CREATION STAFF FAITH FORMATION

SLIDE 1: GOD'S CREATION (*This slide is meant to be up as people arrive*)

BEGIN

SLIDE 2: POPE FRANCIS QUOTE

From the very beginning Pope Francis in his Inauguration Homily, speaks to us of the importance of our care and love for Christ, others and of creation. He said, `Let us protect Christ in our lives, so that we can protect others, so that we can protect creation!

SLIDE 3: OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: Together let us begin with a sign of our faith †

Please join me in our responsive opening prayer.

LEADER: Blessed be God, Creator, Word and Spirit;

All: Who brings all things into being and calls them good

LEADER: Bless your Creator, all children of God.

All: Let us praise and exalt our Creator together

Leader: Bless your Creator, all birds of the air.

All: Let us praise and exalt our Creator together

Leader: Bless your Creator, all creatures of the sea.

All: Let us praise and exalt our Creator together.

Leader: Bless your Creator all animals of the land.

All: Let us praise and exalt our Creator together.

Leader: Creator God, grant us your grace, that we may always respect your whole creation with great joy.

All: Amen.

SLIDE 4: PSALM 104:10-25

Reader #1 and #2 to read responsively with alternating voices *indicates a change from Reader #1 to Reader #2.

- #1 You, Lord God, send the springs into the valleys; *
- #2 they flow between the mountains.
- #1 All the beasts of the field drink their fill from them, *
- #2 and the wild asses quench their thirst.
- #1 Beside them the birds of the air make their nests *
- #2 and sing among the branches.
- #1 You water the mountains from your dwelling on high; *
- #2 the earth is fully satisfied by the fruit of your works.
- #1 You make grass grow for flocks and herds *
- #2 and plants to serve humankind;
- #1 That they may bring forth food from the earth, *
- #2 and wine to gladden our hearts,
- #1 Oil to make a cheerful countenance, *
- #2 and bread to strengthen the heart.
- #1 The trees of the LORD are full of sap, *
- #2 the cedars of Lebanon which God planted,
- #1 In which the birds build their nests, *
- #2 and in whose tops the stork makes a dwelling.
- #1 The high hills are a refuge for the mountain goats, *
- #2 and the stony cliffs for the rock badgers.
- #1 You appointed the moon to mark the seasons, *
- #2 and the sun knows the time of its setting.

- #1 You make darkness that it may be night, *
- #2 in which all the beasts of the forest prowl.
- #1 The lions roar after their prey *
- #2 and seek their food from God.
- #1 The sun rises, and they slip away *
- #2 and lay themselves down in their dens.
- #1 People go forth to their work *
- #2 and to their labor until the evening.
- #1 O LORD, how manifold are your works! *
- #2 in wisdom you have made them all;
- #2 the earth is full of your creatures.

SLIDE 5: CLOSING PRAYER

LEADER: Please join me in our closing prayer:

ALL: Creator God, let us live without fear:

for our Creator has made us holy,

has always protected us, and loves us.

In God's peace let us always respect one another and all God's creation.

May God bless us always.

Amen †

Reference: http://www.animalliberationfront.com/Practical/Shop--ToDo/Religion/St.%20Francis-%20bless%20animals%20draft2-20-11-2.doc