



The Feast of St. Francis

A FEW THINGS ABOUT TODAY'S LITURGY

THE COMMON CUP RETURNS

Today, after more than two-and-a-half years without sharing one common chalice as a St. Francis community, we will share a common cup. This is a moment to rejoice.

The Bishop has offered new guidance for reception of the cup: some based on theology and some based on biology. Theologically, the Bishop has discontinued the use of small, single-serve cups in the diocese of Missouri. The Bishop writes, "The use of individual containers for the distribution of the consecrated wine was an intermediate step toward the restoration of the common cup." We use one cup because we are one Body in Christ. At St. Francis, we also receive from one loaf instead of receiving individual wafers. This is the theological reason for the return to one cup. For reasons of biology, the Bishop has expressly forbidden self-intinction (a congregant taking the bread and dipping it into the chalice). In an email to me, the Bishop said, forbidding self-intinction, "was a purely scientific decision. A recent study has reaffirmed that many hands in the chalice are a prescription for the spread of disease and pathogens. The fewer hands in the chalice the better. Either the Presider or the Chalice Bearer should hand sanitize and dip the consecrated host into the wine and place it in the hands of the communicant." This Sunday, as required by the Bishop, we will begin to follow these new directives. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to Laurie+.

A LITTLE ABOUT OUR PATRON, ST. FRANCIS

St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and ecology, was born in Italy around 1181-1182.

After a wild youth and a brief career as a soldier, Francis had a conversion experience that inspired him to renounce his family's wealth and devote his life to God. His dedication to poverty, humility, obedience, patience, and compassion soon attracted followers and, in 1209, he received permission from Pope Innocent III to form a new religious order known as the Friars Minor (commonly called the Franciscans).

Francis' deep love of God overflowed into love for all God's creatures—expressed not only in his tender care of lepers and his (unsuccessful) attempt to negotiate peace between Muslims and Christians during the fifth Crusade, but also in his prayers of thanksgiving for creation, his sermons preached to animals and his insistence that all creatures are brothers and sisters under God.

In 1224, Francis became the first saint in history to receive the stigmata (the wounds of Christ crucified). On October 4, 1226, Francis died in the town of Assisi and was quickly canonized by Pope Gregory IX. Today, over three million people a year make a pilgrimage to the tomb of St. Francis, revealing him to be one of the most popular and beloved saints of all time.

THE BULLETIN COVER ART

Jen Norton via FineArtAmerica.com

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

WE SING OF THE SAINTS

MHSO 118



1 We sing of the saints filled with Spir - it and grace, blest
 2 See verse below
 3 We, too, have been cho - sen to fol - low the way of
 wom - en and men through all time, from each place. God
 good - ness and truth in our stud - y and play, we
 chose them, the ho - ly, the hum - ble, the wise to
 raise up our song, liv - ing saints here be - low, with
 spread the Good News of sal - va - tion in Christ.
 heav - en - ly saints, as our praise ev - er flows.

Verse 2:

Saint Francis was born a rich, noble young man,
 but God had in mind a much different plan;
 so Francis left status and money behind,
 to help many people God's true will to find.

OPENING ACCLAMATIONS *Standing*

Presider Blessed be the one, holy and living God.
 People Glory to God forever and ever.

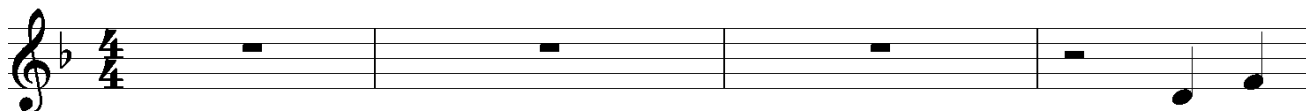
COLLECT FOR PURITY

Presider Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may truly love you, and worthily praise your holy name; through our Savior Jesus Christ.

People Amen.

GLORIA

LEVAS 243



Glo - ry,



Glo-ry, hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name, — Glo-ry,



Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name. —



1. Glo-ry to God — in the high-est, and peace to His peo - ple on earth. —



2. Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - mighty God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, — we give you thanks, — we praise you for — your glo-ry.



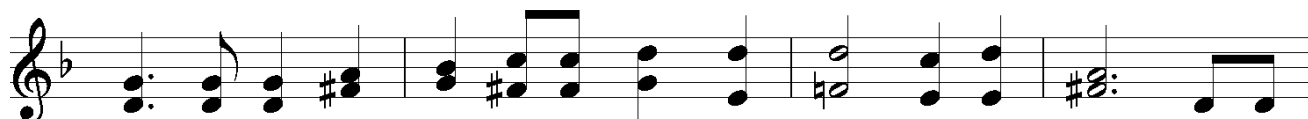
3. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, Glo-ry,



Glo-ry, hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name, — Glo-ry,



Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name. 4. You



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us, 5. You are



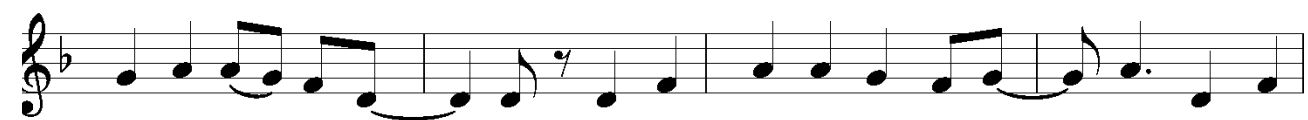
seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive_ our_ prayer. 6. For



you a - lone_ are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are_ the Lord,



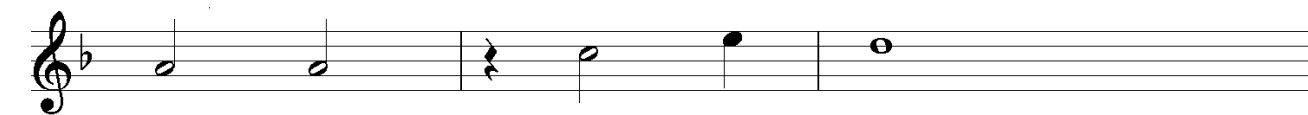
7. You a - lone_ are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it, in the



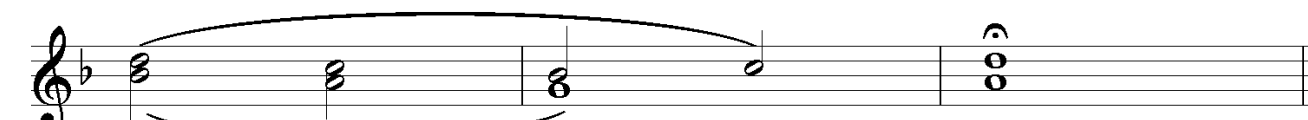
glo-ry of the Fa - ther. Glo-ry, Glo-ry, hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we



praise your Ho - ly name, Glo-ry, Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we



Praise your Ho - ly name.



A - men.

THE COLLECT OF ST. FRANCIS

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

God of radiance and goodness, 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. We ask this in Jesus' name.

People **Amen.**

WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES *Seated*

THE FIRST LESSON: THE CREATION STORY

Reader A reading from the Book of Genesis. abbreviated from 1:1-34

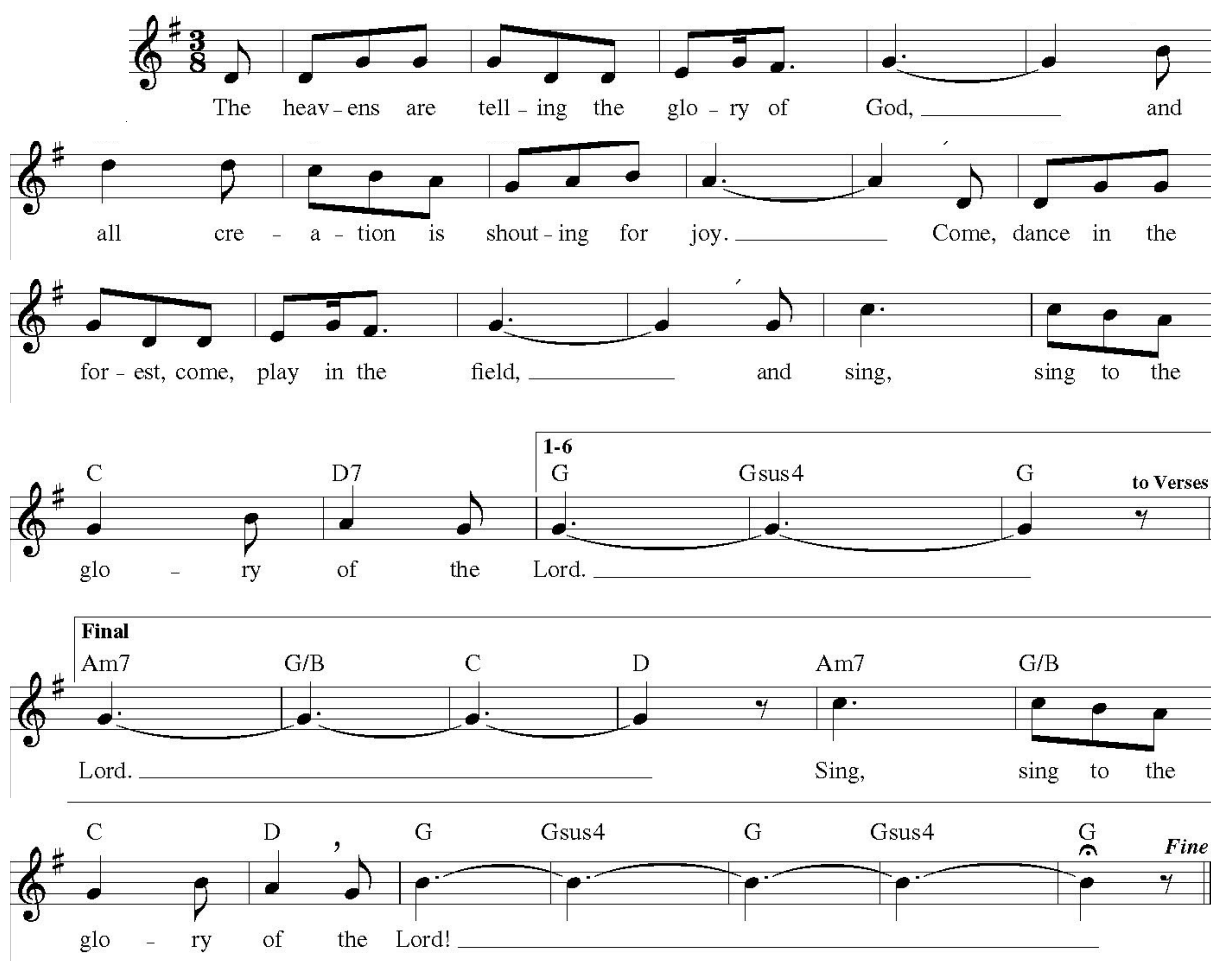
In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and a great dimness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. On the first day, God created light and darkness. On the second day, God created the sky above and the waters below. On the third day, God formed the land and called it Earth, and gathered the water and called it Sea. God blessed the earth with vegetation and food. On the fourth day, God separated the day from the night, creating the sun, the moon, and the stars. On the fifth day, God brought forth swarms of living creatures in the air, in the water, and on the land, and God bid them to be fruitful and multiply. On the sixth day, God created humankind in God's image, giving them dominion over the animals. God blessed them and bid them to be fruitful and multiply. On the seventh day, God saw that everything that God had made was very good and God rested and blessed the seventh day and made it sacred.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL SEQUENCE HYMN THE CANTICLE OF THE SUN

We sing 4 verses of this hymn now and the final two verses after the gospel reading.



The heav-ens are tell-ing the glo-ry of God, _____ and
all cre-a-tion is shout-ing for joy. _____ Come, dance in the
for-est, come, play in the field, _____ and sing, sing to the
glo-ry of the Lord. _____ **1-6** G Gsus4 G to Verses
Final Am7 G/B C D Am7 G/B
Lord. _____ Sing, sing to the
C D G Gsus4 G Gsus4 G **Fine**
glo-ry of the Lord! _____

VERSES:



1. Praise for the sun, the bring-er of day, he car-ries the
2. Praise for the wind that blows through the trees, the seas' might-y
3. Praise for the rain that wa-ters our fields, and bless-es our
4. Praise for the fire who gives us his light, the warmth of the
5. Praise for the earth who makes life to grow, the crea-tures you
6. Praise for our death that makes our life real, the know-ledge of
1. light of the Lord in his rays; the moon and the stars who
2. storms, the gen-tl-est breeze; they blow where they will, they
3. crops so all the earth yields; from death un-to life her
4. sun to bright-en our night; he danc-es with joy, his
5. made to let your life show; the flow-ers and trees that
6. loss that helps us to feel; the gift of your-self, your
1. light up the way un-to your throne. _____ **D.C.**
2. blow where they please to please the Lord. _____
3. mys-t'ry re-vealed springs forth in joy. _____
4. spir-it so bright, he sings of you. _____
5. help us to know the heart of love. _____
6. pres-ence re-vealed to bring us home. _____

THE GOSPEL

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. 11:25-30

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, God of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, God, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Creator; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal God. 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, 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.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

GOSPEL SEQUENCE HYMN CANTICLE OF THE SUN

We sing verses 5 and 6 from page 7.

SERMON

THE REV. LAURIE ANZILOTTI

After the sermon, silence is kept for a time.

THE NICENE CREED *Stand*

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
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 from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary
and was made 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 at the right hand of the Father.
 He will 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.
 With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
 He 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Presider As a gathered community of God's people, let us offer our thanksgiving for God's abundant creation and God's Spirit present in the world, responding with "***We thank you, Lord.***"

After each prayer, all say, "We thank you, Lord."

Reader Let us give thanks to God our Creator for all the gifts so freely bestowed upon us and for the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea;

People **We thank you, Lord.**

Reader For the richness of the mountains, plains and rivers;

People **We thank you, Lord.**

Reader For all creatures that breathe, and move, and have life;

People **We thank you, Lord.**

Reader For the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers and trees;

People **We thank you, Lord.**

Reader For the trust you have shown in giving into our care the natural world and particularly for our pets; help us to be good stewards of your creation .

People **We thank you, Lord.**

Reader For all that is gracious in the lives of humankind; for the care, concern and healing power that you bring into our lives God. We pray that you be especially present to Roger, Paul, Mary, Max, Bob, Becky, Ann, Justin, Evy, Chuck, Chris, Bill, Ellen, Charley, John, Sue, Jerry, Tim, Ernie, Brenda, Mike, Sylvia, Kathleen, Doris, Wade, Maxine, Charles, David, Stahl

family, Jenni, Montie, and Tyler. We pray also for those impacted by Hurricanes Fiona and Ian, especially in our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, Ukraine and its people, and the women of Iran .

People **We thank you, Lord.**

Reader For life eternal which you promise to those who have ended their earthly journey. We pray especially for Terry, Mary, and Joe.

People **We thank you, Lord.**

Presider God of abundance, may we continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your creation;

People **To the honor and glory of your name, now and forever. Amen.**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

People **Let us confess our sins to God.**

Silence is kept for a time.

Presider and People

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love,
and serve only your will. Amen.**

Presider Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

People **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

We invite you to extend the peace of God to those in the congregation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *Sit*

BIRTHDAY BLESSING

Presider Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

GATHERING AT CHRIST'S TABLE

We return with thanksgiving the gifts God has given us. This includes bread and wine of the earth and financial offerings from our labor. Representatives of the congregation bring these to the common Eucharistic table.

OFFERTORY

ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL

H 405

Refrain



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell



Repeat Refrain

he made their glow-ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky,
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

DOXOLOGY

The following is sung as ushers present the offerings. Please stand.

H 380

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above you heavenly host:
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

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

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Presider 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.

People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Presider 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.

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

Presider 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 people.

People **By his blood, he reconciled us.**

By his wounds, we are healed.

Presider:

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:

SANCTUS

LEVAS 255

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly

ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Heav-en and earth are filled with your glo -

ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless-ed is He who comes in the name

of the Lord, of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high -

est, ho - san - na in the high - est

Presider

And so, God of radiance, 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."

Presider Remembering now his work of redemption and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

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

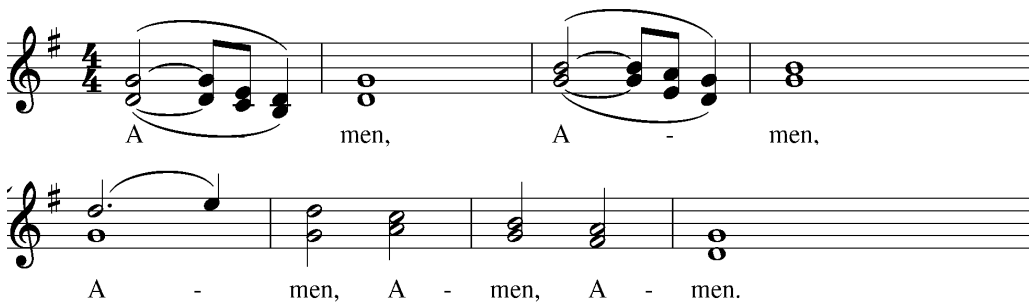
Presider Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. 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.

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

Presider 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

LEVAS 233



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People **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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.**

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Presider Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

FRACTION ANTHEM

LEVAS 269

Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: grant us peace.

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Our bread is gluten-, dairy- and nut-free. This Eucharistic table does not belong to the Episcopal Church or to St. Francis'. This is God's table, and all are welcome. In the Episcopal Church, we receive both the bread and wine, the Body and Blood of Jesus. If you choose not to receive communion, please come forward and cross your arms over your heart to receive a blessing.



1. Why should I feel dis - cour - aged, — Why should the shad - ows come, —
2. "Let not your heart be trou - bled," — His ten - der word I hear, —
3. When ev - er I am tempt - ed, — When ev - er clouds a - rise, —



1. Why should my heart be lone - ly, — And long for heav'n and home; — When
2. And rest - ing on His good - ness, — I lose my doubts and fears; — Though
3. When songs give place to sigh - ing, — When hope with - in me dies, — I



1. Je - sus is — my por - tion? — My con - stant friend — is He: — His
2. by the path — He lead - eth, — But one step I — may see; — His
3. draw the clos - er to Him, — From care He sets — me free; — His



eye is on — the spar - row, — And I know He watch - es me; — His



eye is on the spar - row, — and I know He watch - es me. — I



sing be - cause I'm hap - py, — I sing be - cause I'm free; — For His



eye is on the spar - row, — And I know He watch - es me. —

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After all have received communion the Presider says

Presider Let us pray.

People Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING

Presider May the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord have compassion on you! May God give you peace! And the blessing of God Almighty, Parent, Child, and Holy Spirit, be with you now and always.

People Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

H 400



1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us
*2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -
*3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to
4 Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our



1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing
2 loft, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing
3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -
4 way, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and



1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,
2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,
3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,
4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:

Refrain



O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

DISMISSAL

Presider Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

ARR. LARRY SHACKLEY



Following the service, please bring your pet from a blessing from Laurie+ and stay to enjoy lunch.

THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Presider May you be blessed in the Name of God, the Creator, Redeemer and of the Sustainer.
May you and your human enjoy life together and find joy with the God who created you.

People **Amen.**

A PRAYER FOR ST. FRANCIS

St. Francis, you loved all created things,
calling them your brothers and sisters.

You have been named the patron of the environment.

Help me follow your example
of respecting and caring for all of creation,
for our air,
water,
forests and
all creatures,
particularly for our pets.

Watch over our world, St. Francis, and
help me to care for all living things.

*Submitted by parishioner Doris Schneider, who advised and supported the development of today's
liturgy and animal blessing program*