

I

Hertford College

Oxford



**Compline@home
(Night Prayer)**

Welcome to our service of Compline@home

This ancient form of night prayer marks an end to the work of the day with space, serenity, and the added benefit of mood enhancing candlelight. It marks our hand over of the Church's daily work of prayer to those around the world who will pray as we sleep, and as such, allows us to put down our unfinished tasks, the worries of the day, and our thoughts about what has been, and to sleep in peace.

Our Compline service is sung in plainchant. Apart from the aesthetic benefits, research has indicated that plainchant may also facilitate mental and emotional wellbeing, lower blood pressure and stress hormones, and even improve your relationships. Although it may be unfamiliar to some, it is easy to pick up, and takes the form of the cantor leading the congregation's responses.

We invite you to mute your mic, and to sing along to your heart's content, in the hope that it will bring a deep sense of peace which will continue with you through the night.

Key:

Bold print means we all join in.

● = pause

= chant words on same note

■ = one note per syllable

= upper note first

= lower note first

□ = unfilled notes at the beginning of the psalm chant are only used for the first verse of each psalm

trust = change note on the underlined word

Preparation

All kneeling

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.

There is a brief pause for self examination

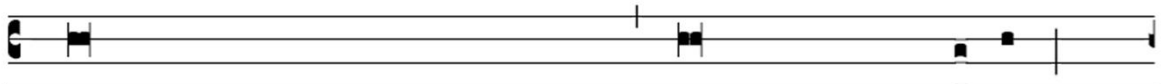
Most merciful God,

**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.**

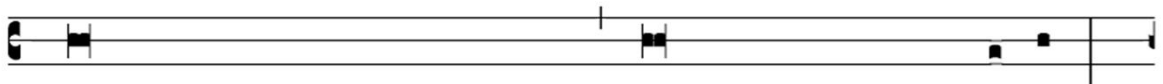
All stand



✠ O God, make speed to save us. O Lord, make haste to help us.



Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spi-rit;

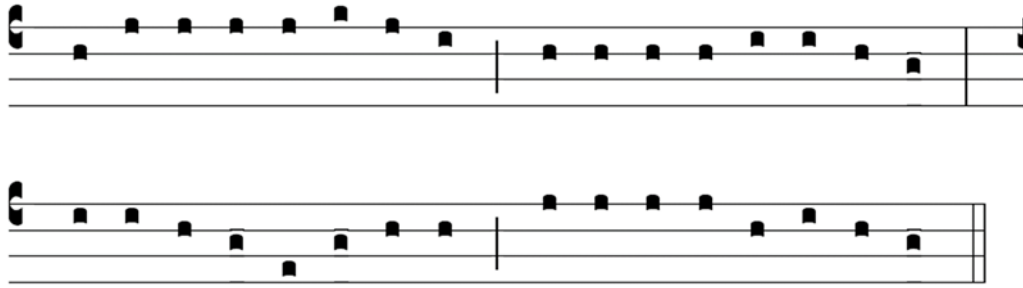


as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. A-men.



Al-le-lu - ia.

We sing the office hymn, *Te lucis ante terminum*



- 1 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.
- 2 **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.**
- 3 **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.**

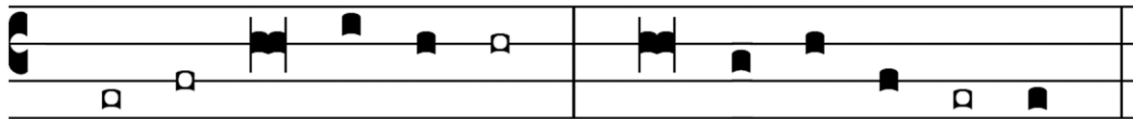
The Word of God

Psalmody

All sit after the first line of the psalm. The cantor and congregation sing alternate verses.



Have mer-cy on me, O God, and hear my prayer.



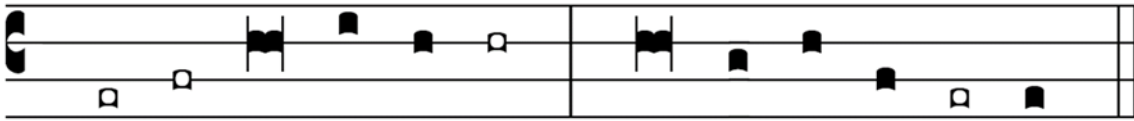
Psalm 4

- 1 Answer me when I call, O God of my right-eousness; • **(All sit)**
you 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 glo-ry; •**
how long will you love vain things and seek af-ter false-hood?
- 3 But know that the Lord has shown me his marvellous kind-ness; •
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 right-eousness •
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 counte-nance up-on us.**

7 You have put gladness in my heart, •
more than when their corn and wine and oil in^crease.

8 **In peace I will lie down and sleep, •
for it is you Lord, only, who make me dwell in safe-ty.**



Psalm 134

1 Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, •
you that by night stand in the house of the Lord.

2,3 **Lift up your hands towards the sanctuary
and bless the Lord. •
The Lord who made heaven and earth
give you blessing out of Zi-on.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son •
and to the Ho-ly Spi-rit;
**as it was in the beginning is now •
and shall be for ev-er. A-men.**



Have mer-cy on me, O God, and hear my prayer.

One or more of the following readings is used

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

Jesus said, 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

Matthew 11.28–30

You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last.

John 15.16

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.

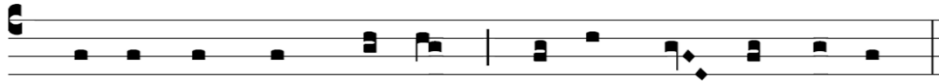
1 Peter 5.8,9

In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength. The Lord waits to be gracious to you; blessed are all those who wait for him.

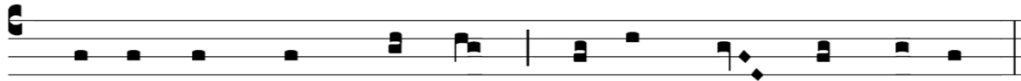
Isaiah 30.15,18

Thanks be to God.

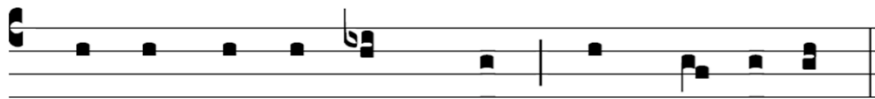
Responsory



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



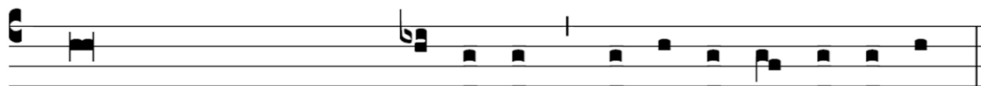
In-to your hands, O Lord, I com-mend my spi-rit.



For you have re-deemed me, Lord God of truth.



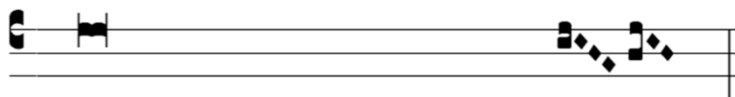
I com-mend my spi-rit.



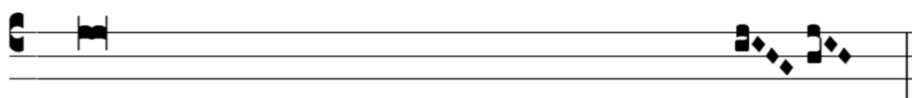
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spi-rit.



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



Keep me as the apple of your eye.



Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

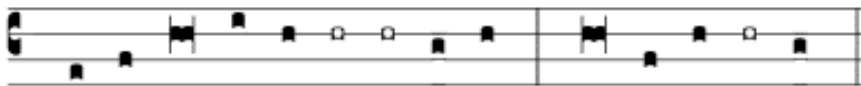
Gospel Canticle



Save us O Lord while wa-king, and guard us while sleep-ing, that a-



wake we may watch with Christ, and a - sleep may rest in peace.



- 1 **Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: •
your word has been ful-filled.**
- 2 My own eyes have seen the sal-va-tion •
which you have prepared in the sight of ev-ery peo-ple;
- 3 **A light to reveal you to the na-tions •
and the glory of your peo-ple Is-ra-el.**

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther and to the Son •
and to the Ho-ly Spi-rit;

**as it was in the be-gin-ning is now •
and shall be for ev-er. A-men.**



Save us O Lord while wa-king, and guard us while sleep-ing, that a-



wake we may watch with Christ, and a-sleep may rest in peace.

Prayers

All kneel. *Silence is kept. One or more of the following is said*

Lighten our darkness, Lord, we pray, and in 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.**

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.**

O God our protector, by whose mercy the world turns safely into darkness and returns again to light: we give into your hands our unfinished tasks, our unsolved problems, and our unfulfilled hopes; for you alone are our sure defence and bring us lasting peace in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, sustain the dying, calm the suffering, and pity the distressed; all for your love's sake, O Christ our Redeemer. **Amen.**

Heal us, O God, from all our afflictions and keep us steadfast in your love; bind up our wounds, raise us from death, and lead us to fullness of life; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Come, O Spirit of God, and make within us your dwelling place and home. May our darkness be dispelled by your light, and our troubles calmed by your peace; may all evil be redeemed by your love, all pain transformed through the suffering of Christ, and all dying glorified in his risen life. **Amen.**

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, bring us to the dwelling which your Son is preparing for all who love you; give us the will each day to live in life eternal; let our citizenship be in heaven with the blessed, with the whole company of the redeemed and with countless angels, praising, worshipping and adoring your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who sits upon the throne for ever and ever. **Amen.**

We give you thanks, O God, for the gift to the world of our Redeemer; as we sing your glory at the close of this day, so may we know his presence in our hearts, who is our Saviour and our Lord, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All say the Lord's prayer

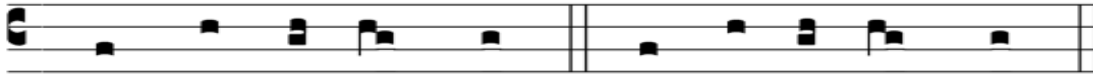
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory
For ever and ever
Amen.**

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.

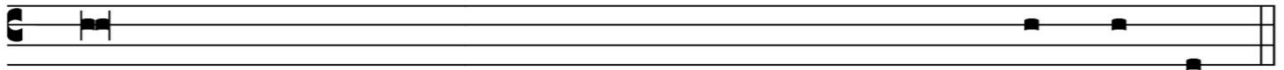
As the night watch looks for the morning,
so do we look for you, **O Christ.**



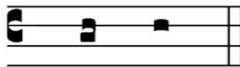
The Lord be with you **and al-so with you.**



Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



The almighty and merciful Lord,
✠ the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit bless us and keep us.



A-men.

The service ends with a suitable (Latin) hymn

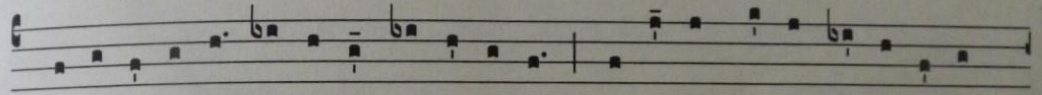
We hold the silence for one another as we leave the chapel.

C ondi-tor alme sí-de-rum, aetérna lux credé-nti-um, Christe, redémptor
 ómni-úm, exáudi pre-ces súpli-cum. 2.Qui cóndo-lens inté-ri-tu mortis pe-rí-re
 saécu-lum, salvásti mundum lángui-dúm, donans re-is remé-di-um, 3.Vergénte
 mundi véspe-re, u-ti sponsus de thá-lamo, egréssus honestíssimá Vírgi-nis matris
 cláusu-la. 4.Cú-ius forti po-ténti-ae genu curvántur ómni-a; caelésti-a, terréstri-á
 nu-tu fa-téntur súbdi-ta. 5.Te, Sancte, fi-de quaésumus, ventú-re iúdex saécu-li,
 consérva nos in témpo-ré hostis a te-lo pérfi-di. 6.Sit, Christe, rex pi-íssime, ti-bi
 Patri-que gló-ri-a cum Spí-ri-tu Pa-rácli-tó, in sempi-térna saécu-la. A-men.

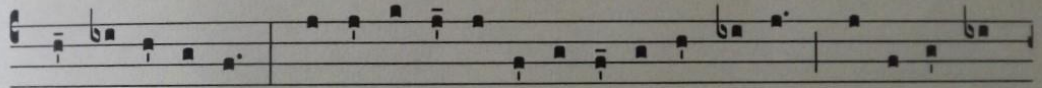
Salve Regina

Sal-ve, Re-gi-na, * Ma-ter mi-se-ri-cor-di - ae, vi-ta, dul-ce - do, et spes nos-
tra sal - ve. Ad te cla-ma-mus, ex-su-les fi - li - i He-vae. Ad te sus-pi-
ra-mus, ge-men-tes et flen-tes in hac lac-ri-ma-rum val-le. E - ia er-go,
ad-vo-ca-ta nos-tra, il - los tu-os mi-se-ri-cor-des o-cu-los ad nos con-
ver-te; et Je-sum, be-ne-dic-tum fruc-tum ven-tris tu - i, no-bis post hoc
ex - i - li-um os-ten-de. O cle-mens, O pi - a, O dul-
cis Vir-go Ma-ri - a.

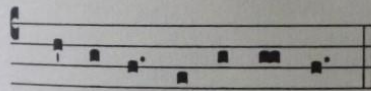
Hail, Queen, Mother of mercy; our life, sweetness, and hope, hail. To you we cry, banished children of Eve; to you we sigh, lamenting and weeping in this vale of tears. Therefore, our advocate, turn your eyes of mercy towards us, and, after this our exile, reveal to us Jesus, the blessed fruit of your womb. O clement, O devoted, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Regina caeli

Re-gi-na cae-li * lae-ta-re, al - le - lu-ia: qui-a quem me-ru - is - ti por-ta-



re, al - le - lu-ia, re-sur-re-xit, si-cut di-xit, al - le - lu - ia. O-ra pro no-



bis De-um, al - le - lu - ia.