

Ita Compline

S. Luke the Evangelist



The Gathering ...

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

- *the priest, clergy team, people and communities Ss. John and James, in the Litherland & Orrell Hey Team, in the Liverpool Diocese*
- *and for the Liverpool Diocese.*

We begin by making the sign of the Cross

Preparation

God of the gathering storm,
calling us to announce
the nearness of your rule:
we praise you for the good news of Luke,
for stories of searching love
and grace found in the foreigner;
of women of strength and rebellion
and men called from the margins;
may we be bearers of that Word
to a world hungry for you;
through Jesus Christ,
who feasted with sinners
Amen. Alleluia

*Fr. Steven Shakespeare,
Prayers for an Inclusive Church, Canterbury Press, Norwich, 2008*

**The Sacred Three
to save
to shield
to surround
this night every night**

Self-examination, Sorrow and forgiveness....

Search me, O God, and know my heart.
Test me and know my thoughts.

See if there is any wicked way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting.

**O Father, O Son, O Holy Spirit,
forgive me my sins.**

**O only-begotten Son
of the heavenly Father,
forgive.**

**O God who is one,
O God who is true,
O God who is first,
O God who is one substance,
O God only mighty,
in three Persons, truly merciful
forgive.**

O God of life, this night,
O darken not to us thy light.

O God of life this night,
close not thy gladness to my sight.

Hymn

Apostles of our ancient faith,
with all the heav'n's we sing your fame
whose sound went forth in all the earth
to tell of Christ, and bless his Name.

You took the gospel to the poor,
the Word of God alight in you,
which in our day is told again:
that timeless word, for ever new.

You told of God, who died for us
and out of death triumphant rose,
who gave the truth that made us free,
and changeless through the ages goes.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
whose gift is faith that never dies
a light in darkness now, until
the day-star in our hearts arise.

*Text : The Benedictine nuns of Stanbrook Abbey
Music: 'Herongate' trad English, arr. RVW*

Psalmody

Psalm 86: 1-10

Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer me,*
for I am poor and in misery.

Preserve my soul, for I am faithful;*
save your servant, for I put my trust in you.

Be merciful to me, O Lord,
for you are my God;*
I call upon you all the day long.

Gladden the soul of your servant,*
for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

For you, Lord, are good and forgiving,*
abounding in steadfast love
to all who call upon you.

Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer*
and listen to the voice of my supplication.

In the day of my distress I will call upon you,*
for you will answer me.

Among the gods
there is none like you, O Lord,
nor any works like yours.

All nations you have made shall come
and worship you, O Lord,*
and shall glorify your name.

For you are great and do wonderful things,*
you alone are God.

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

Scripture reading

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a feeble heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert.

Isaiah 35: 3-6

Response

Keep your people, Lord,
in the arms of your embrace.
Shelter them under your wings.

Intercession...

Father abide
Christ beside
Spirit reside
The Three shield

Be our light in darkness.
Be our hope in distress.
Be our calm in anxiety.
Be our strength in weakness.
Be our comfort in pain.
Be our song in the night.

.....

Holy God, Three in One,
enfold in love
heal in mercy
and hold in delight and mercy
those who have died.
Shield and encircle those who mourn
O Jesu, O Spirit, O loving Father,
hold.
Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Holy Three in One,
Lift these prayers this night
and hold us and all creation
always in the circle of your love

Collect for S. Luke

Almighty God,
you called S. Luke the physician,
whose praise is in the gospel.
to be an evangelist and physician of the soul:
by the grace of the Spirit
and through the wholesome medicine
of the gospel,
give your Church the same love and
power to heal;
through 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.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Nunc Dimittis (Gospel Canticle)

**Grant us your light, O Lord,
that the darkness
of our hearts being overcome
we may receive the true light,
even Christ our Saviour**

**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**

**Grant us your light, O Lord,
that the darkness
of our hearts being overcome
we may receive the true light,
even Christ our Saviour**

Blessing and departure

In peace will we lie down,
for it is you, O Lord,
you alone who makes us to rest secure.

Be it on your own beloved arm,
O God of grace, that we in peace shall awake.

**May the peace of the Lord Christ
go with us,
wherever we may wander,
may he guide us through the wilderness,
protect us through the storm.
May he bring us back rejoicing,
at the wonders he has shown us,
may he bring us back, rejoicing,
once again through those doors.**

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

Amen

Goodnight

*Material in this service is adapted from 'Celtic Daily Prayer',
Book One, William Collins 2015
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Scripture from the NRSV.*

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