

Compline – the Night Office of Prayer

Preparation

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

All **Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

Most merciful God,
we confess to you,
before the whole company of heaven and one another,
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed
and in what we have failed to do.
Forgive us our sins,
heal us by your Spirit
and raise us to new life in Christ. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

Hymn – *Te Ante Lucis Terminum*



Before the ending of the day,
Creator of the world, we pray
That you, with steadfast love, would keep
Your watch around us while we sleep.

From evil dreams defend our sight,
From fears and terrors of the night;
Tread underfoot our deadly foe
That we no sinful thought may know.

O Father, that we ask be done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son;
And Holy Spirit, by whose breath
Our souls are raised to life from death. Amen.

Scripture

Psalms 124

- 1 If the Lord himself had not been on our side : now may Israel say;
- 2 If the Lord had not been on our side : when enemies rose up
against us;
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us alive : when their anger
burned against us;

- 4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us and the torrent gone over our soul : over our soul would have swept the raging waters.
- 5 But blessed be the Lord : who has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
- 6 Our soul has escaped as a bird from the snare of the fowler : the snare is broken and we are delivered.
- 7 Our help is in the name of the Lord : who has made heaven and earth.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Reading

Who is wise and knowledgeable among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be arrogant and lie about the truth. This is not wisdom that comes down from above but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

From James ch.3

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

I commend my spirit.

Glory to the Father and to the Son

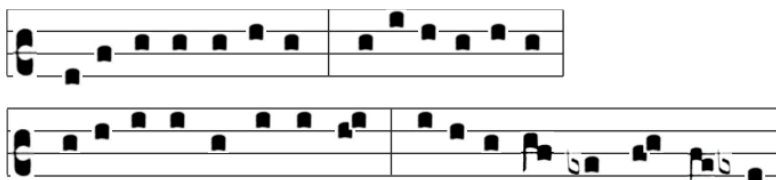
and to the Holy Spirit.

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Keep me as the apple of your eye.

Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Gospel Canticle



Save us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep we may rest in peace.



1 Now, Lord, you let your servant depart in *peace*: ♦
your *word* has been ful_filled.

2 My own eyes have seen the *sal-va-tion* ♦
which you have prepared in the sight of *ev'-ry* people;

3 A light to reveal you to the *Gen-tiles* ♦
and the glory of your *peo-ple* Is-rael.

**Glory to the Father and to the *Son*
and to the *Ho-ly* Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is *now*
and shall be for *e-ver*. Amen.**

**Save us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep we may rest in peace.**

Prayers

Almighty God, by triumphing over the powers of darkness, Christ has prepared a place for us in the new Jerusalem: may we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, come to praise him in the eternal city of which he is the light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Time for spoken or silent prayer follows, concluding with The Lord's Prayer.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name;
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
for the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Conclusion

In peace we will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,
for the night is at hand and the day is now past.

As the night watch looks for the morning,
so do we look for you, O Christ.

Come with the dawning of the day
and make yourself known in the breaking of the bread.

May the risen Lord Jesus watch over us and renew us
as he renews the whole of creation.

May our hearts and lives echo his love.

Amen.