



## Vespers

**Bell x3**

**Gathering:**

Let our prayer be set forth in your sight as incense.

**The lifting up of our hands an evening sacrifice.**

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

**A light no darkness can extinguish**

You are here Lord, You are here  
In the quiet evening, in the  
lengthening shades. In the  
wakening stars, in the gathering  
people.

In our pain and in our joy  
You are here Lord, You are here

**We are here Lord. We are here.  
To remember your presence  
To bring you our day  
To give you ourselves  
To share in your stillness  
We are here, Lord. We are here.**

*Candles are lit*

O Lord, in the name of Jesus  
Christ your Son our God, give us  
that love which can never cease,

that will kindle our lamps but not  
extinguish them, that they may  
burn in us and enlighten others.

**O Christ, our dearest Saviour,  
kindle our lamps, that they  
may evermore shine in your  
temple, that they may receive  
unquenchable light from you  
that will enlighten our  
darkness, and lessen the  
darkness of the world.**

Beloved, we pray, give your light  
to our lamps that in its light the  
most holy place may be revealed  
to us in which you dwell, that we  
may always see you, desire you,  
look on you in love, and long after  
you; for your sake. **Amen.**

*Source: An Ancient Collect, sixth  
century*

**Psalm 142, 143**

*Glory to you Source of all Being  
Eternal Word and Holy Spirit as it  
was in the beginning is now and  
ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen*

**Gospel: John 17:1-11**

***Silence***

**The Song of Mary (Magnificat)  
My soul proclaims the  
greatness of the Lord, my spirit  
rejoices in you, O God my  
Savior, \* for you 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 help of your servant Israel, \* for you have remembered your promise of mercy, The promise made to our forebears, \* to Abraham and Sarah and their children for ever.**

**Our Prayers** *(spoken or silent)*

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment, to love one another as he loved them. Write this commandment in our hearts; give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, who gave his life and died for us, yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Gathering our prayers spoken and unspoken we pray:  
**Abba, Amma, Beloved, your name be hallowed, your reign spread among us, your will be done well, at all times, in all places. Give us the bread we need for today. Forgive us our trespass as we forgive those who trespass against us. Let us not fail in the time of our testing. Spare us from trials too sharp to endure. Free us from the grip of all evil powers. For yours is the reign, the power and the glory, the victory of love, for now and eternity, world without end. Amen.**

**Sending**

Sleep, O sleep in the calm of each calm.

Sleep, O sleep in the guidance of all guidance.

Sleep, O sleep in the love of all loves.

Sleep, O beloved, in the Lord of life.

Sleep, O beloved, in the God of life.

The peace of all peace be yours this night **Amen.**

The God of light grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

Let us bless the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**