

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.
Alleluia.

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

From Psalm 16

1 Protect me O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the Lord, you are my Lord, my good above all other.

2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land; upon those that are noble among the people.

3 O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

4 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

5 I will bless the Lord, who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night.

6 I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall.

7 My heart, therefore, is glad and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

8 For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.

9 You will show me the path of life, in your presence is the fullness of joy; and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Psalm 134

1 Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, you that by night stand in the house of the Lord.

2 Lift up your hands towards the sanctuary and bless the Lord.

3 The Lord who made heaven and earth give you blessing out of Zion.

**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.**

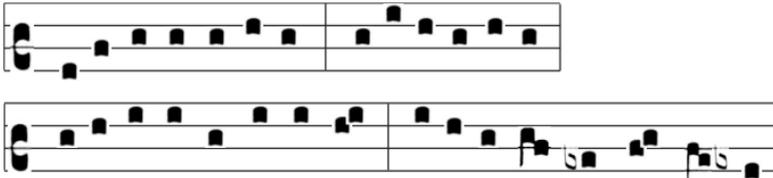
Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, strong in the faith.

(First Letter of St Peter)

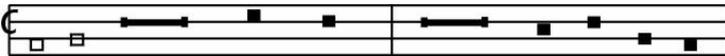
Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
 For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.
I commend my spirit.
 Glory to the Father and to the Son
 and to the Holy Spirit.
Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Keep me as the apple of your eye.
Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Gospel Cantic



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 go in *peace*: ♦
 your *word* has been fulfilled.
- 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 *na-tions* ♦
 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

Lighten our darkness, Lord, we pray,
and in your mercy defend us from all perils
and danger of this night;
for the love of your only Son, 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 it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass 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 living waters of Christ cleanse us,
may the Spirit descend upon us,
and may the blessing of God be with us
this night and always.

Amen.