

**An Order for Night Prayer (Compline) led by Stephen Ringer**

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

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, 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**

**Psalms - 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 trouble; 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 - Matthew 13:1-9 read by Alison Jones

13 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. 2 Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. 3 Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. 4 As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. 5 Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. 6 But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. 7 Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. 8 Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. 9 Whoever has ears, let them hear."

#### 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 Robin Crowther

Let us pray for all bishops, priests and deacons that all things belonging to the Holy Spirit may continue to live and grow in them  
Lord, hear us  
Lord, graciously hear us

Let us pray for our government and all decision-makers regarding the relaxation of covid-related limits. May their plans be governed by wisdom and sensitivity to the needs of the people they serve.  
Lord, hear us  
Lord, graciously hear us

Let us pray for everyone who is planning their summer holiday. May their hopes and dreams lead to a time which is happy, safe and gives them the relaxation they need in order to discover a future which is bright and full of possibilities.  
Lord, hear us  
Lord, graciously hear us

Let us pray for the people of Japan and everyone involved in the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games. May the Games

bring joy and understanding between nations and may the precautions against the spread of Covid keep everyone safe and well.

Lord, hear us  
Lord, graciously hear us

Let us pray for all school leavers, graduates and young people entering the workforce for the first time. May they find the support and encouragement they need in order to make a happy start on such an important step on their journey through life.

Lord, hear us  
Lord, graciously hear us

Loving God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, hear our prayers. May you fill our every thought, word and action with your love. Amen.

Lord, hear us  
Lord, graciously hear us

Lord God, be with us through these on-going challenging days. We place all our trust and faith in you Almighty Father, forever and ever. 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.....

### The Collect

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; 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.**