PRAYER AT THE CLOSE OF DAY COMPLINE: Setting II

"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. This is a time for prayer and meditation. The believer finds peace in God's forgiveness and security under the shadow of his wings.





For - ev - er and for - ev - er - more. A - men.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- M: Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C: who made heaven and earth.
- M: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for self-examination

M: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven,

and to you, my brothers and sisters,

that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed

by my fault,

by my own fault,

by my own grievous fault;

wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins,

and bring me to everlasting life

C: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness

and remission of all your sins.

- M: Amen
- C: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven,

and to you, my brothers and sisters,

that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed

by my fault,

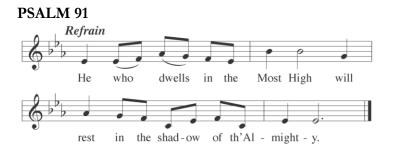
by my own fault,

by my own grievous fault;

wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins,

and bring me to everlasting life

- M: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness and remission of all your sins.
- C: Amen





He who dwells in the shelter of the / Most High

will rest in the shadow of the Al- / mighty.

I will say / of the LORD,

"He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in / whom I trust."

Surely he will save you from the / fowler's snare

and from the deadly / pestilence.

He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find / refuge;

his faithfulness will be your shield and / rampart.

Refrain

You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that / flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that

destroys at / midday.

A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at / your right hand, but it will not come / near you.

Refrain

If you make the Most High your dwelling, even the LORD, who is my / refuge

then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come / near your tent.

For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in / all your ways;

they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot a-/gainst a stone.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son and to the Holy / Spirit, as it was in the be- / ginning, is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that we turn from our wickedness and live. Graciously behold Your people who plead to You and spare us. Withdraw the scourge of Your wrath and be moved in mercy to turn away this pestilence from us; for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING

David sins and God gives him a choice in the consequences of that sin. David would rather fall on the mercy of God than the hands of men. God has had mercy on us. His sacrifice has removed the consequences of sin.

¹⁵ So the LORD sent a plague on Israel from that morning until the appointed time, and from Dan to Beer-sheba seventy thousand men died. ¹⁶ Then the angel extended his hand toward Jerusalem to destroy it, but the LORD relented concerning the destruction and said to the angel who was destroying the people, "Enough, withdraw your hand now!" The angel of the LORD was then at the threshing floor of Araunah^[a] the Jebusite.

¹⁷When David saw the angel striking the people, he said to the LORD, "Look, I am the one who has sinned; I am the one^[b] who has done wrong. But these sheep, what have they done? Please, let your hand be against me and my father's family."

¹⁸ Gad came to David that day and said to him, "Go up and set up an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite." ¹⁹ David went up in obedience to Gad's command, just as the LORD had commanded. ²⁰ Araunah looked down and saw

2 Samuel 24:15-25

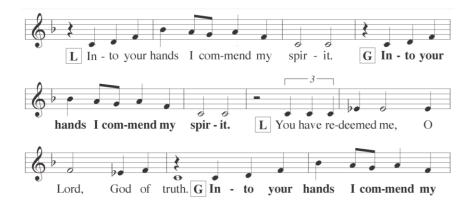
the king and his servants coming toward him, so he went out and paid homage to the king with his face to the ground.

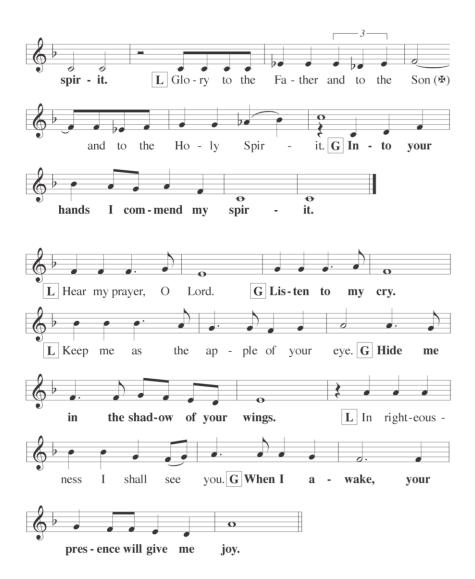
²¹ Araunah said, "Why has my lord the king come to his servant?"

David replied, "To buy the threshing floor from you in order to build an altar to the LORD, so the plague on the people may be halted."

²² Araunah said to David, "My lord the king may take whatever he wants^[c] and offer it. Here are the oxen for a burnt offering and the threshing sledges and ox yokes for the wood. ²³ Your Majesty, Araunah gives everything here to the king." Then he said to the king, "May the LORD your God accept you."

²⁴ The king answered Araunah, "No, I insist on buying it from you for a price, for I will not offer to the LORD my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing." David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for twenty ounces^[d] of silver. ²⁵ He built an altar to the LORD there and offered burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then the LORD was receptive to prayer for the land, and the plague on Israel ended.





- M: 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, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER



THANKSGIVING



M: The almighty and merciful Lord the Father, the Son, () and the Holy Spirit bless us and keep us.

C: Amen