

Wednesday, February 24, 2021– Christ’s Church Cathedral
A SERVICE OF COMPLINE
LENT EMBER DAY



Officiant: *The Dean*

Cantors: *Richard Cunningham and Michael Bloss*

This ancient prayer hour is prayed at the conclusion of every day and ought to be embraced as a powerful tool and beautiful liturgy. The service itself is not new; it is in fact quite ancient. Dating back to the fourth century, and referenced by St. Benedict, St. Basil, and St. John Chrysostom, Compline has been prayed for century after century and forms part of the whole Daily Office (cf. Liturgy of the Hours). Compline was the last service of the day, to be said by the monks in their dormitories before bed. It was a simple service without flourishes or flashes. These monastic roots are key to understanding the significance of this time of prayer.

Compline was a service to close the day, an opportunity to give thanks for the joys and graces experienced, a chance to confess the (many) sins committed throughout the day, and the perfect moment to close the day the same way it started: in doxological prayer. Whatever service you use to begin your day—Compline is designed to end it well. Compline teaches us that God and his Kingdom are first and foremost the reality of our lives and we learn how to view the world through that lens rather than the other way around. Compline, teaches us how to pray and for what we should pray. We learn the language of liturgical prayer as used since the early church; we discover that our prayers are a) directed to the triune God and b) focus on our surroundings as much (if not more) than they do on us; we are daily transformed through the confession of sin and the assurance that God loves us and lovingly calls us to a higher form of living.

Adapted from “What is Compline”, Porter Taylor, Anglican compass. August 3, 2017

PSALMODY

Psalm 49: 1-8
Audite haec, omnes



Hear this all peoples; listen, all you dwell in **the** world,*
you of high degree and low, **rich** and poor together.

My lips shall speak words of **wis**-dom,*
and my heart shall medi-**tate** on your ways.

I will pay attention to **a** proverb*
and solve the riddle **as** I play the harp.

Why should I be afraid in times of **dan**-ger,*
when **e**-nemies surround me,

Enemies who put their trust in their poss-**ess**-ions,*
and **boast** of their great wealth?

We can never **ran**-som ourselves,*
or pay to God the **praise** of our life;

For the ransom of our life is so **cost**-ly,*
that we would never have e-**nough** to pay it.

In order that we might live for **ev**-er,*
and never die.

Glory be to the Father and **to** the Son,*
and to the **Ho**-ly Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever **shall** be;*
world without **end**. A-men.

READING

Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things?

No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

John 3: 11-15

RESPONSORY *(small notes denote cantor, large denote all)*



In - to your hands, O Lord, I - com - mend my Spi - rit.



In - to your hands, O Lord, I - com - mend my Spi - rit.



Thou hast re - deem - ed me, O Lord, thou God of truth



I - com - mend my Spi - rit.



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spi - rit.



In - to your hands, O Lord, I - com - mend my Spi - rit.

MEDITATIVE PRAYER

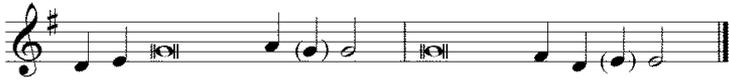
We will lay us down in peace and take our rest.
For it is you, Lord, only that makes us dwell in safety.

Abide with us, O Lord,
for it is toward evening and the day is far spent.

As watchmen look for the morning,
so do we look for you, O Christ.

Come with the dawning of the day
and make yourself known in the breaking of the bread.

CANTICLE OF SIMEON



LORD, NOW you let your servant go **in** peace;*
your word has **been** fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation *
which you have prepared in the sight of **ev'ry** people;

A light to reveal 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 will be forever. **A-men.**

THE LITANY

Refrain (*All sing the Refrain*).



Christ the splendour of God's glory, enlightens us with his word.
With deep love we call upon him

REFRAIN

Blessed are you, the alpha and the omega of our faith,
for you called us out of darkness into your marvellous light.

REFRAIN

You enabled the blind to see, and the deaf to hear,
help our unbelief.

REFRAIN

Lord, keep us in your love, preserve our community,
do not let us become separated from one another.

REFRAIN

Give us strength in temptation, endurance in trial,
and gratitude in prosperity.

REFRAIN

THE COLLECTS

Almighty God,
by your grace alone
we are accepted and called to your service.
Strengthen us by your Holy Spirit
and make us worthy of our calling;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Visit, we beseech thee, O Lord, this place,
and drive from it all the snares of the enemy;
let thy holy angels dwell herein to preserve us in peace;
and may thy blessing be upon us evermore;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

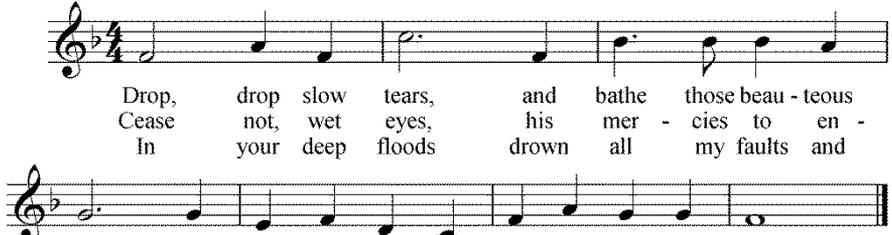
Confident in hope, let us gather our prayers and praises into one,
and pray as our Saviour taught us,

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. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN – Drop, Drop slow Tears

TEXT: Phineas Fletcher (1582-1650)

MUSIC: Melody from Song 46 of Orlando Gibbons. SONG 46



Drop, drop slow tears, and bathe those beau - teous
Cease not, wet eyes, his mer - cies to en -
In your deep floods drown all my faults and

feet, which brought from heav'n the news and Prince of Peace.
treat; to cry for ven-geance sin doth ne - ver cease.
fears; nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears.

AT THE CONCLUSION

The Lord be with you:
and with your spirit.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

“O Mensch beweine” BWV 622

J.S. Bach

NEXT WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

A HYMN FESTIVAL – O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING
A Celebration of the Hymnody of John and Charles Wesley

Dan Tatarnic, Officiant, *Anne Kae*, *Mark Russom*, Cantors.

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