

Leader: Loving God, we ask your blessing on every creature gathered here today, the large and the small. May they live peacefully in praise of you. Bless us all to love your creation, and revere its sacredness. We ask this blessing in the name of the one who was, is, and always will be, our Creator, to whom every creature belongs.

People: Amen.

The Blessing

*Worship leaders will come to you to bless your animals individually.*

**Departing to Serve**

\* Closing Hymn #37  
"Let All Things Now Living"

\*Pastoral Charge and Blessing

Postlude

*It is our custom to remain seated and enjoy the postlude.*

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Annual services for the blessing of animals usually have been held on or near the Feast of St. Francis, the patron saint of animals and the environment. Although originally celebrated mainly by Roman Catholic Christians, these services of blessings have in recent years become more common among Episcopalians, Presbyterians, United Methodists, and many other Protestant Christians. The purpose of these services is to celebrate the richness of God's



creation, to recognize the gifts that animals offer to humanity, and to declare our on-going commitment to caring for all of God's creatures, great and small.

**BROWN COUNTY PRESBYTERIAN FELLOWSHIP  
ORDER OF WORSHIP ON THE LORD'S DAY**

**October 8, 2017**

**Service of Blessing for the Animals**

**Celebrating Community**

Greeting & Announcements

*If you are visiting with us today, we are especially glad you are here! Please fill out one of the visitor cards and place it in the offering plate. Also, please feel free to join us following the service for coffee and conversation.*

Recognition of Birthdays & Anniversaries

Prelude and Lighting of the Candles

*As you prepare your hearts for worship, welcome the presence of the Lord in this place.*

**Praising God**

\*Call to Worship (cf. Psalm 104:24-35)

Leader: O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

People: **These all look to you to give them their food in due season;**

Leader: When you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

People: **May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works!**

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul! Let us praise the Lord!

\*Hymn of Praise #15  
"All Creatures of Our God and King"

**Receiving Pardon from God**

\*Prayer of Confession The People of God

**Lord, make us instruments of your peace. / Where there is hatred, let us sow love; / where there is injury, pardon; / where**



