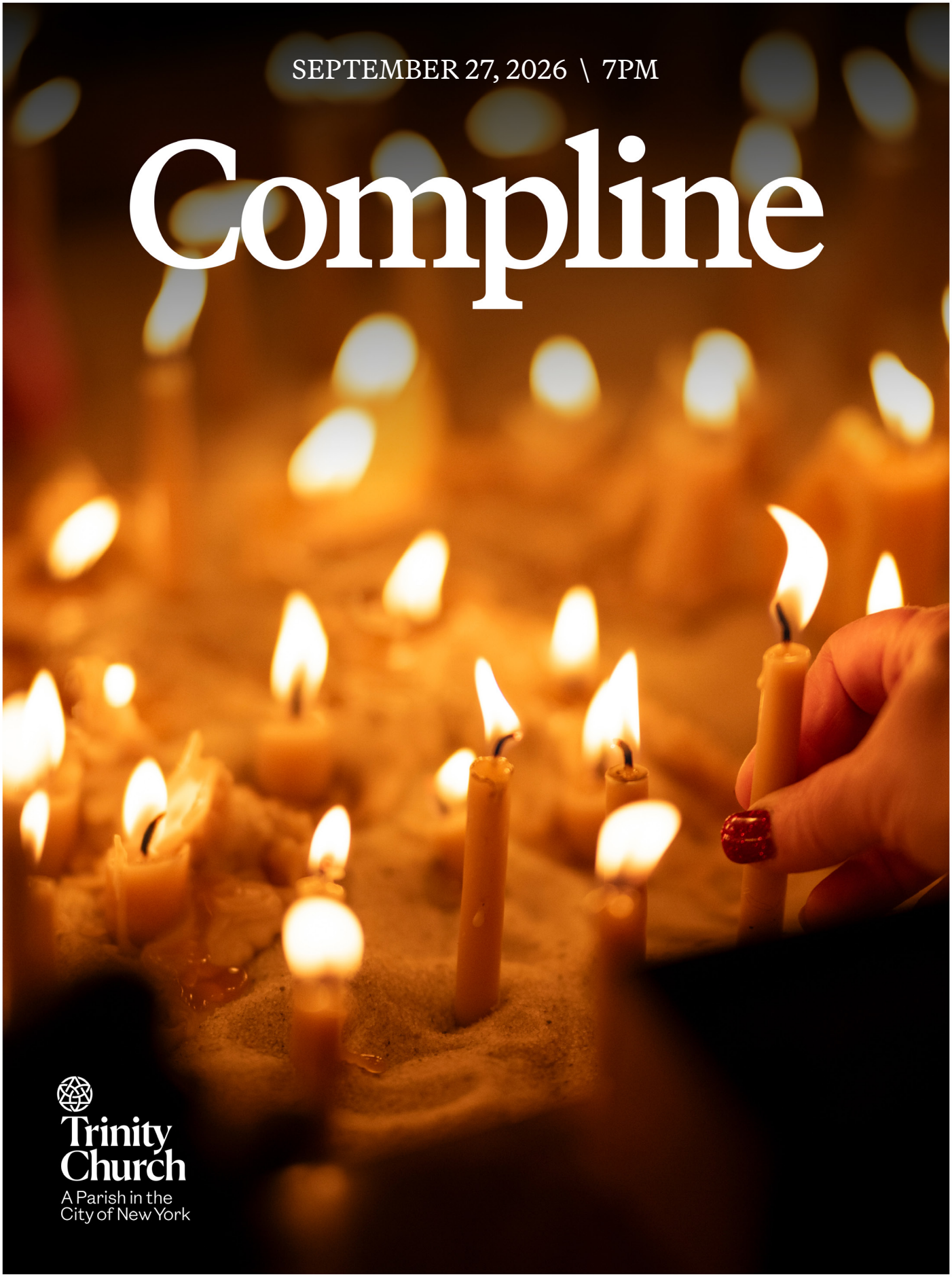
SEPTEMBER 27, 2026 \ 7PM

Compline



Trinity Church
A Parish in the City of New York

Compline is the last of the four services in the Daily Office included in the Book of Common Prayer. It is descended from the night prayers said before bed at the end of the monastic round of daily prayer. The ancient office of Compline derives its name from a Latin word meaning "completion" (completorium). *It is above all a service of quietness and reflection before rest at the end of the day.*

An Order for Compline

The church is lighted only by candlelight.

All participate as indicated in bold type.

Opening Sentences

NZPB p. 167*

Our help is in the name of the eternal God, who is making the heavens and the earth.

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 in us, cleansing wind, blow through us, fountain of water, well up within us, that we may love and praise you in deed and in truth. Amen.

Reflection

In the stillness of the evening, we call to mind the day that is past.
In silence we open to God the depths and secrets of our hearts.

A bell is rung. ***Silence is kept.***

A Night Prayer

NZPB p. 184

Lord, it is night.
The night is for stillness. Let us be still in the presence of God.
It is night after a long day.
What has been done has been done; what has not been done has not been done; let it be.
The night is dark.
Let our fears of the darkness of the world and of our own lives rest in you.
The night is quiet.
Let the quietness of your peace enfold us, all dear to us, and all who have no peace.
The night heralds the dawn.
Let us look expectantly to a new day, new joys, new possibilities.
In your name we pray. Amen.

The Psalm

Scripture Reading

Anthem

Responsory

NZPB p. 178*

Into your hands, O God, I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O God of truth and love.
Keep me, O Lord, as the apple of your eye; hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Prayers

Kyrie

NZPB p. 179

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Collects

BCP p. 70*/NZPB p. 183/BCP p. 134

Lighten our darkness, we beseech you, O God; and by your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night. Amen.

Be present, spirit of God, within us, your dwelling place and home, that this house may be one where all darkness is penetrated by your light, all troubles calmed by your peace, all evil redeemed by your love, all pain transformed in your suffering, and all dying glorified in your risen life. Amen.

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, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 132/p. 364

Gathering our prayers into one, we pray in the words Jesus taught us:

All chant the prayer with the Choir.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Closing Sentences

NZPB p. 185*

To God the Creator, who loved us first and gave this world to be our home;
To God the Redeemer, who loves us and by dying, and rising, made for us the way of freedom;
To God the Sanctifier, who spreads the divine love in our hearts,
be praise and glory for time and for eternity.

Benediction

Concluding Versicle

NZPB p. 186*

The divine Spirit dwells in us,
and with those absent from us.

The Choir exits in silence.

The People may remain for silent reflection, then depart quietly.

Today's Worship *Leaders*

MUSICIANS

Trinity Choir

Thomas McCargar

LITURGICAL SOURCES

BCP *The Book of Common Prayer*

NZPB *A New Zealand Prayer Book*

An asterisk (*) denotes that the content has been adapted.

2026-09-27-1900-TC-Compline-Bulletin-v2

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