Compline (night prayer)

Although this service is pre-recorded we hope you will join us at 8.30pm to pray together. You might like to find somewhere quiet and light a candle. Please join in with the words in bold.

The Preparation

The officiant says

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

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

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

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

A short time of silent prayer

We confess to God almighty, 
The Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, 
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 and deliver us from all evil, 
Confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, 
And bring us to life everlasting; 
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

+ 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.**

*The choir sings*

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, word without end. Amen.

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

**The Hymn**

*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 all ill dreams defend our eyes,*
*From nightly fears and fantasies;*
*Tread underfoot our ghostly foe*
*That no pollution we may know.*

*O Father, that we ask be done*
*Through Jesus Christ, thine only Son;*
*Who, with the Holy Ghost and thee,*
*Doth live and reign eternally. Amen*

*Sung by the choir of Liverpool Cathedral*
Psalm 4

1 Answer me when I call, O God of my right!
   You gave me room when I was in distress.
   Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

2 How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame?
   How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?

3 But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself;
   the Lord hears when I call to him.

4 When you are disturbed, do not sin;
   ponder it on your beds, and be silent.

5 Offer right sacrifices,
   and put your trust in the Lord.

6 There are many who say, “O that we might see some good!
   Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!”

7 You have put gladness in my heart
   more than when their grain and wine abound.

8 I will both lie down and sleep in peace;
   for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spi-rit;
as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be for-e-ver.
Amen.
Scripture Reading
Luke 24. 36-43

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Reflection

The Responsory

*Sung by the choir*

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

Keep me as the apple of an eye.
Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.
Gospel Canticle: Nunc Dimittis

Choir
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.

The Prayers

Choir
Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

Let us pray

The Collects
Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name;
Thy kingdom come;
Thy will be done,
In 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.

Choir
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 Ghost:
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

The Conclusion

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

Said
The Lord be with you
And with thy spirit.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God,

The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, bless and preserve us. Amen