Compline : Night Prayer in Eastertide

Jim Cotter : Prayer at Night, Sheffield, Cairns Publications, 1991
Gospel antiphon from The Divine Office, the Liturgy of the Hours, Collins, 2016

The Gathering …

Christ is Risen!
He is Risen indeed!
Alleluia!

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. Anne, Whitstone, in Truro Diocese*
- *and for the Peterborough Diocese*

The angels of God guard us through the night,
and quieten the powers of darkness.

The Spirit of God be our guide
to lead us to peace and to glory.

God is Spirit, and those who worship God
must worship in Spirit and truth

John 4: 24

Our help is in the name of the eternal God
who is making the heavens
and the earth.

Hymn

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim though this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand;
Bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through;
strong Deliverer,
be thou still my Strength and Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
bear me through the swelling current,
land me safe on Canaan's side;
songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee.

Text: William Williams
Music: 'cwm Rhondda' , John Hughes

Dear God, thank you for all that is good,
for our creation and our humanity,
for the stewardship you have given us
of this planet earth,
for the gifts of life and of one another,
for your love,
which is unbounded and eternal.

O Thou, Most Holy and Beloved,
my Companion, my Unicorn,
my Guide upon the Way.

Words of love and penitence…

Merciful God,
we have not loved you with our whole heart,
nor our neighbours as ourselves.
Forgive what we have been,
accept us as we are,
and guide what we shall be…

O God of Mercy, we thank you….

You forgive our past sins,
you strengthen us in your gift of eternal life,
you shape us for glory,

O God of Mercy, we thank you…..

Eternal Spirit, flow through our being
and open our lips,
that our mouths
may proclaim your praise.

Let us worship the God of Love:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Psalmody

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

I will lift up my eyes to the mountains,
but where shall I find help?
From you alone, O God, does my help come,
Creator of the ever-changing hills.
You will not let me stumble
on the rough pathways,
you care for me
and watch over me without ceasing.
I am sure that the Guardian of Israel
neither slumbers nor sleeps.
The God of all peoples keeps watch,
like a shadow spread over me.
So the sun will not strike me by day,
nor the moon by night.
You will defend me in the presence of evil,
you will guard my life,
you will defend my going out
and my coming in,
this night and always.

Psalm 121

O God, I give you thanks
for the wisdom of your counsel,
even at night you have instructed my heart.
I have set your face always before me,
you are at my right hand and I shall not fall.
Therefore my heart is glad
and my spirit rejoices,
my flesh also shall rest secure.

Glory be to God,
sustaining, redeeming, sanctifying,
as in the beginning, so now and forever.
Amen.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Scripture reading

Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes.

So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'how can these things be?'

John 3: 7 - 9

Responsory

Into your hands, O God,
I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me,
O God of truth and love.

Keep me, O God, as the apple of an eye:
hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Nunc Dimittis (Gospel Canticle)

Alleluia. Christ is risen, alleluia.
He is risen indeed, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise be to God,
I have lived to see this day.
God's promise is fulfilled
and my duty done.
At last you have given me peace,
for I have seen with my own eyes
the salvation you have prepared
for all nations –
a light to the world in its darkness,
and the glory of your people, Israel.

Glory be to God,
sustaining, redeeming, sanctifying,
as in the beginning, so now and forever.
Amen.

Alleluia. Christ is risen, alleluia.
He is risen indeed, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Intercession…

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

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

I will lie down in peace and take my rest,
for it is in God alone
that I dwell unafraid.

Let us bless the Life-Giver,
the Pain-Bearer, the Love-Maker
let us praise and exalt God
above all for ever.

May God's name be praised
beyond the furthest star;
glorified and exalted above all for ever.
Amen.

Watch between us dear God,
when we are absent from one another. Amen.

O God,
the Source of the whole world's gladness
and the bearer of its pain,
may your unconquerable joy
rest at the heart
of all our trouble and distress.

Be present, Living Christ, within us,
your dwelling place and home,
that all places may be ones where
all darkness is penetrated by your light,
all troubles calmed by your peace,
all evil redeemed by your love,
all pain transformed in your suffering.
and all dying glorified in your risen life.
Amen.

To God the Creator
who loved us first
and gave this world to be our home,

to God the redeemer who loves us
and by dying and rising
pioneered the way of freedom,

to God the Sanctifier
who spreads the divine love in our hearts,
be praise and glory for time and for eternity.

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

Amen

Goodnight ....

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