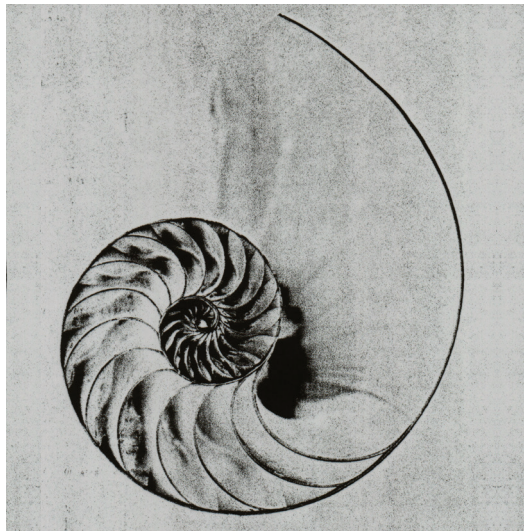




SAINT MARK'S
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

CONTOURS OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

LITURGIES



Spring 2026

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Evening Prayer from the Corrymeela Community

We reflect on the day:

Leader For love shared

All we are grateful

For provision and nurture

we are grateful

For kindness given

we are grateful.

For the sorrow we've caused,

we pray for forgiveness

For injustices ignored,

we pray for forgiveness.

For the encounters with God today, in stranger and friend,

we bid you welcome.

For the encounters missed today,

we know that you always see us

even when we don't see you.

For tomorrow,

may we see you

in ways expected and unexpected.

We welcome the dark of the night.

We make space for it, and we mark our place in it.

We remember that you, Jesus of Nazareth,

lived through nights of consolation and desolation.

And you walked into the nights of those people you met

inviting them to justice and truth, love and life.

We welcome the night,

and we welcome you into all our nights.

We pray for those who work by night,

whose day is marked by moon, cloud and stars.

And we pray for those whose nights are desolate,
**that they may have the consolation of prayer,
peaceful solitude and community.**

For a peaceful night,
we pray.

For a hopeful day,
we pray.

For a deeper generosity,
we pray.

Amen.

Pádraig Ó Tuama, *Daily Prayer with the Corrymeela Community*
published by Canterbury Press, Norwich. (Kindle Edition)

Boisil Compline from the North Umbrian Community

All gather and settle for a short while in silence.

Leader O Lord, You will keep us safe and protect us forever.

**All I am placing my soul and my body
in your safe keeping this night, O God,
in your safe keeping, O Jesus Christ,
in your safe keeping, O Spirit of perfect truth.
The Three who would defend my cause
be keeping me this night from harm.**

Intercessor 1 I call on You, O God,
for You will answer me;
give ear to me and hear my prayer.

Intercessor 2 Show the wonder of Your great love,
You who save by Your right hand
those who take refuge in You from their foes.

Intercessor 3 Keep me as the apple of Your eye;
hide me in the shadow of your wings.

All Lighten my darkness, Lord.
Let the light of Your presence
dispel the shadows of night.

Intercessor 1 Christ with me sleeping,
Christ with me waking,
Christ with me watching,
each day and each night.

Intercessor 2 Save us, Lord, while we are awake,
guard us while we are asleep;
that, awake, we may watch with Christ,
and, asleep, may rest in peace.

All God with me protecting,
the Lord with me directing,
the Spirit with me strengthening
for ever and for evermore.

Intercessor 3 In the name of the Father precious,
and of the Spirit of healing balm.
In the name of the Lord Jesus,
I lay me down to rest.

All The peace of all peace
be mine this night
✠ in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

From from the Northumbria Community's
Celtic Daily Prayer (published by Collins)

A Liturgy of the Night from the Corrymeela Community

Leader On the first evening God said: “Let there be darkness.” And God separated light from dark; and in the dark, the land rested, the people slept, the plants breathed, and the world retreated. The first night.

All And God said that it was Good.

And on the second night God said: “There will be conversations that happen in the dark that can’t happen in the day.” The second night.

And God said that it was Good.

And on the third night, God said: “Let there be things that can only be seen by night.” And God created stars and insects and luminescence. The third night.

And God said that it was Good.

And on the fourth night, God said: “Some things that happen in the harsh of day will be troubled. Let there be a time of rest to escape the raw light.” The fourth night.

And God said that it was Good.

And on the fifth night, God said: “There will be people who work by night, whose light will be silver, whose sleep will be by day and whose labor will be late.” And God put a softness at the heart of the darkness. The fifth night.

And God said that it was Good.

And on the sixth night, God listened. And there were people working, and people crying, and people seeking shadow, and people telling secrets and people aching for company. There were people aching for space and people aching for solace. And God hoped that they’d survive. And God made twilight, and shafts of green to hang from the dark skies, small comforts to accompany the lonely, the joyous, the needy and the needed. The sixth night.

And God said that it was Good.

And on the last night, God rested. And the rest was good. The rest was very good.

And God said that it was very Good. ♦

Compline from The Book of Common Prayer 1979

PREPARATION

BCP 1979, p. 127

Officiant The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end.

All Amen.

Officiant Our help is in the Name of God.

Assembly Creator of Heaven and Earth.

Officiant Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence.

Assembly Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

**We have sinned against you,
through our own fault,
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.**

**For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,
forgive us all our offenses;
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Officiant May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins,
and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

Assembly O Lord, make haste to help us.

**All Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

[*omitted in Lent:*] **[Alleluia.]**

PSALTER*Psalm 31:1-5**BCP 1979, p. 129*

- 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 castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, *
for you are my tower of strength.
- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me
O LORD, O God of truth.

**All Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

READING*1 Peter 5:8-9a**BCP 1979, p. 132*

BE SOBER, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls
around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.
Resist him, firm in your faith.

All Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;
For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.
Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;
Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy

All 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.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

Officiant O Lord, hear our prayer.

Assembly **And let our cry come to you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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 young; and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

Silence.

Officiant Guide us waking, O Lord,

**All and guard us sleeping;
that awake we may watch with Christ,
and asleep we may rest in peace.**

[in the Easter Season only, add:] [Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.]

Officiant Lord, you now have set your servant free

**All to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:
A Light to enlighten the nations, *
and the glory of your people Israel.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

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

[in the Easter Season only, add:] [Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.]

DISMISSAL

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

Assembly Thanks be to God.

Officiant The almighty and merciful Lord,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,
bless us and keep us.

All Amen.

Night Prayer from A New Zealand Prayer Book

APPROACH

The angels of God guard us through the night,
and quieten the powers of darkness.

The Spirit of God be our guide
to lead us to peace and to glory.

It is but lost labour that we haste to rise up early,
and so late take rest, and eat the bread of anxiety.
For those beloved of God are given gifts even while they sleep.

Silence.

My brothers and sisters,
our help is in the name of the eternal God,
who is making the heavens and the earth.

Dear God,
thank you for all that is good,
for our creation and for our humanity,
for the stewardship you have given us of this planet earth,
for the gifts of life and of one another,
for your love which is unbounded and eternal.

O thou, most holy and beloved,
my Companion, my Guide upon the way,
my bright evening star.

CONFESSION

We repent the wrongs we have done:

Silence

We have wounded your love.
O God, heal us.

We stumble in the darkness.
Light of the world transfigure us.

We forget that we are your home.
Spirit of God, dwell in us.

Eternal Spirit, living God,
in whom we live and move and have our being,
all that we are, have been, and shall be is known to you,
to the very secret of our hearts
and all that rises to trouble us.
Living flame burn into us,
cleansing wind, blow through us,
fountain of water, well up within us,
that we may love and praise in deed and in truth.

INVOCATION

Eternal Spirit, flow through our being and open our lips,
that our mouths may proclaim your praise.

[*omitted in Lent:*] [Let us worship the God of love. **Alleluia, alleluia.**]

PSALMS

One of the following or some other Psalm is read.

PSALM 16 O God, I give you thanks for the wisdom of your counsel,
even at night you have instructed my heart.
I have set your face always before me,
you are at my right hand and I shall not fall.
Therefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices,
my flesh also shall rest secure.
For you will not give me over to the power of death,
nor let your faithful one see the Pit.
In your presence is the fulness of joy,
and from your right hand flow delights for evermore. ♦

PSALM 31

O God, I have come to you for shelter:
let me never be put to shame.

Deliver me in the justice of your ways:
incline your ear to me and be swift to save me.

Be for me a rock of refuge, a fortress to defend me:
for you are my rock and my stronghold.

Lead me and guide me for your name's sake:
deliver me out of the net that they have laid secretly for me,
for you are my strength.

Into your hands I commit my spirit,
for you will redeem me, eternal God of truth. ♦

PSALM 121

I will lift up my eyes to the mountains,
but where shall I find help?

From you alone, O God, does my help come,
creator of the ever changing hills.

You will not let me stumble on the rough pathways,
you care for me and watch over me without ceasing.

I am sure that the Guardian of my people
neither slumbers nor sleeps.

The God of all nations keeps watch,
like a shadow spread over me.

So the sun will not strike me by day,
nor the moon by night.

You will defend me in the presence of evil,
you will guard my life.

You will defend my going out and my coming in,
this night and always. ♦

READING

One of the following or some other passage of scripture is read. Silence may follow the reading.

GOD has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. ♦

—2 Timothy 1:7

YOU Lord are in the midst of us, and we are called by your name. Leave us not. ♦

—Jeremiah 14:9

LOVE your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who abuse you. Do good and lend, expecting nothing in return; for God is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish.

Be merciful as your father is merciful. Judge not and you will not be judged. Condemn not and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven.

Give and it will be given to you; for the measure you give will be the measure you receive. ♦

—from Luke 6:27–38

DO NOT ask anxiously, What are we to eat? What are we to drink? What shall we wear? The whole world runs after such things. Set your heart and mind on God's commonwealth and justice first, and all the rest will come to you as well. So do not be anxious about tomorrow. Today has enough problems of its own; tomorrow can look after itself. ♦

—Matthew 6:31–34

PRAYERS

Into your hands, O God, I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O God of truth and love.

Keep me, O God, as the apple of an eye;
hide me under the shadow of your wings.

ANTIPHON & CANTICLE

One of the following antiphons is said together, before the Nunc dimittis.

ORDINARY DAYS

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

HOLY DAYS [*Easter season*]

**Alleluia. The Lamb who was slain has conquered. Alleluia.
All who follow the Way will share in the victory. Alleluia, alleluia.**

SONG OF SIMEON (NUNC DIMITTIS)

**Praise be to God, I have lived to see this day.
God's promise is fulfilled, and my duty done.**

**At last you have given me peace,
for I have seen with my own eyes
the salvation you have prepared for all nations—
a light to the world in its darkness,
and the glory of your people Israel.**

**Glory be to God, sustaining, redeeming, sanctifying,
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever.**

Amen.

The antiphon is repeated.

Lord, have mercy. Kyrie eleison.
Christ, have mercy. Christe eleison.
Lord have mercy. Kyrie eleison.

The Lord's Prayer or the alternative is 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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Or

**Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and for ever. Amen.**

SUFFRAGES *The Officiant and Assembly pray responsively.*

I will lie down in peace and take my rest,
for it is in God alone that I dwell unafraid.

Let us bless the Earth-maker, the Pain-bearer, the Life-giver,
let us praise and exalt God above all for ever.

May God's name be praised beyond the furthest star,
glorified and exalted above all for ever.

One or more of the following is said, concluding with the Sentence of the Day and Final Versicle.

1 *A General Thanksgiving*

Eternal God, compassionate and merciful,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving kindness
to us and to all people.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your boundless love
in the redemption of the world by our Saviour Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us that due sense of all your mercies,
that our hearts may be truly thankful,
and that we praise you, not only with our lips but in our lives,
by giving ourselves to your service
and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory,
now and for ever.

Amen.

2 O living God, in Jesus Christ you were laid in the tomb at this evening hour, and so sanctified the grave to be a bed of hope to your people. Give us courage and faith to die daily to our sin and pride, that even as this flesh and blood decays, our lives still may grow in you, that at our last day our dying may be done so well that we live in you for ever.

Amen.

3 Be present, Spirit of God,
within us, your dwelling place and home,
that this house may be one where
all darkness is penetrated by your light,
all troubles calmed by your peace,
all evil redeemed by your love,
all pain transformed in your suffering,
and all dying glorified in your risen life. **Amen.**

4 God our Creator, our centre, our friend,
we thank you for our good life,
for those who are dear to us,
for our dead, and for all who have helped and influenced us.
We thank you for the measure of freedom we have,
and the extent to which we control our lives;
and most of all we thank you for the faith that is in us,
for our awareness of you and our hope in you.
Keep us, we pray you, thankful and hopeful
and useful until our lives shall end.
Amen.

5 Lord,
it is night.
The night is for stillness.
Let us be still in the presence of God.
It is night after a long day.
What has been done has been done;
what has not been done has not been done;
let it be.
The night is dark.
Let our fears of the darkness of the world and of our own lives
rest in you.
The night is quiet.
Let the quietness of your peace enfold us,
all dear to us,
and all who have no peace.

The night heralds the dawn.
Let us look expectantly to a new day,
new joys,
new possibilities.

In your name we pray.

Amen.

SENTENCE OF THE DAY *One of the following is read.*

- 1** O God of love and mercy,
grant us, with all your people, rest and peace.

- 2** God bless us and keep us,
God's face shine on us and be gracious to us,
and give us light and peace.

- 3** To God the Creator,
who loved us first and gave this world to be our home,
to God the Redeemer,
who loves us and by dying and rising
pioneered the way of freedom,
to God the Sanctifier,
who spreads the divine love in our hearts,
be praise and glory for time and for eternity.

- 4** O God,
strengthen your servants with your heavenly grace,
that we may continue yours for ever,
and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more,
until we come to your everlasting kingdom.

- 5** Christ be within us to keep us,
beside us to guard,
before us to lead,
behind us to protect,
beneath us to support,
above us to bless.

6 The blessing of God, the eternal goodwill of God,
the shalom of God, the wildness and the warmth of God,
be among us and between us, now and always.

7 Blessing, light, and glory surround us
and scatter the darkness of the long and lonely night.

FINAL VERSICLE *The service concludes:*

The divine Spirit dwells in us.

And with those absent from us.



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