

# Compline : Night Prayer on Thursday S. Teresa of Avila

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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, and ministry team, church family, and community, of S. Andrew, Malvern, in the Worcester Diocese*
- *and for the Llandaff diocese*

*S. Teresa of Avila... born at Avila in 1515, entered a carmelite convent, but suffered profound illness as a young woman. Eventually after a period of dry spirituality she experienced a revival and set about a reform of the Carmelite order, moving to a much more simple, and strict observance. She was also a deeply beautiful spiritual writer, writing about her experience of prayer in learning to receive God's gift of union with him in love, and sharing deeply honestly her fragilities and struggles. 'The Interior Castle' is a work that is still widely popular and read today – (book recommendation again!)*

*"accustom yourself continually to make many acts of love, for they enkindle and melt the soul"*

*"I could be tempted by a sardine"*

*"God walks among the kitchen pots"*

## 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

As pants the hart for cooling streams  
when heated in the chase,  
so longs my soul, O God, for thee,  
and thy refreshing grace.

For thee, my God, the living God  
my thirsty soul doth pine:  
I when shall I behold thy face,  
thou majesty divine?

Why restless, why cast down, my soul?  
hope still, and thou shalt sing  
the praise of him who is thy God,  
thy health's eternal spring.

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
the God whom we adore,  
be glory, as it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

*Text : based on psalm 42  
Music: 'Martyrdom' Hugh Wilson  
(HON New Anglican 38)*

## Psalmody

**The Lord is at my right hand;  
I shall not fall**

Preserve me, O God,  
for in you have I taken refuge;\*  
I have said to the Lord, 'You are my lord,  
all my good depends on you.'

All my delight is upon the godly  
that are in the land,\*  
upon those who are noble in heart.

Though the idols are legion  
that many run after,\*  
their drink offerings of blood I will not offer,  
neither make mention of their names  
upon my lips.

The Lord himself is my portion and cup;\*  
in your hands alone is my fortune.  
My share has fallen in a fair land;\*  
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

I will bless the Lord  
who has given me counsel,\*  
and in the night watches  
he instructs my heart.  
I have set the Lord always before me;\*  
he is at my right hand; I shall not fall.

Wherefore my heart is glad  
and my spirit rejoices,\*  
my flesh also shall rest secure.

For you will not abandon my soul to Death,\*  
nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.

You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence is the fullness of joy\*  
and in your right hand  
are pleasures for evermore.

*Psalm 16*

**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.**

**The Lord is at my right hand;  
I shall not fall**

## **Scripture reading**

You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its  
taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no  
longer good for anything, but is thrown out and  
trampled under foot

*Matthew 5: 13*

*Taken from the Anglican Eucharistic Lectionary for the Lesser  
Festival of S. Teresa of Avila, NRSV*

## **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 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...**

*Bringing to mind those whom we pray for and holding them in God's love..., bringing the needs of the world, the church, those who have died, and those who have no-one to pray for them...*

### **Collect**

Keep watch, dear Lord,  
with those who wake,  
or watch,  
or weep this night,  
and give your angels  
charge over those who sleep.  
Tend the sick,  
give rest to the weary,  
sustain the dying,  
calm the suffering,  
and pity the distressed;  
all for your Love's sake,  
O Christ our Redeemer. Amen

### **Collect for S. Teresa of Avila**

Merciful God,  
who by your Spirit raised up your servant  
Teresa of Avila  
to reveal to your Church  
the way of perfection:  
grant that her teaching may awaken in us  
a longing for holiness,  
until we attain to the perfect union of love  
in Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the 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. 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**