

LIGHT FOR THE JOURNEY

A Candle Prayer Christ Church Cathedral Newcastle

When I was growing up, our family annually camped in bushland near a national park. A favourite game that everyone joined was "Hide-and-seek in the dark". Somehow rainforest shadows were more ominous. The darkness in dense woodland made the unfamiliar noises of the night ever so scary! Our goal was to reach 'home' - a patch of light in the clearing near our tent that was brightly lit by a spotlight – without being tagged by anyone! It was a light that signaled 'safety and 'home'. Jesus used this metaphor of light to describe his presence in the world. In worship we use candles as a symbol of light. Two candles on the altar signify the 2 natures of God. In addition, A Pascal candle provides the source light for other candles lit during worship. Jesus encourages us to think of ourselves as light. Tiny flames of light shining in our word. May our light that shines in the world reflect a sense of God's love and safety; The comfort of 'home'."

Meg Noack

WORDS OF WISDOM

¹⁴You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 5:14-16

A Candle Prayer

Heavenly Father
As I light this candle
May I be reminded of the
Unconditional love and
light of
Jesus Christ.
Who is the savior of the
world.

May your love surround my life,
Circumstances and loved ones today
And bring strength and healing to those for whom I pray.

In this quiet time with you,
May your presence
awaken in me
A deeper understanding of
your unconditional love
And help me to love others
as you love me.

I ask all of this in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen

Reflection Questions

What does light mean to you?

How can we be light in the world today?