

# Night Songs



*from the Chapel of St Catharine's College, Cambridge*

*Christians have gathered for prayer in the night time for hundreds of years to mark the completion of the day. This service draws on that tradition and from the ancient service of Compline, which derives its name from a Latin word meaning 'completion' (completorium). Traditionally the service was the last of the monastic 'offices' (set times of prayer) and was the beginning of the 'Greater Silence' lasting until the first prayers of the following day.*

*In our own context, we offer it as a relaxed, prayerful and reflective space at the end of the day that everybody can feel comfortable attending no matter what their familiarity with church services or the Christian tradition. To aid this you are welcome to join in with this service online from the comfort of your room, or even in bed. Join in where you feel able or want by participating in the responses printed in bold but also feel free to close your eyes and simply think, pray or reflect upon the day.*

## Opening Music

*Olivier Messaien, Regard du Père*

## Preparation

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

**All** Amen.

*A time of silence is kept for reflection upon the day*

*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us.

**All** O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Officiant* Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

**All** As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.

*Officiant* Praise ye the Lord.

**All** The Lord's name be praised.

## The Psalm

*Psalm 92 is sung, in plainchant, by the choir*

*Ending with:*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning; is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

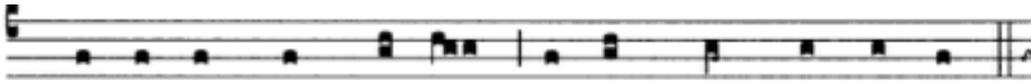
## Scripture Reading

*This or another short sentence of scripture is read*

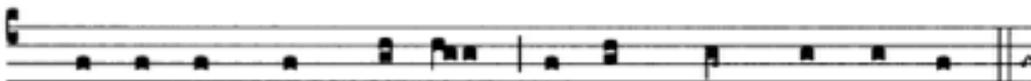
You, O Lord, are in the midst of us, and we are called by your name.  
Leave us not, O Lord our God.

*The reading is followed by two minutes of silence  
for reflection and prayer.*

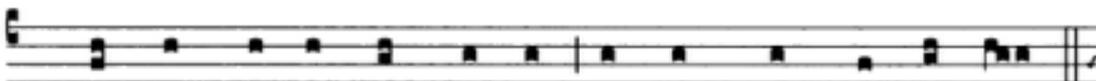
## Responsory



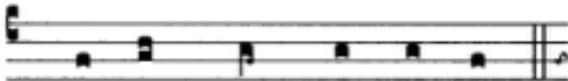
In-to thy hands, O Lord, I com-mend my spi-rit.



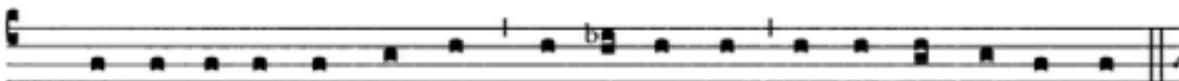
In-to thy hands, O Lord, I com-mend my spi-rit.



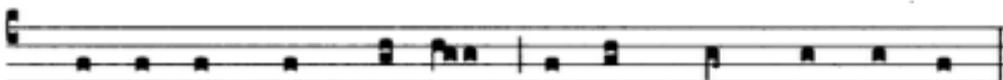
For thou hast re-deem-ed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.



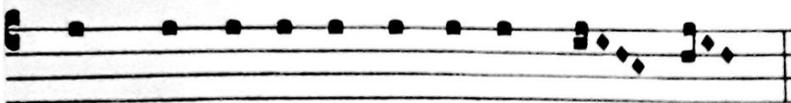
I com-mend my spi-rit.



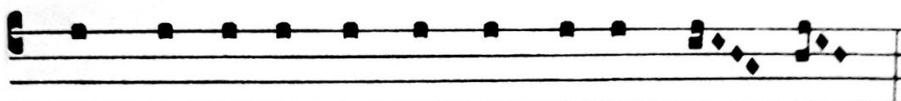
Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost.



In-to thy hands, O Lord, I com-mend my spi-rit.

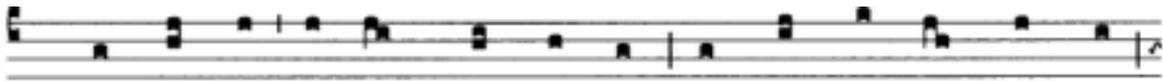


Keep me as the apple of an eye.



**Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.**

## Gospel Canticle: The Nunc Dimittis



Pre-serve us, † O Lord, while wa-king, and guard us while sleep-ing,



that a-wake we may watch with Christ, and a-sleep we may rest in peace.

v. 1 unison  
v. 2 harmony

1. Lord, let thy ser - vant de - part un - to thy rest,  
2. Be hold thou hast pre - pared for all a light of love,

for now mine eyes are with thy long'd for de - liv - rance blest,  
to light - en all thy peop - le; a light sent from a - bove;

Sa - vious, re - deem - er; pro - mise of our sal - va - tion.  
the glo - ry of thine own; the joy of ev' - ry na - tion.

*Metrical version by EW*

*The Antiphon is repeated*

## Prayers

*Officiant* Lord, have mercy upon us.

**All** Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

**All** Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come; thy will be done,  
in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

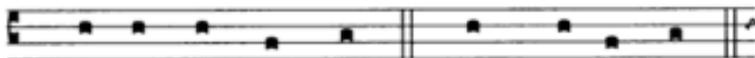
*Officiant* Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

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 repose upon thy eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Conclusion



The Lord be with you **And with thy spi-rit.**



Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost,



bless us and preserve us. **A - men.**

## Concluding Anthem

Robert White, *Christ qui lux es*