

Across the years there echoes still
the Baptist's bold assertion:
the call of God to change of heart,
repentance and conversion.

The word that John more boldly spoke
in dying, than in living,
now Christ takes up, as He proclaims
a Father all forgiving.

The erring son He welcomes home
when all is spent and squandered.
He lovingly pursues the sheep
that from the flock has wandered.

Forgive us, Lord, all we have done
to You, and one another.
So often we have gone our way,
forgetful of each other.

Forgetful of the cross they bear
of hunger, want, oppresion -
grant, Lord, that we may make amends,
who humbly make confession.