

# Compline : Night Prayer On Sunday

*Jim Cotter : Prayer at Night, Sheffield, Cairns  
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## **The Gathering ...**

### Welcome and introduction

*From our cycle of prayer for this dispersed  
worshipping community: Tonight's Office Prayer is  
offered for*

- *the priest, clergy team, people and  
community of The Queens Foundation,  
Theological College, in Birmingham Diocese*
- *and for the Gloucester Diocese.*

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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.**

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares  
for you. People of God, be sober, be watchful:  
your adversary the devil as a roaring lion  
prowls about, seeking someone to devour;  
whom withstand, steadfast in the faith.

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

## **Hymn**

### **Where Is Bread?**

"Where is bread?" the great crowd  
murmured —  
thousands strong, yet all in need.  
"Where is bread?" your people wondered,  
faced with such a crowd to feed.  
Who, Lord Jesus, could have guessed it?  
One small boy brought food to share.  
Taking what he gave, you blessed it;  
all were fed, with much to spare.

Where is bread? We know their yearning;  
every day, we wish for more.  
God, in time, we're slowly learning:  
all we own can make us poor.  
Our possessions can possess us,  
leaving hunger deep inside.  
Christ our Bread, come now and bless us;  
at your feast, we're satisfied.

"Where is bread?" the call is rising;  
millions cry who must be fed.  
God, your answer seems surprising:  
"You, my Church, you give them bread."  
Bread to fill each hungry spirit,  
bread for hungry stomachs, too!  
Give us bread and help us share it.  
Richly blest, may we serve you.

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Music: 'Abbots Leigh'*

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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...**

We have wounded your love:  
**O God, heal us.**

We stumble in the darkness:  
**Light of the world, transfigure us.**

We forget that we are your home:  
**Spirit of God, dwell in us.**

O God of Joy, we rejoice in you...  
You run to meet us like a welcoming friend,  
you laugh with us in the merriment of heaven,  
you feast with us at the great banquet,  
O God of Joy, we rejoice in you....

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***

**Lord, you are full of forgiveness  
and grace**

From the deep places of my soul  
I praise you, O God:  
I lift up my heart and glorify your holy name.

From the deep places of my soul  
I praise you, O God:  
How can I forget all your goodness  
towards me?

You forgive all my sin,  
you heal all my weakness,  
you rescue me from the brink of disaster,  
you crown me with mercy and compassion.

You satisfy my being with good things,  
so that my youth is renewed like an eagle's.

You fulfil all that you promise,  
justice for all the oppressed.  
You made known your ways to Moses  
and all the people saw your deeds.

You are full of forgiveness and grace  
endlessly patient, faithful in love,  
you do not haunt us with our sins,  
nor nurse grievances against us.

You do not repay evil with evil,  
for you are greater than our sins.  
As vast as the heavens are  
in comparison with the earth,  
so great is your love to those who trust you.

As far as the east is from the west,  
so far do you fling our sins from us,  
Just as parents are merciful to their children,  
so are you merciful and kind towards us.

For you have triumphed  
over the power of death,  
and draw us to your presence  
with songs of joy.

We hear the echo of your angels praising you,  
and the whole communion of your saints,  
those who have walked in your narrow ways,  
and heard the voice of your yearning,  
whose food is to do your will,  
and in whom you take great delight.

From the widest bounds of the universe  
to the depths of my very being,  
the whispers and cries of joy  
vibrate to a shining glory,  
O God, our beginning and our end.

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

**Lord, you are full of forgiveness  
and grace**

## ***Scripture reading***

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

Jesus said to them, **"They need not go away; you give them something to eat."**

They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish."

And he said, **"Bring them here to me."**

Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he

looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

*Matthew 14: 13 - 21*

## **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)**

**Preserve us, O God, while waking  
and guard us while sleeping,  
that awake we may watch with Christ,  
and asleep may rest in peace**

**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.**

**Preserve us, O God, while waking  
and guard us while sleeping,  
that awake we may watch with Christ,  
and asleep may rest in peace**

## **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.

O God of love and mercy, grant us,  
with all your people, rest and peace.

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

**Amen**

Goodnight ....

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