

Compline

PRAYERS FOR THE END OF THE DAY

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

Whatever your faith, whatever your condition, you are welcome among us. We hope you will return.

The ancient office of Compline derives its name from the Latin word meaning "to complete" (*complere*). Originally the last of the daily offices celebrated by monastic communities, it eventually found a place in local liturgical settings. Compline consists of psalms, short passages from scripture, a hymn, a canticle (*Nunc Dimittis*), a litany, collects, and additional prayers, including a Marian hymn.

Compline is offered when the work of the day is finished. Silence before, during and following this service allows time to pray, reflect, and grow in communion with God, in this candlelit sacred place.

The Choir of St. Paul's has been offering Compline on the fourth Sunday of each month at eight o'clock pm since the Fall of 2001. Our Compline service is derived from various sources, including *Liber Usualis* and the *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP p.127). It is sung by the choir in English and Latin. An outline of the service is on the back of this sheet, with references to full texts in the *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP), the *Bible*, and the *Hymnal 1982*.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH OAKLAND

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An Oasis Congregation

THE OFFICE OF COMPLINE

Officiant: The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night
and a perfect end.

Choir: Amen.

Officiant: Brethren, be sober, be vigilant;
because your adversary the devil
walketh about like a roaring lion,
seeking whom he may devour;
whom resist, steadfast in the faith.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us. I Peter 5:8, 9

Choir: Thanks be to God.

Officiant: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Choir: The maker of heaven and earth.

Officiant: O God, make speed to save us.

Choir: O 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 will be forever. Amen.
Alleluia.

THE PSALMS

Antiphon: Have mercy on me, Lord, and hear my prayer.

Psalms: 4, 91, 134 BCP pp.128-131

OFFICE HYMN

Te Lucis Ante Terminum

A READING OF SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 14:9, 22

RESPONSORY

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;
For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth;
Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;
Hide us under the shadow of your wings. Ps. 17:8

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29; BCP p.66

PRECES

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP p.132-133

COLLECTS

Be present, O merciful God BCP p.133
Look down, O Lord BCP p.133
Keep watch, dear Lord BCP p.134

THE DISMISSAL

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

Choir: Thanks be to God.

Officiant: The almighty and merciful Lord,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us.

Choir: Amen.

MARIAN HYMN

Advent Sunday through Purification: *Alma Redemptoris Mater*

February 3 through Palm Sunday: *Ave Regina Caelorum*

Easter Day though Pentecost: *Regina Caeli*

Trinity Sunday until Advent: *Salve Regina*