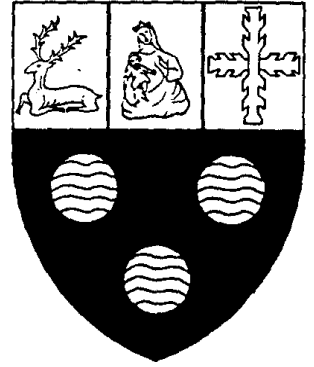


Southwell
Minster

*The Cathedral and Parish Church
of the Blessed Virgin Mary*



REFLECTION AND COMPLINE

during Eastertide

Welcome to this online service from Southwell Minster

The ancient office of Compline derives its name from a Latin word meaning completion (*completorium*). It is above all a service of quietness before rest at the end of the day, but the simplicity of the service also lends itself to reflection and prayerfulness.

Please do join in at home as you are comfortably able: you may wish to stand, sit and kneel as you normally would in church (we have included instructions for posture in this booklet for this reason), and/or to speak along with the congregational elements of the service.

Donations in support of the mission and ministry of the Cathedral are very welcome: for more details, go to <https://www.southwellminster.org/donate/>. Thank you for your support.

Acknowledgements

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ORDER OF SERVICE

GOSPEL READING

REFLECTION

Silence is kept.

PREPARATION

Please stand

OPENING PRAYERS

Minister The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.
All **Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who made heaven and earth.

Silence is kept for reflection on the past 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. Alleluia.

HYMN *may be sung*

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.
Amen.

Latin, trans. John Mason Neale (1818-66)

THE WORD OF GOD

PSALMODY

One or more of the following psalms are used:

Psalm 4

Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness;
you set me at liberty when I was in trouble; have mercy on me and
hear my prayer.

**How long will you nobles dishonour my glory;
how long will you love vain things and seek after falsehood?**

But know that the Lord has shown me his marvellous kindness;
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

**Stand in awe, and sin not;
commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still.**

Offer the sacrifices of righteousness
and put your trust in the Lord.

**There are many that say, 'Who will show us any good?'
Lord, lift up the light of your countenance upon us.**

You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when their corn and wine and oil increase.

**In peace I will lie down and sleep,
for it is you Lord, only, who make me dwell in safety.**

**[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.]**

Psalm 91

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High
and abides under the shadow of the Almighty,
**Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold,
my God, in whom I put my trust.'**

For he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler
and from the deadly pestilence.

**He shall cover you with his wings and you shall be safe under
his feathers;**

his faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler.

You shall not be afraid of any terror by night,
nor of the arrow that flies by day;

**Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness,
nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday.**

Though a thousand fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand,
yet it shall not come near you.

**Your eyes have only to behold
to see the reward of the wicked.**

Because you have made the Lord your refuge
and the Most High your stronghold,

**There shall no evil happen to you,
neither shall any plague come near your tent.**

For he shall give his angels charge over you,
to keep you in all your ways.

**They shall bear you in their hands,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.**

You shall tread upon the lion and adder;
the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

**Because they have set their love upon me, therefore will I deliver them;
I will lift them up, because they know my name.**

They will call upon me and I will answer them;

I am with them in trouble, I will deliver them and bring them to honour.

**With long life will I satisfy them
and show them my salvation.**

**[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.]**

Psalm 104: 21-33

You appointed the moon to mark the seasons,
and the sun knows the time for its setting.

**You make darkness that it may be night,
in which all the beasts of the forest creep forth.**

The lions roar for their prey
and seek their food from God.

**The sun rises and they are gone
to lay themselves down in their dens.**

People go forth to their work
and to their labour until the evening.

O Lord, how manifold are your works!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

There is the sea, spread far and wide,
and there move creatures beyond number, both small and great.

**There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan
which you have made to play in the deep.**

All of these look to you
to give them their food in due season.

**When you give it them, they gather it;
you open your hand and they are filled with good.**

When you hide your face they are troubled;
when you take away their breath, they die and return again to the dust.

**When you send forth your spirit, they are created,
and you renew the face of the earth. R**

May the glory of the Lord endure for ever;
may the Lord rejoice in his works;

**[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.]**

Psalm 134

Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord,
you that by night stand in the house of the Lord.

**Lift up your hands towards the sanctuary
and bless the Lord.**

The Lord who made heaven and earth
give you blessing out of Zion.

**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.**

Please sit

READING

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.

or

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 the faith.

or

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 a lamp or the light of the sun, for God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

RESPONSORY *may be used*

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

Alleluia, alleluia.

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

Alleluia, alleluia.

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit.

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

Alleluia, alleluia.

Keep me as the apple of your eye.
Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Please stand

NUNC DIMITTIS (SONG OF SIMEON)

**Alleluia. The Lord is risen, alleluia,
as he promised to you. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Save us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep may rest in peace.**

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.**

**Save us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep may rest in peace.**

**Alleluia. The Lord is risen, alleluia,
as he promised to you. Alleluia, alleluia.**

PRAYERS

Please sit or kneel

Brief intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.

COLLECT

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.

or

Almighty God,
by triumphing over the powers of darkness
Christ has prepared a place for us in the new Jerusalem:
may we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection,
praise him in the eternal city
of which he is the light;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *may be used*

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom 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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

THE CONCLUSION

Please stand

RESPONSORY

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.

BLESSING

May the risen Lord Jesus bless us.
May he watch over us and renew us
as he renews the whole of creation.
May our hearts and lives echo his love.
Amen.

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