

St Mary Redcliffe

Compline

Night Prayer

Fridays in Lent

8:20pm

CANDLELIGHT, COMPLINE AND CONVERSATION

The ancient office of Compline derives its name from a Latin word meaning 'completion' (completorium). It is above all a service of quietness and reflection before rest at the end of the day. Compline is the final prayer liturgy of the day in the Christian church. From the time of the early Church, the practice of seven fixed prayer times have been taught. Hippolytus instructed Christians to pray seven times a day "on rising, at lighting of the evening lamp, at bedtime, at midnight" and "the third, sixth and ninth hours of the day, being hours associated with Christ's Passion.

It was combined with the service of vespers during the Reformation to form what we now know as Evensong. Therefore, there may be some parts of this service which feel familiar to you.

As we approach the season of Lent, we will be hosting these short moments to reflect on our day and think about the journey we will go on towards the Passion of Christ.

Feel free to join in with as much, or as little, of the singing as you like. Most of it will be led by the choir, but if you feel comfortable and confident, please do join in. This is a service for you to meditate and reflect on the past week, and therefore use this time as you see fit.

There are two orders of service in this book. The first being one used for the traditional plainsong setting of Compline, and the second being a setting written by composer Lucy Walker for St Martin's-in-the-Fields. We use alternating orders of service during Lent which will be announced at the beginning of the service

An order for Night Prayer (Plainsong)

Page 3

An order for Night Prayer (Lucy Walker)

Page 15

AN ORDER FOR NIGHT PRAYER (PLAINSONG)

PREPARATION

We stand.

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

All Amen

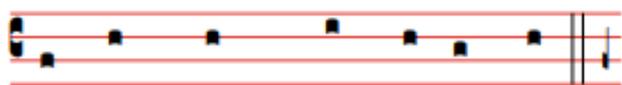
V Our help is in the name of the Lord

All Who made heaven and earth

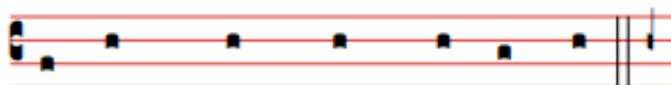
We sit or kneel as there is a short period of silence for reflection on the past day

We all say

**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.

The following is sung by the choir and the service leader.



Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;



As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,



world without end. Amen.



Praise ye the Lord. **The Lord's name be praised.**

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
so high that I cannot attain it.

Where can I go then from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?

If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

Even there your hand shall lead me,
your right hand hold me fast.

If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me
and the light around me turn to night,'

Even darkness is no darkness with you; *
the night is as clear as the day;
darkness and light to you are both alike

At the end of the psalmody we stand as the following is sung

Glory be to the Father and to the Son;
And to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be;
World without end. Amen.

Scripture Reading

We sit as one of the following short lessons is read.

Jeremiah 14.9

You, O Lord are in the midst of us and we are called by your name; leave us not, O Lord our God.

1 Peter 5.8-9

Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil is prowling round like a roaring lion, seeking for someone to devour. Resist him, strong in faith.

1 Thessalonians 5.9-10

God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.

Isiah 58.6-7

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the throngs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

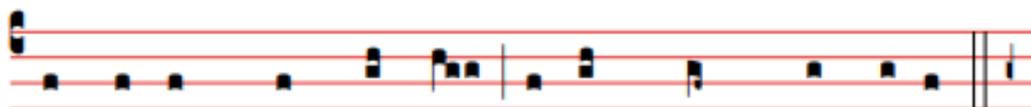
Zechariah 12.10

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.

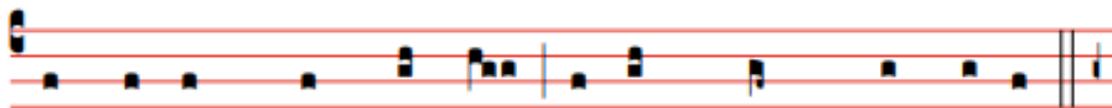
Revelation 22. 4-5

The servants of the Lamb shall see the face of God, whose name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night; they will not need the light of the lamp or the light of the sun, for God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

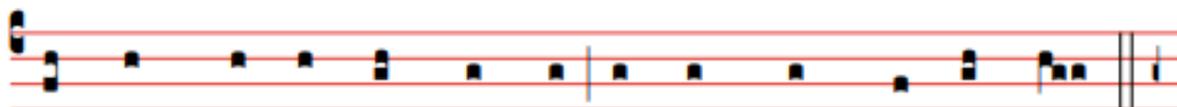
The following responsory is sung by the choir and service leader.



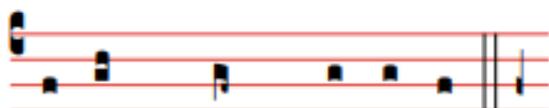
In-to thy hands, O Lord, I com-mend my spi-rit.



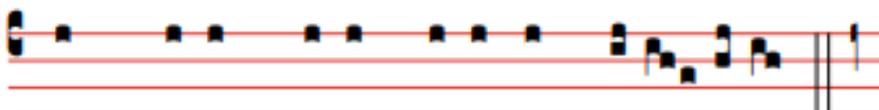
In-to thy hands, O Lord, I com-mend my spi-rit.



For thou hast re-deem-ed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.



I commend my spirit.



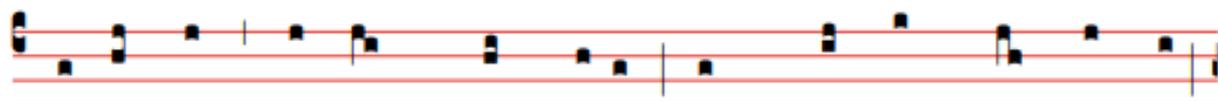
Keep me as the apple of an eye.



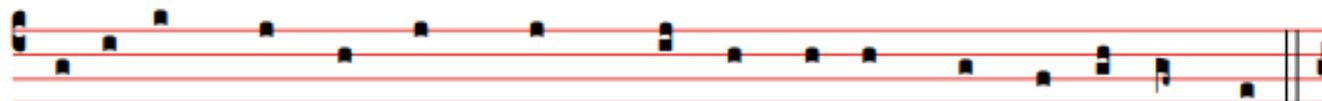
Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.

The Gospel Canticle

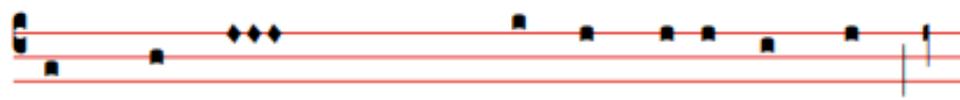
We stand as the choir sing the following.



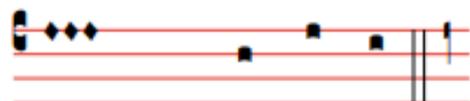
Preserve us, † O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping,



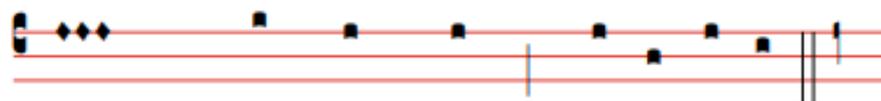
that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.



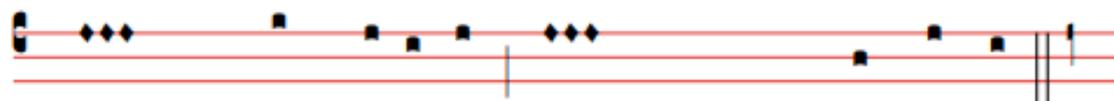
Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace ;



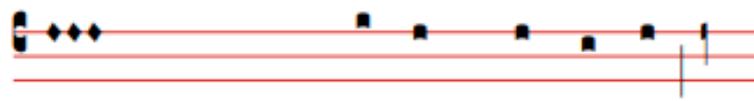
according to thy word.



For mine eyes have seen : thy salvation;



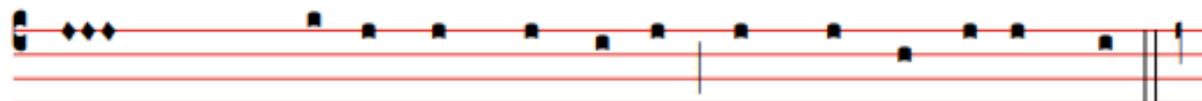
Which thou hast prepar-ed; before the face of all people;



To be a light to lighten the Gentiles:



and to be the glory of thy peo-ple Isra-el.



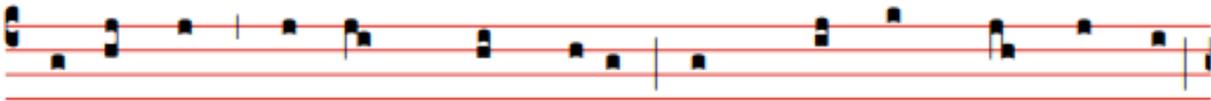
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



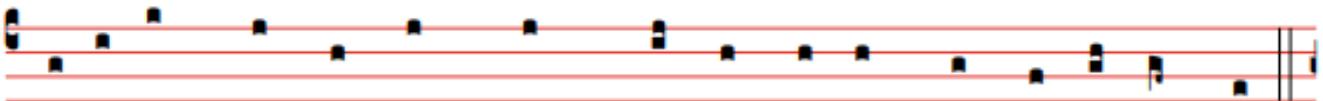
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:



world without end. Amen.



Preserve us, † O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping,



that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

PRAYERS

We sit or kneel. The leader of the service may say some prayers for the day, and at the end we say together the following.

V Lord have mercy upon us.

All Christ have mercy upon us

V Lord have mercy upon us.

Almighty God,
May we, by the prayer and discipline of Lent
Enter into the Mystery of Christ's sufferings;
that by following in the Way,
we may come to share in the glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

**Our Father, which 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 them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
But deliver us from evil
Amen**

We sit as the choir sing a short motet.

THE CONCLUSION



We will lay us down in peace and take our rest.



For it is thou, Lord, only that makest us dwell in safety.



Abide with us, O Lord,



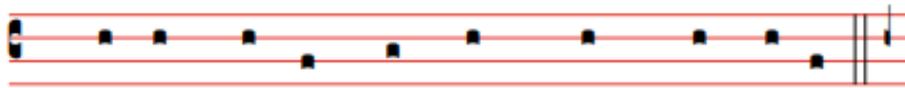
for it is toward evening and the day is far spent.



As the watchmen look for the morning,



so do we look for thee, O Christ.



The Lord be with you. **And with thy spi-rit.**



Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son



and the Holy Ghost, bless us and preserve us. **Amen.**

May God bless us,
That in us may be found love and humility,
Obedience and thanksgiving,
Discipline, gentleness and peace.
Amen

We sit for a moment of reflection before departing from the church.

If you follow the choir out and down into the vestry we will leave the church together.

Please return this order of service to the Director of Music at the end of the service so it can be used next week.

AN ORDER FOR NIGHT PRAYER (LUCY WALKER)

PREPARATION

We stand.

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

All Amen

V Our help is in the name of the Lord

All Who made heaven and earth

We sit or kneel as there is a short period of silence for reflection on the past day

We all say

**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.**

The following is sung by the choir and the service leader. The choir can find this on page 5 of their music.

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be
World without end
Amen

Praise ye the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised

Please stand as the choir sing the following hymn. The choir can find this on page 8 of their music.

Before the ending of the day
Creator of the world, we pray
That with thy wonted favour thou
Wouldst be our guard and keeper now.

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.

Amen

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Psalmody

Please sit as the choir sing the Psalm. The choir can find this on page 12 of their music.

Antiphon

Have mercy on me, O God,
And harken unto my prayer

Psalm 31:1-6

In thee, O Lord, have I put my trust:
Let me never be put to confusion, deliver me in thy righteousness.
Bow down thine ear to me:
Make haste to deliver me.
And be thou my strong rock, and the house of defence:
Be thou also my guide, and lead me for thy name's sake.
Draw me out of the net, that they have laid privily for me:
For thou art my strength
Into thy hands I commend my spirit:
For thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.

Please stand for the gloria.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son;
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be
World without end. Amen.

Scripture Reading

We sit as one of the following short lessons is read.

Jeremiah 14.9

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Isiah 58.6-7

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Zechariah 12.10

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.

Revelation 22. 4-5

The servants of the Lamb shall see the face of God, whose name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night; they will not need the light of the lamp or the light of the sun, for God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

The following responsory is sung by the choir, which they can find on page 18 of their music.

Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit
For thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth
I commend my spirit

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

The Gospel Canticle

We stand as the choir sing the following, which they can find on page 25 of their booklet. It is preceded and followed by the Antiphon as below.

Preserve us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping
That awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace;
According to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen:

Thy salvation.

Which thou hast prepared;

Before the face of all people.

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles:

And to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son:

And to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:

World without end. Amen

Preserve us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping
That awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace

PRAYERS

We sit or kneel. The leader of the service may say some prayers for the day, and at the end we say together the following.

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Almighty God,
May we, by the prayer and discipline of Lent
Enter into the Mystery of Christ's sufferings;
that by following in the Way,
we may come to share in the glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

**Our Father, which 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 them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
But deliver us from evil
Amen**

THE CONCLUSION

*Please remain sat as the choir and service leader sing the conclusion.
The choir can find this on page 45 of their music.*

We will lay down in peace and take our rest.
For it is thou, Lord, only that makest us to dwell in safety.
Abide with us, O Lord,
For it is toward evening and the day is far spent.

As the watchmen look for the morning,
So do we look for thee, O Christ,

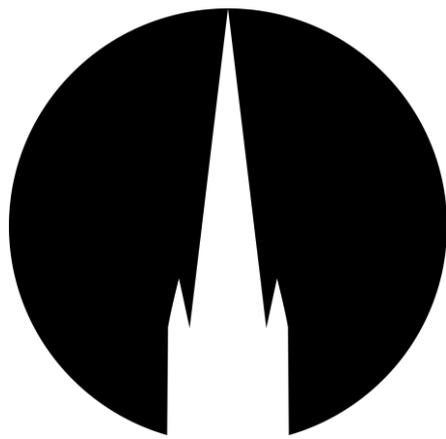
The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.
Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.
The almighty and most merciful Lord,
The Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost,
Bless us and preserve us.

Amen.

We sit for a moment of reflection before departing from the church.

If you follow the choir out and down into the vestry we will leave the church together.

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Singing the song of faith and justice