

**An Order for Night Prayer (Compline) —
Memorial of Saint Polycarp, Bishop and
Martyr led by Stephen Ringer
The responder on behalf of all is Scott
Henderson**

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 - Mark 9:38-40 read by Wendy Curto

John said to Jesus,
“Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us.”
Jesus replied, “Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me. For whoever is not against us is for us.”

**This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to 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 Robin Crowther

May the Church never turn from the quest for Christian Unity, for that is the will of Christ, expressed clearly at the Last Supper.

Lord hear us....[Lord graciously hear us](#)

May we live each day as a gift from the Lord, and also in the spirit that it may be our last day, so that we are always ready to meet the Lord.

Lord hear us....[Lord graciously hear us](#)

May we rejoice wherever we see God's grace at work and not try to restrict his power and presence to our own Church alone.

Lord hear us....[Lord graciously hear us](#)

May those who are facing starvation in Afghanistan, Madagascar, Yemen, Ethiopia,

Myanmar, Haiti, Syria, South Sudan, Nigeria, and the Republic of Congo, may receive all

which they need from nations around the world.

Lord hear us....[Lord graciously hear us](#)

We pray for peace. As Western leaders continue to intervene to avoid Russia attacking Ukraine, we pray that tensions ease and military units are withdrawn.

Lord hear us....[Lord graciously hear us](#)

We pray for those in hospital and suffering ill-health. May the Holy Spirit bless and protect them and ease their discomfort.

Lord hear us....[Lord graciously hear us](#)

We pray for those afflicted by addiction. May they seek the help and support they need to be freed from their troubles.

Lord hear us....[Lord graciously hear us](#)

We pray for those that are lonely. Help them to remember that they are never truly alone as the grace and power of the Holy Spirit resides within them.

Lord hear us....[Lord graciously hear us](#).

May St Polycarp, a disciple of St John the Apostle, inspire us to love the Scriptures

and to live their message with faithfulness.

Lord hear us....[Lord graciously hear us](#)

We pray for those who have died. We pray especially for:

We pray for those recently departed: Joyce Maud Jamieson

We pray for those whose anniversaries of death occur this month:

William Crouch, Michael French, Charles Bladon, Thomas Fitzpatrick, Jane Coleman, Michael Buss, Albert Collins, Victor Botha, Joan Maskell, Brian Kingcome, Martin Chubb, Desna Harries, Christobel Van der Hoeven, Leslie Corfield, Marjorie Addyman, Norman Sheldon, Christian Solari.

Lord hear us....[Lord graciously hear us](#)

We pray in silence for our own personal needs

Lord hear us....[Lord graciously hear us](#)

Heavenly Father, have mercy upon us and help us to grow in the image of Jesus Christ, who is lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Lord hear us....[Lord graciously hear us](#)

The Collect Almighty God, who gave to your servant Polycarp boldness to confess the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ before the rulers of this world and courage to die for his faith: grant that we also may be ready to give an answer for the faith that is

in us and to suffer gladly for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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.**

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.**