

PREACH
THE GOSPEL
ALWAYS

IF NECESSARY

USE WORDS

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

The Feast of St. Francis

(Observed)

October 7, 2007

St. James Presbyterian Church

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Chicago, Illinois 60645-5322

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Service of Worship

St. James Presbyterian Church

The Feast of St. Francis (observed)
2007

October 7,

Assemble in God's Name

Prelude

Opening Prayer (The Prayer of St. Francis)

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I 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.

Choir Introit *Bless the Beasts and the Children*

Call to Worship (Isaiah 11:6-9)

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Hymn #455


“All Creatures of Our God and King” *Lasst uns erfreuen*

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Almighty God, you made us stewards of creation. But we have misused our power, threatened death to the planet entrusted to our care, and marred your image in us. Forgive us, Lord, for our callousness to the needs of the weakest among us

especially the children and animals which depend on us. Help us to follow the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, who expressed power in humility and lordship in loving service. Enable us, by your Spirit, to walk in newness of life, healing injury, avoiding wrong and making peace with all creation.

Kyrie



Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.
(a period of silence is kept)

Assurance of Pardon (Responsive)

Friends, never forget the promise of the gospel.

Because of Jesus Christ, we are worthy to be called the daughters and sons of God.

Gloria



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, Glo - ry be to the Son,
and to the Ho - ly Ghost; As it was at the be - gin - ning, is
now and ev - er shall be, wor - ld with - out end. A - men.

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Proclaim God's Word

Prayer for Illumination (Unison)

O God, tell us what we need to hear, and show us what we ought to do to be proper disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Old Testament Reading Genesis 1:20-25

Choir Anthem *His Eye Is on the Sparrow*

Gospel Reading Matthew 6:25-33

Sermon "It Starts with Animals"

Hymn #267

"All Things Bright and Beautiful" *Royal Oak*

During the hymn all animals present and their owners may process forward and receive the blessing, "N__ animal__ and N__ owner(s)__ may you be

blessed in your life together by our common creator God and may you both continue to enrich one another and all whose lives you touch."

[For the rest of the service, please see the **Service of the Lord's Table** that was distributed with the bulletin.]

Announcements

We're glad you joined us for worship

If you're a visitor, please sign the guest book at the back of the sanctuary and join us for refreshments after the service.

Calendar

7:30 pm October 17

Session Meeting (Parlor)

Sources

Today's Prayer of Confession was adapted from materials originally prepared for the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, www.rspca.org.uk.

Staff

Please call if you need to make an appointment.

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Service of the Lord's Table

St. James Presbyterian Church

The Creed

(International Consultation on English Texts Version)

We believe in one God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God of God, Light of Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, being of one Being with the Father through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father (and the Son), who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The Offering

Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

The Thanksgiving

Introduction

Pastor: Friends: This is the joyful feast of the people of God!

Congregation: **People will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God.**

Liturgist: This is the Lord's Table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast, which he has prepared.

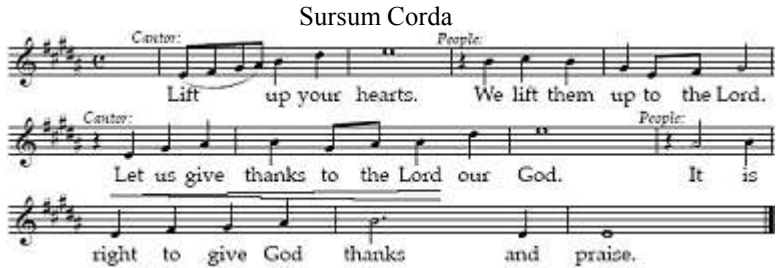
According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, and blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognized him.

Salutation

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Sursum Corda



Cantor: Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.
People: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is
right to give God thanks and praise.

Preface

P: Holy Lord, Father almighty, everlasting God:

[a preface appropriate to the season is inserted here.]

Great and wonderful are your works, Lord God almighty. Your ways are just and true. With people of faith from all times and places, we lift our hearts in joyful praise, for you alone are holy:

Sanctus



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord,
God of power, God of might, Heav-en and earth are full of your
glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est, Ho-san-na in the high-est.
Bless-ed are those who come in the name of the Lord, Ho-
san-na in the high-est, Ho-san-na in the high-est.

History of Salvation

L: O God, we thank you for the gift of Jesus Christ. At our Savior's birth, the angels sang a message of peace on earth. At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus proclaimed that he had come to bring good news to the

poor, release to the outcast, and recovery of sight to the blind, and to let the oppressed go free. He taught that those who worked for your peace would be called your children. He prayed for unity among all who would follow him. He wept over people's failure to know the things that make for peace. He suffered and died for the sins of the world. Through the blood of Jesus' cross, you made peace with your whole creation. By our Lord's resurrection, you broke the powers of oppression, sin, and death. Our risen Savior greeted his followers with the word of peace. We thank you that Christ reigns with you in glory and continues to bring your peace to our world and to our lives, and that one day he will come again and reconcile all things to himself. Remembering your wondrous acts in Jesus Christ, we take this bread and this cup from the gifts of your creation, and with sisters and brothers around your world, we joyfully celebrate Christ's presence and reconciling love.

P: Great is the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

P: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Give us your Spirit, that this meal may unite us with you, and with brothers and sisters in Christ around your world. Give us your Spirit, that we may experience anew your peace and go forth to share it.

O God, keep us faithful to you, even when the way is difficult. Help us to work for your peace, even as we await the day when your peace will come in all its fullness. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, O God of peace, now and forever.

The Lord's Prayer

C: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

P: The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest

Communion

[Members of the congregation pass the bread one to another saying "**This is the bread of life.**" And following the bread, members of the congregation pass the cup one to another saying, "**This is the cup of the new covenant.**"]

Prayer after Communion

L: Let us pray.

C: **O God, through this bread and this cup, you have made us one with you and with each other. May the unity we find at this table be a gift that we carry out into your suffering, divided world. Help us to find strength in knowing that you, the God of peace, will always be with us. Amen.**

Closing Hymn

“You Satisfy the Hungry Heart” *Finest Wheat*

Refrain: **You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat;
Come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.**

Charge and Benediction

P: Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **Alleluia! Amen.**

Benediction Response

May the road rise to meet you. May the wind be al-ways at your
back, May the sun shine warm up-on your face, The rain fall soft up-on your
fields, And un-til we meet a - gain, May God hold you, may God
holdyou, hold you in the hol-low, hold you in the hollow of God's
hand. A - men, A - men, A - men, A - men.

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Postlude