# A Time of Prayer

Following the Compline Service from the Book of Common Prayer either on the Phone or / Online



Tuesdays Evening at 7:00pm

Cell phone / Landline : +1 646-558-8656 followed by our Meeting ID: 821 035 6879 # # One tap mobile: +16465588656,,577527647#

If cost/minutes on your phone are a concern you may use our toll-free number: 877-853-5257 followed by our Meeting ID: 821 035 6879 # #

Devices: Click on the link https://zoom.us/j/8210356879

# Compline -

Leader The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. People **Amen**.

Leader Our help is in the Name of the Lord

- People The Maker of heaven and earth
- Leader Let us confess our sins to God.

A period of silence is kept.

People Almighty God, our heavenly Father: We have sinned against you, through our own fault, in thought, and word, and deed, and in what we have left undone. For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us all our offenses; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

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- Leader May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
- Leader O God, make speed to save us.

People O Lord, make haste to help us.

People 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

The person who is leading the psalm will select and said one or more of the following Psalms.

#### Psalmist Psalm 4

- Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \* you set me free when I am hard-pressed; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.
- 2 "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \* how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?"
- 3 Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; \* when I call upon the LORD, he will hear me.
- 4 Tremble, then, and do not sin; \* speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.
- 5 Offer the appointed sacrifices \* and put your trust in the LORD.
- 6 Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" \* Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O LORD.
- 7 You have put gladness in my heart, \* more than when grain and wine and oil increase.
- 8 I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \* for only you, LORD, make me dwell in safety.

People 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.

#### Psalmist Psalm 31

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame: \* deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; \* make haste to deliver me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; \* for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \* for you are my tower of strength.
- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, \* for you have redeemed me, O LORD, O God of truth.

People 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.

#### Psalmist Psalm 91

1. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, \*

abides under the shadow of the Almighty.

- He shall say to the Lord, "You are my refuge and my stronghold, \* my God in whom I put my trust."
- He shall deliver you from the snare of the hunter \* and from the deadly pestilence.
- 4. He shall cover you with his pinions, and you shall find refuge under his wings; \* his faithfulness shall be a shield and buckler.
- 5. You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, \* nor of the arrow that flies by day;
- 6. Of the plague that stalks in the darkness, \*

nor of the sickness that lays waste at mid-day.

- 7. A thousand shall fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand, \*
  - but it shall not come near you.
- 8. Your eyes have only to behold \*

to see the reward of the wicked.

9. Because you have made the Lord your refuge, \*

and the Most High your habitation,

10. There shall be no evil happen to you \*

neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.

11.For he shall give his angels charge over you, \*

to keep you in all your ways.

12. They shall bear you in their hands, \*

lest you dash your foot against a stone.

- 13.You shall tread upon the lion and adder; \*
  - you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet.
- 14. Because he is bound to me in love, therefore will I deliver him; \*

I will protect him, because he knows my Name.

15.He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; \*

I am with him in trouble; I will rescue him and bring him to honor.

16. With long life will I satisfy him, \*

and show him my salvation.

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# People 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.

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#### Psalmist Psalm 134

- 1 Behold now, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD, \* you that stand by night in the house of the LORD.
- 2 Lift up your hands in the holy place and bless the LORD; \* the LORD who made heaven and earth bless you out of Zion.

People 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.

Short Lessons One of the following	, or some other suitable	passage of Scripture, is read
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Reader Lord, you are in the midst of us, and we are called by your Name: Do not forsake us, O Lord our God. Jeremiah 14:9,22

- People Thanks be to God
- Reader 'Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.' *Matthew 11:28-30*
- People Thanks be to God

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- Reader May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Hebrews 13:20-21
- People Thanks be to God
- Reader Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith. 1 Peter 5:8-9a.

People Thanks be to God

- Reader Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;
- People For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

Reader Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

People Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

Reader Lord, have mercy.

- People Christ, have mercy.
- Reader Lord, have mercy.
- People 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.

Leader	Lord, hear our prayer
People	And let our cry come to you.
Leader	Let us pray.

**<u>Collect</u>** The Officiant then says one of the following Collects

Leader	Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only son, our Savior Jesus Christ.
People	Amen
Leader	Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
People	Amen.
Leader	Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, and illumine this night with your celestial brightness; that by night as by day your people may glorify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
People	Amen.
Leader	Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Doonlo	Amon

People Amen.

#### One of the following prayers may be added

Leader 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.

People Amen.

Leader O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live: Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 People Amen.

A time of free intercessions and thanksgivings will be offered. A series of prayers may be said and people are invited to add in their own petitions were appropriate. The additional prayers found at the back of this book can be used at this time, the clergy or the leader will invite people to offer their prayers.

#### A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Prayer Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting.

People Amen.

#### BCP 126

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#### The Song of Simeon - Canticle 5 - Luke 2:29-32 - Nunc dimittis

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace
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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
Let us bless the Lord <b>Thanks be to God.</b>

LeaderThe almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us.PeopleAmen.

# **Additional Prayers**

# **Children and Young Adults**

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen. 46. For the Care of Children BCP* 

God our Father, you see your children growing up in an unsteady and confusing world: Show them that your ways give more life than the ways of the world, and that following you is better than chasing after selfish goals. Help them to take failure, not as a measure of their worth, but as a chance for a new start. Give them strength to hold their faith in you, and to keep alive their joy in your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen. 47. For Young Persons BCP* 

**For a new baby** - God our creator, we thank you for the gift of this child, entrusted to our care. May we be patient and understanding, ready to guide and to forgive, so that through our love he/she may come to know your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Common Worship* 

**When a pregnancy is difficult** - Loving, tender God, you know our sorrow and our joy, be close to us as we walk this unknown path. Send your light to lead us. Comfort us when we are afraid, so that, whatever we face, we will know your strong arms supporting us. Amen. *Common Worship* 

**For a fragile new baby** - Gentle God, giver of life, you know each of us by name and you love all that you have made. Thank you for [name], our wonderful, tiny baby. Come close to us, and to all who care for her. Protect her in the treatment she faces, and support us as we tend her fragile body. Help us to know you near us, night and day. Amen. *Common Worship* 

**Adopting a child** - Loving Father, who through a Spirit of adoption has made us his children and fellow-heirs with Christ, grant that N, whom N and N now bring into their family, may come to know their love, and find in the fullness of their common life, the joy and the glory of Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen. *Common Worship* 

**A prayer for children** - Loving God, your Son told his disciples to become like little children. Lead us to work for the welfare and protection of all young people. May we respect their dignity that they may flourish in life, following the example of the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Common Worship* 

# **Justice**

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart [and especially the hearts of the people of this land], that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen. Prayer for Social Justice BCP 823* 

Look with pity, O heavenly Father, upon the people in this land who live with injustice, terror, disease, and death as their constant companions. Have mercy upon us. Help us to eliminate our cruelty to these our neighbors. Strengthen those who spend their lives establishing equal protection of the law and equal opportunities for all. And grant that every one of us may enjoy a fair portion of the riches of this land; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen. 36. For the Oppressed BCP 826* 

Heavenly Father, we remember before you those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work. Guide the people of this land so to use our public and private wealth that all may find suitable and fulfilling employment, and receive just payment for their labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen. 30. For the Unemployed BCP 824* 

**For the refugee crisis** - Heavenly Father, you are the source of all goodness, generosity and love. We thank you for opening the hearts of many to those who are fleeing for their lives. Help us now to open our arms in welcome, and reach out our hands in support. That the desperate may find new hope, and lives torn apart be restored. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who fled persecution at His birth and at His last triumphed over death. Amen. *Common Worship* 

**For the cold and homeless**- God of compassion, your love for humanity was revealed in Jesus, whose earthly life began in the poverty of a stable and ended in the pain and isolation of the cross: we hold before you those who are homeless and cold especially in this bitter weather. Draw near and comfort them in spirit and bless those who work to provide them with shelter, food and friendship. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen. *Common Worship* 

#### A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.** 

# Those who are traveling

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel [in particular \_\_\_\_\_\_]; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen. 53. For Travelers* BCP

For a long journey - Be to us, O Lord, a support in our setting out, a comfort by the way, a shadow in the heat, a covering in the rain and cold, a conveyance in weariness, a protection in adversity, a staff in unsteady ways, and a port in shipwreck; that, with you being our Leader, we may reach the place we seek, and at length we may return again to our home in safety. Amen *Common Worship* 

# For those we love and care for

Almighty God, whose Son had nowhere to lay his head: Grant that those who live alone may not be lonely in their solitude, but that, following in his steps, they may find fulfillment in loving you and their neighbors; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen. 48. For Those Who Live Alone BCP* 

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to *thy* never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that *thou* art doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen. 54. For those we Love BCP* 

O merciful Father, who hast taught us in thy holy Word that thou dost not willingly afflict or grieve the children of men: Look with pity upon the sorrows of thy servant for whom our prayers are offered. Remember *him*, O Lord, in mercy, nourish *his* soul with patience, comfort *him* with a sense of thy goodness, lift up thy countenance upon *him*, and give *him* peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen. 55. For a Person in Trouble or Bereavement BCP* 

**A prayer for family life** - God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Common Worship* 

**At a time of despair** - Restless with grief and fear, the abandoned turn to you: in every hour of trial, good Lord, deliver us, O God most holy, God most strong, whose wisdom is the cross of Christ. Amen. *Common Worship* 

# For those who are sick

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servant N., and give your power of healing to those who minister to his needs, that he may be strengthened in his weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen. For Strength and Confidence 459 BCP* 

O Lord, your compassions never fail and your mercies are new every morning: We give you thanks for giving our brother/sister *N*. both relief from pain and hope of health renewed. Continue in *him*, we pray, the good work you have begun; that *he*, daily increasing in bodily strength, and rejoicing in your goodness, may so order *his* life and conduct that *he* may always think and do those things that please you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen Thanksgiving for a Beginning of Recovery 460 BCP* 

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When someone is in hospital -Lord God, whose Son, Jesus Christ, understood people's fear and pain before they spoke of them, we pray for those in hospital; surround the frightened with your tenderness; give strength to those in pain; hold the weak in your arms of love, and give hope and patience to those who are recovering; we ask this through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

This is another day, O Lord. I know not what it will bring forth, but make me ready, Lord, for whatever it may be. If I am to stand up, help me to stand bravely. If I am to sit still, help me to sit quietly. If I am to lie low, help me to do it patiently. And if I am to do nothing, let me do it gallantly. Make these words more than words, and give me the Spirit of Jesus. Amen.

Lord, open our eyes that we may see you in one another.

Lord, open our ears that we may hear the cries of the hungry, the cold, the frightened, the oppressed. Lord, open our hearts that we may love each other as you love us. Renew in us your spirit. Lord, free us and make us one. Amen *(written by Mother Theresa)* 

From chaos and emptiness, From loneliness and lifelessness, Come, Creator, Come.
From darkness and shapelessness, From the abyss and awfulness, Come, Creator, Come.
From fearfulness and hopelessness, From weakness and dreadfulness, Come, Creator, Come. A Celtic Prayer - David Adam

Come, God, and hear my cry; my spirit thirsts for you. My body withers, weary, dry. Come, Spirit God, renew

Break into my confusion, Lord. Help me to know who I am and what I am meant to be. Guide, uphold and strengthen me as I leave behind the world of limits and labels. Guide, uphold and strengthen me as together we create a world of infinite possibility. *~Susan Gregg-Schroeder* 

# Life Events

*Moving house*- Generous God, help us to treasure the memories of the place we leave behind, bless and protect the friends from whom we now part, and give us confidence to reach out in hospitality to others in our new home. May your Spirit travel with us, and meet us in the faces of new friends. For our journey, now and throughout our lives, begins and ends with you, Lord, whose praises we sing wherever we make our home. Amen *Common Worship* 

*Retirement*- O God, your hands made \_\_\_\_ and fashioned \_\_\_, and you know where \_\_\_\_ is going even when \_\_\_\_ feels uncertain: thank you for the talents \_\_\_\_ have used in \_\_\_\_ work. Calm \_\_\_ concerns, show \_\_\_\_ new opportunities, and give \_\_\_\_ the freedom to discover afresh way of serving you. Show \_\_\_\_ what you have stored up for \_\_\_\_, and give \_\_\_\_ the courage to put down \_\_\_\_ work and follow you; through Christ our Lord. Amen *Common Worship* 

# **World Events and Natural Disasters**

*For those caught up in tragedy and disaster-* O Lord our God, source of all goodness and love, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies look with compassion

upon all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen. *Common Worship* 

**For international unrest** - Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all thing in your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Common Worship* 

**For peace and safety amid unrest** - O God, who would fold both heaven and earth in a single peace: let the design of thy great love lighten upon the waste of our wraths and sorrows: and give peace to thy Church, peace among nations, peace in our dwellings, and peace in our hearts: through thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen. *Common Worship* 

**For those coping with floods** - God of compassion, you hear the cries of all who are in trouble or distress; accept our prayers for those whose lives are affected by storms and flooding: strengthen them in their hour of need, grant them perseverance and courage to face the future and be to them a firm foundation on which to build their lives; this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Common Worship* 

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this country, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Spirit of God, unseen but with us, help us at this time of uncertainty to make wise choices. Jesus, our wisdom, in times of turbulence, days of uncertainty, when we are tempted to make economics our driver instead of our supporter, to use our resources to divide, to value differently our fellow creatures, to make decisions based on money, not respect, strengthen us. You have told us never to serve two masters, or put money before morals or the economy before the purpose of living; help us to know the true value of labor, to use money wisely throughout our society, to see what our neighbors need, and not be driven by the pursuit of greed. Creator God, who brought us all into life, help us as our certainties rock to recall that our wealth is for housekeeping our nation, not for selfish pursuit, for sharing where there is need. Give us all enough to live on without anxiety, enough to support our commerce and our recreation. Draw us onwards to put first those living in fear of job loss, medicine shortage, pressures that break the poor; save us from the dreariness, emptiness, hopelessness that come with lack of wealth; keep us away from all harm to our neighbor. Like Joseph's barns in Egypt, may our barns be full for all who need bread. In your name we pray. *Rosemary Power* 

Ancient God, you commanded your chosen people Israel to welcome the stranger among them like one of their own, and reminded them that once, they themselves were strangers in a foreign land: Teach us to be open to all who have come to live in our countries, that they may find a place where they can abide, feeling made welcome and safe. *Adapted from Heinz Toller, Iona Abbey* 

## Prayers for a Vigil following the death of a loved one BCP 465

Dear Friends: It was our Lord Jesus himself who said, "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest." Let us pray, then, for our brother (sister) *N*., that *he* may rest from *his* labors, and enter into the light of God's eternal Sabbath rest.

Receive, O Lord, your servant, for *he* returns to you. Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our brother (sister) N.

Wash *him* in the holy font of everlasting life, and clothe *him* in *his* heavenly wedding garment. Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our brother (sister) N.

May *he* hear your words of invitation, "Come, you blessed of my Father." *Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our brother (sister) N.* 

May *he* gaze upon you, Lord, face to face, and taste the blessedness of perfect rest. *Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our brother (sister) N.* 

May angels surround *him*, and saints welcome *him* in peace. Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our brother (sister) N.

Almighty God, our Father in heaven, before whom live all who die in the Lord: Receive our *brother N*. into the courts of your heavenly dwelling place. Let *his* heart and soul now ring out in joy to you, O Lord, the living God, and the God of those who live. This we ask through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

# A prayer service after someone has died (CofE-Common Worship)

At this time of sorrow the Lord is in our midst and consoles us with his word: Blessed are the sorrowful; they shall be comforted. Blessed be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation. He comforts us in all our afflictions and thus enables us to comfort those who grieve with the same consolation we have received from him.

We shall not all die **All but we shall be changed.** The trumpet shall sound and the dead will rise immortal **All and we shall be changed.** The perishable must be clothed with the imperishable **All and the mortal must be clothed with immortality.** We shall not all die

All but we shall be changed.

#### Readings

These or other appropriate readings may be used

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. *1 Thessalonians 4.13-15* 

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- I lift up my eyes to the hills; 
   from where is my help to come?
- 2. My help comes from the Lord, ◆ the maker of heaven and earth.
- He will not suffer your foot to stumble; 
   he who watches over you will not sleep.
- Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel ◆ shall neither slumber nor sleep.
- 5. The Lord himself watches over you; ◆ the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
- So that the sun shall not strike you by day, ◆ neither the moon by night.
- The Lord shall keep you from all evil; 
   it is he who shall keep your soul.
- 8. The Lord shall keep watch over your going out and your coming in,  $\blacklozenge$

from this time forth for evermore. Psalm 121

Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' John 11.21-24

### Prayers

O God, who brought us to birth, and in whose arms we die, in our grief and shock contain and comfort us; embrace us with your love, give us hope in our confusion and grace to let go into new life; through Jesus Christ. **Amen.** 

Lord, we come into your presence to remember *N* and to seek your comfort, for we know that nothing can separate us from your love and that you support us in our sorrow. We are sure that the souls of the righteous are with you and that nothing can harm them. Although they have died they are in peace. Give us your strength to rejoice that you have taken *N* to be with yourself where *he/she* shall no more be in need. May we find life and peace and perfect joy with *him/her* in your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

God of all consolation, in your unending love and mercy you turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life. Your Son, by dying for us, conquered death and, by rising again, restored to us eternal life. May we then go forward eagerly to meet our redeemer and, after our life on earth, be reunited with all our brothers and sisters in that place where every tear is wiped away and all things are made new; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.** 

Lord, be with us as we open the door. Come in with us, go out with us. Do not sleep when we sleep, but watch over us, protect us and keep us safe, our only helper and maker. **Amen.** 

## Conclusion

And now to him who is able to keep us from falling, and lift us from the dark valley of despair to the bright mountain of hope, from the midnight of desperation to the daybreak of joy; to him be power and authority, for ever and ever. **Amen.**