

## **An Order for Night Prayer (Compline)**

### **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 period of silence for reflection on the past day may follow.*

*The following or other suitable words of penitence may be used*

*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.**

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.**

*The following or another suitable hymn may be sung*

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*

*The appointed Psalm for the night is read.*

*At the end of the psalmody, the following is said*

**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*

*The appointed reading for the night is read.*

*The following responsory may be 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.**

*Or, in Easter*

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

Alleluia, alleluia.

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

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

**All Alleluia, alleluia.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit.

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

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

Keep me as the apple of your eye.

**All Hide me under the shadow of your wings.**

*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.

**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.**

## **Prayers**

*Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.*

*The Collect*

*Silence may be kept.*

*This or another prayer is said.*

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.**

*The Lord's Prayer may be said.*

## **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.**