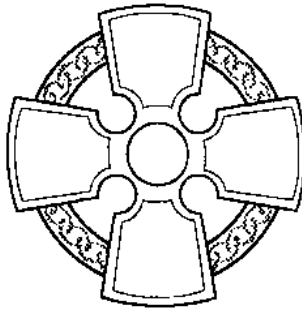


# **Amblecote Holy Trinity**



**COMPLINE – NIGHT OFFICE**

## COMPLINE – NIGHT OFFICE

*The following for Saturday, and the weeks before Advent, or for any day.*

### PREPARATION

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.**

*A period of silence for reflection on the past day may follow.*

**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.**

or

**Holy God,  
holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
have mercy upon us.**

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.**

*Alleluia. (omitted in Lent)*

### TE LUCIS ANTE TERMINUM

**Before the ending of the day,  
Creator of the world, we pray  
That you, with steadfast love, would keep  
Your watch around us while we sleep.**

**From evil dreams defend our sight,  
From fears and terrors of the night;  
Tread underfoot our deadly foe  
That we no sinful thought may know.**

**O Father, that we ask be done  
through Jesus Christ, your only Son;  
and Holy Spirit, by whose breath  
our souls are raised to life from death.**

**THE PSALMODY** *on any day, or of the day p8 ff*

*One or more of the following Psalms may be used*

*Psalm 4*

- 1 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.
- 2 How long will you nobles dishonour my glory; \*  
how long will you love vain things and seek after falsehood?
- 3 But know that the Lord has shown me his marvellous kindness; \*  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.
- 4 Stand in awe, and sin not; \*  
commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still.
- 5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness \*  
and put your trust in the Lord.
- 6 There are many that say, 'Who will show us any good?' \*  
Lord, lift up the light of your countenance upon us.
- 7 You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
more than when their corn and wine and oil increase.
- 8 In peace I will lie down and sleep, \*  
for it is you Lord, only, who make me dwell in safety.

*Psalm 91*

- 1 Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High \*  
and abides under the shadow of the Almighty,
- 2 Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold, \*  
my God, in whom I put my trust.'
- 3 For he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler \*  
and from the deadly pestilence.
- 4 He shall cover you with his wings  
and you shall be safe under his feathers; \*  
his faithfulness shall be your 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 pestilence that stalks in darkness, \*  
nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday.
- 7 Though a thousand fall at your side  
and ten thousand at your right hand, \*  
yet 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 stronghold,
- 10 There shall no evil happen to you, \*  
neither shall any plague come near your tent.
- 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; \*  
the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.
- 14 Because they have set their love upon me,  
therefore will I deliver them; \*  
I will lift them up, because they know my name.
- 15 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.
- 16 With long life will I satisfy them \*  
and show them my salvation.

*Psalms 134*

- 1 Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, \*  
you that by night stand in the house of the Lord.
- 2 Lift up your hands towards the sanctuary \*  
and bless the Lord.
- 3 The Lord who made heaven and earth \*  
give you blessing out of Zion.

**Glory . . .**

## SCRIPTURE READING

You, O Lord, are in the midst of us and we are called by your name; leave us not, O Lord our God.  
*Jeremiah 14.9*

### *Saturdays and weeks before Advent*

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.  
*Hebrews 4.9-11a*

## RESPONSORY

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.**

*Or: In Eastertide*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.  
Alleluia, alleluia.  
**Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**  
**Alleluia, alleluia.**

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.  
**Alleluia, alleluia.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit.  
**Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**  
**Alleluia, alleluia.**

Keep me as the apple of your eye.  
**Hide me under the shadow of your wings.**

## GOSPEL CANTICLE *Nunc Dimittis – The Song of Simeon*

**Save us, O Lord, while waking,  
and guard us while sleeping,  
that awake we may watch with Christ,  
and asleep may rest in peace.**

- 1 Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: \*  
your word has been fulfilled.

- 2 My own eyes have seen the salvation \*  
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;
- 3 A light to reveal you to the nations \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Luke 2.29-32

**Glory . . .**

**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**      *Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.*

### **THE COLLECT**

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

or

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.

*Weeks before Advent*

O God,  
who in the work of creation  
commanded the light to shine out of darkness:  
we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ  
may shine into the hearts of all your people,  
dispelling the darkness of ignorance and unbelief  
and revealing to them the knowledge of your glory  
in the face of Jesus Christ our Lord.



**THE LORD'S PRAYER** *may be said.*

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

**THE 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.**

[Come with the dawning of the day  
**and make yourself known  
in the breaking of bread.]**

**May the risen Lord Jesus bless us.  
May he watch over us and renew us  
as he renews the whole of creation.  
May our hearts and lives echo his love. Amen.**

## SUNDAYS and EASTERTIDE

*Doxology for Easter*

**All praise be yours, O risen Lord,  
from death to endless life restored;  
whom, with the Father, we adore  
and Holy Spirit evermore.**

*Psalm 104.1,22-33*

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul. \*  
O Lord my God, how excellent is your greatness!
- 2 You appointed the moon to mark the seasons, \*  
and the sun knows the time for its setting.
- 3 You make darkness that it may be night, \*  
in which all the beasts of the forest creep forth.
- 4 The lions roar for their prey \*  
and seek their food from God.
- 5 The sun rises and they are gone \*  
to lay themselves down in their dens.
- 6 People go forth to their work \*  
and to their labour until the evening.
- 7 O Lord, how manifold are your works! \*  
In wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.
- 8 There is the sea, spread far and wide, \*  
and there move creatures beyond number, both small and great.
- 9 There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan \*  
which you have made to play in the deep.
- 10 All of these look to you \*  
to give them their food in due season.
- 11 When you give it them, they gather it; \*  
you open your hand and they are filled with good.
- 12 When you hide your face they are troubled; \*  
when you take away their breath,  
they die and return again to the dust.
- 13 When you send forth your spirit, they are created, \*  
and you renew the face of the earth.



14 May the glory of the Lord endure for ever;  
may the Lord rejoice in his works.

**Glory . . .**

*Reading for Sundays and Easter*

The servants of the Lamb shall see the face of God, whose name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night: they will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

*Revelation 22.4,5*

*Easter Refrain for Nunc Dimittis*

**Alleluia. The Lord is risen, alleluia,  
as he promised to you. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*Collect for Easter*

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.

*Blessing for Easter*

**May the risen Lord Jesus bless us.  
May he watch over us and renew us  
as he renews the whole of creation.  
May our hearts and lives echo his love.**

## MONDAYS and ASCENSION TO PENTECOST

*Doxology for Ascension to Pentecost*

**To God the Father, God the Son,  
and God the Spirit praise be done:  
may Christ the Lord upon us poor  
the Spirit's gift for evermore.**

*Psalm 86*

- 1 Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer me, \*  
for I am poor and in misery.
- 2 Preserve my soul, for I am faithful; \*  
save your servant, for I put my trust in you.
- 3 Be merciful to me, O Lord, for you are my God; \*  
I call upon you all the day long.
- 4 Gladden the soul of your servant, \*  
for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
- 5 For you, Lord, are good and forgiving, \*  
abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.
- 6 Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer \*  
and listen to the voice of my supplication.
- 7 In the day of my distress I will call upon you, \*  
for you will answer me.
- 8 Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord, \*  
nor any works like yours.
- 9 All nations you have made shall come and worship you, O Lord, \*  
and shall glorify your name.
- 10 For you are great and do wonderful things; \*  
you alone are God.
- 11 Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; \*  
knit my heart to you, that I may fear your name.
- 12 I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, \*  
and glorify your name for evermore;
- 13 For great is your steadfast love towards me, \*  
for you have delivered my soul from the depths of the grave.

- 14 O God, the proud rise up against me  
and a ruthless horde seek after my life; \*  
they have not set you before their eyes.
- 15 But you, Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, \*  
slow to anger and full of kindness and truth.
- 16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; \*  
give your strength to your servant  
and save the child of your handmaid.
- 17 Show me a token of your favour,  
that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; \*  
because you, O Lord, have helped and comforted me.

**Glory . . .**

*Reading for Mondays*

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. *Isaiah 30.15*

*Reading for Ascension to Pentecost*

I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. *Joel 2.28*

*Ascension to Pentecost refrain for Nunc Dimittis*

**Alleluia. The Holy Spirit the Advocate, alleluia,  
shall teach you all things. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*Collect for 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.

*Collect for Ascension to Pentecost*

Come, O Spirit of God,  
and make within us your dwelling place and home.  
May our darkness be dispelled by your light,  
and our troubles calmed by your peace;  
may all evil be redeemed by your love,  
all pain transformed through the suffering of Christ,  
and all dying glorified in his risen life.

*Blessing for Ascension to Pentecost.*

**May the Holy Spirit of God bless and sanctify us,  
so that we may be consecrated in the truth.**

## TUESDAYS and ADVENT

### *Doxology for Advent*

**To you, O Christ, all glory be,  
who advent sets your people free;  
whom, with the Father, we adore,  
and Holy Spirit, evermore.**

### *From Psalm 143*

- 1 Hear my prayer, O Lord,  
and in your faithfulness give ear to my supplications; \*  
answer me in your righteousness.
- 2 Enter not into judgement with your servant, \*  
for in your sight shall no one living be justified.
- 3 For the enemy has pursued me,  
crushing my life to the ground, \*  
making me sit in darkness like those long dead.
- 4 My spirit faints within me; \*  
my heart within me is desolate.
- 5 I remember the time past; I muse upon all your deeds; \*  
I consider the works of your hands.
- 6 I stretch out my hands to you; \*  
my soul gasps for you like a thirsty land.
- 7 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.
- 8 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.
- 9 Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies, \*  
for I flee to you for refuge.
- 10 Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God; \*  
let your kindly spirit lead me on a level path.
- 11 Revive me, O Lord, for your name's sake; \*  
for your righteousness' sake, bring me out of trouble.

**Glory . . .**

### *Reading for Tuesdays*

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.

*Matthew 11.28-30*

### *Reading for Advent*

Keep awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.

*Mark 13.35-end*

### *Advent refrain for Nunc Dimittis*

**Come, O Lord, and visit us in peace;  
that we may rejoice before you with a perfect heart.**

### *Collect for 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.

### *Collect for Advent*

Stir up your power, O God,  
and come among us.  
Heal our wounds,  
calm our fears  
and give us peace;  
through Jesus our Redeemer.

### *Blessing for Advent*

**Restore us again, O God of hosts.  
Show us the light of your countenance  
and we shall be saved.  
Bless and keep us, this night and always.**

## WEDNESDAYS and CHRISTMAS and THE BVM

*Doxology for Christmas and the BVM*

**Lord Jesus, King of heaven and earth:  
we praise you for your virgin birth;  
you are the Father's only Son,  
with God the Spirit, ever one.**

*From 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 fortress to save me, \*  
for you are my rock and my stronghold;
- 4 Guide me, and lead me \*  
for your name's sake.
- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.
- 6 I will be glad and rejoice in your mercy, \*  
for you have seen my affliction  
and known my soul in adversity.
- 7 But my trust is in you, O Lord. \*  
I have said, 'You are my God.
- 8 'Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
and save me for your mercy's sake.'
- 9 How abundant is your goodness, O Lord,  
which you have laid up for those who fear you; \*
- 10 Blessed be the Lord! \*  
For he has shown me his steadfast love
- 11 Love the Lord, all you his servants; \*  
for the Lord protects the faithful,  
but repays to the full the proud.
- 12 Be strong and let your heart take courage, \*  
all you who wait in hope for the Lord.

**Glory . . .**

*Reading for Wednesdays*

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. 1 Pet 5.6,7

*Reading for Christmas*

In him was life and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it. *John 1.4,5*

*Christmas refrain for Nunc Dimittis*

**Alleluia. The Word was made flesh, alleluia,  
and dwelt among us. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*Collect for 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.

*Collect for Christmas and feasts of the BVM*

We give you thanks, O God,  
for the gift to the world of our Redeemer;  
as we sing your glory at the close of this day,  
so may we know his presence in our hearts,  
who is our Saviour and our Lord,  
now and for ever.

*Blessing for Christmas and on feasts of the BVM*

**May the love of the Word made flesh enfold us,  
his joy fill our lives,  
his peace be in our hearts;  
and the blessing of God be with us  
this night and always.**

*Blessing for the Presentation*

**May Christ our light fill our darkness with his radiance,  
and God's blessing be always upon us.**



## THURSDAYS and EPIPHANY

### *Doxology for Epiphany*

**Your glory, Christ, is manifest:  
all peoples, Lord, by you are blest;  
whom with the Father, we adore,  
and Holy Spirit evermore.**

### *From Psalm 16*

- 1 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.'
- 2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, \*  
upon those who are noble in heart.
- 3 The Lord himself is my portion and my cup; \*  
in your hands alone is my fortune.
- 4 My share has fallen in a fair land; \*  
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
- 5 I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel, \*  
and in the night watches he instructs my heart.
- 6 I have set the Lord always before me; \*  
he is at my right hand; I shall not fall.
- 7 Wherefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices; \*  
my flesh also shall rest secure.
- 8 For you will not abandon my soul to Death, \*  
nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.
- 9 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.

**Glory . . .**

### *Reading for Thursdays*

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.

1 Peter 5.8,9

*Readings for Epiphany*

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.

*Titus 1.11*

*Epiphany Refrain for Nunc Dimittis*

**Alleluia. Christ the Light of the world, alleluia,  
has manifested his glory. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*Collect for Thursday*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
who said to your apostles,  
'Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you':  
look not on our sins but on the faith of your Church  
and grant it the peace and unity of your kingdom;  
where you are alive and reign with the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*Collect for Epiphany*

King of kings and Lord of lords,  
making the true light to shine:  
lighten our darkness now and evermore  
that with our lips and in our lives  
we may praise you;  
for you are our God, now and for ever.

*Blessing for Epiphany*

**May the living waters of Christ cleanse us,  
may the Spirit descend upon us,  
and the blessing of God be with us  
this night and always.**

## FRIDAYS and LENT

*Doxology for Lent*

**Grant, ever blessed Trinity,  
and ever perfect Unity,  
that this, our fast of forty days,  
may work our profit and your praise.**

*From Psalm 139*

- 1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me; \*  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You mark out my journeys and my resting place \*  
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 For there is not a word on my tongue, \*  
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You encompass me behind and before \*  
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, \*  
so high that I cannot attain it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your spirit? \*  
Or where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; \*  
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning \*  
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand shall lead me, \*  
your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me \*  
and the light around me turn to night,'
- 11 Even darkness is no darkness with you;  
the night is as clear as the day; \*  
darkness and light to you are both alike.
- 12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; \*  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 13 I thank you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; \*  
marvellous are your works, my soul knows well.

- 14 My frame was not hidden from you, \*  
when I was made in secret  
and woven in the depths of the earth.
- 15 Your eyes beheld my form, as yet unfinished; \*  
already in your book were all my members written,
- 16 As day by day they were fashioned \*  
when as yet there was none of them.
- 17 How deep are your counsels to me, O God! \*  
How great is the sum of them!
- 18 If I count them, they are more in number than the sand, \*  
and at the end, I am still in your presence.
- 19 Search me out, O God, and know my heart; \*  
try me and examine my thoughts.
- 20 See if there is any way of wickedness in me \*  
and lead me in the way everlasting.

**Glory . . .**

#### *Reading for Fridays*

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.

*1 Thessalonians 5.9,10*

#### *Readings for Lent*

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

*Isaiah 58. 6,7*

#### *Lent refrain for the Nunc Dimittis*

**Christ died for us,  
so that, whether we wake or sleep,  
we might live with him.**

*Collect for Fridays*

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.

*Collect for Lent*

Almighty God,  
may we, by the prayer and discipline of Lent,  
enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings;  
that, by following in the Way,  
we may come to share in the glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Blessing for Lent*

**May God bless us,  
that in us may be found love and humility,  
obedience and thanksgiving,  
discipline, gentleness and peace.**

# PASSIONTIDE

*Doxology for Passiontide*

**To you, O saving Three in One,  
Let homage due by all be done;  
and grant us, by thy cross restored,  
to share the Victor's great reward.**

*From Psalm 139*

- 1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me; \*  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You mark out my journeys and my resting place \*  
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 For there is not a word on my tongue, \*  
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You encompass me behind and before \*  
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, \*  
so high that I cannot attain it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your spirit? \*  
Or where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; \*  
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning \*  
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand shall lead me, \*  
your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me \*  
and the light around me turn to night,'
- 11 Even darkness is no darkness with you;  
the night is as clear as the day; \*  
darkness and light to you are both alike.
- 12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; \*  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 13 I thank you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; \*  
marvellous are your works, my soul knows well.

- 14 My frame was not hidden from you, \*  
when I was made in secret  
and woven in the depths of the earth.
- 15 Your eyes beheld my form, as yet unfinished; \*  
already in your book were all my members written,
- 16 As day by day they were fashioned \*  
when as yet there was none of them.
- 17 How deep are your counsels to me, O God! \*  
How great is the sum of them!
- 18 If I count them, they are more in number than the sand, \*  
and at the end, I am still in your presence.
- 19 Search me out, O God, and know my heart; \*  
try me and examine my thoughts.
- 20 See if there is any way of wickedness in me \*  
and lead me in the way everlasting.

**Glory . . .**

### *Reading*

<sup>8</sup>On that day the Lord will shield the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the feeblest among them on that day shall be like David, and the house of David shall be like God, like the angel of the Lord, at their head. <sup>10</sup>And I will pour out a spirit of compassion and supplication on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that, when they look on the one whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.      *Zechariah 12.8,10*

### *Nunc Dimittis*

**Christ himself bore our sins  
in his body on the tree,  
that we might die to sin  
and live to righteousness.**

*Collect*

Almighty God,  
as we stand at the foot of the cross of your Son,  
help us to see and know your love for us,  
so that in humility, love and joy  
we may place at his feet  
all that we have and all that we are;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

*Blessing*

**May God bless us,  
that in us may be found love and humility,  
obedience and thanksgiving,  
discipline, gentleness and peace.**



## THE BLESSÈD VIRGIN MARY

*Psalm: as Ordinary time, or of the season*

### *Reading*

Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her. *Luke 1.38*

### *Nunc Dimittis*

**Blessèd is she whose soul was pierced  
by the sword of the cross.**

### *Collect*

We give you thanks, O God,  
for the gift to the world of our Redeemer:  
as we sing your glory at the end of this day,  
so may we know his presence in our hearts,  
who is our Saviour and our Lord,  
now and for ever.

### *Blessing*

**May the love of the Word made flesh enfold us,  
his joy fill our lives,  
his peace be in our hearts:  
and the blessing of God be with us  
this night and always.**

# SAINTS

## Reading:

### *Apostles, Evangelists, and Missionaries*

<sup>19</sup>You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup>built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.

*Ephesians 2.19,20*

### *Martyrs*

Love is as strong as death, its jealousy unyielding as the grave. It burns like blazing fire, like a mighty flame. Many waters cannot quench love; rivers cannot wash it away.

*Song of Solomon 8.6-7*

### *Teachers, Confessors, or Bishops*

Wisdom guides us on straight paths; she shows us the kingdom of heaven and gives us the knowledge of holy things.

*Wisdom 10.10*

### *Religious*

<sup>3</sup>Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>8</sup>Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. *Matthew 5.3,8*

### *Any Saint*

<sup>8</sup>Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

*Philippians 4.8,9*

### *The departed*

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

*Romans 6.5*

### *Nunc Dimittis*

**Grant us your light, O Lord,  
that the darkness of our hearts being overcome,  
we may receive the true light,  
even Christ our Saviour.**





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