Compline

January 11 - 15

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

This hour we turn to you, O Lord, in full knowledge of our frailty, our vulnerability, and our great need as your mortal creatures. We cry to you, as one human family, unsure of the path ahead, unequal to the unseen forces around us, frightened by the sickness and death that seem all too real to us now. Stir up your strength and visit us, O Lord; be our shield and rock and hiding place! Guide our leaders, our scientists, our nurses and doctors. Give them wisdom and fill their hearts with courage and determination. Make even this hour, O Lord, a season of blessing for us, that in fear we might find you mighty to save, and in illness or death, find the cross to be none other than the way of life. All this we ask in the name of the One who bore all our infirmities, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

*O Lord, make haste to help us*.

Let us say together the psalm.

**Psalm 100**

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;

serve the Lord with gladness

and come before God's presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God;

he himself has made us, and we are his;

we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;

go into his courts with praise;

give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good;

his mercy is everlasting;

and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

**Psalm 121**

I lift up my eyes to the hills;

from where is my help to come?

My help comes from the Lord,

the maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved

and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

Behold, he who watches over Israel

shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord himself watches over you;

the Lord is your shade at your right hand,

So that the sun shall not strike you by day,

nor the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil;

it is he who shall keep you safe.

The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in.

from this time forth for evermore.

**Psalm 131**

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;

let me never be put to shame:

deliver me in your righteousness.

Incline your ear to me;

make haste to deliver me.

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,

for you are my crag and my stronghold;

for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me.

for you are my tower of strength,

Into your hands I commend my spirit,

for you have redeemed me,

O Lord, O God of truth.

**Readings**

**Monday**

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*

**Tuesday**

Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who abuse you. Do good and lend, expecting nothing in return. Be merciful as your God is merciful. Judge not and you will not be judged. Condemn not and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you; for the measure you give will be the measure you receive. *Luke 6:27-38*

**Wednesday**

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*

**Thursday**

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*

**Friday**

It is the God who said, Let light shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our body. *2 Corinthians 4:6-10*

**Prayers for Sound Government**

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth.  
***Lord, keep this nation under your care*.**

To the President and Vice President, the President and Vice President Elect, and members of the Cabinet, to Governors of states, Mayors of cities, and to all in administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.  
***Give grace to your servants, O Lord*.**

To Senators and Representatives, and those who make our laws in states, cities, and towns, give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.  
***Give grace to your servants, O Lord.***

To the Judges and officers of our courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.  
***Give grace to your servants, O Lord.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.   
***Give grace to your servants, O Lord*.**

And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name.  
***For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. 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, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time all nations, races, and creeds may serve you in harmony. **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.

Glory be to God, sustaining, redeeming, sanctifying,

As in the beginning, so now, and for ever.

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, it is night.

The night is for stillness.

Let us be still in the presence of God.

It is night after a long day.

What has been done has been done;

what has not been done has not been done;

let it be.

The night is dark.

Let our fears of the darkness of the world and of our own lives

rest in you.

The night is quiet.

Let the quietness of your peace enfold us,

all dear to us,

and all who have no peace.

The night heralds the dawn.

let us look expectantly to a new day,

new joys,

new possibilities.

In your name we pray.

Amen.

**Sentence of the Day**

**Monday**

God bless us and keep us,

God’s face shine on us and be gracious to us,

and give us light and peace.

**Tuesday**

To God the Creator,

who loved us first and gave this world to be our home,

to God the Redeemer,

who loves us and by dying and rising

pioneered the way of freedom,

to God the Sanctifier,

who spreads divine love in our hearts,

be praise and glory for time and for eternity.

**Wednesday**

O God,

strengthen your servants with your heavenly grace,

that we may continue yours for ever

and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more,

until we come to your everlasting kingdom.

**Thursday**

Christ be within us to keep us,

beside us to guard,

before us to lead,

behind us to protect,

beneath us to support,

above us to bless.

**Friday**

The blessing of God, the eternal goodwill of God, the shalom of God, the wilderness and the warmth of God, be among us and between us, now and always.

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**