

Mulbarton Group of Churches



Night Prayer during Holy Week

Welcome:

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

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

Amen.

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

Prayer of penitence:

**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.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

**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.**

Hymn: (Tune: Tallis' Canon)

**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**

Psalm 139:1-18

Refrain: Search me out, O God, and know my heart.

1. O Lord, you have searched me out and known me;
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.

**2. You mark out my journeys and my resting place
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

3. For there is not a word on my tongue,
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

**4. You encompass me behind and before
and lay your hand upon me.**

5. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
so high that I cannot attain it.

Refrain: Search me out, O God, and know my heart.

**6. Where can I go then from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?**

7. If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

**8. If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,**

9. Even there your hand shall lead me,
your right hand hold me fast.

**10. If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me
and the light around me turn to night,'**

11. Even darkness is no darkness with you;
the night is as clear as the day;
darkness and light to you are both alike.

Refrain: Search me out, O God, and know my heart.

12. For you yourself created my inmost parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

**13. I thank you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
marvellous are your works, my soul knows well.**

14. My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.

**15. Your eyes beheld my form, as yet unfinished;
already in your book were all my members written,**

16. As day by day they were fashioned
when as yet there was none of them.

**17. How deep are your counsels to me, O God!
How great is the sum of them!**

18. If I count them, they are more in number than the sand,
and at the end, I am still in your presence.

Refrain: Search me out, O God, and know my heart.

Creator God,
may every breath we take be for your glory,
may every footstep show you as our way,
that, trusting in your presence in this world,
we may, beyond this life, still be with you
where you are alive and reign
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**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.**

Our reading from the Bible: Zechariah 12:10

I will pour out a spirit of compassion and supplication on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that, when they look on the one whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn. (NRSVA)

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Responsory:

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

I commend my spirit.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Keep me as the apple of your eye.

Hide me under the shadow of your wings

Canticle: The Nunc Dimittis (Song of Simeon)

**Christ died for us,
so that, whether we wake or sleep,
we might live with him.**

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.

**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 died for us,
so that, whether we wake or sleep,
we might live with him.**

Prayers of Intercession:

Silence is kept between each prayer to allow you to pray in your heart; for the world, for the church, for your friends and family, and for yourself.

Have mercy on your people,
for whom your Son laid down his life:
Lord, we come to the cross: **in your mercy, hear us.**

Bring healing and wholeness to people and nations,
and have pity on those torn apart by division:
Lord, we come to the cross: **in your mercy, hear us.**

Strengthen all who are persecuted for your name's sake,
and deliver them from evil:
Lord, we come to the cross: **in your mercy, hear us.**

Look in mercy upon all who suffer,
and hear those who cry out in pain and desolation:
Lord, we come to the cross: **in your mercy, hear us.**

Bring comfort to the dying,
and gladden their hearts with the vision of your glory:
Lord, we come to the cross: **in your mercy, hear us.**

Let us commend the world, for which Christ died,
to the mercy and protection of God.

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray,
and drive far from it the snares of the enemy;
may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace,
and may your blessing be always upon us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The collect: (this or another collect is said)

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.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer:

Standing at the foot of the cross,
As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

The Conclusion:

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

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

As the night watch looks for the morning,
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**



FOLLOWING JESUS
Sharing the journey

WITH THE VILLAGES OF MULBARTON,
FLORDON, BRACON ASH AND HETHEL

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