



Night Prayer
The Rev. Karen Brau

OPENING



Almighty God grant us a qui - et night and peace at the last.



A - men.



It is good to give thanks to the Lord, **to sing praise to your name, O Most High;**



to herald your love in the morning, **your truth at the close of the day.**

————— Night Hymn —————

This Little Light of Mine



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



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let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

Confession and Forgiveness

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Holy and gracious God,
I confess that I have sinned against you this day.
Some of my sin I know—
the thoughts and words and deeds
of which I am ashamed—
but some is known only to you.
In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness.
Deliver and restore me,
that I may rest in peace.
By the mercy of God
we are united with Jesus Christ,
in whom we are forgiven.
We rest now in the peace of Christ
and rise in the morning to serve.

WORD

- ¹Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth
²before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us!
³Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.
⁴O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?
⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure.
⁶You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.
⁷Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.
¹⁷But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself.
¹⁸Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.
¹⁹Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

By the Rev. Marie Anderson

The psalmist knows exactly what to ask for when calling out to God. Help us. Save us. Restore us. Give us life. The words of request are straightforward, clear, and easily understood. Are we always as clear when we pray asking for God's help? Of course, there are many ways to pray and we can be sure that God hears them all. But a question worth considering is, do we always live as though we believe God hears our prayers? A colleague and chaplain once shared with me that one day at the end of a hospital visit the patient said almost with a note of surprise, "You prayed as if you really believe God is sitting here with us, listening to you." May you be able to pray as if you really believe God is sitting with you and ready to hear and answer your prayer.

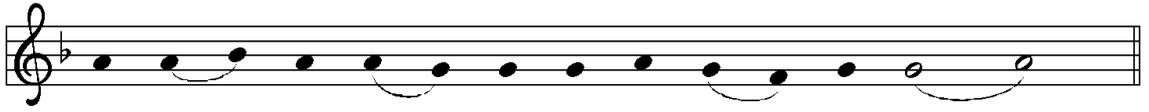
Holy One, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, smile your radiant smile upon us and that will be enough. Amen.



In-to your hands, O Lord, I com - mend my spir - it.



In - to your hands I com - mend my spir - it.



You have re - deemed me, O Lord, God of truth.



In - to your hands I com - mend my spir - it.



Glory to the Cre - a - tor and to the Christ, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.

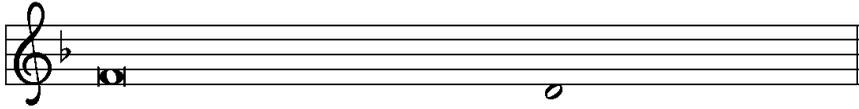


In - to your hands I com - mend my spir - it.

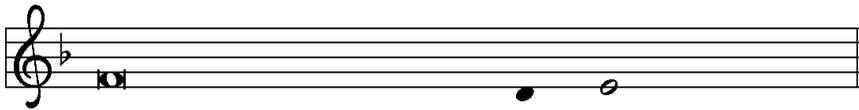
PRAYERS



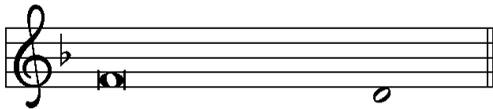
Hear my prayer, O Lord; **listen to my cry.**



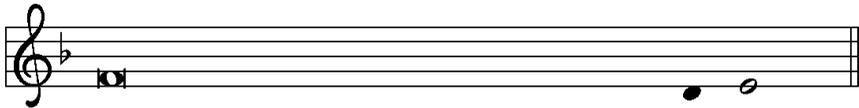
Keep me as the apple of your eye;



hide me in the shadow of your wings.



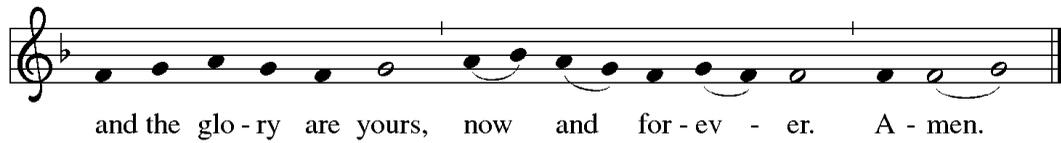
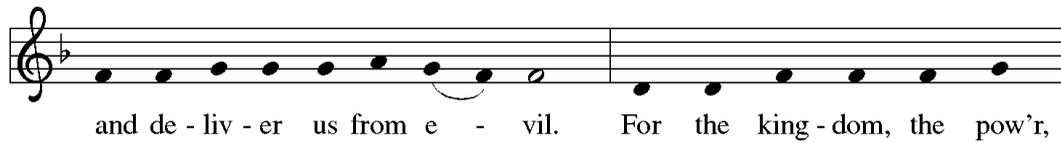
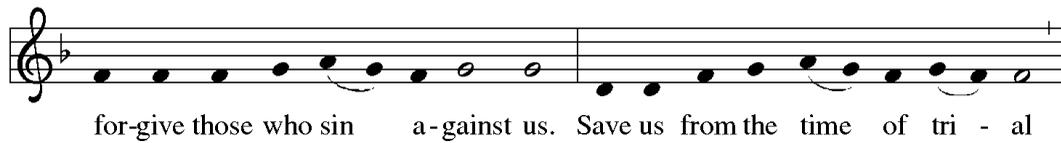
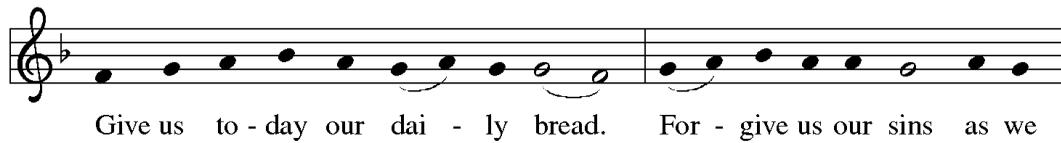
In hope I shall see you;



when I awake, your presence will give me joy.

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

The night is the cover of your peace, O God,
the rhythm of your rest for all your people.
The darkness is the cloak of your gentleness, O God,
the warmth of your hand around the earth.
In its blackness is the sign of your eternity,
the never-ending living of your love.
In faith we go to sleep and leave our life to you.
In childlike trust we end our efforts of this day.
In our sleeping, be our company.
In our waking, be the gift of our new day.
We pray to God, our rest and comfort, in the words Jesus taught us:

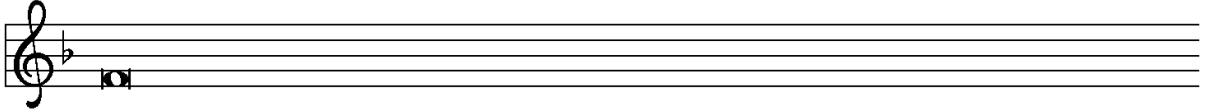


BLESSING

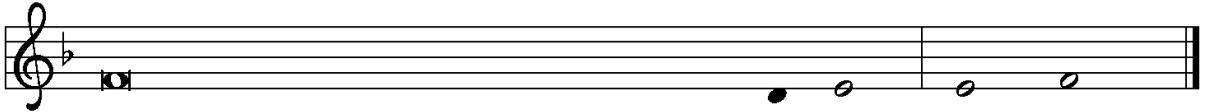


Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Almighty and merciful God, Creator, + Christ, and Holy Spirit,



bles, preserve, and keep us, this night and forev-er - more.

A - men.