



PRAYER AT THE CLOSE OF DAY

COMPLINE: Setting I

“Prayer at the Close of Day” is a version of the historic rite called Compline. It is the final service of the day before one retires for the night. The congregation gathers in silence. Preservice music is omitted and the lighting is subdued. This is a time for prayer and meditation. The believer finds peace in God’s forgiveness and security under the shadow of his wings.

REMAIN SEATED

The following sentences are sung or said.

L The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

G A - men.

L It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

G to sing praise to your name, O Most High,

L to herald your love in the morn - ing,

G your truth at the close of day.

L Je - sus, re - member me when you come into your king - dom.

G Jesus, remember me when you come into your king - dom.

EVENING HYMN

The following or another evening hymn is sung.

1 Be - fore the end - ing of the day, Cre - a - tor of the
 2 From e - vil dreams de - fend our sight, From all the ter - rors
 3 O Fa - ther, this we ask be done Through Je - sus Christ, your

world, we pray, Your grace and peace to us al - low
 of the night, From all de - lud - ing thoughts that creep
 on - ly Son, Whom with the Spir - it we a - dore

And guard and keep your peo - ple now.
 On heed - less minds dis - armed by sleep.
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er - more. A - men.

The congregation may kneel.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- L** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
G **who made heaven and earth.**
L Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for self-examination

- L** I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven,
 and to you, my brothers and sisters,
 that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed
 by my fault,
 by my own fault,
 by my own grievous fault;
 wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
 forgive me all my sins,
 and bring me to everlasting life.
- G** **The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness,
 and remission of all your sins.**
- L** Amen.
- G** **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven,
 and to you, my brothers and sisters,
 that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed
 by my fault,
 by my own fault,
 by my own grievous fault;
 wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
 forgive me all my sins,
 and bring me to everlasting life.**
- L** The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness,
 and remission of all your sins.
- G** **Amen.**

OR

L Almighty God, our heavenly Father,

G we have sinned against you
in our thoughts,
in our words,
in our deeds,
and in all that we have not done.

Forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Deliver and restore us,
that we may rest in peace.

L By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ,
and in him we are forgiven.

Let us rest in his peace until the rising of the sun
when we shall serve him in newness of life.

G Amen.

REMAIN SEATED

PSALM

One or more psalms are sung or said. Psalm 91 is usually first. See pages 61-69.

PSALM 91





He who dwells in the shelter of the / Most High
 will rest in the shadow of the Al- / mighty.
 I will say / of the LORD,
 “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in / whom I trust.”

Surely he will save you from the / fowler’s snare
 and from the deadly / pestilence.
 He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find / refuge;
 his faithfulness will be your shield and / rampart.

Refrain

You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that / flies by day,
 nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at / midday.
 A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at / your right hand,
 but it will not come / near you.

Refrain

If you make the Most High your dwelling—even the LORD, who is my / refuge—
 then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come / near your tent.
 For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in / all your ways;
 they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot
 a- / gainst a stone.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
 and to the Holy / Spirit,
 as it was in the be- / ginning,
 is now, and will be forever. / Amen.**

Refrain

Silence for meditation

L Lord God, our refuge and fortress, your faithfulness has protected us through this day. Now send your holy angels to guard us from danger through this night. Give us peaceful rest, free from fear, that we may wake refreshed to serve you, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

G Amen.

LESSON

One or more of the following or other lessons are read.

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor (Isaiah 61:1-3).

Although our sins testify against us, O LORD, do something for the sake of your name. For our backsliding is great; we have sinned against you. O Hope of Israel, its Savior in times of distress, why are you like a stranger in the land, like a traveler who stays only a night? Why are you like a man taken by surprise, like a warrior powerless to save? You are among us, O LORD, and we bear your name; do not forsake us! (Jeremiah 14:7-9).

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light (Matthew 11:28-30).

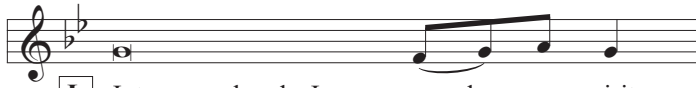
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid (John 14:27).

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:38,39).

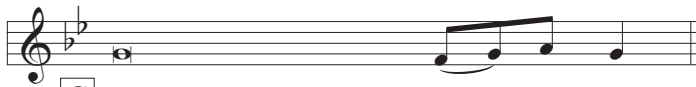
May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen (Hebrews 13:20,21).

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings (1 Peter 5:6-9).

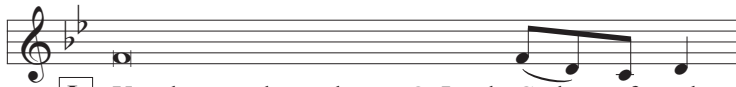
The following response is sung or said.



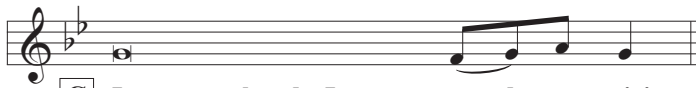
L Into your hands I com - mend my spirit.



G Into your hands I com - mend my spirit.



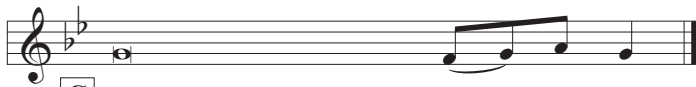
L You have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.



G Into your hands I com - mend my spirit.



L Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.




G Into your hands I com - mend my spirit.

HYMN

PRAYER

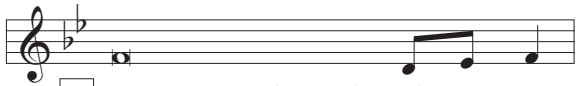
The following are sung or said.



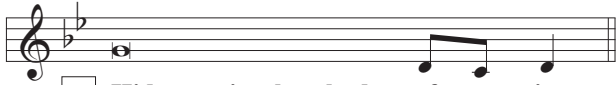
L Hear my prayer, O Lord.



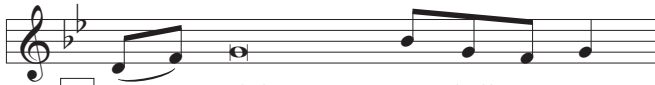
G Listen to my cry.



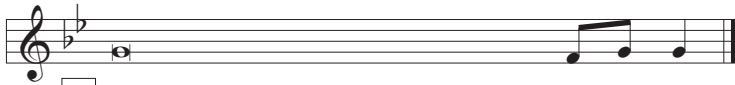
L Keep me as the apple of your eye.



G Hide me in the shadow of your wings.

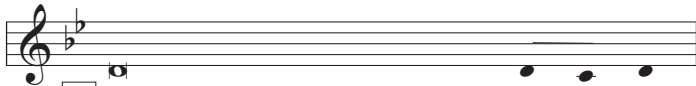


L In righteousness I shall see you.

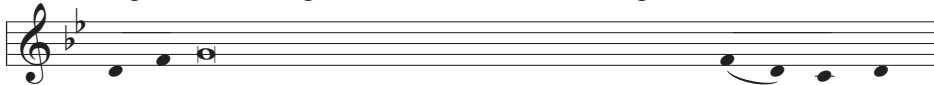


G When I awake, your presence will give me joy.

One or more of the following prayers are sung or said.



L Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of this night,



so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world may rest in your eternal change-less-ness,

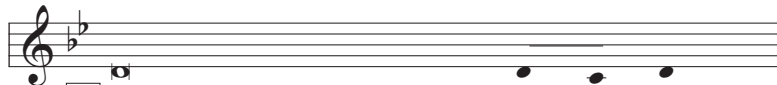


through Jesus Christ our Lord.



G A - men.

OR



L O Lord, support us all day long, till the shadows lengthen and the eve - ning comes

and the busy world is hushed and
the fever of life is over and our work is done.

Then, in your mercy, grant us a safe
lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

G A - men.

OR

L O God our Father, by your mercy and might,
the world turns safely into darkness and returns a-gain to light.

We place into your hands our unfinished tasks,
our unsolved problems, and our unfulfilled hopes,
knowing that only what you bless will prosper.

To your great love and protection, we commit
each other and all those we love,
knowing that you alone are our sure de-fender,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

G A - men.

OR

L Keep watch, dear Lord, with
those who watch or work or weep this night,
and give your angels charge over those who sleep.
Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, pity the afflicted, soothe
the suffering, bless the dying—and all for your love's sake,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

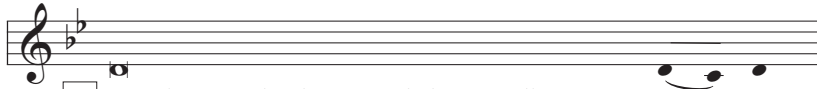
G A - men.

OR

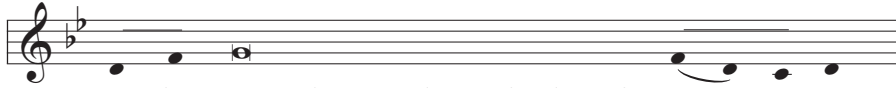
L Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne,
and illuminate this night with your cel - es - tial brightness,
that by night as by day your people may glorify your ho - ly name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

G A - men.

OR for Saturday



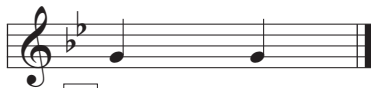
L We give you thanks, O God, for revealing your
Son, Jesus Christ, to us by the light of his resur-rec - tion.



Grant that as we sing your glory at the close of
this day, our joy may abound in the
morning as we celebrate the Paschal mys - ter - y,



through Jesus Christ our Lord.



G A - men.

The Lord's Prayer is said or sung on a single tone.

G Our Father in heaven, OR
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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

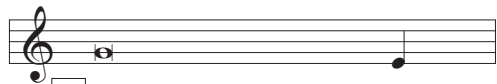
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

HYMN

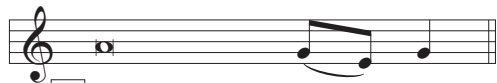
GOSPEL CANTICLE

The following is sung or said.

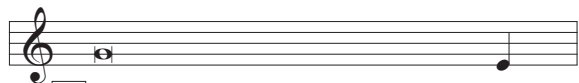
Antiphon



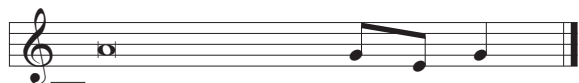
L Guide us waking, O Lord,



G and guard us sleep - ing,



L that awake we may watch with Christ

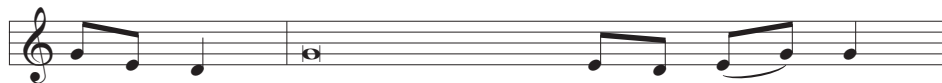


G and asleep we may rest in peace.

Song of Simeon



G In peace, Lord, you let your ser-vant now de-part according



to your word. For my eyes have seen your sal - va - tion,

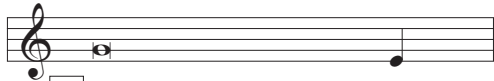


which you have prepared for every peo - ple, a light to light - en the

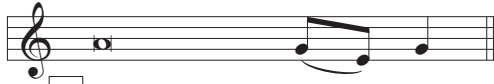


Gen - tiles and the glory of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

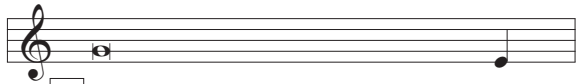
Antiphon



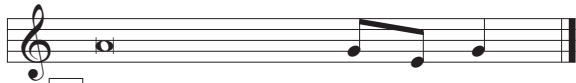
L Guide us waking, O Lord,



G and guard us sleep - ing,



L that awake we may watch with Christ



G and asleep we may rest in peace.

BLESSING

The Blessing is sung or said.



L The almighty and mer-ci - ful Lord—the Father, the Son, (✠) and the



Ho - ly Spirit— bless us and keep us.



G A - men.