

Ministers' Conference 2024

Worship

Wednesday 20 November, 9.30pm Plain Chant – Night Prayer

An Order for Night Prayer (Compline) in Traditional Language

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.

It is most effective when the ending is indeed an ending, without additions.

Those present depart in silence.

Our service is led by Peter Heffron & Clare Glover

PREPARATION

Please Stand

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end. **Amen.**

Beloved 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.

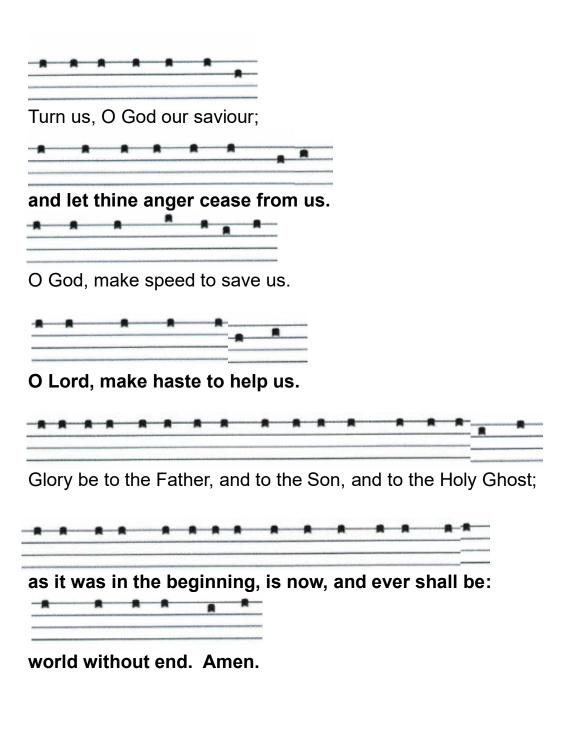
1 Peter 5.8,9

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us. **Thanks be to God.**Our help is in the name of the Lord; **who hath made heaven and earth.**

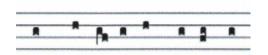
We confess to God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost,

before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned exceedingly in thought, word and deed, through our fault, our own fault, our own most grievous fault: therefore we pray God to have mercy upon us. Almighty God have mercy upon us, forgive us all our sins and bring us to everlasting life.

May the almighty God, and most merciful God grant to us pardon, absolution and remission of all our sins, time for true repentance, amendment of life and the grace and comfort of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



ANTIPHON

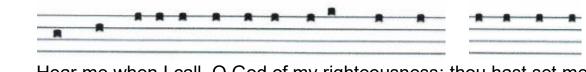


Have mercy upon me O God;

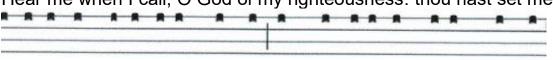


and hearken unto my prayer.

PSALM 4



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



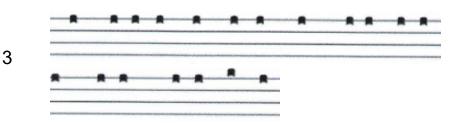
unto my prayer.



2 O ye sons of men, how long will ye blaspheme mine honour:



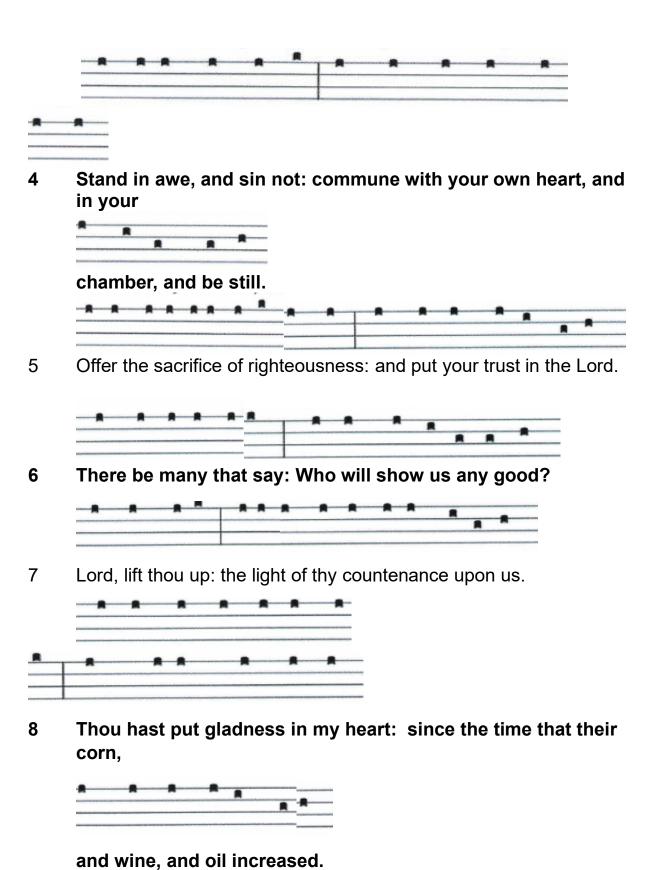
and have such pleasure in vanity, and seek after leasing?

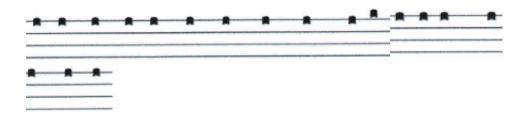


Know this also, that the Lord hath chosen to himself the man that is godly:



when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.





I will lay me down in peace, and take my rest: for it is thou, Lord, only,



that makest me dwell in safety.



All Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

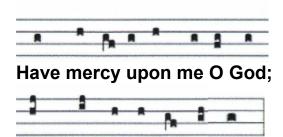


as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end.



Amen.

Repeat Antiphon



And hearken unto my prayer.

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.

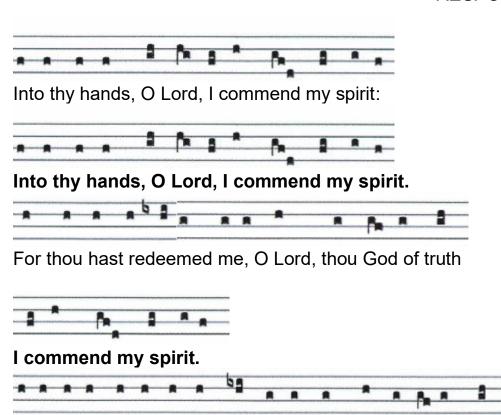
Matthew 11.28-30

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 Amen.

Hebrews 13.20,21

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY

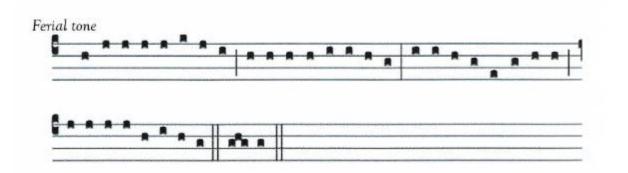


Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:



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

OFFICE HYMN



Before the ending of the day, Creator of the world we pray, That with thy wonted favour thou Wouldst be our guard and keeper now.

From all ill dreams defend our eyes, From nightly fears and fantasies; Tread underfoot our ghostly foe, That no pollution we may know.

O Father, that we ask be done, Through Jesus Christ, thine only Son; Who, with the Holy Ghost and thee, Doth live and reign eternally. Amen.



Keep me as the apple of an eye.

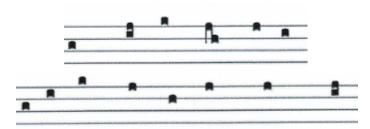


All Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.

ANTIPHON FOR THE NUNC DIMITTIS (THE SONG OF SIMEON)



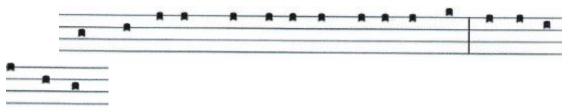
Save us, O Lord, while waking,



and guard us while sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ,



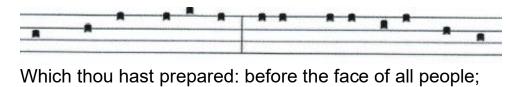
and asleep we may rest in peace.



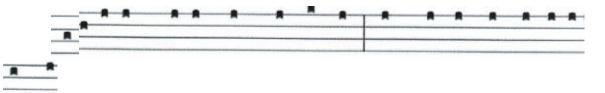
1 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word.



2 For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation;



3



4 To be a light to lighten the Gentiles: and to be the glory of thy people



Israel.

Luke 2.29-32



Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;



as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without

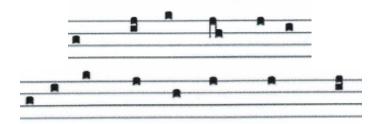


end. Amen.

Repeat Antiphon



Save us, O Lord, while waking,



and guard us while sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ.



and asleep we may rest in peace.

Sit or Kneel:

Lord, have mercy upon us.

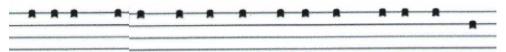
Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, in 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. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.



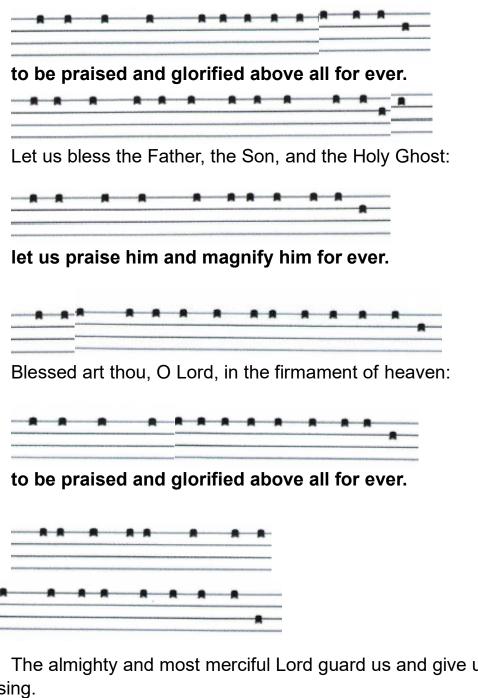
We will lay us down in peace and take our rest.



For it is thou, Lord, only that makest us dwell in safety.



Blessed art thou, Lord God of our fathers:



The almighty and most merciful Lord guard us and give us his blessing.



Amen.



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.

COLLECTS

Let us pray.

Visit, we beseech thee, O Lord, this place, and drive from it all the snares of the enemy; let thy holy angels dwell herein to preserve us in peace;

and may thy blessing be upon us evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

O Lord Jesus Christ, son of the living God, who at the hour of Compline 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 Ghost, one God, world without end.

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.**

The Lord be with you and with thy spirit.
Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.
May the faithful departed, through the mercy and protection of God, rest in peace; and rise in glory. Amen.

© The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England, 2000-2005 All of the official Common Worship publications are being published by Church House Publishing, London.