

Music Box

OCTOBER 9, 2016

Katherine Edison, soprano
Robert Armstead, bass-baritone
Melinda Coffey Armstead, piano & organ

Chapel Concertino for the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)

- How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings (Psalm 84) .. Samuel Liddle (1868-1935)
- Le Coucou..... Marie-Joseph Canteloube (1879-1957)
- Prayers from the Ark..... Theron Kirk (1919-1999)
 - The Prayer of the Elephant
 - The Prayer of the Cat
 - The Prayer of the Butterfly
- Old Mother Hubbard..... Victor Hely-Hutchinson (1901-1947)
- For the Beauty of the Earth..... John Rutter (b. 1945)
- Make Me A Channel of Your Peace words of St. Francis of Assisi
music by Sebastian Temple (1928-1997), arr. by Mark Hayes (b. 1953)
- Invention in A minor J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

My lovely cat, Pounce, died some years ago, unexpectedly, at a too-tender age. I reread my remarks about him from back then and, although it made me cry and miss him even more, it made me laugh too. As this Sunday celebrates St. Francis of Assisi, I reprint this tribute to my unforgettable friend.

I have a (former) tom cat, age about three years, culled from the guest list of the SPCA. He likes people, although he prefers little bits of string. He has an astonishing and endearing capacity for play, abandoning himself to it totally and suddenly, catapulted by the motion or sound of anything, real or imaginary. Intelligence tests are not really his cup of tea, although he stumbles into them in the course of his everyday duties, such as trying and being unable to find the center opening between the sheer curtains when he wants to sit in the window-sill. So from the outside you will sometimes see his face, features squashed like a lunatic bank robber in a nylon stocking, dignity intact. Thus it is easy to track his steady advance from not understanding one thing to not understanding another. But he does excel at relaxation, no surprise since he practices about twenty hours a day, moving between sleep and elegant repose with a soft purr. How he achieves such effortless grace with his cerebral limitations is a profound mystery to a grown-up person with a master's degree, not to name names.

Melinda Coffey Armstead



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Monday morning, October 3, 2016

Dear Members and Friends,

This Sunday we bless pets small and great—from fish to horse and in-between. It's the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, who experienced God in the wonders of animals and nature—our first great nature mystic. Francis himself blessed the animals and taught how we are blessed by their way of revealing God's care and our own humanity.

Jane Goodall, renowned for her study of the social and family interactions of chimpanzees, recounts how she was reprimanded in her student days for ascribing personalities to lab animals. Even worse, she named them! Her supervisors "corrected" her and told her that animals did not possess individual personality traits. But naming them seemed to be the greater crime—it would make the eventual "disposal" of the lab animals difficult for researchers. Goodall was ordered to assign numbers to the animals.

She resisted—every animal was given a "secret" name by her. After euthanizing four laboratory cats, Goodall left the program, repulsed.

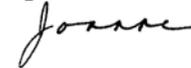
Our Bible and tradition, just like Goodall, insist that we are to name the animals.

"Now out of the ground the Lord God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field." —Genesis 2: 19 - 20

God designed us for collaboration, love and awed admiration for the animal kingdom. It is reverent and natural, therefore, to

bless these animals who enrich our lives. Our worship service will reflect St. Francis's words and spirit. And, following worship, we'll bless our pets outside the Chapel and then, at 11:30 am, at the Pebble Beach Equestrian Center.

See you—and your pets—in church on Sunday!



The Rev. Joanne Swenson, Th.D.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: With sadness at our loss but faith in the resurrection, we share news of the upcoming memorial service for **Mr. Leslie C. Smith**, former member of Church in the Forest, on **October 7, 2016, at 10:30 am** at the Little Chapel by the Sea on Asilomar Blvd in PG.

Virginia Cohon's son, Jim, passed away **Saturday, October 1, 2016**. No service information is available at this time.

We share sorrows, prayers and resurrection faith with **Carol and Jim Sullivan**, at the passing of her brother, the **Rev. Jay Donald Rea**, who was pastor of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Conshohocken, PA for many years.

Calendar

Sunday October 9, 2016—Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
8:30 AM Bible Study in the Multipurpose Room led by the Rev. Ken Feske
Topic: Matthew 11: 28–30
9:15 AM Chapel Concertino
9:30 AM Morning Prayer
Passages Genesis 1:24–31; Psalm 104:10–25; Matthew 11: 28–30
Lector Dennis Riley
Crucifer Judy Fletcher
Flowers Bob & Judy Fletcher,
Cookies JoAnna Sullivan & Paula Beckman
Ushers Jan Stine & Marilyn Gorman
Altar Care Martha Jordan & Sandy Rice
Sermon The Rev. Joanne M. Swenson, Th.D.
Title "The Unburdened Burden"
Sunday, October 9, Blessing of the Animals, following the church service and Fellowship. The Blessing will take place on the grass; then afterwards down at the Equestrian Center. Dr. Rolland will assist Dr. Swenson.