

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

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.**

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

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

**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.**

○ God, make speed to save us.

**○ Lord, make haste to help us.**

**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.**

*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.

○ 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

*One of these psalms, may be used.*

### Psalm 4

- 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 134

- 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.

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

**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 following short lessons or another suitable passage are read*

You, O Lord, are in the midst of us and we are called by your name; leave us not, O Lord our God.

*Jeremiah 14.9*

*(or)*  
I will pour out a spirit of compassion and supplication on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that, when they look on the one whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

*Zechariah 12.10*

*(or)*  
Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

*Isaiah 58. 6,7*

*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.**

Keep me as the apple of your eye.

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

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

- 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*

**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.**

## **Prayers**

*Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.*

Almighty God,  
as we stand at the foot of the cross of your Son,  
help us to see and know your love for us,  
so that in humility, love and joy  
we may place at his feet  
all that we have and all that we are;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

*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.**

May God bless us,

that in us may be found love and humility,

obedience and thanksgiving,

discipline, gentleness and peace.

**Amen.**