

**An Evening Service  
for  
Lent**



**Preparation**

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.**

*A moment of quiet as we look back on the past day*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess to you,  
before the whole company of heaven and one another,  
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed  
and in what we have failed to do.  
Forgive us our sins,  
heal us by your Spirit  
and raise us to new life in Christ.  
Amen.**

May the almighty and merciful Lord  
grant unto us pardon and remission of all our sins,  
time for amendment of life,  
and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## Ministry of the Word

### *Verses from Psalm 91*

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High  
**will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.**

I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress,  
**my God, in whom I trust.'**

He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge;  
**his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.**

You will not fear the terror of night,  
**nor the arrow that flies by day.**

If you say, 'The Lord is my refuge',  
**and you make the Most High your dwelling,**

no harm will overtake you,  
**no disaster will come near your tent.**

For he will command his angels concerning you  
**to guard you in all your ways;**

'Because he loves me,' says the Lord, 'I will rescue him;  
**I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.**

He will call on me, and I will answer him;  
**I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honour him.**

With long life I will satisfy him  
**and show him my salvation.'**

### **Reading**

*The Gospel according to John, Chapter 17, verses 1-23*

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.'

'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

'I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Amen**

### ***Reflection***

*After the Reflection and a period of silence:*

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

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

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

**I commend my spirit.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

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

Keep me as the apple of your eye.

**Hide me under the shadow of your wings.**

## Prayers

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

Let us pray:

Lighten our darkness, we beseech you, O Lord;  
and by your great mercy defend us  
from all perils and dangers of this night;  
for the love of your only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne,  
illuminate the darkness of this night with your celestial brightness,  
and from the sons of light banish the deeds of darkness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

Be present, O merciful God,  
and protect us through the silent hours of this night,  
so that we who are wearied  
by the changes and chances of this fleeting world,  
may repose upon your eternal changelessness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

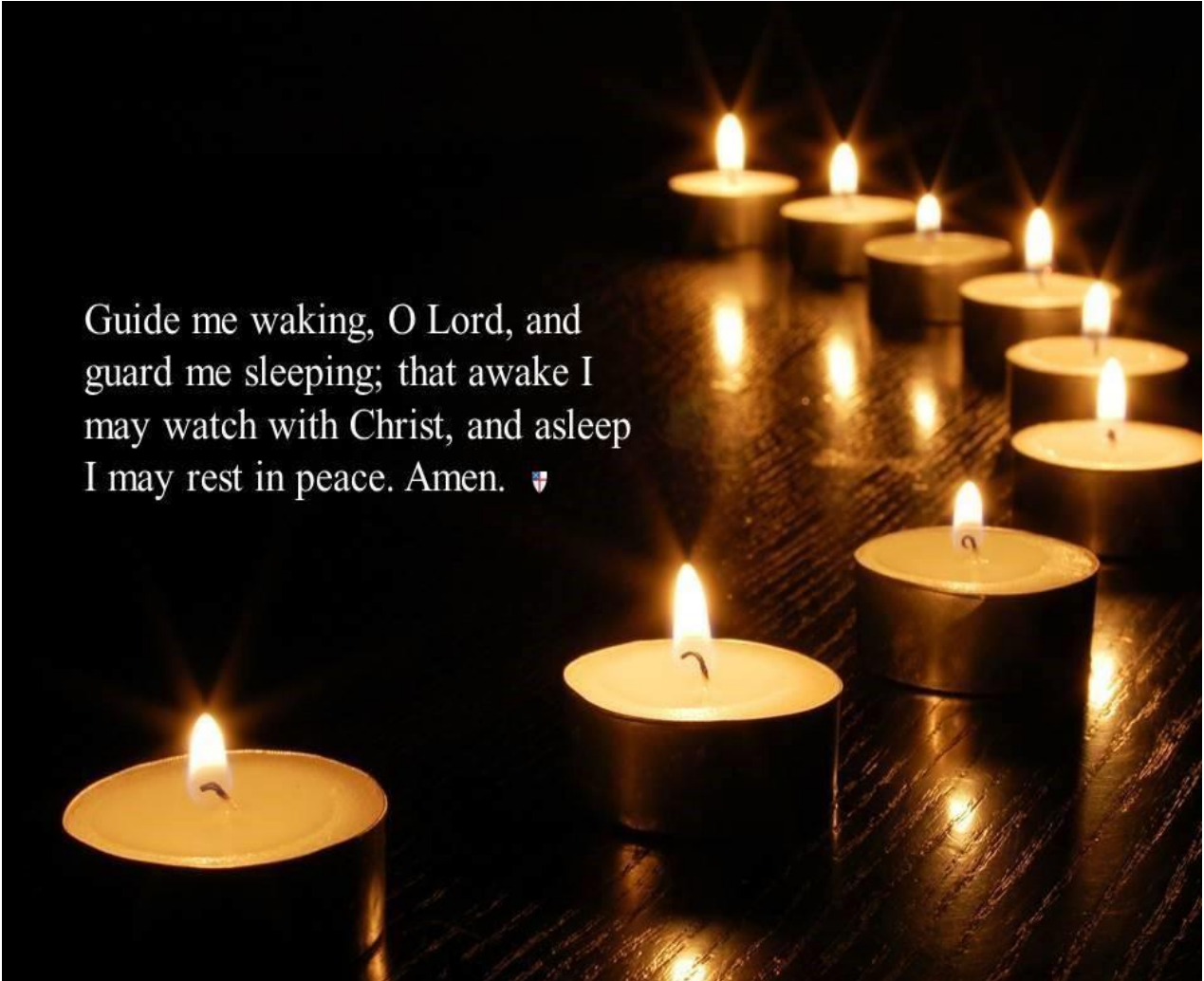
## The Conclusion

In peace we will lie down and sleep;  
**for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety**

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,  
**for the night is at hand and the day is now past.**

As the night watch looks for the morning,  
**so do we look for you, O Christ.**

The Lord bless us and watch over us;  
the Lord make his face shine upon us  
and be gracious to us;  
the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace.  
**Amen.**



Guide me waking, O Lord, and  
guard me sleeping; that awake I  
may watch with Christ, and asleep  
I may rest in peace. Amen. 🕯