

ELW Evening Prayer



Philippians 4⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

DIALOGUE

God is our light and our salvation,
our refuge and our stronghold.

From the rising of the sun to its setting,
we praise your name, O God.

For with you is the fountain of life,
and in your light we see light.

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning you called light into being,
and you set light in the sky to govern night and day.

In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night
you led your people into freedom.

Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ:
may your Word be a lamp to our feet
and a light to our path;
for you are merciful,
and you love your whole creation,
and with all your creatures we give you glory,
through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

PSALMODY

**Let my prayer rise before you as incense;
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

**O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly;
hear my voice when I cry to you.**

**Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord,
and guard the door of my lips.**

**Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;
let me not be occupied in wickedness with evildoers.**

**But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God;
in you I take refuge.
Strip me not of my life.**

**Glory 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.**

**Let my prayer rise before you as incense;
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

READINGS

Jesus said, I am the light of the world.
Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness.

GOSPEL CANTICLE

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.**

**From this day all generations will call me blessed:
you, the Almighty, have done great things for me
and holy is your name.**

**You have mercy on those who fear you,
from generation to generation.
You have shown strength with your arm
and scattered the proud in their conceit,
casting down the mighty from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.**

**You have filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
You have come to the aid of your servant Israel,
to remember the promise of mercy,
the promise made to our forebears,
to Abraham and his children forever.**

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

PRAYERS

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the health of the creation, for abundant harvests that all may share, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For public servants, the government, and those who protect us; for those who work to bring peace, justice, healing, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who travel, for those who are sick and suffering, and for those who are in captivity, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For name/s and all servants of the church, for this assembly, and for all people who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Other petitions may be added.

Thank you, gracious God, for the gift of this coming night. Restore us with your right spirit. Calm our minds. Quiet our hearts. Enfold us with your bountiful mercy. Protect us from all harm, that we sleep assured of the peace found in you alone. We ask this in the name of Jesus, who gives us rest.

Lord Jesus, as you stilled the wind and rough sea so long ago and brought calm to your terrified disciples, so care for us now and calm our hearts. Rescue us from fear and grant us courage. Walk with us each step of the way and keep us in your unending care. You know us far better than we know ourselves. You have been with us from the beginning. You have made us your disciples. Assure us by your Spirit that you will hear our prayers, for you have promised to be with us always.

God of peace, the hours are long, the work is hard, the duties are complex, and the fears and anxieties are real. Enable us to lay in your hands the day that is past—the good we have been permitted to do, but also our worries and feelings of uncertainty. As we take a deep breath of gratitude for your constant mercy and love, allow us to sleep in peace, trusting in your unfailing care. Let our sleep be a confession of confidence in your love, which you have shown in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Merciful God, in the stillness of our souls we listen for your voice to know again that you are God. Quiet our restless hearts with the knowledge that you are near us, keeping watch over your own. Rekindle our faith and light the lamp of hope within our hearts. Then take us by the hand into each day that lies ahead, for where you lead we can confidently go with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

A time of silence follows.

Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the communion of name/s and all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to you, through Christ our Lord.

To you, O Lord.

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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 forever. Amen.

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.
(NZ Prayer Book)

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.
Amen.

