

An Order for Night Prayer (Compline)

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.

All

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

All

**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.**

○ God, make speed to save us.

All ○ **Lord, make haste to help us.**

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.**

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.

○ 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.

Either **Psalm 91**

1Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High ♦
and abides under the shadow of the Almighty,

2Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold, ♦
my God, in whom I put my trust.'

3For he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler ♦
and from the deadly pestilence.

4He shall cover you with his wings
and you shall be safe under his feathers; ♦
his faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler. **R**

5You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, ♦
nor of the arrow that flies by day;

6Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, ♦
nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday.

7Though a thousand fall at your side
and ten thousand at your right hand, ♦
yet it shall not come near you.

8Your eyes have only to behold ♦
to see the reward of the wicked. **R**

9Because you have made the Lord your refuge ♦
and the Most High your stronghold,

10There shall no evil happen to you, ♦
neither shall any plague come near your tent.

11For he shall give his angels charge over you, ♦
to keep you in all your ways.

12They shall bear you in their hands, ♦
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

13You shall tread upon the lion and adder; ♦
the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot. **R**

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.

or **Psalm 104.1,21-33**

Bless the Lord, O my soul. ♦
O Lord my God, how excellent is your greatness!

2 21 You appointed the moon to mark the seasons, ♦
and the sun knows the time for its setting.

22 You make darkness that it may be night, ♦
in which all the beasts of the forest creep forth.

23 The lions roar for their prey ♦
and seek their food from God.

24 The sun rises and they are gone ♦
to lay themselves down in their dens.

25 People go forth to their work ♦
and to their labour until the evening. **R**

26 O Lord, how manifold are your works! ♦
In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.

27 There is the sea, spread far and wide, ♦
and there move creatures beyond number, both small and great.

28 There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan ♦
which you have made to play in the deep.

29 All of these look to you ♦
to give them their food in due season.

30 When you give it them, they gather it; ♦
you open your hand and they are filled with good.

31 When you hide your face they are troubled; ♦
when you take away their breath,
they die and return again to the dust.

32 When you send forth your spirit, they are created, ♦
and you renew the face of the earth. **R**

33 May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; ♦
may the Lord rejoice in his works;

**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.**

Scripture Reading

You, O Lord, are in the midst of us and we are called by your name; leave us not, O Lord our God.
Jeremiah 14.9

or

Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil is prowling round like a roaring lion, seeking for someone to devour. Resist him, strong in the faith.

1 Peter 5.8,9

or

The servants of the Lamb shall see the face of God, whose name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night: they will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

Revelation 22.4,5

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 Canticle

Refrain:

All **Alleluia. The Lord is risen, alleluia,
as he promised to you. Alleluia, alleluia.**

All **Save us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep 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 salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;

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

Luke 2.29-32

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 **Save us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep may rest in peace.**

Refrain:

All **Alleluia. The Lord is risen, alleluia,
as he promised to you. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Prayers

Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.

The Collect

Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity.

All **Amen.**

Silence may be kept.

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.

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**