

# Compline: Night Prayer for Friday in Ordinary Time

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## **The Gathering ...**

Welcome and introduction

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

- *the priest, people and community of the  
Vineyard Church in Cardiff*
- *and for the Lincoln 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.**

*A period of reflection on the past day...*

**Holy God,  
holy and strong,  
holy and immortal:  
have mercy on us.**

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

**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**

## **Hymn**

We cannot measure how you heal  
or answer every sufferer's prayer,  
yet we believe your grace responds  
where faith and doubt unite to care.  
Your hands, though bloodied on the cross,  
survive to hold and heal and warn,  
to carry all through death to life  
and cradle children yet unborn.

The pain that will not go away,  
the guilt that clings from things long past,  
the fear of what the future holds,  
are present as if meant to last.  
But present too is love, which tends  
the hurt we never hoped to find,  
the private agonies inside,  
the memories that haunt the mind.

So some have come who need your help  
and some have come to make amends  
as hands which shaped and saved the world  
are present in the touch of friends.  
Lord, let your Spirit meet us here  
to mend the body, mind, and soul,  
to disentangle peace from pain  
and make your broken people whole

*Text: John Bell, and Graham Maule  
Music: 'Ye Banks and Braes' (STF 655)*

## **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 by your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,\*  
so high that 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 tame 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**

When Jesus had come down from the mountain,  
great crowds followed him; 2 and there was a leper  
who came to him and knelt before him, saying,  
"Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean."

He stretched out his hand and touched him, saying,  
"I do choose. Be made clean!"  
Immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

Then Jesus said to him, "See that you say nothing to  
anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and  
offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a  
testimony to them."

*Matthew 8: 1-4*

## **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  
**Into your hands, O Lord,  
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 Cantic)**

**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...***

Holy God, in whom we live and move  
and have our being,  
we make our prayer to you, saying,  
Lord hear us.

*holding each other 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**

Lighten our darkness, Lord, we pray;

and in your mercy defend us  
from all perils and dangers of this night;  
for the love of your only Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Amen**

**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**

*Goodnight...*

**The Lord's Prayer**