

Shared Ministry in Exning and North Newmarket

An Order for Night Prayer (Compline) Traditional Language BCP



Wednesday 5th May 2021

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An Order for Night Prayer

(Compline) in Traditional Language

Wednesday, 5 May 2021

Note

The ancient office of Compline derives its name from a Latin word meaning 'completion' (*completorium*). It is above all a service of quietness and reflection before rest at the end of the day. It is most effective when the ending is indeed an ending, without additions, conversation or noise. If there is an address, or business to be done, it should come first. If the service is in church, those present depart in silence; if at home, they go quietly to bed.

Preparation

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

[Brethren,] be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil,
as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:
whom resist, steadfast in the faith.

1 Peter 5.8,9

All But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.
Thanks be to God.

All Our help is in the name of the Lord
who hath 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

All We confess to God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost,
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,

through our own grievous fault.
Wherefore we pray God to have mercy upon us.

Almighty God, have mercy upon us,
forgive us all our sins and deliver us from all evil,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and bring us to life everlasting;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

A priest may say

May the almighty and merciful Lord
grant unto you pardon and remission of all your sins,
time for amendment of life,
and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

All

O God, make speed to save us.
All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
All **as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

Praise ye the Lord.
All **The Lord's name be praised.**

The following or another suitable hymn may be 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 Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness :
thou hast set me at liberty when I was in trouble;
have mercy upon me, and hearken unto my prayer.
- 2 O ye sons of men, how long will ye blaspheme mine honour :
and have such pleasure in vanity, and seek after leasing?
- 3 Know this also, that the Lord hath chosen to himself
the man that is godly :
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.
- 4 Stand in awe, and sin not :
commune with your own heart, and in your chamber, and be still.
- 5 Offer the sacrifice of righteousness :
and put your trust in the Lord.
- 6 There be many that say :
Who will shew us any good?
- 7 Lord, lift thou up :
the light of thy countenance upon us.
- 8 Thou hast put gladness in my heart :
since the time that their corn, and wine, and oil increased.
- 9 I will lay me down in peace, and take my rest :
for it is thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.

Psalm 31.1-6

- 1 In thee, O Lord, have I put my trust :
let me never be put to confusion, deliver me in thy righteousness.
- 2 Bow down thine ear to me :
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 And be thou my strong rock, and house of defence :
that thou mayest save me.
- 4 For thou art my strong rock, and my castle :
be thou also my guide, and lead me for thy name's sake.
- 5 Draw me out of the net, that they have laid privily for me :
for thou art my strength.
- 6 Into thy hands I commend my spirit :
for thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.

Psalm 134

- 1 Behold now, praise the Lord :
all ye servants of the Lord;
- 2 Ye that by night stand in the house of the Lord :
even in the courts of the house of our God.
- 3 Lift up your hands in the sanctuary :
and praise the Lord.
- 4 The Lord that made heaven and earth :
give thee blessing out of Sion.

At the end of the psalmody, the following is said or sung

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Hebrews 13.20,21

All Thanks be to God.

Reflection / Talk

The following responsory may be said

Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
Alleluia, alleluia.

**All Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

For thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.

All Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

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

Alleluia, alleluia.

Keep me as the apple of an eye.
All Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.

Gospel Canticle

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

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

1 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :
according to thy word.

2 For mine eyes have seen :
thy salvation;

3 Which thou hast prepared :
before the face of all people;

4 To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Luke 2.29-32

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

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

Prayers

Lord, have mercy upon us.
All Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

**All Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

Blessed art thou, Lord God of our fathers:
All to be praised and glorified above all for ever.

Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost:
All let us praise him and magnify him for ever.

Blessed art thou, O Lord, in the firmament of heaven:
All to be praised and glorified above all for ever.

The almighty and most merciful Lord guard us and give us his blessing.
All Amen.

[Wilt thou not turn again and quicken us;
All that thy people may rejoice in thee?

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us;
All and grant us thy salvation.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin;
All O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.

O Lord, hear our prayer;
All and let our cry come unto thee.]

Let us pray.

The Collect(s) is said

Look down, O Lord, from thy heavenly throne,
illuminate the darkness of this night with thy celestial brightness,
and from the sons of light banish the deeds of darkness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

Be present, O merciful God,
and protect us through the silent hours of this night,
so that we who are wearied
by the changes and chances of this fleeting world,
may repose upon thy eternal changelessness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

The Conclusion

We will lay us down in peace and take our rest.
All For it is thou, Lord, only that makest us dwell in safety.

Abide with us, O Lord,
All **for it is toward evening and the day is far spent.**

As the watchmen look for the morning,
All **so do we look for thee, O Christ.**

[Come with the dawning of the day
All **and make thyself known in the breaking of bread.]**

The Lord be with you
All **and with thy spirit.**

Let us bless the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

The almighty and merciful Lord,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost,
bless us and preserve us.
All **Amen.**

