**Night Prayer**

You may wish to light a candle and have some reflective music playing in the background.

May the love of the Lord Jesus draw us to himself; May the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen us in his service; May the Joy of the Lord Jesus fill our souls. **Amen**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
Raised to your right hand on high
the ascended Christ shows the prints of love
and bestows on us the gifts of grace.
As your Spirit renews the face of the earth,
may we bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
and reveal your glory in all the world.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
**Blessed be God for ever.**

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.

*Pause and reflect on the day that is past.*

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

**Bible Reading for Thursday 26 November, 3, 10, 17 December**

**Matthew 10.34-11.1; 13.1-23; 15.21-28; 17.22-end.**

Loving God, you know us and all that we are facing. We thank you that we can come to you as we are – with all our fears and concerns, our difficulties and challenges. Please draw close to each of us and those we remember before you now. Bring to us your peace and comfort. And fill us with your Spirit that we may be bearers of your grace and hope to others. As a country protect us, encourage us and keep us. In the name of your Son Jesus we pray. Amen.

### Psalm 40

**1**I waited patiently for the Lord;
    he turned to me and heard my cry.
**2**He lifted me out of the slimy pit,
    out of the mud and mire;
he set my feet on a rock
    and gave me a firm place to stand.
**3**He put a new song in my mouth,
    a hymn of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear the Lord
    and put their trust in him.

**4**Blessed is the one
    who trusts in the Lord,
who does not look to the proud,
    to those who turn aside to false gods.
**5**Many, Lord my God,
    are the wonders you have done,
    the things you planned for us.
None can compare with you;
    were I to speak and tell of your deeds,
    they would be too many to declare.

**6**Sacrifice and offering you did not desire
    but my ears you have opened
    burnt offerings and sin offering you did not require.
**7**Then I said, “Here I am, I have come
    it is written about me in the scroll.
**8**I desire to do your will, my God;
    your law is within my heart.”

**9**I proclaim your saving acts in the great assembly;
    I do not seal my lips, Lord,
    as you know.
**10**I do not hide your righteousness in my heart;
    I speak of your faithfulness and your saving help.
I do not conceal your love and your faithfulness
    from the great assembly.

**11**Do not withhold your mercy from me, Lord;
    may your love and faithfulness always protect me.
**12**For troubles without number surround me;
    my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see.
They are more than the hairs of my head,
    and my heart fails within me.
**13**Be pleased to save me, Lord;
    come quickly, Lord, to help me.

**14**May all who want to take my life
    be put to shame and confusion;
may all who desire my ruin
    be turned back in disgrace.
**15**May those who say to me, “Aha! Aha!”
    be appalled at their own shame.
**16**But may all who seek you
    rejoice and be glad in you;
may those who long for your saving help always say,
    “The Lord is great!”

**17**But as for me, I am poor and needy;
    may the Lord think of me.
You are my help and my deliverer;
    you are my God, do not delay.

Jesus said, ‘I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!’

John 16.33

**Prayers**

Loving God, your Son Jesus Christ came that we might have life and have it abundantly; pour out your blessing upon our nation; where there is illness, bring your healing touch; where there is fear, strengthen us with the knowledge of your presence; where there is uncertainty, build us up in faith; where there is dishonesty, lead us into truth; where there is discord, may we know the harmony of your love; this we ask in Jesus’ name. **Amen**

Loving Father God Be with us in our distress: with our families, friends and neighbours, our country and our world. Give health to the sick, hope to the fearful, and comfort to the mourners. Give wisdom to our frontline and key workers, insight to our government and patience to us all; Overcome disease with the power of your new life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*In a moment of quiet we particularly remember our friends across the deanery, those who are bereaved, sick, or troubled at this time. We give thanks for all those, whatever their role, who are working to keep us safe, those supporting and caring for others. We also give thanks to those who are enabling us to worship together online.*

Loving God, thank You for Your love from which nothing can separate us, and which does not depend on our efforts. Please reveal this love and the peace it brings, in the lives of those we are praying for. **Amen**

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience and courage, they may minister in his name to the suffering and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your Son our saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **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 rest upon your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray, and drive far from it the snares of the enemy; may your holy angels dwell with us in peace, and may your blessing be always upon us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**The Conclusion**

In peace we will lie down and sleep; for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety. The Lord bless us and watch over us; The Lord make his face to shine upon us and be gracious to us; The Lord look kindly upon us and give us peace. Amen.

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