

# Compline

*(Night Prayer)*



**FROM ALL SAINTS' DAY UNTIL  
THE FRIDAY BEFORE THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

# Order of Service

## The Preparation

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

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

*A period of silence for reflection on the past day may follow*

*The following or other suitable words of penitence may be used*

Lord, you are gracious and compassionate:  
Lord, have mercy.  
*All*           **Lord, have mercy.**

You are loving to all  
and your mercy is over all your creation:  
Christ, have mercy.  
*All*           **Christ, have mercy.**

Your faithful servants bless your name  
and speak of the glory of your kingdom:  
Lord, have mercy.  
*All*           **Lord, have mercy.**

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

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

## Office Hymn



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.

## The Word of God

### Psalmody

*One or more of the following psalms may be used*

#### Psalm 4

Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness;  
you set me at liberty when I was in trouble;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

*All*      **How long will you nobles dishonour my glory;  
how long will you love vain things and seek after falsehood?**

But know that the Lord has shown me his marvellous kindness;  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

*All*      **Stand in awe, and sin not;  
commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still.**

Offer the sacrifices of righteousness  
and put your trust in the Lord.

*All* **There are many that say, 'Who will show us any good?'  
Lord, lift up the light of your countenance upon us.**

You have put gladness in my heart,  
more than when their corn and wine and oil increase.

*All* **In peace I will lie down and sleep,  
for it is you Lord, only, who make me dwell in safety.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;

*All* **as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

## **Psalm 91**

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High  
and abides under the shadow of the Almighty,

*All* **Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold,  
my God, in whom I put my trust.'**

For he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler  
and from the deadly pestilence.

*All* **He shall cover you with his wings  
and you shall be safe under his feathers;  
his faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler.**

You shall not be afraid of any terror by night,  
nor of the arrow that flies by day;

*All* **Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness,  
nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday.**

Though a thousand fall at your side  
and ten thousand at your right hand,  
yet it shall not come near you.

*All* **Your eyes have only to behold  
to see the reward of the wicked.**

Because you have made the Lord your refuge  
and the Most High your stronghold,

*All* **There shall no evil happen to you,  
neither shall any plague come near your tent.**

For he shall give his angels charge over you,  
to keep you in all your ways.

*All* **They shall bear you in their hands,  
lest you dash your foot against a stone.**

You shall tread upon the lion and adder;  
the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

*All* **Because they have set their love upon me,  
therefore will I deliver them;  
I will lift them up, because they know my name.**

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.

*All* **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;

*All* **as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

## **Psalm 134**

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

*All* **Lift up your hands towards the sanctuary  
and bless the Lord.**

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;

*All* **as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

## Scripture Reading

The one who endures to the end will be saved. And this good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world, as a testimony to all the nations.

*Matthew 24.13, 14a*

## Responsory

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

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

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

*All* **I commend my spirit.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit.

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

Keep me as the apple of your eye.

*All* **Hide me under the shadow of your wings.**

## Gospel Cantic – Nunc Dimittis

*All*            O King most blessed,  
**on the day of judgement**  
**number us among your chosen.**

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:  
your word has been fulfilled.

*All*            **My own eyes have seen the salvation**  
**which you have prepared in the sight of every people;**

A light to reveal you to the nations  
and the glory of your people Israel.

*All*            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.**

*All*            O King most blessed,  
**on the day of judgement**  
**number us among your chosen.**

## Prayers

*Prayers of intercession may be offered*

## The Collect

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
bring us to the dwelling which your Son is preparing  
for all who love you;  
give us the will each day to live in life eternal;  
let our citizenship be in heaven with the blessed,  
with the whole company of the redeemed  
and with countless angels,  
praising, worshipping and adoring your Son,  
our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who sits upon the throne for ever and ever.

*All*            **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

All As our Saviour taught us, so we pray  
**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.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
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

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

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

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

All May the light of Christ, the King of all,  
shine ever brighter in our hearts,  
that with all the saints in light  
we may shine forth as lights in the world.  
**Amen.**