

## **An Order for Compline for Holy Week**

### *A late Evening Service*

Welcome to our service of Compline or night prayer.

Compline is offered when the work of the day is completed, and the quietness of evening settles over the hearts and minds of those who have come together in thankfulness, for the blessings of the day which has passed, and in anticipation of God's gift of a new day.

As we walk with Jesus this Holy week, let's begin with an opening prayer:

Lord, you call us by name and beckon us to follow you—not to walk alone,  
But to walk with you.

Touch our hearts and minds so that we may appreciate

That you choose to walk beside us in the ordinary ways of our daily lives.

Thank you for being with us now. Amen.

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.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us;

**Thanks be to God.**

O God, make speed to save us;

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

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.**

Praise ye the Lord;

**The Lord's name be praised.**

#### Psalm 4

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?**

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.**

Offer the sacrifice of righteousness: and put your trust in the Lord.

**6 There be many that say: Who will shew us any good?**

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.**

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

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.**

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.**

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 has redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.**

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.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### Minister

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto us pardon and remission of all our sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Wilt thou not turn again and quicken us;

**That thy people may rejoice in thee?**

O Lord, shew they mercy upon us;

**And grant us thy salvation.**

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin.

**O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.**

O Lord, hear our prayer.

**And let our cry come unto thee.**

#### Let us pray:

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

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. **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. **Amen.**

We will lay us down in peace and take our rest;

**For it is thou, Lord, only that makest us dwell in safety.**

The Lord be with you

**And with thy spirit**

Let us bless the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

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

*Anthem:* 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.

*We say the Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy  
Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was  
crucified, dead and buried, He descended into hell; the third day he rose  
again from the dead, He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right  
hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the  
quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholick Church; the communion of  
Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body; And the Life  
everlasting. Amen.**

*Let us pray:*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*We say together:*

**Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

**To be praised and glorified about all for ever.**

Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

**Let us praise him and magnify him for ever.**

Blessed art thou, O lord, in the firmament of heaven.

**To be praised and glorified above all for ever.**

The Almighty and most merciful Lord guard us and give us his blessing.

**Amen.**

*We say together:*

**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.**

Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

**Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit:**

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

**I commend my spirit.**

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

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

*We say (or sing) the words of the hymn*

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.

Keep me as the apple of an eye;

**Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.**

*Anthem:* 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.

*We say the Nunc Dimittis*

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

**For mine eyes have seen; thy salvation,**

**Which thou hast prepared; before the face of all people;**

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

**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.**