

Night Prayer

As we light our candles we say together:

The eternal God is your refuge,
and underneath are the everlasting arms. *Deuteronomy 33:27*

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.

A period of silence for reflection on the past day.

Sing or follow the hymn:

**Before the ending of the day,
creator of the world, we pray,
that with thy wonted favour thou
wouldst be our guard and keeper now.**

**From all ill dreams defend our eyes,
from nightly fears and fantasies;
tread under foot our ghostly foe,
that no pollution we may know.**

**O Father, that we ask be done,
through Jesus Christ thine only Son,
who, with the Holy Ghost and thee,
dost live and reign eternally. Amen**

The Psalm Psalm 139

**1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me:
you know when I sit or when I stand,
you comprehend my thoughts long before.**

**2 You discern my path and the places where I rest:
you are acquainted with all my ways.**

**3 For there is not a word on my tongue:
but you, Lord, know it altogether.**

**4 You have encompassed me behind and before:
and have laid your hand upon me.**

**5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me:
so high that I cannot endure it.**

**6 Where shall I go from your spirit:
or where shall I flee from your presence?**

**7 If I ascend into heaven you are there:
if I make my bed in the grave you are there also.**

**8 If I spread out my wings towards the morning:
or dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,**

**9 Even there your hand shall lead me:
and your right hand shall hold me.**

**10 If I say 'Surely the darkness will cover me:
and the night will enclose me',**

**11 The darkness is no darkness with you,
but the night is as clear as the day:
the darkness and the light are both alike.**

**12 For you have created my inward parts:
you knit me together in my mother's womb.**

**13 For so many marvels I thank you;
a wonder am I, and all your works are wonders.**

17 How deep are your thoughts to me, O God:
and how great is the sum of them!

18 Were I to count them, they are more in number than the
sand:
were I to come to the end, I would still be with you.

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

The Reading

*Jesus said, 'Whoever drinks the water that I give will never thirst
again. The water that I give will be an inner spring that wells up for
eternal life.'*

John 4:14

A period of silence is kept

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

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

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

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

Glory be 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 Save us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep may rest in peace. Amen**

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 people Israel. *Luke 2.29-32*
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**All Save us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep may rest in peace. Amen**

Prayers

Our intercessions and thanksgivings are offered here.

**Merciful Lord, we entrust to your unfailing
and tender care this night
those who are ill or in pain,
knowing that whenever danger threatens,
your everlasting arms are there to hold us safe.
Comfort and heal them,
and restore them to health and strength;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Be present, O merciful God, and protect us
through the silent hours of this night,
so that we who are wearied
by the changes and chances of this fleeting world,
may rest upon your eternal changelessness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Lighten our darkness,
Lord, we pray,**

**and in your great mercy
defend us from all perils and dangers of this night,
for the love of your only Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

The 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,
the power, and the glory
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

A period of silence is kept

**In sleep may we be made new this night.
In sleep may we let go of today
and release the worries of tomorrow.
In sleep may we know you
as Soul within our soul
as Guide within our dreams
as Lover within our longings.
In sleep may we be one with you
one with earth's darkness
one with heaven's shining
one with each creature dying**

**one with each newborn breath.
In sleep may we be one with you
and one with all.**

by John Philip Newell

The Conclusion and Blessing

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 risen Lord Jesus bless us.
May he watch over us and renew us
as he renews the whole of creation.
May our hearts and lives echo his love.
Amen.