AN ORDER FOR COMPLINE

The Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 21, 8:00 p.m.
St. John's Episcopal Church
Tallahassee, Florida

Compline is an ancient monastic service offered to God before bedtime. This service includes scripture, prayers, hymns, and the canticle Nunc dimittis. With sublime music, and heartfelt prayer we hope that Compline will nourish your soul.

Entrance Hymn – *Humbly I adore thee, Verity unseen* Sung by the Choir

Humbly I adore thee, Verity unseen, who thy glory hidest, 'neath these shadows mean;
lo, to thee surrendered, my whole heart is bowed, tranced as it beholds thee, shrined within the cloud.

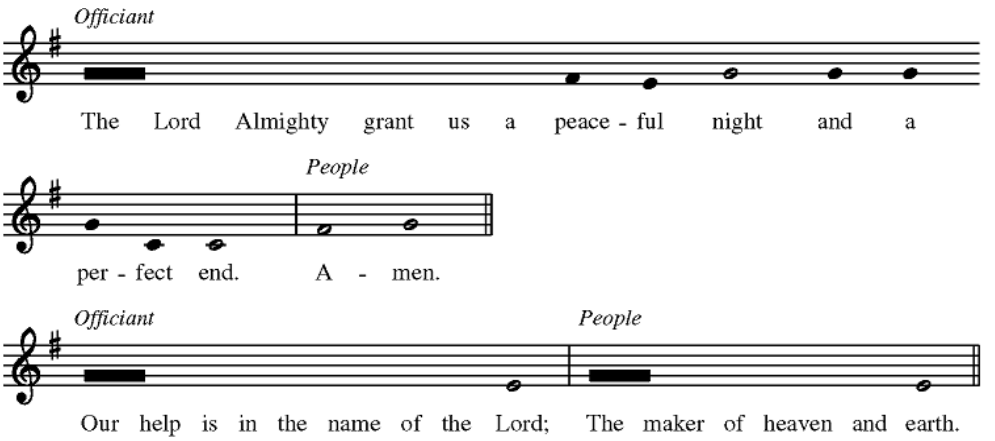
Taste and touch and vision to discern thee fail; faith, that comes by hearing, pierces through the veil.
I believe whate'er the Son of God hath told; what the Truth hath spoken, that for truth I hold.

O memorial wondrous of the Lord's own death; living Bread that givest all they creatures breath,
grant my spirit ever by thy life may live, to my taste thy sweetness never failing give.

Jesus, whom now hidden, I by faith behold, what my soul doth long for, that thy word foretold;
face to face thy splendor, I at last shall see, in the glorious vision, blessed Lord, of thee.

Text by St. Thomas of Aquinas, c. 1260

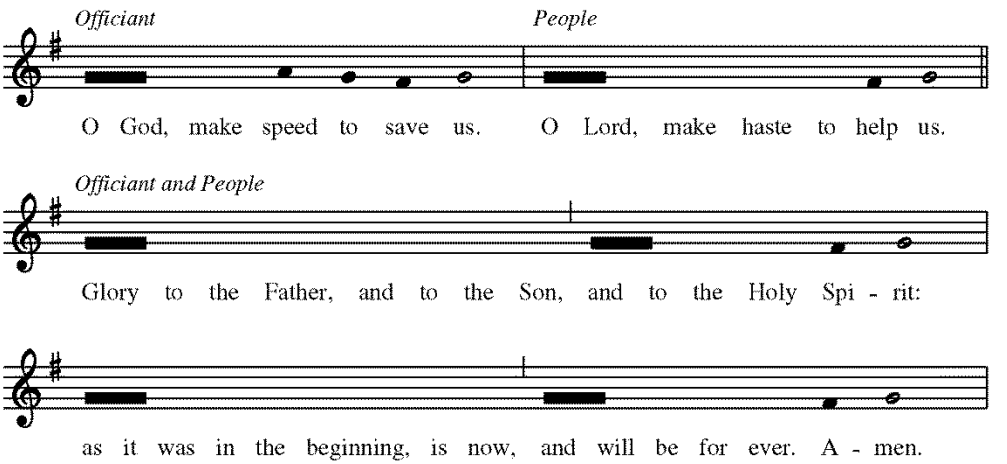
Opening Sentences



Officiant
Let us confess our sins to God.

All
Almighty God, our heavenly Father: We have sinned against you, through our own fault, in thought, and word, and deed, and in what we have left undone. For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us all our offenses; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Officiant
May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*



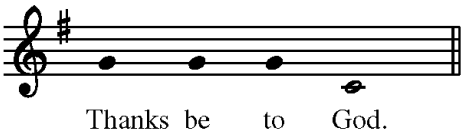
Psalm 129 Sung by the Choir

Antiphon – Have mercy upon us O Lord and harken unto our prayer.
"Greatly have they oppressed me since my youth," *
Let Israel now say;
"Greatly have they oppressed me since my you, *
But they have not prevailed against me."
The plowmen plowed upon my back *
And made their furrows long.
The Lord, the Righteous One, *
Has cut the cords of the wicked.
Let them be put to shame and thrown back. *
All those who are enemies of Zion.
Let them be like grass upon the housetops, *
Which withers before it can be plucked;
Which does not fill the hand of the reaper, *
Nor the bosom of him who binds the sheaves;
So that those who go by say not so much as, "The Lord prosper you. *
We wish you well in the Name of the Lord."
Antiphon – Have mercy upon us O Lord and harken unto our prayer.

A Reading from Matthew 11:28-30 Sung by the Officiant

"Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy ladened and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

After the reading all sing:



Hymn – *Eternal Lord of love, behold your Church* Sung by All

Eternal Lord of love, behold your Church walking once more the pilgrim way of Lent,
led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
moved by your love and toward your presence bent:
far off yet here the goal of all desire.

So daily dying to the way of self, so daily living to your way of love,
we walk the road, Lord Jesus, that you trod,
knowing ourselves baptized into your death:
so we are dead and live with you in God.

If dead in you, so in you we arise, you the first-born of all the faithful dead;
and as though stony ground the green shoots break,
glorious in spring time dress of leaf and flower,
so in the Father's glory shall we wake.

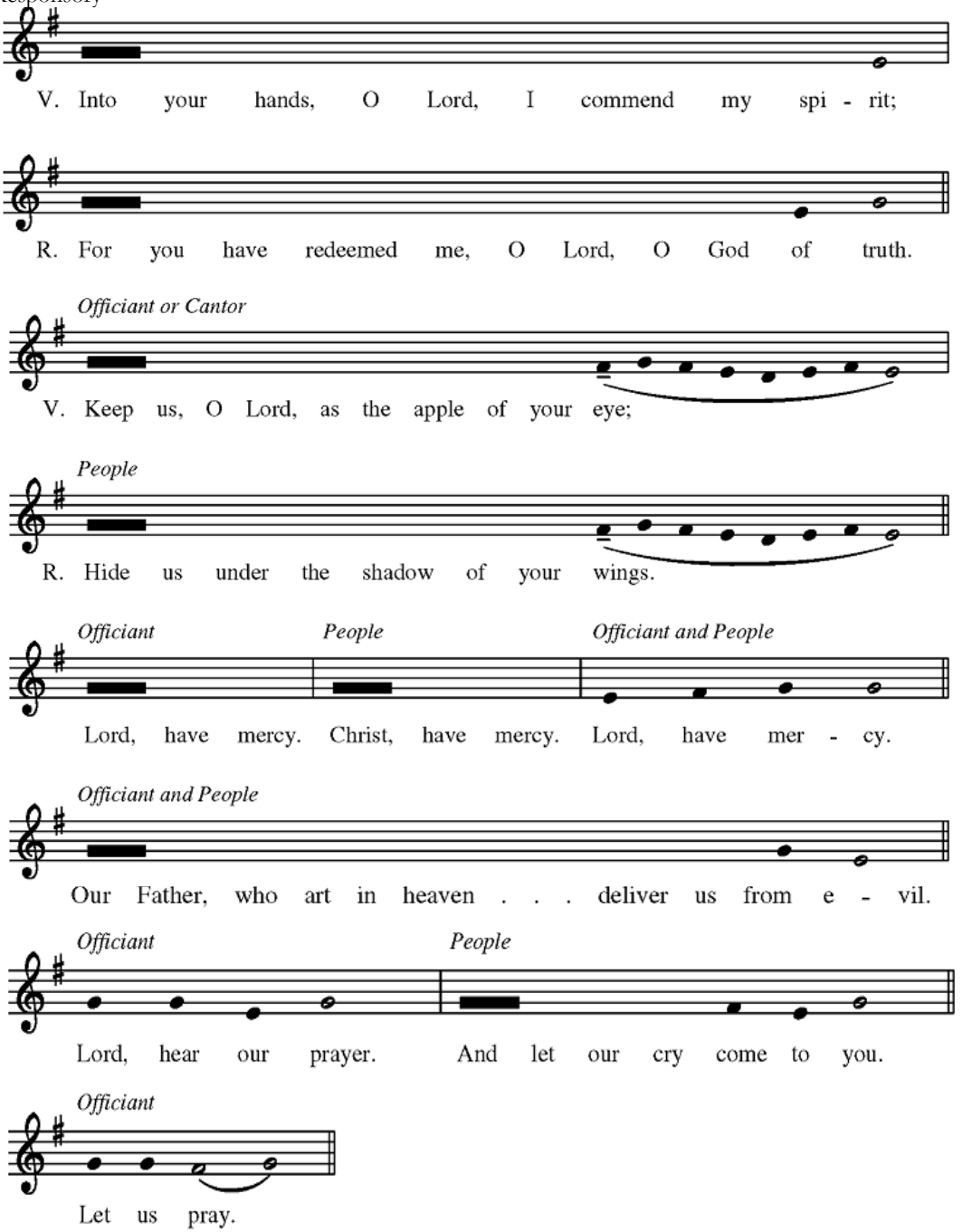
Text – Thomas H. Cain, 1982

Motet – *Si iniquitates observaveris* Samuel Wesley (1766-1837)

Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.
If thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?
But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared.
I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope.
My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning:
I say, more than they that watch for the morning.
Let Israel hope in the Lord: for with the Lord there is mercy, and with him is plenteous redemption.
And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

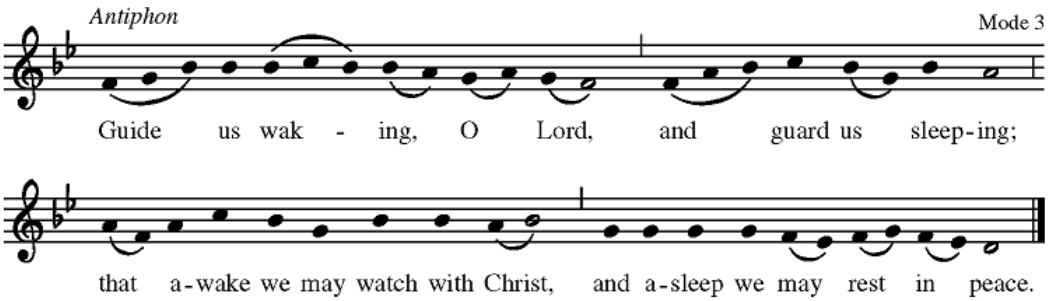
Adapted from Psalm 130

Responsory


V. Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spi - rit;
R. For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.
Officiant or Cantor
V. Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;
People
R. Hide us under the shadow of your wings.
Officiant
People
Officiant and People
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Officiant and People
Our Father, who art in heaven . . . deliver us from e - vil.
Officiant
People
Lord, hear our prayer. And let our cry come to you.
Officiant
Let us pray.

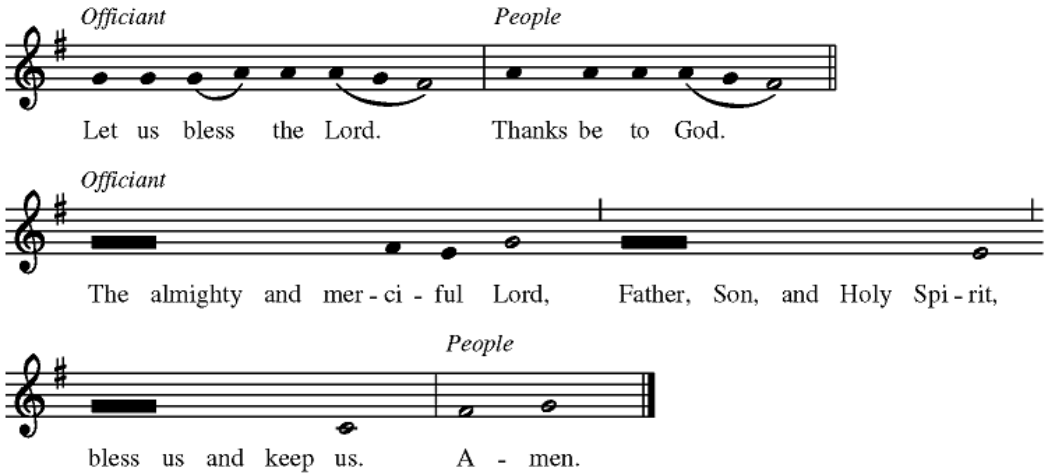
The Lord's Prayer and Collects — Sung by the Officiant; All sing the Amen.

Song of Simeon — The choir will sing the antiphon and the verses.



Nunc dimittis — Chant setting by David Hurd (b. 1950)

Concluding Versicle and Blessing



Compline Setting: adapt. David Hurd (b. 1950).
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Procession Hymn – *Breathe on me, Breath of God* — *Sung by the Choir*

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,
That I may love what Thou dost love, and do what Thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
Until with Thee I will one will, to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly Thine,
Until this earthly part of me glows with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,
But live with Thee the perfect life of Thine eternity.

Text by Edwin Hatch, 1878

Officiant
The Reverend David Killeen, Rector

St. John's Compline Choir
Anders Namestnik, Tenor 1
Kristopher Watson, Tenor 2
Brett Epperson, Baritone
Matthew P. Morrison, Bass

Dr. Betsy Calhoun, Director of Music
Elizabeth LaJeunesse, Organist
Michael Norris, Compline Choir Director

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