

## WEDNESDAY, 5 JANUARY 2022: COMPLINE

### PREPARATION

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

### OPENING PRAYER

### A SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

Brethren, be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: whom resist, steadfast in the faith.

*1 Peter 5: 8, 9.*

### VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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 Spirit;  
**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.**

### THE WORD OF GOD

### PSALM

#### *Psalm 101*

- 1 I will sing of faithfulness and justice; ♦  
to you, O Lord, will I sing.
- 2 **Let me be wise in the way that is perfect: ♦  
when will you come to me?**
- 3 I will walk with purity of heart ♦  
within the walls of my house.
- 4 **I will not set before my eyes ♦  
a counsel that is evil.**
- 5 I abhor the deeds of unfaithfulness; ♦  
they shall not cling to me.
- 6 **A crooked heart shall depart from me; ♦  
I will not know a wicked person.**
- 7 One who slanders a neighbour in secret ♦  
I will quickly put to silence.
- 8 **Haughty eyes and an arrogant heart ♦  
I will not endure.**
- 9 My eyes are upon the faithful in the land, ♦  
that they may dwell with me.

**10 One who walks in the way that is pure ♦  
shall be my servant.**

11 There shall not dwell in my house ♦  
one that practises deceit.

**12 One who utters falsehood ♦  
shall not continue in my sight.**

13 Morning by morning will I put to silence ♦  
all the wicked in the land,

**14 To cut off from the city of the Lord ♦  
all those who practise evil.**

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 READING

##### *Matthew 25: 31-46*

‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family,\* you did it to me.” Then he will say to those at his left hand, “You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.” Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?” Then he will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.” And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’

#### ADDRESS

#### RESPONSORY

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

POEM

SAINT TERESA'S BOOKMARK

**Let nothing disturb thee,  
nothing affright thee;  
all things are passing;  
God never changeth;  
patient endurance  
attaineth to all things;  
who God possesseth  
in nothing is wanting;  
alone God sufficeth.**

Saint Teresa of Avila (1515-82)  
tr. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-82)

VERSICLE AND RESPONSE

*The following responsory may be said:*  
Keep me as the apple of an eye.  
**Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.**

**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**

THE GOSPEL CANTICLE

NUNC DIMITTIS *The Song of Simeon Luke 2: 29-32*  
1 Now, Lord, you let your servant | go in | peace: ■  
your | word has | been ful|filled.  
2 My own eyes have | seen the · sal|vation ■  
which you have prepared in the | sight of | every | people.  
3 A light to re|veal 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.**

**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

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**Christ, have mercy upon us.**  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who 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 those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil. Amen.**

Blessed art thou, Lord God of our fathers,  
**to be praised and glorified above all for ever;**

Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
**Let us praise him and magnify him for ever.**

Blessed art thou, O Lord, in the firmament of heaven  
**to be praised and glorified above all for ever.**

The Almighty and most merciful Lord guard us and give us his blessing.  
**Amen.**

## CONFESSION

*A prayerful examination of the past day is undertaken after which the following words of penitence are used*

**We confess to God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
That we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, Through our own  
grievous fault. Wherefore we pray God to have mercy upon us.  
Almighty God, have mercy upon us, Forgive us all our sins, Deliver us  
from all evil, Confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, And bring us  
to life everlasting; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The priest, when present, pronounces the absolution.*

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto you pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

Wilt thou not turn again and quicken us  
**that thy people may rejoice in thee?**  
O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us  
**and grant us thy salvation.**  
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin.  
**O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.**  
O Lord, hear our prayer  
**and let our cry come unto thee.**

Let us pray.

## COLLECTS

Be present, O merciful God,  
and protect us through the silent hours of this night,  
so that we, who are wearied  
by the changes and chances of this fleeting world,  
may repose upon thy eternal changelessness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Eternal and everlasting God,  
in the growing quietness of the evening  
and the deepening shadows of the night,  
grant us sleep and rest.  
With the stilling of the day's doings,  
and the end of coming and going about us,  
make us to be sleepy with heavy eyes and tired limbs.  
As thy creatures are lying down in the wood,  
as the bird is quiet in its nest and the wild thing in its hole,  
as the stream is still in its bed reflecting the great expanse of stars above,  
may we in our sleep reflect our confidence in thee,  
and our assurance in thy constant peace.  
In our sleep give us that deeper communion of our souls  
with thou who restorest unto health.  
For thy name's sake. Amen.**

## THE ENDING

## DISMISSAL

We will lay us down in peace and take our rest.  
**For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest us dwell in safety.**

The Lord be with you  
**and with thy spirit.**

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

## BLESSING

**BLESSING**  
The Almighty and merciful Lord,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
bless and preserve us this night and for evermore. Amen.