

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray together:

God of Wisdom, we thank you for schools and classrooms and for the teachers and students who fill them each day. We thank you for this new beginning, for new books and new ideas. We thank you for sharpened pencils, pointy crayons, and crisp blank pages waiting to be filled. We thank you for the gift of making mistakes and trying again. Today we thank you for these children, and we ask you to bless them with curiosity, understanding and respect. May their backpacks be a sign to them that they have everything they need to learn and grow this year. May they be guided by your love. We ask in the name of Jesus, who as a child showed his longing to learn, and as an adult taught by story and example your great love for us. Amen.