

# Compline : Night Prayer on Friday

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## The Gathering ...

### Welcome and introduction

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

- the Priest, clergy and ministry team, church family, and community, of S. John, Greenlands, in the Worcester Diocese
- and for the Gloucester 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....

*Time of silence*

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

○ God make speed to save us.  
**○ Lord make haste to help us.**

**Glory 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.**

## Hymn

*Walk with me, O my Lord,  
through the darkest night and brightest day.  
Be at my side, O Lord,  
hold my hand and guide me on my way.*

Sometimes the road seems long,  
my energy is spent.  
Then, Lord, I think of you  
and I am given strength

*Walk with me, O my Lord,  
through the darkest night and brightest day.  
Be at my side, O Lord,  
hold my hand and guide me on my way.*

Stones often bar my path,  
and there are times I fall,  
but you are always there  
to help me when I call.

*Walk with me, O my Lord,  
through the darkest night and brightest day.  
Be at my side, O Lord,  
hold my hand and guide me on my way.*

Just as you calmed the wind  
and walked upon the sea  
conquer, my living Lord,  
the storms that threaten me.

*Walk with me, O my Lord,  
through the darkest night and brightest day.  
Be at my side, O Lord,  
hold my hand and guide me on my way.*

Help me to pierce the mists  
that cloud my heart and mind,  
so that I shall not fear  
the steepest mountain-side.

*Walk with me, O my Lord,  
through the darkest night and brightest day.  
Be at my side, O Lord,  
hold my hand and guide me on my way.*

*Text and Music : Estelle White  
(HON 1994 edition 441)*

## Psalmody

**Search me out, O God,  
and know my heart**

○ Lord,  
you have searched me out and known me;\*  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.

You mark out my journeys  
and my resting place\*  
and are acquainted with all my ways.

For there is not a word on my tongue,\*  
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

You encompass me behind and before\*  
and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,\*  
so high I cannot attain it.

Where can I go then from your spirit?\*  
or where can I flee from your presence?

If I climb up to heaven, you are there;\*  
if I make the grave my bed,  
you are there also.

If I take the wings of the morning\*  
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

Even there your hand shall lead me,\*  
your right hand hold me fast.

If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me\*  
and the light around me turn to night,'

Even darkness is no darkness with you;  
the night is as clear as the day;\*  
darkness and light to you are both alike.

For you yourself created my inmost parts;\*  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I thank you,  
for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;\*  
Marvellous are your works,  
my soul knows well.

My frame was not hidden from you,\*  
when I was made in secret  
and woven in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes beheld my form, as yet unfinished;\*  
already in your book  
were all my members written,

As day by day they were fashioned\*  
when as yet there was none of them.

How deep are your counsels to me, O God!  
How great is the sum of them!

If I count them,  
they are more in number than the sand,\*  
and at the end, I am still in your presence.

*Psalm 139: 1-18*

**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.**

**Search me out, O God,  
and know my heart**

### ***Scripture reading***

God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining  
salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died  
for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we  
may live with him.

*1 Thessalonians 5: 9-10*

### ***Responsory***

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

For you have redeemed me,  
Lord God of truth.  
**I commend my spirit.**

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

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

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

**Save us, O Lord, while waking,  
and guard us while sleeping,  
that awake we may watch with Christ,  
and asleep may rest in peace.**

**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**

**Save us, O Lord, while waking,  
and guard us while sleeping,  
that awake we may watch with Christ,  
and asleep may rest in peace.**

### ***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...*

### **Collect**

Holy God,  
faithful and unchanging:  
enlarge our minds with the knowledge of  
your truth,  
and draw us more deeply into the mystery of  
your love,  
that we may truly worship you,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for 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 Lord bless us, protect us from  
all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
Amen**