**An Order for Compline \* May**

On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it. (Psalm 118:24)

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The God of peace grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**the maker of heaven of earth.**

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 labour that we haste to rise up early,

and so late take our rest, and eat the bread of anxiety.

**For those beloved of God are given gifts even while they sleep.**

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A reading from the Gospel of Matthew

Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

**\* O God of life, this night,  
O darken not to me Thy light.**

**\* O God of life, this night,  
close not Thy gladness to my sight.**

\* Keep Your people, Lord,  
in the arms of Your embrace.  
Shelter them under Your wings.

\* **Be our light in darkness.  
Be our hope in distress.  
Be our calm in anxiety.**

\* Be strength in weakness.

\* Be comfort in pain.

\* Be our song in the night.    
   
*Officiant*.  Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;  
*People***.  For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.***Officiant*.  Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;  
*People*.  **Hide us under the shadow of your wings.**  
   
Lord, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**  
Lord, have mercy.  
   
**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.**                             
   
\*

     Lord, hear our prayer;

**And let our cry come to you**.

     Let us pray.

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love’s sake. **Amen.**

O Lord, support us all the day long of this troublous life, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in thy mercy, grant us a safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last. **Amen.**

**The Sacred Three  
to save**  
**to shield**  
**to surround  
the hearth**  
**the home**  
**this night**  
**and every night.**  For the peace of the whole world:  **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For those who are weary, sleepless or depressed:  **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For those who are hungry, sick or frightened:  **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For rest and refreshment:  **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.

The officiant concludes the intercessions and thanksgivings with

**All our dear ones, O God, bless Thou and keep,  
in every place where they are.**

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

**Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
   to go in peace as you have promised;**For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
   whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
**A Light to enlighten 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 will be for ever. Amen.

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

**Be the peace of the Spirit  
ours this night.  
Be the peace of the Son**  
**ours this night.**  
**Be the peace of the Father  
ours this night.**

**The peace of all peace  
be ours this night  
+ in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**