

# BRENTOR CHURCH

*Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2023*

## *Animal Blessing Service*

*Third Sunday of Lent  
Led by Sally and Christopher Pancheri*



We warmly welcome everyone joining our service  
All children (quiet or noisy) are welcome to church, toys are at the back,  
and parents, please don't worry about them!

*Welcome*

## Let's sing a song... *Morning Has Broken*

### Let's say sorry to God

God called us in the beginning to be stewards of his creation, caring for and nurturing the world he made. As we come to ask for God's blessing on our pets, we first ask for forgiveness for the times we have not made the best use of his blessings and gifts.

When we have forgotten you

Lord have mercy

**Lord have mercy**

When we take for granted the gifts you give

Christ have mercy

**Christ have mercy**

When our love is selfish

Lord have mercy

**Lord have mercy**

### Minister...

May the God of Earth and Heaven

Cleanse us of all sin and draw us to his wonderful light.

**Amen.**

### We say together....

O God, you have made us and all living things to form your family on earth. We thank you for all the animals of the land and creatures of the sea and birds of the air. We thank you for the joy they give us. Dear God, just as you care for us, we also ask that we might take care of those who trust us to look after them. By doing this, we share in your own love for all creation.

We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord.

**Amen.**

We listen to the Bible...

### **Genesis 1. 24-31**

<sup>24</sup>Then God said, “Let the earth produce every sort of animal, each producing offspring of the same kind—livestock, small animals that scurry along the ground, and wild animals.” And that is what happened.

<sup>25</sup>God made all sorts of wild animals, livestock, and small animals, each able to produce offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup>Then God said, “Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground.”

<sup>27</sup>So God created human beings in his own image.

In the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup>Then God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground.”

<sup>29</sup>Then God said, “Look! I have given you every seed-bearing plant throughout the earth and all the fruit trees for your food. <sup>30</sup>And I have given every green plant as food for all the wild animals, the birds in the sky, and the small animals that scurry along the ground—everything that has life.” And that is what happened.

<sup>31</sup>Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good! And evening passed and morning came, marking the sixth day.

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**All Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 104. 10-25**

<sup>10</sup>You make springs pour water into the ravines,  
so streams gush down from the mountains.

<sup>11</sup>**They provide water for all the animals,  
and the wild donkeys quench their thirst.**

<sup>12</sup>The birds nest beside the streams

and sing among the branches of the trees.

**13 You send rain on the mountains from your heavenly home,  
and you fill the earth with the fruit of your labour.**

**14** You cause grass to grow for the livestock  
and plants for people to use.

You allow them to produce food from the earth—

**15 wine to make them glad,**

**olive oil to soothe their skin,**

**and bread to give them strength.**

**16** The trees of the LORD are well cared for—  
the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.

**17 There the birds make their nests,**

**and the storks make their homes in the cypresses.**

**18** High in the mountains live the wild goats,  
and the rocks form a refuge for the hyraxes.

**19 You made the moon to mark the seasons,  
and the sun knows when to set.**

**20** You send the darkness, and it becomes night,  
when all the forest animals prowl about.

**21 Then the young lions roar for their prey,  
stalking the food provided by God.**

**22** At dawn they slink back  
into their dens to rest.

**23 Then people go off to their work,  
where they labour until evening.**

**24** O LORD, what a variety of things you have made!  
In wisdom you have made them all.  
The earth is full of your creatures.

**25 Here is the ocean, vast and wide,  
teeming with life of every kind,  
both large and small.**

Let's sing .... *The Animals Go in Two by Two.*

## *Short Talk*

Let's sing ... *If I Were a Butterfly*

**We affirm our faith**

**We love because we are loved**

**We believe because God made us.**

**We have hope because God's promises are true.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
Source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
Who took our human nature,  
Died for us and rose again?

**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
Who gives life to the people of God  
And makes Christ known to the world?

**We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the church

**This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

**Amen.**

**Let's share the peace...**

God gave our first parents the animals when creation lived in peace. We are called to be the peacemakers, with each other and to the whole of his creation. In Christ's name let's share the peace.

**Pets and Owners blessed**

Let us pray together... **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

**Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.**

**Amen.**

Let's sing together... *All things bright and beautiful*

### **Blessing**

May the God of all creation, who created the animals of this earth to support us, continue to protect and sustain us with the grace his blessing brings, and may the blessing of Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you remain with you always.

**Amen.**



**Please pray for all who are ill or anxious at home or in hospital, and those who have asked for our prayers:** Lin Bristow, Peter and Carol Cameron, Dave, Becky, Alex, Shirley, Brian, Archie, Julia Whitcomb, Val, Greg, Steve, Millie, Zach, Diana, Matt and Sally.

**Please pray** for the souls of the recently departed, their family and friends.

**Your prayers this week are asked for:**

**Mon** Continuing prayers for those suffering still, in the Ukraine.

**Tues** On Young Carers Action Day, we pray for young carers in our communities.

**Wed** Farmers working through the lambing season.

**Thu** Emergency services working to keep us safe.

**Fri** On Red Nose Day, we give thanks for the difference Comic Relief is making, as it aims to tackle poverty around the world.

**Sat** During this season of Lent, strengthen us in in our prayers.

**Next Sunday**

**10am-** At Christ Church- Mothering Sunday with Wendy Roderick and Liz Bastin

Please also continue enjoying our Services online see the website -  
[brentorchurch.org.uk](http://brentorchurch.org.uk)

***Donations to support the upkeep of the building and the work of the church are welcome. If you would like to make a regular donation, please contact either David or Helen Harris about the Parish Giving Scheme.***

