CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 148:1-10

Leader: Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise him in the heights above. Praise

him, all his angels, praise him, all his heavenly hosts. Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars. Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies. Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created. He set them in place for ever and ever;

he gave a decree that will never pass away."

All: Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures and all ocean

depths, lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding, you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, wild

animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds.

\*HYMN insert "All Creatures of Our God and King" LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**OPENING PRAYER** 

Leader: The joy of our Lord Jesus Christ,

the compassion of our Heavenly Father,

and the creative power of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Source and sustainer of life, we cherish the myriad works of your hands. Water, earth, and sky are yours, as are all their inhabitants, wild and tame. We thank you for creatures that nourish and serve us, befriend, enrich, entertain, and protect us. May we, who are made in your image, care for them well. And may your creation rally and thrive, revealing to all who come after us your wise, redemptive, transforming love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

**SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN -** The congregation is invited to join in singing verse one of "Jesus Loves Me" as the children through 2nd grade come forward.

(After the story, children may go to the Lower Level for Children's Church or may return to their families; Nursery Care is available on the Lower Level)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Ann Blood-Smith

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Job 12: 7-10

Matthew 6: 25-33

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON "What Our Animals Say About God" Pastor Jeff

MUSICAL OFFERING "All Things Bright and Beautiful"

TITHES AND OFFERINGS Offertory Music "We Were Made To Love the Lord"

\*DOXOLOGY and PRAYER OF DEDDICATION

### PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Gracious Lord of love, we affirm our vital connection with all living creatures. Empower us to seek their welfare, intervening where needed, defending and tending your world with grace, compassion, and dignity. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Patient Lord of life, guide our choices so that we might safeguard habitats, ensuring, by your grace, that the mysteries and beauties of nature unfold for future generations. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Saving Lord of lords, your word foretells a day when the wolf will lie down with the lamb. Renew our vision for the peaceable kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Hear our prayers, gracious God, for the sake of Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS**

Almighty and everlasting God, creator of all things and giver of all life, let your blessing be upon all these animals. May our relationships with them mirror your love, and our care for them be an example of your bountiful mercy Grant the animals health and peace. Strengthen us to love and care for them as we strive to imitate the love of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

The minister circulates through the congregation, asks the name of each animal, places her/his hand on the animal's head (if appropriate) and blesses the animal:

Example: [Name of animal], you were created by God, and you are loved by God. May you and your human family experience joy and companionship together, and continue to be a blessing to each other.

After blessings, minister continues:

God is the source and loving sustainer of all that lives— God of species endangered as well as those newly discovered and named. Called to care for this diverse and fragile web of life, let us again offer ourselves as advocates and good stewards, being reverent and mindful toward all creation. Water, earth, and sky are home to us all. We accept God's call, in the name of the Good Shepherd who taught us to pray:

# THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

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.

\*BENEDICTORY HYMN insert "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" FAITHFULNESS

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTORY RESPONSE "May The Road Rise to Meet You"

GREETERS: Lynde Ugoretz LITURGIST: Ann Blood-Smith

**FRIENDSHIP TABLETS** are in the aisle ends of the pews. Each person is asked to complete the requested information, tear off the completed slip, and place it in the offering plate.

**HEARING ASSIST UNITS AND LARGE PRINT BIBLES, HYMNALS, AND BULLETINS** are available at the rear of the sanctuary.

**PRAYER REQUEST CARDS** - in pews - use for items you'd like lifted in this Morning's Prayer. After worship they will be placed in the Chapel for the week.



# OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

Monday 7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer in the Chapel

Tuesday 7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer in the Chapel

6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Choir

Wednesday 7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer in the Chapel

6:00 p.m. Community Dinner

6:30 p.m. Discussion "Joshua, A Parable for Today"

Thursday 7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer in the Chapel

6:30 p.m. Faith Formation

NEXT SUNDAY: 9:00 a.m. - Adult Bible Study "Genesis From Scratch"

10:30 a.m. - Worship

11:30 a.m. - Fellowship Time hosted by Worship Committee



Reverend Jeffrey Ugoretz, Pastor
Cell Phone: 607-742-8715
Email: pastorjeff@corningpresby.org
Pastor's Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday - 9:00a.m. - 12:00p.m.

Church Phone: 607-937-5419 Church Fax: 607-937-9731 Church Hours:

9:00a.m. - 12:00p.m. & 1:00p.m. - 3:00p.m. Church email: office@corningpresby.org Web: www.corningpresby.org



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Corning, New York

God has not left himself without a witness in doing goodgiving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, and filling you with food and your hearts with joy. Acts 14:17

September 23, 2018

Blessing of the Animals

10:30 a.m.

# THE ORDER OF PUBLIC WORSHIP OF ALMIGHTY GOD

**PRELUDE** 

INTROIT "Oh, a Song Must Rise"

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS