

WEDNESDAY, 16 DECEMBER 2020: COMPLINE

PREPARATION

OPENING PRAYER

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

A SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

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.

VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

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

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 Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.
The Lord's Name be praised.

THE WORD OF GOD

PSALM

Psalm 42

- 1 As the deer | longs for the | water brooks, □
so longs my | soul for | you, O | God.
- 2 My soul is athirst for God, even for the | living | God; □
when shall I come be | fore the | presence of | God?
3. My tears have been my bread | day and | night, □
while all day long they say to me, | 'Where is | now your | God?'
- 4 Now when I think on these things, I pour | out my | soul: □
how I went with the multitude
and led the procession | to the | house of | God,
5† With the voice of | praise and | thanksgiving, □
among | those who | kept | holy day.
- 6 Why are you so full of heaviness, | O my | soul, □
and why are you | so dis|quieted with|in me?**
- 7. O put your | trust in | God; □
for I will yet give him thanks,
who is the help of my | countenance, | and my | God.**

8 My soul is | heavy with | in me; □
 therefore I will remember you from the land of Jordan,
 and from Hermon | and the | hill of | Mizar.

9 Deep calls to deep in the | thunder •of your | waterfalls; □
 all your breakers and | waves | have gone | over me.

10 The Lord will grant his loving-kindness | in the | daytime; □
 through the night his song will be with me,
 a | prayer •to the | God of my | life.

11 I say to God my rock,
 ‘Why have | you for | gotten me, □
 and why go I so heavily, | while the | enemy op | presses me?’

12 † As they crush my bones, my | enemies | mock me; □
 while all day long they say to me, | ‘Where is | now your | God?’

**13 Why are you so full of heaviness, | O my | soul, □
 and why are you | so dis | quieted with | in me?**

**14 O put your | trust in | God; □
 for I will yet give him thanks,
 who is the help of my | countenance, | and my | God.**

Psalm-Prayer

Come, creator Spirit, source of life;
 sustain us when our hearts are heavy
 and our wells have run dry,
 for you are the Father’s gift,
 with him who is our living water,
 Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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.**

A READING

Mark 9: 9-13

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead could mean. Then they asked him, ‘Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?’ He said to them, ‘Elijah is indeed coming first to restore all things. How then is it written about the Son of Man, that he is to go through many sufferings and be treated with contempt? But I tell you that Elijah has come, and they did to him whatever they pleased, as it is written about him.’

ADDRESS

RESPONSORY

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

POEM

ADVENT ANTIPHONS

From Mary's sweet silence,
Come, Word mutely spoken!

Pledge of our real life,
Come, Bread yet unbroken!

Seed of the Golden Wheat,
In us be sown.

Fullness of true Light,
Through us be known.

Secret held tenderly,
Guarded with Love,

Cradled in purity,
Child of the Dove,

Come!

VERSICLE AND RESPONSE

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

**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 GOSPEL CANTICLE

NUNC DIMITTIS *The Song of Simeon Luke 2: 29-32*

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

1 Now, Lord, you let your servant | go in | peace: ■
your | word has | been ful|filled.

2 My own eyes have | seen the · sal|vation ■
which you have prepared in the | sight of | every | people.

3 A light to re|veal you · to the | nations ■
and the | glory · of your | people | Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son ■
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, ■
and shall be for ever. 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.

PRAYER

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who 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 those who 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.

CONFESSION

A prayerful examination of the past day is undertaken after which the following words of penitence are used

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, 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.**

VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

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.

Let us pray.

COLLECTS

Stir up thy power, O God,
and come among us.
Heal our wounds,
calm our fears
and give us peace;
through Jesus our Redeemer. **Amen.**

Father in heaven,
our hearts desire the warmth of thy love
and our minds are searching for the light of thy Word.
Increase our longing for Christ our Saviour
and give us the strength to grow in love,
that the dawn of his coming
may find us rejoicing in his presence
and welcoming the light of his truth.
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. **Amen.**

THE ENDING

DISMISSAL

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.

BLESSING

Restore us again, O God of hosts:
show us the light of your countenance
and we shall be saved.
Bless and keep us, this night and always. Amen.