

**Evening Prayer**

Spirit of the Risen Christ, as lamps light up the evening, shine into our hearts and kindle in us the fire of your love.

**The light of Christ has come into the world!**

We give you thanks that you led our forebears in the Faith by a cloud by day and a fire by night; we give you thanks, kindly Light, that the torch of faith was brought to this land, and that you ever lead your people on. Light up our dark hearts by the light of your Christ; may his Word illumine our way, for you pour forth loving kindness upon your whole creation, Father, Son and radiant Spirit.

**May the Light of lights come to my dark heart;**

**May the Spirit’s wisdom come to me from my Saviour.**

**May the peace of the Spirit be mind this night,**

**The peace of the Son be mine this night,**

**The peace of the Father be mine this night,**

**The peace of all peace be mine this night,**

**Each morning and evening of my life.**

**Psalm**

Read Psalm 23.

May everyone be cherished from conception to the grave.

Into your hands, O Lord, we place all who are restless, sick or pray to the powers of evil;

Watch over them and watch over us this night.

In the name of the restful Father,

In the name of the calming Son,

In the name of the peaceful Spirit,

In the name of the Three in One.

I place my soul and body

Under your guarding this night,

O God,

O Father of help to frail pilgrims,

Protector of heaven and earth.

**I place my soul and body**

**Under your guiding this night,**

**O Christ,**

**O Son of the tears and the piercings,**

**May your cross this night be my shield.**

I place my soul and body

Under your glowing this night,

24, and so on. Follow this with silent reflection.

 We offer to You, Lord, the troubles of this day; we lay down our burdens at your feet. Forgive us our sins, give us your peace, and help us to receive your Word.

**Reading 1**

Lord, You are my island, in you I nest.

**You are the calm of the sea, in that peace I rest.**

You are the waves on the shore’s glistening stones

Their sound is my hymn.

**You are the song of the birds, their tune is my hymn.**

You are the sea breaking on rocks praise you with the swell.

**You are the ocean that laps my being in you I dwell.**

**Thanks**

We give you thanks, our Father, that you are always present, in all things, each day and each night. We give you thanks for your gifts of creation, life and friendship. We give you thanks for the blessings of this day.

**Prayers**

Into your hands, O Lord, we place our families, our neighbours, our brothers and sisters in Christ, and all whom we have met today; enfold them in your will.

Into your hands, O Lord, we

O Spirit,

O gentle Companion,

and soul Friend,

My heart’s eternal Warmth.

Come bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord,

Who stand by night in the

house of the Lord;

Lift up your hands in the holy place,

Come bless the Lord, come bless the Lord.

May that part of me that did not grow at morning,

Grow at nightfall.......

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

My dear ones bless, O God, and keep in every place where they are.

May the great and strong heavenly task force encircle us with their outstretched arms

**To protect us from the hostile powers,**

**To put balm into our dreams,**

**To give us contented, sweet repose.**

May the virtue of our daily work, hallow our nightly prayers.

May our sleep be deep and soft,

That our work be fresh and keen.

**Reading 2**

I lie down this night with God,

**and God will lie down with me;**

I lie down this night with Christ,

**and Christ will lie down with me;**

I lie down this night with the Spirit,

**and the Spirit will lie down with me;**

God and Christ and the Spirit, lying down with me.

**I make the sign of the**

**Cross of Christ**

**My Christ, my Shield, my Encircler;**

**Each day, each night, in light,**

**in dark,**

**My Treasure, my dear One.**

**The almighty and merciful**

**Three circle us, that awake we may watch with Christ,**

**and asleep we may rest in peace.**