

*An Order for Compline*  
*Friday*

**Opening**

The God of peace grant us a quiet night and a perfect end. **Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord, **the maker of heaven and earth.**

The angels of God guard us through the night, **and quiet the powers of darkness.**

The Spirit of God be our guide, **to lead us to peace and to glory.**

It is but lost labour that we haste to rise up early, and so late take our rest, and eat the bread of anxiety. **For those beloved of God are given gifts even while they sleep.**

Dear God, we thank you for all that is good, for our creation and our humanity, for the stewardship you have given us of this planet earth, for the gifts of life and of one another, for your love which is unbounded and eternal.

**Merciful God, we have not loved you with our whole heart, nor our neighbours as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, forgive what we have been,  
Accept us as we are,  
And guide what we shall be.**

O God of mercy, you forgive our past sin, you strengthen us in your gift of eternal life, you shape us for glory. O God of mercy, we thank you.

**Hymn:** To You Before the Close of Day

**To you before the close of day,  
Creator of all things, we pray  
that, in your constant clemency,  
our guard and keeper you would be.**

**Save us from troubled, restless sleep;  
from all ill dreams your children keep.  
So calm our minds that fears may cease  
and rested bodies wake in peace.**

**A healthy life we ask of you:  
the fire of love in us renew,  
and when the dawn new light will bring,  
your praise and glory we shall sing.**

**Almighty Father, hear our cry  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord, most high,  
whom with the Spirit we adore  
forever and for evermore.**

## ***Psalm***

### **Psalm 31:1-5**

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

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

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold;  
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,  
for you are my tower of strength.

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

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.**  
**Amen.**

## ***Scripture Reading***

Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Silence*

Into your hands, O God, I commend my spirit;  
**For you have redeemed me, O God of truth and love.**

Keep us, O God, as the apple of your eye;  
**Hide us under the shadow of your wings.**

*Antiphon*

Preserve us, O God, waking,  
**and guard us sleeping;**  
**that awake we may watch with Christ,**  
**and asleep we may rest in peace.**

*In Easter Season, add* **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Canticle:** The Song of Simeon (Nunc Dimittis)

**Lord, let your servant depart in peace**  
**according to your word.**

**For my eyes have seen your salvation,**  
**which you have prepared before the face of all**  
**people,**

**a light to lighten the Gentiles**  
**and the glory of your people Israel.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.**  
**Amen.**

*Antiphon*

Preserve us, O God, waking,  
**and guard us sleeping;**  
**that awake we may watch with Christ,**  
**and asleep we may rest in peace.**

*In Easter Season, add* **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God**  
**the Father almighty,**  
**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**  
**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit**  
**and born of the Virgin Mary.**  
**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,**  
**was crucified, died, and was buried.**  
**He descended to the dead.**  
**On the third day he rose again.**  
**He ascended into heaven,**  
**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**  
**He will come again**  
**to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**  
**the holy catholic Church,**  
**the communion of saints,**  
**the forgiveness of sins,**  
**the resurrection of the body,**  
**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Prayer**

Lord  
it is night.

The night is for stillness.  
Let us be still in the presence of God.

It is night after a long day.  
What has been done has been done;  
what has not been done has not been done;  
let it be.

The night is dark.  
Let our fears of the darkness of the world  
and of our own lives rest in you.

The night is quiet.  
Let the quietness of your peace enfold us,  
all dear to us,  
and all who have no peace.

The night heralds the dawn.  
Let us look expectantly to a new day,  
new joys,  
new possibilities.  
In your name we pray. **Amen**

## **Prayer of Intercession**

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the earth  
which nurtures us and the life we live:  
watch over those, both night and day, who work while  
others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our  
common life depends upon each other's toil; through  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Living God,  
in Jesus Christ you were laid in the tomb at this evening  
hour, and thereby sanctified the grave to be a bed of  
hope to your people. Give us courage and faith to die  
daily to our sin and pride, that even as this flesh and  
blood decays, our lives still may grow in you, that at the  
last, we may pass through the gate of death and live in  
you for ever. **Amen.**

I will lie down in peace and take my rest,  
**for it is in God alone that I dwell unafraid.**

May God's name be praised beyond the furthest star,  
**glorified and exalted above all for ever.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*I invite you to say with me the Lord's Prayer in the form I am using or in the form with which you are most comfortable.*

**Our Father,  
who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day 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 thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

May the God of peace give us peace in all ways and at all times. **Amen.**