

heaven and earth.

People Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.

Celebrant and People
Holy, 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.

Celebrant Holy and Gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

People He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

Celebrant On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said,

People “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Celebrant After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said.

People “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.”

Celebrant Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

People Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Celebrant Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

People Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace;

Celebrant And at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

People and Celebrant
All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN,

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

People and Celebrant
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, forever and ever. Amen.

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

Then may be sung or said

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.
Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God. The holy for the holy.

After Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.
Celebrant and People
Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me 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; and 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.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn *All creatures of our God and King*

1. All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voices, let us sing: Alleluia, alleluia! Bright burning sun with golden beams, pale silver moon that gently gleams, *to refrain*

2. Great rushing winds and breezes soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a loft, O praise him, Alleluia! Fair rising morn, with praise rejoice, stars nightly singing, find a voice, *to refrain*

3. Swift flowing water, pure and clear, make music for your Lord to hear, O praise him, Alleluia! Fair rising morn, with praise rejoice, stars nightly shining, find a voice, *to refrain*

Refrain O praise him O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

WE ARE SENT FORTH

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God.



Van Gogh 1888

A VINEYARD

GRACE CHURCH

4 October 2026

The Blessing of the Animals and Holy Eucharist
10:30 a.m. Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

We Gather

Welcome to Grace!

Opening Hymn All things bright and beautiful

Refrain:

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

- 1 Each little flow’r that opens, each little bird that sings, He made their growing colors, He made their tiny wings. [Refrain]
- 2 The purple-headed mountain, the river running by, the sunset and the morning that brightens up the sky. [Refrain]
- 3 The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the garden: He made them ev’ry one. [Refrain]
- 4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God Al-mighty, who has made all things well. [Refrain]

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Je-sus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

WE LISTEN

First Reading - Read in Unison - Canticle of Brother Sun
Most High, all powerful, good Lord, to you be praise, glory, honor, and all blessings.
Only to you, Most High, do they belong and no one is worthy to call upon your name.
May you be praised, my Lord, with all your creatures, especially brother sun, through whom you lighten the day for us.
He is beautiful and radiant with great splendor, and he signifies you, O Most High.
Be praised, my Lord, for brother wind and by air and clouds, clear skies and all weathers, by which you give sustenance to your creatures,
Be praised, my Lord, for brother fire, by whom the night is illumined for us; he is beautiful and cheerful, full of power and strength.
Be praised, my Lord, for sister, our mother earth, who sustains and governs us and produces diverse fruits and colored flowers and grass.
Be praised, my Lord, by all those who forgive for love of you and bear weakness and tribulation.
Blessed are those who endure in peace; for by you Most High, they will be crowned.

Be praised, my Lord, for our sister, the death of the body, from whom no one living is able to flee; woe to those who are dying in mortal sin.
Blessed are those found doing your most holy will, for the second death will do them no harm.
Praise and bless my Lord and give him thanks and serve him with great humility.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:33-46

Jesus said, “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they re-alized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Sermon and the Blessing of the Animals The Rev. Jack Hardaway

WE RESPOND

The Prayers of the People

Prayers for God’s Creation and God’s Creatures

Celebrant God the Creator of all: that all your creatures may thank you and serve you,
People We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.
Celebrant That it may please you to open our eyes to the joy and beauty of your creation, and to see your presence in all your works,
People We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

Celebrant care That it may please you to look with favor upon all who for the earth, the water, and the air so the riches of your creation may abound for all your creatures, from age to age,
People We beseech you to hear, us, good Lord.
Celebrant That it may please you to make us faithful stewards of your creatures, caring for the earth, air, seas, and all the creatures who live in them,
People We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.
Celebrant That it may please you to make us aware of our responsibility to all your creatures and to be faithful in caring for them,
People We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.
Celebrant That it may please you to forgive our waste and pollution of your creation and to strengthen us to heal its wounds,
People We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.
Celebrant That it may please you to remember all animals in captivity and those who are hunted, trapped, deserted, abused, or exploited, so that by our actions they may find safety and homes of loving care,
People We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.
Celebrant That it may please you to remember those animals who have died yet remain special or dear to us, that they may rejoice in the new creation of your kingdom.
People We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.
Celebrant Let us name with thanksgiving those animals who have companioned us over the years, and who have died: _____.
And let us remember in silence the unnamed, unknown animals whose lives have benefited our own.
Silence
Celebrant Holy God: No sparrow falls without your attention; nothing dies that is lost to your remembrance; nothing exists that comes into being without your love. Give us just and compassionate hearts, that we may serve your will for creation, holding the vision of your Peaceable reign in which all shall live with you eternally, through the Risen One, Christ our Savior.

The Peace Announcements
Offertory

All Things Bright and Beautiful
Sung by Bella Fullerton

WE OFFER UP

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give him thanks and praise.
Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful things, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of