



**COMPLINE  
SERVICE**



## COMPLINE

*The preferred time for this office is at Sunset or just before retiring.*

Cel. ✠ In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

All. Amen.

*Sprinkle oneself with Holy Water in the sign of the cross whilst intoning;*

Cel. ✠ Purify me O Lord that I may be worthy to enter into Thy Presence.

All. Amen.

*Starting in the East, asperge the four quarters, moving in the pathway of the Sun.*

Cel. ✠ Fly thou profane in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

All. Amen.

*Asperge the congregation whilst intoning*

Cel. ✠ Remember the promises made in Baptism and in Christ's merciful blood shedding, by which most holy sprinkling of your sins you have free pardon.

All. Amen.

*All, Facing East* O Thou Divine Majesty,/ we would enter the Inner Temple of the soul,/ and come before you that we may be cleansed/. For we know that we have strayed from the way of Truth,/ both in our thoughts and words/, and in our deeds/. O Lord/ we ask for your forgiveness and Blessing/, that we may better serve you each day/, in newness of life/, and to the glory of Your Holy Name/. Amen.

*Further prayers may be offered at this point. (CHRISTOS LITANY)  
Incense may now be offered,*

Cel. ✠ May this incense be blessed in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

All. Amen.

*Then to the four quarters*

Cel. Almighty God / I offer Thee this sweet smelling incense / as an odour of sanctity / and a symbol of my prayers

All. Amen.

*Turning to the congregation*

Cel. May the Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end ✠

All. For You O Lord are my lamp; who shall lighten our darkness ξ

Cel. Let us pray

PSALM (Ps. 51) *Facing West*

Ch. Cor mundum crea in me Deus ✠

Res. Et spiritum rectum innova, in visceribus meis ✠

Ch. Ne proicias me a facie tua ✠

Res. Et spiritum sanctum tuum, ne auferas a me ✠

Ch. Redde mihi laetitiam, salutaris ✠

Res. Tui et spiritu principali, confirma me ✠

Ch. Docebo iniquos vias tuas ✠

Res. Et impii ad te, convertentur ✠

Ch. Libera me de sanguineibus Deus ✠

Res. Deus salutis meae exultabit / lingua mea justitiam tuam ✠

### **Sanctuary of the Heart** *Facing East*

Almighty and Everlasting God / Lord of all Life /  
Essence of our being;/ we would this hour enter into the  
stillness of the Sanctuary of the Heart. / O Lord / let  
those things that vex the soul flee from our thoughts,/  
as the early morning mist scatters before the coming of  
the rising Sun,/ for we would be free from this hall of  
mirrors,/ this corruptible body,/this prison of the senses,/  
that we may rise unto you as a hawk of gold / ascending  
into the morning sky / greeting the new dawn./ O  
Glorious Majesty, / let your light be our light, / that we  
may again be at one with you in consciousness / as it  
was before the beginning./ We would that our thoughts  
be your thoughts,/ that our words be your words,/ that  
our actions be your actions./ O Beautiful One/ we  
would enter into your life,/ that our life and your life/  
may combine in that sacred alchemy / wherein the pain  
and suffering of this mortal world / is consumed by the  
immortal fire of divine love./ O Gentle Light,/ source  
and destiny of all life,/ this day we would walk unto your  
glory./ Open the doors of that sacred and hidden temple,  
/ that we may enter therein,/ purified and made whole/  
by Thou our Lord and God./ Amen

### *Facing West*

**Cel.** Brethren, let us be still and turn our attention  
away from the affairs of this world. Let us purify  
our intention that our thoughts, words and deeds  
may be acceptable before the throne of the Holy  
and Divine Logos, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Let all gathered establish the Egg of Light and practice the fourfold breath.*

**Cel.** O Lord, may our hearts and our minds be purified, and our lips opened, that we may rightly praise Thee.

**Cel.** Let us pray *Turns to East*

**PSALM (Ps. 148)**

1, Laudate Dominum de caelis ✕

Laudate eum in excelsis ✕

Laudate eum omnes angeli eius ✕

laudate eum omnes virtutes eius ξ

3, Laudate eum sol et luna ✕

laudate eum omnes stellae et lumen ✕

Laudate eum caeli caelorum ✕

Et aqua quae super caelum est ξ

5, Laudent nomen Domini ✕

quia ipse dixit et facta sunt/ipse mandavit et creata sunt ✕

Statuit ea in saeculum ✕

Et in saeculum saeculi praeceptum/posuit et non prae terabit ξ

7, Laudate Dominum de terra ✕

Dracones et omnes abyssi ✕

Ignis grando nix glacies spiritus ✕

Procellarum quae faciunt verbum, eius ξ

9, Montes et omnes colles ✕

ligna fructifera et omnes cedri ✕

Bestiae et universa pecora ✕  
Serpentes et volucres pinnatae ξ  
11, Reges terrae et omnes populi ✕  
Principes et omnes iudices terrae ✕  
Iuvenes et virgines senes cum ✕  
Iunioribus laudent nomen Domini ξ  
13, Quia exaltatum est nomen ✕  
Eius solius Confessio eius / super caelum et terram ✕  
et exaltabit cornu populi ✕  
Sui hymnus omnibus sanctis / eius ξ ξ

*Optional prayers/readings may be used at this point  
Followed by a short homily (optional) and or a period of silence*

**Cel.** Let us pray *Facing East*

### **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./  
✕For Thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory/  
For ever and ever. Amen

*Cel: Facing West*

*Subdeacon Stands and Reads the following:*

**Psalm 19**

The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, And night unto night reveals knowledge. There is no speech nor language Where their voice is not heard. Their line has gone out through all the earth, And their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun, which is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoices like a strong man to run its race. Its rising is from one end of heaven, and its circuit to the other end; and there is nothing hidden from its heat. The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward. Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; Let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and I shall be innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer. Amen



*Deacon stands and reads the following: let all now fix their attention upon those suffering in the world*

### **Prayer of Commemoration**

O Lord we have entered into your Holy Temple and have been purified in your Holy Light. We have sought the union which is in you and have experienced the peace mankind can neither give nor take away, yea O Lord that peace which surpasseth all understanding. Now O Lord we pray for all who suffer the pains and afflictions of sickness and disease, that they may find comfort and relief from their pain, (especially) and for those who suffer the torments of loneliness or mental illness, that your peace may enter and quieten their souls, (especially..) We pray for all who suffer the pain of sorrow and grief, that understanding may enter their hearts and bring them comfort, (especially) and for those who are departing this ephemeral world, that your Holy Angels may assist and support them in their crossing (especially). Be mindful O Lord, of the departed souls of our families and friends, from our hearts we send them love and in your name do we bless them (especially) that they may rest in Your Peace and awake to a joyful resurrection. O Lord we pray that your Divine Light may combine with our light and in your Holy Name radiate forth as a blessing and a salve to all that suffer in this world. *Cel: Turns to EAST*

*visualise a golden light radiating  
from the centre of one's being in every direction.*

### **Closing Prayer**

*As appointed (All Stand)*

**Prayer *Facing West***

**Cel.** Blessed are those who seek first the Kingdom of God

**Res.** For therein is our salvation

**Cel.** Let us remember to love the Lord God/ with all of our hearts/ with all of our soul/ with all of our minds and strength/ and to love our neighbours as ourselves.

**Res.** For love is of God/and every one who loves is born of God.

**Cel.** Blessed are those who keep the commandments of the Lord.

**Res.** That love may be perfected within us.

**All.** Amen

**Nunc Dimittis *Facing East***

Now Thou dost dismiss Thy servant O Lord

According to Thy word in peace

Because my eyes have seen Thy salvation

Which Thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples:

A light to the revelation of the gentiles

And the glory of Thy people Israel

**Concluding Prayer *Facing East***

**Cel:** We thank You O Lord for allowing us to enter once more your Holy Temple and as far as our understanding allows to partake in your Holy Mysteries, and we pray that as we once more take up the body of flesh and go into the world that you would set about this place, and all who are gathered/dwell herein, your Holy Angels to preserve and protect them from all taint of evil and corruption. Amen.

**Cel:** Now do we remit the Light unto the Inner  
Temple, that temple not built by mortal hands  
but that temple of Everlasting Life. Amen.

*(Let all visualise a door or curtain closing upon an inner sanctuary and  
seal it with the sign of the cross)*

*A recessional hymn may now be sung*

**Cel;** Let us pray *Facing West*

**Te Lucis ante terminum**

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

**Benediction**

**Cel.** The blessing of God almighty, the ✠ Father, the Son  
and the Holy Ghost be among you, and remain  
with you evermore.

