

ST. JAMES BY-THE-SEA EPISCOPAL CHURCH
LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA

Holy Saturday ✚ April 8, 2023

Welcome to St. James by-the-Sea! Your presence is a blessing to us,
and we hope that you are blessed by God in your worship here.

COMPLINE BY CANDLELIGHT
7:00PM

The service of Compline, according to The Book of Common Prayer, is an act of worship with roots deep in the life of the Church. Its origins lie in the daily monastic offices of the Middle Ages, although in its meanings we are taken back to the very roots of the Christian faith.

Compline is a service that is said or sung at the end of the day, indeed the last prayers before bedtime. We begin with prayers for “a peaceful night and a perfect end” followed by psalms appointed for the evening, a plea for protection and peace. We then hear a reading from the Gospel of Matthew, we sing an ancient Latin hymn and prayers both familiar, such as the Lord’s Prayer, and collects particular to Compline with special intentions for peace through the night. The service culminates in the Nunc Dimittis, the Song of Simeon, who rejoiced when he finally beheld the Messiah. At the end of the service, we will sing Ave Regina Coelorum, a devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary into whose care we entrust ourselves and the whole church.

The entire service is chanted by the choir. We play our part by active listening and prayerful reflection. This service is offered as part of the worship of the whole Church throughout the world, joining with all who pray for peace, and even with the company of heaven itself.

To learn more, An Order for Compline can be found in its entirety on page 127 of The Book of Common Prayer.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Opening Preces

Psalter

Psalm 31: In te, Domine, speravi – Tone 8

Psalm 4: Cum invocarem – John Joubert

Scripture Lesson: John 19:38-42

Office Hymn: Te Lucis Ante Terminum – Sarum Festal, Mode VIII

Prayers

Responses

Kyrie Eleison (Lord, have mercy)

Lord's Prayer – Gabriel Jackson

Collects

Canticle: Nunc Dimittis – Mode III

The Grace

Anthem: Ave Regina Coelorum

Hail, Queen of heaven, hail Lady of the angels.

Hail root and gate from which the Light of the world was born.

Rejoice glorious Virgin, fairest of all.

Fare thee well, most beautiful, and pray for us to Christ.

Sung by the Schola Cantorum of St. James

Alex Benestelli, director



Episcopal Church