The Liturgy of the Shadows

This is a traditional Tenebrae Service liturgy. It requires a 7-candle menorah and an 8th candle.

Readings from Matthews Gospel

1. The Shadow of Betrayal:

Matthew 26: 20-25

Extinguish the First Candle while saying: "The Shadow of Betrayal."

The Kyrie Eleison

Kyrie eleison,

Kyrie eleison,

Kyrie eleison

1. The Shadow of Inner Agony:

Matthew 26:36-39

Extinguish the second candle while saying: "The Shadow of Inner Agony."

The Kyrie Eleison

3. The Shadow of Loneliness:

Matthew 26: 40-46

Extinguish the third candle while saying: "The Shadow of Loneliness."

The Kyrie Eleison

4. The Shadow of Accusation:

Matthew 26: 59-66

Extinguish the fifth candle while saying: "The Shadow of Accusation."

The Kyrie Eleison

5. The Shadow of Desertion:

Matthew 69-75

Extinguish the fourth candle while saying: "The Shadow of Desertion."

The Kyrie Eleison

6. The Shadow of Mockery:

Matthew 27:26-31

Extinguish the sixth candle while saying: "The Shadow of Mockery"

The Kyrie Eleison

7. The Shadow of Death:

Matthew 27:33-50

Extinguish the seventh candle while saying: "The Shadow of Death"

The Kyrie Eleison

The Christ Candle is extinguished while saying "It is Finished"

Music for reflection

The Tenebrae service concludes quietly, with no benediction. You are welcome to stay and sit a while. Please respect the silence as you leave.