

# Animal Blessing Service September 21, 2025

This is a service for all ages – and all beings. Everyone is encouraged to stay in The Commons for the service. We have fidget toys and art materials for all. The nursery is open to care for our youngest children if that is the best fit for them.

### **Gathering of Community**

Music for Gathering

Opening Words Rev. Rachel Lonberg
Words of Welcome Donna McClurkan
Announcements Rev. Rachel Lonberg
Introit 'Morning Has Broken' (#38)

Jennifer Drake & Savannah Ramsey

Chalice Lighting Donna McClurkan

If you are lighting a chalice on Zoom, you are encouraged to type in the chat box 'A chalice is lit in (your neighborhood/city/street).'

Words: 'All Animal Chalice' by Mark Causey

## **Affirming our Connections**

Story for All Daddy Lion's Tea Party by Mark Sperring

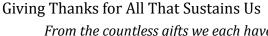
Joe Tourtois

Offering Rev. Rachel Lonberg

Support the good and important work of People's Church:

www.tinyurl.com/givingtopeoples

Offertory 'All God's Critters' (Staines) People's Singers



Donna McClurkan

From the countless gifts we each have been given, gifts of life and love and sustenance, we bring these small portions to share in the works of love which none of us can accomplish alone.

### **Blessing the Animals**

Readings 'God went to India' by Cynthia Rylant from *Queer Ducks (and Other Animals)* by Eliot Schrefer from *Gilead* by Marilynn Robinson

**Animal Blessing Ritual** 

You are invited to bring your animals forward along the side aisles for a blessing.

A Time for Mourning and Grief

Diane Melvin,

**Director of Religious Education** 

Candles of Grief

You are invited to light a candle in honor of a beloved animal that has died or animals that are suffering or type a candle request in the Zoom chat.

Music Jennifer Drake
Responsive Reading 'We Bless These Animals We Love'
By Christine Robinson, adapted

Congregational Response: 'We Offer Our Blessing'

## **Cultivating Community**

Song 'The Lone, Wild Bird' (#15)

Joys and Sorrows

#### **Returning to the World**

Closing song 'What Does the Fox Say?' by Ylvis
Closing words Rev. Rachel Lonberg

Postlude



https://forms.gle/jqTX mMiVzA6qNouP8 Religious Education for children and youth begins next week!

Register today!