The offering of prayer late in the evening, often called Compline, has sometimes been described as the “goodnight prayer” of the Church.

It rounds off the day and prepares us for a quiet night.

As the psalmist wrote:
I lie down in peace and take my rest for it is in God alone that I dwell unafraid.

Night Prayer derives its content from the wisdom of the centuries in Scripture and above all in the psalms, but also from contemporary Christian experience of God.

It celebrates the awareness that each of us who tries to pray is a part of the human whole.
The angels of God guard us through the night
and quiet the powers of darkness.

The Spirit of God be our guide
to lead us to peace and to glory.

It is but lost labor that we haste to rise up early,
and so late take rest,
and eat the bread of anxiety.
For those beloved of God are given gifts
even while they sleep.

Silence ....

My brothers and sisters,
our help is in the name of the eternal God,
who is making the heavens and the earth.

Dear God,
thank you for all that is good,
for our creation and our humanity,
for the stewardship you have given us of this planet earth,
for the gifts of life and of one another,
for your love which is unbounded and eternal.
O thou, most holy and beloved,
my Companion, my Guide upon the way,
my bright evening star.

We repent the wrongs we have done.
Silence....

The divine spirit dwells in you.
Thanks be to God.
We have wounded your love.
O God, heal us.

We stumble in the darkness.
Light of the world transfigure us.

We forget that we are your home.
Spirit of God, dwell in us.

Eternal Spirit, living God,
in whom we live and move
and have our being,
all that we are, have been,
and shall be is known to you,
to the very secret of our hearts
and all that rises to trouble us.
Living flame, burn into us,
cleansing wind, blow through us,
fountain of water, well up within us,
that we may love and praise in deed and in truth.

Invocation

Eternal Spirit,
flow through our being and open our lips,
that our mouths may proclaim your praise.

Let us worship the God of love.
Alleluia, alleluia.

Reading of the psalm.....

Reading of scripture.....

Song.....
In unison
God, be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes, and in my looking;
God, be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God, be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God, be at my end, and at my departing.

Into your hands, O God, I commend my spirit,
For you have redeemed me, O God of truth and love.

Keep me, O God, as the apple of an eye;
Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Preserve us, O God, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ,
and asleep may rest in your peace.

Song of Simeon
Praise be to God, I have lived to see this day,
God’s promise is fulfilled, and my duty done.
At last you have given me peace,
for I have seen with my own eyes
the salvation you have prepared for all nations –
A light to the world in its darkness,
and the glory of your people Israel.
Glory be to God, sustaining, redeeming, sanctifying,
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever.
Amen

I will lie down in peace and take my rest,
For it is in God alone that I dwell unafraid.

Let us bless the Earth-maker,
the Pain-bearer, the Life-giver.
Let us praise and exalt God above all for ever.

May God’s name be praised
beyond the furthest star.
Glorified and exalted above all for ever.