A Liturgy in Thanksgiving for Creation and in Honor of the Feast of St. Francis, with the Blessing of Animals

Sunday, October 12, 2025



Emmanuel Church

780 Keolu Drive, Kailua, Hawai'i † 808.262.4548 www.emmanuelkailua.org



Welcome!

We welcome all people and animals to the worship of Christ, our Lord.

Please keep all pets on leashes or in cages for their own safety.

The entire service is printed in this bulletin and insert; the people's parts are printed in bold type. The customary times for sitting and standing are printed in the bulletin and insert, but please do what is comfortable for you.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office at (808) 262-4548 or office@emmanuelkailua.org.

In honor of Saint Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and the environment, a special collection will be taken this morning for the Hawaiian Humane Society.

Thank you for your generosity!

Entrance Hymn



Text: Prayer of St. Francis; adapt. by Schastian Temple, 1928–1997. Tune: Schastian Temple, 1928–1997; noc. by Robert J. Butastini, b.1942. 0.1967, OCP. Dedicated to Mrs. Francis Tincy.

Priest Blessed be the God of all creation.

People And blessed be God's holy Name for ever and ever.

Priest Blessed be God: Creator, Word, and Spirit,

People Who brings all things into being and calls them good.

Priest Bless your Creator, all animals of the land.People Let us praise and exalt our Creator together.

Priest Bless your Creator, all birds of the air.

People Let us praise and exalt our Creator together.

Priest Bless your Creator, all creatures of the sea.People Let us praise and exalt our Creator together.

Priest Bless your Creator, all children of God.

People Let us praise and exalt our Creator together.

Priest God be with you.
People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord: Grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfect joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

The First Lesson

Job 39:1-18

A Reading from the Book of Job

"Do you know when the mountain goats give birth?

Do you observe the calving of the deer?

Can you number the months that they fulfil, and do you know the time when they give birth,

when they crouch to give birth to their offspring, and are delivered of their young?

Their young ones become strong, they grow up in the open; they go forth, and do not return to them.

"Who has let the wild ass go free?

Who has loosed the bonds of the swift ass,

to which I have given the steppe for its home, the salt land for its dwelling-place?

It scorns the tumult of the city;

it does not hear the shouts of the driver.

It ranges the mountains as its pasture, and it searches after every green thing.

"Is the wild ox willing to serve you? Will it spend the night at your crib?

Can you tie it in the furrow with ropes, or will it harrow the valleys after you?

Will you depend on it because its strength is great, and will you hand over your labour to it?

Do you have faith in it that it will return, and bring your grain to your threshing-floor?

"The ostrich's wings flap wildly, though its pinions lack plumage.

For it leaves its eggs to the earth, and lets them be warmed on the ground,

forgetting that a foot may crush them, and that a wild animal may trample them.

It deals cruelly with its young, as if they were not its own; though its labour should be in vain, yet it has no fear;

because God has made it forget wisdom, and given it no share in understanding.

When it spreads its plumes aloft, it laughs at the horse and its rider."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121 in unison

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; * from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, * the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved * and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel * shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; * the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, * nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; * it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, * from this time forth for evermore.

A reading from the Book of Acts

The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

But a man named Ananias, with the consent of his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property; with his wife's knowledge, he kept back some of the proceeds, and brought only a part and laid it at the apostles' feet. "Ananias," Peter asked, "why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back part of the proceeds of the land? While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, were not the proceeds at your disposal? How is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You did not lie to us but to God!" Now when Ananias heard these words, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard of it. The young men came and wrapped up his body, then carried him out and buried him.

After an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. Peter said to her, "Tell me whether you and your husband sold the land for such and such a price." And she said, "Yes, that was the price." Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to put the Spirit of the Lord to the test? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out." Immediately she fell down at his feet and died. When the young men came in they found her dead, so they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. And great fear seized the whole church and all who heard of these things.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Matthew 11:25-30

Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do. "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Officiant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Litany for Creation and All Creatures

Priest Let us name with thanksgiving those animals for whom we care

(aloud or silently in our hearts):

Let us name with thanksgiving those animals who have been our companions over the years and are no longer with us:

And let us remember the unnamed, unknown animals whose lives have benefited our own. *Silence*

The Prayers may be led by a Deacon or other Leader.

Reader Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth,

People Have mercy on us.

Reader Holy and Mighty, Redeemer of the world,

People Have mercy on us.

Reader Holy Immortal One, Sanctifier of the faithful,

People Have mercy on us.

Reader Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, One God,

People Have mercy on us.

Priest

Open our eyes to the joy and beauty of creation, that we may see your presence in all your works; Shower your blessing on earth, O God.

The Priest says

Let us confess to God our sins against our fellow creatures.

Silence may be kept.

Priest and People

God of compassion, have mercy upon us. Heal our relationship with all creation. Forgive us for our mistreatment and neglect of the creatures who share the earth with us. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent for what we have done to harm them, and for what we have not done to help them.

Fill us with your Spirit, that we may care for one another and for all your creatures, according to your will and in the fullness of your love; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

The Priest says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Priest It is the priestly work of all God's people to give thanks for God's blessings, to ask for and lend assistance to all in need, and to stretch our hands to heal and cherish the creatures of God; this is our work of blessing. Recognizing God's love for these creatures, I invite you to bring forward the animals entrusted to your care, one by one, and to join me in the laying on of hands in prayer.

The animals are blessed individually by name by the Priest

The Priest then invites the People to name aloud their animals at home and to pray together, using these words:

All Fellow creatures, friends and companions: May God your creator and preserver bless, defend, heal, and keep you, this day and always. Amen.

Priest God be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray. God of manifold blessings, source of all that is good and true and holy: Raise us up to see the world through your eyes, so that with the eyes of our hearts enlightened, we may treasure each creature touched by your creative hand. May your bountiful blessing be upon us all, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, now and for ever. Amen.

THE PEACE

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. Psalm 50:14

OFFERTORY HYMN



The Great Thanksgiving

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. *AMEN*.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

INVITATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

DISTRIBUTION

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen**. The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen**.

COMMUNION HYMN

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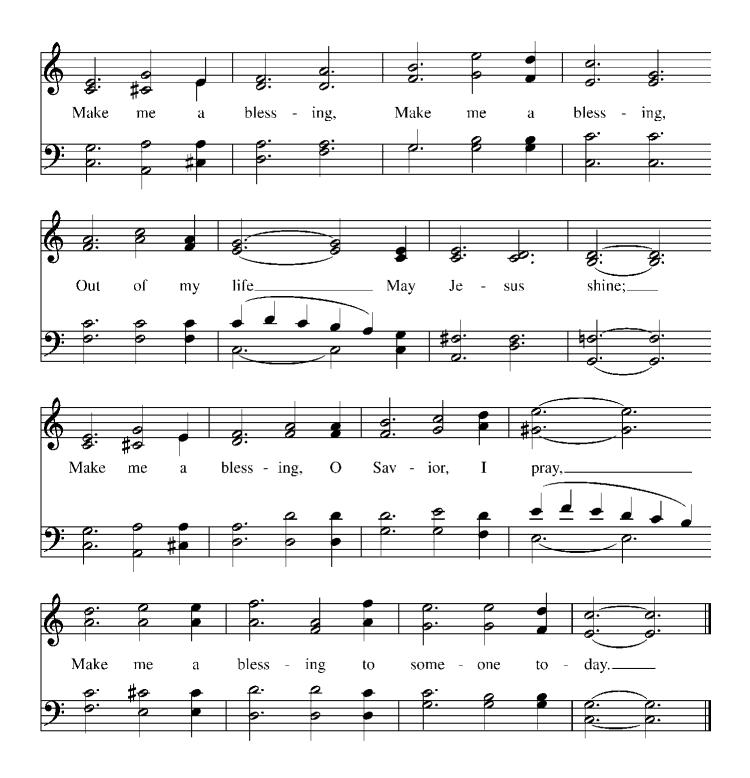
POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

The Priest and People may say together this Prayer attributed to St. Francis
Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
Grant that we 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.

Closing Hymn





Priest Go in peace to love and serve God's creation.People Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to the Blessing of the Animals! The Dog Wash will take place on the front lawn from noon to 2pm today. We are gratefully accepting donations for the Hawaiian Humane society today!

Give Aloha Mahalo for your gifts to Emmanuel Church through the Give Aloha program! Stay tuned for Foodland's matching gift announcement.

The office will be closed tomorrow, October 13 in observance of Indigenous People's Day.

Saturday Stewards is this Saturday, October 18 from 8am to 10am.

Bishop's Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 21, at 6:00 pm. Thank you for your ministry Bishop's Committee Members!

The next Kokua Food Basket at St. Matthew's will be Saturday, October 25.

The Lunch Bunch will meet on Wednesday, October 29 at 11:30 am at Emmanuel. Everyone is welcome! Please bring your own lunch.

All Saints' combined service and Potluck at Calvary on Sunday, November 2, at 9am.

Plant Sale Fundraiser November 8 from 9am to 2pm! Volunteers and Costco style boxes are wanted for event day. See Paul or Carolyn if you have questions!

Office closed on Tuesday, November 11 for the Veteran's Day holiday.

Mother Annalise is on vacation until October 14. Upon her return, she can be reached on her cell phone (808) 780-0471.

CHURCH 'OHANA PRAYER LIST

Our church 'ohana prays for those in need: Keonaona, Aius 'ohana, Gasper 'ohana, Mendez 'ohana, Kealoha 'ohana, John H, John T, Texeira 'ohana, Waggoner 'ohana, Dr. Chris & Family, George, Donald, Craig, Sonny, Landon, Ava, Mark & Fran, Marion, Julie, Ted, Jerri, Patti, Jayna, Beth, Judy & Lou, and Jim.

Our church 'ohana prays for those who are traveling: Ray Monmaney, Tonokawas. Kealohas, and the Pasalos.

Our church 'ohana prays for those who have died: Ruby, Marlene, Hapaki, and Mike.

Our church 'ohana prays for those who celebrate birthdays this week: Ken Walter, and Keani Kealoha.

Our church 'ohana prays for peace.