

AN ORDER FOR NIGHT PRAYER

# COMPLINE

IN TRADITIONAL LANGUAGE



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## PREPARATION

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.

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.**

*A period of silence for reflection on the past day follows.*

**W**E confess to God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost,  
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 and deliver us from all evil,  
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,  
and bring us to life everlasting;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*A priest may say*

**M**ay the almighty and merciful Lord  
grant unto you pardon and remission of all your sins,  
time for amendment of life,  
and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**



O God, make speed to save us.



O Lord, make haste to help us.



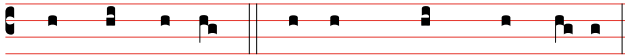
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;



As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,

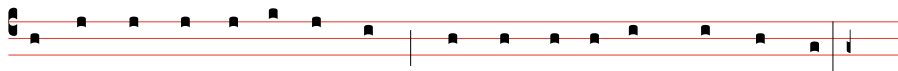


world without end. Amen.

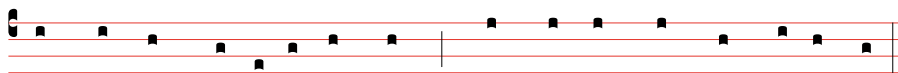


Praise ye the Lord. **The Lord's name be praised.**

*The following hymn is sung.*



Be-fore the end-ing of the day, † Cre - a - tor of the world we pray,



That with thy wonted favour thou Wouldst be our guard and keeper now.

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.



- 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 de' liver 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 satis' fy him :  
and shew him ' my salvation.

### **Psalm 134**

- 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 sanctu' ary :  
' — and praise the Lord.
- 4 The Lord that made heaven and ' earth :  
give thee blessing ' out of Sion.

*At the end of the psalmody, the following is sung*

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 with' out end. Amen.

## Scripture Reading

*One of the following short lessons is read*

**T**HOU, 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*

**C**OME 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*

**N**ow 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*

**Thanks be to God.**

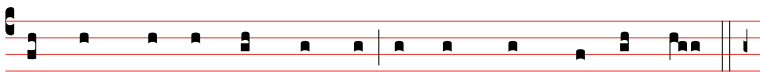
*The following responsory is sung*



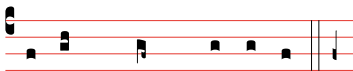
In-to thy hands, O Lord, I com-mend my spi-rit.



In-to thy hands, O Lord, I com-mend my spi-rit.



For thou hast re-deem-ed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.



I commend my spirit.

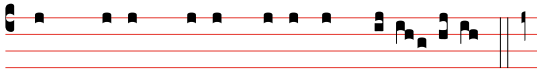


Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost.

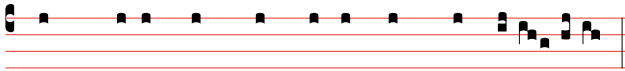


**In-to thy hands, O Lord, I com-mend my spi-rit.**

*After the responsory*



Keep me as the apple of an eye.



**Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.**

## Gospel Canticle

*The Nunc dimittis (The Song of Simeon) is sung.*

*The antiphon is sung.*

*Antiphon*



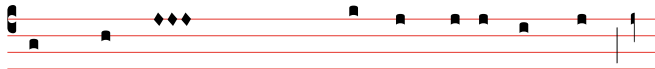
Preserve us, † O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping,



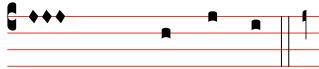
that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.



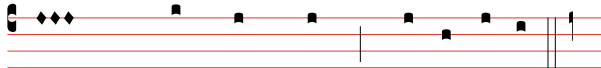
*Canticle*



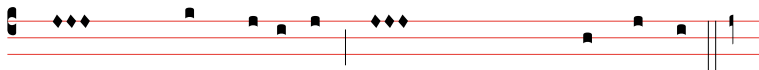
Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace ;



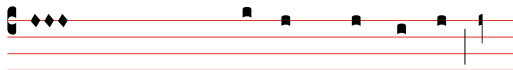
according to thy word.



**For mine eyes have seen : thy salvation;**



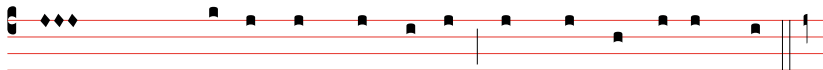
Which thou hast prepar-ed; before the face of all people;



**To be a light to lighten the Gentiles:**



**and to be the glory of thy peo-ple Isra-el.**



Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



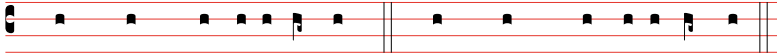
**as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:**



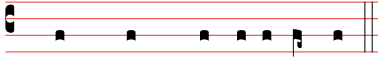
**world without end. Amen.**

*The antiphon is repeated.*

## PRAYERS



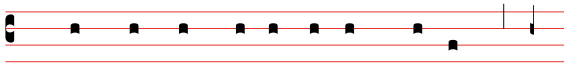
Lord, have mercy upon us. **Christ, have mercy upon us.**



Lord, have mercy upon us.



**O**UR Father, which 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 de-liver us from evil. Amen.



Blessed art thou, Lord God of our fathers:



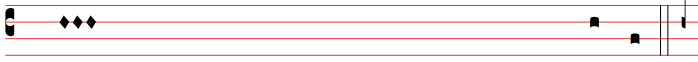
to be praised and glorified above all for ever.



Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.



let us praise 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.**



Wilt thou not turn again and quicken us;



**that thy people may rejoice in thee?**



O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us;



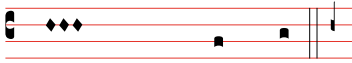
**and grant us thy salvation.**



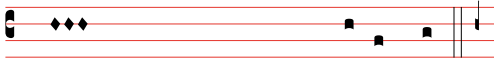
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin;



**O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.**



O Lord, hear our prayer;



**And let our cry come unto thee.**

*The following Collects are sung.*



Let us pray.

**V**ISIT, 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.**

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

**B**E 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.**



... Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE CONCLUSION



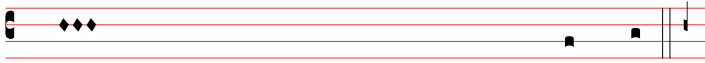
We will lay us down in peace and take our rest.



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



Abide with us, O Lord,



**for it is toward evening and the day is far spent.**



As the watchmen look for the morning,



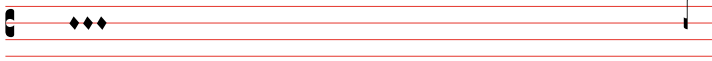
**so do we look for thee, O Christ.**



The Lord be with you. **And with thy spi-rit.**



Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son

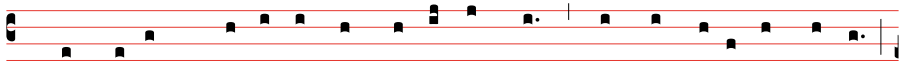


and the Holy Ghost, bless us and preserve us. **Amen.**

May the souls of the faithful, through the mercy of God,  
rest in peace. **Amen.**

Antiphon in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*Sub tuum praesidium ('Beneath thy protection') is sung.*



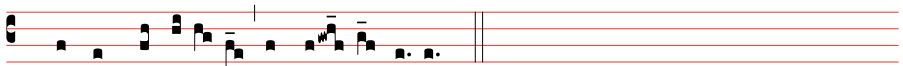
Sub tu-um prae-sí-di-um confú-gi-mus † sancta De-i Gé-ni-trix:



nostras depre-ca-ti-ónes ne despí-ci-as in ne-cessi-tá-ti-bus:



sed a pe-rí-cu-lis cunctis lí-bera nos semper



Virgo glo-ri-ó-sa et be-ne-dícta.

*Beneath thy protection,  
O holy Mother of God;  
despise not our petitions in our necessities,  
but deliver us always from all dangers,  
O glorious and blessed Virgin.  
Amen.*



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