



Night Prayer

A Lindisfarne Liturgy

Opening

Shadows darken this day;
the day Christ was laid in a grave.
The darkness shall not engulf us;
for with you the darkness is light.
Lord, by your Cross and precious death;
save us from the powers of evil,
save us from another's harm,
save us from our selfish failings,
come this night and give us calm.

Psalm 90

A Prayer of Moses, the man of God.

- 1 Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
- 3 You turn us back to dust,
and say, "Turn back, you mortals."
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight
are like yesterday when it is past,
or like a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep them away; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning;
- 6 in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.

- 7 For we are consumed by your anger;
by your wrath we are overwhelmed.
- 8 You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
- 9 For all our days pass away under your wrath;
our years come to an end like a sigh.
- 10 The days of our life are seventy years,
or perhaps eighty, if we are strong;
even then their span is only toil and trouble;
they are soon gone, and we fly away.
- 11 Who considers the power of your anger?
Your wrath is as great as the fear that is due you.
- 12 So teach us to count our days
that we may gain a wise heart.
- 13 Turn, O Lord! How long?
Have compassion on your servants!
- 14 Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
- 15 Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us,
and as many years as we have seen evil.
- 16 Let your work be manifest to your servants,
and your glorious power to their children.
- 17 Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us,
and prosper for us the work of our hands—
O prosper the work of our hands!

Forgiveness

Evolved, accepted, loved:
in response to this grace of God
let us confess our sins,
that when our bodies become but ashes
we may live with you for ever.

Let us reflect on the things that distance us from Christ.

There may be a silent examination of conscience.

Forgive us our sins.

Lord, forgive.

Words such as 'Lord, have mercy' or 'Kyrie Eleison' may be sung.

As he was dying a martyr's death Jesus said: 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'

Christ forsaken,

have mercy on all who are forsaken.

Christ afraid,

have mercy on all who are afraid.

Christ betrayed,

have mercy on all who are betrayed.

People may mention those who need prayers, in silence or aloud.

Great God who mothers us all,
gather the sufferings of all
into the communion of the crucified Christ.

**Shield and deliver them
and look on them with your merciful gaze.**

Jesus said: 'Father into your hands I commit my life';

Father into your hands we commit our lives.

Father, at the foot of your Son's Cross,
help us to see and know your love for us.

Father, into your hands we commit our lives.

**Simeon's Song Lord, you now have set your servant free
to go in peace as you have promised.
For these eyes of mine have seen the Saviour
whom you have prepared for all the world to see.
A light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people.**

Closing

O Christ who at this evening hour rested in the tomb
and made it become a bed of hope,
visit with us tonight,
that we may pass through the death of sleep
and rise from our beds in hope of life eternal.
**Then, Lord, give us a peaceful night
and a good ending to life.**

I make the sign of the Cross of Christ (*make sign*);
**my Christ, my Shield, my Saviour;
each day, each night, in light, in dark,
my Treasure, my dear One,
my eternal home.**