

Live from St. John's Chapel

A Thursday Evening Prayer Service

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Moment of Silence

Call to Worship

Leader: Though the storm clouds of doubt and fear threaten to overcome us

People: God leads us into ways of peace.

Leader: When the darkness of division and the deep pit of anger reach toward us

People: God lifts and carries us through the darkness with hope and light.

Leader: Lord of hope and life, be with us today.

People: God of mercy and peace, lead our lives. AMEN.

Opening Prayer

All: We sing and speak your praise, O God, grateful for the many ways in which you have healed us. Keep our hearts, our minds, and our spirits open to learn ways in which we can offer healing love for others. For we ask this in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray...

**Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

Responsive Reading from Scripture (based on Psalm 62)

Leader: For God alone, my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.

People: He alone, is my rock and my salvation, my fortress. I shall not be shaken.

Leader: On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

People: Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him. God is a refuge for us.

Leader: Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this:

People: That power belongs to God, and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord.

Leader: For you repay to all according to their work.

All: For God alone, my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.

Meditation

"Giving Permission to Just Be" - by Rev. Mark Katrick

Prayers of the People

Moment of silence to offer our joys and concerns

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Holy One, We love to say, "I may forgive, but I'll never forget!" And we think that we are truly following the ways of Christ. How blind we are, O Lord. Forgiveness means wiping the slate clean, not retaining the hurt. It works both ways: letting ourselves make a decision for healing and reaching out to the one who has hurt us to offer forgiveness and redemption. None of us is perfect. We know that. But Jesus reminded us that love is the ruling component in lives of faithful living. Help us, O Lord, really receive the love that you have lavished upon us. Help us understand that love as an agent of forgiveness. As we have brought before you the names of people and situations that are on our hearts, we seek your healing mercies and tender love for them. Remind us that the same mercy and love is continually offered to us, though we falter and fail, though we seek and strive. Be with us, gracious Lord, all of our days. AMEN.

Benediction

Leader: As you have been forgiven, now go into a world that needs your forgiving, healing touch. Bring peace and hope to others, sharing God's love with them. AMEN.