

Compline

St Dunstan's Church, Advent 2021

Opening:

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

Amen.

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who made heaven and earth.

**Most merciful God, we confess to you,
before the whole company of heaven and one another,
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed
and in what we have failed to do.
Forgive us our sins, heal us by your Spirit
and raise us to new life in Christ. Amen.**

O God, make speed to save us.

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 shall be for ever. Amen.**

Psalm:

Sunday: Psalm 104.1,21-33, Psalm 134

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

O Lord my God, how excellent is your
greatness!

You appointed the moon to mark the
seasons,
and the sun knows the time for its
setting.

You make darkness that it may be night,
in which all the beasts of the forest
creep forth.

The lions roar for their prey
and seek their food from God.

The sun rises and they are gone
to lay themselves down in their dens.

People go forth to their work
and to their labour until the evening.

O Lord, how manifold are your works!

In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.

There is the sea, spread far and wide,

and there move creatures beyond
number, both small and great.

There go the ships, and there is that
Leviathan
which you have made to play in the
deep.

All of these look to you
to give them their food in due season.
When you give it them, they gather it;
you open your hand and they are filled
with good.

When you hide your face they are
troubled;

when you take away their breath,
they die and return again to the dust.

When you send forth your spirit, they are
created,

and you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord endure for
ever;

may the Lord rejoice in his works;

(Sun cont: Psalm 134)

Come, bless the Lord, all you servants
of the Lord,
you that by night stand in the house of
the Lord.

Lift up your hands towards the
sanctuary

and bless the Lord.

The Lord who made heaven and earth
give you blessing out of Zion.

Monday: Psalm 4

Answer me when I call, O God of my
righteousness;
you set me at liberty when I was in
trouble;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.
How long will you nobles dishonour my
glory;
how long will you love vain things and
seek after falsehood?
But know that the Lord has shown me
his marvellous kindness;
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear
me.
Stand in awe, and sin not;

commune with your own heart upon
your bed, and be still.
Offer the sacrifices of righteousness
and put your trust in the Lord.
There are many that say, 'Who will show
us any good?'
Lord, lift up the light of your
countenance upon us.
You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when their corn and wine and
oil increase.
In peace I will lie down and sleep,
for it is you Lord, only, who make me
dwell in safety.

Tuesday: Psalm 143

Hear my prayer, O Lord,
and in your faithfulness give ear to my
supplications;
answer me in your righteousness
Enter not into judgement with your
servant,
for in your sight shall no one living be
justified.
For the enemy has pursued me,
crushing my life to the ground,
making me sit in darkness like those
long dead.
My spirit faints within me;
my heart within me is desolate.
I remember the time past; I muse upon
all your deeds;
I consider the works of your hands.
I stretch out my hands to you;
my soul gasps for you like a thirsty land.
O Lord, make haste to answer me; my
spirit fails me;
hide not your face from me

lest I be like those who go down to the
Pit.
Let me hear of your loving-kindness in
the morning,
for in you I put my trust;
show me the way I should walk in,
for I lift up my soul to you.
Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies,
for I flee to you for refuge.
Teach me to do what pleases you, for
you are my God;
let your kindly spirit lead me on a level
path.
Revive me, O Lord, for your name's
sake;
for your righteousness' sake, bring me
out of trouble.
In your faithfulness, slay my enemies,
and destroy all the adversaries of my
soul,
for truly I am your servant.

Wednesday: Psalm 31:1-5

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.
Incline your ear to me;
make haste to deliver me.
Be my strong rock, a fortress to save
me,
for you are my rock and my stronghold;
guide me, and lead me for your name's
sake.

Take me out of the net
that they have laid secretly for me,
for you are my strength.
Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O Lord God
of truth.

Thursday: Psalm 16

Preserve me, O God, for in you have I
taken refuge;
I have said to the Lord, 'You are my lord,
all my good depends on you.'
All my delight is upon the godly that are
in the land,
upon those who are noble in heart.
Though the idols are legion that many
run after,
their drink offerings of blood I will not
offer,
neither make mention of their names
upon my lips.
The Lord himself is my portion and my
cup;
in your hands alone is my fortune.
My share has fallen in a fair land;

indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
I will bless the Lord who has given me
counsel,
and in the night watches he instructs my
heart.
I have set the Lord always before me;
he is at my right hand; I shall not fall.
Wherefore my heart is glad and my spirit
rejoices;
my flesh also shall rest secure.
For you will not abandon my soul to
Death,
nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.
You will show me the path of life;
in your presence is the fullness of joy
and in your right hand are pleasures for
evermore.

Friday: Psalm 139:1-18

O Lord, you have searched me and
known me;
you know my sitting down and my rising
up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
You mark out my journeys and my
resting place
and are acquainted with all my ways.
For there is not a word on my tongue,
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
You encompass me behind and before
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for
me,
so high that I cannot attain it.
Where can I go then from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?
If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
if I make the grave my bed, you are
there also.
If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the
sea,
Even there your hand shall lead me,
your right hand hold me fast.
If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover
me
and the light around me turn to night,'

Even darkness is no darkness with you;
the night is as clear as the day;
darkness and light to you are both alike.
For you yourself created my inmost
parts;
you knit me together in my mother's
womb.
I thank you, for I am fearfully and
wonderfully made;
marvellous are your works, my soul
knows well.
My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my form, as yet
unfinished;
already in your book were all my
members written,
As day by day they were fashioned
when as yet there was none of them.
How deep are your counsels to me, O
God!
How great is the sum of them!
If I count them, they are more in number
than the sand,
and at the end, I am still in your
presence.

Saturday: Psalm 91

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the
Most High
and abides under the shadow of the
Almighty,
Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my
stronghold,
my God, in whom I put my trust.'
For he shall deliver you from the snare of
the fowler
and from the deadly pestilence.
He shall cover you with his wings
and you shall be safe under his feathers;
his faithfulness shall be your shield and
buckler.
You shall not be afraid of any terror by
night,
nor of the arrow that flies by day;
Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness,
nor of the sickness that destroys at
noonday.
Though a thousand fall at your side
and ten thousand at your right hand,
yet it shall not come near you.
Your eyes have only to behold
to see the reward of the wicked.

Because you have made the Lord your
refuge
and the Most High your stronghold,
There shall no evil happen to you,
neither shall any plague come near your
tent.
For he shall give his angels charge over
you,
to keep you in all your ways.
They shall bear you in their hands,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.
You shall tread upon the lion and adder;
the young lion and the serpent you shall
trample underfoot.
Because they have set their love upon
me,
therefore will I deliver them;
I will lift them up, because they know my
name.
They will call upon me and I will answer
them;
I am with them in trouble,
I will deliver them and bring them to
honour.
With long life will I satisfy them
and show them my salvation.

Reading:

Sunday: Jeremiah 14.9:

You, O Lord, are in the midst of us, and we are called by your name; leave us not, O Lord our God.

Monday: Isaiah 30.1:

Thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel: In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.

Tuesday: Matthew 11.28-end:

Jesus said, 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

Wednesday: 1 Peter 5.6, 7:

Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.

Thursday: 1 Peter 5.8, 9:

Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil is prowling round like a roaring lion, seeking for someone to devour. Resist him, strong in the faith.

Friday: 1 Thessalonians 5.9, 10:

God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.

Saturday: Hebrews 4.9-11a:

A sabbath rest still remains for the people of God; for those who enter God's rest also cease from their labours as God did from his. Let us therefore make every effort to enter that rest.

The following may be said

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

I commend my spirit.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Nunc dimittis

Save us, O Lord, while waking,

and guard us while sleeping,

that awake we may watch with Christ

and asleep may rest in peace.

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:

your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation

which you have prepared in the sight of every people;

A light to reveal you to the nations

and the glory of your people Israel. *Luke 2.29-32*

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

Save us, O Lord, while waking,

and guard us while sleeping,

that awake we may watch with Christ

and asleep may rest in peace.

Prayers:

Prayer for our community:

Coming King, we await your dawn amid the darkness of this season; we seek your light to give us life and lead us into your future. Light of the world, shine on us.

Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.

Sunday:

Almighty God, by triumphing over the powers of darkness, Christ has prepared a place for us in the new Jerusalem: may we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, praise him in the eternal city of which he is the light; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Monday:

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 upon your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Tuesday:

Look down, O God, from your heavenly throne, illuminate the darkness of this night with your celestial brightness, and from the children of light banish the deeds of darkness; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Wednesday:

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.

Thursday:

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, sustain the dying, calm the suffering, and pity the distressed; all for your love's sake, O Christ our Redeemer.

Friday:

Stay with us, O God, this night, so that by your strength we may rise with the new day to rejoice in the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Saturday:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, who at this evening hour lay in the tomb and so hallowed the grave to be a bed of hope for all who put their trust in you: give us such sorrow for our sins, which were the cause of your passion, that when our bodies lie in the dust, our souls may live with you for ever.

Lighten our darkness, Lord, we pray, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night, for the love of your only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Conclusion:

In peace we will lie down and sleep;

for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,

for the night is at hand and the day is now past.

As the night watch looks for the morning,

so do we look for you, O Christ.

The Lord bless us and watch over us;

the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us;

the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace.

Amen.