

Our Gedatsu Study

Gedatsu is a religious study that was founded in Japan about 90 years ago. While Gedatsu has influences from Buddhism and Shintoism, it is a non-sectarian study. We welcome people of all religious faiths.

The principal teaching of Gedatsu is threefold:

- Reverence and appreciation for the Universal Life Force, or God, from which all things derive their life
- Respect toward our ancestors
- Absolute, unconditional gratitude for all things

The church's founder, Gedatsu Kongo, taught that our everyday life is religion itself. Life's challenges serve as a means of self-reflection and self-renunciation of our egos, allowing us to purify and strengthen our spiritual character.

Our Monthly Memorial Service

On the first Sunday of each month at 10 a.m., we hold a memorial service before the altar in our Sanctuary to honor and remember all those who have passed away in that particular month – members and non-members alike.

We believe that the souls of the departed continue to live in the spiritual realm. Souls that were dear to us in life – especially family members and close friends – remain close to us and guide and care for us as spirits.

We pay our respects to the deceased in the form of prayer, which, given sincerely and unselfishly, focuses the divine universal energy to bless those who are in need.

Our Prayer Service

When you attend our memorial service, here is what you will experience.

We offer an apology to God for our negative thoughts, words and actions, which is the first step in changing our attitude in a positive direction.

We recite the *Hannya Shingyo*, or Heart Sutra, which is the best-known and most popular of the Buddhist scriptures. The prayer speaks of inclusiveness and oneness of all things.

During the prayer, we call each soul being honored by name. Participants step forward to offer blessings for the deceased in the form of incense and holy tea offerings.

We believe our prayers and offerings transmit our feelings of gratitude to the universe and bring peace and comfort for the souls, as well as ease the suffering of unrested spirits.

You may participate in these prayers and offerings to the extent that you feel comfortable. You may offer incense, pour holy tea, or you may simply sit in silent prayer.

Social time with refreshments immediately follows the service.

Application Form

(Continued from other side)

Name(s) of loved one(s)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Date of passing

1. _____

Age

2. _____

Age

3. _____

Age

Relationship of loved one(s) to you

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Check here if you wish to have your loved one(s) honored, but are unable to attend.

Donations are appreciated but not required.

Application Form for “Never Forgotten” Memorial Service

If you would like to honor the soul of a loved one with a “Never Forgotten” service, please complete both sides of this application form.

Name

Address

Phone Number(s)

Email Address

Return your completed application form in person or by mail to the address on the back panel. If you have questions, please contact the church office by phone or email.

Applications must be received prior to the first Sunday of the month of the memorial service.

Gedatsu Spiritual Center
4016 Happy Lane
Sacramento, CA 95827
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Fax: (916) 363-1429
Email: akira.sebe@gedatsu-usa.org

Sr. Reverend Akira Sebe
Reverend Kazuo Yamada
Sr. Deacon Jackson Ito

Sunday Services:
1st Sunday: “Never Forgotten”
Memorial Service 10 am
2nd and 4th Sundays 9:30 am
Office Hours:
Tuesday – Sunday 9 am – 4 pm
Closed on Mondays

We welcome you to attend our services or receive private spiritual consultation with our ministers.

If you would like to learn more about the Gedatsu Church, please visit our website: www.gedatsu-usa.org. If you would like to receive our monthly newsletter, please email: la_branch@gedatsu-usa.org.



“Never Forgotten” Memorial Service

Our “Never Forgotten” Memorial Service is held on the first Sunday of every month.

Join us in honoring, remembering and comforting the souls of loved ones who have passed away.

“The ceremony was so peaceful and uplifting . . . a very spiritual experience.”

“It was a simple and beautiful way to honor my mom . . . I felt so moved.”

