

# Compline : Night Prayer in Eastertide

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

Welcome and introduction

Christ is Risen!  
He is Risen indeed!  
**Alleluia!**

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

- *the priest, people and community of S.  
Stephen, Rednal, Birmingham*
- *and for the Lichfield 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.**

Pray in the power of the Spirit. Keep watch  
and persevere, and remember all God's  
people.

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...**

Loving God, close your eyes to our sins,  
**We who have wounded your love.**

Refine us with the flame of your Spirit:  
**Cleanse us with springs of living water.**

Save us with words of forgiveness and peace:  
**make us whole, steadfast in spirit.**

Broken are our bones, yet you can heal us,  
**and we shall leap for joy  
and dance again.**

O God of Love, we adore you ...  
You transfigure our disfigured faces,  
you strive with our resistant clay,  
you bring out of our chaos, harmony.  
O God of Love, we adore 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**

### **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in time of trouble.  
Therefore we shall not be afraid,  
even though the earth be moved,  
even though the mountains should crumble  
and fall into the sea,  
even though the waters should foam and rage,  
assault the cliffs and make them shudder.

You are for us the God of the powers,  
a safe stronghold, the God of all peoples.

There is a river  
whose streams make glad the city of God.  
Here is God's dwelling place  
and it will stand firm.  
God's rescue dawns like the morning light,  
God's voice echoes through every land.  
When the powerful nations panic and totter,  
and the whole world comes crashing down,

You are for us the God of the powers,  
a safe stronghold, the God of all peoples.

They who dwell in the shelter  
of the Most High,  
who abide under the shadow of the Almighty,  
say to our God,  
you are my refuge and stronghold,  
my God in whom I put my trust.  
You set me free from the snare of the hunter,  
and from evil's destroying curse.  
You cover me with your wings,  
And I shall be safe under your feathers.

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

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **Scripture reading**

Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

*Isaiah 40:28-31*

## **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 Cantic)**

**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.**

**Amen**

*Goodnight ....*

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