

Compline : Night Prayer for Advent

Material in this service is taken from the Plainsong and Mediaeval Music Society, Faith Press Ltd



The Gathering ...

Welcome and introduction

Intercession...

For this office, a time of stillness, to bring to mind those whom we pray for and hold them in God's love..., the needs of the world, the church, and those who have no-one to pray for them... and to offer thanksgiving. Keep these in your mind and heart during the Office, and let the music wrap and lift.

Lighting of the Advent Ring

Preparation

The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night
and a perfect end.
Amen.

Brethren be sober, be vigilant,
because your adversary the devil,
as a roaring lion, walketh about,
seeking whom he may devour:
whom resist, steadfast in the faith.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.
Thanks be to God.

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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 Ghost;
**as it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be;
world without end.
Amen**

Praise ye the Lord;
the Lord's Name be praised.

Psalmody

Hear me when I call, O God
of my *right-eousness*:
thou hast set me at liberty
when I was in trouble;
have mercy upon me,
and hearken un-to my prayer.

O ye sons of men,
how long will ye blaspheme mine *ho-nour*:
and have such pleasure in vanity
and seek af-ter leasing?

Know this also,
that the Lord hath chosen to himself
the one that is *god-ly*:
when I call upon the Lord, he *will* hear me.

Stand in awe, and *sin*, not:
commune with your own heart,
and in your cham-ber, and be still.

Offer the sacrifice of *right-eousness*:
and put your *trust* in the Lord.

There be many that say:
who will shew us any good?

Lord, lift thou *up*:
the light of thy countenance *up*-on us.

Thou hast put gladness in my *heart*:
since the time that their corn and wine
and oil *in*-creased.

I will lay me down in peace and take my rest:
for it is thou, Lord only,
that makest me dwell *in* safety.

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

Scripture reading

Now Elisabeth's full time came that she should be delivered; and she brought forth a son. And her neighbours and her cousins heard how the Lord had shewed great mercy upon her; and they rejoiced with her. And it came to pass, that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; and they called him Zacharias, after the name of his father. And his mother answered and said, "Not so; but he shall be called John". And they said unto her, "there is none of thy kindred that is called by this name."

And they made signs to his father, how he would have him called. And he asked for a writing table, and wrote, saying, 'His name is John'. And they marvelled all.

And his mouth was opened immediately, and his tongue loosed, and he spake, and praised God. And fear came on all that dwelt round about them: and all these sayings were noised abroad throughout all the hill country of Judaea. And all they that heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, 'What manner of child shall this be!' And the hand of the Lord was with him.

Luke 1: 57 - 66

From the Anglican Eucharistic lectionary for the day

Thanks be to God.

Responsory

Into thy hands, O Lord,
I commend my spirit.

**Into your hands, O Lord,
I commend my spirit.**

For thou hast redeemed me,
O Lord, thou God of truth
I commend my spirit.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
**Into thy hands, O Lord,
I commend my Spirit**

Advent Hymn

Creator of the stars of night,
thy people's everlasting light,
Jesu, Redeemer, save us all,
and hear thy people when they call.

As once through Mary's flesh you came,
to save us from our sin and shame,
so now, Redeemer, by your grace,
come heal again our fallen race.

And when, on that last judgement day,
we rise to glory from decay,
then come again, O Saviour blest,
and bring us to eternal rest.

To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
Laud, honour, might and glory be
from age to age eternally.
Amen.

*Text: 7th Century,
vv. 2&3 trsl. Irvin Udulutsch OSB, vv. 1& 4 trsl John Neale
Tune: 'conditur alme siderum' HON New Anglican Edition 102*

Keep me as the apple of an eye.
**Hide me under the shadow
of thy wings**

Nunc Dimittis (Gospel Canticle)

**Preserve us O Lord, while waking;
and guard us while sleeping;
that awake we may watch with Christ,
and asleep may rest in peace.**

**Lord, now lettest thou thy servant
depart in *peace*:
according to thy word.**

**For mine eyes have seen:
thy *sal*-vation**

**Which thou hast *pre-par*-ed:
before the face of *all* people.**

**To be a light to lighten the *Gen-tiles*:
and to be the glory of thy *peo-ple* Israel.**

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

**Preserve us O Lord, while waking;
and guard us while sleeping;
that awake we may watch with Christ,
and asleep may rest in peace.**

***Words of prayer, repentance and
forgiveness....***

Lord, have mercy upon us

Christ, have mercy upon us

Lord, have mercy upon us

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. Amen.**

Blessed art thou, Lord God of our fathers;
**To be praised and glorified
above all for ever.**

Let us bless the Father, the Son
and the Holy Ghost;
**Let us praise him
and magnify him for ever.**

Blessed art thou, O Lord,
in the firmament of heaven;
**to be praised and glorified
above all for ever.**

The almighty and most merciful Lord
guard us and give us his blessing.
Amen.

We confess to God Almighty, the Father, the
Son, and the Holy Ghost, that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed, through our own
grievous fault. Wherefore we pray God to
have mercy upon us.

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us
all our sins and deliver us from all evil,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and
bring us to life everlasting. Through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant
unto you pardon and remission of all your
sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace
and comfort of the Holy Spirit.

Wilt thou not turn again and quicken us;
that thy people may rejoice in thee?

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us;
and grant us thy salvation.

Vouchsafe, O Lord,
to keep us this night without sin
**O Lord, have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us.**

O Lord, hear our prayer
and let our cry come unto thee.

Collect

Let us pray

God our redeemer, who didst prepare the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of thy Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour; so we may be ready to greet him when he shall come again as our judge; who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Blessing and departure

We will lay us down in peace,
and take our rest;
**For it is thou, Lord, only
that makest us dwell in safety.**

The Lord be with you;
and with thy Spirit.

Let us bless the Lord;
Thanks be to God.

May the souls of the faithful,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen

May the Lord, when he comes, find us
watching and waiting.

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

Amen