

# Compline: Night Prayer for The Nativity of Our Lord

*Material in this service is from The Daily Office, SSF, Mowbray  
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## The Gathering ...

### Welcome and introduction

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

- *the priest, people and community of S.  
Leonard, Beoley, in the Worcester Diocese*
- *and for the Canterbury Diocese.*

## 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.**

*A period of reflection on the past day...*

**Holy God,  
holy and strong,  
holy and immortal:  
have mercy on us.**

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 Spirit.  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen. Alleluia**

## Invitatory antiphon

Christ has been born for us,  
Come, let us adore him

## Hymn

O Come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
o come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold him,  
born the king of angels:  
O Come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

God of God,  
Light of Light,  
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
very God, begotten not created:  
O Come, let us adore him....

See how the shepherds,  
Summoned to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks,  
draw nigh with lowly fear;  
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps  
O Come, let us adore him.....

Child, for us sinners,  
poor and in the manger,  
fain we embrace thee,  
with love and awe;  
who would not love thee,  
loving us so dearly?  
O Come, let us adore him....

Sing, choirs of angeks,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
Glory to God in the highest  
O Come, let us adore him....

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
Born this happy morning,  
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing:  
O Come, let us adore him.....

*Text and music : possibly John Francis Wade  
trans. Frederick Oakeley et al  
(HON New Anglican Edition 357)*

## ***Psalmody***

### **Into your hands I commend my spirit**

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame;\*  
deliver me in your righteousness.

Incline your ear to me;\*  
make haste to deliver me.

Be my strong rock, a fortress to save me,  
for you are my rock and my stronghold;\*  
guide me, and lead me for your name's sake.

Take me out of the net  
that they have laid privily for me,\*  
for you are my strength.

Into your hands I commend my spirit,\*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord God of Truth.

How abundant is your goodness, O Lord,  
which you have laid up  
for those who fear you;\*  
which you have prepared in the sight of all  
for those who put their trust in you,

You hide them in the shelter  
of your presence  
from those who slander them;\*  
you keep them safe in your refuge  
from the strife of tongues.

Blessed be the Lord!\*  
For he has shown me his steadfast love  
when I was as a city besieged.

I have said in my alarm,  
'I have been cut off  
from the sight of your eyes.'\*  
Nevertheless,  
you heard the voice of my prayer.

Love the Lord, all you his servants;\*  
for the Lord protects the faithful,  
but repays to the full the proud.

Be strong and let your heart take courage,\*  
all you who wait in hope for the Lord.

*Psalm 31: 1-5, 19-24*

**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.**

### **Into your hands I commend my spirit**

## ***Scripture reading***

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

*John 1: 14*

*Taken from the Anglican Eucharistic Lectionary for the day*

## ***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

**Into your hands, O Lord,  
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)***

**Alleluia.**

**The Word was made flesh, alleluia,  
and dwelt amongst us. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**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**

**Alleluia.  
The Word was made flesh, alleluia,  
and dwelt amongst us. Alleluia, alleluia.**

### ***Intercession...***

Holy God, in whom we live and move  
and have our being,  
we make our prayer to you, saying,  
Lord hear us.

*holding each other in God's love ..., bringing the  
needs of the world, the church, and those who have  
no-one to pray for them... prayers for those who are  
unwell, those who have died, and those who mourn*

### **Collect**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
your birth at Bethlehem  
draws us to kneel in wonder  
at heaven touching earth:  
accept our heartfelt praise  
as we worship you  
our Saviour and our eternal God.  
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.**

### ***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 love of the Word made flesh  
enfold us,  
his joy fill our lives,  
his peace be in our hearts;  
and ....

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

### ***The Angelus***

The angel of the Lord appeared unto Mary  
**and she conceived by the Holy Spirit**

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee,  
blessed art thou amongst women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.

Behold, the handmaid of the Lord  
**let it be to me, according to thy Word**

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee,  
blessed art thou amongst women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.

The Word became flesh,  
**and dwelt amongst us.**

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee,  
blessed art thou amongst women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.

Pray for us, holy Mother of God,  
**that we may be made worthy of the  
promises of Christ**

Pour forth, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy  
grace into our hearts; that, as we have  
known the incarnation of thy Son Jesus  
Christ through the message of an angel, so,  
through his cross and passion, we may be  
brought to the glories of his resurrection.

**Amen.**