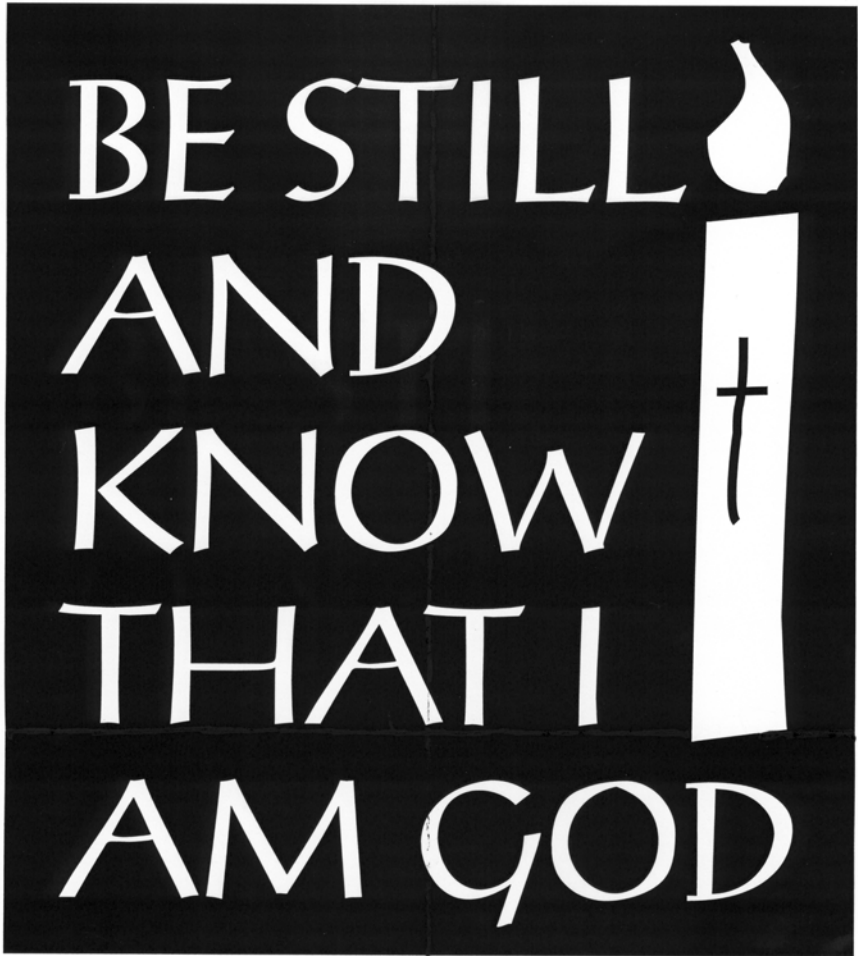


Compline:



An Order for Night Prayer

Week 7

*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

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide, and too deep to undo.
Forgive what our lips tremble to name,
what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.

**Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open to us a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace to grow more and more
in your likeness and image,
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

Psalm 139.1-11

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 trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

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

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

**Where can I go then from your Spirit? *
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 your hand will lead me *
and your right hand hold me fast.

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

Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day; *
darkness and light to you are both alike.

Glory to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever.
Amen.

Hebrews 4.9–11a

A sabbath rest still remains for the people of God; for those who enter God's rest also cease from their labours as God did. Let us therefore make every effort to enter that rest.

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 the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever.
Amen.

Statement of Faith

We believe
in the God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob,
who journeys with us through life,
and leads us to new beginnings.

We believe
in the God of Moses,
who frees us from oppression and guides us
through desert, wilderness, and sin to the Promised Land.

We believe
in the God of the prophets,
who asks for justice in our land,
and cares for the poor.

We believe
in Jesus Christ,
who brought the Gospel to us,
who celebrated God's unconditional love for everyone.

We believe
in the Holy Spirit,
who forms and molds us into God's image,
who sends us out to serve God and people,
who leads us to everlasting life. Amen.

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

We give you thanks, O God,
for revealing your Son Jesus Christ to us
by the light of his resurrection.

Grant that as we sing your glory at the close of this day,
our joy may abound in the morning
as we awaken to the Paschal mystery;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, your unfailing providence
sustains the earth which nurtures us and the life we live:
watch over those, both night and day,
who work while others sleep,
and grant that we may never forget
that our common life depends upon each other's toil;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 (paraphrase)

**Indwelling God,
infused throughout all existence,
we honor you with many names.
Your realm is within the human heart.
We accept life for all that it can be,
on earth as throughout all creation.**

**May we continue to draw sustenance from this earth,
and may we receive forgiveness equal to our own.
May we ever move from separation toward union,
to live in grace, with love in our hearts, forever and ever. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

Amen.