

Live from St. John's Chapel – A Thursday Evening Prayer Service

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

Leader: We celebrate the God of infinite power and love, who has called us into community.

People: **We gather with God's people of every age and place who have, by faith, found their true citizenship in heaven.**

Leader: We journey together with hope, knowing that God who has fulfilled every promise in the coming of Jesus Christ will fulfill the promises of kingdom life for us and for all God's children.

People: **Thanks be to God for the faith that makes our life in Christ complete and promises life everlasting to all who believe.**

Invocation or Prayer of Approach

All: **Eternal God, we long for truths that are lasting, yet we want our faith to be alive to the people and problems of today. As we move forward in an ever-changing world, may faith in Christ be our anchor, and your love be our guide through the presence and power of the Spirit. Unite our hearts, even as we unite our voices in your praise, through Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray . . .**

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Litany for the Beginning of the School Year

Leader: Journeying God, as we return to our Fall routines, help us to keep our eyes open to the changes around us, to be open to the new things in life.

People: **As all of God's children begin a new part of their journey away from their supports and comforts of home, give them the knowledge to make sound decisions, the strength to ask for help, and the lightness of heart to enjoy the journey.**

Leader: Knowledgeable God, we have so much to learn about your world, your people and your gifts. Schools are a place where knowledge begins and tools are given to continue that learning. Thank you for teachers, principals and the volunteers who are examples of your Son, who is also a teacher to us.

People: **Give us the eyes to see in the simple, yet extraordinary things of this world, the risen Christ, and help us to be examples of that to one another.**

Leader: Teacher of Wisdom, there is so much we have yet to learn and experience in this world. Help us to keep our eyes, ears and heart open to your teachings and your presence in our lives through the people that we encounter.

People: **For we pray this in Jesus' Name, Amen.**

Meditation

"A reading I did not preach from last Sunday – Jeremiah 1:4-10 by Rev. Mark Katrick

Pastoral Prayer

Benediction

Leader: We have worshipped God together;

People: Now we go our separate ways.

Leader: May the Spirit which has blessed us here

People: Be your spirit in each day that comes! Amen.