

Compline

The Officiant begins

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;
People The maker of heaven and earth.

The Officiant continues

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Silence may be kept. The Officiant and People then say

Almighty God and Father, we confess to you,
to one another, and to the whole company of heaven,
that we have sinned, 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,
have mercy upon us, forgive us all our sins,
and by the power of your Holy Spirit
raise us up to serve you in newness of life,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Officiant alone says

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

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

People O Lord, make haste to help us.

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

People as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Except in Lent, add Alleluia.

One or more of the following Psalms are sung or said. Traditionally three are used: 4, 91, and 134. Other suitable selections from the Psalms may be substituted.

Psalm 4 *Cum invocarem*

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.

Psalm 31:1-5 *In te, Domine, speravi*

- 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.

Psalm 91 *Qui habitat*

- 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 have only 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 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.

Psalm 134 *Ecce nunc*

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.

At the end of the Psalms is sung or said

Glory 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.

One of the following, or some other suitable passage of Scripture, is read.

You, O Lord, are in the midst of us, and we are called by your Name: do not forsake us. *Jeremiah 14:9*

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*

Now 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 us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. *Hebrews 13:20-21*

Be sober-minded, 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*

At the end of the reading is said

 The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

A period of silence may follow. A suitable hymn may be sung.

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

People For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.
Officiant Keep me as the apple of your eye;
People Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Lord, have mercy [upon us].
Christ, have mercy [upon us].
Lord, have mercy [upon us].

Officiant and People

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,
forever and ever. Amen.

or this

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And 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 forever. Amen.

Officiant O Lord, hear our prayer;
People And let our cry come to you.
Officiant Let us pray.

The Officiant then says one or more of the following Collects. Other appropriate Collects may also be used.

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.*

Lighten our darkness, we beseech you, O Lord; and by 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, illumine this night with your celestial brightness, and from the children of light banish the deeds of darkness; 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.*

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.

The Officiant and People say or sing the Song of Simeon (Luke 2:29-32) with this Antiphon

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

In Easter Season, add Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Lord, now let your servant depart in peace,
according to your word.
For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared before the face of all people;
to be a light to lighten the Gentiles,
and to be 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 ever shall be, world
without end. *Amen.*

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

In Easter Season, add Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The Officiant concludes with the following

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

Or this

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless us and keep us, this night and evermore. *Amen.*

Additional Directions

For those saying Compline every day, particularly in families or other communities, additional short Scriptural readings may be desired. Some appropriate readings include:

Isaiah 26:3-4

Isaiah 30:15a

Matthew 6:31-34

2 Corinthians 4:6

1 Thessalonians 5:9-10

1 Thessalonians 5:23

Ephesians 4:26-27

If desired, either version of the Lord's Prayer may conclude with the phrase, "deliver us from evil," omitting the doxology.