

# Compline : Night Prayer for Easter Wednesday

*Material in this service is taken from the Plainsong and Mediaeval Music Society, Faith Press Ltd; and from Common Worship© Archbishops' Council of the Church of England.*

*Reading and psalmody taken from the Anglican Lectionary, psalm and collect from BCP, Cambridge University Press, 2004, Scripture from the KJV*

## The Gathering ...

Welcome and introduction

## Intercession...

*For this office, a time of stillness, to bringing to mind those whom we pray for and hold them in God's love..., bringing the needs of the world, the church, and those who have no-one to pray for them... and to offer thanksgiving. Keep these in your mind and heart during the Office, and let the music wrap and lift.*

## Preparation

The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night  
and a perfect end.  
Amen.

Brethren be sober, be vigilant,  
because your adversary the devil,  
as a roaring lion, walketh about,  
seeking whom he may devour:  
whom resist, steadfast in the faith.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Thanks be to God.

## Song

All sing the refrain (R) between verses.

**Surrexit Christus! alleluia!**  
**Cantate Domino, alleluia!**

*(Christ is risen! Alleluia! Sing to the Lord, Alleluia!)*

Verses:

All you heavens, bless the Lord (R)  
Stars of the heavens bless the Lord (R)

Sun and moon, bless the Lord (R)  
And you, night and day, bless the Lord (R)

Frost and cold, bless the Lord (R)  
Ice and snow, bless the Lord (R)

Fire and heat, bless the Lord (R)  
And you, light & darkness, bless the Lord (R)

Spirits and souls of the just, bless the Lord (R)  
Saints and the humble hearted, bless the Lord (R)

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good (R)  
For his love has no end (R)

The Lord is my strength, the Lord is my song (R)  
He has been my Saviour (R)

## Psalmody

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

O give thanks unto the Lord,  
and call upon his *Name*:\*  
tell the people what things *he* hath done.

O let your songs be of him, and *praise* him:\*  
and let your talking be of all  
his *won-drous* works.

Rejoice in his holy *Name*:\*  
let the heart of them rejoice  
that seek the Lord.

Seek the Lord and his *strength*:\*  
seek his face *ev-ermore*.

Remember the marvellous works  
that he hath *done*:\*  
his wonders, and the judgments *of* his mouth,

O ye seed of Abraham his ser-vant:.\*  
Ye children of Ja-cob his chosen.

He is the Lord our *God*:\*  
his judgements are in *all* the world.

He hath been always mindful of his covenant  
and *pro-mise*:\*  
that he made to a thousand *ge-ne-rations*;

Even the covenant that he made  
with *Ab-raham*:\*  
and the oath he *swäre* unto Isaac

*Psalm 105: 1-9*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:  
and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever *shall* be:  
world without *end*. Amen.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### **Scripture reading**

Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre; And when they found not his body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive.

And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found it even so as the women had said: but him they saw not.

Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and he made as though he would have gone further. But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them.

And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them, saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon.

And they told what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread

*Luke 24: 22-35*

### **Easter Antiphon**

This is the day which was made by the Lord :  
let us rejoice and be glad, alleluia!

Keep me as the apple of an eye.  
**Hide me under the shadow  
of thy wings**

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

**Alleluia.  
He is not here: for he is risen, as he said.  
Alleluia!**

**Lord, now lettest thou thy servant  
depart in *peace*:  
according to thy word.**

**For mine eyes have seen:  
thy *sal-va-tion***

**Which thou hast *pre-par-ed*:  
before the face of *all* people.**

**To be a light to lighten the *Gen-tiles*:  
and to be the glory of thy *peo-ple* Israel.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:  
and to the Holy Ghost.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now  
and ever *shall* be:  
world without end.  
Amen**

**Alleluia.  
He is not here: for he is risen, as he said.  
Alleluia!**

### ***Words of prayer, repentance and forgiveness....***

Lord, have mercy upon us  
**Christ, have mercy upon us**  
Lord, have mercy upon us

### **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.**

**Amen.**

Blessed art thou, Lord God of our fathers;  
**To be praised and glorified  
above all for ever.**

Let us bless the Father, the Son  
and the Holy Ghost;  
**Let us praise him  
and magnify him for ever.**

Blessed art thou, O Lord,  
in the firmament of heaven;  
**to be praised and glorified  
above all for ever.**

The almighty and most merciful Lord  
guard us and give us his blessing.  
**Amen.**

*Spoken...*

We confess to God Almighty, the Father,  
the Son, and the Holy Ghost, that we have  
sinned in thought, word and deed, through  
our own grievous fault. Wherefore we pray  
God to have mercy upon us.

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive  
us all our sins and deliver us from all evil,  
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,  
and bring us to life everlasting. Through  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wilt thou not turn again and quicken us;  
**that thy people may rejoice in thee?**

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us;  
**and grant us thy salvation.**

Vouchsafe, O Lord,  
to keep us this night without sin  
**O Lord, have mercy upon us,  
have mercy upon us.**

O Lord, hear our prayer  
**and let our cry come unto thee.**

### **Collect**

Let us pray

Almighty God, who through thy only-  
begotten Son, Jesus Christ, hast overcome  
death, and opened unto us the gate of  
everlasting life:  
we humbly beseech thee, that as by thy  
special grace preventing us thou dost put into  
our minds good desires, so by thy continual  
help we may bring the same to good effect;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the  
Holy Ghost, ever one God,  
world without end.  
**Amen**

## ***Blessing and departure***

We will lay us down in peace,  
and take our rest;  
**For it is thou, Lord, only  
that makest us dwell in safety.**

The Lord be with you;  
**and with thy Spirit.**

Let us bless the Lord;  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Amen**

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

**Amen**

## ***The Regina Caeli***

Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven  
**Alleluia!**

He whom thou wast meet to bear  
**Alleluia!**

As he promised hath arisen!  
**Alleluia!**  
Pour for us to God thy prayer  
**Alleluia!**

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary  
**Alleluia!**  
For the Lord is Risen indeed!  
**Alleluia!**

O God, who by the Resurrection of your Son,  
Our Lord, Jesus Christ, brought joy to the  
whole world, grant that, aided by the prayers  
of his mother, the Virgin Mary, we may know  
the joys of eternal life:  
through Jesus Christ our Lord

**Amen.**

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Goodnight ....