



## Litany of Blessing for a New School Year

Minister: God of fresh starts and new beginnings, at the start of a new school year, we bring ourselves, our fears and worries, and our backpacks to you.

Students: *In our backpacks, we carry blank pages, sharpened pencils, and new crayons, and in our hearts, we carry fear of what is unknown, unanswered questions, and hopeful expectations.*

Minister: There are endless possibilities of what this new year might bring—of what we might learn, who we might meet, and who we might become.

People: **God, our friend who is always with us, be with our students and teachers through it all.**

Students: *Be with us as we ride in cars or buses or walk to school.*

People: **Be with them as they buckle seat belts, zip-up jackets, and tie shoes.**

Students: *Be with us as we walk into a new classroom and meet new friends.*

People: **Be with them as they study and play and explore.**

Students: *However we get there, and whatever we wear,*

People: **Bless this journey into something new.**

Minister: For the teachers, staff, and grown-up students going back to school,

People: **God who is with us, be with them too.**

Minister: Thank you for our teachers and helpers, janitors and coaches, librarians and leaders, and for all they do to help students learn and grow.

People: **God, our friend who fills us with wonder, fill their hearts and bless their hands.**

Minister: For all our students, teachers, parents, and all who love them,

All: **Calm their fears, give them courage, help them to give and receive kindness, Fill this school year with the blessings of knowledge and growth, fun and friendship. Amen.**

*Adapted from Illustrated Ministry, Back-to-School Worship Liturgy*  
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