Night Prayers

 June 29-July 3

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. *Amen.*

O God of peace, you have taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

O God, make speed to save us.

*O Lord, make haste to help us*.

Let us say together the psalm.

**Psalm 3**

I call aloud upon the Lord,

 and God answers me from the holy hill;

I lie down and go to sleep;

 I wake again, because the Lord sustains me.

**Psalm 4**

You have put gladness in my heart, O Lord,

 more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep;

 for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

**Psalm 63**

O God, you are my God, eagerly I seek you;

 my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,

 as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,

 that I might behold your power and your glory.

For your loving-kindness is better than life itself;

 my lips shall give your praise.

So will I bless you as long as I live

 and lift up my hands in your name.

My soul is content as with marrow and fatness,

 and my mouth praises you with joyful lips;

When I remember you upon my bed,

 and meditate on you in the night watches.

For you have been my helper,

 and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

My soul clings to you;

 your right hand holds me fast.

**Reading**

*(One of the following passages of scripture is read.)*

Lord, you are in the midst of us, and we are called by your Name: Do not forsake us, O Lord our God. *Jeremiah 14:9, 22*

There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. *Galatians 3:28*

God has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? *Micah 6:8*

**Litany of Thanksgiving for Our National Life**

Almighty God, giver of all good things:

We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land.

They restore us, though we often destroy them.

*Heal us, O Lord*.

We thank you for the great resources of this nation. They make us rich, thought we often exploit them.

*Forgive us, O Lord*.

We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong. They are models for us, though we often fall short of them.

*Inspire us, O Lord*.

We give thanks for healers and scientists, who work tirelessly to care for those with COVID 19 and find a vaccine for this disease. We remember especially John Lloyd, Deb Dee, Lauren Gensler, Debbie Leake, Rhonda Leake, and Audra Smith.

*Sustain us, O Lord*.

We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hidden from its light.

*Enlighten us, O Lord*.

We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again.

*Renew us, O Lord*.

Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy name. *Amen.*

Lord, hear our prayer.

*And let our cry come to you.*

Let us pray.

*The officiant says one of the following collects*.

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

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 Lord. *Amen.*

*The following prayers may be added*.

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord 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**.

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live: Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other’s toil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Lord, 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.

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

O Lord, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in your mercy grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last.

***Amen.***

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The almighty and merciful God, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, bless us and keep us, now and always.

*Amen*.