



The Anglican Parish of
Saint Barnabas

September 26, 2021

18th Sunday after Pentecost

The Blessing of the Animals via Zoom

Welcome to St. Barnabas Anglican Church.

Land Acknowledgement

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The spirit of God hovered over the water.

And brought life to all creation.

Come, Holy Spirit

And renew the face of the earth.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen

As we gather today, we give thanks for all of God's creation; in particular we celebrate the animals, the creatures of God's own hand. We remember St. Francis, a friend to all. We pray together:

Creator God, you have made a beautiful world filled with wonder and surprises! **We praise you.**

Creator God, who has gifted us with the blessing of animals, those in the wild, those on farms, those in our own homes, **We praise you.**

Creator God, you brought into being that which we could not imagine for ourselves, life we cannot see without the aid of microscopes, animals we can only see in pictures from remote regions of this planet earth, **We praise you.**

We thank you for the gift of our own animal companions; for the joy they bring us, for the unconditional love and forgiveness which teaches us about you; for the confidant, the listener, the stress-releaser, for the benefit they are to our health and to our spirit. **We give you thanks.**

And yet, we know that we have not always been faithful caretakers of the animals.

Forgive us when we have dirtied their environment, erased places of shelter, polluted the waters, killed off their food supplies, or neglected to feed or tend animals in our own communities. Forgive us when we have not loved them as they have loved us. Amen

May the God of all mercies cleanse us from our sins and restore us in his image, to the praise and glory of God's name, through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

1st Reading: Job 38:1-18

Pat Herrel

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: 'Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

'Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On

what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together, and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

'Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb? —when I made the clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, and said, "Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stopped"?

'Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, so that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? It is changed like clay under the seal, and it is dyed like a garment. Light is withheld from the wicked, and their uplifted arm is broken.

'Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 124

Pat Herrel

Refrain: We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler.

If the Lord had not been on our side, let Israel now say; If the Lord had not been on our side, when enemies rose up against us; Then would they have swallowed us up alive in their fierce anger toward us; **Refrain**

Then would the waters have overwhelmed us and the torrent gone over us; Then would the raging waters have gone right over us. **Refrain**

Blessed be the Lord! he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth. We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; the snare is broken, and we have escaped. Our help is in the name of the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. **Refrain**

2nd Reading: James 5:13-20

Pat Herrel

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed.

The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 355 "All Creatures of Our God and King" vv. 1, 2

*All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voices, let us sing:
alleluia, alleluia!
Bright burning sun and golden beams,
pale silver moon that gently gleams,
alleluia, alleluia!*

*Great rushing winds and breezes soft,
you clouds that ride the heavens aloft,
O sing now, alleluia!
Fair rising morn, with praise rejoice;
stars nightly shining, find a voice,
alleluia, alleluia!*

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Mark 9:38-50

The Rev. Marcus Herrel

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us."

But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another." The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Marcus Herrel

Hymn 466 "How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord" vv. 1, 4

*How clear is our vocation, Lord,
when once we heed your call:
to live according to your word,
and daily learn, refreshed, restored,
that you are Lord of all,
and will not let us fall.*

*In what you give us, Lord, to do,
together or alone,
in old routines or ventures new,
may we not cease to look to you,*

*the cross you hung upon
and all you endeavoured done.*

The Blessing of the Animals: Fellow creature, friend and companion, may God your Creator and preserver bless, defend, and keep you this day and forever. Amen

Let us talk to God and pray for all of creation. Blessed are you, eternal God,
To be praised and glorified for ever.

Hear us as we pray for your church and your world. In our Diocese, we pray for St. Barnabas, Medicine Hat: The Rev. Oz Lorentzen; St. Ambrose, Redcliff: The Rev. David Carter, The Rev. Deacon Eldean Parnell; The Council for Urban Indigenous Ministry. We pray for members of our parish family: Billie Avery; Tom and Pat Barton; Maria Batti, Saverio Zappavigna, and Bruno.

Make us one in Spirit.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you,
That the life of Christ may be revealed in us.

Inspire and lead those who hold authority in the nations of the world:
Guide them in the ways of justice and peace.

Make us alive to the needs of our community:
Help us to share each other's joys and burdens.

Look with kindness on our homes and families:
Grant that your love may grow in our hearts.

Deepen our compassion for all who suffer from sickness, grief, or trouble and are in need of your healing gifts: Mark, Davene, Len, Bonnie, Elijah Richards, Nieve, John Beattie, Clyde Rattan, Sharon, James and Susan Norwood, Gwyneth Parker, Mike, Gail Croker, Marie Whatley, Jill, Sue, Kris, Jeff, Don Lee, Bert and Marian Standring, Pat and Tom Barton, Andy St. Onge, Arlene Parsons, Ashley Croker; for those struck by war, hurricane and earthquake.
In your presence may they find their strength.

We remember those who have died; as well as our animal companions who are no longer with us.
Father, into your hands we commend them.

Make us instruments of your peace
And let your glory be over all the earth.

Gracious One, you satisfy the need of every living creature. Fill us with gratitude for the abundance of the earth and for the bonds of love and care that unite all creation into one family. May our thanks be the soil in which dreams of justice grow and thrive; through Jesus Christ, the Lord. **Amen**

Glory to God,
Whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever.

The Blessing

Announcements

Hymn 415 “All Things Bright and Beautiful” vv. 1, 3

*All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.*

*Each radiant flower that opens,
each vibrant bird that sings,
God made their glowing colours,
God made their lively wings.*

*All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.*

*The cold wind in the winter,
The rocky mountain splendour,
the loon’s wild, haunting call,
the great lakes and the prairies,
the forest in the fall.*

*All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.*

Dismissal

†††

We pray for Christ’s Holy Catholic Church: ACC. The Rt. Rev. Lincoln Mckeoen, Bishop, and the clergy and people of The Territory of the People. ELCIC: The dean, council, and congregations of the North Region of the British Columbia Synod.

We pray for our Companion Diocese of the Windward Isles: St. George with St. Vincent, St. Peter, St. Luke and St. Alban on Grenada: The Ven. Michael Marshall. St. Patrick with St. Mary and St. Francis on Grenada.

CCLI Licence #11392823. Readings for October 3: Job 1:1, 2:1-10; Psalm 26; Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16

Congratulations to The Rev. Marcus Herrel on the anniversary of his ordination to the Diaconate in 2020.

Link for Zoom events: click on <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7825637683>. ID: 782 563 7683; use the mute function at the bottom of the screen unless you are speaking. To join with a landline, dial 587-328-1099 at the appointed time, enter meeting ID 782 563 7683 followed by #; you will then be asked for your own ID – press # to bypass this message and you will be connected to the call. This week’s Zoom events are:

- Blessing of the Animals Service at 10:15 AM
- Midweek Prayer Group at 10:00 AM on Wednesday; readings for September 29 are Psalm 138 and Acts 12:1-11.

Curbside Communion returns on October 3 from noon to 1:00 PM. We encourage you to come to St. Barnabas between noon and 1:00 PM to receive Holy Communion in your car. Wear a mask, bring hand sanitizer, and please turn off your engine while parked on either side 7th Avenue NW. Reservations are not required.

If you are having difficulty accessing or printing your Covid-19 vaccine record card, contact Gloria and she will print it for you.

If you have added the name of a loved one (or your own name) to the prayer list, please confirm with the office whether that individual is still in need of prayer.

Please contact the office if you are interested in CPR/AED training. The cost is \$75 per person for a four-hour session, likely to be held in October. Contact the office for more information.

The altar guild is looking for more members. See the newsletter for details on duties. Please speak to Angie Martinac for more information.

Diocesan ACW Fall Events on Zoom: Hymn Sing on Monday, October 4th at 7:00 PM; fall conference, "The Women Who Walked Alongside Jesus", with The Rev. Dr. Richard LeSueur on Saturday, October 16th from 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM; book study, "Women in The New Testament" begins on Monday, October 18th with The Rev. Betty Piwowar, Chaplain at 7:00 PM; a service of Lessons and Carols on December 6th at 7:00 PM. For more information or to register, please email: dioceseofcalgaryacw@gmail.com.

During September, the Outreach Committee is highlighting the need for baby supplies to support young families in the community. The Crisis Nursery of the Brenda Strafford Foundation and Basically Babies, an organization that provides layettes to impoverished new mothers, are two organizations that are asking for help. If you would like to donate an item, we will be collecting them in the Narthex throughout the month of September. Please see the lists of requested items in the newsletter.

The Calgary Alliance for the Common Good is hosting a Mayoral Forum on September 30th online. Four leading candidates have been confirmed as participants and will answer five questions each about civic issues that have been circulated in advance. To view the forum online, sign up at <https://www.calgarycommongood.org/events>.

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Zoom Host: The Rev. Kersi Bird