

Compline for Eastertide

Compline Prayers, drawn from A New Zealand Prayer Book, The Book of Common Prayer, and Daily Prayers for All Seasons)

Directions for Compline over ZOOM: We ask that participants stay muted until asked to unmute. A representative of the group will read the congregational responses, and another will assist with the readings.

Prayers in the evening: As we turn on lamps at dusk, we greet the evening by welcoming God to abide with us anew.

Opening Sentences

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 labor that we haste to rise up early,
and so late take rest, and eat the bread of anxiety.
For those beloved of God are given gifts even while they sleep.

Silence

My siblings in Christ,
our help is in the name of the eternal God,
who is making the heavens and the earth.

Invocation

Alleluia! Risen Lord, come be with us,
and teach our hearts to live in you. Alleluia!

Prayer *The Officiant says one of the following Collects for the Season:*

God of steadfast love: Turn our hearts to you, that we may once again delight in your goodness and rejoice in the good news of the risen Christ; in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

Living God, long ago, faithful women proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection, and the world was changed forever: Teach us to keep faith with them, that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep, and our faith as true. **Amen.**

God, you sent your Son into the world that we might live through him: May we abide in his risen life so that we may love one another as he first loved us, and know the fullness of joy. **Amen.**

Followed by the prayer for Quiet Confidence

O God of peace, you have taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Song of Praise: Psalm 118:19-24

Open for me the gates of righteousness;

I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.

“This is the gate of the Lord;

the righteous shall enter through it.”

I will give thanks to you, for you answered me

and have become my salvation.

The same stone that the builders rejected

has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord’s doing,

and it is marvelous in our eyes.

On this day that the Lord has acted,

we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Scripture and Meditation

Posted weekly on the website, officiant 'shares' screen.

The Prayers

Merciful God, you have not abandoned us to the grave.

Guide us with your steadfast love.

In your presence there is fullness of joy.

Guide us with your steadfast love.

Here, the people may add particular intercessions or thanksgivings.

You send us into the world to tell the story of your divine mercy.

Guide us with your steadfast love.

The Prayers, continued

(BCP 1979)

Into your hands, O God, I commend my spirit,

for you have redeemed me, O God of truth and love.

Keep me, O God, as the apple of an eye;

hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

**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.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Lord, hear our prayer;
And let our cry come to you.
Let us pray.

The Officiant then says one/more of the following Collects/Prayers

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past;
be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope,
that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of the bread.
Grant this for the sake of your love. **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 love's sake. **Amen.**

All shall be Amen and Alleluia.
We shall rest and we shall see.
We shall see and we shall know.
We shall know and we shall love.
We shall love and we shall praise.
Behold our end, which is no end. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Night

(A New Zealand Prayer Book)

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 joys,
new possibilities.
In your name we pray.

Amen.

Blessing

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.**

Closing

May God, who raised Jesus from the dead,
grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end.
Amen.

