

Sunday, The First Sunday of Advent  
Evening Prayer

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.  
Philippians 1:2

### **Hymn: Glory to thee, my God, this night**

Glory to thee, my God, this night,  
for all the blessings of the light:  
keep me, O keep me, King of kings,  
beneath thine own almighty wings.

Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son,  
the ill that I this day have done;  
that with the world, myself, and thee,  
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

Teach me to live, that I may dread  
the grave as little as my bed;  
teach me to die, that so I may  
rise glorious at the awful day.

O may my soul on thee repose,  
and with sweet sleep mine eyelids close;  
sleep that may me more vigorous make  
to serve my God when I awake.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;

praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Singers: The Chapel Choir of University College, Durham

Words: Thomas Ken, 1692

Music: Thomas Tallis Tune: *Tallis' Canon*

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## The Invitatory

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

### **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## The Psalter

**111 *Confitebor tibi***  
**or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, \*  
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

- Great are the deeds of the Lord! \*  
they are studied by all who delight in them.
- <sup>3</sup> His work is full of majesty and splendor, \*  
and his righteousness endures for ever.
- <sup>4</sup> He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; \*  
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.
- <sup>5</sup> He gives food to those who fear him; \*  
he is ever mindful of his covenant.
- <sup>6</sup> He has shown his people the power of his works \*  
in giving them the lands of the nations.
- <sup>7</sup> The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; \*  
all his commandments are sure.
- <sup>8</sup> They stand fast for ever and ever, \*  
because they are done in truth and equity.
- <sup>9</sup> He sent redemption to his people;  
he commanded his covenant for ever; \*  
holy and awesome is his Name.
- <sup>10</sup> The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; \*  
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;  
his praise endures for ever.

**112 *Beatus vir***  
**or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> Hallelujah!  
Happy are they who fear the Lord \*  
and have great delight in his commandments!
- <sup>2</sup> Their descendants will be mighty in the land; \*  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

- <sup>3</sup> Wealth and riches will be in their house, \*  
and their righteousness will last for ever.
- <sup>4</sup> Light shines in the darkness for the upright; \*  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.
- <sup>5</sup> It is good for them to be generous in lending \*  
and to manage their affairs with justice.
- <sup>6</sup> For they will never be shaken; \*  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.
- <sup>7</sup> They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; \*  
their heart is right;  
they put their trust in the Lord.
- <sup>8</sup> Their heart is established and will not shrink, \*  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.
- <sup>9</sup> They have given freely to the poor, \*  
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.
- <sup>10</sup> The wicked will see it and be angry;  
they will gnash their teeth and pine away; \*  
the desires of the wicked will perish.

### **113 *Laudate, pueri***

**or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> Hallelujah!  
Give praise, you servants of the Lord; \*  
praise the Name of the Lord.
- <sup>2</sup> Let the Name of the Lord be blessed, \*  
from this time forth for evermore.
- <sup>3</sup> From the rising of the sun to its going down \*

let the Name of the Lord be praised.

<sup>4</sup> The Lord is high above all nations, \*  
and his glory above the heavens.

<sup>5</sup> Who is like the Lord our God, who sits enthroned on high, \*  
but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?

<sup>6</sup> He takes up the weak out of the dust \*  
and lifts up the poor from the ashes.

<sup>7</sup> He sets them with the princes, \*  
with the princes of his people.

<sup>8</sup> He makes the woman of a childless house \*  
to be a joyful mother of children.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **The Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Matthew 25:1-18

<sup>1</sup>"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was

delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' <sup>7</sup>Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' <sup>9</sup>But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' <sup>10</sup>And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' <sup>12</sup>But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' <sup>13</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

<sup>14</sup>"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

**The Canticle**

*Everyone*

**The Song of Mary Magnificat**

## **Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.



He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

## **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and for ever. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

### **The Suffrages**

*Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned  
before the great judgment seat of Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all  
your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

**The Collect of the Day: Advent 1**

## *Leader*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

## **For Mission**

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.

## **A Collect for Sundays**

Lord God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant that we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, may praise you in that City of which he is the light, and where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [the Comoros](#)

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [Hungarian Reformed Church in America](#).

## **Intercessions**

## *Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptation  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

### **For Courts of Justice**

Lord Jesus, for our sake you were condemned as a criminal: Visit our jails and prisons with your pity and judgment. Remember all prisoners, and bring the guilty to repentance and amendment of life according to your will, and give them hope for their future. When any are held unjustly, bring them release; forgive us, and teach us to improve our justice. Remember those who work in these institutions; keep them humane and compassionate; and save them from becoming brutal or callous. And since what we do for those in prison, O Lord, we do for you, constrain us to improve their lot. All this we ask for your mercy's sake. Amen.

### **For Those Who Suffer for the Sake of Conscience**

O God our Father, whose Son forgave his enemies while he was suffering shame and death: Strengthen those who suffer for the sake of conscience; when they are accused, save them from speaking in hate; when they are rejected, save them from bitterness; when they are imprisoned, save them from despair; and to us your servants, give grace to respect their witness and to discern the truth, that our society may be cleansed and strengthened. This we ask for the sake of Jesus Christ, our merciful and righteous Judge. Amen.

### **For Towns and Rural Areas**

Lord Christ, when you came among us, you proclaimed the kingdom of God in villages, towns, and lonely places: Grant that your presence and power may be known throughout this land. Have mercy upon all of us who live and work in rural areas; and grant that all the people of our nation may give thanks to you for food and drink and all other bodily necessities of life, respect those who labor to produce them, and honor the land and the water from which these good things come. All this we ask in your holy Name. Amen.

### **Hymn: A mighty fortress is our God**

A mighty fortress is our God,  
a bulwark never failing;  
Our helper He, amid the flood  
of mortal ills prevailing:  
For still our ancient foe  
doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and power are great,  
and, armed with cruel hate,  
On Earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide,  
our striving would be losing;  
Were not the right Man on our side,  
the Man of God's own choosing:  
Dost ask who that may be?  
Christ Jesus, it is He;  
Lord Sabaoth, His Name,  
from age to age the same,  
And He must win the battle.

That word above all earthly powers,  
no thanks to them, abideth;

The Spirit and the gifts are ours  
through Him Who with us sideth:  
Let goods and kindred go,  
this mortal life also;  
The body they may kill:  
God's truth abideth still,  
His kingdom is forever.

Words and Music: Martin Luther

Tune: *Ein feste Burg*

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is discord, union;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.  
Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

### **The Ending**

#### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks

for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make  
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-  
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you  
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as  
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in  
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*



Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

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### **An Order for Compline**

*The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

*Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

*Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

4 *Cum invocarem*

or Coverdale

<sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*

how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

<sup>4</sup> Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

<sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
and put your trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> Many are saying,  
"Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

<sup>8</sup> I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Lord, you are in the midst of us, and we are called by your Name: Do not forsake us, O Lord our God. *Jeremiah 14:9, 22*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

### *Response*

Christ, have mercy.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

### *Everyone*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

#### *Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

#### *Response*

And let our cry come to you.

#### *Leader*

Let us pray.

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

## **The Canticle**

### *Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Monday

Evening Prayer

Advent 1

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike. *Psalm 139:10, 11*

### **Hymn: I lie, O Lord, within Your care**

I lie, O Lord, within Your care,  
Awake or when I'm sleeping.

Whoever trusts in Your strong arms  
Is safe within Your keeping.

Lord, You alone keep constant watch;  
My restless heart You quiet.  
When shadow fills the night with fear,  
I will by faith defy it.

It is enough that You are near;  
I need not now discover  
What hidden plans You have for me,  
My future's path uncover.

Tomorrow's road I cannot trace  
Nor know what ills will meet me.  
You only ask that I be still  
And trust You there will greet me.

Text: Jochen Klepper, translated by Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr.

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*



O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

**The Psalter**

**4 *Cum invocarem***

**or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*

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

<sup>4</sup> Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

<sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
and put your trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> Many are saying,  
"Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

<sup>8</sup> I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

## **7 Domine, Deus meus** **or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> O Lord my God, I take refuge in you; \*  
save and deliver me from all who pursue me;

<sup>2</sup> Lest like a lion they tear me in pieces \*  
and snatch me away with none to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup> O Lord my God, if I have done these things: \*  
if there is any wickedness in my hands,

<sup>4</sup> If I have repaid my friend with evil, \*  
or plundered him who without cause is my enemy;

<sup>5</sup> Then let my enemy pursue and overtake me, \*  
trample my life into the ground,  
and lay my honor in the dust.

<sup>6</sup> Stand up, O Lord, in your wrath; \*  
rise up against the fury of my enemies.

- <sup>7</sup> Awake, O my God, decree justice; \*  
let the assembly of the peoples gather round you.
- <sup>8</sup> Be seated on your lofty throne, O Most High; \*  
O Lord, judge the nations.
- <sup>9</sup> Give judgment for me according to my  
righteousness, O Lord, \*  
and according to my innocence, O Most High.
- <sup>10</sup> Let the malice of the wicked come to an end,  
but establish the righteous; \*  
for you test the mind and heart, O righteous God.
- <sup>11</sup> God is my shield and defense; \*  
he is the savior of the true in heart.
- <sup>12</sup> God is a righteous judge; \*  
God sits in judgment every day.
- <sup>13</sup> If they will not repent, God will whet his sword; \*  
he will bend his bow and make it ready.
- <sup>14</sup> He has prepared his weapons of death; \*  
he makes his arrows shafts of fire.
- <sup>15</sup> Look at those who are in labor with wickedness, \*  
who conceive evil, and give birth to a lie.
- <sup>16</sup> They dig a pit and make it deep \*  
and fall into the hole that they have made.
- <sup>17</sup> Their malice turns back upon their own head; \*  
their violence falls on their own scalp.
- <sup>18</sup> I will bear witness that the Lord is righteous; \*  
I will praise the Name of the Lord Most High.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **The Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Luke 20:1-8

<sup>1</sup>One day, as he was teaching the people in the temple and telling the good news, the chief priests and the scribes came with the elders <sup>2</sup>and said to him, "Tell us, by what authority are you doing these things? Who is it who gave you this authority?" <sup>3</sup>He answered them, "I will also ask you a question, and you tell me: <sup>4</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" <sup>5</sup>They discussed it with one another, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say, 'Why did you not believe him?' <sup>6</sup>But if we say, 'Of human origin,' all the people will stone us; for they are convinced that John was a prophet." <sup>7</sup>So they answered that they did not know where it came from. <sup>8</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things."

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## The Canticle

*Everyone*

### **The Song of Simeon *Nunc dimittis*** **Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

### **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

## **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,

now and for ever. Amen.

## **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

*Leader*

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

*Response*

And grant us your salvation.

*Leader*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

*Response*

Let your people sing with joy.

*Leader*

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*Response*

For only in you can we live in safety.

*Leader*

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

*Response*

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

*Leader*

Let your way be known upon earth;

*Response*

Your saving health among all nations.

*Leader*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

*Response*

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

*Leader*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

*Response*

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

## **The Collect of the Day: Advent 1**

*Leader*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

## **For Mission**

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the



cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen.

### **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [the Democratic Republic of the Congo](#)

### **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [Methodist Church in Fiji and Rotuma](#).

### **A Collect for Peace**

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.

### **Intercessions**

#### *Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

#### *Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptance  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or [prayers from the Book of Common Prayer](#)).*

### **For the Right Use of God's Gifts**

Almighty God, whose loving hand has given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor you with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For Knowledge of God's Creation**

Almighty and everlasting God, you made the universe with all its marvelous order, its atoms, worlds, and galaxies, and the infinite complexity of living creatures: Grant that, as we probe the mysteries of your creation, we may come to know you more truly, and more surely fulfill our role in your eternal purpose; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For the Care of Children**

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **Hymn: You are my salvation**

You are my salvation  
Whom then shall I fear?  
In darkness and temptation  
My light and help are near.  
  
You are all around me  
Stronger will I stand.  
And danger will not crush me  
When we walk hand in hand.  
  
God most high  
You shelter me

And I will trust in You.

God most high

You shelter me

And I will trust in You.

You are my salvation

Whom then shall I fear?

In darkness and temptation

My light and help are near.

You are all around me

Stronger will I stand.

And danger will not crush me

When we walk hand in hand.

God most high

You shelter me

And I will trust in You.

God most high

You shelter me

And I will trust in You.

With courage I will wait

Depending on Your mercy.

You alone, O Lord, will be my peace.

[Interlude]

God most high

You shelter me

And I will trust in You.

God most high

You shelter me

And I will trust in You.

Singer: Yvonne Lyon

Words and Music: David Lyon

Words based on "God Is My Strong Salvation"

by James Montgomery (1771-1854)

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

### **The Ending**

#### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks

for all your goodness and loving-kindness

to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,

and all the blessings of this life;

but above all for your immeasurable love

in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

---

## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

### *Silence may be kept.*

### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:  
We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;

and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and  
comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the  
beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

31 *In te, Domine, speravi*

or [Coverdale](#)

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame: \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11:28-30*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

### *Response*

Christ, have mercy.



*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

*Everyone*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*Response*

And let our cry come to you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, and illumine this night with your celestial brightness; that by night as by day your people may glorify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live: Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

**The Cantic**

*Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*

to go in peace as you have promised;

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*

whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

A Light to enlighten the nations, \*

and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Tuesday

Evening Prayer

Advent 1

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole Earth tremble before him. *Psalm 96:9*

### **Hymn: In the dark of the midnight**

In the dark of the midnight,  
Have I oft hid my face;  
While the storm howls above me,  
And there's no hiding place;  
'Mid the crash of the thunder,  
Precious Lord, hear my cry;  
"Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by."  
  
'Til the storm passes over,  
'Til the thunder sounds no more;  
'Til the clouds roll forever from the sky,  
Hold me fast, let me stand,  
In the hollow of Thy hand;  
Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.  
  
Many times Satan whispers,  
"There is no need to try;  
For there's no end of sorrow,  
There's no hope by and by";  
But I know Thou art with me,

And tomorrow I'll rise;  
Where the storms never darken the skies.

'Til the storm passes over,  
'Til the thunder sounds no more;  
'Til the clouds roll forever from the sky,  
Hold me fast, let me stand,  
In the hollow of Thy hand;  
Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.

When the long night has ended,  
And the storms come no more,  
Let me stand in Thy presence.  
On that bright, peaceful shore.  
In that land where the tempest  
Never comes, Lord may I  
Dwell with Thee when the storm passes by.

'Til the storm passes over,  
'Til the thunder sounds no more;  
'Til the clouds roll forever from the sky,  
Hold me fast, let me stand,  
In the hollow of Thy hand;  
Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.

Words and Music: Traditional

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

### **10 *Ut quid, Domine?***

**or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> Why do you stand so far off, O Lord, \*  
and hide yourself in time of trouble?
- <sup>2</sup> The wicked arrogantly persecute the poor, \*  
but they are trapped in the schemes they have devised.
- <sup>3</sup> The wicked boast of their heart's desire; \*  
the covetous curse and revile the Lord.
- <sup>4</sup> The wicked are so proud that they care not for God; \*  
their only thought is, "God does not matter."
- <sup>5</sup> Their ways are devious at all times;  
your judgments are far above out of their sight; \*  
they defy all their enemies.
- <sup>6</sup> They say in their heart, "I shall not be shaken; \*  
no harm shall happen to me ever."

- Their mouth is full of cursing, deceit, and oppression; \*  
under their tongue are mischief and wrong.
- <sup>8</sup> They lurk in ambush in public squares  
and in secret places they murder the innocent; \*  
they spy out the helpless.
- <sup>9</sup> They lie in wait, like a lion in a covert;  
they lie in wait to seize upon the lowly; \*  
they seize the lowly and drag them away in their net.
- <sup>10</sup> The innocent are broken and humbled before them; \*  
the helpless fall before their power.
- <sup>11</sup> They say in their heart, "God has forgotten; \*  
he hides his face; he will never notice."
- <sup>12</sup> Rise up, O Lord;  
lift up your hand, O God; \*  
do not forget the afflicted.
- <sup>13</sup> Why should the wicked revile God? \*  
why should they say in their heart, "You do not care"?
- <sup>14</sup> Surely, you behold trouble and misery; \*  
you see it and take it into your own hand.
- <sup>15</sup> The helpless commit themselves to you, \*  
for you are the helper of orphans.
- <sup>16</sup> Break the power of the wicked and evil; \*  
search out their wickedness until you find none.
- <sup>17</sup> The Lord is King for ever and ever; \*  
the ungodly shall perish from his land.
- <sup>18</sup> The Lord will hear the desire of the humble; \*  
you will strengthen their heart and your ears shall hear;



<sup>19</sup> To give justice to the orphan and oppressed, \*  
so that mere mortals may strike terror no more.

**11 *In Domino confido***  
**or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> In the Lord have I taken refuge; \*  
how then can you say to me,  
"Fly away like a bird to the hilltop;  
<sup>2</sup> For see how the wicked bend the bow  
and fit their arrows to the string, \*  
to shoot from ambush at the true of heart.  
<sup>3</sup> When the foundations are being destroyed, \*  
what can the righteous do?"  
<sup>4</sup> The Lord is in his holy temple; \*  
the Lord's throne is in heaven.  
<sup>5</sup> His eyes behold the inhabited world; \*  
his piercing eye weighs our worth.  
<sup>6</sup> The Lord weighs the righteous as well as the wicked, \*  
but those who delight in violence he abhors.  
<sup>7</sup> Upon the wicked he shall rain coals of fire and  
burning sulphur; \*  
a scorching wind shall be their lot.  
<sup>8</sup> For the Lord is righteous;  
he delights in righteous deeds; \*  
and the just shall see his face.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

**Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **Gospel**

### *Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Luke 20:9-18

<sup>9</sup>He began to tell the people this parable: "A man planted a vineyard, and leased it to tenants, and went to another country for a long time. <sup>10</sup>When the season came, he sent a slave to the tenants in order that they might give him his share of the produce of the vineyard; but the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. <sup>11</sup>Next he sent another slave; that one also they beat and insulted and sent away empty-handed. <sup>12</sup>And he sent still a third; this one also they wounded and threw out. <sup>13</sup>Then the owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.' <sup>14</sup>But when the tenants saw him, they discussed it among themselves and said, 'This is the heir; let us kill him so that the inheritance may be ours.' <sup>15</sup>So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? <sup>16</sup>He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others." When they heard this, they said, "Heaven forbid!" <sup>17</sup>But he looked at them and said, "What then does this text mean: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone'? <sup>18</sup>Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

The Word of the Lord.

### *Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Cantic**

*Everyone*

### **The Song of Mary *Magnificat* Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

### **The Apostles' Creed**

### *All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living 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.

### **The Prayers**

#### *Leader*

God be with you.

#### *Response*

And also with you.

#### *Leader*

Let us pray.

### **Contemporary Lord's Prayer**

**(or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

**The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

### *Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

## **The Collect of the Day: Advent 1**

### *Leader*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

## **For Mission**

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.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [the Congo](#)

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [Presbyterian Church of Ghana](#).

## **A Collect for Guidance**

O heavenly Father, in whom 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.

## **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication

Lord, give ear and acceptance

Save thy servant, that hath none

Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

### **For Agriculture**

Almighty God, we thank you for making the earth fruitful, so that it might produce what is needed for life: Bless those who work in the fields; give us seasonable weather; and grant that we may all share the fruits of the earth, rejoicing in your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For Those We Love**

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For Quiet Confidence**

O God of peace, who has taught us that in returning and rest we will be saved, in quietness and confidence will 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.

**Hymn: A voice says 'cry out'**

A voice says 'cry out'

All men are like grass

And their time of glory

Soon shall pass

But the Word of God

It will never die

Surely it will stand

For eternity

Every ditch and valley shall be raised up

Every hill and mountain be made low

Every rugged place will be made flat

Everybody shall see the glory of the Lord

[Interlude]

You who bring good news

Raise your voice and shout

Do not be afraid

To speak the name of God

The hard days are gone

The debt has been paid

And the time has come

To walk the righteous way

Every ditch and valley shall be raised up

Every hill and mountain be made low

Every rugged place will be made flat

Everybody shall see the glory of the Lord

[Interlude]

A voice says 'cry out'  
All men are like grass  
And their time of glory  
Soon shall pass  
But the word of God  
It will never die  
Surely it will stand  
For eternity

Every ditch and valley shall be raised up  
Every hill and mountain be made low  
Every rugged place will be made flat  
Everybody shall see the glory of the Lord  
Everybody shall see the glory of the Lord

Singers: Ordinary Time

Words: Peter La Grand

### **A Prayer of Self-Dedication**

Almighty and eternal God,  
so draw our hearts to you,  
so guide our minds,  
so fill our imaginations,  
so control our wills,  
that we may be wholly yours,  
utterly dedicated unto you;  
and then use us, we pray you, as you will,  
and always to your glory and the welfare of your people;  
through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

**The Ending**

## **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

## **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make  
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-  
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you  
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as  
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in  
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

## *Response*

Thanks be to God.

## **Benediction**

### *Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

## **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

---

## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

### *Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

### *Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

### *Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **The Psalm**

### *Everyone*

4 *Cum invocarem*

or **Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;

have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

<sup>4</sup> Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

<sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
and put your trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> Many are saying,  
"Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

<sup>8</sup> I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Hebrews 13:20-21*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

*Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

*Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

*Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

*Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

*Response*

Christ, have mercy.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

*Everyone*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

### *Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

### *Response*

And let our cry come to you.



*Leader*

Let us pray.

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

## **The Canticle**

*Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Wednesday  
Evening Prayer  
Advent 1

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Yours is the day, O God, yours also the night; you established the moon and the sun. You fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter. *Psalm 74:15, 16*

### **Hymn: I will come to you in the silence**

I will come to you in the silence.

I will lift you from all your fear.

You will hear My voice.

I claim you as My choice.

Be still, and know I am near.

I am hope for all who are hopeless.

I am eyes for all who long to see.

In the shadows of the night,

I will be your light

Come and rest in Me.

Do not be afraid, I am with you.

I have called you each by name.

Come and follow Me.

I will bring you home.

I love you and you are mine.

I am strength for all the despairing.

Healing for the ones who dwell in shame.

All the blind will see, the lame will all run free.

And all will know My name.

Do not be afraid, I am with you.

I have called you each by name.

Come and follow Me.

I will bring you home.

I love you and you are mine.

I am the Word that leads all to freedom.

I am the peace the world cannot give.

I will call your name, embracing all your pain.

Stand up, now, walk, and live.

Do not be afraid, I am with you.

I have called you each by name.

Come and follow Me.

I will bring you home.

I love you and you are mine.

Do not be afraid, I am with you.

I have called you each by name.

Come and follow Me.

I will bring you home.

I love you and you are mine.

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

### **12 *Salvum me fac* or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> Help me, Lord, for there is no godly one left; \*  
the faithful have vanished from among us.
- <sup>2</sup> Everyone speaks falsely with his neighbor; \*  
with a smooth tongue they speak from a double heart.
- <sup>3</sup> Oh, that the Lord would cut off all smooth tongues, \*  
and close the lips that utter proud boasts!
- <sup>4</sup> Those who say, "With our tongue will we prevail; \*  
our lips are our own; who is lord over us?"
- <sup>5</sup> "Because the needy are oppressed,  
and the poor cry out in misery, \*  
I will rise up," says the Lord,  
"and give them the help they long for."
- <sup>6</sup> The words of the Lord are pure words, \*  
like silver refined from ore  
and purified seven times in the fire.

<sup>7</sup> O Lord, watch over us \*  
and save us from this generation for ever.

<sup>8</sup> The wicked prowl on every side, \*  
and that which is worthless is highly prized by everyone.

**13 *Usquequo, Domine?***  
**or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> How long, O Lord?  
will you forget me for ever? \*  
how long will you hide your face from me?

<sup>2</sup> How long shall I have perplexity in my mind,  
and grief in my heart, day after day? \*  
how long shall my enemy triumph over me?

<sup>3</sup> Look upon me and answer me, O Lord my God; \*  
give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;

<sup>4</sup> Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," \*  
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.

<sup>5</sup> But I put my trust in your mercy; \*  
my heart is joyful because of your saving help.

<sup>6</sup> I will sing to the Lord, for he has dealt with me richly; \*  
I will praise the Name of the Lord Most High.

**14 *Dixit insipiens***  
**or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." \*  
All are corrupt and commit abominable acts;  
there is none who does any good.

<sup>2</sup> The Lord looks down from heaven upon us all, \*

to see if there is any who is wise,  
if there is one who seeks after God.

<sup>3</sup> Every one has proved faithless;  
all alike have turned bad; \*  
there is none who does good; no, not one.

<sup>4</sup> Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers \*  
who eat up my people like bread  
and do not call upon the Lord?

<sup>5</sup> See how they tremble with fear, \*  
because God is in the company of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup> Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, \*  
but the Lord is their refuge.

<sup>7</sup> Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! \*  
when the Lord restores the fortunes of his people,  
Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Luke 20:19-26

<sup>19</sup>When the scribes and chief priests realized that he had told this parable



against them, they wanted to lay hands on him at that very hour, but they feared the people.

<sup>20</sup>So they watched him and sent spies who pretended to be honest, in order to trap him by what he said, so as to hand him over to the jurisdiction and authority of the governor. <sup>21</sup>So they asked him, "Teacher, we know that you are right in what you say and teach, and you show deference to no one, but teach the way of God in accordance with truth. <sup>22</sup>Is it lawful for us to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" <sup>23</sup>But he perceived their craftiness and said to them, <sup>24</sup>"Show me a denarius. Whose head and whose title does it bear?" They said, "The emperor's." <sup>25</sup>He said to them, "Then give to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." <sup>26</sup>And they were not able in the presence of the people to trap him by what he said; and being amazed by his answer, they became silent.

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

**The Cantic**

*Everyone*

**The Song of Simeon *Nunc dimittis***  
**Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

*Leader*

God be with you.

## *Response*

And also with you.

## *Leader*

Let us pray.

### **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

### *Leader*

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

### *Response*

And grant us your salvation.

### *Leader*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

### *Response*

Let your people sing with joy.

### *Leader*

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

### *Response*

For only in you can we live in safety.

### *Leader*

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

### *Response*

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

### *Leader*

Let your way be known upon earth;

*Response*

Your saving health among all nations.

*Leader*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

*Response*

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

*Leader*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

*Response*

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

### **The Collect of the Day: Advent 1**

*Leader*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

### **For Mission**

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [the Cook Islands](#).

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [Reformed Church in Hungary](#).

## **A Collect for Protection**

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

## **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptance  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or [prayers from the Book of Common Prayer](#)).*

## **For Cities**

Heavenly Father, in your Word you have given us a vision of that holy City to which the nations of the world bring their glory: Behold and visit, we pray, the cities of the earth. Renew the ties of mutual regard which form our civic life. Send us honest and able leaders. Enable us to eliminate poverty, prejudice, and oppression, that peace may prevail with righteousness, and justice with

order, and that men and women from different cultures and with differing talents may find with one another the fulfillment of their humanity.

### **For Those Who Influence Public Opinion**

Almighty God, you proclaim your truth in every age by many voices: Direct, in our time, we pray, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous; to the honor of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For the Future of the Human Race**

O God our heavenly Father, you have blessed us and given us dominion over all the earth: Increase our reverence before the mystery of life; and give us new insight into your purposes for the human race, and new wisdom and determination in making provision for its future in accordance with your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Hymn: Ye watchers and ye holy ones**

Ye watchers and ye holy ones,  
Bright seraphs, cherubim and thrones,  
Raise the glad strain, Alleluia!  
Cry out, dominions, princedoms, powers,  
Virtues, archangels, angels' choirs:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia!

O higher than the cherubim,  
More glorious than the seraphim,  
Lead their praises, Alleluia!  
Thou bearer of th'eternal Word,

Most gracious, magnify the Lord.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Respond, ye souls in endless rest,

Ye patriarchs and prophets blest,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Ye holy twelve, ye martyrs strong,

All saints triumphant, raise the song.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia!

O friends, in gladness let us sing,

Supernal anthems echoing,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

To God the Father, God the Son,

And God the Spirit, Three in One.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Singers; Choir of Belfast Cathedral

Words: John A.L. Riley

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;



where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

## **The Ending**

### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks

for all your goodness and loving-kindness

to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,

and all the blessings of this life;

but above all for your immeasurable love

in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;

for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,

that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,

not only with our lips, but in our lives,

by giving up our selves to your service,

and by walking before you

in holiness and righteousness all our days;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,

be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

---

**An Order for Compline**

*The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

*Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

*Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,

through our own fault,

in thought, and word, and deed,

and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,

forgive us all our offenses;

and grant that we may serve you

in newness of life,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **The Psalm**

*Everyone*

31 *In te, Domine, speravi*

or *Coverdale*

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame: \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

## **The Word**

*Leader*

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11:28-30*

## *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

### *Response*

Christ, have mercy.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

### *Everyone*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

## *Response*

And let our cry come to you.

## *Leader*

Let us pray.

Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live: Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

## **The Canticle**

### *Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.



Thursday

Evening Prayer

Advent 1

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall. *Psalms 16:7, 8*

### **Hymn: Joyous light of God's own glory**

Joyous light of God's own glory  
Light of heav'n that fills this place  
Light of Son, eternal Father  
Light of God, the Son of grace.  
As the sun begins its setting  
And the glow of dusk sets in,  
We can look to heaven's glory  
For the light that never ends.  
  
From the smallest of the sparrows  
To the blazing stars above,  
All Creation sings your glory,  
All Creation sings your love.  
O Son of God most holy  
O Son of God most high,  
May all earth and all the heavens  
Praise you for your glorious light.  
O sing to God the Father,

O sing to God the Son,  
O sing to God the Spirit,  
To God, the Three in One.  
Now let our voices rise up  
In harmonies most pure  
For God, you are most worthy  
Of our praise forevermore.

Now let our voices rise up  
In harmonies most pure  
For God, you are most worthy  
Of our praise forevermore.

Words: RR Ketcham

Tune: *Nettleton*

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,

and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Singers: The Choir of Saint Andrew's Lambertville, NJ

Arrangement: Mark Wilber Stewart

## **The Psalter**

### **18 Part II *Et retribuet mihi***

#### **or Coverdale**

<sup>21</sup> The Lord rewarded me because of my righteous dealing; \*  
because my hands were clean he rewarded me;

<sup>22</sup> For I have kept the ways of the Lord \*  
and have not offended against my God;

<sup>23</sup> For all his judgments are before my eyes, \*  
and his decrees I have not put away from me;

<sup>24</sup> For I have been blameless with him \*  
and have kept myself from iniquity;

<sup>25</sup> Therefore the Lord rewarded me according to my  
righteous dealing, \*  
because of the cleanness of my hands in his sight.

<sup>26</sup> With the faithful you show yourself faithful, O God; \*  
with the forthright you show yourself forthright.

<sup>27</sup> With the pure you show yourself pure, \*  
but with the crooked you are wily.

<sup>28</sup> You will save a lowly people, \*  
but you will humble the haughty eyes.

<sup>29</sup> You, O Lord, are my lamp; \*  
my God, you make my darkness bright.

<sup>30</sup> With you I will break down an enclosure; \*

with the help of my God I will scale any wall.

- 31 As for God, his ways are perfect;  
the words of the Lord are tried in the fire; \*  
he is a shield to all who trust in him.
- 32 For who is God, but the Lord? \*  
who is the Rock, except our God?
- 33 It is God who girds me about with strength \*  
and makes my way secure.
- 34 He makes me sure-footed like a deer \*  
and lets me stand firm on the heights.
- 35 He trains my hands for battle \*  
and my arms for bending even a bow of bronze.
- 36 You have given me your shield of victory; \*  
your right hand also sustains me;  
your loving care makes me great.
- 37 You lengthen my stride beneath me, \*  
and my ankles do not give way.
- 38 I pursue my enemies and overtake them; \*  
I will not turn back till I have destroyed them.
- 39 I strike them down, and they cannot rise; \*  
they fall defeated at my feet.
- 40 You have girded me with strength for the battle; \*  
you have cast down my adversaries beneath me;  
you have put my enemies to flight.
- 41 I destroy those who hate me;  
they cry out, but there is none to help them; \*  
they cry to the Lord, but he does not answer.

- 42 I beat them small like dust before the wind; \*  
I trample them like mud in the streets.
- 43 You deliver me from the strife of the peoples; \*  
you put me at the head of the nations.
- 44 A people I have not known shall serve me;  
no sooner shall they hear than they shall obey me; \*  
strangers will cringe before me.
- 45 The foreign peoples will lose heart; \*  
they shall come trembling out of their strongholds.
- 46 The Lord lives! Blessed is my Rock! \*  
Exalted is the God of my salvation!
- 47 He is the God who gave me victory \*  
and cast down the peoples beneath me.
- 48 You rescued me from the fury of my enemies;  
you exalted me above those who rose against me; \*  
you saved me from my deadly foe.
- 49 Therefore will I extol you among the nations, O Lord, \*  
and sing praises to your Name.
- 50 He multiplies the victories of his king; \*  
he shows loving-kindness to his anointed,  
to David and his descendants for ever.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

### **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **Gospel**

### *Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Luke 20:27-40

<sup>27</sup>Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to him <sup>28</sup>and asked him a question, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. <sup>29</sup>Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless; <sup>30</sup>then the second <sup>31</sup>and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. <sup>32</sup>Finally the woman also died. <sup>33</sup>In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her." <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to them, "Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage; <sup>35</sup>but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. <sup>36</sup>Indeed they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. <sup>37</sup>And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. <sup>38</sup>Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive."

<sup>39</sup>Then some of the scribes answered, "Teacher, you have spoken well." <sup>40</sup>For they no longer dared to ask him another question.

The Word of the Lord.

### *Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Cantic**

*Everyone*

### **The Song of Mary *Magnificat* Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

### **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*



I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

**Contemporary Lord's Prayer**  
**(or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

### *Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all

your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

## **The Collect of the Day: Advent 1**

### *Leader*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

## **For Mission**

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.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Costa Rica](#).

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [United Church of Canada](#).

## **A Collect for Protection**

O God, the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank you for the blessings of the day that is past, and humbly ask for your protection through the coming night.

Bring us in safety to the morning hours; through him who died and rose again for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication

Lord, give ear and acceptance

Save thy servant, that hath none

Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

### **For Those Who Need Continuing Care**

Look with mercy, O God our Father, on all persons who have become ill, weak, distressed, or isolated. Provide for them homes of dignity and peace; give them understanding helpers, and the willingness to accept help; and increase their faith and their assurance of your love. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For the Absent**

O God, whose fatherly care reaches to the uttermost parts of the earth: We humbly beseech you graciously to behold and bless whom we love, now absent from us. Defend them from all dangers of soul and body; and grant that both they and we, drawing nearer to you, may be bound together by your love in the communion of your Holy Spirit, and in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Hymn: Praise the Lord! ye heav'ns, adore Him**

Praise the Lord! ye heav'ns, adore Him;

Praise Him, angels, in the height.

Sun and moon, rejoice before Him;

Praise Him, all ye stars of light.

Praise the Lord! for He hath spoken;

Worlds His mighty voice obeyed.

Laws which never shall be broken

For their guidance He hath made.

Praise the Lord for He is glorious;

Never shall His promise fail.

God hath made His saints victorious;

Sin and death shall not prevail.

Praise the God of our salvation!

Hosts on high, His power proclaim,

Heav'n and Earth and all creation

Laud and magnify His name.

## **A Prayer of Self-Dedication**

Almighty and eternal God,

so draw our hearts to you,

so guide our minds,

so fill our imaginations,

so control our wills,

that we may be wholly yours,

utterly dedicated unto you;

and then use us, we pray you, as you will,

and always to your glory and the welfare of your people;

through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **The Ending**

### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make  
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-  
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you  
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as  
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in  
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Romans 15:13

**Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

---

**An Order for Compline**

*The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

*Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

*Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.



*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **The Psalm**

*Everyone*

4 *Cum invocarem*

or [Coverdale](#)

<sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*

you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

<sup>4</sup> Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

<sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
and put your trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> Many are saying,  
"Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

<sup>8</sup> I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11:28-30*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

*Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

*Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

*Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

*Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

*Response*

Christ, have mercy.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

*Everyone*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

### *Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

### *Response*

And let our cry come to you.

## *Leader*

Let us pray.

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

## **The Canticle**

### *Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

## *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

## *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Friday

Evening Prayer

Advent 1

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Seek him who made the Pleiades and Orion, and turns deep darkness into the morning, and darkens the day into night; who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out upon the surface of the earth: The Lord is his name. *Amos* 5:8

### **Hymn: Night is come**

Night is come; stars shine down  
twinkling over field and town.

Now we stop here to pray:

"Thank you, God, for this day."

This one sleeps; this one wakes.

And each one comfort takes  
from the Joy that surrounds  
all Creation without bounds.

Day by day, year by year,  
let us know You are near.

Night by night from above  
teach us mercy, peace, and love.

Tune: *Night is come*

### **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.



## *Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

### **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

### **22 *Deus, Deus meus***

or **Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? \*  
and are so far from my cry  
and from the words of my distress?

<sup>2</sup> O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; \*  
by night as well, but I find no rest.

<sup>3</sup> Yet you are the Holy One, \*  
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> Our forefathers put their trust in you; \*  
they trusted, and you delivered them.

<sup>5</sup> They cried out to you and were delivered; \*

they trusted in you and were not put to shame.

<sup>6</sup> But as for me, I am a worm and no man, \*  
scorned by all and despised by the people.

<sup>7</sup> All who see me laugh me to scorn; \*  
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,

<sup>8</sup> "He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him; \*  
let him rescue him, if he delights in him."

<sup>9</sup> Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, \*  
and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.

<sup>10</sup> I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; \*  
you were my God when I was still in my  
mother's womb.

<sup>11</sup> Be not far from me, for trouble is near, \*  
and there is none to help.

<sup>12</sup> Many young bulls encircle me; \*  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.

<sup>13</sup> They open wide their jaws at me, \*  
like a ravening and a roaring lion.

<sup>14</sup> I am poured out like water;  
all my bones are out of joint; \*  
my heart within my breast is melting wax.

<sup>15</sup> My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd;  
my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; \*  
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.

<sup>16</sup> Packs of dogs close me in,  
and gangs of evildoers circle around me; \*  
they pierce my hands and my feet;

I can count all my bones.

- 17 They stare and gloat over me; \*  
they divide my garments among them;  
they cast lots for my clothing.
- 18 Be not far away, O Lord; \*  
you are my strength; hasten to help me.
- 19 Save me from the sword, \*  
my life from the power of the dog.
- 20 Save me from the lion's mouth, \*  
my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.
- 21 I will declare your Name to my brethren; \*  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.
- 22 Praise the Lord, you that fear him; \*  
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;  
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
- 23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;  
neither does he hide his face from them; \*  
but when they cry to him he hears them.
- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*  
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who  
worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: \*  
"May your heart live for ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to  
the Lord, \*  
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

- <sup>27</sup> For kingship belongs to the Lord; \*  
he rules over the nations.
- <sup>28</sup> To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down  
in worship; \*  
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- <sup>29</sup> My soul shall live for him;  
my descendants shall serve him; \*  
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.
- <sup>30</sup> They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*  
the saving deeds that he has done.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Luke 20:41-21:4

<sup>41</sup>Then he said to them, "How can they say that the Messiah is David's son?  
<sup>42</sup>For David himself says in the book of Psalms, 'The Lord said to my Lord,  
"Sit at my right hand, <sup>43</sup>until I make your enemies your footstool.'" <sup>44</sup>David  
thus calls him Lord; so how can he be his son?" <sup>45</sup>In the hearing of all the  
people he said to the disciples, <sup>46</sup>"Beware of the scribes, who like to walk  
around in long robes, and love to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces,

and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets.

<sup>47</sup>They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

<sup>1</sup>He looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; <sup>2</sup>he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. <sup>3</sup>He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; <sup>4</sup>for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on."

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

**The Cantic**

*Everyone*

**The Song of Simeon *Nunc dimittis***  
**Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*

to go in peace as you have promised;

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*

whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

A Light to enlighten the nations, \*

and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

**The Apostles' Creed**

### *All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living 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.

### **The Prayers**

#### *Leader*

God be with you.

#### *Response*

And also with you.

#### *Leader*

Let us pray.

### **Contemporary Lord's Prayer**

**(or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

**The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

*Leader*

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

*Response*

And grant us your salvation.

*Leader*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

*Response*

Let your people sing with joy.

*Leader*

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*Response*

For only in you can we live in safety.

*Leader*

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

*Response*

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

*Leader*

Let your way be known upon earth;

*Response*

Your saving health among all nations.

*Leader*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;



### *Response*

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

### *Leader*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

### *Response*

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

## **The Collect of the Day: Advent 1**

### *Leader*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

## **For Mission**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Cote d'Ivoire](#).

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [International Evangelical Church](#).

## **A Collect for Fridays**

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. Amen.

## **Intercessions**

### *Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

### *Everyone sings or says*

## **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptation  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

## **For Clergy and People**

Almighty and everlasting God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift: Send down upon our bishops, and other clergy, and upon the congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and, that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honor of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **For the Unity of the Church**

O God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace: Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by

our unhappy divisions; take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatever else may hinder us from godly union and concord; that, as there is but one Body and one Spirit, one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For Monastic Orders and Vocations**

O Lord Jesus Christ, you became poor for our sake, that we might be made rich through your poverty: Guide and sanctify, we pray, those whom you call to follow you under the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, that by their prayer and service they may enrich your Church, and by their life and worship may glorify your Name; for you reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

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### **Hymn: Be still, my soul**

Be still, my soul; the Lord is on thy side;  
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;  
Leave to thy God to order and provide;  
In every change He faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul; thy best, thy heavenly, Friend  
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.  
Be still, my soul; the Lord doth undertake  
To guide the future as He did the past.  
Thy hope, thy confidence, let nothing shake;  
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.  
Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know  
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.  
Be still, my soul; the hour is hastening on

When we shall be forever with the Lord.

When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,

Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.

Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,

All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

Words: Catharina von Schlegel

Translated by Jane Borthwick

Music: Jean Sibelius

Singers: Congregation of Salisbury Cathedral Close

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

### **The Ending**

#### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks

for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make  
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-  
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you  
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as  
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in  
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

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### **An Order for Compline**

*The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

*Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

*Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

31 *In te, Domine, speravi*

or [Coverdale](#)

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame: \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*

make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11:28-30*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith. *1 Peter 5:8-9a*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*



Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

*Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

*Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

*Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

*Response*

Christ, have mercy.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

*Everyone*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

or [traditional](#)

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

### *Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

### *Response*

And let our cry come to you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your  
holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be

upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live: Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

## **The Canticle**

### *Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and

keep us. Amen.

Saturday

Evening Prayer

Advent 1

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

### **Hymn: Now rest beneath night's shadow**

Now rest beneath night's shadow

The woodland, field, and meadow,

The world in slumber lies;

But you, my heart, awake thee,

To prayer and song betake thee;

Let praise to the Creator rise.

Let praise to the Creator rise.

Lord Jesus, You do love me,

Oh, spread Your wings above me

And shield me from alarm!

Though Satan would devour me,

Let angel-guards sing o'er me:

This child of God shall meet no harm!

This child of God shall meet no harm!

Composer: Paul Gerhardt, 1653

Tune: *Nun ruhen alle Wälder*

### **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

**The Psalter**

**110:1-7 *Dixit Dominus***

**or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, \*  
until I make your enemies your footstool."

<sup>2</sup> The LORD will send the scepter of your power out of Zion, \*  
saying, "Rule over your enemies round about you.

<sup>3</sup> Princely state has been yours from the day of your birth; \*  
in the beauty of holiness have I begotten you,  
like dew from the womb of the morning."

<sup>4</sup> The LORD has sworn and he will not recant: \*  
"You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek."

- <sup>5</sup> The Lord who is at your right hand  
will smite kings in the day of his wrath; \*  
he will rule over the nations.
- <sup>6</sup> He will heap high the corpses; \*  
he will smash heads over the wide earth.
- <sup>7</sup> He will drink from the brook beside the road; \*  
therefore he will lift high his head.

**116 *Dilexi, quoniam***  
**or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> I love the LORD, because he has heard the  
voice of my supplication, \*  
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever  
I called upon him.
- <sup>2</sup> The cords of death entangled me;  
the grip of the grave took hold of me; \*  
I came to grief and sorrow.
- <sup>3</sup> Then I called upon the Name of the LORD: \*  
"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."
- <sup>4</sup> Gracious is the LORD and righteous; \*  
our God is full of compassion.
- <sup>5</sup> The LORD watches over the innocent; \*  
I was brought very low, and he helped me.
- <sup>6</sup> Turn again to your rest, O my soul. \*  
for the LORD has treated you well.
- <sup>7</sup> For you have rescued my life from death, \*  
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.
- <sup>8</sup> I will walk in the presence of the LORD \*



in the land of the living.

- <sup>9</sup> I believed, even when I said,  
"I have been brought very low." \*  
In my distress I said, "No one can be trusted."  
<sup>10</sup> How shall I repay the LORD \*  
for all the good things he has done for me?  
<sup>11</sup> I will lift up the cup of salvation \*  
and call upon the Name of the LORD.  
<sup>12</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD \*  
in the presence of all his people.  
<sup>13</sup> Precious in the sight of the LORD \*  
is the death of his servants.  
<sup>14</sup> O LORD, I am your servant; \*  
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;  
you have freed me from my bonds.  
<sup>15</sup> I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving \*  
and call upon the Name of the LORD.  
<sup>16</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD \*  
in the presence of all his people,  
<sup>17</sup> In the courts of the LORD's house, \*  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.  
Hallelujah!

**117 *Laudate Dominum***  
**or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD, all you nations; \*  
laud him, all you peoples.

For his loving-kindness toward us is great,\*  
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for ever.  
Hallelujah!

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Luke 21:5-19

<sup>5</sup>When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, <sup>6</sup>"As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down." <sup>7</sup>They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" <sup>8</sup>And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them. <sup>9</sup>"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; <sup>11</sup>there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. <sup>12</sup>"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues

and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. <sup>13</sup>This will give you an opportunity to testify. <sup>14</sup>So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; <sup>15</sup>for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup>You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup>You will be hated by all because of my name. <sup>18</sup>But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup>By your endurance you will gain your souls.

XX

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

**The Cantic**

*Everyone*

**The Song of Mary *Magnificat***  
**Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*

he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

## **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

## **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

### *Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

## **The Collect of the Day: Advent 1**

*Leader*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

## **For Mission**

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.

### **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Croatia](#).

### **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [Methodist Church in Malaysia](#).

### **A Collect for Saturdays**

O God, the source of eternal light: Shed forth your unending day upon us who watch for you, that our lips may praise you, our lives may bless you, and our worship on the morrow give you glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Intercessions**

#### *Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

#### *Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptance  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or [prayers from the Book of Common Prayer](#)).*

### **For Sound Government**



O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth.

Lord, keep this nation under your care.

To all who have executive authority and to all who have administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To those who make our laws give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To the Judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name.

For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all.  
Amen.

### **For Schools and Colleges**

O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For the Harvest of Lands and Waters**

O gracious Father, who opens your hand and fills all living things: Bless the

lands and waters, and multiply the harvests of the world; let your Spirit go forth, that it may renew the face of the earth; show your loving-kindness, that our land may give her increase; and save us from selfish use of what you give, that men and women everywhere may give you thanks; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Hymn: Be Thou my Vision**

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art  
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Be Thou my battle Shield, Sword for the fight;  
Be Thou my Dignity, Thou my Delight;  
Thou my soul's Shelter, Thou my high Tower:  
Raise Thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,  
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always:  
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

Words: Irish (8thC) versified by Mary Elizabeth Byrne

Tune: *Slane* Irish ballad

## **A Prayer of Self-Dedication**

Almighty and eternal God,  
so draw our hearts to you,  
so guide our minds,  
so fill our imaginations,  
so control our wills,  
that we may be wholly yours,  
utterly dedicated unto you;  
and then use us, we pray you, as you will,  
and always to your glory and the welfare of your people;  
through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **The Ending**

### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

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## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

### *Silence may be kept.*

### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,

through our own fault,

in thought, and word, and deed,

and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,

forgive us all our offenses;

and grant that we may serve you

in newness of life,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

### *Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

## *Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

## *Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **The Psalm**

### *Everyone*

31 *In te, Domine, speravi*

or **Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame: \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you

with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Hebrews 13:20-21*

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith. *1 Peter 5:8-9a*

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

**The Responses**

*Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

*Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

*Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

*Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

*Response*

Christ, have mercy.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

*Everyone*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*Response*

And let our cry come to you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, and illumine this night with your celestial brightness; that by night as by day your people may glorify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**A Collect for Saturdays**

We give you thanks, O God, for revealing your Son Jesus Christ to us by the light of his resurrection: Grant that as we sing your glory at the close of this day, our joy may abound in the morning as we celebrate the Paschal mystery; 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

**The Canticle**

### *Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Sunday  
Evening Prayer  
Advent 2

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.  
Philippians 1:2

### **Hymn: Glory to thee, my God, this night**

Glory to thee, my God, this night,  
for all the blessings of the light:  
keep me, O keep me, King of kings,  
beneath thine own almighty wings.

Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son,  
the ill that I this day have done;  
that with the world, myself, and thee,  
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

Teach me to live, that I may dread  
the grave as little as my bed;  
teach me to die, that so I may  
rise glorious at the awful day.

O may my soul on thee repose,  
and with sweet sleep mine eyelids close;  
sleep that may me more vigorous make  
to serve my God when I awake.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Singers: The Chapel Choir of University College, Durham

Words: Thomas Ken, 1692

Music: Thomas Tallis Tune: *Tallis' Canon*

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord  
Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy

Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

**114 *In exitu Israel***  
**or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, \*

- the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
- <sup>2</sup> Judah became God's sanctuary \*  
and Israel his dominion.
- <sup>3</sup> The sea beheld it and fled; \*  
Jordan turned and went back.
- <sup>4</sup> The mountains skipped like rams, \*  
and the little hills like young sheep.
- <sup>5</sup> What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*  
O Jordan, that you turned back?
- <sup>6</sup> You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \*  
you little hills like young sheep?
- <sup>7</sup> Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \*  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- <sup>8</sup> Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \*  
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

**115 *Non nobis, Domine***  
**or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> Not to us, O Lord, not to us,  
but to your Name give glory; \*  
because of your love and because of your faithfulness.
- <sup>2</sup> Why should the heathen say, \*  
"Where then is their God?"
- <sup>3</sup> Our God is in heaven; \*  
whatever he wills to do he does.
- <sup>4</sup> Their idols are silver and gold, \*  
the work of human hands.
- <sup>5</sup>

- They have mouths, but they cannot speak; \*  
eyes have they, but they cannot see;
- <sup>6</sup> They have ears but they cannot hear; \*  
noses, but they cannot smell;
- <sup>7</sup> They have hands, but they cannot feel;  
feet, but they cannot walk; \*  
they make no sound with their throat.
- <sup>8</sup> Those who make them are like them, \*  
and so are all who put their trust in them.
- <sup>9</sup> O Israel, trust in the Lord; \*  
he is their help and their shield.
- <sup>10</sup> O house of Aaron, trust in the Lord; \*  
he is their help and their shield.
- <sup>11</sup> You who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord; \*  
he is their help and their shield.
- <sup>12</sup> The Lord has been mindful of us, and he will bless us; \*  
he will bless the house of Israel;  
he will bless the house of Aaron;
- <sup>13</sup> He will bless those who fear the Lord, \*  
both small and great together.
- <sup>14</sup> May the Lord increase you more and more, \*  
you and your children after you.
- <sup>15</sup> May you be blessed by the Lord, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.
- <sup>16</sup> The heaven of heavens is the Lord's, \*  
but he entrusted the earth to its peoples.
- <sup>17</sup> The dead do not praise the Lord, \*

nor all those who go down into silence;

<sup>18</sup> But we will bless the Lord, \*  
from this time forth for evermore.  
Hallelujah!

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **The Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Luke 7:28-35

<sup>28</sup>I tell you, among those born of women no one is greater than John; yet the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he." <sup>29</sup>(And all the people who heard this, including the tax collectors, acknowledged the justice of God, because they had been baptized with John's baptism. <sup>30</sup>But by refusing to be baptized by him, the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected God's purpose for themselves.) <sup>31</sup>"To what then will I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like? <sup>32</sup>They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not weep.' <sup>33</sup>For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, 'He has a demon'; <sup>34</sup>the Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' <sup>35</sup>Nevertheless, wisdom is vindicated by



all her children."

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

**The Cantic**

*Everyone*

**The Song of Mary *Magnificat*  
Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

*Leader*

God be with you.

*Response*

And also with you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

**Contemporary Lord's Prayer  
(or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

**The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

### *Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned  
before the great judgment seat of Christ,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

## **The Collect of the Day: Advent 2**

### *Leader*

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

## **For Mission**

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.

## **A Collect for Sundays**

Lord God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant that we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, may praise you in that City of which he is the light, and where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Cuba](#).

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [Old-Catholic Church in the Netherlands](#).

## **Intercessions**

### *Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

### *Everyone sings or says*

## **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication

Lord, give ear and acceptation

Save thy servant, that hath none

Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the [Book of Common Prayer](#)).*

## **For Courts of Justice**

Lord Jesus, for our sake you were condemned as a criminal: Visit our jails and prisons with your pity and judgment. Remember all prisoners, and bring the guilty to repentance and amendment of life according to your will, and give them hope for their future. When any are held unjustly, bring them release; forgive us, and teach us to improve our justice. Remember those who work in these institutions; keep them humane and compassionate; and save them from becoming brutal or callous. And since what we do for those in prison, O Lord, we do for you, constrain us to improve their lot. All this we ask for your mercy's sake. Amen.

## **For Those Who Suffer for the Sake of Conscience**

O God our Father, whose Son forgave his enemies while he was suffering shame and death: Strengthen those who suffer for the sake of conscience; when they are accused, save them from speaking in hate; when they are rejected, save them from bitterness; when they are imprisoned, save them from despair; and to us your servants, give grace to respect their witness and to discern the truth, that our society may be cleansed and strengthened. This we ask for the sake of Jesus Christ, our merciful and righteous Judge. Amen.

### **For Towns and Rural Areas**

Lord Christ, when you came among us, you proclaimed the kingdom of God in villages, towns, and lonely places: Grant that your presence and power may be known throughout this land. Have mercy upon all of us who live and work in rural areas; and grant that all the people of our nation may give thanks to you for food and drink and all other bodily necessities of life, respect those who labor to produce them, and honor the land and the water from which these good things come. All this we ask in your holy Name. Amen.

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### **Hymn: Blest are the pure in heart**

Blest are the pure in heart,  
For they shall see our God;  
The secret of the Lord is theirs;  
Their soul is Christ's abode.

The Lord, Who left the heavens  
Our life and peace to bring,  
To dwell in lowliness with men  
Their Pattern and their King.

Still to the lowly soul  
He doth Himself impart;  
And for His dwelling and His throne

Chooseth the pure in heart.

Lord, we Thy presence seek;

May ours this blessing be;

Give us a pure and lowly heart,

A temple meet for Thee.

Singers: Christ's Hospital Schola Cantorum

Words: John Keble

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

### **The Ending**

#### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks

for all your goodness and loving-kindness



to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make  
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-  
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you  
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as  
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in  
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

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### **An Order for Compline**

#### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

#### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

#### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

#### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

#### *Silence may be kept.*

#### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:  
We have sinned against you,

through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

4 *Cum invocarem*

or [Coverdale](#)

<sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols

and run after false gods?"

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

<sup>4</sup> Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

<sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
and put your trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> Many are saying,  
"Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

<sup>8</sup> I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Lord, you are in the midst of us, and we are called by your Name: Do not forsake us, O Lord our God. *Jeremiah 14:9, 22*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

*Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

*Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

*Response*

Christ, have mercy.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

*Everyone*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

or [traditional](#)

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

#### *Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

#### *Response*

And let our cry come to you.

#### *Leader*

Let us pray.

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

## **The Canticle**

### *Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Monday

Evening Prayer

Advent 2

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike. *Psalm 139:10, 11*

### **Hymn: I lie, O Lord, within Your care**

I lie, O Lord, within Your care,  
Awake or when I'm sleeping.

Whoever trusts in Your strong arms  
Is safe within Your keeping.

Lord, You alone keep constant watch;  
My restless heart You quiet.  
When shadow fills the night with fear,  
I will by faith defy it.

It is enough that You are near;  
I need not now discover  
What hidden plans You have for me,  
My future's path uncover.

Tomorrow's road I cannot trace  
Nor know what ills will meet me.  
You only ask that I be still  
And trust You there will greet me.



Text: Jochen Klepper, translated by Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr.

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

**The Psalter**

**9 *Confitebor tibi***

**or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; \*  
I will tell of all your marvelous works.

<sup>2</sup> I will be glad and rejoice in you; \*  
I will sing to your Name, O Most High.

<sup>3</sup> When my enemies are driven back, \*  
they will stumble and perish at your presence.

<sup>4</sup> For you have maintained my right and my cause; \*

you sit upon your throne judging right.

<sup>5</sup> You have rebuked the ungodly and destroyed the wicked; \*  
you have blotted out their name for ever and ever.

<sup>6</sup> As for the enemy, they are finished, in perpetual ruin, \*  
their cities ploughed under, the memory of them perished;

<sup>7</sup> But the Lord is enthroned for ever; \*  
he has set up his throne for judgment.

<sup>8</sup> It is he who rules the world with righteousness; \*  
he judges the peoples with equity.

<sup>9</sup> The Lord will be a refuge for the oppressed, \*  
a refuge in time of trouble.

<sup>10</sup> Those who know your Name will put their trust in you, \*  
for you never forsake those who seek you, O Lord.

<sup>11</sup> Sing praise to the Lord who dwells in Zion; \*  
proclaim to the peoples the things he has done.

<sup>12</sup> The Avenger of blood will remember them; \*  
he will not forget the cry of the afflicted.

<sup>13</sup> Have pity on me, O Lord; \*  
see the misery I suffer from those who hate me,  
O you who lift me up from the gate of death;

<sup>14</sup> So that I may tell of all your praises  
and rejoice in your salvation \*  
in the gates of the city of Zion.

<sup>15</sup> The ungodly have fallen into the pit they dug, \*  
and in the snare they set is their own foot caught.

<sup>16</sup> The Lord is known by his acts of justice; \*  
the wicked are trapped in the works of their own hands.

- <sup>17</sup> The wicked shall be given over to the grave, \*  
and also all the peoples that forget God.
- <sup>18</sup> For the needy shall not always be forgotten, \*  
and the hope of the poor shall not perish for ever.
- <sup>19</sup> Rise up, O Lord, let not the ungodly have the upper hand; \*  
let them be judged before you.
- <sup>20</sup> Put fear upon them, O Lord; \*  
let the ungodly know they are but mortal.

**15 *Domine, quis habitabit?***

**or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*  
who may abide upon your holy hill?
- <sup>2</sup> Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \*  
who speaks the truth from his heart.
- <sup>3</sup> There is no guile upon his tongue;  
he does no evil to his friend; \*  
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
- <sup>4</sup> In his sight the wicked is rejected, \*  
but he honors those who fear the Lord.
- <sup>5</sup> He has sworn to do no wrong \*  
and does not take back his word.
- <sup>6</sup> He does not give his money in hope of gain, \*  
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
- <sup>7</sup> Whoever does these things \*  
shall never be overthrown.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **The Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Luke 21:20-28

<sup>20</sup>"When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. <sup>21</sup>Then those in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those inside the city must leave it, and those out in the country must not enter it; <sup>22</sup>for these are days of vengeance, as a fulfillment of all that is written. <sup>23</sup>Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress on the earth and wrath against this people; <sup>24</sup>they will fall by the edge of the sword and be taken away as captives among all nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. <sup>25</sup>"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Cantic**

*Everyone*

### **The Song of Simeon *Nunc dimittis* Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

### **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

## **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,

and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

### **The Suffrages**

*Leader*

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

*Response*

And grant us your salvation.

*Leader*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

*Response*

Let your people sing with joy.



*Leader*

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*Response*

For only in you can we live in safety.

*Leader*

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

*Response*

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

*Leader*

Let your way be known upon earth;

*Response*

Your saving health among all nations.

*Leader*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

*Response*

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

*Leader*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

*Response*

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

## **The Collect of the Day: Advent 2**

*Leader*

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

## **For Mission**

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Cura ao](#)

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas](#).

## **A Collect for Peace**

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.

## **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

## **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication

Lord, give ear and acceptation

Save thy servant, that hath none

Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

### **For the Right Use of God's Gifts**

Almighty God, whose loving hand has given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor you with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For Knowledge of God's Creation**

Almighty and everlasting God, you made the universe with all its marvelous order, its atoms, worlds, and galaxies, and the infinite complexity of living creatures: Grant that, as we probe the mysteries of your creation, we may come to know you more truly, and more surely fulfill our role in your eternal purpose; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For the Care of Children**

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

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### **Hymn: Breathe on me, breath of God**

Breathe on me, breath of God,  
Fill me with life anew,  
That I may love what Thou dost love,  
And do what Thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, breath of God,  
Until my heart is pure,  
Until with Thee I will one will,

To do and to endure.

Breathe on me, breath of God,  
'Til I am wholly Thine,  
Until this earthly part of me  
Glow with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, breath of God,  
So shall I never die,  
But live with Thee the perfect life  
Of Thine eternity. Amen.

Words: Edwin Hatch

Music: Robert Jackson

Tune: *Trentham*

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

**The Ending**

## **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

## **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make  
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-  
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you  
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as  
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in  
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

## **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

**Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

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**An Order for Compline**

*The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

*Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

*Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

### *Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

### *Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

### *Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **The Psalm**

### *Everyone*

31 *In te, Domine, speravi*

or [Coverdale](#)

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame: \*

deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11:28-30*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.



*Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

*Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

*Response*

Christ, have mercy.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

*Everyone*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

## **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

### *Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

### *Response*

And let our cry come to you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, and illumine this night with your celestial brightness; that by night as by day your people may glorify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live: Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each

other's toil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

## **The Cantic**

### *Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Tuesday  
Evening Prayer  
Advent 2

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole Earth tremble before him. *Psalms 96:9*

### **Hymn: In the dark of the midnight**

In the dark of the midnight,  
Have I oft hid my face;  
While the storm howls above me,  
And there's no hiding place;  
'Mid the crash of the thunder,  
Precious Lord, hear my cry;  
"Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by."  
  
'Til the storm passes over,  
'Til the thunder sounds no more;  
'Til the clouds roll forever from the sky,  
Hold me fast, let me stand,  
In the hollow of Thy hand;  
Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.  
  
Many times Satan whispers,  
"There is no need to try;  
For there's no end of sorrow,  
There's no hope by and by";  
But I know Thou art with me,

And tomorrow I'll rise;  
Where the storms never darken the skies.

'Til the storm passes over,  
'Til the thunder sounds no more;  
'Til the clouds roll forever from the sky,  
Hold me fast, let me stand,  
In the hollow of Thy hand;  
Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.

When the long night has ended,  
And the storms come no more,  
Let me stand in Thy presence.  
On that bright, peaceful shore.  
In that land where the tempest  
Never comes, Lord may I  
Dwell with Thee when the storm passes by.

'Til the storm passes over,  
'Til the thunder sounds no more;  
'Til the clouds roll forever from the sky,  
Hold me fast, let me stand,  
In the hollow of Thy hand;  
Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.

Words and Music: Traditional

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

### **36 *Dixit injustus* or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> There is a voice of rebellion deep in the heart of the wicked; \*  
there is no fear of God before his eyes.
- <sup>2</sup> He flatters himself in his own eyes \*  
that his hateful sin will not be found out.
- <sup>3</sup> The words of his mouth are wicked and deceitful; \*  
he has left off acting wisely and doing good.
- <sup>4</sup> He thinks up wickedness upon his bed  
and has set himself in no good way; \*  
he does not abhor that which is evil.
- <sup>5</sup> Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, \*  
and your faithfulness to the clouds.
- <sup>6</sup> Your righteousness is like the strong mountains,  
your justice like the great deep; \*  
you save both man and beast, O Lord.

- <sup>7</sup> How priceless is your love, O God! \*  
your people take refuge under the  
shadow of your wings.
- <sup>8</sup> They feast upon the abundance of your house; \*  
you give them drink from the river of your delights.
- <sup>9</sup> For with you is the well of life, \*  
and in your light we see light.
- <sup>10</sup> Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you, \*  
and your favor to those who are true of heart.
- <sup>11</sup> Let not the foot of the proud come near me, \*  
nor the hand of the wicked push me aside.
- <sup>12</sup> See how they are fallen, those who work wickedness! \*  
they are cast down and shall not be able to rise.

**39 *Dixi, Custodiam***  
**or *Coverdale***

- <sup>1</sup> I said, "I will keep watch upon my ways, \*  
so that I do not offend with my tongue.
- <sup>2</sup> I will put a muzzle on my mouth \*  
while the wicked are in my presence."
- <sup>3</sup> So I held my tongue and said nothing; \*  
I refrained from rash words;  
but my pain became unbearable.
- <sup>4</sup> My heart was hot within me;  
while I pondered, the fire burst into flame; \*  
I spoke out with my tongue:
- <sup>5</sup> Lord, let me know my end and the number of my days, \*  
so that I may know how short my life is.



<sup>6</sup> You have given me a mere handful of days,  
and my lifetime is as nothing in your sight; \*  
truly, even those who stand erect are but a puff of wind.

<sup>7</sup> We walk about like a shadow,  
and in vain we are in turmoil; \*  
we heap up riches and cannot tell who will gather them.

<sup>8</sup> And now, what is my hope? \*  
O Lord, my hope is in you.

<sup>9</sup> Deliver me from all my transgressions \*  
and do not make me the taunt of the fool.

<sup>10</sup> I fell silent and did not open my mouth, \*  
for surely it was you that did it.

<sup>11</sup> Take your affliction from me; \*  
I am worn down by the blows of your hand.

<sup>12</sup> With rebukes for sin you punish us;  
like a moth you eat away all that is dear to us; \*  
truly, everyone is but a puff of wind.

<sup>13</sup> Hear my prayer, O Lord,  
and give ear to my cry; \*  
hold not your peace at my tears.

<sup>14</sup> For I am but a sojourner with you, \*  
a wayfarer, as all my forebears were.

<sup>15</sup> Turn your gaze from me, that I may be glad again, \*  
before I go my way and am no more.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

**Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **Gospel**

### *Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Luke 21:29-38

<sup>29</sup>Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>34</sup>"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup>like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man." <sup>37</sup>Every day he was teaching in the temple, and at night he would go out and spend the night on the Mount of Olives, as it was called. <sup>38</sup>And all the people would get up early in the morning to listen to him in the temple.

The Word of the Lord.

### *Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Cantic**

*Everyone*

### **The Song of Mary *Magnificat* Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

### **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

**Contemporary Lord's Prayer**  
**(or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

### *Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all

your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

## **The Collect of the Day: Advent 2**

### *Leader*

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

## **For Mission**

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.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Cyprus](#).

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago](#).

## **A Collect for Guidance**

O heavenly Father, in whom 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.

## **Intercessions**

### *Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

### *Everyone sings or says*

#### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication

Lord, give ear and acceptance

Save thy servant, that hath none

Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

#### **For Agriculture**

Almighty God, we thank you for making the earth fruitful, so that it might produce what is needed for life: Bless those who work in the fields; give us seasonable weather; and grant that we may all share the fruits of the earth, rejoicing in your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **For Those We Love**

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **For Quiet Confidence**

O God of peace, who has taught us that in returning and rest we will be saved, in quietness and confidence will 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.



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## **Hymn: Christ is made the sure foundation**

Christ is made the sure foundation,  
Christ the head and cornerstone,  
chosen of the Lord, and precious,  
binding all the Church in one;  
holy Zion's help for ever,  
and her confidence alone.

All that dedicated city,  
Dearly loved of God on high,  
In exultant jubilation  
Pours perpetual melody;  
God the One in Thee adoring  
In glad hymns eternally.

To this temple, where we call Thee,  
come, O Lord of hosts, today:  
With Thy wonted loving-kindness,  
hear Thy people as they pray;  
and Thy fullest benediction  
Shed within its walls alway.

Here vouchsafe to all Thy servants  
What they ask of Thee to gain,  
what they gain from Thee for ever  
with the blessed to retain,  
And hereafter in Thy glory  
evermore with Thee to reign.

Words: Latin, c7th--8th century, translated by John Mason Neale

Singers: Harvard University Choir

Music: Henry Purcell

## **A Prayer of Self-Dedication**

Almighty and eternal God,  
so draw our hearts to you,  
so guide our minds,  
so fill our imaginations,  
so control our wills,  
that we may be wholly yours,  
utterly dedicated unto you;  
and then use us, we pray you, as you will,  
and always to your glory and the welfare of your people;  
through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **The Ending**

### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you

in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

#### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

#### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### **Benediction**

#### *Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,

God be with you till we meet again.

---

## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

### *Silence may be kept.*

### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,

through our own fault,

in thought, and word, and deed,

and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,

forgive us all our offenses;

and grant that we may serve you

in newness of life,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

### *Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

4 *Cum invocarem*

or *Coverdale*

<sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

<sup>4</sup> Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

<sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
and put your trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> Many are saying,  
"Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart, \*

more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

<sup>8</sup> I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Hebrews 13:20-21*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

### *Response*

Christ, have mercy.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

*Everyone*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*Response*

And let our cry come to you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

**The Canticle**

*Everyone*

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



Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.  
Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch  
with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and  
keep us. Amen.

Wednesday  
Evening Prayer  
Advent 2

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Yours is the day, O God, yours also the night; you established the moon and the sun. You fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter. *Psalms 74:15, 16*

### **Hymn: I will come to you in the silence**

I will come to you in the silence.

I will lift you from all your fear.

You will hear My voice.

I claim you as My choice.

Be still, and know I am near.

I am hope for all who are hopeless.

I am eyes for all who long to see.

In the shadows of the night,

I will be your light

Come and rest in Me.

Do not be afraid, I am with you.

I have called you each by name.

Come and follow Me.

I will bring you home.

I love you and you are mine.

I am strength for all the despairing.

Healing for the ones who dwell in shame.

All the blind will see, the lame will all run free.

And all will know My name.

Do not be afraid, I am with you.

I have called you each by name.

Come and follow Me.

I will bring you home.

I love you and you are mine.

I am the Word that leads all to freedom.

I am the peace the world cannot give.

I will call your name, embracing all your pain.

Stand up, now, walk, and live.

Do not be afraid, I am with you.

I have called you each by name.

Come and follow Me.

I will bring you home.

I love you and you are mine.

Do not be afraid, I am with you.

I have called you each by name.

Come and follow Me.

I will bring you home.

I love you and you are mine.

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

**119:25-48**

**or Coverdale**

**Daleth** *Adhaesit pavimento*

<sup>25</sup> My soul cleaves to the dust; \*  
give me life according to your word.

<sup>26</sup> I have confessed my ways, and you answered me; \*  
instruct me in your statutes.

<sup>27</sup> Make me understand the way of your commandments, \*  
that I may meditate on your marvelous works.

<sup>28</sup> My soul melts away for sorrow; \*  
strengthen me according to your word.

<sup>29</sup> Take from me the way of lying; \*  
let me find grace through your law.

<sup>30</sup> I have chosen the way of faithfulness; \*  
I have set your judgments before me.

<sup>31</sup> I hold fast to your decrees; \*

O Lord, let me not be put to shame.

<sup>32</sup> I will run the way of your commandments, \*  
for you have set my heart at liberty.

**He** *Legem pone*

<sup>33</sup> Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, \*  
and I shall keep it to the end.

<sup>34</sup> Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; \*  
I shall keep it with all my heart.

<sup>35</sup> Make me go in the path of your commandments, \*  
for that is my desire.

<sup>36</sup> Incline my heart to your decrees \*  
and not to unjust gain.

<sup>37</sup> Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; \*  
give me life in your ways.

<sup>38</sup> Fulfill your promise to your servant, \*  
which you make to those who fear you.

<sup>39</sup> Turn away the reproach which I dread, \*  
because your judgments are good.

<sup>40</sup> Behold, I long for your commandments; \*  
in your righteousness preserve my life.

**Waw** *Et veniat super me*

<sup>41</sup> Let your loving-kindness come to me, O Lord, \*  
and your salvation, according to your promise.

<sup>42</sup> Then shall I have a word for those who taunt me, \*  
because I trust in your words.

<sup>43</sup> Do not take the word of truth out of my mouth, \*

for my hope is in your judgments.

<sup>44</sup> I shall continue to keep your law; \*  
I shall keep it for ever and ever.

<sup>45</sup> I will walk at liberty, \*  
because I study your commandments.

<sup>46</sup> I will tell of your decrees before kings \*  
and will not be ashamed.

<sup>47</sup> I delight in your commandments, \*  
which I have always loved.

<sup>48</sup> I will lift up my hands to your commandments, \*  
and I will meditate on your statutes.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to John 7:53-8:11

<sup>53</sup> Then each of them went home,

<sup>1</sup> while Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. <sup>2</sup> Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him and he sat down and began to teach them. <sup>3</sup> The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been

caught in adultery; and making her stand before all of them, they said to him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery.

<sup>5</sup>Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" <sup>6</sup>They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground.

<sup>7</sup>When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." <sup>8</sup>And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground. <sup>9</sup>When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders; and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. <sup>10</sup>Jesus straightened up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" <sup>11</sup>She said, "No one, sir." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again."

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

**The Cantic**

*Everyone*

**The Song of Simeon *Nunc dimittis*  
Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*

to go in peace as you have promised;

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*

whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

A Light to enlighten the nations, \*



and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

*Leader*

God be with you.

*Response*

And also with you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

**Contemporary Lord's Prayer  
(or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

**The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

### *Leader*

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

### *Response*

And grant us your salvation.

### *Leader*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

### *Response*

Let your people sing with joy.

### *Leader*

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

### *Response*

For only in you can we live in safety.

### *Leader*

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

### *Response*

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

### *Leader*

Let your way be known upon earth;

### *Response*

Your saving health among all nations.

### *Leader*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

### *Response*

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

### *Leader*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

### *Response*

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

## **The Collect of the Day: Advent 2**

### *Leader*

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

## **For Mission**

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Czechia](#).

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [Religious Society of Friends: Friends United Meeting](#).

### **A Collect for Protection**

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **Intercessions**

#### *Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

#### *Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptance  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the [Book of Common Prayer](#)).*

### **For Cities**

Heavenly Father, in your Word you have given us a vision of that holy City to which the nations of the world bring their glory: Behold and visit, we pray, the cities of the earth. Renew the ties of mutual regard which form our civic life. Send us honest and able leaders. Enable us to eliminate poverty, prejudice, and oppression, that peace may prevail with righteousness, and justice with order, and that men and women from different cultures and with differing talents may find with one another the fulfillment of their humanity.

## **For Those Who Influence Public Opinion**

Almighty God, you proclaim your truth in every age by many voices: Direct, in our time, we pray, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous; to the honor of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **For the Future of the Human Race**

O God our heavenly Father, you have blessed us and given us dominion over all the earth: Increase our reverence before the mystery of life; and give us new insight into your purposes for the human race, and new wisdom and determination in making provision for its future in accordance with your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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## **Hymn: Christ, whose glory fills the skies**

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true, the only Light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise,  
Triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near;  
Day-star, in my heart appear.  
  
Dark and cheerless is the morn  
Unaccompanied by Thee;  
Joyless is the day's return  
Till Thy mercy's beams I see;  
Till they inward light impart,  
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.  
  
Visit then this soul of mine,  
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;

Fill me, Radiance divine,  
Scatter all my unbelief;  
More and more Thyself display,  
Shining to the perfect day.

Words: Charles Wesley

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is discord, union;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.  
Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

### **The Ending**

#### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,

and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

## **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

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## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

### *Silence may be kept.*

### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:  
We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,

and in what we have left undone.  
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and  
comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.  
O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the  
beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

31 *In te, Domine, speravi*  
or [Coverdale](#)

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame: \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*

for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11:28-30*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

*Response*

Christ, have mercy.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

**The Prayers**

*Everyone*

**The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

**Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*Response*

And let our cry come to you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live: Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

**The Canticle**

*Everyone*

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch

with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*

to go in peace as you have promised;

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*

whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

A Light to enlighten the nations, \*

and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Thursday  
Evening Prayer  
Advent 2

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall. *Psalms 16:7, 8*

### **Hymn: Joyous light of God's own glory**

Joyous light of God's own glory  
Light of heav'n that fills this place  
Light of Son, eternal Father  
Light of God, the Son of grace.  
As the sun begins its setting  
And the glow of dusk sets in,  
We can look to heaven's glory  
For the light that never ends.  
  
From the smallest of the sparrows  
To the blazing stars above,  
All Creation sings your glory,  
All Creation sings your love.  
O Son of God most holy  
O Son of God most high,  
May all earth and all the heavens  
Praise you for your glorious light.  
O sing to God the Father,

O sing to God the Son,  
O sing to God the Spirit,  
To God, the Three in One.  
Now let our voices rise up  
In harmonies most pure  
For God, you are most worthy  
Of our praise forevermore.

Now let our voices rise up  
In harmonies most pure  
For God, you are most worthy  
Of our praise forevermore.

Words: RR Ketcham

Tune: *Nettleton*

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,



have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,

and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Singers: The Choir of Saint Andrew's Lambertville, NJ

Arrangement: Mark Wilber Stewart

## **The Psalter**

### **37 Part II**

*Novit Dominus*

**or Coverdale**

- <sup>19</sup> The Lord cares for the lives of the godly, \*  
and their inheritance shall last for ever.
- <sup>20</sup> They shall not be ashamed in bad times, \*  
and in days of famine they shall have enough.
- <sup>21</sup> As for the wicked, they shall perish, \*  
and the enemies of the Lord, like the glory of  
the meadows, shall vanish;  
they shall vanish like smoke.
- <sup>22</sup> The wicked borrow and do not repay, \*  
but the righteous are generous in giving.
- <sup>23</sup> Those who are blessed by God shall possess the land, \*  
but those who are cursed by him shall be destroyed.
- <sup>24</sup> Our steps are directed by the Lord; \*  
he strengthens those in whose way he delights.
- <sup>25</sup> If they stumble, they shall not fall headlong, \*  
for the Lord holds them by the hand.
- <sup>26</sup> I have been young and now I am old, \*  
but never have I seen the righteous forsaken,  
or their children begging bread.
- <sup>27</sup> The righteous are always generous in their lending, \*

and their children shall be a blessing.

28 Turn from evil, and do good, \*  
and dwell in the land for ever.

29 For the Lord loves justice; \*  
he does not forsake his faithful ones.

30 They shall be kept safe for ever, \*  
but the offspring of the wicked shall be destroyed.

31 The righteous shall possess the land \*  
and dwell in it for ever.

32 The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, \*  
and their tongue speaks what is right.

33 The law of their God is in their heart, \*  
and their footsteps shall not falter.

34 The wicked spy on the righteous \*  
and seek occasion to kill them.

35 The Lord will not abandon them to their hand, \*  
nor let them be found guilty when brought to trial.

36 Wait upon the Lord and keep his way; \*  
he will raise you up to possess the land,  
and when the wicked are cut off, you will see it.

37 I have seen the wicked in their arrogance, \*  
flourishing like a tree in full leaf.

38 I went by, and behold, they were not there; \*  
I searched for them, but they could not be found.

39 Mark those who are honest;  
observe the upright; \*  
for there is a future for the peaceable.

- <sup>40</sup> Transgressors shall be destroyed, one and all; \*  
the future of the wicked is cut off.
- <sup>41</sup> But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the Lord; \*  
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
- <sup>42</sup> The Lord will help them and rescue them; \*  
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,  
because they seek refuge in him.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

### **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

### **Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Luke 22:1-13

<sup>1</sup>Now the festival of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover, was near. <sup>2</sup>The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to put Jesus to death, for they were afraid of the people. <sup>3</sup>Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was one of the twelve; <sup>4</sup>he went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers of the temple police about how he might betray him to them. <sup>5</sup>They were greatly pleased and agreed to give him money. <sup>6</sup>So he consented and began to look for an opportunity to betray him to them when no crowd was present.

<sup>7</sup>Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. <sup>8</sup>So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it." <sup>9</sup>They asked him, "Where do you want us to make preparations for it?" <sup>10</sup>"Listen," he said to them, "when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house he enters <sup>11</sup>and say to the owner of the house, 'The teacher asks you, "Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?"'" <sup>12</sup>He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there." <sup>13</sup>So they went and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

**The Canticle**

*Everyone*

**The Song of Mary *Magnificat*  
Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

## **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

## **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

### *Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,



*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

**The Collect of the Day: Advent 2**

*Leader*

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

**For Mission**

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.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Denmark](#).

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [United Congregational Church of Southern Africa](#).

## **A Collect for Protection**

O God, the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank you for the blessings of the day that is past, and humbly ask for your protection through the coming night. Bring us in safety to the morning hours; through him who died and rose again for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **Intercessions**

### *Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

### *Everyone sings or says*

## **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptance  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or [prayers from the Book of Common Prayer](#)).*

## **For Those Who Need Continuing Care**

Look with mercy, O God our Father, on all persons who have become ill, weak, distressed, or isolated. Provide for them homes of dignity and peace; give them understanding helpers, and the willingness to accept help; and increase their faith and their assurance of your love. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **For the Absent**

O God, whose fatherly care reaches to the uttermost parts of the earth: We humbly beseech you graciously to behold and bless whom we love, now absent from us. Defend them from all dangers of soul and body; and grant that both they and we, drawing nearer to you, may be bound together by your love in the communion of your Holy Spirit, and in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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## **Hymn: Come, gracious Spirit**

Come, Gracious Spirit, heavenly Dove,  
with light and comfort from above;  
be thou our guardian, thou our guide  
o'er every thought and step preside.  
O'er every thought and step preside.

The light of truth to us display,  
and make us know and choose thy way;  
plant holy fear in every heart,  
that we from God may ne'er depart.  
That we from God may ne'er depart.

Lead us to holiness, the road  
which we must take to dwell with God.

Lead us to Christ, the living way  
nor let us from His pastures stray.  
Nor let us from His pastures stray.

Lead us to God our final rest  
to be with Him forever blest.  
Lead us to heaven, its bliss to share  
fulness of joy forever there.  
Fulless of joy forever there.

### **A Prayer of Self-Dedication**

Almighty and eternal God,  
so draw our hearts to you,  
so guide our minds,  
so fill our imaginations,  
so control our wills,  
that we may be wholly yours,  
utterly dedicated unto you;  
and then use us, we pray you, as you will,  
and always to your glory and the welfare of your people;  
through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **The Ending**

#### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love

in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

#### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

#### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

#### *Leader*

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Romans 15:13

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

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## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

### *Silence may be kept.*

### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,

through our own fault,

in thought, and word, and deed,

and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,

forgive us all our offenses;

and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and  
comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the  
beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

4 *Cum invocarem*

or [Coverdale](#)

<sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

<sup>4</sup> Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

<sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
and put your trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> Many are saying,  
"Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

<sup>8</sup> I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11:28-30*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;



### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

### *Response*

Christ, have mercy.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

### *Everyone*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

## **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*Response*

And let our cry come to you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

## **The Cantic**

### *Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Friday

Evening Prayer

Advent 2

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Seek him who made the Pleiades and Orion, and turns deep darkness into the morning, and darkens the day into night; who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out upon the surface of the earth: The Lord is his name. *Amos* 5:8

### **Hymn: Night is come**

Night is come; stars shine down  
twinkling over field and town.

Now we stop here to pray:

"Thank you, God, for this day."

This one sleeps; this one wakes.

And each one comfort takes  
from the Joy that surrounds  
all Creation without bounds.

Day by day, year by year,  
let us know You are near.

Night by night from above  
teach us mercy, peace, and love.

Tune: *Night is come*

### **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

## *Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

### **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

### **35 *Judica, Domine* or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup>Fight those who fight me, O Lord; \*  
attack those who are attacking me.

<sup>2</sup>Take up shield and armor \*  
and rise up to help me.

<sup>3</sup>Draw the sword and bar the way against those  
who pursue me; \*  
say to my soul, "I am your salvation."

<sup>4</sup>Let those who seek after my life be shamed and humbled, \*  
let those who plot my ruin fall back and be dismayed.

<sup>5</sup>Let them be like chaff before the wind, \*

and let the angel of the Lord drive them away.

<sup>6</sup>Let their way be dark and slippery, \*  
and let the angel of the Lord pursue them.

<sup>7</sup>For they have secretly spread a net for me without a cause; \*  
without a cause they have dug a pit to take me alive.

<sup>8</sup>Let ruin come upon them unawares; \*  
let them be caught in the net they hid;  
let them fall into the pit they dug.

<sup>9</sup>Then I will be joyful in the Lord; \*  
I will glory in his victory.

<sup>10</sup>My very bones will say, "Lord, who is like you? \*  
You deliver the poor from those who are too strong for them,  
the poor and needy from those who rob them."

<sup>11</sup>Malicious witnesses rise up against me; \*  
they charge me with matters I know nothing about.

<sup>12</sup>They pay me evil in exchange for good; \*  
my soul is full of despair.

<sup>13</sup>But when they were sick I dressed in sack-cloth \*  
and humbled myself by fasting;

<sup>14</sup>I prayed with my whole heart,  
as one would for a friend or a brother; \*  
I behaved like one who mourns for his mother,  
bowed down and grieving.

<sup>15</sup>But when I stumbled, they were glad and gathered together;  
they gathered against me; \*  
strangers whom I did not know tore me to pieces and  
would not stop.

<sup>16</sup>They put me to the test and mocked me; \*  
they gnashed at me with their teeth.

<sup>17</sup>O Lord, how long will you look on? \*  
rescue me from the roaring beasts,  
and my life from the young lions.

<sup>18</sup>I will give you thanks in the great congregation; \*  
I will praise you in the mighty throng.

<sup>19</sup>Do not let my treacherous foes rejoice over me, \*  
nor let those who hate me without a cause  
wink at each other.

<sup>20</sup>For they do not plan for peace, \*  
but invent deceitful schemes against the  
quiet in the land.

<sup>21</sup>They opened their mouths at me and said, \*  
"Aha! we saw it with our own eyes."

<sup>22</sup>You saw it, O Lord; do not be silent; \*  
O Lord, be not far from me.

<sup>23</sup>Awake, arise, to my cause! \*  
to my defense, my God and my Lord!

<sup>24</sup>Give me justice, O Lord my God,  
according to your righteousness; \*  
do not let them triumph over me.

<sup>25</sup>Do not let them say in their hearts,  
"Aha! just what we want!" \*  
Do not let them say, "We have swallowed him up."

<sup>26</sup>Let all who rejoice at my ruin be ashamed and disgraced; \*  
let those who boast against me be clothed with



dismay and shame.

<sup>27</sup>Let those who favor my cause sing out with joy and be glad; \*  
let them say always, "Great is the Lord,  
who desires the prosperity of his servant."

<sup>28</sup>And my tongue shall be talking of your righteousness \*  
and of your praise all the day long.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

### **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

### **Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Luke 22:14-30

<sup>14</sup>When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. <sup>15</sup>He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; <sup>16</sup>for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." <sup>17</sup>Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; <sup>18</sup>for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."  
<sup>19</sup>Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." <sup>20</sup>And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

<sup>21</sup>But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table.

<sup>22</sup>For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!" <sup>23</sup>Then they began to ask one another, which one of them it could be who would do this. <sup>24</sup>A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. <sup>25</sup>But he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. <sup>26</sup>But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. <sup>27</sup>For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. <sup>28</sup>"You are those who have stood by me in my trials; <sup>29</sup>and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, <sup>30</sup>so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.  
The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

**The Cantic**

*Everyone*

**The Song of Simeon *Nunc dimittis*  
Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

*Leader*

God be with you.

## *Response*

And also with you.

## *Leader*

Let us pray.

### **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

### *Leader*

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

### *Response*

And grant us your salvation.

### *Leader*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

### *Response*

Let your people sing with joy.

### *Leader*

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

### *Response*

For only in you can we live in safety.

### *Leader*

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

### *Response*

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

### *Leader*

Let your way be known upon earth;

*Response*

Your saving health among all nations.

*Leader*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

*Response*

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

*Leader*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

*Response*

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

## **The Collect of the Day: Advent 2**

*Leader*

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

## **For Mission**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Djibouti](#).

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [Korean Christian Church in Japan](#).

## **A Collect for Fridays**

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. Amen.

## **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

## **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication

Lord, give ear and acceptance

Save thy servant, that hath none

Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or [prayers from the Book of Common Prayer](#)).*

## **For Clergy and People**

Almighty and everlasting God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift: Send down upon our bishops, and other clergy, and upon the congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and, that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy

blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honor of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **For the Unity of the Church**

O God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace: Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions; take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatever else may hinder us from godly union and concord; that, as there is but one Body and one Spirit, one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For Monastic Orders and Vocations**

O Lord Jesus Christ, you became poor for our sake, that we might be made rich through your poverty: Guide and sanctify, we pray, those whom you call to follow you under the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, that by their prayer and service they may enrich your Church, and by their life and worship may glorify your Name; for you reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### **Hymn: Come, Holy Ghost**

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,  
and lighten with celestial fire.

Thou the anointing Spirit art,  
who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Thy blessed unction from above  
is comfort, life, and fire of love.

Enable with perpetual light  
the dullness of our blinded sight.



Anoint and cheer our soiled face  
with the abundance of thy grace.  
Keep far our foes, give peace at home:  
where thou art guide, no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,  
and thee, of both, to be but One,  
that through the ages all along,  
this may be our endless song:

Praise to thy eternal merit,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Words: Rhabanus Maurus (9th C)

Singers: The Choir of St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Edinburgh, Scotland

Tune: *Veni Creator Spiritus*

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

## **The Ending**

### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make  
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-  
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you  
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as  
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in  
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

---

### **An Order for Compline**

*The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

*Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

*Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **The Psalm**

*Everyone*

31 *In te, Domine, speravi*

or [Coverdale](#)

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;

let me never be put to shame: \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11:28-30*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith. *1 Peter 5:8-9a*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

### *Response*

Christ, have mercy.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

### *Everyone*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

#### *Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

#### *Response*

And let our cry come to you.

#### *Leader*

Let us pray.

Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live: Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

## **The Cantic**

### *Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.



*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Saturday  
Evening Prayer  
Advent 2

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

### **Hymn: Now rest beneath night's shadow**

Now rest beneath night's shadow  
The woodland, field, and meadow,  
The world in slumber lies;  
But you, my heart, awake thee,  
To prayer and song betake thee;  
Let praise to the Creator rise.  
Let praise to the Creator rise.  
  
Lord Jesus, You do love me,  
Oh, spread Your wings above me  
And shield me from alarm!  
Though Satan would devour me,  
Let angel-guards sing o'er me:  
This child of God shall meet no harm!  
This child of God shall meet no harm!

Composer: Paul Gerhardt, 1653

Tune: *Nun ruhen alle Wälder*

### **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

### *Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

### **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

### **The Psalter**

#### **42 *Quemadmodum* or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> As the deer longs for the water-brooks, \*  
so longs my soul for you, O God.
- <sup>2</sup> My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living God; \*  
when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?
- <sup>3</sup> My tears have been my food day and night, \*  
while all day long they say to me,  
“Where now is your God?”
- <sup>4</sup> I pour out my soul when I think on these things: \*  
how I went with the multitude

- and led them into the house of God,
- <sup>5</sup> With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, \*  
among those who keep holy-day.
- <sup>6</sup> Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? \*  
and why are you so disquieted within me?
- <sup>7</sup> Put your trust in God; \*  
for I will yet give thanks to him,  
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.
- <sup>8</sup> My soul is heavy within me; \*  
therefore I will remember you from the land of Jordan,  
and from the peak of Mizar among the heights of Hermon.
- <sup>9</sup> One deep calls to another in the noise of your cataracts; \*  
all your rapids and floods have gone over me.
- <sup>10</sup> The Lord grants his loving-kindness in the daytime; \*  
in the night season his song is with me,  
a prayer to the God of my life.
- <sup>11</sup> I will say to the God of my strength,  
“Why have you forgotten me? \*  
and why do I go so heavily  
while the enemy oppresses me?”
- <sup>12</sup> While my bones are being broken, \*  
my enemies mock me to my face;
- <sup>13</sup> All day long they mock me \*  
and say to me, “Where now is your God?”
- <sup>14</sup> Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? \*  
and why are you so disquieted within me?
- <sup>15</sup> Put your trust in God; \*

for I will yet give thanks to him,  
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

**43 *Judica me, Deus***  
**or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> Give judgment for me, O God,  
and defend my cause against an ungodly people; \*  
deliver me from the deceitful and the wicked.
- <sup>2</sup> For you are the God of my strength;  
why have you put me from you? \*  
and why do I go so heavily while the enemy oppresses me?
- <sup>3</sup> Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, \*  
and bring me to your holy hill  
and to your dwelling;
- <sup>4</sup> That I may go to the altar of God,  
to the God of my joy and gladness; \*  
and on the harp I will give thanks to you, O God my God.
- <sup>5</sup> Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? \*  
and why are you so disquieted within me?
- <sup>6</sup> Put your trust in God; \*  
for I will yet give thanks to him,  
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

**Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **Gospel**

### *Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Luke 22:31

<sup>31</sup>"Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat,  
<sup>32</sup>but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when  
once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." <sup>33</sup>And he said to him,  
"Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!" <sup>34</sup>Jesus said, "I tell  
you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times  
that you know me." <sup>35</sup>He said to them, "When I sent you out without a purse,  
bag, or sandals, did you lack anything?" They said, "No, not a thing." <sup>36</sup>He  
said to them, "But now, the one who has a purse must take it, and likewise a  
bag. And the one who has no sword must sell his cloak and buy one. <sup>37</sup>For I  
tell you, this scripture must be fulfilled in me, 'And he was counted among the  
lawless'; and indeed what is written about me is being fulfilled." <sup>38</sup>They said,  
"Lord, look, here are two swords." He replied, "It is enough."

The Word of the Lord.

### *Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Cantic**

### *Everyone*

## **The Song of Mary *Magnificat* Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,



was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

## **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

### **The Suffrages**

#### *Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

#### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

**The Collect of the Day: Advent 2**

*Leader*

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

### **For Mission**

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.

### **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Dominica](#).

### **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [Methodist Church of New Zealand](#).

### **A Collect for Saturdays**

O God, the source of eternal light: Shed forth your unending day upon us who watch for you, that our lips may praise you, our lives may bless you, and our worship on the morrow give you glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptance  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

### **For Sound Government**

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth.

Lord, keep this nation under your care.

To all who have executive authority and to all who have administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To those who make our laws give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To the Judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name.

For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all.  
Amen.

### **For Schools and Colleges**

O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For the Harvest of Lands and Waters**

O gracious Father, who opens your hand and fills all living things: Bless the lands and waters, and multiply the harvests of the world; let your Spirit go forth, that it may renew the face of the earth; show your loving-kindness, that our land may give her increase; and save us from selfish use of what you give, that men and women everywhere may give you thanks; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Hymn: I love thy kingdom, Lord**

I love thy kingdom, Lord,  
the house of thine abode,  
the Church our blest Redeemer  
saved with his own precious blood.

For her my tears shall fall;  
for her my prayers ascend;  
to her my cares and toils be given,  
till toils and cares shall end.

Beyond my highest joy  
I prize her heavenly ways,  
her sweet communion, solemn vows,  
her hymns of love and praise.

Jesus, thou friend divine,  
our Savior and our King,

thy hand from every snare and foe  
shall great deliverance bring.

Sure as thy truth shall last,  
to Zion shall be given  
the brightest glories Earth can yield,  
and brighter bliss of heaven.

Singers: The Congregation of Washington National Cathedral (the Cathedral  
Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul)

Words: Timothy Dwight

Tune: *St. Thomas*

### **A Prayer of Self-Dedication**

Almighty and eternal God,  
so draw our hearts to you,  
so guide our minds,  
so fill our imaginations,  
so control our wills,  
that we may be wholly yours,  
utterly dedicated unto you;  
and then use us, we pray you, as you will,  
and always to your glory and the welfare of your people;  
through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **The Ending**

#### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make  
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-  
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you  
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as  
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in  
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*



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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

---

### **An Order for Compline**

#### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

#### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

#### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

#### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

#### *Silence may be kept.*

#### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:  
We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,

in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

31 *In te, Domine, speravi*

or [Coverdale](#)

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame: \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,

for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Hebrews 13:20-21*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith. *1 Peter 5:8-9a*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

### *Response*

Christ, have mercy.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

### *Everyone*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

#### *Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

#### *Response*

And let our cry come to you.

#### *Leader*

Let us pray.

Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, and illumine this night with your celestial brightness; that by night as by day your people may glorify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **A Collect for Saturdays**

We give you thanks, O God, for revealing your Son Jesus Christ to us by the light of his resurrection: Grant that as we sing your glory at the close of this day, our joy may abound in the morning as we celebrate the Paschal mystery; 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

## **The Canticle**

*Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Sunday  
Evening Prayer  
Advent 3

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.  
Philippians 1:2

### **Hymn: Glory to thee, my God, this night**

Glory to thee, my God, this night,  
for all the blessings of the light:  
keep me, O keep me, King of kings,  
beneath thine own almighty wings.

Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son,  
the ill that I this day have done;  
that with the world, myself, and thee,  
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

Teach me to live, that I may dread  
the grave as little as my bed;  
teach me to die, that so I may  
rise glorious at the awful day.

O may my soul on thee repose,  
and with sweet sleep mine eyelids close;  
sleep that may me more vigorous make  
to serve my God when I awake.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;



praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Singers: The Chapel Choir of University College, Durham

Words: Thomas Ken, 1692

Music: Thomas Tallis Tune: *Tallis' Canon*

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord  
Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy

Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

**103 *Benedic, anima mea***  
**or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

- <sup>2</sup> Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
and forget not all his benefits.
- <sup>3</sup> He forgives all your sins \*  
and heals all your infirmities;
- <sup>4</sup> He redeems your life from the grave \*  
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;
- <sup>5</sup> He satisfies you with good things, \*  
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- <sup>6</sup> The Lord executes righteousness \*  
and judgment for all who are oppressed.
- <sup>7</sup> He made his ways known to Moses \*  
and his works to the children of Israel.
- <sup>8</sup> The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- <sup>9</sup> He will not always accuse us, \*  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- <sup>10</sup> He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- <sup>11</sup> For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- <sup>12</sup> As far as the east is from the west, \*  
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- <sup>13</sup> As a father cares for his children, \*  
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.
- <sup>14</sup> For he himself knows whereof we are made; \*  
he remembers that we are but dust.

- Our days are like the grass; \*  
we flourish like a flower of the field;
- 16 When the wind goes over it, it is gone, \*  
and its place shall know it no more.
- 17 But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever  
on those who fear him, \*  
and his righteousness on children's children;
- 18 On those who keep his covenant \*  
and remember his commandments and do them.
- 19 The Lord has set his throne in heaven, \*  
and his kingship has dominion over all.
- 20 Bless the Lord, you angels of his,  
you mighty ones who do his bidding, \*  
and hearken to the voice of his word.
- 21 Bless the Lord, all you his hosts, \*  
you ministers of his who do his will.
- 22 Bless the Lord, all you works of his,  
in all places of his dominion; \*  
bless the Lord, O my soul.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

### **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

### **The Gospel**

## *Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to John 3:22-30

<sup>22</sup>After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he spent some time there with them and baptized. <sup>23</sup>John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim because water was abundant there; and people kept coming and were being baptized <sup>24</sup>—John, of course, had not yet been thrown into prison. <sup>25</sup>Now a discussion about purification arose between John's disciples and a Jew. <sup>26</sup>They came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, the one who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you testified, here he is baptizing, and all are going to him." <sup>27</sup>John answered, "No one can receive anything except what has been given from heaven. <sup>28</sup>You yourselves are my witnesses that I said, 'I am not the Messiah, but I have been sent ahead of him.' <sup>29</sup>He who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. For this reason my joy has been fulfilled. <sup>30</sup>He must increase, but I must decrease."

The Word of the Lord.

## *Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Canticle**

## *Everyone*

## **The Song of Mary *Magnificat* Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

## **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on Earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

### **The Suffrages**

*Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*



That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

**The Collect of the Day: Advent 3**

*Leader*

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy

speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

### **For Mission**

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.

### **A Collect for Sundays**

Lord God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant that we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, may praise you in that City of which he is the light, and where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

### **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [The Dominican Republic](#).

### **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [The First African Church Mission](#).

### **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication

Lord, give ear and acceptance

Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

### **For Courts of Justice**

Lord Jesus, for our sake you were condemned as a criminal: Visit our jails and prisons with your pity and judgment. Remember all prisoners, and bring the guilty to repentance and amendment of life according to your will, and give them hope for their future. When any are held unjustly, bring them release; forgive us, and teach us to improve our justice. Remember those who work in these institutions; keep them humane and compassionate; and save them from becoming brutal or callous. And since what we do for those in prison, O Lord, we do for you, constrain us to improve their lot. All this we ask for your mercy's sake. Amen.

### **For Those Who Suffer for the Sake of Conscience**

O God our Father, whose Son forgave his enemies while he was suffering shame and death: Strengthen those who suffer for the sake of conscience; when they are accused, save them from speaking in hate; when they are rejected, save them from bitterness; when they are imprisoned, save them from despair; and to us your servants, give grace to respect their witness and to discern the truth, that our society may be cleansed and strengthened. This we ask for the sake of Jesus Christ, our merciful and righteous Judge. Amen.

### **For Towns and Rural Areas**

Lord Christ, when you came among us, you proclaimed the kingdom of God in villages, towns, and lonely places: Grant that your presence and power may be known throughout this land. Have mercy upon all of us who live and work in rural areas; and grant that all the people of our nation may give thanks to you for food and drink and all other bodily necessities of life, respect those

who labor to produce them, and honor the land and the water from which these good things come. All this we ask in your holy Name. Amen.

**Hymn: You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord**

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,  
Who abide in His shadow for life,  
Say to the Lord, "My Refuge,  
My Rock in Whom I trust."

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

The snare of the fowler will never capture you,  
And famine will bring you no fear;  
Under His Wings your refuge,  
His faithfulness your shield

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

And for to His angels He's given a command,  
To guard you in all of your ways,  
Upon their hands they will bear you up,  
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

And hold you, and hold you in the palm of His Hand.

Words and music: Michael Joncas

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

### **The Ending**

#### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks

for all your goodness and loving-kindness

to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,

and all the blessings of this life;

but above all for your immeasurable love

in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;

for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make  
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-  
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you  
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as  
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in  
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;

With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

---

## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

### *Silence may be kept.*

### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you

in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

4 *Cum invocarem*

or *Coverdale*

<sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

<sup>4</sup> Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

<sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed sacrifices \*



and put your trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> Many are saying,

"Oh, that we might see better times!" \*

Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart, \*

more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

<sup>8</sup> I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*

for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Lord, you are in the midst of us, and we are called by your Name: Do not forsake us, O Lord our God. *Jeremiah 14:9, 22*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

*Response*

Christ, have mercy.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

**The Prayers**

*Everyone*

**The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

**Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*Response*

And let our cry come to you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

**The Canticle**

*Everyone*

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch

with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*

to go in peace as you have promised;

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*

whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

A Light to enlighten the nations, \*

and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Monday

Evening Prayer

Advent 3

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike. *Psalm 139:10, 11*

### **Hymn: I lie, O Lord, within Your care**

I lie, O Lord, within Your care,  
Awake or when I'm sleeping.

Whoever trusts in Your strong arms  
Is safe within Your keeping.

Lord, You alone keep constant watch;  
My restless heart You quiet.  
When shadow fills the night with fear,  
I will by faith defy it.

It is enough that You are near;  
I need not now discover  
What hidden plans You have for me,  
My future's path uncover.

Tomorrow's road I cannot trace  
Nor know what ills will meet me.  
You only ask that I be still  
And trust You there will greet me.

Text: Jochen Klepper, translated by Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr.

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

**The Psalter**

**44 *Deus, auribus***

**or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup>We have heard with our ears, O God,  
our forefathers have told us, \*  
the deeds you did in their days,  
in the days of old.

<sup>2</sup>How with your hand you drove the peoples out  
and planted our forefathers in the land; \*  
how you destroyed nations and made your people flourish.

<sup>3</sup>For they did not take the land by their sword,  
nor did their arm win the victory for them; \*  
but your right hand, your arm, and the  
light of your countenance,  
because you favored them.

<sup>4</sup>You are my King and my God; \*  
you command victories for Jacob.

<sup>5</sup>Through you we pushed back our adversaries; \*  
through your Name we trampled on those who  
rose up against us.

<sup>6</sup>For I do not rely on my bow, \*  
and my sword does not give me the victory.

<sup>7</sup>Surely, you gave us victory over our adversaries \*  
and put those who hate us to shame.

<sup>8</sup>Every day we gloried in God, \*  
and we will praise your Name for ever.

<sup>9</sup>Nevertheless, you have rejected and humbled us \*  
and do not go forth with our armies.

<sup>10</sup>You have made us fall back before our adversary, \*  
and our enemies have plundered us.

<sup>11</sup>You have made us like sheep to be eaten \*  
and have scattered us among the nations.

<sup>12</sup>You are selling your people for a trifle \*  
and are making no profit on the sale of them.

<sup>13</sup>You have made us the scorn of our neighbors, \*  
a mockery and derision to those around us.

<sup>14</sup>You have made us a byword among the nations, \*



a laughing-stock among the peoples.

<sup>15</sup>My humiliation is daily before me, \*  
and shame has covered my face;

<sup>16</sup>Because of the taunts of the mockers and blasphemers, \*  
because of the enemy and avenger.

<sup>17</sup>All this has come upon us; \*  
yet we have not forgotten you,  
nor have we betrayed your covenant.

<sup>18</sup>Our heart never turned back, \*  
nor did our footsteps stray from your path;

<sup>19</sup>Though you thrust us down into a place of misery, \*  
and covered us over with deep darkness.

<sup>20</sup>If we have forgotten the Name of our God, \*  
or stretched out our hands to some strange god,

<sup>21</sup>Will not God find it out? \*  
for he knows the secrets of the heart.

<sup>22</sup>Indeed, for your sake we are killed all the day long; \*  
we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

<sup>23</sup>Awake, O Lord! why are you sleeping? \*  
Arise! do not reject us for ever.

<sup>24</sup>Why have you hidden your face \*  
and forgotten our affliction and oppression?

<sup>25</sup>We sink down into the dust; \*  
our body cleaves to the ground.

<sup>26</sup>Rise up, and help us, \*  
and save us, for the sake of your steadfast love.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **The Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Luke 22:39-53

<sup>39</sup>He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. <sup>40</sup>When he reached the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not come into the time of trial." <sup>41</sup>Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, <sup>42</sup>"Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done." <sup>43</sup>Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. <sup>44</sup>In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. <sup>45</sup>When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial." <sup>47</sup>While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; <sup>48</sup>but Jesus said to him, "Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?" <sup>49</sup>When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, "Lord, should we strike with the sword?" <sup>50</sup>Then one of them struck

the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. <sup>51</sup>But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him. <sup>52</sup>Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, "Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? <sup>53</sup>When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!"

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Cantic**

*Everyone*

## **The Song of Simeon *Nunc dimittis* Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

## **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## The Suffrages

### *Leader*

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

### *Response*

And grant us your salvation.

### *Leader*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

### *Response*

Let your people sing with joy.

### *Leader*

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

### *Response*

For only in you can we live in safety.

### *Leader*

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

### *Response*

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

### *Leader*

Let your way be known upon earth;

### *Response*

Your saving health among all nations.

### *Leader*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

### *Response*

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

### *Leader*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

### *Response*

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

## **The Collect of the Day: Advent 3**

*Leader*

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

### **For Mission**

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen.

### **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [East Timor](#).

### **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [Toraja Church](#).

### **A Collect for Peace**

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.

## **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication

Lord, give ear and acceptation

Save thy servant, that hath none

Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

### **For the Right Use of God's Gifts**

Almighty God, whose loving hand has given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor you with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For Knowledge of God's Creation**

Almighty and everlasting God, you made the universe with all its marvelous order, its atoms, worlds, and galaxies, and the infinite complexity of living creatures: Grant that, as we probe the mysteries of your creation, we may come to know you more truly, and more surely fulfill our role in your eternal purpose; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For the Care of Children**

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **Hymn: Ye watchers and ye holy ones**



Ye watchers and ye holy ones,  
Bright seraphs, cherubim and thrones,  
Raise the glad strain, Alleluia!  
Cry out, dominions, princedoms, powers,  
Virtues, archangels, angels' choirs:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia!

O higher than the cherubim,  
More glorious than the seraphim,  
Lead their praises, Alleluia!  
Thou bearer of th'eternal Word,  
Most gracious, magnify the Lord.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia!

Respond, ye souls in endless rest,  
Ye patriarchs and prophets blest,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Ye holy twelve, ye martyrs strong,  
All saints triumphant, raise the song.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia!

O friends, in gladness let us sing,  
Supernal anthems echoing,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
To God the Father, God the Son,  
And God the Spirit, Three in One.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Singers; Choir of Belfast Cathedral

Words: John A.L. Riley

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

### **The Ending**

#### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks

for all your goodness and loving-kindness

to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,

and all the blessings of this life;

but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make  
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-  
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you  
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as  
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in  
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

## **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

---

## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

### *Silence may be kept.*

### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:  
We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,

and in what we have left undone.  
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and  
comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.  
O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the  
beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

31 *In te, Domine, speravi*  
or [Coverdale](#)

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame: \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*

for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11:28-30*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

*Response*

Christ, have mercy.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

**The Prayers**

*Everyone*

**The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

**Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*Response*

And let our cry come to you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, and illumine this night with your celestial brightness; that by night as by day your people may glorify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live: Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

**The Canticle**

*Everyone*

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch



with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*

to go in peace as you have promised;

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*

whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

A Light to enlighten the nations, \*

and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Tuesday

Evening Prayer

Advent 3

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole Earth tremble before him. *Psalm 96:9*

### **Hymn: In the dark of the midnight**

In the dark of the midnight,  
Have I oft hid my face;  
While the storm howls above me,  
And there's no hiding place;  
'Mid the crash of the thunder,  
Precious Lord, hear my cry;  
"Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by."  
  
'Til the storm passes over,  
'Til the thunder sounds no more;  
'Til the clouds roll forever from the sky,  
Hold me fast, let me stand,  
In the hollow of Thy hand;  
Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.  
  
Many times Satan whispers,  
"There is no need to try;  
For there's no end of sorrow,  
There's no hope by and by";  
But I know Thou art with me,

And tomorrow I'll rise;  
Where the storms never darken the skies.

'Til the storm passes over,  
'Til the thunder sounds no more;  
'Til the clouds roll forever from the sky,  
Hold me fast, let me stand,  
In the hollow of Thy hand;  
Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.

When the long night has ended,  
And the storms come no more,  
Let me stand in Thy presence.  
On that bright, peaceful shore.  
In that land where the tempest  
Never comes, Lord may I  
Dwell with Thee when the storm passes by.

'Til the storm passes over,  
'Til the thunder sounds no more;  
'Til the clouds roll forever from the sky,  
Hold me fast, let me stand,  
In the hollow of Thy hand;  
Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.

Words and Music: Traditional

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

### **47 *Omnes gentes, plaudite* or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> Clap your hands, all you peoples; \*  
shout to God with a cry of joy.
- <sup>2</sup> For the Lord Most High is to be feared; \*  
he is the great King over all the Earth.
- <sup>3</sup> He subdues the peoples under us, \*  
and the nations under our feet.
- <sup>4</sup> He chooses our inheritance for us, \*  
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.
- <sup>5</sup> God has gone up with a shout, \*  
the Lord with the sound of the ram's-horn.
- <sup>6</sup> Sing praises to God, sing praises; \*  
sing praises to our King, sing praises.
- <sup>7</sup> For God is King of all the Earth; \*  
sing praises with all your skill.

<sup>8</sup> God reigns over the nations; \*  
God sits upon his holy throne.

<sup>9</sup> The nobles of the peoples have gathered together \*  
with the people of the God of Abraham.

<sup>10</sup> The rulers of the Earth belong to God, \*  
and he is highly exalted.

**48 *Magnus Dominus***  
**or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised; \*  
in the city of our God is his holy hill.

<sup>2</sup> Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth, is the  
hill of Zion, \*  
the very center of the world and the city of the great King.

<sup>3</sup> God is in her citadels; \*  
he is known to be her sure refuge.

<sup>4</sup> Behold, the kings of the earth assembled \*  
and marched forward together.

<sup>5</sup> They looked and were astounded; \*  
they retreated and fled in terror.

<sup>6</sup> Trembling seized them there; \*  
they writhed like a woman in childbirth,  
like ships of the sea when the east wind shatters them.

<sup>7</sup> As we have heard, so have we seen,  
in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God; \*  
God has established her for ever.

<sup>8</sup> We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, O God, \*

in the midst of your temple.

<sup>9</sup>Your praise, like your Name, O God, reaches to  
the world's end; \*  
your right hand is full of justice.

<sup>10</sup>Let Mount Zion be glad  
and the cities of Judah rejoice, \*  
because of your judgments.

<sup>11</sup>Make the circuit of Zion;  
walk round about her; \*  
count the number of her towers.

<sup>12</sup>Consider well her bulwarks;  
examine her strongholds; \*  
that you may tell those who come after.

<sup>13</sup>This God is our God for ever and ever; \*  
he shall be our guide for evermore.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Luke 22:54-69

<sup>54</sup>Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's

house. But Peter was following at a distance. <sup>55</sup>When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. <sup>56</sup>Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." <sup>57</sup>But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." <sup>58</sup>A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" <sup>59</sup>Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean." <sup>60</sup>But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. <sup>61</sup>The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." <sup>62</sup>And he went out and wept bitterly.

<sup>63</sup>Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; <sup>64</sup>they also blindfolded him and kept asking him, "Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?" <sup>65</sup>They kept heaping many other insults on him. <sup>66</sup>When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. <sup>67</sup>They said, "If you are the Messiah, tell us." He replied, "If I tell you, you will not believe; <sup>68</sup>and if I question you, you will not answer. <sup>69</sup>But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God."

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

**The Cantic**



*Everyone*

## **The Song of Mary *Magnificat*** **Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

## **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

### **The Suffrages**

*Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

## **The Collect of the Day: Advent 3**

*Leader*

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

## **For Mission**

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.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Ecuador](#).

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [Union of Baptist Churches in Cameroon](#).

## **A Collect for Guidance**

O heavenly Father, in whom 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.

## **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

**Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptance  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

**For Agriculture**

Almighty God, we thank you for making the earth fruitful, so that it might produce what is needed for life: Bless those who work in the fields; give us seasonable weather; and grant that we may all share the fruits of the earth, rejoicing in your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**For Those We Love**

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**For Quiet Confidence**

O God of peace, who has taught us that in returning and rest we will be saved, in quietness and confidence will 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.

**Hymn: You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord**

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,

Who abide in His shadow for life,  
Say to the Lord, "My Refuge,  
My Rock in Whom I trust."

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

The snare of the fowler will never capture you,  
And famine will bring you no fear;  
Under His Wings your refuge,  
His faithfulness your shield

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

And for to His angels He's given a command,  
To guard you in all of your ways,  
Upon their hands they will bear you up,  
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

And hold you, and hold you in the palm of His Hand.

Words and music: Michael Joncas

### **A Prayer of Self-Dedication**

Almighty and eternal God,

so draw our hearts to you,  
so guide our minds,  
so fill our imaginations,  
so control our wills,  
that we may be wholly yours,  
utterly dedicated unto you;  
and then use us, we pray you, as you will,  
and always to your glory and the welfare of your people;  
through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **The Ending**

### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,



be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

#### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

#### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### **Benediction**

#### *Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

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### **An Order for Compline**

*The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

*Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

*Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,

through our own fault,

in thought, and word, and deed,

and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,

forgive us all our offenses;

and grant that we may serve you

in newness of life,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **The Psalm**

*Everyone*

4 *Cum invocarem*

or **Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

<sup>4</sup> Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

<sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
and put your trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> Many are saying,  
"Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

<sup>8</sup> I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Hebrews 13:20-21*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

### *Response*

Christ, have mercy.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

# **The Prayers**

*Everyone*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

## **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*Response*

And let our cry come to you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

**The Canticle**

*Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and  
keep us. Amen.

Wednesday  
Evening Prayer  
Advent 3

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Yours is the day, O God, yours also the night; you established the moon and the sun. You fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter. *Psalm 74:15, 16*

### **Hymn: I will come to you in the silence**

I will come to you in the silence.

I will lift you from all your fear.

You will hear My voice.

I claim you as My choice.

Be still, and know I am near.

I am hope for all who are hopeless.

I am eyes for all who long to see.

In the shadows of the night,

I will be your light

Come and rest in Me.

Do not be afraid, I am with you.

I have called you each by name.

Come and follow Me.

I will bring you home.

I love you and you are mine.

I am strength for all the despairing.

Healing for the ones who dwell in shame.



All the blind will see, the lame will all run free.

And all will know My name.

Do not be afraid, I am with you.

I have called you each by name.

Come and follow Me.

I will bring you home.

I love you and you are mine.

I am the Word that leads all to freedom.

I am the peace the world cannot give.

I will call your name, embracing all your pain.

Stand up, now, walk, and live.

Do not be afraid, I am with you.

I have called you each by name.

Come and follow Me.

I will bring you home.

I love you and you are mine.

Do not be afraid, I am with you.

I have called you each by name.

Come and follow Me.

I will bring you home.

I love you and you are mine.

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

**49** *Audite haec, omnes*  
**or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> Hear this, all you peoples;  
    hearken, all you who dwell in the world, \*  
    you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.
- <sup>2</sup> My mouth shall speak of wisdom, \*  
    and my heart shall meditate on understanding.
- <sup>3</sup> I will incline my ear to a proverb \*  
    and set forth my riddle upon the harp.
- <sup>4</sup> Why should I be afraid in evil days, \*  
    when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,
- <sup>5</sup> The wickedness of those who put their trust in their goods, \*  
    and boast of their great riches?
- <sup>6</sup> We can never ransom ourselves, \*  
    or deliver to God the price of our life;
- <sup>7</sup> For the ransom of our life is so great, \*  
    that we should never have enough to pay it,

- <sup>8</sup> In order to live for ever and ever, \*  
and never see the grave.
- <sup>9</sup> For we see that the wise die also;  
like the dull and stupid they perish \*  
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.
- <sup>10</sup> Their graves shall be their homes for ever,  
their dwelling places from generation to generation, \*  
though they call the lands after their own names.
- <sup>11</sup> Even though honored, they cannot live for ever; \*  
they are like the beasts that perish.
- <sup>12</sup> Such is the way of those who foolishly trust in themselves, \*  
and the end of those who delight in their own words.
- <sup>13</sup> Like a flock of sheep they are destined to die;  
Death is their shepherd; \*  
they go down straightway to the grave.
- <sup>14</sup> Their form shall waste away, \*  
and the land of the dead shall be their home.
- <sup>15</sup> But God will ransom my life; \*  
he will snatch me from the grasp of death.
- <sup>16</sup> Do not be envious when some become rich, \*  
or when the grandeur of their house increases;
- <sup>17</sup> For they will carry nothing away at their death, \*  
nor will their grandeur follow them.
- <sup>18</sup> Though they thought highly of themselves while they lived, \*  
and were praised for their success,
- <sup>19</sup> They shall join the company of their forebears, \*  
who will never see the light again.

<sup>20</sup> Those who are honored, but have no understanding, \*  
are like the beasts that perish.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark 1:1-8

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in the prophet the Prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;

<sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,"

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of

repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean  
countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were

baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was  
clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate

locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than

I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Cantic**

*Everyone*

## **The Song of Simeon *Nunc dimittis* Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

## **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and for ever. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

### **The Suffrages**

*Leader*

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

*Response*



And grant us your salvation.

*Leader*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

*Response*

Let your people sing with joy.

*Leader*

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*Response*

For only in you can we live in safety.

*Leader*

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

*Response*

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

*Leader*

Let your way be known upon earth;

*Response*

Your saving health among all nations.

*Leader*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

*Response*

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

*Leader*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

*Response*

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

## **The Collect of the Day: Advent 3**

*Leader*

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

### **For Mission**

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [El Salvador](#).

### **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East](#).

### **A Collect for Protection**

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptance  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

### **For Cities**

Heavenly Father, in your Word you have given us a vision of that holy City to which the nations of the world bring their glory: Behold and visit, we pray, the cities of the earth. Renew the ties of mutual regard which form our civic life. Send us honest and able leaders. Enable us to eliminate poverty, prejudice, and oppression, that peace may prevail with righteousness, and justice with order, and that men and women from different cultures and with differing talents may find with one another the fulfillment of their humanity.

### **For Those Who Influence Public Opinion**

Almighty God, you proclaim your truth in every age by many voices: Direct, in our time, we pray, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous; to the honor of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For the Future of the Human Race**

O God our heavenly Father, you have blessed us and given us dominion over all the earth: Increase our reverence before the mystery of life; and give us new insight into your purposes for the human race, and new wisdom and determination in making provision for its future in accordance with your will;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Hymn: Ye watchers and ye holy ones**

Ye watchers and ye holy ones,  
Bright seraphs, cherubim and thrones,  
Raise the glad strain, Alleluia!  
Cry out, dominions, pryncedoms, powers,  
Virtues, archangels, angels' choirs:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia!

O higher than the cherubim,  
More glorious than the seraphim,  
Lead their praises, Alleluia!  
Thou bearer of th'eternal Word,  
Most gracious, magnify the Lord.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia!

Respond, ye souls in endless rest,  
Ye patriarchs and prophets blest,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Ye holy twelve, ye martyrs strong,  
All saints triumphant, raise the song.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia!

O friends, in gladness let us sing,  
Supernal anthems echoing,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

To God the Father, God the Son,  
And God the Spirit, Three in One.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Singers; Choir of Belfast Cathedral

Words: John A.L. Riley

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

### **The Ending**

#### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks

for all your goodness and loving-kindness

to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make  
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-  
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you  
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as  
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in  
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

---

### **An Order for Compline**

#### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

#### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

#### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

#### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

#### *Silence may be kept.*

#### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:  
We have sinned against you,

through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

31 *In te, Domine, speravi*

or [Coverdale](#)

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame: \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.



<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11:28-30*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

*Response*

Christ, have mercy.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

*Everyone*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

or [traditional](#)

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*Response*

And let our cry come to you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live: Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

**The Canticle**

### *Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Thursday

Evening Prayer

Advent 3

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall. *Psalm 16:7, 8*

### **Hymn: Joyous light of God's own glory**

Joyous light of God's own glory  
Light of heav'n that fills this place  
Light of Son, eternal Father  
Light of God, the Son of grace.  
As the sun begins its setting  
And the glow of dusk sets in,  
We can look to heaven's glory  
For the light that never ends.  
  
From the smallest of the sparrows  
To the blazing stars above,  
All Creation sings your glory,  
All Creation sings your love.  
O Son of God most holy  
O Son of God most high,  
May all earth and all the heavens  
Praise you for your glorious light.  
O sing to God the Father,

O sing to God the Son,  
O sing to God the Spirit,  
To God, the Three in One.  
Now let our voices rise up  
In harmonies most pure  
For God, you are most worthy  
Of our praise forevermore.

Now let our voices rise up  
In harmonies most pure  
For God, you are most worthy  
Of our praise forevermore.

Words: RR Ketcham

Tune: *Nettleton*

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,

and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Singers: The Choir of Saint Andrew's Lambertville, NJ

Arrangement: Mark Wilber Stewart

## **The Psalter**

### **33 *Exultate, justi* or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup>Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous; \*  
it is good for the just to sing praises.

<sup>2</sup>Praise the Lord with the harp; \*  
play to him upon the psaltery and lyre.

<sup>3</sup>Sing for him a new song; \*  
sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet.

<sup>4</sup>For the word of the Lord is right, \*  
and all his works are sure.

<sup>5</sup>He loves righteousness and justice; \*  
the loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole earth.

<sup>6</sup>By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, \*  
by the breath of his mouth all the heavenly hosts.

<sup>7</sup>He gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a water-skin \*  
and stores up the depths of the sea.

<sup>8</sup>Let all the earth fear the Lord; \*  
let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of him.

<sup>9</sup>For he spoke, and it came to pass; \*  
he commanded, and it stood fast.

<sup>10</sup>The Lord brings the will of the nations to naught; \*  
he thwarts the designs of the peoples.



- <sup>11</sup>But the Lord's will stands fast for ever, \*  
and the designs of his heart from age to age.
- <sup>12</sup>Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord! \*  
happy the people he has chosen to be his own!
- <sup>13</sup>The Lord looks down from heaven, \*  
and beholds all the people in the world.
- <sup>14</sup>From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze \*  
on all who dwell on the earth.
- <sup>15</sup>He fashions all the hearts of them \*  
and understands all their works.
- <sup>16</sup>There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army; \*  
a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.
- <sup>17</sup>The horse is a vain hope for deliverance; \*  
for all its strength it cannot save.
- <sup>18</sup>Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those who fear him, \*  
on those who wait upon his love,
- <sup>19</sup>To pluck their lives from death, \*  
and to feed them in time of famine.
- <sup>20</sup>Our soul waits for the Lord; \*  
he is our help and our shield.
- <sup>21</sup>Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, \*  
for in his holy Name we put our trust.
- <sup>22</sup>Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us, \*  
as we have put our trust in you.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

**Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **Gospel**

### *Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Matthew 3:1-12

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." <sup>3</sup>This is the one of whom the prophet the Prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" <sup>4</sup>Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit worthy of repentance. <sup>9</sup>Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup>Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>11</sup>"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>His

winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Canticle**

*Everyone*

### **The Song of Mary *Magnificat* Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

*Leader*

God be with you.

## *Response*

And also with you.

## *Leader*

Let us pray.

### **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

### *Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

**The Collect of the Day: Advent 3**

*Leader*

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

**For Mission**

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.

**World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Georgia](#).

**Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [United Church of](#)

Zambia.

## **A Collect for Protection**

O God, the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank you for the blessings of the day that is past, and humbly ask for your protection through the coming night. Bring us in safety to the morning hours; through him who died and rose again for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

## **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptance  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

## **For Those Who Need Continuing Care**

Look with mercy, O God our Father, on all persons who have become ill, weak, distressed, or isolated. Provide for them homes of dignity and peace; give them understanding helpers, and the willingness to accept help; and increase their faith and their assurance of your love. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **For the Absent**

O God, whose fatherly care reaches to the uttermost parts of the earth: We



humbly beseech you graciously to behold and bless whom we love, now absent from us. Defend them from all dangers of soul and body; and grant that both they and we, drawing nearer to you, may be bound together by your love in the communion of your Holy Spirit, and in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Hymn: Dear Lord and Father of mankind**

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,  
Forgive our foolish ways;  
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,  
In purer lives Thy service find,  
In deeper reverence, praise.  
In deeper reverence, praise.

With that deep hush subduing all  
Our words and works that drown  
The tender whisper of Thy call,  
As noiseless let Thy blessing fall  
As fell Thy manna down.  
As fell Thy manna down.

Drop Thy still dews of quietness,  
Till all our strivings cease;  
Take from our souls the strain and stress,  
And let our ordered lives confess  
The beauty of Thy peace.  
The beauty of Thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire  
Thy coolness and Thy balm;  
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;  
Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,

O still, small voice of calm.

O still, small voice of calm.

### **A Prayer of Self-Dedication**

Almighty and eternal God,  
so draw our hearts to you,  
so guide our minds,  
so fill our imaginations,  
so control our wills,  
that we may be wholly yours,  
utterly dedicated unto you;  
and then use us, we pray you, as you will,  
and always to your glory and the welfare of your people;  
through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **The Ending**

#### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,

and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Romans 15:13

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,

Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

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## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

### *Silence may be kept.*

### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

### *Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and

comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

4 *Cum invocarem*

or *Coverdale*

<sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

<sup>4</sup> Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

<sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
and put your trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> Many are saying,  
"Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

<sup>8</sup> I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11:28-30*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

### *Response*

Christ, have mercy.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

*Everyone*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

or [traditional](#)

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*Response*

And let our cry come to you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

**The Canticle**

*Everyone*

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



Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.  
Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch  
with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and  
keep us. Amen.

Friday

Evening Prayer

Advent 3

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Seek him who made the Pleiades and Orion, and turns deep darkness into the morning, and darkens the day into night; who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out upon the surface of the earth: The Lord is his name. *Amos* 5:8

### **Hymn: Night is come**

Night is come; stars shine down  
twinkling over field and town.

Now we stop here to pray:

"Thank you, God, for this day."

This one sleeps; this one wakes.

And each one comfort takes  
from the Joy that surrounds  
all Creation without bounds.

Day by day, year by year,  
let us know You are near.

Night by night from above  
teach us mercy, peace, and love.

Tune: *Night is come*

### **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

## *Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

### **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

### **51 *Miserere mei, Deus* or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, according to your  
loving-kindness; \*  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- <sup>2</sup> Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- <sup>3</sup> For I know my transgressions, \*  
and my sin is ever before me.
- <sup>4</sup> Against you only have I sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your sight.
- <sup>5</sup> And so you are justified when you speak \*

and upright in your judgment.

<sup>6</sup> Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother's womb.

<sup>7</sup> For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly

<sup>8</sup> Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

<sup>9</sup> Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

<sup>10</sup> Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.

<sup>11</sup> Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.

<sup>12</sup> Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.

<sup>13</sup> Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

<sup>14</sup> I shall teach your ways to the wicked, \*  
and sinners shall return to you.

<sup>15</sup> Deliver me from death, O God, \*  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,  
O God of my salvation.

<sup>16</sup> Open my lips, O Lord, \*  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

<sup>17</sup> Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice, \*  
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.

The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; \*  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

<sup>19</sup> Be favorable and gracious to Zion, \*  
and rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

<sup>20</sup> Then you will be pleased with the appointed sacrifices,  
with burnt-offerings and oblations; \*  
then shall they offer young bullocks upon your altar.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Matthew 11:2-15

<sup>2</sup>When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

<sup>7</sup>As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind?

What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' <sup>11</sup>Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. <sup>12</sup>From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. <sup>13</sup>For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John came; <sup>14</sup>and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. <sup>15</sup>Let anyone with ears listen!

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

**The Canticle**

*Everyone*

**The Song of Simeon *Nunc dimittis*  
Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

### *All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.



*Leader*

Let us pray.

**Contemporary Lord's Prayer  
(or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

**The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

*Leader*

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

*Response*

And grant us your salvation.

*Leader*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

*Response*

Let your people sing with joy.

*Leader*

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*Response*

For only in you can we live in safety.

*Leader*

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

*Response*

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

*Leader*

Let your way be known upon earth;

*Response*

Your saving health among all nations.

*Leader*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

*Response*

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

*Leader*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

*Response*

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

### **The Collect of the Day: Advent 3**

*Leader*

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

### **For Mission**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Equatorial Guinea](#).

### **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [Union of Welsh Independents](#).

## **A Collect for Fridays**

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. Amen.

## **Intercessions**

### *Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

### *Everyone sings or says*

## **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptation  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the [Book of Common Prayer](#)).*

## **For Clergy and People**

Almighty and everlasting God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift: Send down upon our bishops, and other clergy, and upon the congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and, that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honor of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **For the Unity of the Church**

O God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace: Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions; take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatever else may hinder us from godly union and concord; that, as there is but one Body and one Spirit, one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For Monastic Orders and Vocations**

O Lord Jesus Christ, you became poor for our sake, that we might be made rich through your poverty: Guide and sanctify, we pray, those whom you call to follow you under the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, that by their prayer and service they may enrich your Church, and by their life and worship may glorify your Name; for you reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### **Hymn: Praise the Lord! ye heav'ns, adore Him**

Praise the Lord! ye heav'ns, adore Him;

Praise Him, angels, in the height.

Sun and moon, rejoice before Him;

Praise Him, all ye stars of light.

Praise the Lord! for He hath spoken;

Worlds His mighty voice obeyed.

Laws which never shall be broken

For their guidance He hath made.

Praise the Lord for He is glorious;

Never shall His promise fail.

God hath made His saints victorious;

Sin and death shall not prevail.

Praise the God of our salvation!  
Hosts on high, His power proclaim,  
Heav'n and Earth and all creation  
Laud and magnify His name.

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is discord, union;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.  
Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

### **The Ending**

#### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love

in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

---

## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

### *Silence may be kept.*

### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,

through our own fault,

in thought, and word, and deed,

and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,

forgive us all our offenses;



and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and  
comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the  
beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

31 *In te, Domine, speravi*

or [Coverdale](#)

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame: \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11:28-30*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith. *I Peter 5:8-9a*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

*Response*

Christ, have mercy.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

*Everyone*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*Response*

And let our cry come to you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live: Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

## The Canticle

### *Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Saturday

Evening Prayer

The Evening of the Commemoration of Saint Thomas the Apostle

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

### **Hymn: Now rest beneath night's shadow**

Now rest beneath night's shadow

The woodland, field, and meadow,

The world in slumber lies;

But you, my heart, awake thee,

To prayer and song betake thee;

Let praise to the Creator rise.

Let praise to the Creator rise.

Lord Jesus, You do love me,

Oh, spread Your wings above me

And shield me from alarm!

Though Satan would devour me,

Let angel-guards sing o'er me:

This child of God shall meet no harm!

This child of God shall meet no harm!

Composer: Paul Gerhardt, 1653

Tune: *Nun ruhen alle Wälder*

### **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

### *Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

### **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

### **The Psalter**

#### **27 *Dominus illuminatio* or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom then shall I fear? \*  
the Lord is the strength of my life;  
of whom then shall I be afraid?

<sup>2</sup> When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, \*  
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who  
stumbled and fell.

<sup>3</sup> Though an army should encamp against me, \*  
yet my heart shall not be afraid;



- And though war should rise up against me, \*  
yet will I put my trust in him.
- <sup>5</sup> One thing have I asked of the Lord;  
one thing I seek; \*  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days  
of my life;
- <sup>6</sup> To behold the fair beauty of the Lord \*  
and to seek him in his temple.
- <sup>7</sup> For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe  
in his shelter; \*  
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling  
and set me high upon a rock.
- <sup>8</sup> Even now he lifts up my head \*  
above my enemies round about me.
- <sup>9</sup> Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation  
with sounds of great gladness; \*  
I will sing and make music to the Lord.
- <sup>10</sup> Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; \*  
have mercy on me and answer me.
- <sup>11</sup> You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." \*  
Your face, Lord, will I seek.
- <sup>12</sup> Hide not your face from me, \*  
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.
- <sup>13</sup> You have been my helper;  
cast me not away; \*  
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.
- <sup>14</sup> Though my father and my mother forsake me, \*

the Lord will sustain me.

<sup>15</sup> Show me your way, O Lord; \*  
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.

<sup>16</sup> Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, \*  
for false witnesses have risen up against me,  
and also those who speak malice.

<sup>17</sup> What if I had not believed  
that I should see the goodness of the Lord \*  
in the land of the living!

<sup>18</sup> O tarry and await the Lord's pleasure;  
be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; \*  
wait patiently for the Lord.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **The Lessons**

### **The Old Testament Lesson**

#### **A reading from the Prophet Isaiah 43:8-13**

<sup>8</sup>Bring forth the people who are blind, yet have eyes, who are deaf, yet have ears!<sup>9</sup>Let all the nations gather together, and let the peoples assemble. Who among them declared this, and foretold to us the former things? Let them bring their witnesses to justify them, and let them hear and say, "It is

true.”<sup>10</sup>You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me.<sup>11</sup>I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no savior.<sup>12</sup>I declared and saved and proclaimed, when there was no strange god among you; and you are my witnesses, says the Lord.<sup>13</sup>I am God, and also henceforth I am He; there is no one who can deliver from my hand; I work and who can hinder it?

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Cantic**

### **The Song of Simeon**

**Luke 2:29-32**

*Nunc dimittis*

Lord, you now have set your servant free\*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,\*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations,\*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and will be for ever. *Amen.*

## **The Gospel**

**A reading from the Gospel according to John 14:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.<sup>2</sup>In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?<sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

<sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place where I am going.”<sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”<sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.<sup>7</sup>If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Canticle**

*Everyone*

## **The Song of Mary *Magnificat* Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*

he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

## **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

## **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

### *Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### **The Collect of the Day: Saint Thomas the Apostle**

*Leader*

Everliving God, who strengthened your apostle Thomas with sure and certain faith in your Son's resurrection: Grant us so perfectly and without doubt to believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord and our God, that our faith may never be found wanting in your sight; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

### **For Mission**

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.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Eritrea](#).

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands](#).

## **A Collect for Saturdays**

O God, the source of eternal light: Shed forth your unending day upon us who watch for you, that our lips may praise you, our lives may bless you, and our worship on the morrow give you glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Intercessions**

### *Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

### *Everyone sings or says*

## **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptation  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or [prayers from the Book of Common Prayer](#)).*

## **For Sound Government**

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at

peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth.

Lord, keep this nation under your care.

To all who have executive authority and to all who have administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To those who make our laws give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To the Judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name.

For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all.  
Amen.

### **For Schools and Colleges**

O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For the Harvest of Lands and Waters**

O gracious Father, who opens your hand and fills all living things: Bless the lands and waters, and multiply the harvests of the world; let your Spirit go

forth, that it may renew the face of the earth; show your loving-kindness, that our land may give her increase; and save us from selfish use of what you give, that men and women everywhere may give you thanks; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Hymn: I love thy kingdom, Lord**

I love thy kingdom, Lord,  
the house of thine abode,  
the Church our blest Redeemer  
saved with his own precious blood.

For her my tears shall fall;  
for her my prayers ascend;  
to her my cares and toils be given,  
till toils and cares shall end.

Beyond my highest joy  
I prize her heavenly ways,  
her sweet communion, solemn vows,  
her hymns of love and praise.

Jesus, thou friend divine,  
our Savior and our King,  
thy hand from every snare and foe  
shall great deliverance bring.

Sure as thy truth shall last,  
to Zion shall be given  
the brightest glories Earth can yield,  
and brighter bliss of heaven.

Singers: The Congregation of Washington National Cathedral (the Cathedral Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul)

Words: Timothy Dwight

Tune: *St. Thomas*

## **A Prayer of Self-Dedication**

Almighty and eternal God,  
so draw our hearts to you,  
so guide our minds,  
so fill our imaginations,  
so control our wills,  
that we may be wholly yours,  
utterly dedicated unto you;  
and then use us, we pray you, as you will,  
and always to your glory and the welfare of your people;  
through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **The Ending**

### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you

in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,

God be with you till we meet again.

---

## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

### *Silence may be kept.*

### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,

through our own fault,

in thought, and word, and deed,

and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,

forgive us all our offenses;

and grant that we may serve you

in newness of life,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

### *Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

31 *In te, Domine, speravi*

or *Coverdale*

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame: \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

**The Word**

*Leader*

May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the

great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Hebrews 13:20-21*

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith. *1 Peter 5:8-9a*

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

**The Responses**

*Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

*Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

*Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

*Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

*Response*

Christ, have mercy.



*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

*Everyone*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*Response*

And let our cry come to you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, and illumine this night with your celestial brightness; that by night as by day your people may glorify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **A Collect for Saturdays**

We give you thanks, O God, for revealing your Son Jesus Christ to us by the light of his resurrection: Grant that as we sing your glory at the close of this day, our joy may abound in the morning as we celebrate the Paschal mystery; 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

## The Canticle

### *Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Sunday

Evening Prayer

Advent 4

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:2

### **Hymn: Glory to thee, my God, this night**

Glory to thee, my God, this night,  
for all the blessings of the light:  
keep me, O keep me, King of kings,  
beneath thine own almighty wings.

Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son,  
the ill that I this day have done;  
that with the world, myself, and thee,  
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

Teach me to live, that I may dread  
the grave as little as my bed;  
teach me to die, that so I may  
rise glorious at the awful day.

O may my soul on thee repose,  
and with sweet sleep mine eyelids close;  
sleep that may me more vigorous make  
to serve my God when I awake.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Singers: The Chapel Choir of University College, Durham

Words: Thomas Ken, 1692

Music: Thomas Tallis Tune: *Tallis' Canon*

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord  
Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy

Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

**8 Domine, Dominus noster**  
**or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> O Lord our Governor, \*  
how exalted is your Name in all the world!

- <sup>2</sup> Out of the mouths of infants and children \*  
your majesty is praised above the heavens.
- <sup>3</sup> You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, \*  
to quell the enemy and the avenger.
- <sup>4</sup> When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, \*  
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
- <sup>5</sup> What is man that you should be mindful of him? \*  
the son of man that you should seek him out?
- <sup>6</sup> You have made him but little lower than the angels; \*  
you adorn him with glory and honor;
- <sup>7</sup> You give him mastery over the works of your hands; \*  
you put all things under his feet:
- <sup>8</sup> All sheep and oxen, \*  
even the wild beasts of the field,
- <sup>9</sup> The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, \*  
and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.
- <sup>10</sup> O Lord our Governor, \*  
how exalted is your Name in all the world!

## **84 *Quam dilecta!***

or **Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! \*  
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of  
the Lord;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- <sup>2</sup> The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \*  
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,

my King and my God.

<sup>3</sup> Happy are they who dwell in your house! \*  
they will always be praising you.

<sup>4</sup> Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \*  
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

<sup>5</sup> Those who go through the desolate valley will find  
it a place of springs, \*  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

<sup>6</sup> They will climb from height to height, \*  
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

<sup>7</sup> Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; \*  
hearken, O God of Jacob.

<sup>8</sup> Behold our defender, O God; \*  
and look upon the face of your Anointed.

<sup>9</sup> For one day in your courts is better than  
a thousand in my own room, \*  
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God  
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

<sup>10</sup> For the Lord God is both sun and shield; \*  
he will give grace and glory;

<sup>11</sup> No good thing will the Lord withhold \*  
from those who walk with integrity.

<sup>12</sup> O Lord of hosts, \*  
happy are they who put their trust in you!

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

**Gloria Patri**



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. Amen.

## **The Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to John 3:16-21

<sup>16</sup>"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Canticle**

*Everyone*

## **The Song of Mary *Magnificat***

### **Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

## **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,

on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

### **The Suffrages**

*Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

## **The Collect of the Day: Advent 4**

*Leader*

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

### **For Mission**

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.

### **A Collect for Sundays**

Lord God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant that we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, may praise you in that City of which he is the light, and where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

### **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Eswatini](#).

### **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [United Church in the Solomon Islands](#).

### **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptance  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

### **For Courts of Justice**

Lord Jesus, for our sake you were condemned as a criminal: Visit our jails and prisons with your pity and judgment. Remember all prisoners, and bring the guilty to repentance and amendment of life according to your will, and give them hope for their future. When any are held unjustly, bring them release; forgive us, and teach us to improve our justice. Remember those who work in these institutions; keep them humane and compassionate; and save them from becoming brutal or callous. And since what we do for those in prison, O Lord, we do for you, constrain us to improve their lot. All this we ask for your mercy's sake. Amen.

### **For Those Who Suffer for the Sake of Conscience**

O God our Father, whose Son forgave his enemies while he was suffering shame and death: Strengthen those who suffer for the sake of conscience; when they are accused, save them from speaking in hate; when they are rejected, save them from bitterness; when they are imprisoned, save them from despair; and to us your servants, give grace to respect their witness and to discern the truth, that our society may be cleansed and strengthened. This we ask for the sake of Jesus Christ, our merciful and righteous Judge. Amen.

### **For Towns and Rural Areas**

Lord Christ, when you came among us, you proclaimed the kingdom of God in villages, towns, and lonely places: Grant that your presence and power may be known throughout this land. Have mercy upon all of us who live and work in rural areas; and grant that all the people of our nation may give thanks to you for food and drink and all other bodily necessities of life, respect those who labor to produce them, and honor the land and the water from which these good things come. All this we ask in your holy Name. Amen.

**Hymn: I greet Thee, who my sure Redeemer art**

I greet Thee, who my sure Redeemer art,  
My only Trust and Savior of my heart,  
Who pain didst undergo for my poor sake;  
I pray Thee from our hearts all cares to take.  
Thou art the King of mercy and of grace,  
Reigning omnipotent in ev'ry place:  
So come, O King, and our whole being sway;  
Shine on us with the light of Thy pure day.  
Thou art the life, by which alone we live,  
And all our substance and our strength receive;  
O comfort us in death's approaching hour,  
strong-hearted then to face it by thy pow'r.  
Thou hast the true and perfect gentleness,  
No harshness hast Thou and no bitterness:  
make us to taste the sweet grace found in Thee  
and ever stay in thy sweet unity.  
Our hope is in no other save in Thee;  
Our faith is built upon Thy promise free;  
O grant to us such stronger hope and sure  
That we can boldly conquer and endure.



Words: John Calvin, Strasbourg Psalter

Tune: *Toulon*

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

### **The Ending**

#### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks

for all your goodness and loving-kindness

to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,

and all the blessings of this life;

but above all for your immeasurable love

in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;

for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make  
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-  
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you  
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as  
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in  
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

#### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

#### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

#### *Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;

With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

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## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

### *Silence may be kept.*

### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:  
We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

4 *Cum invocarem*

or **Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

<sup>4</sup> Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

<sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
and put your trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> Many are saying,  
"Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

<sup>8</sup> I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Lord, you are in the midst of us, and we are called by your Name: Do not forsake us, O Lord our God. *Jeremiah 14:9, 22*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## *Response*

Christ, have mercy.

## *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

### *Everyone*

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

#### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*Response*

And let our cry come to you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

**The Cantic**

*Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.  
Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch  
with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and  
keep us. Amen.



Monday

Evening Prayer

Advent 4

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike. *Psalms 139:10, 11*

### **Hymn: I lie, O Lord, within Your care**

I lie, O Lord, within Your care,  
Awake or when I'm sleeping.

Whoever trusts in Your strong arms  
Is safe within Your keeping.

Lord, You alone keep constant watch;  
My restless heart You quiet.  
When shadow fills the night with fear,  
I will by faith defy it.

It is enough that You are near;  
I need not now discover  
What hidden plans You have for me,  
My future's path uncover.

Tomorrow's road I cannot trace  
Nor know what ills will meet me.  
You only ask that I be still  
And trust You there will greet me.

Text: Jochen Klepper, translated by Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr.

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

**The Psalter**

**112 *Beatus vir*  
or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord \*  
and have great delight in his commandments!

<sup>2</sup> Their descendants will be mighty in the land; \*  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

<sup>3</sup> Wealth and riches will be in their house, \*  
and their righteousness will last for ever.

- <sup>4</sup> Light shines in the darkness for the upright; \*  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.
- <sup>5</sup> It is good for them to be generous in lending \*  
and to manage their affairs with justice.
- <sup>6</sup> For they will never be shaken; \*  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.
- <sup>7</sup> They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; \*  
their heart is right;  
they put their trust in the Lord.
- <sup>8</sup> Their heart is established and will not shrink, \*  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.
- <sup>9</sup> They have given freely to the poor, \*  
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.
- <sup>10</sup> The wicked will see it and be angry;  
they will gnash their teeth and pine away; \*  
the desires of the wicked will perish.

**115 *Non nobis, Domine***  
**or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> Not to us, O Lord, not to us,  
but to your Name give glory; \*  
because of your love and because of your faithfulness.
- <sup>2</sup> Why should the heathen say, \*  
"Where then is their God?"
- <sup>3</sup> Our God is in heaven; \*  
whatever he wills to do he does.
- <sup>4</sup> Their idols are silver and gold, \*

the work of human hands.

<sup>5</sup> They have mouths, but they cannot speak; \*  
eyes have they, but they cannot see;

<sup>6</sup> They have ears but they cannot hear; \*  
noses, but they cannot smell;

<sup>7</sup> They have hands, but they cannot feel;  
feet, but they cannot walk; \*  
they make no sound with their throat.

<sup>8</sup> Those who make them are like them, \*  
and so are all who put their trust in them.

<sup>9</sup> O Israel, trust in the Lord; \*  
he is their help and their shield.

<sup>10</sup> O house of Aaron, trust in the Lord; \*  
he is their help and their shield.

<sup>11</sup> You who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord; \*  
he is their help and their shield.

<sup>12</sup> The Lord has been mindful of us, and he will bless us; \*  
he will bless the house of Israel;  
he will bless the house of Aaron;

<sup>13</sup> He will bless those who fear the Lord, \*  
both small and great together.

<sup>14</sup> May the Lord increase you more and more, \*  
you and your children after you.

<sup>15</sup> May you be blessed by the Lord, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>16</sup> The heaven of heavens is the Lord's, \*  
but he entrusted the earth to its peoples.

<sup>17</sup> The dead do not praise the Lord, \*  
nor all those who go down into silence;

<sup>18</sup> But we will bless the Lord, \*  
from this time forth for evermore.  
Hallelujah!

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

### **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

### **The Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to John 5:30-47

<sup>30</sup>"I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge; and my judgment is just, because I seek to do not my own will but the will of him who sent me.

<sup>31</sup>"If I testify about myself, my testimony is not true. <sup>32</sup>There is another who testifies on my behalf, and I know that his testimony to me is true. <sup>33</sup>You sent messengers to John, and he testified to the truth. <sup>34</sup>Not that I accept such human testimony, but I say these things so that you may be saved. <sup>35</sup>He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light. <sup>36</sup>But I have a testimony greater than John's. The works that the Father has given me to complete, the very works that I am doing, testify on my

behalf that the Father has sent me. And the Father who sent me has himself testified on my behalf. You have never heard his voice or seen his form,<sup>38</sup> and you do not have his word abiding in you, because you do not believe him whom he has sent.<sup>39</sup> "You search the scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that testify on my behalf.<sup>40</sup> Yet you refuse to come to me to have life.<sup>41</sup> I do not accept glory from human beings.<sup>42</sup> But I know that you do not have the love of God in you.<sup>43</sup> I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; if another comes in his own name, you will accept him.<sup>44</sup> How can you believe when you accept glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the one who alone is God?<sup>45</sup> Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; your accuser is Moses, on whom you have set your hope.<sup>46</sup> If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me.<sup>47</sup> But if you do not believe what he wrote, how will you believe what I say?"

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

**The Canticle**

*Everyone*

**The Song of Simeon *Nunc dimittis*  
Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*

whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

*Leader*



God be with you.

*Response*

And also with you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

**Contemporary Lord's Prayer  
(or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

**The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

### **The Suffrages**

*Leader*

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

*Response*

And grant us your salvation.

*Leader*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

*Response*

Let your people sing with joy.

*Leader*

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*Response*

For only in you can we live in safety.

*Leader*

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

*Response*

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

*Leader*

Let your way be known upon earth;

### *Response*

Your saving health among all nations.

### *Leader*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

### *Response*

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

### *Leader*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

### *Response*

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

## **The Collect of the Day: Advent 4**

### *Leader*

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

## **For Mission**

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [The Gambia](#).

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [United Church of Christ](#)

in Zimbabwe.

## **A Collect for Peace**

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.

## **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

## **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptation  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

## **For the Right Use of God's Gifts**

Almighty God, whose loving hand has given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor you with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **For Knowledge of God's Creation**

Almighty and everlasting God, you made the universe with all its marvelous order, its atoms, worlds, and galaxies, and the infinite complexity of living

creatures: Grant that, as we probe the mysteries of your creation, we may come to know you more truly, and more surely fulfill our role in your eternal purpose; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For the Care of Children**

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **Hymn: You are my salvation**

You are my salvation  
Whom then shall I fear?  
In darkness and temptation  
My light and help are near.  
  
You are all around me  
Stronger will I stand.  
And danger will not crush me  
When we walk hand in hand.  
  
God most high  
You shelter me  
And I will trust in You.  
God most high  
You shelter me  
And I will trust in You.  
  
You are my salvation  
Whom then shall I fear?  
In darkness and temptation  
My light and help are near.

You are all around me  
Stronger will I stand.  
And danger will not crush me  
When we walk hand in hand.

God most high  
You shelter me  
And I will trust in You.  
God most high  
You shelter me  
And I will trust in You.

With courage I will wait  
Depending on Your mercy.  
You alone, O Lord, will be my peace.

[Interlude]

God most high  
You shelter me  
And I will trust in You.  
God most high  
You shelter me  
And I will trust in You.

Singer: Yvonne Lyon

Words and Music: David Lyon

Words based on "God Is My Strong Salvation"  
by James Montgomery (1771-1854)

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

## **The Ending**

### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.



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## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

### *Silence may be kept.*

### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,

through our own fault,

in thought, and word, and deed,

and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,

forgive us all our offenses;

and grant that we may serve you

in newness of life,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

### *Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

## *Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

## *Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **The Psalm**

### *Everyone*

31 *In te, Domine, speravi*

or [Coverdale](#)

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame: \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and

you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11:28-30*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

### *Response*

Christ, have mercy.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

### *Everyone*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

or [traditional](#)

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*Response*

And let our cry come to you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, and illumine this night with your celestial brightness; that by night as by day your people may glorify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live: Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

**The Canticle**

*Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Tuesday

Evening Prayer

Christmas Eve

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole Earth tremble before him. *Psalm 96:9*

### **Hymn: In the dark of the midnight**

In the dark of the midnight,  
Have I oft hid my face;  
While the storm howls above me,  
And there's no hiding place;  
'Mid the crash of the thunder,  
Precious Lord, hear my cry;  
"Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by."  
  
'Til the storm passes over,  
'Til the thunder sounds no more;  
'Til the clouds roll forever from the sky,  
Hold me fast, let me stand,  
In the hollow of Thy hand;  
Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.  
  
Many times Satan whispers,  
"There is no need to try;  
For there's no end of sorrow,  
There's no hope by and by";  
But I know Thou art with me,

And tomorrow I'll rise;  
Where the storms never darken the skies.

'Til the storm passes over,  
'Til the thunder sounds no more;  
'Til the clouds roll forever from the sky,  
Hold me fast, let me stand,  
In the hollow of Thy hand;  
Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.

When the long night has ended,  
And the storms come no more,  
Let me stand in Thy presence.  
On that bright, peaceful shore.  
In that land where the tempest  
Never comes, Lord may I  
Dwell with Thee when the storm passes by.

'Til the storm passes over,  
'Til the thunder sounds no more;  
'Til the clouds roll forever from the sky,  
Hold me fast, let me stand,  
In the hollow of Thy hand;  
Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.

Words and Music: Traditional

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*



Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

### **89 Part I *Misericordias Domini* or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing; \*  
from age to age my mouth will  
proclaim your faithfulness.

<sup>2</sup> For I am persuaded that  
your love is established for ever; \*  
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.

<sup>3</sup> "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; \*  
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

<sup>4</sup> I will establish your line for ever, \*  
and preserve your throne for all generations."

<sup>5</sup> The heavens bear witness to your wonders, O Lord, \*  
and to your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones;

<sup>6</sup> For who in the skies can be compared to the Lord? \*  
who is like the Lord among the gods?

- <sup>7</sup> God is much to be feared in the council of the holy ones, \*  
great and terrible to all those round about him.
- <sup>8</sup> Who is like you, Lord God of hosts? \*  
O mighty Lord, your faithfulness is all around you.
- <sup>9</sup> You rule the raging of the sea \*  
and still the surging of its waves.
- <sup>10</sup> You have crushed Rahab of the deep  
with a deadly wound; \*  
you have scattered your enemies with your mighty arm.
- <sup>11</sup> Yours are the heavens; the earth also is yours; \*  
you laid the foundations of the world and all that is in it.
- <sup>12</sup> You have made the north and the south; \*  
Tabor and Hermon rejoice in your Name.
- <sup>13</sup> You have a mighty arm; \*  
strong is your hand and high is your right hand.
- <sup>14</sup> Righteousness and justice are the  
foundations of your throne; \*  
love and truth go before your face.
- <sup>15</sup> Happy are the people who know the festal shout! \*  
they walk, O Lord, in the light of your presence.
- <sup>16</sup> They rejoice daily in your Name; \*  
they are jubilant in your righteousness.
- <sup>17</sup> For you are the glory of their strength, \*  
and by your favor our might is exalted.
- <sup>18</sup> Truly, the Lord is our ruler; \*  
the Holy One of Israel is our King.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **The Lessons**

### **The Old Testament Lesson**

#### **A reading from the Prophet Isaiah 59:15b-21**

<sup>15</sup>Truth is lacking, and whoever turns from evil is despoiled. The Lord saw it, and it displeased him that there was no justice.

<sup>16</sup>He saw that there was no one, and was appalled that there was no one to intervene; so his own arm brought him victory, and his righteousness upheld him. <sup>17</sup>He put on righteousness like a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on his head; he put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and wrapped himself in fury as in a mantle. <sup>18</sup>According to their deeds, so will he repay; wrath to his adversaries, requital to his enemies; to the coastlands he will render requital. <sup>19</sup>So those in the west shall fear the name of the Lord, and those in the east, his glory; for he will come like a pent-up stream that the wind of the Lord drives on. <sup>20</sup>And he will come to Zion as Redeemer, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression, says the Lord. <sup>21</sup>And as for me, this is my covenant with them, says the Lord: my spirit that is upon you, and my words that I have put in your mouth, shall not depart out of your mouth, or out of the mouths of your children, or out of the mouths of your children's children, says the Lord, from now on and forever.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Canticle**

### **The Song of Simeon**

**Luke 2:29-32**

*Nunc dimittis*

Lord, you now have set your servant free\*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,\*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations,\*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and will be for ever. *Amen.*

## **The New Testament Lesson**

### **A reading from the Letter to the Philippians 2:5-11**

<sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,<sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form,<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,<sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and

under the earth,<sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Cantic**

*Everyone*

### **The Song of Mary *Magnificat* Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

*Leader*

God be with you.

*Response*

And also with you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

**Contemporary Lord's Prayer  
(or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

**The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

*Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned  
before the great judgment seat of Christ,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

## **The Collect of the Day: Advent 4**

### *Leader*

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

## **For Mission**

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.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Ethiopia](#).

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [United Church of Canada](#).

## **A Collect for Guidance**

O heavenly Father, in whom 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.

## **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptation  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

### **For Agriculture**

Almighty God, we thank you for making the earth fruitful, so that it might produce what is needed for life: Bless those who work in the fields; give us seasonable weather; and grant that we may all share the fruits of the earth, rejoicing in your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For Those We Love**

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For Quiet Confidence**

O God of peace, who has taught us that in returning and rest we will be saved, in quietness and confidence will 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.

### **Hymn: Past 3 O'Clock**

Past three o'clock,  
On a cold frosty morning,  
Past three o'clock,  
Good morrow masters all.

Born is a baby  
Gentle as may be,  
Son of the eternal  
Father supernal.

Past three o'clock,  
On a cold frosty morning,  
Past three o'clock,  
Good morrow masters all.

Seraph choir singeth,  
Angel bell ringeth,  
Hark how they rhyme it,  
Time it and chime it!

Past three o'clock,  
On a cold frosty morning,  
Past three o'clock,  
Good morrow masters all.

Mid earth rejoices  
Hearing such voices.  
Ne'ertofores so well

Carolling nowell!

Past three o'clock,  
On a cold frosty morning,  
Past three o'clock,  
Good morrow masters all.

Hinds o'er the pearly  
Dewy lawn early  
Seek the high stranger  
Laid in the manger.

Past three o'clock,  
On a cold frosty morning,  
Past three o'clock,  
Good morrow masters all.

Cheese from the dairy  
Bring they for Mary,  
And, not for money,  
Butter and honey.

Past three o'clock,  
On a cold frosty morning,  
Past three o'clock,  
Good morrow masters all.

Light out of star-land  
Leadeth from far land  
Princes, to meet him,  
Worship and greet him.

Past three o'clock,  
On a cold frosty morning,  
Past three o'clock,

Good morrow masters all.

Myrrh from full coffer,  
Incense they offer;  
Nor is the golden  
Nugget withholden.

Past three o'clock,  
On a cold frosty morning,  
Past three o'clock,  
Good morrow masters all.

Thus then, I pray you,  
Up sirs, nor stay you  
Till ye confess him  
Likewise and bless him.

Past three o'clock,  
On a cold frosty morning,  
Past three o'clock,  
Good morrow masters all.

Singers: Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, Women's Chorus

Words: George Ratcliff Woodward

Music: Traditional

### **A Prayer of Self-Dedication**

Almighty and eternal God,  
so draw our hearts to you,  
so guide our minds,  
so fill our imaginations,  
so control our wills,  
that we may be wholly yours,  
utterly dedicated unto you;

and then use us, we pray you, as you will,  
and always to your glory and the welfare of your people;  
through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **The Ending**

### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make  
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-  
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you  
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as

may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

## **Benediction**

*Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

## **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

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## **An Order for Compline**

*The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

*Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

*Response*



The maker of heaven and Earth.

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,

through our own fault,

in thought, and word, and deed,

and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,

forgive us all our offenses;

and grant that we may serve you

in newness of life,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

4 *Cum invocarem*

or *Coverdale*

<sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

<sup>4</sup> Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

<sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
and put your trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> Many are saying,  
"Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

<sup>8</sup> I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and

ever. *Hebrews 13:20-21*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

### *Response*

Christ, have mercy.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

### *Everyone*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

or [traditional](#)

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

### ***Leader***

Lord, hear our prayer;

## *Response*

And let our cry come to you.

## *Leader*

Let us pray.

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

## **The Canticle**

### *Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Wednesday  
Evening Prayer  
Christmas

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Yours is the day, O God, yours also the night; you established the moon and the sun. You fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter. *Psalms 74:15, 16*

### **Hymn: I will come to you in the silence**

I will come to you in the silence.

I will lift you from all your fear.

You will hear My voice.

I claim you as My choice.

Be still, and know I am near.

I am hope for all who are hopeless.

I am eyes for all who long to see.

In the shadows of the night,

I will be your light

Come and rest in Me.

Do not be afraid, I am with you.

I have called you each by name.

Come and follow Me.

I will bring you home.

I love you and you are mine.

I am strength for all the despairing.

Healing for the ones who dwell in shame.

All the blind will see, the lame will all run free.

And all will know My name.

Do not be afraid, I am with you.

I have called you each by name.

Come and follow Me.

I will bring you home.

I love you and you are mine.

I am the Word that leads all to freedom.

I am the peace the world cannot give.

I will call your name, embracing all your pain.

Stand up, now, walk, and live.

Do not be afraid, I am with you.

I have called you each by name.

Come and follow Me.

I will bring you home.

I love you and you are mine.

Do not be afraid, I am with you.

I have called you each by name.

Come and follow Me.

I will bring you home.

I love you and you are mine.

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,



we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

### **110:1-7 *Dixit Dominus*** **or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, \*  
until I make your enemies your footstool."
- <sup>2</sup> The LORD will send the scepter of your power out of Zion, \*  
saying, "Rule over your enemies round about you.
- <sup>3</sup> Princely state has been yours from the day of your birth; \*  
in the beauty of holiness have I begotten you,  
like dew from the womb of the morning."
- <sup>4</sup> The LORD has sworn and he will not recant: \*  
"You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek."
- <sup>5</sup> The Lord who is at your right hand  
will smite kings in the day of his wrath; \*  
he will rule over the nations.
- <sup>6</sup> He will heap high the corpses; \*  
he will smash heads over the wide earth.
- <sup>7</sup> He will drink from the brook beside the road; \*

therefore he will lift high his head.

**132 *Memento, Domine***  
**or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> Lord, remember David, \*  
and all the hardships he endured;
- <sup>2</sup> How he swore an oath to the Lord \*  
and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:
- <sup>3</sup> "I will not come under the roof of my house, \*  
nor climb up into my bed;
- <sup>4</sup> I will not allow my eyes to sleep, \*  
nor let my eyelids slumber;
- <sup>5</sup> Until I find a place for the Lord, \*  
a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob."
- <sup>6</sup> "The ark! We heard it was in Ephratah; \*  
we found it in the fields of Jearim.
- <sup>7</sup> Let us go to God's dwelling place; \*  
let us fall upon our knees before his footstool."
- <sup>8</sup> Arise, O Lord, into your resting-place, \*  
you and the ark of your strength.
- <sup>9</sup> Let your priests be clothed with righteousness; \*  
let your faithful people sing with joy.
- <sup>10</sup> For your servant David's sake, \*  
do not turn away the face of your Anointed.
- <sup>11</sup> The Lord has sworn an oath to David; \*  
in truth, he will not break it:
- <sup>12</sup> "A son, the fruit of your body \*

will I set upon your throne.

<sup>13</sup> If your children keep my covenant  
and my testimonies that I shall teach them, \*  
their children will sit upon your throne for evermore."

<sup>14</sup> For the Lord has chosen Zion; \*  
he has desired her for his habitation:

<sup>15</sup> "This shall be my resting-place for ever; \*  
here will I dwell, for I delight in her.

<sup>16</sup> I will surely bless her provisions, \*  
and satisfy her poor with bread.

<sup>17</sup> I will clothe her priests with salvation, \*  
and her faithful people will rejoice and sing.

<sup>18</sup> There will I make the horn of David flourish; \*  
I have prepared a lamp for my Anointed.

<sup>19</sup> As for his enemies, I will clothe them with shame; \*  
but as for him, his crown will shine."

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to John 3:31-36

<sup>31</sup>The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks about earthly things. The one who comes from heaven is above all. <sup>32</sup>He testifies to what he has seen and heard, yet no one accepts his testimony. <sup>33</sup>Whoever has accepted his testimony has certified this, that God is true. <sup>34</sup>He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. <sup>35</sup>The Father loves the Son and has placed all things in his hands. <sup>36</sup>Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever disobeys the Son will not see life, but must endure God's wrath.

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

**The Cantic**

*Everyone*

**The Song of Simeon *Nunc dimittis***  
**Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

**The Apostles' Creed**

### *All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living 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.

### **The Prayers**

#### *Leader*

God be with you.

#### *Response*

And also with you.

#### *Leader*

Let us pray.

### **Contemporary Lord's Prayer**

**(or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

**The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

*Leader*

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

*Response*

And grant us your salvation.

*Leader*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

*Response*

Let your people sing with joy.

*Leader*

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*Response*

For only in you can we live in safety.

*Leader*

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

*Response*

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

*Leader*

Let your way be known upon earth;

*Response*

Your saving health among all nations.

*Leader*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;



### *Response*

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

### *Leader*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

### *Response*

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

## **The Collect of the Day: Christmas**

### *Leader*

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

## **For Mission**

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Fiji](#).

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [United Church of Christ](#).

## **A Collect for Protection**

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior

Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication

Lord, give ear and acceptance

Save thy servant, that hath none

Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

### **For Cities**

Heavenly Father, in your Word you have given us a vision of that holy City to which the nations of the world bring their glory: Behold and visit, we pray, the cities of the earth. Renew the ties of mutual regard which form our civic life. Send us honest and able leaders. Enable us to eliminate poverty, prejudice, and oppression, that peace may prevail with righteousness, and justice with order, and that men and women from different cultures and with differing talents may find with one another the fulfillment of their humanity.

### **For Those Who Influence Public Opinion**

Almighty God, you proclaim your truth in every age by many voices: Direct, in our time, we pray, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous; to the honor of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **For the Future of the Human Race**

O God our heavenly Father, you have blessed us and given us dominion over all the earth: Increase our reverence before the mystery of life; and give us new insight into your purposes for the human race, and new wisdom and determination in making provision for its future in accordance with your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Hymn: On Christmas night (The Sussex carol)**

On Christmas night, all Christians sing  
To hear the news the angels bring.

On Christmas night, all Christians sing  
To hear the news the angels bring.

News of great joy, news of great mirth,  
News of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on Earth be so sad,  
Since our Redeemer made us glad,  
Then why should men on Earth be so sad,  
Since our Redeemer made us glad,  
When from our sin he set us free,  
All for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before His grace,  
Then life and health come in its place.

When sin departs before His grace,  
Then life and health come in its place.

Angels and men with joy may sing  
All for to see the new-born King.

All out of darkness we have light,  
Which made the angels sing this night:  
All out of darkness we have light,

Which made the angels sing this night:

"Glory to God and peace to men,

Now and for evermore, Amen!

For evermore, Amen!"

Singers: King's College Cambridge

Music: Traditional

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

### **The Ending**

#### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks

for all your goodness and loving-kindness

to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,

and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

#### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

#### *Response*

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

#### *Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

## **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

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## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

### *Silence may be kept.*

### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:  
We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,

and in what we have left undone.  
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and  
comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.  
O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the  
beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

31 *In te, Domine, speravi*  
or [Coverdale](#)

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame: \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*

for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11:28-30*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*



Lord, have mercy.

*Response*

Christ, have mercy.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

**The Prayers**

*Everyone*

**The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

**Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*Response*

And let our cry come to you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live: Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

**The Cantic**

*Everyone*

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch

with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*

to go in peace as you have promised;

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*

whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

A Light to enlighten the nations, \*

and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Thursday

Evening Prayer

The Evening of the Commemoration of Saint Stephen the Deacon

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall. *Psalm 16:7, 8*

### **Hymn: Joyous light of God's own glory**

Joyous light of God's own glory  
Light of heav'n that fills this place  
Light of Son, eternal Father  
Light of God, the Son of grace.  
As the sun begins its setting  
And the glow of dusk sets in,  
We can look to heaven's glory  
For the light that never ends.  
  
From the smallest of the sparrows  
To the blazing stars above,  
All Creation sings your glory,  
All Creation sings your love.  
O Son of God most holy  
O Son of God most high,  
May all earth and all the heavens  
Praise you for your glorious light.  
O sing to God the Father,

O sing to God the Son,  
O sing to God the Spirit,  
To God, the Three in One.  
Now let our voices rise up  
In harmonies most pure  
For God, you are most worthy  
Of our praise forevermore.

Now let our voices rise up  
In harmonies most pure  
For God, you are most worthy  
Of our praise forevermore.

Words: RR Ketcham

Tune: *Nettleton*

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,

and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Singers: The Choir of Saint Andrew's Lambertville, NJ

Arrangement: Mark Wilber Stewart

## **The Psalter**

### **118 *Confitemini Domino***

#### **or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; \*  
his mercy endures for ever.
- <sup>2</sup> Let Israel now proclaim, \*  
His mercy endures for ever.
- <sup>3</sup> Let the house of Aaron now proclaim, \*  
His mercy endures for ever.
- <sup>4</sup> Let those who fear the Lord now proclaim, \*  
His mercy endures for ever.
- <sup>5</sup> I called to the Lord in my distress; \*  
the Lord answered by setting me free.
- <sup>6</sup> The Lord is at my side, therefore I will not fear; \*  
what can anyone do to me?
- <sup>7</sup> The Lord is at my side to help me; \*  
I will triumph over those who hate me.
- <sup>8</sup> It is better to rely on the Lord \*  
than to put any trust in flesh.
- <sup>9</sup> It is better to rely on the Lord \*  
than to put any trust in rulers.
- <sup>10</sup> All the ungodly encompass me; \*  
in the name of the Lord I will repel them.

- 11 They hem me in, they hem me in on every side; \*  
in the name of the Lord I will repel them.
- 12 They swarm about me like bees;  
they blaze like a fire of thorns; \*  
in the name of the Lord I will repel them.
- 13 I was pressed so hard that I almost fell, \*  
but the Lord came to my help.
- 14 The Lord is my strength and my song, \*  
and he has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory \*  
in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! \*  
the right hand of the Lord is exalted!  
the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!
- 17 I shall not die, but live, \*  
and declare the works of the Lord.
- 18 The Lord has punished me sorely, \*  
but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*  
I will enter them;  
I will offer thanks to the Lord.
- 20 This is the gate of the Lord; \*  
he who is righteous may enter.
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*  
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected \*  
has become the chief cornerstone.



- <sup>23</sup> This is the Lords doing, \*  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- <sup>24</sup> On this day the Lord has acted; \*  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
- <sup>25</sup> Hosannah, Lord, hosannah! \*  
Lord, send us now success.
- <sup>26</sup> Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; \*  
we bless you from the house of the Lord.
- <sup>27</sup> God is the Lord; he has shined upon us; \*  
form a procession with branches  
up to the horns of the altar.
- <sup>28</sup> You are my God, and I will thank you; \*  
you are my God, and I will exalt you.
- <sup>29</sup> Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; \*  
his mercy endures for ever.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

### **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

### **The Lessons**

#### **The Old Testament Lesson**

A reading from the Book of Wisdom 4:7-15

- <sup>7</sup> But the righteous, though they die early, will be at rest.

<sup>8</sup> For old age is not honoured for length of time,  
or measured by number of years;

<sup>9</sup> but understanding is grey hair for anyone,  
and a blameless life is ripe old age.

<sup>10</sup> There were some who pleased God and were loved by him,  
and while living among sinners were taken up.

<sup>11</sup> They were caught up so that evil might not change their understanding  
or guile deceive their souls.

<sup>12</sup> For the fascination of wickedness obscures what is good,  
and roving desire perverts the innocent mind.

<sup>13</sup> Being perfected in a short time, they fulfilled long years;

<sup>14</sup> for their souls were pleasing to the Lord,  
therefore he took them quickly from the midst of wickedness.

<sup>15</sup> Yet the peoples saw and did not understand,  
or take such a thing to heart,  
that God's grace and mercy are with his elect,  
and that he watches over his holy ones.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Canticle**

### **The Song of Simeon**

**Luke 2:29-32**

*Nunc dimittis*

Lord, you now have set your servant free\*  
to go in peace as you have promised;

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,\*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations,\*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and will be for ever. *Amen.*

### **The New Testament Lesson**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 7:59-8:8

<sup>59</sup>While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, ‘Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.’

<sup>60</sup>Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, ‘Lord, do not hold this sin against them.’ When he had said this, he died.

<sup>1</sup>And Saul approved of their killing him.

That day a severe persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout the countryside of Judea and Samaria. <sup>2</sup>Devout men buried Stephen and made loud lamentation over him.

<sup>3</sup>But Saul was ravaging the church by entering house after house; dragging off both men and women, he committed them to prison.

<sup>4</sup>Now those who were scattered went from place to place, proclaiming the word. <sup>5</sup>Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah to them. <sup>6</sup>The crowds with one accord listened eagerly to what was said by Philip, hearing and seeing the signs that he did, <sup>7</sup>for unclean spirits, crying with loud shrieks, came out of many who were possessed; and many others who were paralysed or lame were cured. <sup>8</sup>So there was great joy in that city.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Cantic**

*Everyone*

### **The Song of Mary *Magnificat* Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

### *All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

## **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

## **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

*Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned  
before the great judgment seat of Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### **Collect of the Day: St. Stephen the Deacon**

### *Leader*

We give you thanks, O Lord of glory, for the example of the first martyr Stephen, who looked up to heaven and prayed for his persecutors to your Son Jesus Christ, who stands at your right hand: where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

### **For Mission**

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.

### **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Finland](#).

### **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [United Church of Christ - Congregational in the Marshall Islands](#).

### **A Collect for Protection**

O God, the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank you for the blessings of the



day that is past, and humbly ask for your protection through the coming night. Bring us in safety to the morning hours; through him who died and rose again for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptance  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

### **For Those Who Need Continuing Care**

Look with mercy, O God our Father, on all persons who have become ill, weak, distressed, or isolated. Provide for them homes of dignity and peace; give them understanding helpers, and the willingness to accept help; and increase their faith and their assurance of your love. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For the Absent**

O God, whose fatherly care reaches to the uttermost parts of the earth: We humbly beseech you graciously to behold and bless whom we love, now absent from us. Defend them from all dangers of soul and body; and grant that both they and we, drawing nearer to you, may be bound together by your love in the communion of your Holy Spirit, and in the fellowship of your saints;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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### **Hymn: Sheep fast asleep**

Sheep fast asleep,  
there on a hill,  
grass for a bed;  
all is still.

Cold winter night, the frost appears;  
shepherds keep watch by their fire.

Soft there a sound,  
far, far away;  
is it the steam?  
winds at play?

Nay, friend, it is the heavenly choir,  
singing throughout the spheres.

Star in the sky  
shining; so bright!  
Silent and pure,  
wondrous light!

What tidings brings it Israel?  
Can we new hope in it find?

Good news it brings!

"Fear not, I pray!

"Born is God's Son,

"born today!

"God's gift of love to all the Earth,

"Our Lord, Emmanuel."

Glory to God!

Glory on high!  
Sing you Noel!  
Day is nigh!  
All you who dwell on Earth below  
Peace be to you, and good will  
Come, let us go  
to Bethlehem.  
Follow the star,  
seeking him.  
Let us adore and worship still  
In love and joy to grow.  
Singers: First Presbyterian Church Choir  
Words: Genzo Miwa, trans. John Moss  
Music: Chugoro Torii

### **A Prayer of Self-Dedication**

Almighty and eternal God,  
so draw our hearts to you,  
so guide our minds,  
so fill our imaginations,  
so control our wills,  
that we may be wholly yours,  
utterly dedicated unto you;  
and then use us, we pray you, as you will,  
and always to your glory and the welfare of your people;  
through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **The Ending**

### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make  
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-  
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you  
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as  
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in  
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

### *Leader*

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Romans 15:13

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

---

### **An Order for Compline**

#### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

#### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

#### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

#### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:  
We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

4 *Cum invocarem*

or *Coverdale*

<sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

<sup>4</sup> Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

<sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
and put your trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> Many are saying,  
"Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

<sup>8</sup> I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11:28-30*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

*Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

*Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

*Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

*Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

*Response*

Christ, have mercy.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

*Everyone*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.



Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

### *Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

### *Response*

And let our cry come to you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so

that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

## **The Cantic**

### *Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Friday

Evening Prayer

The Evening of the Commemoration of Saint John the Evangelist

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Seek him who made the Pleiades and Orion, and turns deep darkness into the morning, and darkens the day into night; who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out upon the surface of the earth: The Lord is his name. *Amos* 5:8

### **Hymn: Night is come**

Night is come; stars shine down  
twinkling over field and town.

Now we stop here to pray:

"Thank you, God, for this day."

This one sleeps; this one wakes.

And each one comfort takes  
from the Joy that surrounds  
all Creation without bounds.

Day by day, year by year,  
let us know You are near.

Night by night from above  
teach us mercy, peace, and love.

Tune: *Night is come*

### **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

## *Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

### **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

### **145 *Exaltabo te, Deus***

or **Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> I will exalt you, O God my King, \*  
and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- <sup>2</sup> Every day will I bless you \*  
and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- <sup>3</sup> Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; \*  
there is no end to his greatness.
- <sup>4</sup> One generation shall praise your works to another \*  
and shall declare your power.
- <sup>5</sup> I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty \*  
and all your marvelous works.

- <sup>6</sup> They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, \*  
and I will tell of your greatness.
- <sup>7</sup> They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; \*  
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- <sup>8</sup> The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- <sup>9</sup> The Lord is loving to everyone \*  
and his compassion is over all his works.
- <sup>10</sup> All your works praise you, O Lord, \*  
and your faithful servants bless you.
- <sup>11</sup> They make known the glory of your kingdom \*  
and speak of your power;
- <sup>12</sup> That the peoples may know of your power \*  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
- <sup>13</sup> Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; \*  
your dominion endures throughout all ages.
- <sup>14</sup> The Lord is faithful in all his words \*  
and merciful in all his deeds.
- <sup>15</sup> The Lord upholds all those who fall; \*  
he lifts up those who are bowed down.
- <sup>16</sup> The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, \*  
and you give them their food in due season.
- <sup>17</sup> You open wide your hand \*  
and satisfy the needs of every living creature.
- <sup>18</sup> The Lord is righteous in all his ways \*  
and loving in all his works.

The Lord is near to those who call upon him, \*  
to all who call upon him faithfully.

<sup>20</sup> He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; \*  
he hears their cry and helps them.

<sup>21</sup> The Lord preserves all those who love him, \*  
but he destroys all the wicked.

<sup>22</sup> My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord; \*  
let all flesh bless his holy Name for ever and ever.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

### **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

### **The Lessons**

#### **The Old Testament Lesson**

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah 44:1-8

<sup>1</sup>But now hear, O Jacob my servant, Israel whom I have chosen!<sup>2</sup>Thus says the Lord who made you, who formed you in the womb and will help you: Do not fear, O Jacob my servant, Jeshurun whom I have chosen.<sup>3</sup>For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my spirit upon your descendants, and my blessing on your offspring.<sup>4</sup>They shall spring up like a green tamarisk, like willows by flowing streams.<sup>5</sup>This one will say, "I am the Lord's," another will be called by the name of Jacob, yet another will write on the hand, "The Lord's," and adopt the name of Israel.<sup>6</sup>Thus says



the Lord, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.<sup>7</sup> Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be.<sup>8</sup> Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Canticle**

*Everyone*

### **The Song of Simeon *Nunc dimittis* Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The New Testament Lesson**

A reading from the First Letter to John 5:1-12

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child.<sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love

the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.<sup>3</sup> For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome,<sup>4</sup> for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith.<sup>5</sup> Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.<sup>7</sup> There are three that testify:<sup>8</sup> the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree.<sup>9</sup> If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son.

<sup>10</sup>Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son.<sup>11</sup> And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.<sup>12</sup> Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Canticle**

*Everyone*

## **The Song of Mary *Magnificat* Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

## **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on Earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

### **The Suffrages**

*Leader*

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

*Response*

And grant us your salvation.

*Leader*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

*Response*

Let your people sing with joy.

*Leader*

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*Response*

For only in you can we live in safety.

*Leader*

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

*Response*

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

*Leader*

Let your way be known upon earth;

*Response*

Your saving health among all nations.

*Leader*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

*Response*

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

*Leader*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

*Response*

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

**Collect of the Day: Saint John the Evangelist**

## *Leader*

Shed upon your Church, O Lord, the brightness of your light; that we, being illumined by the teaching of your apostle and evangelist John, may so walk in the light of your truth, that at length we may attain to the fullness of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

## **For Mission**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [France](#).

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [United Church of Christ in Japan](#).

## **A Collect for Fridays**

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. Amen.

## **Intercessions**

## *Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptation  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

### **For Clergy and People**

Almighty and everlasting God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift: Send down upon our bishops, and other clergy, and upon the congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and, that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honor of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **For the Unity of the Church**

O God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace: Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions; take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatever else may hinder us from godly union and concord; that, as there is but one Body and one Spirit, one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For Monastic Orders and Vocations**

O Lord Jesus Christ, you became poor for our sake, that we might be made rich through your poverty: Guide and sanctify, we pray, those whom you call



to follow you under the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, that by their prayer and service they may enrich your Church, and by their life and worship may glorify your Name; for you reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### **Hymn: Bring a torch**

Bring a torch, Jeanette, Isabella

Bring a torch, come swiftly and run.

Christ is born,

Tell the folk of the village

Jesus is sleeping in His cradle.

Ah, ah, beautiful is the Mother.

Ah, ah, beautiful is her Son.

Hasten now, good folk of the village,

Hasten now, the Christ Child to see.

You will find Him asleep in the manger.

Quietly come and whisper softly.

Hush, hush, peacefully now He slumbers.

Hush, hush, peacefully now He sleeps.

Singer: Jenny Daniels

Music: Traditional, French

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

## **The Ending**

### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

## **Benediction**

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

### *Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

## **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

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## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

*Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

*Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,

through our own fault,

in thought, and word, and deed,

and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,

forgive us all our offenses;

and grant that we may serve you

in newness of life,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the

beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **The Psalm**

*Everyone*

31 *In te, Domine, speravi*

or *Coverdale*

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame: \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

## **The Word**

*Leader*

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11:28-30*

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith. *1 Peter 5:8-9a*

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

*Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

*Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

*Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

*Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

*Response*

Christ, have mercy.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

*Everyone*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

or [traditional](#)

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*Response*

And let our cry come to you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live: Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

**The Canticle**

*Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.



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

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Saturday

Evening Prayer

The Evening of the Commemoration of The Holy Innocents

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

### **Hymn: Now rest beneath night's shadow**

Now rest beneath night's shadow

The woodland, field, and meadow,

The world in slumber lies;

But you, my heart, awake thee,

To prayer and song betake thee;

Let praise to the Creator rise.

Let praise to the Creator rise.

Lord Jesus, You do love me,

Oh, spread Your wings above me

And shield me from alarm!

Though Satan would devour me,

Let angel-guards sing o'er me:

This child of God shall meet no harm!

This child of God shall meet no harm!

Composer: Paul Gerhardt, 1653

Tune: *Nun ruhen alle Wälder*

### **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

### *Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

### **O Gracious Light** *Phos hilaron*

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

### **The Psalter**

#### **19** *Caeli enarrant* **or** *Coverdale*

<sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glory of God, \*  
and the firmament shows his handiwork.

<sup>2</sup> One day tells its tale to another, \*  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.

<sup>3</sup> Although they have no words or language, \*  
and their voices are not heard,

<sup>4</sup> Their sound has gone out into all lands, \*  
and their message to the ends of the world.

<sup>5</sup> In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; \*

it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

<sup>6</sup> It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens  
and runs about to the end of it again; \*  
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

<sup>7</sup> The law of the Lord is perfect  
and revives the soul; \*  
the testimony of the Lord is sure  
and gives wisdom to the innocent.

<sup>8</sup> The statutes of the Lord are just  
and rejoice the heart; \*  
the commandment of the Lord is clear  
and gives light to the eyes.

<sup>9</sup> The fear of the Lord is clean  
and endures for ever; \*  
the judgments of the Lord are true  
and righteous altogether.

<sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold,  
more than much fine gold, \*  
sweeter far than honey,  
than honey in the comb.

<sup>11</sup> By them also is your servant enlightened, \*  
and in keeping them there is great reward.

<sup>12</sup> Who can tell how often he offends? \*  
cleanse me from my secret faults.

<sup>13</sup> Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;  
let them not get dominion over me; \*  
then shall I be whole and sound,

and innocent of a great offense.

- <sup>14</sup> Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my  
heart be acceptable in your sight, \*  
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

## **126 *In convertendo***

**or Coverdale**

- <sup>1</sup> When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
then were we like those who dream.
- <sup>2</sup> Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- <sup>3</sup> Then they said among the nations, \*  
"The Lord has done great things for them."
- <sup>4</sup> The Lord has done great things for us, \*  
and we are glad indeed.
- <sup>5</sup> Restore our fortunes, O Lord, \*  
like the watercourses of the Negev.
- <sup>6</sup> Those who sowed with tears \*  
will reap with songs of joy.
- <sup>7</sup> Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **The Lessons**

### **The Old Testament Lesson**

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah 54:1-13

<sup>1</sup>Sing, O barren one who did not bear; burst into song and shout, you who have not been in labor! For the children of the desolate woman will be more than the children of her that is married, says the Lord.<sup>2</sup>Enlarge the site of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes.<sup>3</sup>For you will spread out to the right and to the left, and your descendants will possess the nations and will settle the desolate towns.<sup>4</sup>Do not fear, for you will not be ashamed; do not be discouraged, for you will not suffer disgrace; for you will forget the shame of your youth, and the disgrace of your widowhood you will remember no more.<sup>5</sup>For your Maker is your husband, the Lord of hosts is his name; the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called.  
<sup>6</sup>For the Lord has called you like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit, like the wife of a man's youth when she is cast off, says your God.<sup>7</sup>For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with great compassion I will gather you.<sup>8</sup>In overflowing wrath for a moment I hid my face from you, but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you, says the Lord, your Redeemer.<sup>9</sup>This is like the days of Noah to me: Just as I swore that the waters of Noah would never again go over the earth, so I have sworn that I will not be angry with you and will not rebuke you.<sup>10</sup>For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

O afflicted one, storm-tossed, and not comforted, I am about to set your stones in antimony, and lay your foundations with sapphires.<sup>12</sup> I will make your pinnacles of rubies, your gates of jewels, and all your wall of precious stones.<sup>13</sup> All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the prosperity of your children.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Cantic**

### **The Song of Simeon**

**Luke 2:29-32**

*Nunc dimittis*

Lord, you now have set your servant free\*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,\*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations,\*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and will be for ever. *Amen.*

## **The Gospel**

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark 10:13-16

<sup>13</sup>People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them.<sup>14</sup> But when Jesus saw this, he



was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.<sup>15</sup> Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.”<sup>16</sup> And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Cantic**

*Everyone*

### **The Song of Mary Magnificat Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*

for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

*Leader*

God be with you.

*Response*

And also with you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

**Contemporary Lord's Prayer  
(or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

**The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

### **The Suffrages**

*Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

**Collect of the Day: The Holy Innocents**

*Leader*

We remember today, O God, the slaughter of the holy innocents of Bethlehem by King Herod. Receive, we pray, into the arms of your mercy all innocent victims; and by your great might frustrate the designs of evil tyrants and establish your rule of justice, love, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

**For Mission**

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.

**World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Gabon](#).

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [United Church of Christ in the Philippines](#).

### **A Collect for Saturdays**

O God, the source of eternal light: Shed forth your unending day upon us who watch for you, that our lips may praise you, our lives may bless you, and our worship on the morrow give you glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptation  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or [prayers from the Book of Common Prayer](#)).*

### **For Sound Government**

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth.

Lord, keep this nation under your care.

To all who have executive authority and to all who have administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To those who make our laws give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To the Judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name.

For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all.  
Amen.

### **For Schools and Colleges**

O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For the Harvest of Lands and Waters**

O gracious Father, who opens your hand and fills all living things: Bless the lands and waters, and multiply the harvests of the world; let your Spirit go forth, that it may renew the face of the earth; show your loving-kindness, that our land may give her increase; and save us from selfish use of what you give, that men and women everywhere may give you thanks; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Hymn: While shepherds watched their flocks by night**

While shepherds watched their flocks by night  
all seated on the ground;

The angel of the Lord came down  
and glory shone around

Singing, "Glory, glory

"Glory, glory, glory,

"Glory be to great Emmanuel."

"Fear not," said he (for mighty dread  
had seized their troubled mind)

"Glad tidings of great joy I bring

"to you, and all mankind."

Singing, "Glory, glory

"Glory, glory, glory,

"Glory be to great Emmanuel."

"To you in David's town this day

"is born of David's line

"the Saviour which is Christ the Lord

"and this shall be the sign."

Singing, "Glory, glory

"Glory, glory, glory,

"Glory be to great Emmanuel."

"The heavenly babe you there shall find

"to human view displayed,

"all meanly wrapt in wathing-bands

"and in a manger laid."

Singing, "Glory, glory



"Glory, glory, glory,

"Glory be to great Emmanuel."

Thus spake the Seraph, and forthwith

Appeared a shining throng

Of angels praising God on high,

Who thus addressed their song

Singing, "Glory, glory

"Glory, glory, glory,

"Glory be to great Emmanuel."

All glory be to God on high,

And to the Earth be peace;

Good will henceforth, from heaven to men

Begin, and never cease.

Singing, "Glory, glory

"Glory, glory, glory,

"Glory be to great Emmanuel."

Singers: oldcremona and friends

Words: Nahum Tate

Music: B.S. Barclay, 1843

Sheet music is available at the Library of Congress website:

<http://www.loc.gov/resource/sm1843.390300.0/?sp=3>

## **A Prayer of Self-Dedication**

Almighty and eternal God,

so draw our hearts to you,

so guide our minds,

so fill our imaginations,

so control our wills,

that we may be wholly yours,

utterly dedicated unto you;  
and then use us, we pray you, as you will,  
and always to your glory and the welfare of your people;  
through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **The Ending**

### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make  
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-  
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you

will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

## **Benediction**

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

### *Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

## **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

---

## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

*Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,

through our own fault,

in thought, and word, and deed,

and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,

forgive us all our offenses;

and grant that we may serve you

in newness of life,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

31 *In te, Domine, speravi*

or *Coverdale*

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame: \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

## **The Word**

*Leader*

May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Hebrews 13:20-21*

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith. *1 Peter 5:8-9a*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

### *Response*

Christ, have mercy.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

### *Everyone*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

or [traditional](#)

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

*Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*Response*

And let our cry come to you.

*Leader*

Let us pray.

Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, and illumine this night with your celestial brightness; that by night as by day your people may glorify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**A Collect for Saturdays**

We give you thanks, O God, for revealing your Son Jesus Christ to us by the light of his resurrection: Grant that as we sing your glory at the close of this day, our joy may abound in the morning as we celebrate the Paschal mystery; 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

**The Cantic**

*Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:



A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Response*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and  
keep us. Amen.

Sunday

Evening Prayer

The First Sunday After Christmas

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:2

### **Hymn: Glory to thee, my God, this night**

Glory to thee, my God, this night,  
for all the blessings of the light:  
keep me, O keep me, King of kings,  
beneath thine own almighty wings.

Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son,  
the ill that I this day have done;  
that with the world, myself, and thee,  
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

Teach me to live, that I may dread  
the grave as little as my bed;  
teach me to die, that so I may  
rise glorious at the awful day.

O may my soul on thee repose,  
and with sweet sleep mine eyelids close;  
sleep that may me more vigorous make  
to serve my God when I awake.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Singers: The Chapel Choir of University College, Durham

Words: Thomas Ken, 1692

Music: Thomas Tallis Tune: *Tallis' Canon*

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord  
Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy

Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

### **18 Part II *Et retribuet mihi* or Coverdale**

<sup>21</sup> The Lord rewarded me because of my righteous dealing; \*  
because my hands were clean he rewarded me;

- 22 For I have kept the ways of the Lord \*  
and have not offended against my God;
- 23 For all his judgments are before my eyes, \*  
and his decrees I have not put away from me;
- 24 For I have been blameless with him \*  
and have kept myself from iniquity;
- 25 Therefore the Lord rewarded me according to my  
righteous dealing, \*  
because of the cleanness of my hands in his sight.
- 26 With the faithful you show yourself faithful, O God; \*  
with the forthright you show yourself forthright.
- 27 With the pure you show yourself pure, \*  
but with the crooked you are wily.
- 28 You will save a lowly people, \*  
but you will humble the haughty eyes.
- 29 You, O Lord, are my lamp; \*  
my God, you make my darkness bright.
- 30 With you I will break down an enclosure; \*  
with the help of my God I will scale any wall.
- 31 As for God, his ways are perfect;  
the words of the Lord are tried in the fire; \*  
he is a shield to all who trust in him.
- 32 For who is God, but the Lord? \*  
who is the Rock, except our God?
- 33 It is God who girds me about with strength \*  
and makes my way secure.

- He makes me sure-footed like a deer \*  
and lets me stand firm on the heights.
- 35 He trains my hands for battle \*  
and my arms for bending even a bow of bronze.
- 36 You have given me your shield of victory; \*  
your right hand also sustains me;  
your loving care makes me great.
- 37 You lengthen my stride beneath me, \*  
and my ankles do not give way.
- 38 I pursue my enemies and overtake them; \*  
I will not turn back till I have destroyed them.
- 39 I strike them down, and they cannot rise; \*  
they fall defeated at my feet.
- 40 You have girded me with strength for the battle; \*  
you have cast down my adversaries beneath me;  
you have put my enemies to flight.
- 41 I destroy those who hate me;  
they cry out, but there is none to help them; \*  
they cry to the Lord, but he does not answer.
- 42 I beat them small like dust before the wind; \*  
I trample them like mud in the streets.
- 43 You deliver me from the strife of the peoples; \*  
you put me at the head of the nations.
- 44 A people I have not known shall serve me;  
no sooner shall they hear than they shall obey me; \*  
strangers will cringe before me.
- 45 The foreign peoples will lose heart; \*

they shall come trembling out of their strongholds.

<sup>46</sup> The Lord lives! Blessed is my Rock! \*  
Exalted is the God of my salvation!

<sup>47</sup> He is the God who gave me victory \*  
and cast down the peoples beneath me.

<sup>48</sup> You rescued me from the fury of my enemies;  
you exalted me above those who rose against me; \*  
you saved me from my deadly foe.

<sup>49</sup> Therefore will I extol you among the nations, O Lord, \*  
and sing praises to your Name.

<sup>50</sup> He multiplies the victories of his king; \*  
he shows loving-kindness to his anointed,  
to David and his descendants for ever.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

### **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

### **The Gospel**

*Reader*

A reading from the Gospel According to Matthew 1:18-25

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a

righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: <sup>23</sup>"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." <sup>24</sup>When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup>but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

**The Canticle**

*Everyone*

**The Song of Mary *Magnificat*  
Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*



in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

### *All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

## **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,

now and for ever. Amen.

## **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

*Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### **Collect of the Day: The First Sunday after Christmas**

*Leader*

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

### **For Mission**

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.

### **A Collect for Sundays**

Lord God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant that we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, may praise you in that City of which he is the light, and where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

### **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Germany](#).

### **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [United Congregational Church of Southern Africa](#).

### **Intercessions**

*Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication

Lord, give ear and acceptance

Save thy servant, that hath none

Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or [prayers from the Book of Common Prayer](#)).*

## **For Courts of Justice**

Lord Jesus, for our sake you were condemned as a criminal: Visit our jails and prisons with your pity and judgment. Remember all prisoners, and bring the guilty to repentance and amendment of life according to your will, and give them hope for their future. When any are held unjustly, bring them release; forgive us, and teach us to improve our justice. Remember those who work in these institutions; keep them humane and compassionate; and save them from becoming brutal or callous. And since what we do for those in prison, O Lord, we do for you, constrain us to improve their lot. All this we ask for your mercy's sake. Amen.

## **For Those Who Suffer for the Sake of Conscience**

O God our Father, whose Son forgave his enemies while he was suffering shame and death: Strengthen those who suffer for the sake of conscience; when they are accused, save them from speaking in hate; when they are rejected, save them from bitterness; when they are imprisoned, save them from despair; and to us your servants, give grace to respect their witness and to discern the truth, that our society may be cleansed and strengthened. This we ask for the sake of Jesus Christ, our merciful and righteous Judge. Amen.

## **For Towns and Rural Areas**

Lord Christ, when you came among us, you proclaimed the kingdom of God in villages, towns, and lonely places: Grant that your presence and power may be known throughout this land. Have mercy upon all of us who live and work in rural areas; and grant that all the people of our nation may give thanks to you for food and drink and all other bodily necessities of life, respect those who labor to produce them, and honor the land and the water from which these good things come. All this we ask in your holy Name. Amen.

## **Hymn: Good people all (The Wexford Carol)**

Good people all, this Christmas time,

Consider well and bear in mind  
What our good God for us has done  
In sending his beloved son.  
With Mary holy we should pray,  
To God with love this Christmas Day.  
In Bethlehem upon that morn,  
There was a blesséd Messiah born.

The night before that happy tide,  
The noble Virgin and her guide  
Were long time seeking up and down  
To find a lodging in the town.  
But mark right well what came to pass:  
From every door repelled, alas;  
As long foretold, their refuge all  
Was but a humble ox's stall.

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep  
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep,  
To whom God's angel did appear  
Which put the shepherds into great fear.  
"Prepare and go," the angels said,  
"To Bethlehem, be not afraid,  
"For there you'll find, this happy morn  
"A princely babe, sweet Jesus, born."

With thankful heart and joyful mind,  
The shepherds went the babe to find  
And as God's angel had foretold,  
They did our Saviour Christ behold.  
Within a manger he was laid,

And by his side a virgin maid,  
Attending on the Lord of Life  
Who came on Earth to end all strife.

Good people all, this Christmas time,  
Consider well and bear in mind  
What our good God for us has done  
In sending his beloved Son.

Singers: Choir of Clare College, Cambridge, UK

Music: Traditional

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

### **The Ending**

### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,



we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make  
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-  
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you  
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as  
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in  
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*Response*

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

**Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

---

**An Order for Compline**

*The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

*Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

*Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

4 *Cum invocarem*

or **Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*

how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

<sup>4</sup> Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

<sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
and put your trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> Many are saying,  
"Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

<sup>8</sup> I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Lord, you are in the midst of us, and we are called by your Name: Do not forsake us, O Lord our God. *Jeremiah 14:9, 22*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

### *Response*

Christ, have mercy.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

### *Everyone*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

#### *Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

#### *Response*

And let our cry come to you.

#### *Leader*

Let us pray.

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

## **The Canticle**

### *Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Monday

Evening Prayer December 30

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike. *Psalms 139:10, 11*

### **Hymn: I lie, O Lord, within Your care**

I lie, O Lord, within Your care,  
Awake or when I'm sleeping.

Whoever trusts in Your strong arms  
Is safe within Your keeping.

Lord, You alone keep constant watch;  
My restless heart You quiet.  
When shadow fills the night with fear,  
I will by faith defy it.

It is enough that You are near;  
I need not now discover  
What hidden plans You have for me,  
My future's path uncover.

Tomorrow's road I cannot trace  
Nor know what ills will meet me.  
You only ask that I be still  
And trust You there will greet me.

Text: Jochen Klepper, translated by Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr.



## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

## *Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

## *Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

### **23 *Dominus regit me*** **or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
and leads me beside still waters.

<sup>3</sup> He revives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; \*

for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup> You spread a table before me in the presence of those  
who trouble me; \*  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup> Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

**27 *Dominus illuminatio***  
**or Coverdale**

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom then shall I fear? \*  
the Lord is the strength of my life;  
of whom then shall I be afraid?

<sup>2</sup> When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, \*  
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who  
stumbled and fell.

<sup>3</sup> Though an army should encamp against me, \*  
yet my heart shall not be afraid;

<sup>4</sup> And though war should rise up against me, \*  
yet will I put my trust in him.

<sup>5</sup> One thing have I asked of the Lord;  
one thing I seek; \*  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days  
of my life;

<sup>6</sup> To behold the fair beauty of the Lord \*

and to seek him in his temple.

<sup>7</sup> For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe  
in his shelter; \*  
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling  
and set me high upon a rock.

<sup>8</sup> Even now he lifts up my head \*  
above my enemies round about me.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation  
with sounds of great gladness; \*  
I will sing and make music to the Lord.

<sup>10</sup> Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; \*  
have mercy on me and answer me.

<sup>11</sup> You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." \*  
Your face, Lord, will I seek.

<sup>12</sup> Hide not your face from me, \*  
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.

<sup>13</sup> You have been my helper;  
cast me not away; \*  
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

<sup>14</sup> Though my father and my mother forsake me, \*  
the Lord will sustain me.

<sup>15</sup> Show me your way, O Lord; \*  
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.

<sup>16</sup> Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, \*  
for false witnesses have risen up against me,  
and also those who speak malice.

<sup>17</sup> What if I had not believed

that I should see the goodness of the Lord \*  
in the land of the living!

<sup>18</sup> O tarry and await the Lord's pleasure;  
be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; \*  
wait patiently for the Lord.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **The Gospel**

*Reader*

<sup>53</sup> Then each of them went home,  
<sup>1</sup> while Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. <sup>2</sup> Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him and he sat down and began to teach them. <sup>3</sup> The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery; and making her stand before all of them, <sup>4</sup> they said to him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery.  
<sup>5</sup> Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" <sup>6</sup> They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground.  
<sup>7</sup> When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." <sup>8</sup> And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground. <sup>9</sup> When they

heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders; and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. <sup>10</sup>Jesus straightened up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" <sup>11</sup>She said, "No one, sir." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again."

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

**The Cantic**

*Everyone*

**The Song of Simeon *Nunc dimittis*  
Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*

to go in peace as you have promised;

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*

whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

A Light to enlighten the nations, \*

and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

**The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

## **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

### **The Suffrages**



*Leader*

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

*Response*

And grant us your salvation.

*Leader*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

*Response*

Let your people sing with joy.

*Leader*

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*Response*

For only in you can we live in safety.

*Leader*

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

*Response*

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

*Leader*

Let your way be known upon earth;

*Response*

Your saving health among all nations.

*Leader*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

*Response*

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

*Leader*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

*Response*

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

**Collect of the Day: The First Sunday after Christmas**

## *Leader*

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

## **For Mission**

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Ghana](#).

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [United Evangelical Lutheran Church](#).

## **A Collect for Peace**

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.

## **Intercessions**

## *Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Everyone sings or says*

### **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptance  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or prayers from the Book of Common Prayer).*

### **For the Right Use of God's Gifts**

Almighty God, whose loving hand has given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor you with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For Knowledge of God's Creation**

Almighty and everlasting God, you made the universe with all its marvelous order, its atoms, worlds, and galaxies, and the infinite complexity of living creatures: Grant that, as we probe the mysteries of your creation, we may come to know you more truly, and more surely fulfill our role in your eternal purpose; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For the Care of Children**

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **Hymn: When He is King (Bethlehem fold)**

When he is King we will give him the Kings' gifts,

Myrrh for its sweetness, and gold for a crown,  
Beautiful robes,” said the young girl to Joseph,  
Fair with her first-born on Bethlehem Down.

Bethlehem Down is full of the starlight –  
Winds for the spices, and stars for the gold,  
Mary for sleep, and for lullaby music  
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.

When he is King they will clothe him in grave-sheets,  
Myrrh for embalming, and wood for a crown,  
He that lies now in the white arms of Mary,  
Sleeping so lightly on Bethlehem Down.

Here he has peace and a short while for dreaming,  
Close-huddled oxen to keep him from cold,  
Mary for love, and for lullaby music  
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

## **The Ending**

### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make  
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-  
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you  
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as  
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in

the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

## **Benediction**

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

### *Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

## **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

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## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

31 *In te, Domine, speravi*

or Coverdale

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame: \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11:28-30*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;



### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

### *Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

### *Response*

Christ, have mercy.

### *Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

### *Everyone*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

or **traditional**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

### *Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

### *Response*

And let our cry come to you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, and illumine this night with  
your celestial brightness; that by night as by day your people may glorify your  
holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live: Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

## **The Cantic**

### *Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Tuesday

Evening Prayer

The Eve of Holy Name

## **The Opening**

### **Opening Sentence**

*Leader*

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole Earth tremble before him. *Psalm 96:9*

### **Hymn: In the dark of the midnight**

In the dark of the midnight,  
Have I oft hid my face;  
While the storm howls above me,  
And there's no hiding place;  
'Mid the crash of the thunder,  
Precious Lord, hear my cry;  
"Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by."  
  
'Til the storm passes over,  
'Til the thunder sounds no more;  
'Til the clouds roll forever from the sky,  
Hold me fast, let me stand,  
In the hollow of Thy hand;  
Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.  
  
Many times Satan whispers,  
"There is no need to try;  
For there's no end of sorrow,  
There's no hope by and by";  
But I know Thou art with me,

And tomorrow I'll rise;  
Where the storms never darken the skies.

'Til the storm passes over,  
'Til the thunder sounds no more;  
'Til the clouds roll forever from the sky,  
Hold me fast, let me stand,  
In the hollow of Thy hand;  
Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.

When the long night has ended,  
And the storms come no more,  
Let me stand in Thy presence.  
On that bright, peaceful shore.  
In that land where the tempest  
Never comes, Lord may I  
Dwell with Thee when the storm passes by.

'Til the storm passes over,  
'Til the thunder sounds no more;  
'Til the clouds roll forever from the sky,  
Hold me fast, let me stand,  
In the hollow of Thy hand;  
Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.

Words and Music: Traditional

## **Confession of Sin**

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*All stand.*

*Leader*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron***

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## **The Psalter**

90 *Domine, refugium* or

Coverdale

<sup>1</sup>Lord, you have been our refuge \*  
from one generation to another.

<sup>2</sup>Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or the land and the earth were born, \*  
from age to age you are God.

<sup>3</sup>You turn us back to the dust and say, \*  
"Go back, O child of earth."

<sup>4</sup>For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday  
when it is past \*  
and like a watch in the night.

<sup>5</sup>You sweep us away like a dream; \*  
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

<sup>6</sup>In the morning it is green and flourishes; \*

in the evening it is dried up and withered.

<sup>7</sup>For we consume away in your displeasure; \*  
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.

<sup>8</sup>Our iniquities you have set before you, \*  
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

<sup>9</sup>When you are angry, all our days are gone; \*  
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

<sup>10</sup>The span of our life is seventy years,  
perhaps in strength even eighty; \*  
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,  
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.

<sup>11</sup>Who regards the power of your wrath? \*  
who rightly fears your indignation?

<sup>12</sup>So teach us to number our days \*  
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

<sup>13</sup>Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry? \*  
be gracious to your servants.

<sup>14</sup>Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; \*  
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

<sup>15</sup>Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us \*  
and the years in which we suffered adversity.

<sup>16</sup>Show your servants your works \*  
and your splendor to their children.

<sup>17</sup>May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; \*  
prosper the work of our hands;  
prosper our handiwork.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*



## **Gloria Patri**

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. Amen.

## **The Lessons**

### **The Old Testament Lesson**

#### *Reader*

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah 65:15-25

<sup>15</sup>You shall leave your name to my chosen to use as a curse, and the Lord God will put you to death; but to his servants he will give a different name. <sup>16</sup>Then whoever invokes a blessing in the land shall bless by the God of faithfulness, and whoever takes an oath in the land shall swear by the God of faithfulness; because the former troubles are forgotten and are hidden from my sight.

<sup>17</sup>For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. <sup>18</sup>But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. <sup>19</sup>I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. <sup>20</sup>No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. <sup>21</sup>They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. <sup>22</sup>They shall not build and another inhabit; they

shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. <sup>23</sup>They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord— and their descendants as well. <sup>24</sup>Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. <sup>25</sup>The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent— its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## **The Cantic**

*Everyone*

## **The Song of Simeon *Nunc dimittis* Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The New Testament Lesson**

*Reader*

## A reading from the Revelation to John 21:1-6

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; <sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." <sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup>Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

## The Canticle

*Everyone*

## **The Song of Mary *Magnificat* Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and Earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living 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.

## **The Prayers**

### *Leader*

God be with you.

### *Response*

And also with you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

## **Contemporary Lord's Prayer (or Traditional)**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

## **The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

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.

## **The Suffrages**

### *Leader*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

### *Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

### *Leader*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

*Leader*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

*Response*

We entreat you, O Lord.

**Collect of the Day: The First Sunday after Christmas**

*Leader*

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The following prayers and hymns are led according to local custom.*

**For Mission**

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.

## **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of [Greece](#).

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the [United Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India](#).

## **A Collect for Guidance**

O heavenly Father, in whom 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.

## **Intercessions**

### *Leader*

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

### *Everyone sings or says*

## **Hymn: To my humble supplication**

To my humble supplication  
Lord, give ear and acceptance  
Save thy servant, that hath none  
Help nor hope but Thee alone. Amen.

*Free intercessions may be stated (or [prayers from the Book of Common Prayer](#)).*

## **For Agriculture**



Almighty God, we thank you for making the earth fruitful, so that it might produce what is needed for life: Bless those who work in the fields; give us seasonable weather; and grant that we may all share the fruits of the earth, rejoicing in your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For Those We Love**

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For Quiet Confidence**

O God of peace, who has taught us that in returning and rest we will be saved, in quietness and confidence will 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.

### **Hymn: O Thou who camest from above**

O Thou who camest from above,  
the pure celestial fire to impart  
kindle a flame of sacred love  
upon the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn  
with inextinguishable blaze,  
and trembling to its source return,  
in humble prayer and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire  
to work and speak and think for thee;  
still let me guard the holy fire,  
and still stir up thy gift in me.

Ready for all thy perfect will,  
my acts of faith and love repeat,  
till death thy endless mercies seal,  
and make my sacrifice complete.

Singers: [Choir of Rochester Cathedral](#)

Words: Charles Wesley

Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Tune: *Hereford*

### **A Prayer of Self-Dedication**

Almighty and eternal God,  
so draw our hearts to you,  
so guide our minds,  
so fill our imaginations,  
so control our wills,  
that we may be wholly yours,  
utterly dedicated unto you;  
and then use us, we pray you, as you will,  
and always to your glory and the welfare of your people;  
through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **The Ending**

#### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love

in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

#### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

#### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### **Benediction**

#### *Leader*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Hymn: God Be With You**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

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## **An Order for Compline**

### *The Leader begins*

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

### *Leader*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

### *Response*

The maker of heaven and Earth.

### *Leader*

Let us confess our sins to God.

### *Silence may be kept.*

### *Everyone*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:  
We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;

and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Leader*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and  
comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*Response*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Everyone*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the  
beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Psalm**

*Everyone*

4 *Cum invocarem*

or [Coverdale](#)

<sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

<sup>4</sup> Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

<sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
and put your trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> Many are saying,  
"Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

<sup>8</sup> I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

## **The Word**

### *Leader*

May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Hebrews 13:20-21*

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

*A hymn suitable for the evening may be sung.*

## **The Responses**

### *Leader*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

### *Response*

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

### *Leader*

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

*Response*

Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

*Response*

Christ, have mercy.

*Leader*

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Prayers**

*Everyone*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

or [traditional](#)

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

## **Traditional Lord's Prayer**

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.

### *Leader*

Lord, hear our prayer;

### *Response*

And let our cry come to you.

### *Leader*

Let us pray.

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; 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.

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

## **The Cantic**

### *Everyone*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

### *Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

### *Response*

Thanks be to God.

### *Leader*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.