**Service of the Blessing of Animals**

October 28th, 2018

Springfield Presbyterian Church

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Scripture Reading**

Genesis 1:20-25 (NRSV)

20And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” 21So 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. 22God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” 23And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

24And 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. 25God 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.

 (0ver)

**Blessing Individual Animals and Owners**Generous God,
We give you thanks for the life of (name of pet) and for the joy that this pet brings us. We bless (pet) and ask that you grant (pet) a long and healthy life. May we be a blessing to this pet, as it is part of your creation. We bless (pet owner) that they may find comfort, wonder, joy, and companionship in (pet). **Amen.**

**Closing Prayer (**responsive)

Leader: All things bright and beautiful,

**People: All creatures great and small,**

Leader: All things wise and wonderful,

**People: The Lord God made them all.**

Leader: Each little flower that opens,

**People: Each little bird that sings,**

Leader: He made their glowing colors,

**People: He made their tiny wings.**

Leader: He gave us eyes to see them,

**People: And lips that we might tell,**

Leader: How great is God Almighty,

**People: Who has made all things well.**

[Excerpts from ‘All Things Bright and Beautiful’]

**Benediction (responsive)**

Leader: In joy and thanksgiving, go now and love all creatures, great and small, and know that the Lord blesses them all!

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**All: Amen!**

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