

(Leader) Come now, and let us reason together,” says the Lord, “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool”. (Isaiah 1:18-19)

(All) Let us come boldly to the Throne of Grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 6:16)

(Leader) Lets us confess our sins freely. Our advocate, Jesus Christ, stands with us and “has entered into heaven itself, to appear in the presence of God for us.” (Hebrews 9:24b)

(All) We acknowledge our transgressions, and our sin is always before us. Against You, You only, have we sinned, and done evil in Your sight. (Psalm 51: 3-4a)

(Leader) But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more. (Romans 5:20b)

(All) The good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice. (Romans 7: 19)

(Leader) It is not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. (1 John 4:10)

(All) Love keeps no record of wrongs, (I Corinthians 13:5b) but we have kept a record of wrongs done to us.

(Leader) But God has chosen not to keep a record of our wrongs, and declares, “I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My Own sake; and I will remember your sins no more.” (Isaiah 43:25)

(All) Love suffers long and is kind, (I Corinthians 13:4a) but we have not continued in our love and kindness for one another.

(Leader) Yet Christ suffered long in his love for us, and “by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified”. (Hebrews 10:14).

(All) We have not sacrificed like Christ for others.

(Leader) But God sacrificed for us, and our debt is paid. “All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.” (Isaiah 53:6)

(All) Love does not seek its own (I Corinthians 13: 5a) but we have been self-seeking, ignoring other’s needs.

(Leader) He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. (2 Corinthians 5:21).

(All) O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your loving kindness! According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. (Romans 7:24, Psalm 51: 1)

(Leader) The good news is that if you are Christ's, your sins are blotted out - "as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love". Stand fast in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

(Psalm 103:12; Ephesians 1:4b; Galatians 5:1).

(All) Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. (II Corinthians 9:15; Hebrews 10:23a)

Amen!