

Compline : Night Prayer during Lent

Material in this service is from *The Daily Office, SSF, Mowbray 2010*

The Gathering ...

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

- the Priest, clergy, church family, and community, of S. John the Baptist, Porthcawl, in the Llandaff Diocese
- and for the Birmingham Methodist District

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 Spirit,
mighty wind of God,
inhabit our darkness
brood over our abyss
and speak to our chaos;
that we may breathe with your life
and share your creation
in the power of Jesus Christ. Amen

Janet Morley, 'All Desires Known', SPCK

**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.**

Hymn

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways!
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise;
in deeper reverence, praise!

In simple trust, like theirs who heard
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word,
rise up, and follow thee;
rise up, and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love;
interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
'til all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace;
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,
O still small voice of calm!
O still small voice of calm!

*Text: John Greenleaf Whittier
Music: 'Repton' CHH Parry
(HON Anglican Edition 106)*

Psalmody

Psalm 139: 1 -18

O Lord, you have searched me out
and known me;*
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.

You mark out my journeys
and my resting place*
and are acquainted with all my ways.

For there is not a word on my tongue,*
But you, O Lord, know it altogether.

Scripture reading

You encompass me behind and before*
and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,*
So high that I cannot attain it.

Where can I go then from your spirit?*
Or where can I flee from your presence?

If I climb up to heaven, you are there;*
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also

If I take the wings of the morning*
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

even there shall your hand lead me,*
your right hand hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me*
and the light around me turn to night,"

Even darkness is no darkness with you;
the night is as clear as the day;*
darkness and light to you are both alike.

For you yourself created my inmost parts;*
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I thank you, for I am fearfully
and wonderfully made;*
marvellous are your works,
my soul knows well.

My frame was not hidden from you,*
when I was made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes beheld my form, as yet unfinished;*
already in your book
were all my members written,

as day by day they were fashioned,*
when as yet there was none of them.

How deep are your counsels to me, O God!*
How great is the sum of them!

If I count them,
they are more in number than the sand,*
and at the end, I am still in your presence.

**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

Once when Jesus was praying alone, with only the disciples near him, he asked them, '**Who do the crowds say that I am?**'

They answered, 'John the Baptist; but others, Elijah; and still others, that one of the ancient prophets has arisen.'

He said to them, '**But who do you say that I am?**' Peter answered, 'The Messiah of God.'

He sternly ordered and commanded them not to tell anyone, saying, '**The Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.**'

Then he said to them all, '**If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it. What does it profit them if they gain the whole world, but lose or forfeit themselves?**

Luke 9: 18 - 25

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 Canticle)

**Christ died for us,
So that, whether we wake or sleep,
we might live with him.**

**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**

**Christ died for us,
So that, whether we wake or sleep,
we might live with him.**

Intercession...

Bidding prayers or intercession may be offered...

Collect Prayer

Holy God,
our lives are laid open before you:
rescue us from the chaos of sin
and through the death of your Son
bring us healing and make us whole
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 God bless us,
that in us may be found love and humility,
obedience and thanksgiving,
discipline, gentleness and peace.
Amen.

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

Amen

Goodnight