

Compline

An ending of the day

[Our final worship before the Great Silence of the night, the office of Compline invites us to examine our day in true humility; that is, with complete honesty, under the loving gaze of our compassionate God...]

**The Companions
of Augustine of
Canterbury**



Silent prayer and Introduction

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

O God, draw near and know me.
O Lord, stay close and help me.

**Glory to God, source of all being,
eternal Word and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now and shall be forever. Amen.**

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

Be disciplined and watchful.
Your accuser, throwing slander,
prowls like a roaring lion seeking prey.
Be steadfast in the faith and fight back.

(1 Peter 5: 8-9)

In silence, let us examine the day.

*We consider those moments when we have been present to God,
and those moments when we have been forgetful of God*

For that which needs forgiveness:
Merciful God, free me and restore me.

For that which deserves celebration:
Creator God, thank you for forming me and helping me grow.

The Psalms

♦ = *the space of a full breath*

* = *the space of two full breaths*

Psalm 4

Have mercy on me, O Lord, **and hear my prayer.**

- 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 dishonour 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 shall be forever. Amen.**

Have mercy on me, O Lord, and hear my prayer.

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Psalm 91

He shall give his angels charge over you, **to keep you in all your ways.**

- 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 honour.
- 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 shall be forever. Amen.**

**He shall give his angels charge over you, to keep you in all your
ways.**

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Psalm 134

Lift up your hands to the holy place **and bless the Lord.**

- 1 Come, 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 shall be forever. Amen.**

Lift up your hands to the holy place and bless the Lord.

Hymn



**Before the ending of the day,
creator of the world, we pray
that you, with steadfast love, would keep
your watch around us while we sleep.**

**From all ill dreams defend our sight,
from fears and terrors of the night;
tread underfoot our deadly foe
that we no troubling thought may know.**



**O Father, this we ask be done
through Jesus Christ, your only Son;
who reigns with you eternally
and by your Spirit sets us free. Amen.**

You, O God, are within us and we are called by your name;
never leave us, O God of our becoming.

(Jeremiah 14.9)

Prayer

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

Keep me as the apple of your eye;
hide me under the shadow of your wings.

We/I offer to God those people and places
in mind's eye and hearts care...

Pray silently or aloud

Our Father... *[silently until:]*
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Ending

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

In peace will we lie down and sleep;
for you alone make us dwell in safety.

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,
for the night is at hand and the day is now past.

As the night watch looks for the morning,
so do we look for you, O Christ.

[Come with the dawning of the day
and make yourself known in the breaking of the bread.]

May our almighty and merciful God
✠ Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless and protect us. **Amen**

May God's help be always with us/me.
[And with our/my absent Companions.] Amen.

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