

## AN ORDER FOR COMPLINE

*Stand*

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. *1 Peter 5: 8, 9.*

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Thanks be to God.**

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 Spirit;  
**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.**

PSALM

*One or more of the following, or any other suitable psalm:*

*Psalm 4 Cum invocarem.*

- 1 Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness: ■  
thou hast set me at liberty when I was in trouble;  
have mercy upon me, and hearken unto my prayer.
- 2 O ye sons of men, how long will ye blaspheme mine honour, ■  
and have such pleasure in vanity, and seek after lying?
- 3 Know this also, that the Lord hath chosen to himself  
the man that is godly: ■  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.
- 4 Stand in awe, and sin not: ■  
commune with your own heart, and in your chamber, and be still.

- 5 Offer the sacrifice of righteousness ■  
and put your trust in the Lord.
- 6 There be many that say: ■  
Who will show us any good?
- 7 Lord, lift thou up ■  
the light of thy countenance upon us.
- 8 Thou hast put gladness in my heart, ■  
more than men have, when corn and wine increase.
- 9 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 Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, ■  
is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*Psalm 31: 1-6 In te, Domine, speravi.*

- 1 In thee, O Lord, have I put my trust: ■  
let me never be put to confusion, deliver me in thy righteousness.
- 2 Bow down thine ear to me: ■  
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 And be thou my strong rock, and house of defence, ■  
that thou mayest save me.
- 4 For thou art my strong rock, and my castle: ■  
be thou also my guide, and lead me for thy Name's sake.
- 5 Draw me out of the net, that they have laid privily for me, ■  
for thou art my strength.
- 6 Into thy hands I commend my spirit, ■  
for thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.  
Glory be to the Father, ■  
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, ■  
is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*Psalm 91 Qui habitat.*

- 1 Whoso dwelleth under the defence of the Most High ■  
shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

- 2 I will say unto the Lord, 'Thou art my hope, and my strong hold: ■  
my God, in him will I trust.
- 3 For he shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunter ■  
and from the noisome pestilence.
- 4 He shall defend thee under his wings,  
and thou shalt be safe under his feathers: ■  
his faithfulness and truth shall be thy shield and buckler.
- 5 Thou shalt not be afraid for any terror by night, ■  
nor for the arrow that flieth by day;
- 6 For the pestilence that walketh in darkness, ■  
nor for the sickness that destroyeth in the noon-day.
- 7 A thousand shall fall beside thee, and ten thousand at thy right hand, ■  
but it shall not come nigh thee.
- 8 Yea, with thine eyes shalt thou behold ■  
and see the reward of the ungodly.
- 9 For thou, Lord, art my hope: ■  
thou hast set thine house of defence very high.
- 10 'There shall no evil happen unto thee, ■  
neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.
- 11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee ■  
to keep thee in all thy ways.
- 12 'They shall bear thee in their hands ■  
that thou hurt not thy foot against a stone.
- 13 'Thou shalt go upon the lion and adder: ■  
the young lion and the dragon shalt thou tread under thy feet.
- 14 Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: ■  
I will set him up, because he hath known my Name.
- 15 He shall call upon me, and I will hear him: ■  
yea, I am with him in trouble; I will deliver him,  
and bring him to honour.
- 16 With long life will I satisfy him ■  
and show him my salvation.  
Glory be to the Father, ■  
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, ■  
is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*Psalm 134 Ecce nunc.*

- 1 Behold now, praise the Lord, ■  
all ye servants of the Lord;
- 2 Ye that by night stand in the house of the Lord, ■  
even in the courts of the house of our God.
- 3 Lift up your hands in the sanctuary ■  
and praise the Lord.
- 4 The Lord that made heaven and earth ■  
give thee blessing out of Sion.  
Glory be to the Father, ■  
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, ■  
is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

READING

*One of the following, or some other appropriate passage of Scripture:*

Thou, O Lord, art in the midst of us, and we are called by thy Name;  
leave us not, O Lord our God. *Jeremiah 14: 9*

*or*

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you  
rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly  
in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and  
my burden is light. *Matthew 11: 28-30*

*or*

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting  
covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in  
you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom  
be glory for ever and ever. Amen. *Hebrews 13: 20,21*

*An address may follow.*

*Stand*

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

**For thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.**

Before the ending of the day,  
 Creator of the world, we pray  
 That thou with wonted love wouldst keep  
 Thy watch around us while we sleep.

O let no evil dreams be near,  
 Or phantoms of the night appear;  
 Our ghostly enemy restrain,  
 Lest aught of sin our bodies stain.

Almighty Father, hear our cry  
 Through Jesus Christ our Lord most high,  
 Who with the Holy Ghost and thee  
 Doth live and reign eternally. Amen.

*The seasonal variations of verse 3 from the Church Hymnal may be used at the appropriate times of the year.*

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

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

**NUNC DIMITTIS** *Luke 2: 29-32*

- 1 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, ■  
 according to thy word.
- 2 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, ■  
 which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
- 3 To be a light to lighten the Gentiles ■  
 and to be the glory of thy people Israel.  
 Glory be to the Father, ■  
 and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
 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 we may rest in peace.**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Kneel*

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

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 those who 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 Spirit.

**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.**

### CONFESSIO

**We confess to God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
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, Deliver us  
from all evil, Confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, And bring us  
to life everlasting; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The priest, when present, pronounces the absolution.*

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto you pardon and remis-  
sion of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and com-  
fort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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.**

Let us pray.

*One or more of the following:*

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of this night, so that we, who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world, may repose upon thy eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Look down, O Lord, from thy heavenly throne, illuminate the darkness of this night with thy celestial brightness, and from the children of light banish the deeds of darkness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, who at this evening hour didst rest in the sepulchre, and didst thereby sanctify the grave to be a bed of hope to thy people: Make us so to abound in sorrow for our sins, which were the cause of thy passion, that when our bodies lie in the dust, our souls may live with thee: who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God world without end. **Amen.**

Visit, we beseech thee, O Lord, this place (*or*, our homes), and drive away all the snares of the enemy; Let thy holy angels dwell herein (*or*, therein) to preserve us in peace; and may thy blessing be upon us evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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.**

The Almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us this night and for evermore. **Amen.**

*This Office, or the part which follows the Apostles' Creed, is suitable for use at evening devotions at home.*