

# Compline : Night Prayer Plainsong for Eastertide

Material in this service is taken from the Plainsong and Mediaeval Music Society, Faith Press Ltd

## The Gathering ...

### Welcome and introduction

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!  
**He is Risen indeed! Alleluia**

## Preparation

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.

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

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

**Amen.**

Our help is in the Name of the Lord  
**who made heaven and earth.**

## Hymn

This joyful Eastertide,  
away with sin and sorrow,  
my Love, the Crucified,  
hath sprung to life this morrow.

*Had Christ that once was slain,  
ne'er burst his three-day prison,  
our faith had been in vain:  
but now hath Christ arisen, arisen,  
arisen, arisen!*

My flesh in hope shall rest,  
and for a season slumber:  
'til trump from east to west  
shall wake the dead in number

*Had Christ that once was slain,  
ne'er burst his three-day prison,  
our faith had been in vain:  
but now hath Christ arisen, arisen,  
arisen, arisen!*

Death's flood hath lost its chill,  
since Jesus crossed the river:  
lover of souls, from ill  
my passing soul deliver.

*Had Christ that once was slain...*

Text: George Ratcliffe Woodward  
Music: 17<sup>th</sup> Century Dutch  
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## Psalmody

### Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Hear me when I call, O God  
of my *right-eousness*:  
thou hast set me at liberty  
when I was in trouble;  
have mercy upon me,  
and hearken un-to my prayer.  
O ye sons of men,  
how long will ye blaspheme mine *ho-nour*:  
and have such pleasure in vanity  
and seek af-ter leasing?

Know this also,  
that the Lord hath chosen to himself  
the one that is *god-ly*:  
when I call upon the Lord, he *will* hear me.

Stand in awe, and *sin*, not:  
commune with your own heart,  
and in your cham-ber, and be still.

Offer the sacrifice of *right-eousness*:  
and put your *trust* in the Lord.

There be many that say:  
who will shew us any good?

Lord, lift thou *up*:  
the light of thy countenance *up-on* us.

Thou hast put gladness in my heart:  
since the time that their corn and wine  
and oil *in*-creased.

I will lay me down in peace and take my rest:  
for it is thou, Lord only,  
that makest me dwell *in* safety.

*Psalm 4*

**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.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

### **Scripture reading**

You shall put these words of mine in your heart  
and soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on  
your hand, and fix them as an emblem on your  
forehead. Teach them to your children, talking  
about them when you are at home and when you  
are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

*Deuteronomy 11: 18 – 19*

*From the Anglican evening prayer lectionary for today*

### **Responsory**

Into thy hands, O Lord,  
I commend my spirit.  
**Into your 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 Spirit;  
**Into thy hands, O Lord,  
I commend my Spirit**

### **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 under foot 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.

Keep me as the apple of an eye.  
**Hide me under the shadow  
of thy wings**

### **Nunc Dimittis (Gospel Canticle)**

**Alleluia.  
He is not here: for he is risen, as he said.  
Alleluia!**

**Lord, now lettest thou thy servant  
depart in peace:  
according to thy word.**

**For mine eyes have seen:  
thy sal-vation**

**Which thou hast pre-par-ed:  
before the face of all people.**

**To be a light to lighten the Gen-tiles:  
and to be the glory of thy peo-ple Israel.**

**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**

**Alleluia.  
He is not here: for he is risen, as he said.  
Alleluia!**

### **Words of prayer, repentance and forgiveness....**

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

## The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father,  
which 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 them  
that 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.**

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 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.

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.**

## **Collect for Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Let us pray

Almighty God, whose son Jesus Christ is the  
resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust  
in him, from the death of sin to the life of  
righteousness, that we may seek those things  
which are above, where he liveth and reigneth  
with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one  
God, world without end

**Amen**

## **Blessing and departure**

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.**

May the souls of the faithful,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.  
**Amen**

**May the Lord bless us, protect us from  
all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.**

**Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Goodnight ....