Compline Service

Compline follows the ancient monastic tradition of night prayer, and is an opportunity to meditate on the peace offered by God at the close of day, as the lights of evening begin to surround us. The service centers on the prayer of Simeon, or Nunc dimittis, and reminds us of God's faithfulness throughout history.

Preparation
May the divine God in three give you peaceful and perfect sleep.
Amen.
Our being is sustained in the triune name of God who made heaven and earth.

Introduction
Chant
Be still and know that I am God
Be still and know that I am God
Be still and know
Be still

Five Minutes of Silence
Lord Jesus, you wept over the selfishness of your city;
on our city: Lord have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of selfishness and division, jealousy and bitterness;
on us: Christ have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you bring pardon and peace;
grant us peace: Lord have mercy
Lord, have mercy.

O God, save us from this time of trial,
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Creator,
and to the Redeemer,
and to the Companion,
as it was in the beginning
is now and shall be for ever.
Amen. Alleluia.

Examen or Contemplative Prayer to attend to God

God is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

One thing I have ask of the Lord, of which I seek; to be in the presence of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord.

For God will hide me in God's shelter in my day of trouble, I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me! 'Come' my heart says, 'seek God's face'. Your face Lord do I seek. Do not hide your face from me.

Teach me your ways O Lord, and lead me on a level path.

I believe that I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord

You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when their corn and wine and oil increase.

In peace I will lie down and sleep,
for it is you God, only,
who helps us sleep in safety.
Glory to the Creator
and to the Redeemer
and to the Sustainer,
as it was in the beginning
is now and shall be for ever.
Amen.

Scriptural text and Contemplative Response

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

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of all knowing.
I commend my spirit.

Glory to the Creator
and to the Redeemer
and to the Sustainer.
Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Christ died for us, so that,
whether awake or asleep
we might live with him.

Service continues overleaf

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The Nunc Dimittis
Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every
people;

a light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.

Prayers
Let us pray for peace and rest at the closing of the
day. Feel free to pray aloud or silently.
At the end of each prayer the refrain is Lord in
your mercy, and the response is hear our
prayer.

Allow a time of prayer

Creator God, may every breath we take be for your
glory, may every footstep show you as our way,
that, trusting in your presence,
we may be with you now and for ever.
Amen.

Conclusion
In peace we will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, Lord, enable us to sleep in safety.

Stay with us, Lord Jesus,
for the night has come and the day has passed.

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

Blessing
The Lord bless us and watch over us;
the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious
to us;
the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace.
Amen.

+ In the name of the Creator,
and of the Redeemer,
and of the Companion.
Amen.