

THE REPROACHES

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Listen to me.*

I am your Creator, Lord of the universe;
I have entrusted this world to you,
but you have created the means to destroy it.

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Listen to me.*

I made you in my image,
but you have degraded body and spirit
and marred the image of your God.
You have deserted me and turned your backs on me.

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Listen to me.*

I filled the earth with all that you need,
so that you might serve and care for one another,
as I have cared for you; but you have cared only to serve your own wealth and power.

**Holy God,
holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Listen to me.*

I made my children of one blood
to live in families rejoicing in one another;
but you have embittered the races
and divided the nations.

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Listen to me.*

I commanded you to love your neighbour as yourself,
to love and forgive even your enemies;

but you have made vengeance your rule
and hate your guide.

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Listen to me.*

In the fullness of time I sent you my Son,
that in him you might know me,
and through him find life and peace;
but you put him to death on the cross.

**Holy God,
holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Listen to me.*

Through the living Christ,
I called you into my Church
to be my servants to the world,
but you have grasped at privilege
and forgotten my will.

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Listen to me.*

I have given you a heavenly gift
and a share in the Holy Spirit;
I have given you the spiritual energies
of the age to come;
but you have turned away
and crucified the Son of God afresh.

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Listen to me.*

I have consecrated you in the truth;
I have made you to be one
in the unity of the Father and the Son,
by the power of the Spirit;
but you have divided my Church
and shrouded my truth.

**Holy God,
holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

Turn again, my people, listen to me.

Let your bearing to one another
arise out of your life in Christ Jesus.
He humbled himself
and in obedience accepted the death of the cross.
But I have bestowed on him
the name that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus,
every knee should bow
and every tongue confess,
Jesus Christ is Lord.

Turn again, my people, listen to me.

Father, hear our prayer and forgive us.