

Ascension Day until Pentecost

Night Prayer (Compline)



Newbury, St George & St John

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. Please prepare by lighting a candle, (if you wish), and sitting quietly.

Words of Welcome and Introduction

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 on the past day may follow.

**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.**

A suitable hymn or poem may be sung or read.

The Word of God

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble;

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains tremble in the heart of the sea;**

Though the waters rage and swell,
and though the mountains quake at the towering seas.

**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy place of the dwelling of the Most High.**

God is in the midst of her;
therefore shall she not be removed;

God shall help her at the break of day.

The nations are in uproar and the kingdoms are shaken,
but God utters his voice and the earth shall melt away.

**The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

Come and behold the works of the Lord,
what destruction he has wrought upon the earth.

**He makes wars to cease in all the world;
he shatters the bow and snaps the spear
and burns the chariots in the fire.**

‘Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted in the earth.’

**The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

*God of Jacob,
when the earth shakes
and the nations are in uproar,
speak, and let the storm be still;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

At the end of the psalmody, the following is said or sung

**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

Luke 8.16-25

‘No one after lighting a lamp hides it under a jar, or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light. For nothing is hidden that will not be disclosed, nor is anything secret that will not become known and come to light. Then pay attention to how you listen; for to those who have, more will be given; and from those who do not have, even what they seem to have will be taken away.’

Then his mother and his brothers came to him, but they could not reach him because of the crowd. And he was told, ‘Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to see you.’ But he said to them, ‘My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it.’

One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, ‘Let us go across to the other side of the lake.’ So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, ‘Master, Master, we are perishing!’ And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, ‘Where is your faith?’ They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, ‘Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?’

Responsory

When you send forth your Spirit, we are created;
you renew the face of the earth.

**When you send forth your Spirit, we are created;
you renew the face of the earth.**

O Lord, how manifold are your works;
in wisdom you have made them all.
You renew the face of the earth.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.
**When you send forth your Spirit, we are created;
you renew the face of the earth.**

Gospel Canticle

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

**Alleluia. The Holy Spirit, the Advocate, shall teach you all things.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

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

My own eyes have seen the salvation •
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;
A light to reveal you to the nations •
and the glory of your people Israel.

**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.**

**Alleluia. The Holy Spirit, the Advocate, shall teach you all things.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

Prayers

Intercessions and thanksgivings are offered .

The Collect

Silence may be kept.

Come, O Spirit of God,
and make within us your dwelling place and home.
May our darkness be dispelled by your light,
and our troubles calmed by your peace;
may all evil be redeemed in your love,
all pain transformed through the suffering of Christ,
and all dying glorified in his risen life.

Amen.

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 the living waters of Christ cleanse us,
may the Spirit descend upon us,
and the blessing of God be with us
this night and always.

Amen.

We depart in silence

Cover Image

The Storm on the Sea of Galilee, Rembrandt , 1633

Benefice of St George and St John.

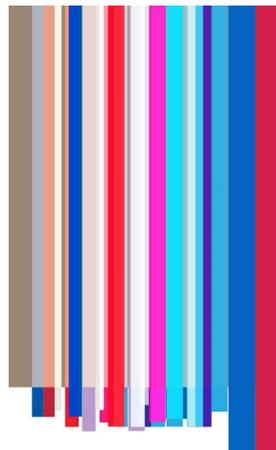
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