

## **A Service for Tenebrae**

### **People Gather in Silence**

#### **Call for worship**

O people, lament your great sin,  
for the sake of which Christ  
left his Father's bosom  
and came to earth.

Of a pure, gentle virgin  
Jesus was born for us;  
he gave life to the dead and put aside all sickness  
until the time arrived  
that he should be sacrificed for us.

He bore the heavy burden of our sins  
stretched out on the cross.

#### **Call to Worship**

The light has come into the world,  
and the world loved darkness rather than light.

**God sent the Son into the world,  
not to condemn the world,  
but that the world might be saved through him.**

#### **Hymn**

(e.g. O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High)

#### **Prayer**

Most gracious God,  
look with mercy upon your children gathered here  
for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was betrayed,  
given into sinful hands,  
and suffered death upon the cross.

Strengthen our faith and forgive our betrayals  
as we enter the way of his passion;  
through him who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. Amen.

#### **Hymn**

(e.g. It is a thing most wonderful, almost too wonderful to be)

#### **The Shadow of Betrayal**

*Reading:* Luke 22:1-6

*Sung Response:*<sup>1</sup>

**The Shadow of the Agony of the Spirit**

*Reading:* Matthew 26:36-44

*Sung Response:*

**The Shadow of Arrest**

*Reading:* Mark 14:43-49

*Sung Response:*

**The Shadow of Desertion**

*Reading:* Mark 14:50, 66-72

*Sung Response:*

**The Shadow of Accusation**

*Reading:* Matthew 27:11-18, 21-26

*Sung Response:*

**The Shadow of Crucifixion and Humiliation**

*Reading:* Matthew 27:27-37

*Sung Response:*

**The Shadow of Death**

*Reading:* Matthew 27:45-54

*Sung Response:* When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

**The Christ Candle Is Removed**

**The Shadow of Burial**

*Reading:* John 19:38-42

*Solo Sung Response:* Were You There

**Silent Reflection**

**The Christ Candle Is Restored**

**Hymn**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

**Dismissal**

May Jesus Christ,  
who for our sake became obedient unto death,  
even death on a cross,  
keep you and strengthen you.

**Amen.**

**People Leave in Silence**

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<sup>1</sup> The sung responses can be single verses from hymns / songs. Some of them can be short pieces of instrumental music.