

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 31

1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge, let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

2 Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.

3 Be my strong rock, a fortress to save me, for you are my rock and my stronghold; guide me, and lead me for your name's sake.

4 Into your hands I commend my spirit; for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.

5 I will be glad and rejoice in your mercy for you have seen my affliction and known my soul in adversity.

6 But my trust is in you, O Lord; I have said, 'You are my God.

7 'Make your face to shine upon your servant; and save me for your mercy's sake.'

8 How abundant is your goodness, O Lord, which you have laid up for those who fear you; which you have prepared in the sight of all for those who put their trust in you.

9 Blessed be the Lord; For he has shown me his steadfast love when I was as a city besieged.

10 Love the Lord, all you his servants; for the Lord protects the faithful, but repays to the full the proud.

11 Be strong and let your heart take courage; all you who wait in hope for the Lord.

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.

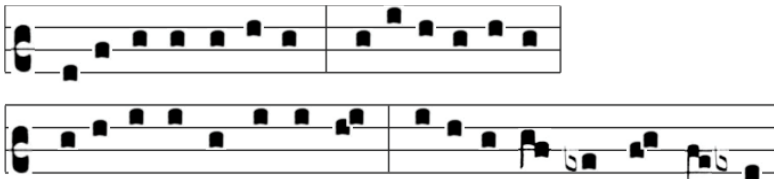
**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Watch, therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning – lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. And what I say to you, I say to all – watch.
(*St Matthew's Gospel*)

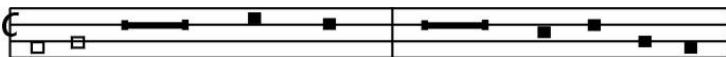
Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.
I commend my spirit.
Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.
Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

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

Look down, O God, from your heavenly throne,
and illuminate the darkness of this night
with your celestial brightness;
and from the children of the light, banish the deeds of
darkness;
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour. **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.

The Lord bless us and watch over us;

the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us;

the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace.

Amen.