

Tenebrae Program & Translation

1. Prelude (Instrumental) – Lighting of the Candles
2. Greeting

Lacrymosa (Mozart)

“That day of tears and mourning,
when from the ashes shall arise,
all humanity to be judged.
Spare us by your mercy, Lord,
gentle Lord Jesus,
grant them eternal rest. Amen.”

3. Prayer / Lord’s Prayer

O Sacred Head Surrounded

4. Reading I / Candle Extinguished

Ah Holy Jesus

5. Prayer / Reading II / 2nd Candle Extinguished

Ecce Quomodo Moritur

“Behold how the just man dies,
and nobody takes it to heart;
and just men are taken away,
and nobody considers it.
The just man is taken away from the face of iniquity,
and his memory shall be in peace.”

6. Prayer / Reading III / 3rd Candle Extinguished

Surely, He Has Borne our Grief

7. Prayer / Reading IV / 4th Candle Extinguished

Vexilla Regis

The Royal Banner forward goes,
The mystic Cross refulgent glows:
Where He, in Flesh, flesh who made,
Upon the Tree of pain is laid.
1. Behold! The nails with anguish fierce,
His outstretched arms and vitals pierce:
Here our redemption to obtain,
The Mighty Sacrifice is slain.
Here the fell spear his wounded side
With ruthless onset opened wide:
To wash us in that cleansing flood,
Thence mingled Water flowed, and Blood.
Fulfilled is all that David told
In true prophetic song, of old:
Unto the nations, lo! saith he,
Our God hath reignèd from the Tree.
O Tree! In radiant beauty bright!
With regal purple meetly dight!

Thou chosen stem! divinely graced,
Which hath those Holy Limbs embraced!
How blest thine arms, beyond compare,
Which Earth's Eternal Ransom bare!
That Balance where His Body laid,
The spoil of vanquished Hell outweighed.
Hail wondrous Altar! Victim hail!
Thy Glorious Passion shall avail!
Where death Life's very Self endured,
Yet life by that same Death secured.
O Cross! all hail! sole hope, abide
With us now in this Passion-tide:
New grace in pious hearts implant,
And pardon to the guilty grant!
Thee, mighty Trinity! One God!
Let every living creature laud;
Whom by the Cross Thou dost deliver,
O guide and govern now and ever! Amen.

8. Prayer / Reading V / 5th Candle Extinguished

Earthquake (Organ Instrumental)

9. Prayer / Reading VI / 6th Candle Extinguished

Adoramuste Christe

“We adore Thee, O Christ,
and we bless Thee,
who by Thy Holy Cross
hast redeemed the world.
Thou, who hast suffered death for us,
O Lord, O Lord, have mercy on us.”

10. Prayer / Reading VII / 7th Candle Extinguished

Tenebrae Factae Sunt

“Darkness fell when the Jews crucified Jesus:
and about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice:
My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?
And he bowed his head and gave up the ghost.

V. Jesus cried with a loud voice and said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit.
And he bowed his head and gave up the ghost.”

11. Prayer / Response “Amen” / Final Candle is Extinguished / Leave in Silence