

# METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

*October 13, 2024*

## *The Blessing of the Animals*

*There is a book at the Sanctuary entry where prayer requests may be entered.*

*There is also a Square device at the Sanctuary entry if you would like to make your Offering Donation via credit card.*

*Spirit, Community, Action – Inside & “Out” Celebrating 43 Years of Being Out in Northern Virginia*

*Like Life, The Order of Worship is Subject to Change*

---

Gathering Music

Jorge Martinez

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Emma Chattin

Centering

At the sound of the singing bowl,  
please take a few moments to prepare yourself for our worship together

Illumination

Tee

Gathering Words ~ *adapted from Meister Eckhart*

One: Look for God in all things, for God is present in all things.

**Many: Every single creature is full of God, and is a book about God.**

One: Every single creature is a word of God.

**Many: If we spent enough time with the tiniest creature...even a caterpillar ....**

One: We would never need to prepare a sermon. So full of God is every creature!

**ALL: Let us all worship together,  
let us all offer God thanks and praise for all things!**

Prayers of the Community

Dale Bradshaw

First Reading ~ *Job 12:7-10*

Genevieve Walker

For now ask the animals, and let them teach you;  
ask the birds of the air, and they will tell you.  
Ask the plants of the earth, with all its life, and learn from it.  
Let the fish of the sea become your teachers.  
Who among all these does not know  
that the hand of YHWH has done this?  
In God's hand is the soul of every living thing  
and the breath of every human being.

Second Reading ~ *adapted from a prayer by Albert Schweitzer*

Hear our humble prayer, O God, for our friends the animals,  
especially for animals who are suffering;  
for animals that are overworked, underfed and cruelly treated;  
for all wistful creatures in captivity that beat their bodies against bars;  
for any that are hunted or lost or deserted or frightened or hungry;  
for all that must be put death.  
We entreat for them your mercy,  
and for those who deal with them we ask for a heart of compassion  
and gentle hands and kindly words.  
Make us to be true friends to animals,  
and so to share the blessings of the merciful.

Response Song

No.

Reflection

Let Them Teach You  
( The Blessing of the Animals )  
Rev. Emma Chattin

Community Dialogue

Offering Invitation

Cornelius Butler

Offertory

We Are An Offering  
by Dwight Liles

MCC NoVA Choir

❧ Welcome To The Table! ❧  
Kurt Jaeger

*Sung Words of Institution:*

"Let Us Be Bread"  
By Thomas J. Porter

*The Leader will sing the verses. Please join together on the refrain:*

***Let us be bread, blessed by our God, broken and shared, life for the world.  
Let us be wine, love freely poured. Let us be one in our God.***

© 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

Invitation to the Table  
Sharing The Open Meal of Christ  
Community Blessing Kurt Jaeger

Closing Song

No.

Benediction and Sending Forth

Rev. Emma Chattin

Postlude

❧ Go in Peace ❧