CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We have been in the wilderness—

All: Discerning and working, seeking and dreaming.

One: We have been in the wilderness—

All: Grieving and wondering, praying and hoping.

One: We have been in the wilderness-

All: Longing and running, creating and waiting.

One: We have been in the wilderness, but we have not been alone; for God walks with us, every step of the way.

All: So let us worship the God of our darkest nights and our brightest days.

One: Let us worship Holy God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God,

You invite us to plant a garden of love and harmony, but we grow weeds of prejudice and hatred. You invite us to sow joy and gratitude, but we scatter seeds of greed and envy. You call us to tend the soil of fear and denial, but instead we close our eyes and let the earth suffer. Forgive us. You invited us to plant a garden, and we lost ourselves in the wilderness. Clear our hearts.

Breathe life into these weary bones and grant us a fresh start.

Gratefully we pray, amen.

Live in Charity

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This refrain comes from a Latin hymn associated with the washing of feet on Maundy Thursday. Whether in English or Latin, it is most effective when sung unaccompanied and in parts. In many ways it is a miniature equivalent of "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant" (see no. 727).

TEXT: Latin, 8th cent.; English trans. Taize Community, 1991 MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1979 lext and Music ⊗ 1979 Les Presses de Taize (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

UBI CARITAS (Taizé) Irregular

Within Our Darkest Night

Dans nos obscurités

