

# An Order for Compline

*The Officiant begins*

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

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

*The Officiant may then say*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Officiant and People*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:  
We have sinned against you,  
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,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Officiant*

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

*The Officiant then says*

                  O God, make speed to save us.  
*People*      O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Officiant and People*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as  
it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

*Except in Lent, add* Alleluia.

## Psalm 72:1-7,10-14 *Deus, iudicium*

*Officiant and People*

1      Give the King your justice, O God, \*  
         and your righteousness to the King's Son;

- 2 That he may rule your people righteously \*  
and the poor with justice.
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*  
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; \*  
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*  
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall  
be no more.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, \*  
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
- 11 All kings shall bow down before him, \*  
and all the nations do him service.
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, \*  
and the oppressed who has no helper.
- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; \*  
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, \*  
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as  
it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

### **A reding from the Gospel of Matthew 2:1-12**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

`And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

*People* Thanks be to God.

*Officiant and People*

V. Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;  
 R. For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.  
 V. Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;  
 R. Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

Lord, have mercy.  
*Christ, have mercy.*  
 Lord, have mercy.

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.

Our Father in heaven,  
 hallowed be your Name,  
 your kingdom come,  
 your will be done,  
 on earth as in heaven.  
 Give us today our daily bread.  
 Forgive us our sins  
 as we forgive those  
 who sin against us.  
 Save us from the time of trial,  
 and deliver us from evil.

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

*Officiant*

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
*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.*

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.*

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.*

*Officiant and People*

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

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and 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 will be for ever. Amen.

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

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

*The Officiant concludes*

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