

An Order for Night Prayer (Compline) led
by Sue Maskell

The responder on behalf of all is Robin
Crowther

Alleluia, Christ is risen

He is risen indeed. Alleluia

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
penitence may be used*

Most merciful God, we confess to you, be-
fore 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 Al-
mighty,

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 - Luke 24:44-53 read by Jill Fitzpatrick

44 He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." 45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. 46 He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. 49 I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

50 When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. 51 While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. 52 Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. 53 And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

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 Canticle

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 Fr. Rodney

You are free, Lord, your Ascension has set you free: free from the constraints of human existence, outside the limitations of time and space; free to be here with us now, in our worship and fellowship; and free to be with us always; for in your freedom you have bound yourself to us with a promise:

“Lo! I am with you always even to the very end of time.”

We pray, Lord, for those who need to feel you close, who need the assurance of your love, the encouragement of your Spirit. [Silence]

“Lo! I am with you always even to the very end of time.”

We pray for those who are persecuted, who are discriminated against, who are mocked because of their faith or race or colour. [Silence]

“Lo! I am with you always even to the very end of time.”

We pray for those who are imprisoned, who are tortured, who are exiled, because they have fought, struggled and spoken out for the rights of their people. [Silence]

“Lo! I am with you always even to the very end of time.”

We pray for those who are destitute, who are hungry, who are refugees, because of the selfishness and apathy of the world. [Silence]

“Lo! I am with you always even to the very end of time.”

We pray for those who are filled with guilt, who are broken-hearted, who are perplexed,

because a relationship has gone wrong. [Silence]

“Lo! I am with you always even to the very end of time.”

We pray for those who are feeling fed up, who are in discomfort, who are afraid, because they are ill in body, mind or spirit. [Silence]

“Lo! I am with you always even to the very end of time.”

We pray for those who are numbed, who are angry, who are desolate, because they have been bereaved. [Silence]

“Lo! I am with you always even to the very end of time.”

We pray for those caught up in war, and violence, and hatred; especially the innocent victims of these evils. [Silence]

“Lo! I am with you always even to the very end of time.”

We pray at this time of financial turmoil, for those who have lost jobs, those who struggle to pay bills, and those who have the power to affect positive change. [Silence]

“Lo! I am with you always **even to the very end of time.**”

Be with us all, Lord: in all our daily struggles as we seek to follow you. Be with us all, Lord:
in our periods of doubt and despair; and in our times of happiness, health and loving. Be with us all, Lord: until that time when in your in your Kingdom of Love our joy will know no end.
“Lo! I am with you always **even to the very end of time.**”

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

Risen Christ, you have raised our human nature to the throne of heaven: help us to seek and serve you, that we may join you at the Father's side, where you reign with the Spirit in glory, 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.**