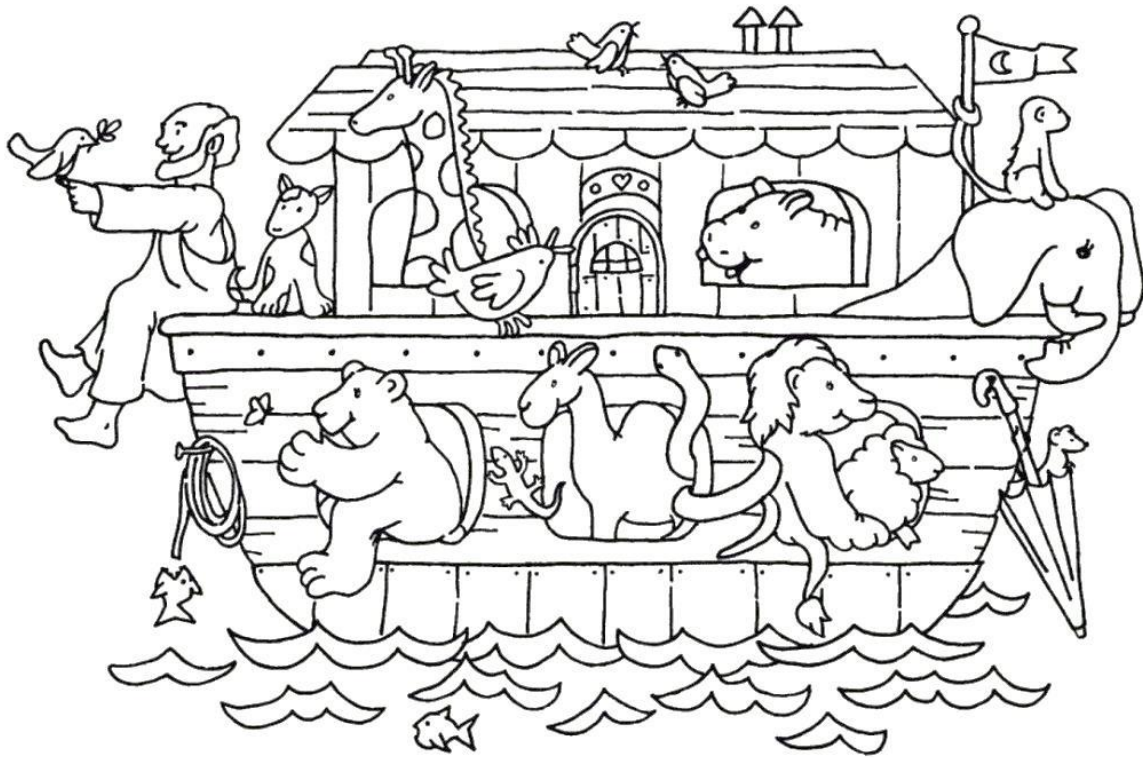


The Blessing of the Animals



Sunday, October 4th, 2020

1:00 PM

**Trinity Church
Queen Anne Square
Newport, Rhode Island**

***In Partnership with our friends at
Potter's League Animal Rescue and Wag Nation!***

Welcome

A Reading from Genesis 1:20-31

And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

You may now line up with your pet, single file and socially distanced, in front of the clergy member to receive a Blessing.

When all pets have been blessed, we pray together:

Prayers

For the artistry of spinning spiders
For the industry of ants,
For all alert animals of field and forest,
For squirrels that gather, chipmunks that chatter, and
For mice that burrow.

People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**



For the splendor of the great deep and sparkling streams,
For the water bugs and dolphins,
For all fish and all sea life, and
For the sheer size of whales.

People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**



For all things that fly and taught us to reach upward,
For pelicans and parakeets, barn owls and peacocks,
For eagles that soar, and
For birds that nest in eaves and attics.
Reminding us that we are not alone.

People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**



For beasts that lumber,
For elephants and hippos,
Gizzly bears and tortoises,
Porcupines and three-toed sloths, and
For all creatures that remind us not to hurry.

People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**



For graceful beasts, for the great cats and for gazelles,
For giraffes, and for flamingos, foxes, and fawns.

People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**



For the animals that work for human good,
For horses, oxen, mules, and beasts of burden,
For dogs who lead the blind and track the lost.

People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**



For the animals that share our homes,
For faithful dogs and purring cats,
For all animals that teach us how to live without judgement,
For hamsters, birds, assorted reptiles, and rabbits.

People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

Give us grace to learn from the animal kingdom that you created all things that might work together for the common good.

People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

Deliver us from the presumption that we are creation's central act. Remind us, who are redeemed by a cross, that these your animals have been redeemed by an ark of your grace.

People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

Make us proper stewards for all creation that, caring for your creatures and for their homes, we may come at last to that peaceable kingdom where lion and lamb lie down together.

People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

St. Francis Day Collect

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, remembering this day the example of blessed Francis of Assisi, grant that we, for love of you, may delight in your whole creation and develop true compassion toward all that you have made and have committed into our safe-keeping, especially those non-human members of our family who bring us so much love and joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, here and now, Everywhere and forever. **Amen.**

The Blessing on All People.

Dismissal

Let us go forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

Participants in Liturgy

The Rev. Canon Timothy J. Watt, *Rector*

Thank you for joining us today!

Please remember to collect your gift bag

**This will include a St. Francis prayer tag, coupon from Wag Nation,
Information about Potter's League Animal Rescue,
and an abundance of goodies – toys and treats alike!**