

Deacons Retreat & Day with Bishop Kym
An Order of Compline

'Heaven and earth will pass away,' says the Lord, 'but my words will not pass away.'

Mark 13:31

The angels of God guard us through the night,
and quiet the powers of darkness.

The Spirit of God be our guide
to lead us to peace and to glory.

It is but lost labor that we haste to rise up early, and so late take rest, and eat the bread of anxiety. For those beloved of God are given gifts even while they sleep.

Silence

My sisters and brothers, our help is in the name of the eternal God,
who is making the heavens and the earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, speak to our hearts in the stillness, keep us steadfast in the foundation that cannot be shaken, lift up our eyes to behold the vision of your glory; and perfect our faith, now and always. **Amen.**

Silence

We repent the wrongs we have done:

We have wounded your love.

O God, heal us.

We stumble in the darkness.

Light of the world transfigure us.

We forget that we are your home.

Spirit of God, dwell in us.

**Eternal Spirit, living God,
in whom we live and move and have our being,
all that we are, have been, and shall be is known to you,
to the very secret of our hearts and all that rises to trouble us.
Living flame burn into us,
cleansing wind, blow through us,
fountain of water, well up within us,
that we may love and praise in deed and in truth.**

Eternal Spirit, flow through our being and open our lips,
that our mouths may proclaim your praise.

Let us worship the God of love.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Song of Mary *Magnificat Luke 1:46-55*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *

the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him *

in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *

he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *

and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *

and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *

for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, *

to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A Reading

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." *Isaiah 40:3-5*

"Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power." (Eph.3:7)

Reflection - The Rev. Bob Larson

Hymn

God be in my head,
and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes,
and in my looking;
God be in my mouth,
and in my speaking;
God be in my heart,
and in my thinking;
God be at my end,

and at my departing.

Intercessions and thanksgivings – offered either silently or aloud

Those things, good Lord, that your servants have prayed for, give us grace to work for;
and in the purpose of your love answer our prayers and fulfill our hopes for Jesus' sake.
Amen.

Into your hands, O God, I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O God of truth and love.
Keep me, O God, as the apple of your eye;
hide me under the shadow of your wings.

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

Song of Simeon (Nunc Dimittis)
**Praise be to God, I have lived to see this day.
God's promise is fulfilled, and my duty done.
At last you have given me peace,
for I have seen with my own eyes
the salvation you have prepared for all nations -
a light to the world in its darkness,
and the glory of your people Israel.**

**Glory be to God, sustaining, redeeming, sanctifying, as in the beginning, so now,
and for ever. Amen.**

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

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

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, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

A General Thanksgiving

**Eternal God, compassionate and merciful,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving kindness to us and to all people.
We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your boundless love in the redemption of the world
by our Saviour Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us that due sense of all your mercies,
that our hearts may be truly thankful, and that we praise you,
not only with our lips but in our lives,
by giving ourselves to your service
and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Be present, Spirit of God, within us, your dwelling place and home.
That this house may be one where all darkness is penetrated by your light,
all troubles calmed by your peace, all evil redeemed by your love,
all pain transformed in your suffering, and all dying glorified in your risen life. **Amen.**

God of Justice and Peace,

Mold our consciences according to justice and shape our hearts according to peace.

That we may recognize the talents that you have given us to secure the rights of the poor, the oppressed, the sick and the marginalized.

God, we are Your children.

**Grant us the courage and strength to work for justice, and in this way,
Live out our call to be peacemakers.**

Silence

Lord,
it is night.
The night is for stillness.
Let us be still in the presence of God.

It is night after a long day.
What has been done has been done;
what has not been done has not been done;
let it be.

The night is dark.
Let our fears of the darkness of the world and of our own lives
rest in you.

The night is quiet.
Let the quietness of your peace enfold us, all dear to us,
and all who have no peace.

The night heralds the dawn.
Let us look expectantly to a new day, new joys,
new possibilities.
In your name we pray. **Amen.**

The blessing of God, the eternal goodwill of God, the shalom of God, the wildness and
the warmth of God, be among us and between us, now and always.

The service concludes

The divine Spirit dwells in us.
Thanks be to God

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Service Adapted from A New Zealand Prayer Book/ He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa  
<http://anglicanprayerbook.nz/>  
Justice and Peace Prayer by Jane Deren, PhD.  
Prayers for Retreat and Meditation #42 from The Daily Office; Society of St. Francis,  
<http://www.franciscanarchive.org.uk/b-tdossfsupplement.html>