

# Compline : Night Prayer on Tuesdays

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

## The Gathering ...

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

- *The priest, people and community of  
S. Michael & All Angels, Dafen in S. David's  
Diocese*
- *and for the Durham Diocese*

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.**

God is Spirit, and those who worship God  
must worship in Spirit and truth

*John 4: 24*

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

## Hymn

Guide me, O Thou great redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
hold me with thy pow'rful hand:  
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore  
feed me now and evermore.

Open now thy crystal fountain,  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through:  
strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,  
be thou still my strength and shield  
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee.

*Text: William Williams, trs. Peter Wililams  
Music: 'Cwm Rhonnda' by John Hughes  
(HON New Anglican Edition 188)*

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...

Merciful God,  
we have not loved you with our whole heart,  
nor our neighbours as ourselves.  
Forgive what we have been,  
accept us as we are,  
and guide what we shall be...

O God of Mercy, we thank you....

You forgive our past sins,  
you strengthen us in your gift of eternal life,  
you shape us for glory,

O God of Mercy, we thank 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**

I will lift up my eyes to the mountains,  
but where shall I find help?  
From you alone, O God, does my help come,  
Creator of the ever-changing hills.  
You will not let me stumble  
on the rough pathways,  
you care for me  
and watch over me without ceasing.  
I am sure that the Guardian of Israel  
neither slumbers nor sleeps.  
The God of all peoples keeps watch,  
like a shadow spread over me.  
So the sun will not strike me by day,  
nor the moon by night.  
You will defend me in the presence of evil,  
you will guard my life,  
you will defend my going out  
and my coming in,  
this night and always.

*Psalm 121*

O God, I give you thanks  
for the wisdom of your counsel,  
even at night you have instructed my heart.  
I have set your face always before me,  
you are at my right hand and I shall not fall.  
Therefore my heart is glad  
and my spirit rejoices,  
my flesh also shall rest secure.

*Psalm 16: 1-8*

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

## **Scripture reading**

God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of  
power and of love and of a sound mind.

*2 Timothy 1:7*

## **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)**

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

**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.**

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

## **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.

*Either of the following prayers may be prayed ...*

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.

To God the Creator  
who loved us first  
and gave this world to be our home,

to God the redeemer who loves us  
and by dying and rising  
pioneered the way of freedom,

to God the Sanctifier  
who spreads the divine love in our hearts,  
be praise and glory for time and for eternity.

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

**Amen**

*Goodnight ....*