

Shared Ministry in Exning and North Newmarket

The Office of Compline (Night Prayer)



Led by Revd. Canon Mark Haworth

Access via YouTube (audio and visual): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qAVESdS6G4M>

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Greeting & Welcome

Preparation

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

All Amen.

Our help is in the name of the Lord

All who made heaven and earth.

A time to reflect on the day,

Following which we say together;

All 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.

Absolution

O God, make speed to save us.

All O Lord, make haste to help us.

All 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.

Hymn: This can be Said or Sung together

**All: 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

Old Testament Reading

‘Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered

² Should the wise answer with windy knowledge,
and fill themselves with the east wind?

³ Should they argue in unprofitable talk,
or in words with which they can do no good?

⁴ But you are doing away with the fear of God,
and hindering meditation before God.

⁵ For your iniquity teaches your mouth,
and you choose the tongue of the crafty.

⁶ Your own mouth condemns you, and not I;
your own lips testify against you.

⁷ ‘Are you the firstborn of the human race?
Were you brought forth before the hills?

⁸ Have you listened in the council of God?
And do you limit wisdom to yourself?

⁹ What do you know that we do not know?
What do you understand that is not clear to us?

¹⁰ The grey-haired and the aged are on our side,
those older than your father.

¹¹ Are the consolations of God too small for you,
or the word that deals gently with you?

¹² Why does your heart carry you away,
and why do your eyes flash,¹

¹³ so that you turn your spirit against God,
and let such words go out of your mouth?

¹⁴ What are mortals, that they can be clean?
Or those born of woman, that they can be righteous?

¹⁵ God puts no trust even in his holy ones,
and the heavens are not clean in his sight;

¹⁶ how much less one who is abominable and corrupt,
one who drinks iniquity like water!

¹⁷ ‘I will show you; listen to me;
what I have seen I will declare—

¹⁸ what sages have told,
and their ancestors have not hidden,

¹⁹ to whom alone the land was given,
and no stranger passed among them.

²⁰ The wicked writhe in pain all their days,
through all the years that are laid up for the ruthless.

²¹ Terrifying sounds are in their ears;
in prosperity the destroyer will come upon them.

²² They despair of returning from darkness,
and they are destined for the sword.

²³ They wander abroad for bread, saying, “Where is it?”
They know that a day of darkness is ready at hand;

²⁴ distress and anguish terrify them;
they prevail against them, like a king prepared for battle.
²⁵ Because they stretched out their hands against God,
and bid defiance to the Almighty,
²⁶ running stubbornly against him
with a thick-bossed shield;
²⁷ because they have covered their faces with their fat,
and gathered fat upon their loins,
²⁸ they will live in desolate cities,
in houses that no one should inhabit,
houses destined to become heaps of ruins;
²⁹ they will not be rich, and their wealth will not endure,
nor will they strike root in the earth;
³⁰ they will not escape from darkness;
the flame will dry up their shoots,
and their blossom will be swept away by the wind.
³¹ Let them not trust in emptiness, deceiving themselves;
for emptiness will be their recompense.
³² It will be paid in full before their time,
and their branch will not be green.
³³ They will shake off their unripe grape, like the vine,
and cast off their blossoms, like the olive tree.
³⁴ For the company of the godless is barren,
and fire consumes the tents of bribery.
³⁵ They conceive mischief and bring forth evil
and their heart prepares deceit.'

Job 15

Psalmody

Psalm 119. v33-56

³³ Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,
and I will observe it to the end.
³⁴ Give me understanding, that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart.

- ³⁵ Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for I delight in it.
- ³⁶ Turn my heart to your decrees,
and not to selfish gain.
- ³⁷ Turn my eyes from looking at vanities;
give me life in your ways.
- ³⁸ Confirm to your servant your promise,
which is for those who fear you.
- ³⁹ Turn away the disgrace that I dread,
for your ordinances are good.
- ⁴⁰ See, I have longed for your precepts;
in your righteousness give me life.
- ⁴¹ Let your steadfast love come to me, O Lord,
your salvation according to your promise.
- ⁴² Then I shall have an answer for those who taunt me,
for I trust in your word.
- ⁴³ Do not take the word of truth utterly out of my mouth,
for my hope is in your ordinances.
- ⁴⁴ I will keep your law continually,
for ever and ever.
- ⁴⁵ I shall walk at liberty,
for I have sought your precepts.
- ⁴⁶ I will also speak of your decrees before kings,
and shall not be put to shame;
- ⁴⁷ I find my delight in your commandments,
because I love them.
- ⁴⁸ I revere your commandments, which I love,
and I will meditate on your statutes.
- ⁴⁹ Remember your word to your servant,
in which you have made me hope.
- ⁵⁰ This is my comfort in my distress,

that your promise gives me life.
⁵¹ The arrogant utterly deride me,
but I do not turn away from your law.
⁵² When I think of your ordinances from of old,
I take comfort, O Lord.
⁵³ Hot indignation seizes me because of the wicked,
those who forsake your law.
⁵⁴ Your statutes have been my songs
wherever I make my home.
⁵⁵ I remember your name in the night, O Lord,
and keep your law.
⁵⁶ This blessing has fallen to me,
for I have kept your precepts.

***All* 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

.¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Romans 8 12-17

The following responsorial is said

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

All Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

All I commend my spirit.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

All Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Gospel Canticle

The Nunc Dimittis (The Song of Simeon) is said or sung

**All 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

**All 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.**

All Save us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep may rest in peace.

A short address follows

Prayers

Prayers and thanksgiving are offered.

All: Merciful Father accept these prayers.....

The Collect

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.

All Amen.

All Lighten our darkness,
Lord, we pray,
and in your great mercy
defend us from all perils and dangers of this night,
for the love of your only Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in Heaven.....

The Conclusion

In peace we will lie down and sleep;

All for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,

All for the night is at hand and the day is now past.

As the night watch looks for the morning,

All so do we look for you, O Christ.

[Come with the dawning of the day

All 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.

All Amen.

May the Holy Spirit of God bless and sanctify us

so that we may be consecrated in the truth.

All Amen.

