

An Order for Night Prayer (Compline)
Wednesday, 4th June 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 122

1. I was glad when they said to me, *
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."
2. **Now our feet are standing ***
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
3. Jerusalem is built as a city *
that is at unity with itself.
4. **To which the tribes go up,**
the tribes of the Lord, *
the assembly of Israel,
to praise the name of the Lord.
5. For there are the thrones of judgement, *
the thrones of the house of David.

6. **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: ***
"May they prosper who love you.
7. Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.
8. **For my brethren and companions' sake, ***
I pray for your prosperity.
9. Because of the house of the Lord our God, *
I will seek to do you good."

Let Us Pray

Lord Jesus, give us the peace of the new Jerusalem. Bring all nations into your kingdom to share your gifts, that they may render thanks to you without end and may come to your eternal city, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Scripture Reading

Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given
me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

John 17.11

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 Cantic

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

**All: Alleluia. The Holy Spirit, the Advocate, alleluia,
shall teach you all things. 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 Holy Spirit, the Advocate, alleluia,
shall teach you all things. Alleluia, alleluia.**

A Reading from Gospel of John (17:9-11,14-19)

I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one...

I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Prayers

Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.

Officiant: Let us pray to God the Holy Spirit saying, "Come,

Holy Spirit, come."

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come!

Officiant: Let us pray.

The Collect:

Lord of all truth and peace,
you named your bishop John
the servant of the servants of God
and gave him wisdom to begin
the work of renewing your Church.
Grant that, after his example,
we may extend our hands to other Christians
to clasp them with the love of your Son,
and labour among the nations of the world
to kindle their desire for justice and peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive 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 Holy Spirit of God bless and sanctify us
so that we may be consecrated in the truth.
All: Amen. Alleluia!

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