



CHURCH OF THE  
**GOOD SHEPHERD**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

09/29/24

11:00am



**BLESSING OF THE  
ANIMALS**

*No matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.*

*September 29, 2024*

# Worship Leader: Joanna Fair

## PRELUDE.....

"As The Deer," by Martin Nystrom, arr. by Mark Hayes  
Dorenda Morse, piano

## WELCOME.....

### HYMN #537 Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed

1 Christian, rise and act your creed;  
let your prayer be in your deed;  
Seek the right, perform the true,  
raise your work and life anew.

2 Hearts around you sink with care,  
you can help their load to bear;  
You can bring inspiring light,  
strengthen them to do the right.

3 Offer others hope and joy,  
and God's worship your employ;  
Giving thanks in humble zeal,  
learning all God's will to feel.

4 Come then, law divine, and reign;  
faith that doubt assails in vain,  
Perfect love bereft of fear,  
born in heaven and radiant here.

## OPENING REFLECTION.....

"All Things Bright and Beautiful," English Folk Melody, arr. by  
Jonathan W. Lee  
Dorenda Morse, piano

## JOYS AND CONCERNS.....

**PRAYER**.....

**SCRIPTURE**.....**Joanna Fair**

### **Mark 7:24-29, The Message**

24-26 From there Jesus set out for the vicinity of Tyre. He entered a house there where he didn't think he would be found, but he couldn't escape notice. He was barely inside when a woman who had a disturbed daughter heard where he was. She came and knelt at his feet, begging for help. The woman was Greek, Syro-Phoenician by birth. She asked him to cure her daughter.

27 He said, "Stand in line and take your turn. The children get fed first. If there's any left over, the dogs get it."

28 She said, "Of course, Sir. But don't dogs under the table get scraps dropped by the children?"

29-30 Jesus was impressed. "You're right! On your way! Your daughter is no longer disturbed. The demonic affliction is gone." She went home and found her daughter relaxed on the bed, the torment gone for good.

### **Español**

### **Marcos 7:24-29, El Mensaje**

24-26 De allí partió Jesús hacia los alrededores de Tiro. Entró allí en una casa donde pensó que no le encontrarían, pero no pudo pasar desapercibido. Apenas estaba dentro, cuando una mujer que tenía una hija perturbada oyó dónde estaba. Llegó y se arrodilló a sus pies, suplicando ayuda. La mujer era griega, sirofenicia de nacimiento. Le pidió que curara a su hija.

27 Él le dijo: «Ponte en fila y espera tu turno. A los niños se les da de comer primero. Si sobra algo, se lo dan a los perros».

28 Ella respondió: «Por supuesto, señor. Pero los perros que están debajo de

### **34 Reuben and Gad named the altar:**

la mesa, ¿no reciben las sobras que dejan los niños?».

29-30 Jesús quedó impresionado. «¡Tienes razón! ¡Sigue tu camino! Tu hija ya no está perturbada. La aflicción demoníaca ha desaparecido». Volvió a casa y encontró a su hija relajada en la cama, el tormento había desaparecido para siempre.

*Traducción realizada con la versión gratuita del traductor DeepL.com*

### **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS.....**

#### **SONG “A Place in the Choir”**

Chancel Choir and Congregation

#### **(Refrain)**

All God's critters got a place in the choir

Some sing low, some sing higher

Some sing out loud on the telephone wires

And some just clap their hands, or paws, or anything they got now

Listen to the bass, it's the one on the bottom

Where the bullfrog croaks and the hippopotamus

Moans and groans with a big t'do

And the old cow just goes “Mooooo”

The dogs and the cats they take up the middle

While the honeybee hums and the cricket fiddles

The donkey brays and the pony neighs

And the old coyote howls “Owoooooo”

#### **(Refrain)**

All God's critters got a place in the choir  
Some sing low, some sing higher  
Some sing out loud on the telephone wires  
And some just clap their hands, or paws, or anything they got now  
Listen to the top where the little birds sing  
On the melodies with the high notes ringing  
The hoot owl hollers over everything  
And the jaybird disagrees "Squack!"

**(Refrain)**

All God's critters got a place in the choir  
Some sing low, some sing higher  
Some sing out loud on the telephone wires  
And some just clap their hands, or paws, or anything they got now

**SERMON.....Rev. Dr. Sarah TevisTownes**

**PASTORAL PRAYER.....**

**PRAYER OF JESUS**

Our Father, Our Mother,  
Who is in Heaven, Holy be Your name,  
Your Kin(g)dom come, Your will be done,  
On Earth as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread  
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.  
And do not lead us into temptation,

For yours is the Kin(g)dom and the

Power and the glory,

Now and forever, Amen.

**SHARING OUR GIFTS**.....

**OFFERTORY**.....

“Holy is the Lord,” Franz Schubert, arr. Larry Sue

Joyful Noise Bell Choir

**DOXOLOGY**.....

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God the source of all our gifts.

Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts.

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**.....

**LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY**.....

**FAREWELL SERVICE FOR PAT PALMER**.....

**I AM ONE VOICE**.....

**BENEDICTION**.....

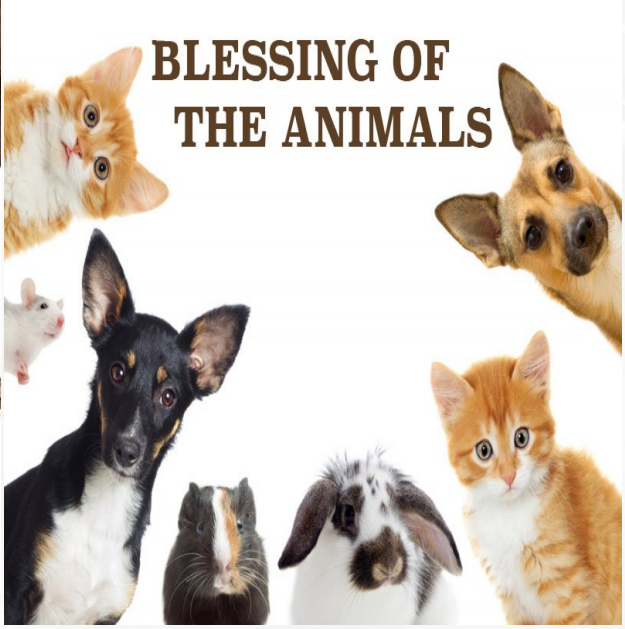
**CLOSING CELEBRATION**.....

"Praise to the Lord, The Almighty," by Joachim Neander, Music from Erneuertem Gesangbuch,  
arr. by Vicki Tucker Courtney  
Dorenda Morse, piano

*BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS*



**Blessing** of the **Animals**



**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS**



Thank you for joining us in worship today

# Welcome!



***We are delighted to have you worshipping with us today!***

Church of the Good Shepherd, UCC is a dynamic congregation with a rich history and an exciting ministry in the community.

Our church is a part of a blend of four major Protestant denominations that united together in 1957 to form the United Church of Christ.

We claim the early Pilgrim and Puritan settlers of this country as part of our heritage, and celebrate the words of Pastor John Robinson, who in his farewell remarks to the Pilgrims as they were leaving for the “new world,” said,

***“There is still more light and truth to break forth from God’s holy word.”***

We are a church that:

- Takes the Bible seriously, but not literally.
- Worships God with joyful hearts and open minds.
- Includes children in the life and ministry of the church.
- Celebrates creativity and the arts.
- Seeks to be inclusive of ALL people.
- Believes that growth in wisdom and understanding happens at all stages of life.
- Is committed to work for justice for all people and for the environment.
- Cares for one another, laughs easily, and rests in God’s love.
- Looks to Jesus as teacher, prophet and Child of God.

## Vision Statement

**Church of the Good Shepherd desires to be an inclusive community that shares Divine love as a path to peace and justice in the world.**

## Mission Statement

**The mission of Church of the Good Shepherd is to build a just world through community one life at a time.**

***An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ***

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