

And if I were an octopus,
I'd thank you Lord, for my fine looks,
But I just thank you, Father,
For making me 'me'.

Chorus

3. If I were a wiggly worm,
I'd thank you, Lord, that I could squirm,
And if I were a billy-goat,
I'd thank you, Lord, for my strong throat,
And if I were a fuzzy-wuzzy bear,
I'd thank you, Lord, for my fuzzy-wuzzy hair,
But I just thank you, Father,
For making me 'me'.

Chorus

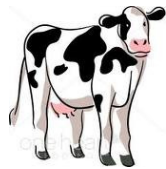


Words and Music by Brian M. Howard
1979, 2002 Mission Hills Music
All rights reserved. (BMI)
International copyright secured.
Covenant Songs

Prayer at the end of the service

May God, who clothes the wattle and feeds the birds of the sky, who leads the lambs to pasture and the animals of the bush to water, who multiplied loaves and fishes and changed water into wine, lead us, feed us, multiply us, and change us to reflect the glory of our Creator now and through all eternity; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Please stay for lunch in the Hall.
All very welcome – pets included!**



St Matthew's Anglican Church Services: Sunday 8am & 10am, Wednesday 10am

St Matthew's Parish Office: 161 Park Road, Cheltenham, 3192

Phone: 9583 2205

Website: www.stmatthewscheltenham.org.au

Email: stmatthewsanglicanchurch@bigpond.com

Parish Office Hours: Wed: 9am – 4pm, Thurs: 9am – 4pm, Fri: 9am – 4pm



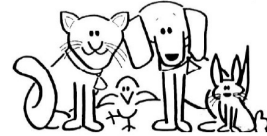
St Matthew's Anglican Church, Cheltenham

Blessing of the Animals

Welcome to all pets and their owners!



Lunch in the Hall follows the service.
Everyone (and their pets!)
welcome!



Hymn: All creatures of our God and King

- All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluya, Alleluya!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam:

Refrain:

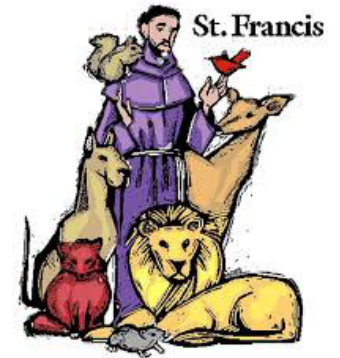
*O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya!*

- Dear mother earth, who day by day
Unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise him, Alleluya!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
Let them his glory also show:

Refrain

- Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, Alleluya!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, three in One:

Refrain



Words: St Francis of Assisi 1182-1226
Tr William Draper 1855-1932
The New English Hymnal

Circle of Praise – A Version of Psalm 148

All cats and dogs, large and small:

Praise the Lord!

All rabbits, chickens and guinea pigs:

Praise the Lord!

All creatures of the waters, whales, dolphins and the corals of the sea:

Praise the Lord!

All of the winged ones, lorikeets, wrens, cormorants and singing birds:

Praise the Lord!

All kangaroos, koalas, platypus and wombats:

Praise the Lord!

All horses, cows, pigs, sheep and goats:

Praise the Lord!

All crocodiles, lizards, snakes and bees:

Praise the Lord!

Every animal in the sky, in the sea, desert and the bush:

Praise the Lord!

Silence (we will excuse the animals!)

A Blessing for all animals

Loving Father, bless our cats and dogs and ferrets and guinea pigs and all the domesticated inhabitants of our homes. For all farm animals: cows and pigs, sheep and goats, we thank you who made them for our benefit. For all circus and zoo animals: for lions and tigers and elephants who give us so much pleasure, we thank you and ask that they be cared for properly. For all the birds and bees and the small ones who scamper about in our back yards and gardens, and who give daily expressions to the depth of your creation, we thank you and ask that they live in peace with us and their neighbours. **Amen.**

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace;

Where there is hatred, let me sow love.

Where there is injury, pardon.

Where there is discord, unity.

Where there is doubt, faith.

Where there is despair, hope.

Where there is darkness, light.

Where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master,

Grant that I 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.

Source unknown
Attributed to Francis of Assisi 1181-1226

A general Blessing for pets

Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. On the fifth and sixth days of creation, you called forth fish in the sea, birds to the air, and animals on the land. You inspired Francis of Assisi to call all animals his brothers and sisters. We ask you to bless these animals, and by the power of your love, enable them to live according to your plan. May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation. Blessed are you, Lord our God, in all your creatures. **Amen.**

For those who would like it, please come to the front for an individual pet blessing

Hymn: If I were a butterfly

1. If I were a butterfly,
I'd thank you, Lord, for giving me wings,
And if I were a robin in a tree,
I'd thank you Lord that I could sing
And if I were a fish in the sea,
I'd wiggle my tail and I'd giggle with glee,
But I just thank you, Father,
For making me 'me'.

Chorus:

For you gave me a heart

And you gave me a smile,

You gave me Jesus

And you made me your child.

And I just thank you, Father,

For making me 'me'.

2. If I were an elephant,
I'd thank you, Lord by raising my trunk.
And if I were a kangaroo,
You know I'd hop right up to you,

