

## An Order of Worship for the Evening

From the Book of Common Prayer, p. 109

*In Lent and on other penitential occasions*

*Officiant:* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

*People:* His mercy endures for ever.

Jesus said, "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one lights a lamp to put it under a bucket, but on a lamp-stand where it gives light for everyone in the house. And you, like the lamp, must shed light among your fellow men, so that they may see the deed you do, and give glory to your Father in heaven." *Matthew 5:14-16*

*The Officiant then says the Prayer for Light, using any one of the following or some other suitable prayer, first saying*

Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, the lamp of charity which never fails, that it may burn in us and shed its light on those around us, and that by its brightness we may have a vision of that holy City, where dwells the true and never-failing Light, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### Collect

Almighty and most merciful God, kindle within us the fire of love, that by its cleansing flame we may be purged of all our sins and made worthy to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

(Light Candle here)

*During the candle-lighting, an appropriate anthem or psalm may be sung, or silence kept.*

*The following hymn, or a metrical version of it, or some other hymn, is then sung*

**O Gracious Light** *Phos hilaron*

O gracious light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father  
in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father,  
Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised  
by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,  
and to be glorified through all the  
worlds.

### Lord's Prayer

### Blessing

The Lord bless us and keep us. *Amen.*  
The Lord make his face to shine upon us  
and be gracious to us. *Amen.*  
The Lord lift up his countenance upon  
us  
and give us peace. *Amen.*