# Compline : Night Prayer in Eastertide

Jim Cotter: Prayer at Night, Sheffield, Cairns Publications, 1991

## The Gathering ...

Welcome and introduction

Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

The angels of God guard us through the night, and quieten the powers of darkness.

The Spirit of God be our guide to lead us to peace and to glory.

Jesus said to his disciples, were you not able to stay awake for one hour? Keep watch, all of you, and pray that you will not fail in time of testing.

Our help is in the name of the eternal God who is making the heavens and the earth.

# Hymn

Faithful one, so unchanging
Ageless one, you're my rock of peace
Lord of all I depend on you
I call out to you
again and again
I call out to you
again and again

You are my rock in times of trouble; you lift me up when I fall down.
All through the storm, your love is the anchor, my hope is in you alone

Brian Doerksen

Dear God, thank you for all that is good, for our creation and our humanity, for the stewardship you have given us of this planet earth, for the gifts of life and of one another, for your love, which is unbounded and eternal.

O Thou, Most Holy and Beloved, My Companion, my Unicorn, my Guide upon the Way.

#### Words of love and penitence...

O God of Holiness, we tremble in your presence... you show us how far we have wandered in a land that is waste; you face us with the truth of our lack of love; you uncover the layers of our illusions; you pierce us with the sword that heals; you embrace us with a purging fire; you refuse to let us go.

O God of Holiness, we tremble in your presence....

Eternal Spirit, flow through our being and open our lips, that our mouths may proclaim your praise.

Let us worship the God of Love: Alleluia! Alleluia!

# **Psalmody**

#### Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Out of the depths
I have called to you, O God:
O God of compassion, hear my voice.
Open your heart to me,
my cry wells within me.
If you keep account of my sins, I cannot stand.
But there is forgiveness with you,
your way is my life.

I wait for you, my God, my soul waits for you. I wait with my heart, I hope for your word. I look for you as a watchman looks for the morning. more I say than a watchman for the morning. For you will fulfil your promise to rescue me, you will free me from the grip of evil. I put my trust in you, O God of mercy and compassion.

When God takes us home form our exile, we shall wake from our dream and live again. We shall sing and laugh for joy; the whole world will acclaim God's wonders. O God, you will do great things for us, and we shall rejoice and praise your name. Take us home, bring us to life, like rivers in the desert when the first rains fall.

We go on our way sadly, with tears sowing seeds.
We shall return with joy, with gladness bearing our sheaves.

Glory be to God, sustaining, redeeming, sanctifying, as in the beginning, so now and forever. Amen.

#### Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## Scripture reading

Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

John 1: 45-46

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3: 17

#### Responsory

Into your hands, O God,
I commend my spirit,
For you have redeemed me,
O God of truth and love.

Keep me, O God, as the apple of an eye: Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

## **Nunc Dimittis (Gospel Canticle)**

Alleluia.

The lamb who was slain has conquered, Alleluia.
All who follow the Way will share in the victory, Alleluia, alleluia

Praise be to God,
I have lived to see this day.
God's promise is fulfilled
and my duty done.
At last you have given me peace,
for I have seen with my own eyes
the salvation you have prepared
for all nations –
a light to the world in its darkness,
and the glory of your people, Israel.

Glory be to God, sustaining, redeeming, sanctifying, as in the beginning, so now and forever. Amen.

Alleluia.

The lamb who was slain has conquered, Alleluia.
All who follow the Way will share in the victory, Alleluia, alleluia

#### Intercession...

..... intercession.... Bringing to mind those whom we pray for and holding them in God's love..., bringing the needs of the world, the church, and those who have no-one to pray for them...

#### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father,
which 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 them
that 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.

## Blessing and departure

I will lie down in peace and take my rest, for it is in God alone that I dwell unafraid.

Let us bless the Life-Giver, the Pain-Bearer, the Love-Maker let us praise and exalt God above all for ever.

May God's name be praised beyond the furthest star; glorified and exalted above all for ever. Amen.

Watch between us dear God, when we are absent from one another. Amen.

O God, the Source of the whole world's gladness and the bearer of its pain, may your unconquerable joy rest at the heart of all our trouble and distress.

Be present, Living Christ, within us, your dwelling place and home,

that all places may be ones where all darkness is penetrated by your light, all troubles calmed by your peace, all evil redeemed by your love, all pain transformed in your suffering. and all dying glorified in your risen life. Amen.

The blessing of God, the eternal goodwill of God, the shalom of God, the wildness and the warmth of God, be among us and between us, now and always.

Amen

May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

#### **A**men

Goodnight ....