

# Compline : Night Prayer Plainsong

*Material in this service is taken from the Plainsong and  
Mediaeval Music Society, Faith Press Ltd  
Sonnet for Trinity Sunday by Fr. Malcolm Guite, Sounding the  
Seasons: Seventy Sonnets for the Christian Year, Canterbury  
Press, Norwich, 2012  
Scripture from the KJV  
All songs and prayers are covered by copyright licences as below:  
CCLI 1104698, Calamus 2120*

## The Gathering ...

Welcome and introduction

## Intercession...

*A time of stillness, bringing to mind those whom we  
pray for and hold them in God's love..., bringing the  
needs of the world, the church, and those who have  
no-one to pray for them... and to offer thanksgiving.  
Keep these in your mind and heart during the Office,  
and let the music wrap and lift.*

*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. Stephen,  
Rednal, in the Worcester Diocese*
- *and for the Norwich Diocese*

Sign of the Cross

## Preparation

### Sonnet for Trinity Sunday

In the Beginning, not in time or space,  
But in the quick before both space and time,  
In Life, in Love, in co-inherent Grace,  
In three in one and one in three, in rhyme,  
In music, in the whole creation story,  
In His own image, His imagination,  
The Triune Poet makes us for His glory,  
And makes us each the other's inspiration.  
He calls us out of darkness, chaos, chance,  
To improvise a music of our own,  
To sing the chord that calls us to the dance,  
Three notes resounding from a single tone,  
To sing the End in whom we all begin;  
Our God beyond, beside us and within.

The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night  
and a perfect end.

**Amen.**

Brethren be sober, be vigilant,  
because your adversary the devil,  
as a roaring lion, walketh about,  
seeking whom he may devour:  
whom resist, steadfast in the faith.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**Thanks be to God.**

\*

O God make speed to save us;  
**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

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

Praise ye the Lord  
**The Lord's Name be praised**

## Psalmody

Hear me when I call, O God  
of my *right-eousness*:  
thou hast set me at liberty  
when I was in trouble;  
have mercy upon me,  
and hearken un-to my prayer.

O ye sons of men,  
how long will ye blaspheme mine *ho-nour*:  
and have such pleasure in vanity  
and seek af-ter leasing?

Know this also,  
that the Lord hath chosen to himself  
the one that is *god-ly*:  
when I call upon the Lord, he *will* hear me.

Stand in awe, and *sin*, not:  
commune with your own heart,  
and in your cham-ber, and be still.

Offer the sacrifice of *right-eousness*:  
and put your *trust* in the Lord.

There be many that say:  
who will shew *us* any good?

Lord, lift thou *up*:  
the light of thy countenance *up-on* us.

Thou hast put gladness in my *heart*:  
since the time that their corn and wine  
and oil *in-creased*.

I will lay me down in peace and take my rest:  
for it is thou, Lord only,  
that makest me dwell *in* safety.

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

## **Scripture reading**

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying,

*'All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.  
Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing  
them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and  
of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all  
things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I  
am with you always, even unto the end of the  
world. Amen.'*

**Thanks be to God.**

*Matthew 28:18-20*

*Taken from the Anglican Eucharistic lectionary for the day*

## **Responsory**

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

For thou hast redeemed me,  
O Lord, thou God of truth  
**I commend my spirit.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
**Into thy hands, O Lord,  
I commend my Spirit**

## **Hymn**

I bind this day to me for ever,  
by power of faith, Christ's incarnation,  
his baptism in the Jordan river,  
his death on cross for my salvation  
his bursting from the spiced tomb,  
his riding up the heavenly way  
his coming at the day of doom,  
I bind unto myself today.

I bind unto myself today,  
the power of God to hold and lead,  
his eye to watch, his might to stay,  
his ear to hearken to my need;  
the wisdom of my God to teach,  
his hand to guide, his shield to ward,  
the Word of God to give me speech,  
his heavenly host to be my guard

Christ be with me,  
Christ within me,  
Christ behind me,  
Christ before me,  
Christ beside me,  
Christ to win me,  
Christ to comfort and restore me,  
Christ beneath me,  
Christ above me,  
Christ in quiet,  
Christ in danger,  
Christ in hearts of all that love me,  
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

I bind unto myself the Name,  
the strong Name of the Trinity,  
by invocation of the same,  
the Three in One and One in Threer,  
of whom all nature hath creation,  
eternal Father, Spirit, Word.  
Praise to the Lord of my salvation:  
salvation is of Christ the Lord.  
Amen.

*Tune: 'S. Patrick's Breastplate'*

*Text: S. Patrick's Lorica, Ascribed to S. Patrick  
(Hymns Ancient & Modern Revised, 162 vv. 2, 5, 8, 9)*

Keep me as the apple of an eye.  
Hide me under the shadow  
of thy wings

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

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

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant  
depart in *peace*:  
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen:  
thy *sal*-vation

Which thou hast *pre-par*-ed:  
before the face of *all* people.

To be a light to lighten the *Gen*-tiles:  
and to be the glory of thy *peo-ple* Israel.

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

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

### ***Words of prayer, repentance and forgiveness....***

Lord, have mercy upon us  
**Christ, have mercy upon us**  
Lord, have mercy upon us

## **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.  
**Amen.**

Blessed art thou, Lord God of our fathers;  
**To be praised and glorified**  
**above all for ever.**

Let us bless the Father, the Son  
and the Holy Ghost;  
**Let us praise him**  
**and magnify him for ever.**

Blessed art thou, O Lord,  
in the firmament of heaven;  
**to be praised and glorified**  
**above all for ever.**

The almighty and most merciful Lord  
guard us and give us his blessing.  
**Amen.**

\*

We confess to God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, that we have sinned in thought, word and deed, through our own grievous fault. Wherefore we pray God to have mercy upon us.

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us all our sins and deliver us from all evil, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to life everlasting. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

\*

Wilt thou not turn again and quicken us;  
**that thy people may rejoice in thee?**

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us;  
**and grant us thy salvation.**

Vouchsafe, O Lord,  
to keep us this night without sin  
**O Lord, have mercy upon us,  
have mercy upon us.**

O Lord, hear our prayer  
**and let our cry come unto thee.**

## ***Collect***

Let us pray

Almighty and everlasting God, who hast given  
unto us thy servants grace, by the confession  
of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of  
the eternal Trinity, and in the power of the  
Divine Majesty to worship the Unity: we  
beseech thee, that thou wouldest keep us  
stedfast in this faith, and evermore defend us  
from all adversities, who livest and reignest,  
one God, world without end

**Amen**

## ***Blessing and departure***

We will lay us down in peace,  
and take our rest;  
**For it is thou, Lord, only  
that makest us dwell in safety.**

The Lord be with you;  
**and with thy Spirit.**

Let us bless the Lord;  
**Thanks be to God.**

May the souls of the faithful,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.  
**Amen**

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

**Amen**