

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

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship (Psalm 107, Luke 12)

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

People: God's love and warm embrace last forever.

Leader: When we cry out in distress, the Lord hears our call.

People: Praise the Lord who delivers us from sin and death.

Leader: Christ calls us to clothe ourselves in righteousness.

People: Worship the One who wraps us with justice, and helps us grow in the image of our Creator.

Leader: Love well, for your heart is where your treasure is.

People: May our hearts be filled with God's blessings, divine provisions that meet our true needs.

Opening Prayer (Hosea 11, Psalm 107)

All: Loving and forgiving God, be present with us now, as we offer praise and thanksgiving for the abundance we have received through your grace. You have gathered us in, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south, to be your people. Like a loving parent, you have sustained our needs— sharing your love with us, satisfying our thirst, and filling our hunger with good things. Help us, Lord, to heed your call, that we might find deliverance through Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior, 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.**

Prayer of Confession (Colossians 3, Matthew 12)

**All: Gracious God, in our wanderings and selfish desires:
we have forsaken fellowship with our families, our friends, and our
neighbors; we have neglected our communion with you, choosing
worldly pleasures and desires over truth, justice, and righteousness.
In a world of plenty, we have hoarded our earthly blessings,
rather than storing up our heavenly treasures. Free us from such
bondage, that we may truly reveal the presence of Christ in our lives.
Amen.**

Words of Assurance (Colossians 3)

Leader: In faith, we call out to a loving and forgiving God, seeking to put aside our old life and put on Christ. God surely answers our prayers. In the name of Christ Jesus, our sins are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God.

Prayer Service Meditation

A reading I did not preach on last Sunday – Hosea 11:1-11 – Rev. Mark Katrick

Pastoral Prayer

Benediction

Leader: Happy are those who know real treasure and where to find it.

People: Happy are those who receive God's treasure and share it unselfishly.

Leader: Invest your life and your heart in Christ, just as God has invested Christ in you.

People: Happy are those whose reward is found in heaven, not on earth.

Leader: Go now in the name of Christ, God's ultimate gift of love.

People: Thanks be to God.