



Lent 2024 Night Prayer Monday, 25th March 2024



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.



It is right that, during Holy Week, as we walk with Jesus towards the cross, we reflect in silence on this day.

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.**

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

Psalm 139

Search me out, O God, and know my heart.
O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

**²You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.**

**³You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

- 4 Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.**
- 5** You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
- 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.**
- 7** Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?
- 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.**
- 9** If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
- 10 even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.**
- 11** If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light around me become night',
- 12 even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.**
- 13** For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well.**
- 15** My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
- 16 Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.**
- 17** How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!

**18 I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end —I am still with you.**

Search me out, O God, and know my heart.

**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

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.

The Nunc dimittis (The Song of Simeon)

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

- 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

Silence will be kept as we allow the Holy Spirit to pray through us.

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.

Amen.

Repent

Repent, repent! What can it mean to me,
But turn around, let go, release, relent,
Unshackle your dark mind and set it free.
Your heart always knew better, so repent!
Repent the cringing and the compromise,
The whole long sorry settlement with sin,
The lowered expectations, the fine lies
That kept the Kingdom locked up from within.

Your demons threatened dreadful things: they lied!
Resist their tyranny, withstand
The false advances of the prince of pride.
The King is coming, he is on your side,
Rise with him now, rise up and make a stand.
Repent! The true fulfilment is at hand!
Malcolm Guite 2016

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.

May God bless us,
that in us may be found love and humility,
obedience and thanksgiving,
discipline, gentleness and peace. **Amen.**

