



Compline (Night Prayer)

- The hymns can be accessed via a Youtube link. To hear it, please hover the mouse over the link, press Ctrl, and then return.
- All the verses in the psalm and nunc dimittis is split in two with a red diamond ♦. Traditionally the diamond indicates a short pause to allow the reader to reflect on the content. The pause is not necessary. But if you want to observe it
- To see service transcripts from previous weeks, please visit the page, <http://www.medlockhead.co.uk/resources/index.htm>

Background

The name of this ancient service comes from a Latin word which means 'completion' (*completorium*). We pronounce it name as 'com-plinn' rather than 'com-plyne'

Compline is a service of quietness and reflection before rest at the end of the day. It is most effective when the ending is indeed an ending, without additions, conversation or noise. If there is an address, or business to be done, it should come first. If said at home, participants go quietly to bed.

Introduction

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

All Amen

Our help is in the name of the Lord

All who made heaven and earth.

Silence for reflection on the past day.

**All Most merciful God,
we confess to you,
before the whole company of heaven and one another,
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed
and in what we have failed to do.
Forgive us our sins,
heal us by your Spirit
and raise us to new life in Christ.
Amen**

O God, make speed to save us.

All O Lord, make haste to help us.

**All 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.**

Hymn [The day thou gavest Lord is ended](#) (click on this link to hear the hymn)

**The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended;
The darkness falls at Thy behest;
To Thee our morning hymns ascended,
Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.**

**We thank Thee that Thy church unsleeping,
While earth rolls onward into light,
Through all the world her watch is keeping,
And rests not now by day or night.**

**As o'er each continent and island
The dawn leads on another day,
The voice of prayer is never silent,
Nor dies the strain of praise away.**

**The sun that bids us rest is waking
Our brethren 'neath the western sky,
And hour by hour fresh lips are making
Thy wondrous doings heard on high.**

**So be it, Lord! Thy throne shall never,
Like earth's proud empires, pass away;
Thy kingdom stands, and grows for ever,
Till all Thy creatures own Thy sway.**

The Word of God

Psalmody : Psalm 139

- 1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me; ♦
you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You mark out my journeys and my resting place ♦
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You encompass me behind and before ♦
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, ♦
Or where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; ♦
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning ♦
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand shall lead me, ♦
your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me ♦
and the light around me turn to night,'

- 11 Even darkness is no darkness with you;
the night is as clear as the day; ♦
darkness and light to you are both alike.
- 12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; ♦
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 13 I thank you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; ♦
marvellous are your works, my soul knows well.
- 14 My frame was not hidden from you, ♦
when I was made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.
- 15 Your eyes beheld my form, as yet unfinished; ♦
already in your book were all my members written,
- 16 As day by day they were fashioned ♦
How great is the sum of them!
- 18 If I count them, they are more in number than the sand, ♦
and at the end, I am still in your presence.
- 19 O that you would slay the wicked, O God, ♦
that the bloodthirsty might depart from me!
- 20 They speak against you with wicked intent; ♦
your enemies take up your name for evil.

**All Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever.
Amen**

Sentences from Scripture

One or both of the following short lessons is read

God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.

1 Thessalonians 5:9,10

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? *Isaiah 58:6,7*

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

All Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

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

All I commend my spirit.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

All Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Keep me as the apple of your eye.

All Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

The Nunc dimittis (the Song of Simeon)

**All Christ died for us
so that, whether we wake or sleep,
we might live with him.**

1 Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: ♦
your word has been fulfilled.

2 My own eyes have seen the salvation ♦
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;

3 A light to reveal you to the nations ♦
and the glory of your chosen people. *Luke 2.29-32*

**All Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen**

**All Christ died for us
so that, whether we wake or sleep,
we might live with him.**

Hymn [Veni sanctus spiritus](#) (Latin for 'come Holy Spirit', [click to hear the chant](#))

Litany

God the Father,

All have mercy upon us.

God the Son,

All have mercy upon us.

God the Holy Spirit,

All have mercy upon us.

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity,

All have mercy upon us.

From all evil and mischief; from pride, vanity and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred and malice; and from all evil intent,

All Good Lord deliver us.

From sins of body and mind; from the deceits of the world, the flesh and the devil,

All Good Lord deliver us.

From famine, pestilence and disaster; from violence, murder and dying unprepared,

All Good Lord deliver us.

By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your birth, childhood and obedience,

All Good Lord deliver us.

By your ministry in word and work; by your mighty acts of power;
and by your preaching of the kingdom,

All Good Lord deliver us.

By your agony and trial; by your cross and passion;
and by your precious death and burial,

All Good Lord deliver us.

By your mighty resurrection; by your glorious ascension;
and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,

All Good Lord deliver us.

Give us true repentance;

forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance and our deliberate sins;
and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit

to amend our lives according to your holy word.

All Amen.

The Collect for Holy Tuesday

Lord, you make a gift of death
to bring us to new life:
free us from our need
to fix and own your name
so we may look for the day
when you are lifted high
and all are drawn
into the arms of love;
through Jesus Christ, the passion of God.

All Amen

**All 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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.

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

Silence may be kept.

The Conclusion

In peace we will lie down and sleep;

All for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,

All for the night is at hand and the day is now past.

As the night watch looks for the morning,

All so do we look for you, O Christ.

[Come with the dawning of the day

All and make yourself known in the breaking of the bread.]

May the Lord bless us,

that in us may be found love and humility,

obedience and thanksgiving,

discipline, gentleness and peace.

All Amen