

## **An Evening Service**

**for**

## **The Season of 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 you pardon  
and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life,  
and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

### *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.

## **Ministry of the Word**

### **Psalm 4**

Answer me when I call to you, my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress;  
**have mercy on me and hear my prayer.**

How long will you people turn my glory into shame?  
**How long will you love delusions and seek false gods?**

Know that the LORD has set apart his faithful servant for himself;  
**the LORD hears when I call to him.**

Tremble and do not sin;  
**when you are on your beds, search your hearts and be silent.**

Offer the sacrifices of the righteous  
**and trust in the LORD.**

Many, LORD, are asking, "Who will bring us prosperity?"  
**Let the light of your face shine on us.**

Fill my heart with joy  
**when their grain and new wine abound.**

In peace I will lie down and sleep,  
**for you alone, LORD, make me dwell in safety.**

*or 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.”**

### **Reflection Story**

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.**

### **Gospel Canticle**

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

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace:  
according to thy word.  
For mine eyes have seen:  
thy salvation:  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles:  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

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

## Prayers

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Our Father,  
which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done,  
in 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**

Let us pray

*Some of these prayers may be said*

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray,  
and drive far from it the snares of the enemy;  
may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace,  
and may your blessing be always upon us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

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

Look down, O Lord, from thy heavenly throne,  
illuminate the darkness of this night with thy 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 thy eternal changelessness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

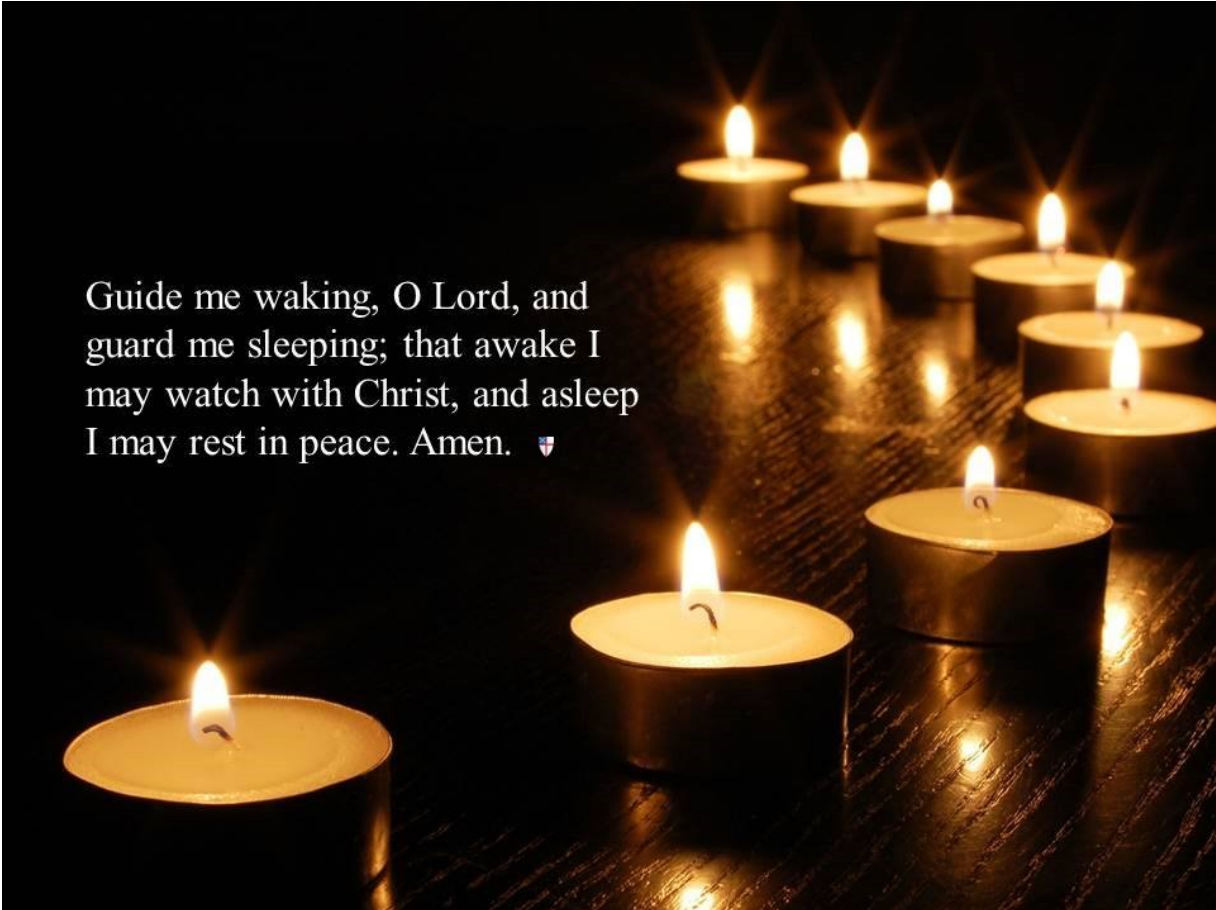
## The Conclusion

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. 🕯