

NIGHT PRAYER

ORDINARY TIME



† 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 has made heaven and earth.**

Blessed be the name of the Lord

All **now and for ever. Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden,
to ask for his forgiveness and peace.

*In our Examen, we take a long loving look back over our day with God.
We notice and name God's presence. We linger and let go.*

*In your imagination go hour by hour through your day, revisit each
significant moment.*

~ Thank God for the gifts and graces both big and small.

~ Lean into the difficult moments; notice & name the missed opportunities.

Linger and let go ...

Look forward ... who does God call you to be tomorrow?

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.**

The almighty and merciful Lord
grant *us* pardon and forgiveness of all *our* sins,
time for amendment of life,
and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit.

All **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.**

Office Hymn

The following or another suitable hymn may be sung

- 1 Glory to thee, my God, this night
for all the blessings of the light;
keep me, O keep me, King of kings,
beneath thine own almighty wings.
- 2 Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son,
the ill that I this day have done,
that with the world, myself and thee,
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.
- 3 Teach me to live, that I may dread
the grave as little as my bed;
teach me to die, that so I may
rise glorious at the awful day.
- 4 O may my soul on thee repose,
and with sweet sleep mine eyelids close;
sleep that may me more vig'rous make
to serve my God when I awake.
- 5 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Words: Thomas Ken (1637-1711)

Tune: 'Tallis's Canon' / Music: Thomas Tallis (c.1505-1585)

¶ *The Word of God*

Psalmody

On Sundays

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul. •
O Lord my God, how excellent is your greatness!
- 21 You appointed the moon to mark the seasons, •
and the sun knows the time for its setting.
- 22 You make darkness that it may be night, •
in which all the beasts of the forest creep forth.
- 23 The lions roar for their prey •
and seek their food from God.
- 24 The sun rises and they are gone •
to lay themselves down in their dens.
- 25 People go forth to their work •
and to their labour until the evening.
- 26 O Lord, how manifold are your works! •
In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.
- 27 There is the sea, spread far and wide, •
and there move creatures beyond number, both small and great.
- 28 There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan •
which you have made to play in the deep.
- 29 All of these look to you •
to give them their food in due season.
- 30 When you give it them, they gather it; •
you open your hand and they are filled with good.
- 31 When you hide your face they are troubled; •
when you take away their breath, they die & return again to the dust.
- 32 When you send forth your spirit, they are created, •
and you renew the face of the earth.
- 33 May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; •
may the Lord rejoice in his works.

Psalm 104.1, 21-33

On Mondays

- 1 Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness; •
you set me at liberty when I was in trouble;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.
- 2 How long will you nobles dishonour my glory; •
how long will you love vain things and seek after falsehood?
- 3 But know that the Lord
has shown me his marvellous kindness; •
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.
- 4 Stand in awe, and sin not; •
commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still.
- 5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness •
and put your trust in the Lord.
- 6 There are many that say, 'Who will show us any good?' •
Lord, lift up the light of your countenance upon us.
- 7 You have put gladness in my heart, •
more than when their corn and wine and oil increase.
- 8 In peace I will lie down and sleep, •
for it is you Lord, only, who make me dwell in safety.

Psalm 4

On Tuesdays

- 1 Hear my prayer, O Lord,
and in your faithfulness give ear to my supplications; •
answer me in your righteousness.
- 2 Enter not into judgement with your servant, •
for in your sight shall no one living be justified.
- 3 For the enemy has pursued me,
crushing my life to the ground, •
making me sit in darkness like those long dead.
- 4 My spirit faints within me; •
my heart within me is desolate.
- 5 I remember the time past; I muse upon all your deeds; •
I consider the works of your hands.
- 6 I stretch out my hands to you; •
my soul gasps for you like a thirsty land.
- 7 O Lord, make haste to answer me; my spirit fails me; •
hide not your face from me
lest I be like those who go down to the Pit.
- 8 Let me hear of your loving-kindness in the morning,
for in you I put my trust; •
show me the way I should walk in,
for I lift up my soul to you.
- 9 Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies, •
for I flee to you for refuge.
- 10 Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God; •
let your kindly spirit lead me on a level path.
- 11 Revive me, O Lord, for your name's sake; •
for your righteousness' sake, bring me out of trouble.
- 12 In your faithfulness, slay my enemies,
and destroy all the adversaries of my soul, •
for truly I am your servant.

Psalm 143

On Wednesdays

- 1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; •
deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; •
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a fortress to save me,
for you are my rock and my stronghold; •
guide me, and lead me for your name's sake.
- 4 Take me out of the net
that they have laid secretly for me, •
for you are my strength.
- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, •
for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.
- [19 How abundant is your goodness, O Lord,
which you have laid up for those who fear you; •
which you have prepared in the sight of all
for those who put their trust in you.
- 20 You hide them in the shelter of your presence
from those who slander them; •
you keep them safe in your refuge from the strife of tongues.
- 21 Blessed be the Lord! •
For he has shown me his steadfast love
when I was as a city besieged.
- 22 I had said in my alarm,
'I have been cut off from the sight of your eyes.' •
Nevertheless, you heard the voice of my prayer
when I cried out to you.
- 23 Love the Lord, all you his servants; •
for the Lord protects the faithful,
but repays to the full the proud.
- 24 Be strong and let your heart take courage, •
all you who wait in hope for the Lord.]

Psalm 31.1-5 [19-24]

On Thursdays

- 1 Preserve me, O God, for in you have I taken refuge; •
I have said to the Lord, 'You are my lord,
all my good depends on you.'
- 2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, •
upon those who are noble in heart.
- 3 Though the idols are legion that many run after, •
their drink offerings of blood I will not offer,
neither make mention of their names upon my lips.
- 4 The Lord himself is my portion and my cup; •
in your hands alone is my fortune.
- 5 My share has fallen in a fair land; •
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
- 6 I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel, •
and in the night watches he instructs my heart.
- 7 I have set the Lord always before me; •
he is at my right hand; I shall not fall.
- 8 Wherefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices; •
my flesh also shall rest secure.
- 9 For you will not abandon my soul to Death, •
nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.
- 10 You will show me the path of life;
in your presence is the fullness of joy •
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Psalm 16

On Fridays

- 1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me; •
you know my sitting down & my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You mark out my journeys and my resting place •
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 For there is not a word on my tongue, •
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You encompass me behind and before •
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, •
so high that I cannot attain it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your spirit? •
Or where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; •
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning •
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand shall lead me, •
your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me •
and the light around me turn to night,'
- 11 Even darkness is no darkness with you; the night is as clear as the day; •
darkness and light to you are both alike.
- 12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; •
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 13 I thank you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; •
marvellous are your works, my soul knows well.
- 14 My frame was not hidden from you, •
when I was made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.
- 15 Your eyes beheld my form, as yet unfinished; •
already in your book were all my members written,
- 16 As day by day they were fashioned •
when as yet there was none of them.
- 17 How deep are your counsels to me, O God! •
How great is the sum of them!
- 18 If I count them, they are more in number than the sand, •
and at the end, I am still in your presence.

Psalm 139.1-18

On Saturdays

- 1 Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High •
and abides under the shadow of the Almighty,
- 2 Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold, •
my God, in whom I put my trust.'
- 3 For he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler •
and from the deadly pestilence.
- 4 He shall cover you with his wings
and you shall be safe under his feathers; •
his faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler.
- 5 You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, •
nor of the arrow that flies by day;
- 6 Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, •
nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday.
- 7 Though a thousand fall at your side & ten thousand at your right hand, •
yet it shall not come near you.
- 8 Your eyes have only to behold •
to see the reward of the wicked.
- 9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge •
and the Most High your stronghold,
- 10 There shall no evil happen to you, •
neither shall any plague come near your tent.
- 11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, •
to keep you in all your ways.
- 12 They shall bear you in their hands, •
lest you dash your foot against a stone.
- 13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; •
the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.
- 14 Because they have set their love upon me, therefore will I deliver them; •
I will lift them up, because they know my name.
- 15 They will call upon me and I will answer them; •
I am with them in trouble, I will deliver them & bring them to honour.
- 16 With long life will I satisfy them •
and show them my salvation.

Psalm 91

On Any Day

- 1 Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, •
you that by night stand in the house of the Lord.
- 2 Lift up your hands towards the sanctuary •
and bless the Lord.
- 3 The Lord who made heaven and earth •
give you blessing out of Zion.

Psalm 134

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

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.**

Gospel Acclamation

This or another suitable acclamation may herald the Gospel reading

Alleluia, alleluia.
God has spoken to us through his Son,
through whom he created the worlds.

All **Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Responsory

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.**

Keep me as the apple of your eye.

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

The Song of Simeon

Nunc Dimittis

'The Song of Simeon (Nunc Dimittis)' 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.**

¶ Prayers

Intercessions

Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.

The following intercessions, or another suitable form, may be used.

From the rising of the sun to its setting,
let us pray to the Lord.

That you will give us a quiet night and a perfect end:

All **we pray to you, O Lord.**

That you will have mercy upon us & grant us your salvation:

All **we pray to you, O Lord.**

That you will keep us this night without sin:

All **we pray to you, O Lord.**

That you will guard us and give us your blessing:

All **we pray to you, O Lord.**

That you will bring us with [*N and*] all your saints
to glory everlasting:

All **we pray to you, O Lord.**

Let us commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the mercy and protection of God.

Open prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

The Collects

The Collect of the day may be said.

One or more of the following Collects is said

Look down, O God,
from your heavenly throne,
illuminate the darkness of this night
with your celestial brightness,
and from the children of light
banish the deeds of darkness;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

All **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 and guard us in peace,
and may your blessing be always upon us;
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 rest upon your eternal changelessness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Come, O Spirit of God,
and make within us your dwelling place and home.
May our darkness be dispelled by your light,
and our troubles calmed by your peace;
may all evil be redeemed by your love,
all pain transformed through the suffering of Christ,
and all dying glorified in his risen life.

All **Amen.**

Keep watch, dear Lord,
with those who wake, or watch, or weep this night,
and give your angels charge over those who sleep.
Tend the sick, give rest to the weary,
bless the dying, soothe the suffering, and pity the distressed;
all for your love's sake, O Christ our Redeemer.

All **Amen.**

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,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Each person says the following :

**My dear ones O Lord, bless and keep,
in every place where they are.**

We say together :

**Our dear ones, O Lord, Companions and friends,
bless and keep, in every place where they are.**

The Lord's Prayer

Awaiting the fulfilment of all God's promises,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

¶ *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 Blessing

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.**

(or)

May God's love surround *us*,
God's joy fill *our* lives,
God's peace be in *our* hearts,
and God's blessing be with *us*
this night and always.

All **Amen.**



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND