hallelujah!
Praise the LORD from the heavens;\*
praise him in the heights.

Praise him, all you angels of his;\*
Praise him, all his host.

Praise him sun and moon;\*
Praise him, all you shining stars

Praise him, heaven of heavens,\*
And you waters above the heavens.

Let them praise the Name of the LORD;\*
For he commanded, and they were created.
He made them stand fast for ever and ever;\*
He gave them a law which shall not pass away.

Praise the LORD from the earth,\*
You sea-monsters and all deeps;

Fire and hail, snow and fog,\*
Tempestuous wind, doing his will;

Mountains and all hills,\*
Fruit trees and all cedars;

Wild beasts and all cattle,\*
Creeping things and winged birds;

Kings of the earth and all peoples,\*
Princes and all rulers of the world;

Young men and maidens,\* Old and young together.

Let them praise the Name of the LORD For his Name only is exalted, His splendor is over earth and heaven.

He has raised up strength for his people And praise for all his loyal servants,\* The children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!

#### A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW 11:25-30

At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

People: Thanks be to God

**HOMILY** 



#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader:

Holy God, you have established your covenant with us and with our future generations. Despite our apathy and sinfulness you have bound yourself to us. Despite our violence you have promised a covenant of peace. Despite our infidelity you have remained faithful to us; and to all living creatures; creatures that walk on the ground, birds that fly in the air, and creeping things that move along the earth. All these creatures you have bound to yourself in faithfulness and love.

Truly, you are a remarkable God whose graciousness knows no limits and before whom no creature is left desolate or bereft of your grace; not only have you created the great earth but also you are to each and every creature their kind and loving God; everything living looks to you for their sustenance and care; without you, all the creatures of the earth would perish.

People:

All these living creatures you have put under our protection and we are to care for them as you care for us. Mindful of the great responsibility you have placed upon us, we now renew our covenant with these creatures in our care, and pray that we may be faithful to them as you are faithful to us.

May our lives reflect that generosity of spirit which we manifest in your Son, Jesus Christ. *Amen.* 

#### **BLESSING OF ANIMALS**

Animals and family members are invited to come to the altar rail for an individual blessing.

Please follow the direction of the ushers.

The congregation stands.

#### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, we thank you for these creatures who live alongside us as our companions and friends; for their loyalty, love, and trust which enrich our lives and give us joy; teach us the value of kindness, the power of mercy, the strength of gentleness; and create in us a new spirit of humility in the face of your creatures within whose covenant they live and die; we ask these prayers through your Son, Jesus Christ, whose New Covenant of love gives life to all. *Amen*.

HYMN 405 - All things bright and beautiful



**DISMISSAL** 

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY** 

#### **OFFICIANT**

The Reverend Canon Gene B. Manning, Sub Dean

#### **ASSISTING**

The Reverend Joshua M. Caler, Curate

#### **LECTORS**

David Long Elliott Clark

#### **ORGANIST**

Jon Johnson, Associate Organist and Choirmaster

#### **USHERS**

Ann Hopton, Head Usher Elise Dugger Elliott Clark Alexandra Long

#### UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8 5:30 p.m. Dinner Suggested donation \$5 adults, \$3 children under 12	6:30-7:30 p.m.	WEDNESDAY EVENING AT THE CATHEDRAL Without The Miracle There is Nothing Reading and Book Signing by The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Butcher		
Dinner reservations are required by 4 p.m. on Monday, October 6 615.255.7729		Former Christ Church Cathedral Canon Pastor Geoffrey Butcher is now Priest-in-Charge of Trinity Church in Russellville, Kentucky, and very active in leading Centering Prayer workshops.		
Childcare provided				
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 Free and open to the public Bring money for lunch	8:15 a.m 5:00 p.m.	CIVIL WAR PEACE PILGRIMAGE 2014  Robert Penn Warren's Journey from Fort Donelson to Poet Laureate. This will be the LAST pilgrimage.  To commemorate the 150 th anniversary of the		
To RSVP and for more information please contact, Jane Boram, 615.497.5399 or bobjaneboram@clearwire.net		Battle of Franklin and Nashville, the pilgrims will visit the birthplace of Robert Penn Warren, the first U.S. Poet Laureate in Guthrie, Kentucky; Fort Donelson, and the 1853 restored Dover Hotel in Dover, Tennessee.		
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12 Free and open to the public	4:00 p.m.	AN ORGAN CONCERT BY MARK LAUBACH Organist and Choirmaster of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania The concert is sponsored by a 2014 gift from Lois and Peter Fyfe		
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2 Free and open to the public	3:30 p.m.	ORGAN CONCERT/ALL SAINTS SOLEMN CHORAL EVENSONG WITH BENEDICTION Organ Concert by Jason Overall, Organist, St. James Episcopal Church, Knoxville Cathedral Choir, Canon Dr. Michael Velting, Director; Jon Johnson, Associate Organist and Choirmaster, organ.		
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9 Held on the second Sunday of each month	6:00 p.m.	EVENING PRAYER ACCOMPANIED BY MUSIC OF THE TAIZÉ COMMUNITY A quiet, meditative, and reflective style of worship using music, simple chanting, periods of silence, and brief readings; a worship of God that quiets the soul.		
Free and open to the public				
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, Reception Dinner Program	5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	FALL SYMPOSIUM Towards Understanding Islam The Reverend Dr. David Marshall In these sessions, Dr. David Marshall will offer an introduction to the key beliefs and practices of Islam as well as look at various expressions of Islam in the modern world. Along the way, he will also examine similarities and differences between Islam and Christianity and reflect on Christian responses to Islam.		
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15	9:30 a.m 12:00 p.m.			
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16 The Rev. Dr. Marshall will preach at the 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Liturgies and will lead the Sunday Forum at 9:45 a.m.				
Reservation are required by November 5. Childcare available upon request by November 5		Go to christcathedral.org for more information and payment options.		

November 5.