

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 139

1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me ♦ you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

2 You mark out my journeys and my resting places ♦ and are acquainted with all my ways.

3 For there is not a word on my tongue ♦ but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

4 You encompass me behind and before ◆ and lay your hand upon me.

5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me ◆ so high that I cannot attain it.

6 Where can I go then from your spirit ◆ Or where can I flee from your presence?

7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there ◆ if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

8 If I take the wings of the morning ◆ and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

9 Even there your hand shall lead me ◆ your right hand holds me fast.

10 If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me ◆ and the light around me turn to night,'

11 Even darkness is no darkness with you; the night is as clear as the day ◆ darkness and light to you are both alike.

12 For you yourself created my inmost parts ◆ you knit me together in my mother's womb.

13 I thank you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made ◆ marvellous are your works, my soul knows well.

14 My frame was not hidden from you ◆ when I was made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.

15 Your eyes beheld my form, as yet unfinished ◆ already in your book were all my members written,

16 As day by day they were fashioned ◆ when as yet there was none of them.

17 How deep are your counsels to me, O God ◆ How great is the sum of them!

18 If I count them, they are more in number than the sand ♦
and at the end, I am still in your presence.

23 Search me out, O God, and know my heart ♦ try me and
examine my thoughts.

24 See if there is any way of wickedness in me ♦ and lead me
in the way everlasting.

**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.**

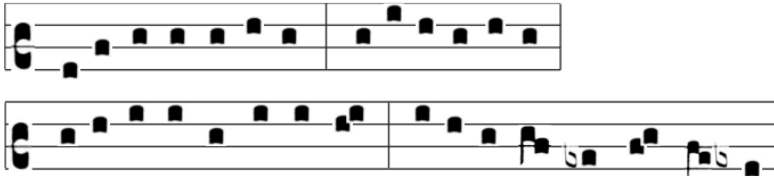
Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of
injustice, to untie the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed
go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread
with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide
yourself from your own kin? *Isaiah 58*

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 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

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent, may we enter deeply into the mystery of Christ's sufferings; that, by following in the way, we may come to share in his glory; 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 God bless us, that in us may be found
love and humility, obedience and thanksgiving,
discipline, gentleness, and peace.
Amen.