



*A ministry and community of prayer of  
The Episcopal Diocese of Vermont*

A few notes about tonight's service.

**Please leave your microphone on mute** during the responsory portions of the service. You are welcome to unmute yourself when you are invited to offer your prayers, then remember to mute it again when you have completed your prayer.

## An Order for Compline

*The Officiant begins*

May God Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end.  
*Amen.*

*Officiant* Our help is in the Name of the Holy One;  
*People* The maker of heaven and earth.

*The Officiant may then say*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence is kept.*

*Officiant and People*

Almighty God,

We have sinned against you,

through our own fault,

in thought, and word, and deed,

and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ,

forgive us all our offenses;

and grant that we may serve you in newness of life,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Officiant*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

*The Officiant then says*

O God, make speed to save us.

*People* O God, make haste to help us.

*All* Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Alleluia.

*In unison*

**A Song of Mercy and Truth** *Psalm 85.6,7,9-11,13*

O God, will you not give us life again, \*

that your people may rejoice in you?

Show us your mercy, O God, \*

and grant us your salvation.

Truly, your salvation is near to those who fear you,

\* that your glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together, \*

righteousness and peace have kissed each other;

Truth shall spring up from the earth \*

and righteousness look down from heaven.

Righteousness shall go before you \*

and peace shall be a pathway for your feet.

*At the end of the Psalm is said*

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

*Scripture is read*

It is not that God is slow in fulfilling the promise, as some suppose, but that God is very patient with you, because it is not Love's will for any to be lost, but for all to come to repentance.

*2Peter 3:9*

*People*      Thanks be to God.

V. Into your hands, O God, I commend my spirit;

R. For you have redeemed me, O God of truth.

V. Keep us, O God, as the apple of your eye;

R. Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

Lord, have mercy.

*Christ, have mercy.*

Lord, have mercy.

*Officiant and People*

Our loving God in heaven,  
holy is your Name,  
may your reign come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

*Officiant* God, hear our prayer;  
*People* And let our cry come to you.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

Keep watch, dear God, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, O Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. *Amen.*

*People and Officiant*

**A prayer during Covid times**

God of life, we offer our continued thanks for the gift of this day. As the pandemic continues, give us a spirit of hope and generosity, even as we are wearied by long months of uncertainty, tedious precautions, and the work it takes to love

our neighbors as you loved us.

Grant eternal rest to the over 5 million people who have died from the coronavirus. Comfort and give relief to all who are depressed and mourn. We offer gratitude for medical staffs, caregivers, scientists, vaccines, treatments, and the blessing of each breath we take. Hear our prayers, and longing of our hearts, O Holy One. We pray this in the name of Jesus, in whom all our hopes are fulfilled. *Amen.*

For the well-being of our country:

I bid your prayers for all those who are in harms' way from severe weather and drought conditions, for safe and plentiful water.

Christ, in your mercy,  
*hear our prayers.*

I bid your prayers for refugees and migrants at borders and for all incarcerated people.

Christ, in your mercy,  
*hear our prayers.*

I bid your prayers that the founding principles of democracy resurface in renewed strength, for equal access to voting.

Christ, in your mercy,  
*hear our prayers.*

*Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered. Please unmute yourself if you wish to share your prayer aloud. Remember to return your microphone to mute when you have completed your prayer.*

*The Officiant offers one or more concluding collects*

### **A Collect for Advent**

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*Amen.*

## **For People Facing Uncertainty**

God of the present moment, God who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the frantic heart; bring hope and courage to us all as we wait in uncertainty. Bring hope that you will make us the equal of whatever lies ahead. Bring us courage to endure what cannot be avoided, for your will is health and wholeness; you are God, and we need you. *Amen.*

*The service concludes with the Song of Simeon*

*Antiphon*

Guide us waking, O God, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

O God, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

*Antiphon*

Guide us waking, O God, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

*Officiant* May the divine help remain with us always.

*People* And with those who are absent from us.

*The Officiant concludes*

The almighty and merciful God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, bless us and keep us. *Amen.*

*Liturgy created with the following resources:*

*Book of Common Prayer, Enriching Our Worship, St. Helena Breviary, A New Zealand Prayer Book and The Inclusive Bible*