

# Compline : Night Prayer in Eastertide

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

*Gospel antiphon from The Divine Office, the Liturgy of  
the Hours, Collins, 2016*

## The Gathering ...

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

Welcome and introduction

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

- *S. John, Greenland, Redditch in Worcester  
Diocese*
- *and for the Yorkshire and North East  
Methodist District.*

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.**

Be alert; stand firm in the faith; be valiant and  
strong. Let everything you do be done in love.

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

## Hymn

Through the night of doubt and sorrow  
onward goes the pilgrim band,  
singing songs of expectation,  
marching to the promised land.

Clear before us through the darkness  
gleams and burns the guiding light;  
pilgrim clasps the hand of pilgrim,  
stepping fearless through the night.

One the object of our journey,  
one the faith which never tires,  
one the earnest looking forward,  
one the hope our God inspires

*Text: Bernhardt Severin Ingemann, Trans. Sabine Baring-Gould  
Music: 'Marching' Martin Shaw*

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...

Hear the wisdom of Jesus:  
abide in my love:  
**Kyrie Eleison**

Love your enemies:  
**Christe Eleison**

Love your neighbour as yourself:  
**Kyrie Eleison**

Love one another as I have loved you:  
**Christe Eleison**

Above all, love God  
with the whole of your being:  
**Kyrie Eleison**

O God of forgiveness, we contemplate you...

you pour out your lifeblood in love for us,  
you pursue us and disturb us and accept us,  
you meet our sin and pain with the gift  
of a costly and infinite enduring,  
overcoming evil with good.

O God of forgiveness, we contemplate 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!**

Light of light, you have searched me out  
and known me.  
You know where I am and where I go,  
you see my thoughts from afar.  
You discern my paths and my resting places,  
you are acquainted with all my ways.  
Yes, and not a word comes from my lips  
but you, O God, have heard it already.  
You are in front of me  
and you are behind me,  
You have laid your hand on my shoulder.  
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,  
so great that I cannot fathom it.

Where shall I go from your Spirit,  
where shall I flee from your Presence?  
If I climb to the heavens you are there:  
if I descend to the depths of the earth,  
you are there also.  
If I spread my wings towards the morning,  
and fly to the uttermost shores of the sea,  
even there your hand will lead me,  
and your right hand will hold me.  
If I should cry to the darkness to cover me,  
and the night to enclose me,  
the darkness is no darkness to you,  
and the night is as clear as the day.  
For you have created every part of my being,  
cell and tissue, blood and bone.  
You have woven me  
in the womb of my mother;  
I will praise you, so wonderfully am I made.

*Psalm 139: 1-14*

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

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### **Scripture reading**

It is the God who said, let light shine out of  
darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give  
us the light of the knowledge of the glory of  
God in the face of Jesus Christ

*2 Corinthians 4: 6*

### **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. Christ is risen, alleluia.  
He is risen indeed, 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. Christ is risen, alleluia.  
He is risen indeed, 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 grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and communion in the Holy Spirit,  
be with us now and always.

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

**Amen**

*Goodnight ....*