

Standard Litany to Open and Close Court

There is no one “correct” way to open and close the Royal Court. Essentially, Court is opened by summoning the populace to attend their Majesties’ Court, and it is ended with their Majesties’ declaration (via the Herald) that their Court is ended, and with the Vivat Majesty called before people disperse. Specifically how this is done is up to the Herald, depending on the time available and the level of ceremony and theatre required. Below are the most used basic forms.

To Open:

Herald: Oyez, oyez, pray gather, heed and attend their Royal Majesties, [Name] and [Name], King and Queen of Lochac.

People gather before the thrones. When gathered, the Herald asks the Crown if people may sit.

Herald: You have their Majesties’ leave to make yourself comfortable.

Their Majesties will usually open with some words of welcome...

To Close

Herald: There being no further business, all rise.

Everyone except the Crown stands for the Vivat Majesty.

Herald: Long live the King!

Populace: Long live the King!

Herald: Long live the Queen!

Populace: Long live the Queen!

Herald: For the Kingdom of Lochac, three cheers! Hip Hip etc.
Court is ended.

Note: if the Crown Prince and Princess have been found, “Long live the Heirs to the Crown” should be added after “Long live the Queen”.

While it is not incorrect to call “Long live [Name], King/Queen of Lochac” or something similar, the recit-reply from the populace makes this clumsy. Try something like “For [Name], undoubted Sovereign of Lochac by Right of Arms - Long live the King!” etc or similar.

Rather than calling three cheers for the Kingdom, the Herald may instead choose to substitute the name of the local Barony. If so, it is appropriate to begin it “Bearing in mind we are but one Barony of the Kingdom, Long live [Barony] – or Shire, College, etc. If Royalty from another Kingdom is present, it is appropriate to call for three cheers for that Kingdom, rather than calling the Vivat Majesty for the foreign King and Queen.