**Night Prayer**

 Although we are apart, we come together to meet with God.

 Let us recognise God’s presence with us now.

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

 Our help is in the name of the Lord
***All* who made heaven and earth.**

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

***All* 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.**

 O God, make speed to save us.
***All* O Lord, make haste to help us.**

***All* 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.**

***The following or other suitable hymn may be sung.***

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 Word of God***

***Psalm*** ***51:1-12***

1. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;

according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

1. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

3. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.
4. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
 so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.
5 Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
6. Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;
 you taught me wisdom in that secret place.

7. Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
 wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
8. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
9. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

10. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
11. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.
12. Restore to me the joy of your salvation
 and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

***All* 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.**

 Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
***All* Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.** For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.
***All* I commend my spirit.** Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
***All* Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**

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

***We listen to a meditation***

***The Nunc Dimittis (Song of Simeon) is said.***

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

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 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.**

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

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

***The 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.
***All* Amen.**

***The Lord’s Prayer is said.***

***The Conclusion***

 In peace we will lie down and sleep;
***All* for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.**

 Abide with us, Lord Jesus,
***All* for the night is at hand and the day is now past.**

 As the night watch looks for the morning,
***All* so do we look for you, O Christ.**

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

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