

From our Churches

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Children's Tenebrae Litany

First candle: When we are unkind to one another or hate each other, the world becomes a darker place. *(Extinguish a candle)*

All: Jesus taught us to love each other.

Second candle: When we are grabby and want everything for ourselves, the world becomes a darker place. *(Extinguish a candle)*

All: Jesus taught us to share with others.

Third candle: When we are afraid, the world seems dark and frightening. *(Extinguish a candle)*

All: Jesus' love is stronger than our fears. He is the light of the world.

Fourth candle: When we are jealous of others, and are angry because they have things we want for ourselves, the world becomes a darker place. *(Extinguish a candle)*

All: Jesus taught us to be content with what we have and to look out for the good of others.

Fifth candle: When are we deceitful and don't tell the truth, the world becomes a darker place. *(Extinguish a candle)*

All: Jesus said, "Let your 'Yes' be Yes and your 'No' be No." He expects us to be honest.

Sixth candle: Because of people's hatred, greed, selfishness, jealousy, and dishonesty, Jesus died on the cross. *(Extinguish a candle)*

All: To Jesus' friends the world seemed like a very dark place.

At this point each child brings up an envelope containing their confession of sin. These could be prepared in advance. These "sins" are nailed to the cross while singing, "Were you There?"

Leader: (*Lights the centre candle*). Jesus did not stay dead. His love is stronger than our sins. On Easter he was raised from the dead. Because he loved people enough to suffer and die and still forgive, we too can be forgiven. His death frees us from the bad things we have done. We can receive strength from him to forgive others when they hurt us. The large centre light is the Christ candle. His love can be reflected in us.

First candle: When we are kind to each other and love each other, the world becomes a brighter place. (*A candle is relit*)

All: Jesus' love shines through our loving deeds and words.

Second candle: When we share and find joy in giving to others who are in need, the world becomes a brighter place. (*A candle is relit*)

All: Jesus' love shines through our thoughtfulness and willingness to share.

Third candle: When we trust in God's care for us and are freed from our fears, the world becomes a brighter place. (*A candle is relit*)

All: Jesus wants us to trust Him with our fears and worries so we can live freely.

Fourth candle: When we are content with what we have, and can be happy for others when they get special things, then the world becomes a brighter place. (*A candle is relit*).

All: Jesus wants us to trust him to supply us with what we need.

Fifth candle: When we are honest with ourselves and others, the world becomes a safer and brighter place. (*A candle is relit*)

All: Jesus said "I am the Truth." He wants us to be truthful too.

Sixth candle: When we are loving, unselfish, trusting, content and honest, then Jesus lives in our lives. The world becomes a brighter place. (*Light final candle*)

All: Because Jesus lives and wants to live in our hearts, God's light and love shine through us and brighten up the world. We thank God for the wonderful gifts of forgiveness and love which we can enjoy and share because Jesus died for us.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Closing Song