

## Lenten Compline 2023

*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.

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### 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

Bless the Lord,  
**O my soul.**

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

God of hope, from you come every blessing and all peace: Show us that, in the midst of our struggles, you are with us. Give us the abundance of your grace that we may do the work you give us to do and that we may be for the world a sign of your presence; through Christ, the Way and the Truth. **Amen.**

God of love, the day is long and its burden is heavy: Give us grace to see your hand at work in the lives of those around us so that adversity will not overwhelm us, nor resentments possess us. Remain with us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. **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: Form I**

*Psalm 63: 1-8*

- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; \*  
**my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,  
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.**
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, \*  
**that I might behold your power and your glory.**
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; \*  
**my lips shall give you praise.**
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I live \*  
**and lift up my hands in your Name.**
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, \*  
**and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,**
- 6 When I remember you upon my bed, \*  
**and meditate on you in the night watches.**
- 7 For you have been my helper, \*  
**and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.**
- 8 My soul clings to you; \*  
**your right hand holds me fast.**

## **A Song of Praise: Form II**

*A Song of the Wilderness (Isaiah 35:1-4)*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, \*  
**the desert shall rejoice and blossom;**

It shall blossom abundantly, \*  
**and rejoice with joy and singing.**

They shall see the glory of the Lord, \*  
**the majesty of our God.**

Strengthen the weary hands, \*  
**and make firm the feeble knees.**

Say to the anxious, "Be strong, do not fear! \*  
**Here is your God, coming with judgment to save you."**

## **Scripture and Meditation**

*Officiant shares screen.*

### **The Prayers**

For all we have accomplished this day,  
**we bless God's name.**

For now, when we turn from labor to home,  
**we bless God's name.**

For those tasks we left undone this day,  
**we invite God's love.**

For those wounds we gave or received this day,  
**we invite God's love.**

For our hopes and concerns for tomorrow,  
**we invite God's love.**

For trust that God's love is all we need,  
**we seek God's grace.**

*Here, the people may add particular intercessions or thanksgivings.*

For these praises and preoccupations of our hearts,  
**we find our hope in God.**

### **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*

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being:  
We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit,  
that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you  
but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.**

O Lord, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes,  
and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done.  
Then in thy mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. **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**

Bless the Lord,  
**O my soul. Amen.**

