

Introduction

This service takes the form of Compline or Night Prayer. It is above all a service of quietness and reflection before rest at the end of the day. In this service we rejoice in the world that God has created and move towards a more appreciative understanding of our place in creation.



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 may follow calling to mind the fragile earth, our home and our calling to be stewards of God's creation.

We confess to you our lack of care for the world you have given us.

Lord have mercy,

Lord have mercy.

We confess to you our selfishness in not sharing the earth's bounty fairly.

Christ have mercy,

Christ have mercy.

We confess to you our failure to protect resources for others,

Lord have mercy,

Lord have mercy.

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive us our sins
and make us holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

○ God, make speed to save us.

○ 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.**

The Word of God

Psalmody Verses from Psalm 8

Lord our God,
the whole world tells the greatness of your name.
Your glory reaches beyond the stars.

Even the babble of infants
declares your strength,
your power to halt the enemy and avenger.
Your glory reaches beyond the stars.

I see your handiwork in the heavens:
the moon and the stars you set in place.
Your glory reaches beyond the stars.

What is humankind that you remember them,
the human race that you care for them?

Your glory reaches beyond the stars.

You treat them like gods,
dressing them in glory and splendour.
You give them charge of the earth, laying all at their feet:
cattle and sheep, wild beasts,
birds of the sky, fish of the sea, every swimming creature.

Your glory reaches beyond the stars.

Lord our God,
the whole world tells the greatness of your name.

Your glory reaches beyond the stars.

**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.**

Benedicite - a Song of Creation (shorter version)

1 Bless the Lord all you works of the Lord: •
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

2 Bless the Lord you heavens: •
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

3 Bless the Lord you angels of the Lord: •
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

4 Bless the Lord all people on earth: •
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

5 O people of God bless the Lord: •
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

6 Bless the Lord you priests of the Lord: •
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

7 Bless the Lord you servants of the Lord: •
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

8 Bless the Lord all you of upright spirit: •
bless the Lord you that are holy and humble in heart;
bless the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit: •
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

Scripture Reading

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed it was
very good. *Genesis 1.31*

Gospel Canticle

The Nunc dimittis (The Song of Simeon) is said or sung

**Before the ending of the day,
Creator of the world, we pray,
Your grace and peace to us allow
And be our guard and keeper now.**

1 Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: ◆
your word has been fulfilled.

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

3 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.**

**Before the ending of the day,
Creator of the world, we pray,
Your grace and peace to us allow
And be our guard and keeper now.**

The Collect

Silence may be kept.

God our Father,
you never cease the work you have begun
and prosper with your blessing all human labour:
make us wise and faithful stewards of your gifts
that we may serve the common good,

maintain the fabric of our world
and seek that justice where all may share
the good things you pour upon us;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

The Lord's Prayer may be said.

**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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Conclusion

An act of Praise based on Psalm 145

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised:
there is no end to his greatness.

**One generation shall praise your works to another,
and shall declare your power.**

All creation praises you, Lord,
and your faithful servants bless you.
**They declare the glory of your kingdom
and tell of your mighty power.**

My mouth shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.
**Let every living thing bless his holy name
for ever and ever.**

The doxology is said or sung

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him, all creatures here below,
Praise him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost
Amen.

#LIVE LENT