Set up: See the general notes for our 2018 Black Mass for advice on materials, preparation, and general atmosphere.

Step 1: Welcome everyone, say a few words, thank them for coming, walk them through everything that's going to happen.

Step 2: A volunteer leads everyone in the Dark Lord's Prayer (longer version):

Our Father, who art in Hell
Unhallowed be thy name
Thy kingdom is come, thy will is done
On earth as it is below
We take this night our rightful due
And trespass not on paths of pain
Lead us into temptation
And delivers us from false piety
For yours is the world
The riches
And the glory
Forever and ever
Hail Satan!

To all mischief and sin, deliver us.

To Pride, Vainglory, and Satisfaction, deliver us.

To inordnant and sinful affections, deliver us.

To the world, the flesh, and the devil, deliver us.

To sedition, conspiracy, and rebellion, deliver us.

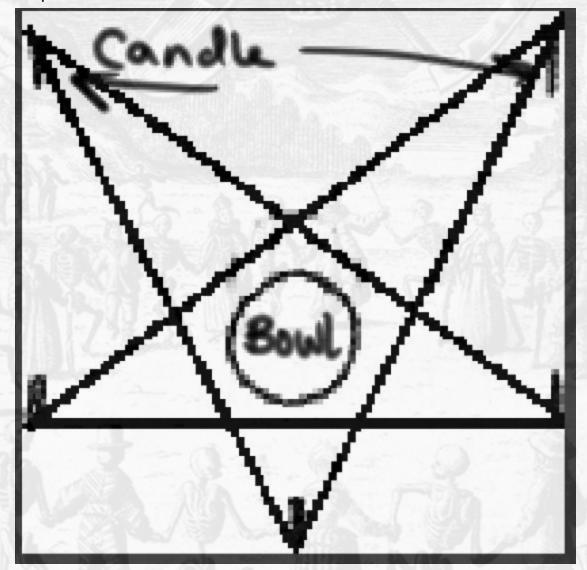
To contempt for orders and commands, deliver us.

And to temptation and indulgence, deliver us.

Let no holy ghost haunt our lives or our deaths.

In the time of our prosperity, from the hour of our birth Hail Satan!

Step 3:



Each volunteer will place a single black candle on the floor, light it, repeat "Hail Satan" (or whatever other phrase they feel is appropriate) and lay a tarot card next to the candle. Feel free to punctuate each one with a ring of the bell. When everyone is finished, place a fireproof vessel in the center.

The burning of the candles remind us of the passage of time. The randomly selected cards remind us of the unpredictability of life. The five pointed shape reminds us... "that we are like the pentagram, earthly, knowing, full

of of the memories of times and bodies past. Burned and burdened with emotion, stitched together from experience, whole."

Step 4:

Address the assembly:

Some people want to say a few words about why they're here tonight. Anyone who wants to speak feel free to stand in the circle or feel free to stay where you are.

You can direct your comments to all of us here or to yourself or to whomever you would like to imagine you're speaking to, you can say whatever you would like to say for whatever reason, you can speak for as long as you'd like, and if you'd like any of us to do or say anything helpful--applaud, repeat after you, do a moment of silence, whatever--just ask.

Everyone else please be accomodating and please respect everybody's feelings, because that's why we're here. If you need to step out for whatever reason please feel free but do it without being disruptive. And speakers, if you think anything you're going to say might be difficult for other people to hear please provide a little warning up front if need be.

When you're finished, please leave your notes and anything else you might like to be rid of in the cauldron.

At this point those leading the ritual should step aside and allow anyone who wants to address the assembly to speak for as long as they like. This will probably comprise the majority of the ritual time and involve a lot of fraught emotion, so be prepared, make sure everyone knows in advance

what the theme of the evening is, and be willing to make a brief recess if necessary for parties to compose themselves.

Step 5: Recite the invocation (adapted from "Everyman" and "Doctor Faustus"):

We begin life happy, knowing that sin is sweet. We meet no gods, and worldly things are all of our minds.

We fear no rod and no law, use our pride, wrath, and lechery to make the world commendable, and happily leave the company of angels.

Everyone lives after their own pleasure, because nothing in life is sure, and for what pleasure we make we owe only ourselves.

We make a long journey, and account to ourselves for bad deeds and good, prove our friends if we can, and that we might escape from endless sorrow we ask gentle death to spare us a little longer.

For no one living or dead will we happily leave the world, but keep time passing until the last.

We eat, drink, love life, and haunt lusty company, and when it's over we keep faith in the things that remain behind: friendship, family, our possessions, our good deeds, and our words. And for those already gone we carry these things on after them.

We are Pride, daring to go anywhere and do anything, and at our feet we demand life pour out perfume and lay down silk.

We are Greed, asking to stock everything in the world in our homes and in ourselves.

We are Wrath, leaping out of a lion's mouth, born in Hell and walking up and down in the world ever since.

We are Envy, wanting all, knowing the goodness of life because we watch it in other lives and see its worth.

We are Gluttony, hungry for 30 meals in a day and born from a royal family of banquets stretching back generations and beloved in every town and city.

We are Sloth, born lying in the sun and wishing we had stayed there ever since, knowing the world does us wrong to take us away from our comforts.

And we are Lust, loving a little just as much as a lot and apologizing for nothing.

For everything else we offer no confession and no penance, no abstinence and no redemption. Endings cancel all adversities and apologies.

This moral keep in mind: Embrace indulgence, for it will comfort you. Remember that beauty, strength, knowledge, and judgment will last as long as they can. And that after life there are no amends to make.

The stars will move, time will go on, the clock will strike, the devil will come.

Let us live in Hell a thousand years or a hundred thousand, where they say no there is no end for souls like ours.

Let our bodies turn to air so that Lucifer might bear us up, or change into drops of water and fall into the ocean, never to be found.

The ugliness of Hell gapes not for us. Because this is Hell now, and these are already the eternal joys of heaven.

At this point, somberly light the contents of the cauldron on fire. Request a moment of silence while it burns.

Step 6:

Joyfully, Mine and I will return to the earth.

Extinguish the candles and thank everyone.