

THE FOLLOWING IS TAKEN FROM THE PAMPHLET,
“CONVENING A GATHERING,” FROM THE ORDER OF JULIAN.

The purpose of the Julian Gathering is primarily to provide an emotional and spiritual atmosphere which supports and encourages those engaged in developing a life of Still Prayer.

The Julian Gathering is designed to do only a few things:

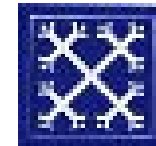
1. to support and encourage Still Prayer,
2. to assist growth in Still Prayer and in the contemplative life,
3. to provide an inspiration, a *beginning* place for Still Prayer,
4. to develop a trusting and sharing community of those who pray in this way.

And God said, “You cannot earn or deserve my love, or my forgiveness, or my salvation – all you can do is *want* it, and you have it.”
Order of Julian

The recognition of our true self . . . is then a recognition of the fact that we are known and loved by God.

Thomas Merton

A Liturgy for Use at a Julian Gathering



St. Alban's Anglican Chapel
LSU Campus
Baton Rouge, LA
2001

Please leave this pamphlet at the Gathering

ALL STAND, AND THE EVENING'S OFFICIANT GREETS
THE PEOPLE WITH THESE WORDS

Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the
light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to
you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day;
darkness and light to you are both alike. *Psalm*
139:10-11

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding
us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of the vesper
light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as
you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you
would shine into our hearts the brightness of your
Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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.*

THE EVENING'S OFFICIANT READS THE PARTS THAT
ARE WRITTEN IN regular font.

THE PARTICIPANTS READ THE PARTS THAT ARE
WRITTEN IN *italics.*

RUBRICS ARE WRITTEN IN ALL CAPITALS.

O Lord God Almighty, as you have taught us to call the evening, the morning, and the noonday one day; and have made the sun to know its going down: Dispel the darkness of our hearts, that by your brightness we may know you to be the true God and eternal light, living and reigning for ever and ever. *Amen.*

ANY CANDLES AND LAMPS MAY NOW BE LIT.

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.*

PRAYER FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE ORDER OF JULIAN

O Lord Jesus Christ, guide and sanctify our brothers and sisters whom you have called to follow you in poverty, chastity, obedience, and prayer in the spirit of Blessed Mother Julian; protect them from danger and want, and grant that by their prayer and service they may enrich your church, and by their life and worship, they may glorify your Name; for you reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and ever. Amen.

THE EVENING'S OFFICIANT READS ONE OF THE
FOLLOWING TWO PRAYERS

PRAYER IN THE EVENING

O Lord, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in thy mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR QUIET CONFIDENCE

O God of peace, who hast taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength: By the might of thy Spirit lift us, we pray thee, to thy presence, where we may be still and know that thou art God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE COLLECT

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for the evening and the weekend are at hand and the day and the week are past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and in the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Lord bless us and keep us. *Amen.*
The Lord's face shine upon us and be gracious unto us. *Amen.*
The Lord's countenance be lifted upon us and give us peace. *Amen.*

Period of Still Prayer

THE EVENING'S OFFICIANT WILL READ A SHORT INTRODUCTORY SENTENCE.

WE WILL THEN SIT FOR A PERIOD OF CORPORATE SILENCE.

AT THE END OF THE SILENT TIME, WE WILL GENTLY TRANSITION BACK TO SOUND BY SAYING ALOUD TOGETHER THE LORD'S PRAYER. THIS WILL CLOSE OUR SILENT TIME.