

Ita Compline

on Sundays

The Gathering ...

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

- *S. Mary the Virgin, Leigh, in the Manchester Diocese*
- *and for the Liverpool Diocese.*

We begin by making the sign of the Cross

Preparation

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.

Collect

Lifegiving God,
whose wisdom speaks to us
in light and breath,
in earth and flesh:
may we share her delight
in all that has life
and proclaim your incarnate word,
the lover of all creation;
through Jesus Christ,
in whom all things hold together

Amen.

Fr. Stephen Shakespeare, 'Prayers for an Inclusive Church'

Hymn

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
naught be all else to me, save that thou art,
thou my best thought
in the day and the night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, through Jesus thy Son,
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate,
my sword for the fight,
be thou my armour, and be thou my might,
thou my soul's shelter,
and thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward,
O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor all the world's praise,
thou mine inheritance through all my days;
thou, and thou only, the first in my heart,
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art!

High King of heaven when battle is done,
grant heaven's joy to me,
O bright heav'n's sun;
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all

*Text : Irish, 8th Century
Music: 'Slane' Trad Irish
HON Anglican Edition 56 (slightly adapted)*

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood, or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

John 1: 1-5, 10-13

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

**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

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.

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

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**

*Material in this service is adapted from 'Celtic Daily Prayer',
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Scripture from the NRSV.*

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