

# Compline : Night Prayer for Ascensiontide

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*Ascensiontide Collect from The Divine Office, the Liturgy of  
the Hours, Published Collins, 2016,*

## The Gathering ...

Welcome and introduction

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

- the clergy team, people and community of  
the Wolverhampton Methodist Circuit*
- and for the Liverpool Diocese.*

## Preparation

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.**

## Words of sorrow, love, mercy and forgiveness....

Christ has gone up on high,  
leading captivity captive  
and bringing gifts for all peoples.  
As we prepare ourselves to meet him  
in sorrow we confess our sins

*Time of silence*

**Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy**

## Hymn

Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!  
to the throne above the skies; alleluia!  
Christ the lamb, for sinners giv'n, Alleluia!  
enters now the highest heav'n! alleluia!

There for him high triumph waits; Alleluia!  
lift heads, eternal gates! Alleluia!  
He hath conquered death and sin; Alleluia!  
take the King of Glory in! Alleluia!

Circled round with angel-pow'rs, Alleluia!  
their triumphant Lord and ours; Alleluia!  
wide unfold the radiant scene, Alleluia!  
take the King of Glory in! Alleluia!

Lo, the heav'n its Lord receives, Alleluia!  
yet he loves the earth he leaves; Alleluia!  
though returning to his throne, Alleluia!  
Calls the human race his own. Alleluia!

*Text: Charles Wesley, Tomas Cotterill et al  
Music: 'ascension', William Henry Monk*

## Psalmody

### Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Clap your hands together, all you peoples;\*  
O sing to God with shouts of joy.

For the Lord Most High is to be feared;\*  
He is the great King over all the earth.

He subdued the peoples under us,\*  
and the nations under our feet.

He has chosen our heritage for us,\*  
the pride of Jacob, whom he loves.

God has gone up with a merry noise,\*  
the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.

O sing praises to God, sing praises;\*  
sing praises to our King, sing praises.

For God is the King of all the earth;\*  
sing praises with all your skill.

*Psalm 47: 1-7*

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

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### **Scripture reading**

Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them,  
*“Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”*

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

*Luke 24: 45 -53*

*Taken from the Eucharistic Anglican Lectionary gospel reading  
for the Ascension, NRSV*

### **Responsory**

Into your hands, O Lord,  
I commend my spirit. Alleluia, Alleuia!  
**Into your hands, O Lord,  
I commend my spirit. Alleluia, Alleuia!**

For you have redeemed me,  
Lord God of truth.  
**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to  
the Holy Spirit.  
**Into your hands, O Lord, I commend  
my spirit.  
Alleluia, Alleuia!**

Keep me as the apple of your eye,  
**Hide me under the shadow  
of your wings.**

### **Nunc Dimittis (Gospel Cantic)**

**Alleluia. The Lord is risen, alleluia,  
as he promised to you. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Now, Lord,  
you let your servant go in peace\*  
your word has been fulfilled.**

**My own eyes have seen the salvation\*  
which you have prepared  
in the sight of every people;**

**A light to reveal you to the nations\*  
and the glory of your people, Israel.**

**Glory be 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,  
world without end.  
Amen**

**Alleluia. The Lord is risen, alleluia,  
as he promised to you. 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... prayers for those  
who are unwell, those who have died, and those  
who mourn*

### **Collect for Ascensiontide**

Almighty God,  
fill us with a holy joy;  
teach us how to thank you  
with reverence and love  
on account of the ascension  
of Christ your Son.  
You have raised us up with him:  
Where he, the head, has preceded us in glory,  
here we, the body, are called in hope.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of  
the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen**

### **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***

In peace we will lie down and sleep;  
**for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in  
safety.**

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,  
**for the night is at hand  
and the day is now past.**

As the night watch looks for the morning,  
**so do we look for you, O Christ**

May the risen Lord bless us.  
May he watch over us and renew us  
as he renews the whole of creation.  
May our hearts and lives echo his love.

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

*Goodnight....*