

St Leonard's
C of E Church
Langho & Billington



Mothers' Union
An order
for Compline
A late evening
service

¶ 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 period of silence for reflection on the past day may follow.

The following or other suitable words of penitence may be used.

**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.

○ God, make speed to save us.

○ Lord make haste to help us.

**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.

The following hymn may be said or sung.

Before the ending of the day,
Creator of the world, we pray
that you, with steadfast love would keep
your watch around us while we sleep.

From evil dreams defend our sight,
from fears and terrors of the night;
tread underfoot our deadly foe
that we no sinful thought may know.

O Father, that we ask be done
through Jesus Christ, your only Son;
and Holy Spirit, by whose breath
our souls are raised to life from death.

¶ **The Word of God**

One or more of the following psalms is said

Psalm 4

- 1 Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness;
you have set me at liberty when I was in trouble;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.
- 2 How long will you nobles dishonour my glory;
how long will you love vain things and seek after falsehood?.
- 3 But I know that the Lord has shown me his marvellous kindness;
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.
- 4 Stand in awe, and sin not;
commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still.
- 5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness
and put your trust in the Lord.
- 6 There are many that say, 'Who will show us any good?'
Lord, lift up the light of your countenance upon us.
- 7 You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when their corn and wine and oil increase.
- 8 In peace I will lie down and sleep,
for it is you Lord, only, who make me dwell in safety.

Psalm 134

- 1 Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord,
you that by night stand in the house of the Lord.
- 2 Lift up your hands towards the sanctuary
and bless the Lord.
- 3 The Lord who made heaven and earth
give you blessing out of Zion.

At the end of the psalmody, the following is said

**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.**

Scripture Reading

One of the following short lessons is read

You, O Lord, are in the midst of us and we are called by your name;
leave us not, O Lord our God.

Jeremiah 14:9

or

Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil is prowling round
like a roaring lion, seeking for someone to devour. Resist him, strong in
the faith.

1 Peter 5:8,9

or

The servants of the Lamb shall see the face of God, whose name will be
on their foreheads. There will be no more night: they will not need the
light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for God will be their light, and they
will reign for ever and ever.

Revelation 22:4,5

The following responsory may be said

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.

The Nunc Dimittis is said

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

- 1 Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled.
- 2 My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;
- 3 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 shall be for ever.**

Amen.

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

Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.

Silence may be kept.

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

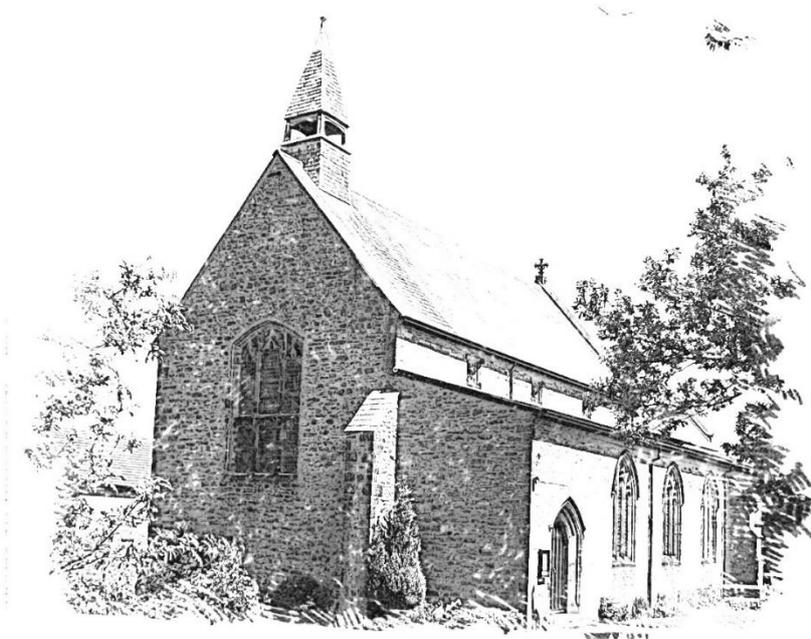
¶ The Conclusion

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.

May God bless us,
that in us may be found love and humility,
obedience and thanksgiving,
discipline, gentleness and peace.



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