

**An Order for Night Prayer (Compline) for
Ash Wednesday led by Peter Wyllie**

**The responder on behalf of all is Emilia
Wyllie**

Preparation

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

Amen.

Our help is in the name of the Lord

Who made heaven and earth.

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

The following or other suitable words of peni-
tence may be used

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.

The following or another suitable hymn
may be said or sung

Before the ending of the day,

Creator of the world we pray,

That with thy wonted favour thou

Wouldst be our guard and keeper now.

From all ill dreams defend our eyes

From nightly fears and fantasies;

Tread underfoot our ghostly foe,

That no pollution we may know.

O Father, that we ask be done,

Through Jesus Christ, thine only Son;

Who, with the Holy Ghost and thee,

Doth live and reign eternally.

The Word of God

Psalmody

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

Psalm 4

1 Answer me when I call, O God of my
righteousness; ♦

**you set me at liberty when I was in trou-
ble;**

have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

2 How long will you nobles dishonour my
glory; ♦

**how long will you love vain things and
seek after falsehood?**

3 But know that the Lord has shown me his marvellous kindness; ♦

when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

4 Stand in awe, and sin not; ♦

commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still.

5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness ♦

and put your trust in the Lord.

6 There are many that say, 'Who will show us any good?' ♦

Lord, lift up the light of your countenance upon us.

7 You have put gladness in my heart, ♦

more than when their corn and wine and oil increase.

8 In peace I will lie down and sleep, ♦

for it is you Lord, only, who make me dwell in safety.

Psalm 91

1 Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High ♦

and abides under the shadow of the Almighty,

2 Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold, ♦

my God, in whom I put my trust.'

3 For he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler ♦

and from the deadly pestilence.

4 He shall cover you with his wings

and you shall be safe under his feathers; ♦

his faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler.

5 You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, ♦

nor of the arrow that flies by day;

6 Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, ♦

nor of the sickness that destroys at noon-day.

7 Though a thousand fall at your side

and ten thousand at your right hand, ♦

yet it shall not come near you.

8 Your eyes have only to behold ♦

to see the reward of the wicked.

9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge ♦

and the Most High your stronghold,

10 There shall no evil happen to you, ♦

neither shall any plague come near your tent.

11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, ♦

to keep you in all your ways.

12 They shall bear you in their hands, ♦

lest you dash your foot against a stone.

13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; ♦

the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

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.

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.

Scripture Reading - Mark 11:1-11 read by Annabel Wyllie

11 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, 2 saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. 3 If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.’”

4 They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, 5 some people standing there asked, “What are you doing, untying that colt?” 6 They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. 7 When they

brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. 8 Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. 9 Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted,

“Hosanna!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”[b]

10 “Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!”

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

11 Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courts. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

One of the following short Scripture verses or another suitable passage is read

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

Reflection

The following responsory may be said

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.

Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit.

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

Alleluia, alleluia.

Keep me as the apple of your eye.

Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Gospel Cantic

The Nunc dimittis (The Song of Simeon) is said or sung

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

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.

Save us, O Lord, while waking,

and guard us while sleeping,

that awake we may watch with Christ

and asleep may rest in peace.

Prayers led by Honor Wyllie

Followers of the way of Christ, let us bring to the Lord the needs of our times.

Lord Jesus, you called us to renounce evil and we remember that, at the start of your ministry, you were tried and tempted by the forces of evil. You resisted the chance to be popular instead of faithful; to choose fame instead of service and power instead of sacrifice - but you set us all an example to follow by choosing the way of the Father.

Lord of Lent

Renew Our Lives

Teach us how to recognise the approach of evil in all its forms and to be on our guard

against it. You faced temptation in your life and because of this may we never be ashamed of temptation in our own lives - but save us from the weakness that gives way to it. Grant us all the strength to stand up against all that is evil and keep us firm in times of trial and temptation knowing that your support and love are always close at hand.

Make us resolute in obeying your will and seeking your kingdom that we may stay true to you and proclaim your salvation.

Lord of Lent
[Renew Our Lives](#)

Lord Jesus, we pray for your blessing on all who confess belief in you that they may witness powerfully to your unselfish love and humility. We offer you our thanks that we can meet together in this church and pray openly to you. We remember and pray for those who are denied this opportunity and are persecuted for their faith. We pray for all Christians wherever they may be and may they be strengthened by the power of your love.

Lord of Lent
[Renew Our Lives](#)

Help each one of us to see our priorities and not be led astray, Too often we fail to live up to our ideals; we compromise for comfort; we become too concerned about material things and seek our own glory. We fail to put our trust in you, trusting only in our own schemes and plans. During this time of Lent help us more clearly to see the ways by which we follow you and as we come to you for refreshment and renewal help us to forget ourselves and find true happiness in serving you. As we re examine our lives through self discipline and prayer may we enter your stillness, be sensitive to your call and know your will for us.

Lord of Lent
[Renew Our Lives](#)

Lord Jesus, we pray for all people who hold positions of authority that they do not misuse their power to the detriment of those they are supposed to be helping. We pray for all the world's leaders and for our own

leaders who are responsible for making decisions about our future. We pray that they will be given the insight and integrity to govern wisely according to your will, being fully aware of the true needs of the people.

Lord of Lent
[Renew Our Lives](#)

Lord Jesus, look with compassion on all those whose minds are full of anxiety and bewilderment and for whom everyday is one of despair. We pray for those who are experiencing severe financial difficulty at this time; many elderly people and young families trying to exist on very limited incomes: those people faced with losing their homes and those who have lost their jobs. We pray that you will turn their despair to hope and free them from fear and self hatred. Whatever the future may bring them, may they know that you are the rock on whom they depend and that your love will help to ease their burden.

Lord of Lent
[Renew Our Lives](#)

We pray for all people everywhere in their varying needs. Into the gentleness of your healing love we bring before you the lonely, the hungry, those living in poverty and those without hope. We remember all those who are ill and in pain: those recovering from surgery - giving thanks for the work and dedication of our doctors and nurses: for those involved in crippling accidents. Today we pray for and give thanks for the work of the emergency services throughout the world.

Lord of Lent
[Renew Our Lives](#)

We have in our hearts some people known only to ourselves, some known to our church and some only through the news who are in need of our prayers and we remember them in a moment of quiet, we pray especially for *Kevin*....May your healing touch support and strengthen them and we pray that you will remove from them all that hurts, harms and hinders.

Lord of Lent

Renew Our Lives

Lord Jesus, we pray that you will bless and protect our homes, our families and our friends. Help us to build bridges of tolerance and understanding between the different generations. May our homes be havens of peace and rest – a place to call our own and a community in which we can feel safe and secure.

Lord of Lent
Renew Our Lives

Help us to be mindful of those who have no homes, families or friends. Make us grateful for all that we have so that we may use every endeavour to ensure that every person has a home to call his own and feels wanted within his own community.

Lord of Lent
Renew Our Lives

We pray for the children and young people connected to our church and especially for those who are beginning to sense the wonder, mysteries and difficulties of life. We ask that you will hold them in your love. May they, through the good influence of parents, families and the church, grow into a fuller understanding of your love and purpose. Help each one of us to respond to their needs. Give us patience and compassion, and help us to offer them our time and our experience with true sincerity and love.

Lord of Lent
Renew Our Lives

We pray for all those who are mourning the loss of loved ones that you will comfort and strengthen them in their time of need.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world, a light which no darkness can quench. We remember before God all those who have died..... Confident in the promise that those who believe in you will live though they have died, we give you thanks for all who have left their earthly body and now share with you the joys of heaven.

Lord of Lent
Renew Our Lives

Be with us Lord as we serve you: may the lips that have sung your praises always speak the truth; may the ears which have heard your word listen only to what is good And may our lives as well as our worship be always pleasing to you.

Lord of Lent
Renew Our Lives

For people of our nation

Lord Jesus Christ, in these dark and difficult days, we turn our hearts to you. In ages past, you have delivered our nation from disaster. Do it again, we pray. Give wisdom beyond human wisdom to our leaders, Give strength beyond human strength to the NHS and all our frontline workers. Give comfort beyond human comfort to the elderly and all who grieve. Lord Jesus Christ, in these challenging and fearful days, turn your face towards us, have mercy upon us, and heal our land, we pray. Amen.

We keep a moment of silence.....

God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we give you ourselves. Be with us in all that we say, think and do so that our lives might reflect your unlimited love. Amen

The Collect

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Silence may be kept.

Visit our homes, O Lord, we pray,

and drive far from them all the snares of the enemy;

may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace,

and may your blessing be always upon us;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.

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.**