# Compline : Night Prayer on Tuesdays

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

### The Gathering ...

Welcome and introduction

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

- The priest, people and community of
   S. Catherine Hatchem, in Southwark
   Diocese, especially their online church family
- and for the Birmingham Diocese

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.

God is Spirit, and those who worship God must worship in Spirit and truth

John 4: 24

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

## Song

Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son, endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won; angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

Thine be the Glory, Risen, Conquering Son, endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb; lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the Church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing, for her Lord now liveth; death hast lost its sting!

Thine be the glory....

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
Life is naught without thee:
aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conqu'rors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan, to thy home above.

Thine be the glory....

Text: Edmond Louis Budry, trans. Richard Birch Hoyle Music: 'Maccabeus', G F Handel (HON New Anglican Edition 503)

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...

Merciful God, we have not loved you with our whole heart, nor our neighbours as ourselves. Forgive what we have been, accept us as we are, and guide what we shall be...

O God of Mercy, we thank you....

You forgive our past sins, you strengthen us in your gift of eternal life, you shape us for glory,

O God of Mercy, we thank 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**

I will lift up my eyes to the mountains, but where shall I find help? From you alone, O God, does my help come, Creator of the ever-changing hills. You will not let me stumble on the rough pathways, you care for me and watch over me without ceasing. I am sure that the Guardian of Israel neither slumbers nor sleeps. The God of all peoples keeps watch, like a shadow spread over me. So the sun will not strike me by day, nor the moon by night. You will defend me in the presence of evil, you will guard my life, you will defend my going out and my coming in, this night and always.

Psalm 121

O God, I give you thanks for the wisdom of your counsel, even at night you have instructed my heart. I have set your face always before me, you are at my right hand and I shall not fall. Therefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices, my flesh also shall rest secure.

Psalm 16: 1-8

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

## Scripture reading

I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, not things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will eb able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Romans 8: 38

#### 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 your 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 your peace.

#### 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.

#### Either of the following prayers may be prayed ...

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.

To God the Creator who loved us first and gave this world to be our home,

to God the redeemer who loves us and by dying and rising pioneered the way of freedom,

to God the Sanctifier who spreads the divine love in our hearts, be praise and glory for time and for eternity.

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

#### **A**men

Goodnight ....