

## WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> MAY: COMPLINE

### PREPARATION

*Stand*

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

**Amen.**

### OPENING PRAYER

### A SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

Brethren, be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: whom resist, steadfast in the faith.

*1 Peter 5: 8, 9*

### VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Thanks be to God.**

O God, make speed to save us.

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

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.**

Praise ye the Lord.

**The Lord's Name be praised.**

### THE WORD OF GOD

*Psalm 134*

1 Behold now, praise the Lord, ■  
all ye servant of the Lord.

2 Ye that by night stand in the house of the Lord ■  
even in the courts of the house of our God.

3 Lift up your hands in the sanctuary ■  
and praise the Lord.

4 The Lord that made heaven and earth ■  
give thee blessing out of Zion.

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.

### A READING

*Ephesians 1:15-23*

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of

his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

### ADDRESS

### RESPONSORY

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

**For thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.**

### HYMN

Before the ending of the day,  
creator of the world, we pray  
that thou with wonted love wouldst keep  
thy watch around us while we sleep.

O let no evil dreams be near,  
or phantoms of the night appear;  
our ghostly enemy restrain,  
lest aught of sin our bodies stain.

All praise be thine, O risen Lord,  
from death to endless life restored;  
whom with the Father, we adore,  
and Holy Spirit, evermore. Amen.

### VERSICLE AND RESPONSE

*The following responsory may be said:*

Keep me as the apple of an eye.

**Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.**

**Preserve us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping,**

**that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.**

### THE GOSPEL CANTICLE

**NUNC DIMITTIS**

*The Song of Simeon Luke 2: 29-32*

1 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, ■  
according to thy word.

2 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, ■  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

3 To be a light to lighten the Gentiles ■  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

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.

**Preserve us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping,**

that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

### **PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**Christ, have mercy upon us.**  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

### **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. Amen.**

Blessed art thou, Lord God of our fathers,  
**to be praised and glorified above all for ever;**

Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
**Let us praise him and magnify him for ever.**

Blessed art thou, O Lord, in the firmament of heaven  
**to be praised and glorified above all for ever.**

The Almighty and most merciful Lord guard us and give us his blessing.  
**Amen.**

### **CONFESSION**

*A prayerful examination of the past day may be undertaken after which the following or other suitable words of penitence may be used*

**We confess to God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
That we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, Through our own grievous fault. Wherefore we pray God to have mercy upon us.  
Almighty God, have mercy upon us, Forgive us all our sins, Deliver us from all evil, Confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, And bring us to life everlasting; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The priest, when present, pronounces the absolution.*

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto you pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### **VERSICLES AND RESPONSES**

Wilt thou not turn again and quicken us  
**that thy people may rejoice in thee?**

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us  
**and grant us thy salvation.**  
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin.  
**O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.**  
O Lord, hear our prayer  
**and let our cry come unto thee.**  
Let us pray.

### **THE COLLECTS**

Visit, we beseech thee, O Lord, our homes,  
and drive away all the snares of the enemy;  
Let thy holy angels dwell therein  
to preserve us in peace;  
and may thy blessing be upon us evermore;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God,  
as we stand at the foot of the cross of thy Son,  
help us to see and know thy love for us,  
so that in humility, love and joy  
we may place at his feet  
all that we have and all that we are;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

### **THE ENDING**

### **DISMISSAL**

We will lay us down in peace and take our rest.  
**For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest us dwell in safety.**

The Lord be with you  
**and with thy spirit.**

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **BLESSING**

**May Christ, who heals us through his blood, bless us.  
May he restore in us whatever is lacking in our faith  
and set us at liberty to worship him in freedom  
through our words and deeds. Amen.**