

The Shadow of the Cross

A Contemporary Tenebrae Service

Arranged and composed
By Larry Larson

Maundy Thursday, April 13, 2006

7:00 p.m.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Guelph

1. I Come to the Cross (Choir)

2. We Remember You (Choir)

Communion

3. O Jesus, I have Promised (Solo & Choir)

4. O Love That Will Not Let Me Go (Solo)

5. Lamb of God (Solo)

6. You are My All in All (Choir)

7. When You Prayed Beneath the Trees (Solo & Duet)

8. How Beautiful (Choir)

9. When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (Choir)

Sung by the Choir of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

Director: Fred Gingrich

Soloists: Elizabeth Hampson, John Hazlett, Bob Spencer

Piano: Esther Martin

Flute: Karen Penwarden

Oboe: Mary Robison

Narrators: The Rev. Jan Hazlett & The Rev. John Borthwick

The “service of darkness,” or Tenebrae (Latin for “darkness”), dates back to the 4th century, according to some sources. Traditionally observed during Holy Week, it focuses on the final hours of Jesus’ life and crucifixion. *The Shadow of the Cross* is a reminder of the magnitude of God’s love; a love so great that it continues through all time and eternity.

For shadows to exist there must be light. In the case of the Passion story of our Lord, that light, as the gospel of John tells us, “was the light of all people.” (John 1:4). *The Shadow of the Cross* walks us through the final hours of Jesus’ life including his crucifixion, but as John affirms, “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.” (John 1:5)

In its original form, the cross was a tool of execution, or death. But in the eyes of faith, it symbolizes victory and life eternal! In a day when the powers of evil threaten to destroy our optimism for a brighter tomorrow, the cross stands as a reminder that love is stronger than hate, and that hope prevails in times of despair. Standing in the shadow of the cross, we find comfort and courage in knowing that we can live in a future that is ultimately of God’s making”

Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty Rock within a weary land ...
I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place ...

Elizabeth C. Clephane

May we live in the shadow of eternity’s cross. And may we be reminded that the cross ultimately leads to the Father of lights.”

Lloyd Larson