

# Compline

## The Season of Lent | Daily Prayer for All Seasons

*We sum up the day with a bedtime prayer to examine our conscience & offer our actions to God*

**Opening** Give us the grace to rely on you:  
**may we always trust in your goodness.**

**Prayer** Enduring presence, goal and guide, you go before and await our coming. Only our thirst compels us beyond complaint to conversation, beyond rejection to relation. Pour your love into our hearts that, refreshed and renewed, we may invite others to the living water given to us in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*Revised Common Lectionary Prayers, p. 82.*

**Praise** *O God of gentle strength*  
O God of gentle strength, your love embraces me.  
Within the sureness of your care my heart rests willingly.  
Your waters of rebirth have claimed us as your own.  
As members of one body, we shall never be alone.  
And when life's challenges eclipse our minds with doubt,  
let holy wisdom spark a flame to drive the darkness out.  
Where will the journey lead? The path may be obscure.  
But promised hope of things unseen will keep our footing sure.

*Words: Patricia B. Clark (b. 1938) 82*

**Scripture** Thus says the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel: In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and confidence shall be your strength. Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you; therefore he will rise up to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for the Lord.

*Isaiah 30:15a, 18*

**Meditation** The birds have vanished into the sky,  
and now the last cloud drains away.  
We sit together, the mountain and me,  
until only the mountain remains.

*Li Po, 8<sup>th</sup>-century poet 83*

*What do we need to trust this fully in God's grace?*

**Prayer** Patient and compassionate God,  
We so want to trust in your love.  
**Hear our longing.**  
We hope for healing in our lives and the lives of others:  
*Here, the people may add particular intercessions or thanksgivings.*  
Hear our prayers.  
**Heed our holy desires.**  
We confess our impatience and anxiety.  
**We seek your grace.**

## The Lord's Prayer

**Prayer** O Lord and Ruler of our life: Deliver us from the spirit of sloth, idle talk, faint-heartedness, and lust for power; and grant unto us, your servants, a spirit of integrity, humility, patience, and love. Sovereign God, grant us the ability to see our own faults and not to judge another's; for you are blessed to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

Adapted from the Prayer of Saint Ephrem, c. 373.

**Closing** Give us the grace to rely on you:  
**may we always trust in your goodness.**

## Watch

*Vigils* (Traditional hour: late night)

*Like nuns and monks at prayer, we can listen in the stillness of the night to hear God's call*

**Opening** Be present with me, Holy One,  
**as I watch with you.**

**Scripture** O my strength, I will watch for you; for you,  
O God, are my stronghold.

Psalm 59:9

**Meditation** *Where do I need God's strength?*

**Prayer** 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.**

2nd Prayer for the Presence of Christ, The Book of Common Prayer, p.124.

**Closing** Be present with me, Holy One,  
**as I watch with you.**