A Lenten Compline

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*God's mercy endures for ever*.

**The Decalogue**

Hear the commandments of God to God's people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.

You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord. your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Let us confess our sins to God.

Almighty God, we have sinned against you, through our own fault, in thought, and word, and deed, and in what we have left undone. For the sake of your son Jesus Christ our Lord, forgive us all our offenses; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Psalm 95**

Come, let us sing to the Lord;

 let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving

 and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God.

 and a great King above all gods.

In his hands are the caverns of the earth,

 and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it,

 and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down and bend the knee,

 and kneel before the Lord our maker.

For he is our God,

 and we are the people of his pasture

 and the sheep of his hand.

O that today you would hearken to his voice!

**Psalm 103**

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,

 slow to anger and of great kindness.

The Lord will not always accuse us,

 nor nourish anger for ever.

The Lord has not dealt with us according to our sins,

 nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,

 so is the Lord's mercy great toward those who are faithful.

As far as the east is from the west,

 so far the Lord removes our sins from us.

As parents care for their children,

 so does the Lord care for the faithful.

For the Lord knows whereof we are made.

 and remembers that we are but dust.

**Psalm 130**

Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord,

 Lord, hear my voice;

 let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss.

 O Lord, who could stand?

For there is forgiveness with you;

 therefore you shall be feared.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits for him;

 in his word is my hope.

My soul waits for the Lord,

 more than watchmen for the morning,

 more than watchmen for the morning.

O Israel, wait for the Lord,

 for with the Lord there is mercy.

With him there is plenteous redemption,

 and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

**Readings**

**Monday**

Yours is the day, O God, yours also the night; you established the moon and the sun. You fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter. *Psalm 74:15-16*

**Tuesday**

Seek him who made the Pleiades and Orion, and turns deep darkness into morning, and darkens the day into night; who call for the water of the sea and pours them upon the surface of the earth: The Lord is his name. *Amos 5:8*

**Wednesday**

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike. *Psalm 139:10-11*

**Thursday**

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." *John 8:12*

**Friday**

Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith. *1 Peter 5:8-9a*

**Prayers**

Show us your mercy, O Lord.

*And grant us your salvation.*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

*Let your people sing with joy*.

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*For only in you can we live in safety*.

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

*And guide us in the way of justice and truth*.

Let your way be known upon the earth.

*Your saving help among all nations.*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

*Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

*And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.*

Lord, have mercy.

*Christ, have mercy*.

Lord, have mercy.

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.*

Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessings be upon us always. *Amen*.

I invite your prayers and intercessions.

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

O gracious Light,

pure brightness of the ever living Father in heaven,

O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,

and our eyes behold the vesper light,

we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,

O Son of God, O Giver of life,

and to be glorified through all the worlds.

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

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our forebears, creator of the changes of day and night, giving rest to the weary, renewing the strength of those who are spent, bestowing upon us occasions of song in the evening. As you have protected us in the day that is past, so be with us in the coming night; keep us from every sin, every evil, and every fear; for you are our light and salvation, and the strength of our life. To you be glory for endless ages. *Amen*.

Let us bless the Lord.

*Thanks be to God*.

*The Officiant may conclude with one of the following*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Glory to God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more that we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen.*