

# Compline : Night Prayer on Thursday

S. Martha of Bethany (trsf),  
William Wilberforce

## The Gathering ...

Welcome and introduction

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

- *the Priest, clergy, church family, and  
community, of S. John, Greenlands, in the  
Worcester Diocese.*
- *and for the Llandaff Diocese*

O God, come to our aid,  
**O 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.**

## Hymn

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,  
naught be all else to me,  
save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought in the day  
and the night,  
waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,  
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord.  
Thou art my father through Jesus thy son,  
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate,  
my sword for the fight,  
be thou my armour, and be thou my might.  
Thou my soul's shelter,  
and thou my high tower;  
raise thou me heavenward,  
O power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor all the world's praise,  
thou my inheritance through all my days,  
thou and thou only, the first in my heart;  
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heav'n,  
when battle is done,  
grant heavn's joy to me,  
O bright heavn's Sun,  
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*Text: 8<sup>th</sup> Century Irish, trans Mary Byrne, Eleanor Hull  
Music 'Slane', trad Irish.*

## Psalmody

### My body shall rest in safety

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you,  
I say to the Lord: 'You are my God\*  
my happiness lies in you alone.'

He has put into my heart a marvellous love\*  
for the faithful ones who dwell in his land.  
Those who choose other gods  
increase their sorrows.  
Never will I take their offerings of blood\*  
Never will I take their name upon my lips.

O Lord, it is you  
who are my portion and cup;\*  
it is you yourself who are my prize.  
The lot marked out for me is my delight: \*  
welcome indeed the heritage that falls to me!

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,\*  
who even at night directs my heart.  
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:\*  
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;\*  
even my body shall rest in safety.  
For you will not leave my soul  
among the dead,\*  
nor let your beloved know decay.

You will show me the path of life,  
the fulness of joy in your presence,\*  
at your right hand, happiness for ever.

**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.**

**My body shall rest in safety**

## **Scripture reading**

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me."

*Luke 10: 38-40*

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him."

Jesus said to her, "**Your brother will rise again.**"

Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day."

Jesus said to her, "**I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?**"

She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

*John 11: 20-27*

"Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him"

*John 12: 1-2*

## **Responsory**

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

You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth.  
**Into your hands, Lord,  
I commend my spirit**

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

## **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**

God our Father,  
whose Son enjoyed the love of his friends,  
Mary, Martha and Lazarus,  
in learning, argument and hospitality:  
may we so rejoice in your love  
that the world may come to know  
the depths of your wisdom,  
the wonder of your compassion,  
and your power to bring life out of death;  
through the merits of Jesus Christ,  
our friend and brother,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## **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.**

## ***Nunc Dimittis (Gospel Cantic)***

**Save us Lord, while we are awake;  
protect us while we sleep;  
that we may keep watch with Christ,  
and rest with him in peace.**

**At last, all-powerful Master,  
you give leave to your servant  
to go in peace,  
according to your promise.**

**For my eyes have seen your salvation  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles  
and give glory to Israel, your people.**

**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 Lord, while we are awake;  
protect us while we sleep;  
that we may keep watch with Christ,  
and rest with him in peace.**

### ***Blessing and departure***

Lord our God,  
restore us again by the repose of sleep  
after the fatigue of our daily work:  
so that, continually renewed by your help,  
we may serve you in body and soul.  
Through Christ our Lord.

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

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

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