

An Order for Night Prayer (Compline)



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.

Most merciful God, we confess to you and before the whole company of heaven, 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.**

The following hymn may be sung (Music can be found [here](#) - Te Lucis Ante Terminium)

Before the ending of the day,
Creator of the world, we pray
That you, with steadfast love, would keep
Your watch around us while we sleep.

From evil dreams defend our sight,
From fears and terrors of the night;
Tread underfoot our deadly foe
That we no sinful thought may know.

O Father, that we ask be done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son;
And Holy Spirit, by whose breath
Our souls are raised to life from death.

The Word of God

Psalmody

Psalm 4

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.

How long will you nobles dishonour my glory; how long will you love vain things and seek after falsehood?

But know that the Lord has shown me his marvellous kindness; when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

Stand in awe, and sin not; commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still.

Offer the sacrifices of righteousness and put your trust in the Lord.

There are many that say, 'Who will show us any good?' Lord, lift up the light of your countenance upon us.

You have put gladness in my heart, more than when their corn and wine and oil increase.

In peace I will lie down and sleep, for it is you Lord, only, who make me dwell in safety.

Psalm 134

Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, you that by night stand in the house of the Lord.

Lift up your hands towards the sanctuary and bless the Lord.

The Lord who made heaven and earth give you blessing out of Zion.

At the end of the psalms the following is said or sung

**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.**

Lectionary readings for the week

Monday of Holy Week

Evening

Psalm 25

Lamentations 2.8-19

Colossians 1.18-23

Tuesday of Holy Week

Evening

Psalm 55.13-24

Lamentations 3.40-51

Galatians 6.11-end

Wednesday of Holy Week

Evening

Psalm 88

Isaiah 63.1-9

Revelation 14.18 - 15.4

Maundy Thursday

Evening

Psalm 39

Exodus 11

Ephesians 2.11-18

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*

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

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

**Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
Keep me as the apple of your eye.
Hide me under the shadow of your wings.**

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.**

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people; 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

Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.

Silence may be kept.

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray, and drive far from it 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 may be said.

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

God who made everyone and who may be found in every place
Bless our parishes and Benefice, prosper our attempts to be faithful to you and to draw others
to you.

Inspire us by the power of your Holy Spirit that we may be a caring people, the true
community of the body of Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

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.**