

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

From Psalm 91

- 1 Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High ♦ and
 abides under the shadow of the Almighty,
- 2 Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold, ♦ my
 God, in whom I put my trust.'
- 3 For he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler ♦ and
 from the deadly pestilence.

- 4 He shall cover you with his wings and you shall be safe under his feathers; ♦ his faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler.
- 5 You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, ♦ nor of the arrow that flies by day;
- 6 Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, ♦ nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday.
- 7 Though a thousand fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand, ♦ yet it shall not come near you.
- 8 Your eyes have only to behold ♦ to see the reward of the wicked.
- 9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge ♦ and the Most High your stronghold,
- 10 There shall no evil happen to you, ♦ neither shall any plague come near your tent.
- 11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, ♦ to keep you in all your ways.
- 12 They shall bear you in their hands, ♦ lest you dash your foot against a stone.
- 13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; ♦ the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.
- 14 Because they have set their love upon me, therefore will I deliver them; ♦ I will lift them up, because they know my name.
- 15 They will call upon me and I will answer them; ♦
I am with them in trouble, I will deliver them and bring them to honour.
- 16 With long life will I satisfy them ♦ and show them my salvation.

**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.**

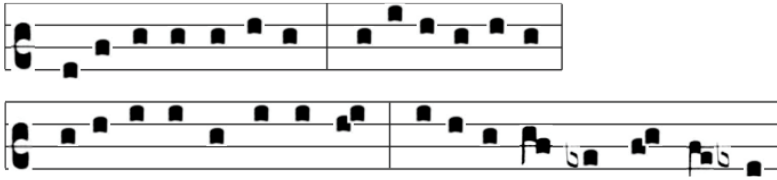
Reading

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labour, and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

From *Romans 8*

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 *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

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.