

Approach

The angels of God guard us through the night, and quieten 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

The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end. **Amen.**

our help is in the name of the Lord \oplus , who is making the heavens and the earth.

Psalm 91

The LORD is | my shepherd; I shall not | be in want.

The LORD maketh me to lie down | in green pastures: And leadeth me beside the | still waters.

The LORD restoreth | my soul: And leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for | his name's sake.

Yea though I walk through the valley of the | shadow of death, I will | fear no evil:

For thou | art with me; Thy rod and thy staff they | comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence | of my enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup | runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life: And I will dwell in the house of the LORD | for ever.

Scripture

A Reading from Revelation

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

'See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;

he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.'

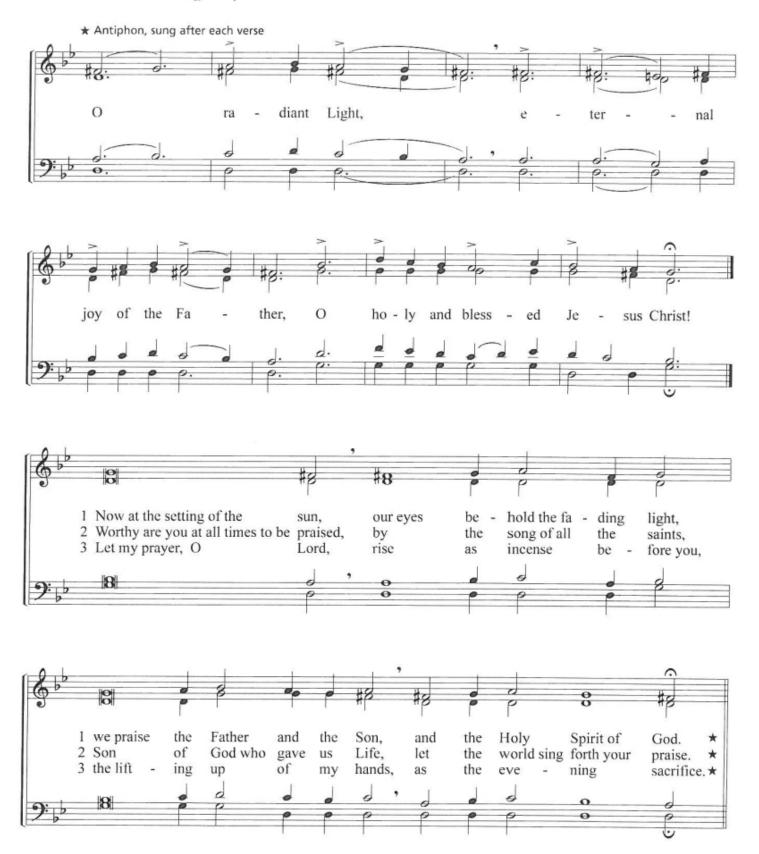
And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.'

(Revelation 21:1-5)

Phos hilaron (sung, on following page)

30 O radiant Light

Gouzes Evening Prayer Phos Hilaron



Music: André Gouzes, o.p. © 1995 Les Editions de l'Abbaye de Sylvanès. Words: Phos Hilaron (3rd cent.) © 1992 the European Province of the Society of St. Francis. You must contact Les Editions de l'Abbaye de Sylvanès to reproduce this music.

Prayers

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.

I will lie down in peace and take my rest, for it is in God alone that I dwell unafraid.

Let us bless the Earth-maker, the Pain-bearer, the Life-giver, let us praise and exalt God above all for ever.

May God's name be praised beyond the furthest star, glorified and exalted above all for ever.

O God who dwells in unapproachable light, we thank for sending your Christ, who pierces the shadows of this world and reveals your love to us. For what blessings of this day do the people of God offer thanks? (You are invited to speak aloud the things for which you are thankful for).

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. For what other places in the world do the people of God pray? (You are invited to speak the names of the places for which you pray for peace and comfort).

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. For whom do the people of God pray? (You are invited to speak the names of those for whom you pray for healing and wholeness).

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.

Silence

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**

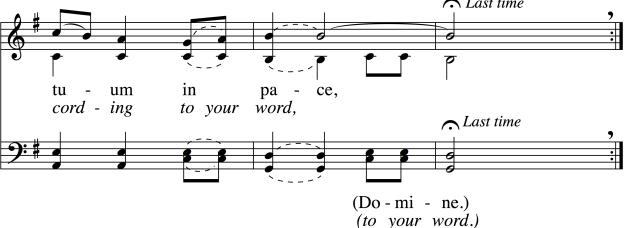
Nunc dimittis

Guard us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Nunc Dimittis / Let Your Servant Now Go in Peace







Benediction

+ Blessing, light, and glory surround us and scatter the darkness of the long and lonely night. The divine Spirit dwells in us.

Thanks be to God.

(adapted by Reagan Humber From A New Zealand Prayer Book and the Book of Common Prayer, 1979)