


COMPLINE

Prayers at the Day's End

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Waldorf
www.stpaulswaldorf.org

There are 3 different ways to join us on Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.

Visit: <https://zoom.us/j/318812794>

Visit: www.facebook.com/stpaulspiney

Call: 929-205-6099

Videos are archived on Facebook and can be prayed any time. You can also use this booklet at any time on your own.

An Order for Compline

Approach

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

Officiant Our help is in the Name of the Lord.

People **The maker of heaven and earth.**

Confession

Officiant Let us confess our sins to God.

(Silence is kept.)

Officiant and People

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.

Officiant

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

Invocation

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

People **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

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

Psalm

One or more of the following psalms is said.

Psalm 4

- 1 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.
- 2 "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; *
how long will you worship dumb idols
and run after false gods?"
- 3 Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; *
when I call upon the LORD, he will hear me.
- 4 Tremble, then, and do not sin; *
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.
- 5 Offer the appointed sacrifices *
and put your trust in the LORD.
- 6 Many are saying,
"Oh, that we might see better times!" *
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O
LORD.
- 7 You have put gladness in my heart, *
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.
- 8 I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; *
for only you, LORD, make me dwell in safety.

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.

Psalm 31

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame: *
deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; *
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 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.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for
me,
for you are my tower of strength.
- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me,
O LORD, O God of truth.

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.

Psalm 91

- 1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High *
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2 He shall say to the LORD,
"You are my refuge and my stronghold, *
my God in whom I put my trust."
- 3 He shall deliver you from the snare of the hunter *
and from the deadly pestilence.
- 4 He shall cover you with his pinions,
and you shall find refuge under his wings; *
his faithfulness shall be a shield and buckler.
- 5 You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, *
nor of the arrow that flies by day;
- 6 Of the plague that stalks in the darkness, *
nor of the sickness that lays waste at mid-day.

-
- 7 A thousand shall fall at your side
and ten thousand at your right hand, *
but it shall not come near you.
- 8 Your eyes only have to behold *
to see the reward of the wicked.
- 9 Because you have made the LORD your refuge, *
and the Most High your habitation,
- 10 There shall no evil happen to you, *
neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.
- 11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, *
to keep you in all your ways.
- 12 They shall bear you in their hands, *
lest you dash your foot against a stone.
- 13 You shall tread upon the lion and the adder; *
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent
under your feet.
- 14 Because he is bound to me in love,
therefore will I deliver him; *
I will protect him, because he knows my Name.
- 15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; *
I am with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and bring him to honor.
- 16 With long life will I satisfy him, *
and show him my salvation.

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.

Psalm 121

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, * the maker of
heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved * and he who
watches over you will not fall asleep.

-
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel * shall neither slumber nor sleep;
 - 5 The Lord himself watches over you; *
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
 - 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *nor the moon by night.
 - 7 The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.
 - 8 The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *from this time forth for evermore.

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.

Psalm 134

- 1 Behold now, bless the LORD, all you servants of the Lord, * you that stand by night in the house of the Lord.
- 2 Lift up your hands in the holy place and bless the LORD; the LORD who made heaven and earth bless you out of Zion.

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.

Reading

One of the following short lessons or another suitable passage is read.

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)

People Thanks be to God.

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)

People Thanks be to God.

I will pour out a spirit of compassion and supplication on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that, when they look on the one whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

(Zechariah 12:10)

People Thanks be to God.

Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who abuse you. Do good and lend, expecting nothing in return; for God is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful as your father is merciful. Judge not and you will not be judged. Condemn not and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give and it will be given to you; for the measure you give will be the measure you receive.

(Luke 6:27-38)

People Thanks be to God.

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and those who are afraid are not perfected in love. We love because God first loved us. If anyone says, I love God, and hates his brother or sister, that person is a liar; for those who do not love their brothers and sisters whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. *(1 John 4:18-20)*

People Thanks be to God.

It is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our body. (2 Corinthians 4:6-10)

People **Thanks be to God.**

According to the riches of God’s glory, may you be strengthened with the might through the Holy Spirit in your inner being, and may Christ dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge; that you may be filled with the fullness of God.

(Ephesians 3:16-19)

People **Thanks be to God.**

Prayers

Into your hands, O God, I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O God of truth and love.

Keep me, O God, as the apple of an eye;
hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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.**

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

Officiant Lord, hear our prayer;

People **And let our cry come to you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

The Officiant then says one of the following collects

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.**

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.**

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.**

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.**

One of the following prayers may be added

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.**

or, this

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.

A General Thanksgiving

Lord,

it is night.

The night is for stillness.

Let us be still in the presence of God.

It is night after a long day.

What has been done has been done;
what has not been done has not been done;
let it be.

The night is dark.

Let our fears of the darkness of the world
and of our own lives rest in you.

The night is quiet.

Let the quietness of your peace enfold us,
all dear to us, and all who have no peace.

The night heralds the dawn.

Let us look expectantly to a new day,
new joys, new possibilities.

In your name we pray. **Amen.**

The service concludes with the Song of Simeon and this Antiphon, which said by all.

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.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

One of the following may be said,

The blessing of God, the eternal goodwill of God, the shalom of God, the wildness and the warmth of God, be among us and between us, now and always.

Blessing, light, and glory surround us and scatter the darkness of the long and lonely night.

The ancient office of Compline derives its name from a Latin word meaning 'completion' (completorium). It is a service of quietness and reflection at the end of the day and derives its content from the wisdom of the centuries in Scripture, psalms, and contemporary human experience.

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