

THE  
**Blessing of  
the Animals**



SUNDAY  
**2 OCTOBER**



For the safety of animals and the comfort of others please ensure all dogs and larger animals are on a lead, smaller animals protected in a cage, with humans carrying paper towels and plastic bags in case of accidents.

As you entered you would have been invited to make a donation to Mobility Dogs or scan this QR code to donate:



Thank you for your generosity.

There is a fundraising sausage sizzle in the carpark following the service.

---

## **ORGANIST**

Matthew Howes

## **CLERGY**

Rev Cate Thorn  
Rev Linda Murphy  
Rev Wilf Holt

## WELCOME

Rev Cate Thorn, Priest for Community Engagement

## HYMN

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

The wildflowers in their beauty, the mountain ranges tall,  
the deep pools and the rivers, and friendly birds that call.

***All things bright and beautiful...***

**The tow'ring cliffs and gorges, the kauri green and tall,  
the rocks, pohutukawa, the sparkling waterfall.**

***All things bright and beautiful...***

The many coloured coastline, the creatures of the sea,  
of forest, field or desert, on farms, or roaming free.

***All things bright and beautiful...***

God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell  
how great is God Creator who does make all things well.

***All things bright and beautiful...***

## READING

*Do Dogs go to Heaven?* by Joy Cowley  
Read by Jaxon Croft

## CANDLE OF REMEMBRANCE

In thanksgiving for loved animals who have died in the past year.

## ADDRESS

*Jody Wilson, General Manager Mobility Dogs*

## SONG

If I were a butterfly I'd thank you, God, for giving me wings  
And if I were a robin in a tree  
I'd thank you, God, 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 God for making me “me”.

If I were an elephant I'd thank you, God, by raising my trunk  
And if I were a kangaroo you know I'd hop right up to you  
And if I were an octopus I'd thank you, God, for my fine looks  
But I just thank you God for making me “me”.

If I were a wiggly worm  
I'd thank you, God, that I could squirm  
And if I were a crocodile I'd thank you God for my big smile  
And if I were a fuzzy-wuzzy bear  
I'd thank you God for my fuzzy-wuzzy hair  
But I just thank you God for making me “me”.

## STORIES

*Veronica Garcia Gil - Senior Trainer (Waikato Region)*

*Linda-Lee Odom & Darby (her dog) - Mobility Dog Client*

## PRAYERS FOR THE ANIMALS

*Read by Jaxon Croft & Katya Garcia Gil*

## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Blessed are you, Creator God, maker of all living creatures.  
On the fifth and sixth days of creation you called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land. You inspired St Francis to call all animals his brothers and sisters.  
We ask you to bless these animals. By the power of your love, may we always praise you for all your beauty in creation.  
Blessed are you, Creator God, in all your creatures! Amen.

*All animals are now invited to come forward  
and bring their humans with them.*