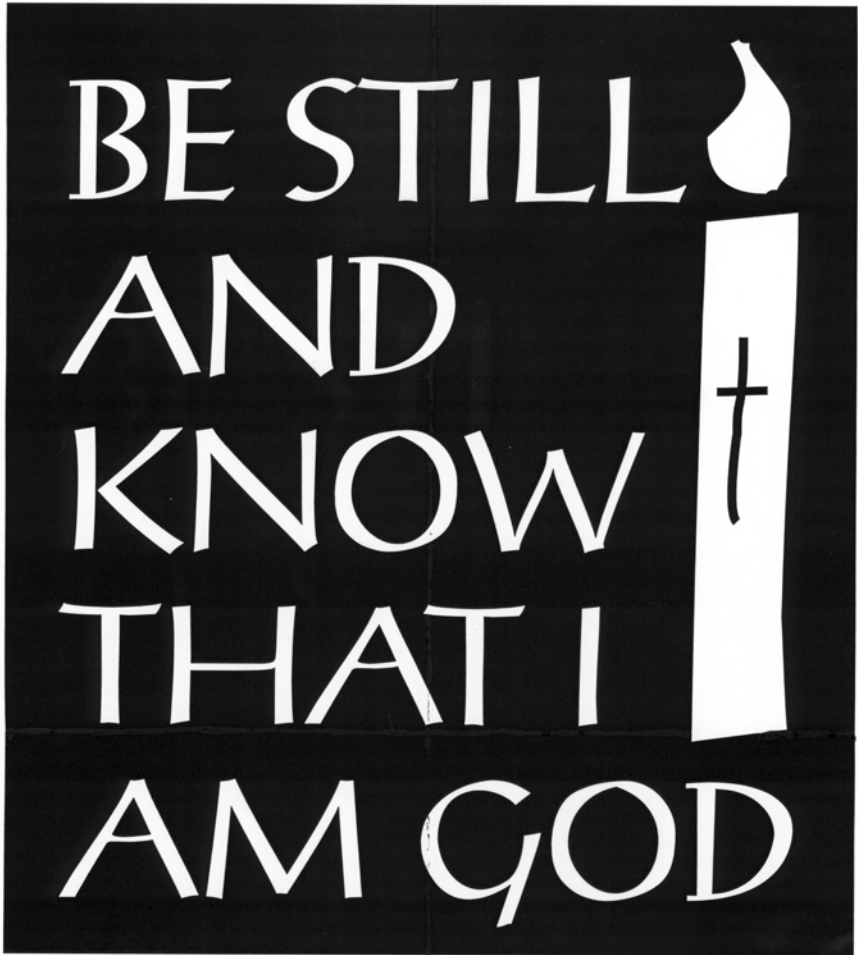


Compline:



An Order for Night Prayer

Week 2

*When all have gathered, the leader begins;
others respond with the portions in bold type.*

The God of peace grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.
Amen.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.

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

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

It is but lost labour that we haste to rise up early,
and so late take our rest, and eat the bread of anxiety.
**For those beloved of God are given gifts
even while they sleep.**

The Penitential Rite

We have wounded your love.
O God, heal us.

We stumble in the darkness.
Light of the world, transfigure us.

We forget that we are your home.
Spirit of God, dwell in us.

Eternal Spirit,
living God,
in whom we live and move and have our being,
all that we are, have been, and shall be
is known to you.

In the very secret of our hearts
you know all that rises to trouble us.

Living flame, burn into us.
Cleansing wind, blow through us.
Fountain of water, well up within us;
that we may love and praise
in deed and in truth. Amen.

Psalm 4

Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; *
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

**“You mortals, how long will you dishonour my glory; *
how long will you worship dumb idols
and run after false gods?”**

Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; *
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

**Tremble, then, and do not sin; *
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

Offer the appointed sacrifices *
and put your trust in the Lord.

**Many are saying, “Oh, that we might see better times!” *
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.**

You have put gladness in my heart, *
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

**I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; *
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.**

Glory to God,

**Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever.
Amen.**

Ezekiel 36.24–26

I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

Thanks be to God.

Silence

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

Keep us, O God, as the apple of your eye;
Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

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

The Song of Simeon

Luke 2.29–32

**Lord, now 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 to God,
**Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

Statement of Faith

Lord, you have always given bread for the coming day;
and though I am poor, today I believe.

Lord, you have always given strength for the coming day;
and though I am weak, today I believe.

Lord, you have always given peace for the coming day;
and though of anxious heart, today I believe.

Lord, you have always kept me safe in trials;
and now, tried as I am, today I believe.

Lord, you have always marked the road for the coming day;
and though it may be hidden, today I believe.

Lord, you have always lightened this darkness of mine;
and though the night is here, today I believe.

Lord, you have always spoken when time was ripe;
and though you be silent now, today I believe.

The Prayers

Lord it is night. The night is for stillness.

Let us be still in the presence of God.

It is night after a long day.

**What has been done has been done;
what has not been done has not been done; let it be.**

The night is dark.

**Let our fears of the darkness of the world
and of our own lives rest in you.**

The night is quiet.

**Let the quietness of your peace enfold us, all dear to us,
and all who have no peace.**

The night heralds the dawn.

**Let us look expectantly to a new day,
new hope, new possibilities. In your name we pray. Amen.**

All offer prayers or thanksgiving, silently or aloud

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord,
and in your great mercy defend us
from all perils and dangers of this night;
for the love of your only Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Keep watch, dear Lord,
with those who work, or watch, or weep this night,
and give your angels charge over those who sleep.
Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary,
bless the dying, soothe the suffering,
pity the afflicted, shield the joyous;
and all for your tender mercy's sake. **Amen**

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

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

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen**

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The almighty and merciful God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless us and keep us. **Amen.**