An Order for Night Prayer (Compline)

Preparation

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

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

A period of silence for reflection on the past day may follow.

Most merciful God,
I confess to you,
before the whole company of heaven and one another,
that I have sinned in thought, word and deed
and in what I have failed to do.
Forgive me my sins,
heal me by your Spirit
and raise me to new life in Christ. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

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

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 evil dreams defend our sight, From fears and terrors of the night; Tread underfoot our deadly foe That we no sinful thought may know.

O Father, that we ask be done Through Jesus Christ, your only Son; And Holy Spirit, by whose breath Our souls are raised to life from death.

The Word of God

You might like to read through one psalm (or part of a psalm) each day and then also work your way through one of the Gospels

Responsory

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 truth.

I commend my spirit.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. Keep me as the apple of your eye.

Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Gospel Canticle

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

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.

Luke 2.29-32

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

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

Prayers

Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.

The Collect

Silence may be kept.

Visit this place, O Lord, I/we pray, and drive far from it the snares of the enemy; may your holy angels dwell with me/us and guard me/s in peace, and may your blessing be always upon me / us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Conclusion

In peace we will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, Lord, 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.

Copyright acknowledgement (where not already indicated):

Some material included in this service is copyright:
© The Archbishops' Council 2000

Nunc dimittis (Save us, O Lord, while waking) © The Crown/Cambridge University Press: The Book of Common Prayer (1662)