

**An Order for Night Prayer (Compline)**  
**Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025**  
**St. Margaret in-the-Pines Anglican Church**

*The ancient office of Compline derives its name from a Latin word meaning 'completion' (completorium). It is above all a service of quietness and reflection before rest at the end of the day.*

## **Opening**

Officiant: The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**All: Amen.**

Officiant: Our help is in the name of the Lord

**All: who made heaven and earth.**

*A period of silence for reflection on the past day may follow.*

**All: Most merciful God, we confess to you, before the whole company of heaven and one another, that we have sinned in thought, word and deed and in what we have failed to do. Forgive us our sins, heal us by your Spirit and raise us to new life in Christ. Amen.**

Officiant: O God, make speed to save us.

**All: O Lord, make haste to help us.**

**All: Glory 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. Amen.**

**Alleluia!**

## Hymn

Before the ending of the day,  
Creator of the world, we pray  
That you, with steadfast love, would keep  
Your watch around us while we sleep.  
From evil dreams defend our sight,  
From fears and terrors of the night;  
Tread underfoot our deadly foe  
That we no sinful thought may know.  
O Father, that we ask be done  
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son;  
And Holy Spirit, by whose breath  
Our souls are raised to life from death.

## Psalmody

### **Psalm 119:33-40**

33. Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, \*  
and I shall keep it to the end.
- 34. Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; \*  
I shall keep it with all my heart.**
35. Make me go in the path of your commandments, \*  
for that is my desire.
- 36. Incline my heart to your decrees \*  
and not to unjust gain.**
37. Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; \*  
give me life in your ways.
- 38. Fulfil your promise to your servant, \*  
which you make to those who fear you.**

39. Turn away the reproach which I dread, \*  
because your judgements are good.
40. **Behold, I long for your commandments; \*  
in your righteousness preserve my life.**

### Let Us Pray

God, as your only Son revealed you still at work in your creation, so through Christ your living Word enable us to know your love and to share it with others. We ask this in his name.

### Scripture Reading

I will do whatever you ask in my name, says the Lord, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

*John 14.13*

*The following responsories are said:*

Officiant: Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

**All: Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.  
Alleluia, alleluia.**

Officiant: For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

**All: Alleluia, alleluia.**

Officiant: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**All: Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.  
Alleluia, alleluia**

Officiant: Keep me as the apple of your eye.

**All: Hide me under the shadow of your wings.**

## Gospel Canticle

*The Nunc dimittis (The Song of Simeon) is said:*

**All: Alleluia. The Lord is risen, alleluia,  
as He promised to you. Alleluia, alleluia.**

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.

**All: Glory 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. Amen.**

**All: Alleluia. The Lord is risen, alleluia,  
as He promised to you. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## A Reading from St. Paul's Second letter to the Corinthians (4:1-6)

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

### Prayers

*Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.*

Officiant: Let us pray to the Lord

**All: Hear us, Lord of Glory!**

Officiant: Let us pray.

## **The Collect:**

Almighty God,  
you gave to your apostles Philip and James  
grace and strength to bear witness to the truth.  
Grant that we, mindful of their victory of faith,  
may glorify in life and death the name of Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All:     Amen.**

*Silence may be kept.*

Leader:        Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,  
                    as our Saviour taught us, so we pray,

**All:             Our Father who 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.**

## Closing

Officiant: In peace we will lie down and sleep;  
**All: for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.**

Officiant: Abide with us, Lord Jesus,  
**All: for the night is at hand and the day is now past.**

Officiant: As the night watch looks for the morning,  
**All: so do we look for you, O Christ.**

Officiant: May the risen Lord Jesus bless us.  
May He watch over us and renew us  
as He renews the whole of creation.  
May our hearts and lives echo His love.  
**All: Amen. Alleluia!**

*From the Church of England Order for Night Prayer, adapted for  
online use by St. Margaret in-the-Pines.*