

**An Order for Night Prayer (Compline) led
by PeterHodges**

**The responder on behalf of all is Ann
Hodges
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 - John 13:1-17, 31b-35 **read by Stephen Ringer**

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord--and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

"Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."
"Hosanna!"

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 Felicity Robinson

Remembering that in the past God has always been active in seeking the salvation of his people, let us bring to him now our prayers for ourselves and for others.

Lord, in your mercy....[Hear our prayer](#)

Lord we thank you for the fellowship we share with your people throughout the world as we remember the last meal Jesus ate with his disciples. Let your church follow his example of love and service so that his message of salvation might reach those around us.

Lord, in your mercy....[Hear our prayer](#)

Lord we pray for all those who today, like your people in Egypt long ago, are oppressed and treated unjustly by those in power who abuse their authority. We pray that arrogance and cruelty may give way to humility and a kindness that seeks not to crush but to serve and nurture the weak and vulnerable.

Lord, in your mercy....[Hear our prayer](#)

Lord we pray for our families and friends and for the communities in which we live and work. We thank you for the celebrations and festivals which we share together. Help us also to look outwards and to care for those who are on the fringes of our society and excluded from our communities.

Lord, in your mercy....[Hear our prayer](#)

Lord we pray for all who are suffering today and carrying the burdens of sickness, grief, anxiety or guilt. We pray that you will guide them towards freedom, wholeness and faith in you as a loving God who seeks to serve us and save us if only we will let you.

Lord, in your mercy....[Hear our prayer](#)

Heavenly Father, you have always been active in seeking the salvation of your people. Hear our prayers today and use them and us in your saving work both in our lives and in the lives of those for whom we pray in the name of your Son, our Servant and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

God our Father, you have invited us to share in the supper which your Son gave to his Church to proclaim his death until he comes: may he nourish us by his presence, and unite us in his love; 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.