

I AM THE WAY AND THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE



MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE WORSHIP

COMPLINE III

PRAYER AT THE CLOSE OF DAY

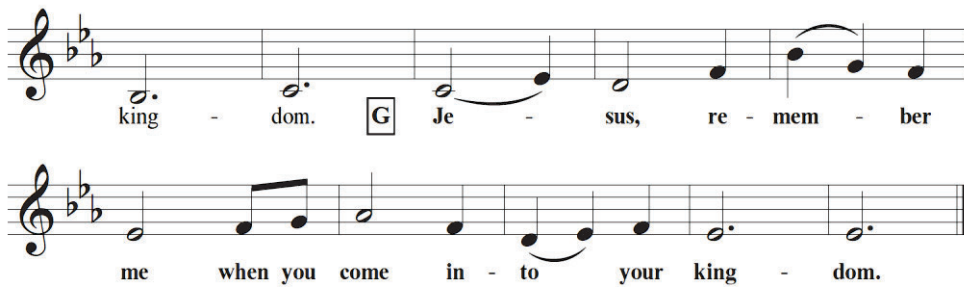
COMPLINE: Setting III

“Prayer at the Close of Day” is a version of the historic rite called Compline. It is the final service of the day before one retires for the night. The congregation gathers in silence. Preservice music is omitted, and the lighting is subdued. This is a time for prayer and meditation. The believer finds peace in God’s forgiveness and security under the shadow of his wings.

REMAIN SEATED

The musical score is written on a single staff in 3/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some measures containing rests. The lyrics are written below the staff, and repeat signs (L and G) are placed at the beginning of certain phrases. The score is as follows:

L The Lord Al -
might - y grant us a qui - et night and
peace at the last, **G** A -
men. **L** It is good to give thanks to the
Lord, **G** to sing praise to your name, O Most High.
L to her - ald your love in the morn - ing, **G** your
truth at the close of day. **L** Je -
sus re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your



EVENING HYMN

The following or another evening hymn is sung.

1 Now rest be - neath night's shad - ow The wood - land, field, and
2 The rule of day is o - ver And shin - ing jew - els
3 Lord Je - sus, since you love me, Oh, spread your wings a -
4 My loved ones, rest se - cure - ly, For God this night will
mead - ow; The world in slum - ber lies. But you, my
cov - er The heav - en's bound - less blue. Thus I shall
bove me And shield me from a - harm. Though Sa - tan
sure - ly From per - il guard your heads. Sweet slum - bers
heart, a - wak - en, With prayer and song be tak - en;
shine in heav - en, Where crowns of gold are giv - en;
would as - sail me, Your mer - cy will not fail me;
may he send you And bid his hosts at - tend you
Let praise to your Cre - a - tor rise.
To all who faith - ful prove and true.
I rest in your pro - tect - ing arm.
And through the night watch o'er your beds.

The congregation may kneel.

CONFESSION OF SINS

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

G: who made heaven and earth.

L: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for self-examination

L: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us (1 John 1).

G: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge. Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me (Psalm 51).

L: If anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world (1 John 2).

G: Amen.

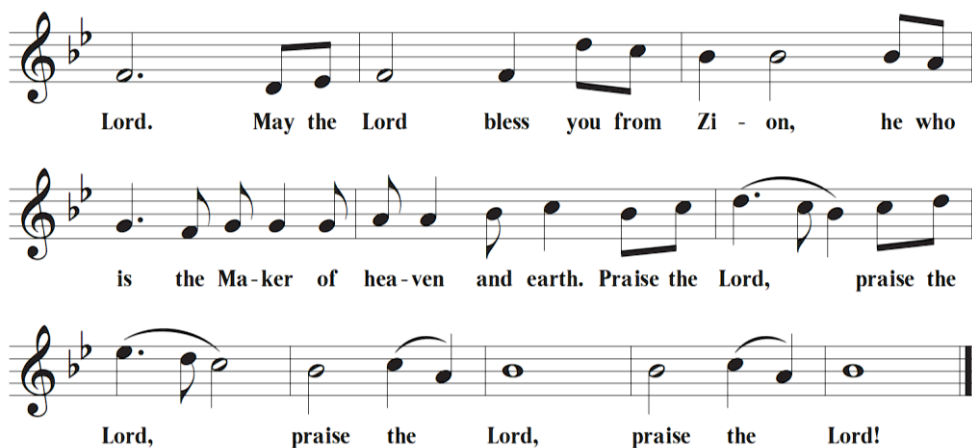
REMAIN SEATED

PSALM 134

G Praise the Lord, all you ser-vants of the

Lord, who min-i-ster by night in the house of the Lord. Lift

up your hands in the sanc-tu-ar-y and praise the



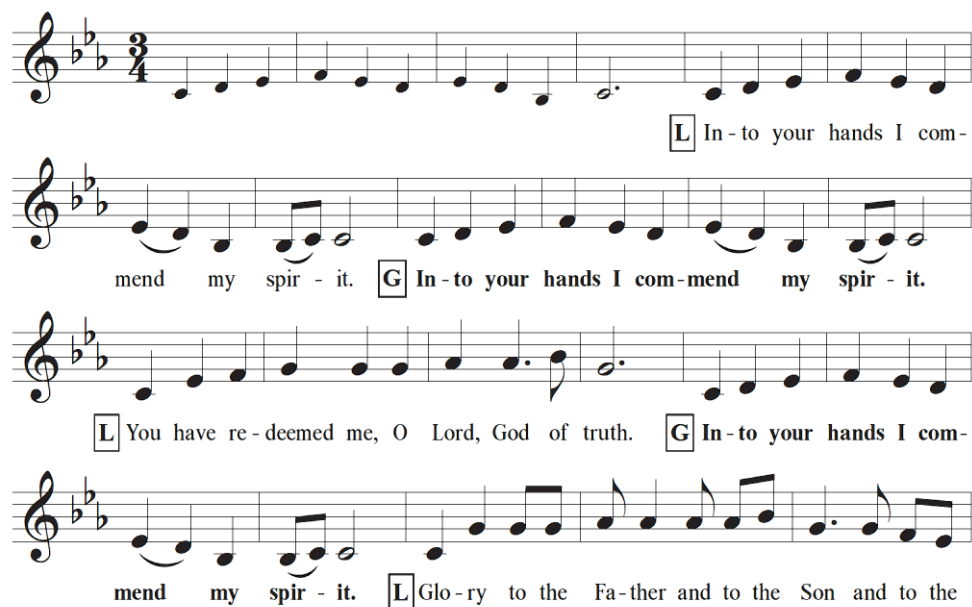
Silence for Meditation

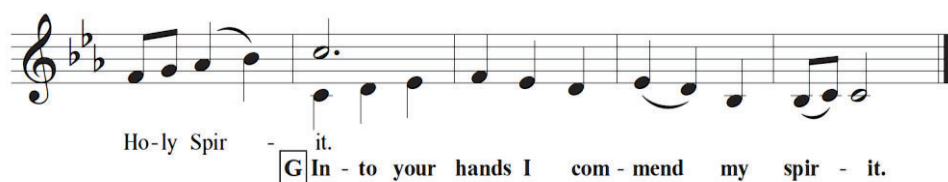
L: Lord Jesus, where two or three gather in your name, you promised to be with them and share their fellowship. Look on us, your family, and graciously bless us with unity and harmony; for you live and reign with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G: (*spoken*) Amen.

LESSON

The following sentences are sung.





HYMN

PRAYER

The following is sung or said.

G Let my
prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense, the lift-ing up of my
hands as the eve-ning sac-ri - fice. O Lord, I call to you;
come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I cry to
you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,
the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac - ri - fice.

One or more of the following prayers are said.

- L:** 1 Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world may rest in your eternal changelessness, through Jesus Christ our Lord,
- 2 O Lord, support us all day long, till 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, in your great mercy, grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at last,

- 3 O God our Father, by your mercy and might, the world turns safely into darkness and returns again to light. We place into your hands our unfinished tasks, our unsolved problems, and our unfulfilled hopes, knowing that only what you bless will prosper. To your great love and protection, we commit each other and all those we love, knowing that you alone are our sure defender,
- 4 Keep watch dear Lord, with those who watch or work or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, pity the afflicted, soothe the suffering, bless the dying and all for your love's sake,
- 5 Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, and illuminate this night with your celestial brightness, that by night as by day your people may glorify your holy name,

For Saturday

- 6 We give you thanks, O God, for revealing your Son, Jesus Christ, to us by the light of his resurrection. Grant that as we sing your glory at the close of this day, our joy may abound in the morning as we celebrate the Paschal mystery,

Each prayer concludes:

L: through Jesus Christ our Lord.

G: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer is sung as follows:

G Our Fa - ther in

hea - ven, hall - owed be your name, your king - dom come, your

will be done on earth as in hea - ven. Give

us to - day our dail - y bread. For - give us our sins

as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.

Lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion but de - liv - er us from

e - vil. For the king - dom the pow'r and the glo -

ry are yours now and for - ev - er. A - men.

HYMN

GOSPEL CANTICLE

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

Song of Simeon

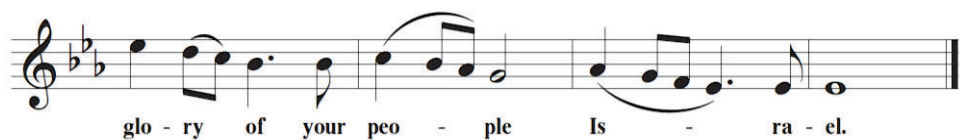
G Lord, now you let your ser - vant de - part in

peace ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen, my

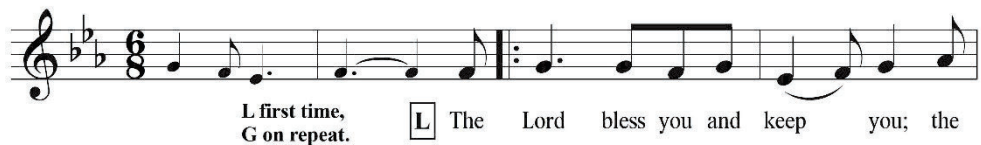
eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared be -

fore the face of all peo - ple, a light to light - en the

Gen - tiles, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles, and the



BLESSING



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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