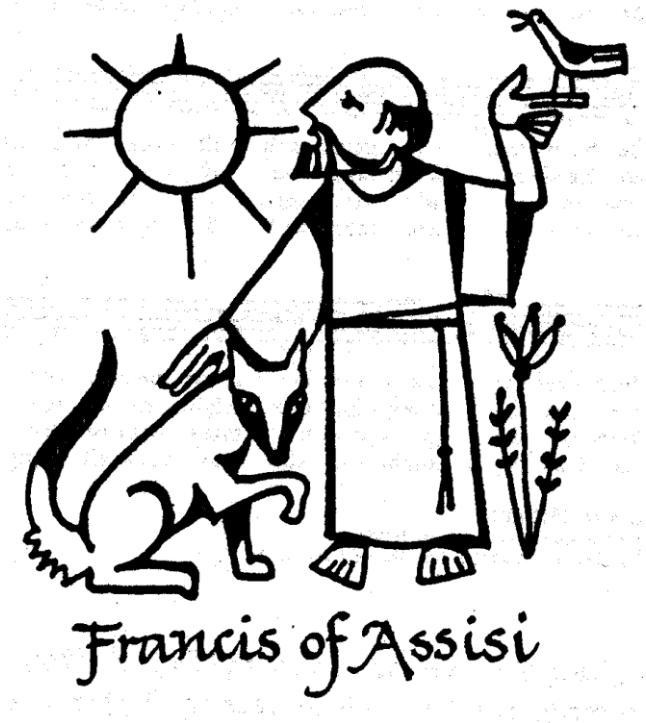




**The Celebration of the Holy Eucharist
The Feast of St. Francis ~ The Blessing of the Animals
October 3, 2021 ~ 10:45 a.m.**



Francis of Assisi

The Rev. April Berends, Rector ~ The Rev. David Burman, Associate Rector
Sarah Hess, Seminarian ~ Caroline Day, Seminarian

+ Season of Creation +

GATHERING

* = *Rise as you are able, in body or in spirit* | ☩ = *a customary time to “cross” oneself*

PRELUDE

Siciliano

J. S. Bach

* THE ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Living God, who called into being the birds of the air, the fish of the sea and every living creature that moves on the earth, we give you thanks for the brightness and beauty of your creation. Protect the animals of sky, earth and sea, and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may care for all that you have made with wisdom and reverence. Help us to shape the pattern of our days so that all your creatures may share in the fruits of your creation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN

Earth and all stars

1	Earth	and	all	stars,	loud	rush - ing	plan - ets,	sing	to the
2	Hail,	wind,	and	rain,	loud	blow - ing	snow - storms,	sing	to the
3	Trum - pet	and	pipes,		loud	clash - ing	cym - bals,	sing	to the
4	En - gines	and	steel,		loud	pound-ing	ham - mers,	sing	to the
5	Class - rooms	and	labs,		loud	boil - ing	test - tubes,	sing	to the
6	Know - ledge	and	truth,		loud	sound - ing	wis - dom,	sing	to the



1 Lord a new song!
 2 Lord a new song!
 3 Lord a new song!
 4 Lord a new song!
 5 Lord a new song!
 6 Lord a new song!

O vic - to - ry,
 Flow - ers and trees,
 Harp, lute, and lyre,
 Lime - stone and beams,
 Ath - lete and band,
 Daugh - ter and son,

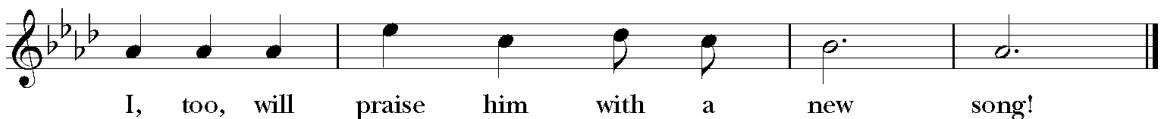


1 loud shout - ing ar - my, sing to the Lord a new song!
 2 loud rus - tling dry leaves, sing to the Lord a new song!
 3 loud hum - ming cel - los, sing to the Lord a new song!
 4 loud build - ing work - ers, sing to the Lord a new song!
 5 loud cheer - ing peo - ple, sing to the Lord a new song!
 6 loud pray - ing mem - bers, sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain



He hath done mar - vel - ous things.



I, too, will praise him with a new song!

Words: Herbert F. Brokering (b. 1926) Music: *Earth and All Stars*, David N. Johnson (b. 1922) Words, Music: Copyright © Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

THE FIRST LESSON

Job 39:1–18

Reader A reading from the Book of Job.

"Do you know when the mountain goats give birth? Do you observe the calving of the deer? Can you number the months that they fulfil, and do you know the time when they give birth, when they crouch to give birth to their offspring, and are delivered of their young? Their young ones become strong, they grow up in the open; they go forth, and do not return to them. "Who has let the wild ass go free? Who has loosed the bonds of the swift ass, to which I have given the steppe for its home, the salt land for its dwelling-place? It scorns the

tumult of the city; it does not hear the shouts of the driver. It ranges the mountains as its pasture, and it searches after every green thing. "Is the wild ox willing to serve you? Will it spend the night at your crib? Can you tie it in the furrow with ropes, or will it harrow the valleys after you? Will you depend on it because its strength is great, and will you hand over your labor to it? Do you have faith in it that it will return, and bring your grain to your threshing-floor? "The ostrich's wings flap wildly, though its pinions lack plumage. For it leaves its eggs to the earth, and lets them be warmed on the ground, forgetting that a foot may crush them, and that a wild animal may trample them. It deals cruelly with its young, as if they were not its own; though its labor should be in vain, yet it has no fear; because God has made it forget wisdom, and given it no share in understanding. When it spreads its plumes aloft, it laughs at the horse and its rider.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 104:25-32 (Read responsively)

25 O Lord, how manifold are your works!
in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

**26 Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too many to number,
creatures both small and great.**

27 There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan,
which you have made for the sport of it.

**28 All of them look to you
to give them their food in due season.**

29 You give it to them; they gather it;
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

**30 You hide your face, and they are terrified;
you take away their breath, and they die and return to their dust.**

31 You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;
and so you renew the face of the earth.

**32 May the glory of the Lord endure for ever;
may the Lord rejoice in all his works.**

* THE GOSPEL

Matthew 11:25–30

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ. ♫ ♫ ♫**

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.”

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

Sarah Hess, Seminarian

THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Celebrant Let us pray. Gracious God, your servant Francis, who called each creature of the air, sea and land brother or sister, reminds us of your great love for all creation. Grant that every creature gathered here today, both large and small, may live lives of praise as you intend. Grant also that we may love your creation and regard it as sacred, for you have called it good. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

* PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor Holy God, Creator of both heaven and earth, you have spread your abundance throughout the ends of the earth.
People We lift our prayers to you, O God.
You are the hope of all creation.

Intercessor We pray for Joseph our President, the leaders of the nations, and all who make decisions as the peoples of the earth clamor for resources. Inspire us to do justice, preparing the way for your glorious reign.
People We lift our prayers to you, O God;
You are the hope of all creation.

Intercessor	Send your Spirit to disturb and challenge us, that we may share the abundance of the fruits of the earth. Open our ears to the needs of those who are poor, hungry and neglected throughout the world, that we may hear their cries for daily bread and freely share what you have given.
People	We lift our prayers to you, O God; You are the hope of all creation.
Intercessor	Teach us to grieve with you, O Christ, the loss of all the beauty that is being killed, and give us the will to protect species in danger of extinction. May we embrace your charge to watch over and care for all the creatures of the earth. We lift our prayers to you, O God.
People	We lift our prayers to you, O God. You are the hope of all creation.
	Give us eyes to see your image in our neighbors, and help us to respond to their needs with grace and compassion. We pray for all who live in poverty, sickness, loneliness and grief, that you will wipe the tears from their faces.
People	We lift our prayers to you, O God; You are the hope of all creation.
Intercessor	We remember before you those who are dying and those who have died, especially Elizabeth Harrison, mother of Joy Bond, who died on Thursday. Give us strength in your victory over death to grow into your way of love, which does not know despair but sows seeds of hope.
<i>(The congregation is invited to name others, aloud or silently.)</i>	
People	We lift our prayers to you, O God; You are the hope of all creation.
Celebrant	Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

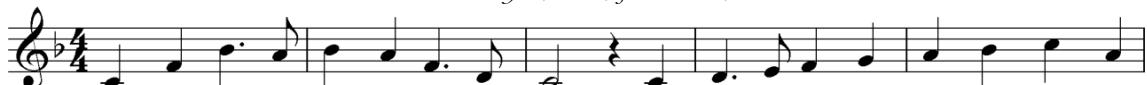
THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY HYMN

Thank you, God, for Water, Soil and Air



1. Thank you, God, for wa - ter, soil, and air,
2. Thank you, God, for min - er - als and ores,
3. Thank you, God, for price-less en - er - gy.
4. Thank you, God, for weav-ing na-ture's life.
5. Thank you, God, for mak-ing plan- et earth.

Large gifts sup-port - ing ev - ery - thing that
The ba - sis of all build- ing, wealth, and
Stored in each at - om, gathered from the
In - to a seam-less robe, a frag - ile
A home for us and a - ges yet un -



lives For - give our spoil - ing and a - buse of
speed. For - give our reck - less plun - der - ing and
sun. For - give our greed and care - less - ness of
whole. For - give our haste that tem - pers un - a -
born. Help us to share, con - sid - er, save, and



them. Help us re - new the face of the earth.
waste. Help us re - new the face of the earth.
power. Help us re - new the face of the earth.
ware. Help us re - new the face of the earth.
store. Come and re - new the face of the earth.

TABLE

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 2

(from Enriching Our Worship)

Celebrant We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we say:

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

(The Celebrant continues)

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.

All: Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

This morning, we will receive communion in one kind only (bread). To receive communion, move forward toward the priest. Stretch out your hands, and the priest will drop the wafer into your hands. Please wait to remove your mask and consume your wafer until you have returned to your seat.

Gluten free wafers are available; let the priest know if you need one. If you are unable to come forward, please raise your hand, and we will bring communion to you.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

SENDING

*** POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER**

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

* FRANCISCAN BLESSING

May God bless you with discomfort, at easy answers, half-truths,
And superficial relationships so that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression,
And exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears, to shed for those who suffer pain,
Rejection, hunger and war, so that you may reach out your hand
To comfort them and to turn their pain to joy.

And may God bless you with enough foolishness
To believe that you can make a difference in the world,
So that you can do what others claim cannot be done to bring justice and kindness
To all our children and the poor.

* HYMN

O worship the King, all glorious above

The musical score consists of two staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature is G major (one sharp). The time signature is common time (indicated by 'C'). The lyrics are arranged in two stanzas, numbered 1 through 5. The first stanza is in the treble clef staff, and the second stanza is in the bass clef staff. The lyrics are as follows:

1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove!
2 O tell of his might! O sing of his grace!
3 The earth, with its store of won - ders un - told,
4 Thy boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?
5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

1 O grate - ful - ly sing his power and his love!
2 Whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space.
3 Al - might - y, thy power hath found - ed of old,
4 It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
5 in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;

Words: Robert Grant (1779-1838) Music: *Hanover*, att. William Croft (1678-1727)

* THE DISMISSAL

Priest Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Celebrant	The Rev. David Burman
Gospeller	The Rev. April Berends
Preacher	Sarah Hess, Seminarian
Musician	Karla Fowkes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scripture Discussion Group @ 9:30am each Sunday in the courtyard –This group is resuming after a long hiatus! We meet in the courtyard at 9:30am on Sundays as we look through the readings assigned for that Sunday. Scripture is a wacky and beautiful tapestry -- join us as we discuss diverse parts of it! All are welcome! And if you've got kids, feel free to drop them off at the Pavilion, where Betsy Hawthorne Bedwell will have activities for them.

The Past Is Present – This group meets at 9:30am on Sundays, and we're talking about different important moments in church history, and how those moments affect our own spiritual lives and our church today. This is aimed especially at newcomers to Grace, but anybody is welcome, whether you've been already or not!

We meet in the backyard belonging to Grace member Pat Milburn (thanks Pat!), who lives very close to the church. Please park in the Grace Church upper lot near the intersection of Belvoir Avenue and Sunbeam Avenue -- from there it's just a 1-2 minute walk to Pat's house, and you'll see us when you get to the end of the driveway. If walking is a hardship, or if you're unsure how to get to Pat's house, contact David Burman at dburman@saygrace.net -- we can probably get a car or two in Pat's driveway.

If you've got kids who are not going to be keen on attending an adult class, you can drop them off in the pavilion, where Betsy Hawthorne Bedwell, our new children's minister, will have some activities!

Pride Mass, October 9th

Due to the high rates of COVID-19 in our area, Chattanooga Pride events for next week have been cancelled. We at Grace have heard, in our own community and beyond, a need to remind ourselves and our LGBTQIA+ siblings of our belovedness. Join us on October 9th at 6pm for an outdoor celebration that honors all LGBTQIA+ people as the children of God. This worship service will include holy communion and scripture readings and prayers that speak of God's love for LGBTQIA+ people. Interested in helping out? Contact Phaen Stone (phaen@epbfi.com) or April Berends (aberends@saygrace.net).

The Grace Online Directory has migrated to a service called Breeze but can still be accessed via the webpage. Find the menu item “BREEZE” at the right end of the menu options that sprawl across the screen near the top, click and log in; user name is ‘saygrace’ and the password is ‘Chattanooga’. Get in touch with Jim Milburn with any questions and suggestions.

If you'd like to give Altar Flowers during the rest of this year, please contact the office (423) 243-3257/dcarden@saygrace.net to sign up for a Sunday. Cost is \$77, and all donors need do is provide a dedication and the previously mentioned sum. Because it's been so long since we've had flower donors and so many circumstances have changed, we are deleting all standing orders (unless you've been in touch with the office about them already) and beginning from scratch. If you want to establish a standing order, please contact the office.

Prayer Lists

Please pray this week for Wilma, Bill, Patricia, Tony, Susan, Russell, Amanda, Jamie, Martha, Sue, William, Neil, Ash, Bill, Sally, Mary Lou, Andrea, Jennifer, June, Amy, Deborah, Ann, the Hale family, Niysah, Terrie, Alex, Andrea, Steve, Angela, Dwight, Doris, Rebecca, J.R., Charlotte, Libby, Jean, Barbara, Elizabeth, and Ann;

for Bren who is deployed as a nurse in the pandemic;

for Emily, Mary, Katie and Merry Madeline, who are with child;

for Wil, Jake, Kevin, Tripp, Mike, Alexander, Russel, Logan, Jim, Sean, Evan, and all who serve in the Armed Forces, here and abroad.

for Elizabeth Harrison, mother of Joy Bond, who died on Thursday. May light perpetual shine upon her.

Those in need of continued prayer:

Valorie Lephart, Jeanette Cureton, Wanda Kirkpatrick, Emma Andrews, Jim Strickland, Michael Conner, Bo and Mary Minor Brown, Helen Williams, Peggy Fugate, William Simpson, Timothy Penny, Donald Jones, Cooper Jones, Charles Smith, John Woodham, Elaine Harrison, Marcia Magers, Major McCollough, John Cox, Gayanne Silver, Heather Nelson, Robert Clark, Dexter and Helen Williams, Cheryl McCurry, Ethel Rutledge, Lanie Lundgrin, Terri Harvey, Anne Getz, Michael Roberts, Jeannie and Andy Williams, Jaime Cooper, Teresa Noel, Tina Knowles, Joyce and Greg Snyder, Martha Killeffer, Robert Durham, Jessica Ricketts

Mission of Grace Episcopal Church

To provide a reverent place for Christian worship, learning, and service in the Anglican tradition, with special emphasis on the healing, nurturing, and challenging character of the Holy Spirit, open to and respecting all who would come.

Grace Episcopal Church ✕ 20 Belvoir Avenue
423-698-2433 ✕ www.saygrace.net