

*St Stephen's Church, Canterbury*



**Compline**  
in Holy Week



# An Order for Compline in Holy Week

## Preparation

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

*All* **Amen.**

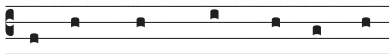
Our help is in the name of the Lord

*All* **who made heaven and earth.**

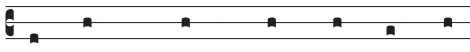
*A period of silence for reflection follows.*

*The following words of penitence may be used*

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



○ God, make speed to save us.



*All* **○ Lord, make haste to help us.**

We sing the Office Hymn for Compline during Passiontide.

CULTOR DEI Mode viii

A – men.

*Cultor Dei, memento*

Cantor      Servant of God, remember  
All            **The stream thy soul bedewing,  
                 The grace that came upon thee  
                 Anointing and renewing.**

**When kindly slumber calls thee,  
                 Upon thy bed reclining,  
Trace thou the Cross of Jesus,  
                 Thy heart and forehead signing.**

**The Cross dissolves the darkness,  
                 And drives away temptation;  
It calms the wavering spirit  
                 By quiet consecration.**

**Then while the weary body  
                 Its rest in sleep is nearing,  
The heart will muse in silence  
                 On Christ and his appearing.**

**To God, eternal Father,  
                 To Christ, our King, be glory,  
And to the Holy Spirit,  
                 In never-ending story. Amen.**





- 11 Even darkness is no darkness with you;  
the night is as clear as the day; ♦  
darkness and light to you are both alike.
- 12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; ♦  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 13 I thank you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; ♦  
marvellous are your works, my soul knows well.
- 14 My frame was not hidden from you, ♦  
when I was made in secret  
and woven in the depths of the earth.
- 15 Your eyes beheld my form, as yet unfinished; ♦  
already in your book were all my members written,
- 16 As day by day they were fashioned ♦  
when as yet there was none of them.
- 17 How deep are your counsels to me, O God! ♦  
How great is the sum of them!
- 18 If I count them, they are more in number than the sand, ♦  
and at the end, I am still in your presence.

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.

## Scripture Reading

I will pour out a spirit of compassion and supplication on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that, when they look on the one whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

Zechariah 12.10

*The responsory is then sung*

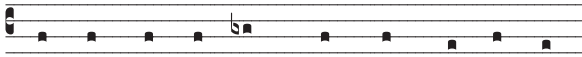


Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

All

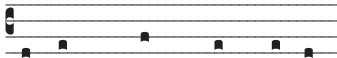


**Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**

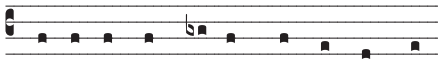


For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.


All



**I commend my spirit.**



Glory to the Father and to the Son



and to the Holy Spirit.

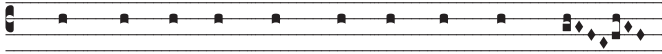
All



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



Keep me as the apple of your eye. \_\_\_\_



All **Hide me under the shadow of your wings.** \_

## Gospel Canticle

*The Nunc dimittis (The Song of Simeon) is sung*

**Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree,  
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.**

*Either the following plainsong Nunc Dimittis is sung, or a setting is sung by the choir.*



- 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.

**Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree,  
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.**

## Prayers

*Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.*

### *The Collect*

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who in your tender love towards the human race  
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to take upon him our flesh  
and to suffer death upon the cross:  
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,  
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;  
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.

*All* **Amen.**

*Silence may be kept.*

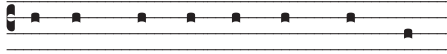
Visit this place, O Lord, we pray,  
and drive far from it the snares of the enemy;  
may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace,  
and may your blessing be always upon us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

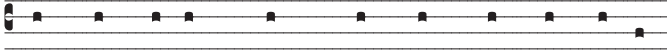


# The Conclusion

We *STAND* for the concluding responses



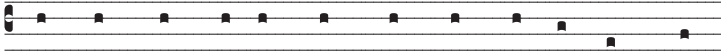
In peace we will lie down and sleep;



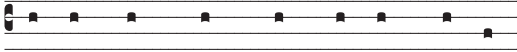
*All* **for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.**



Abide with us, Lord Jesus,



*All* **for the night is at hand and the day is now past.**



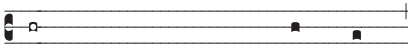
As the night watch looks for the morning,



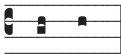
*All* **so do we look for you, O Christ.**



May God bless us,  
that in us may be found love and humility,  
obedience and thanksgiving,



discipline, gentleness and peace.



*All* **Amen.**





