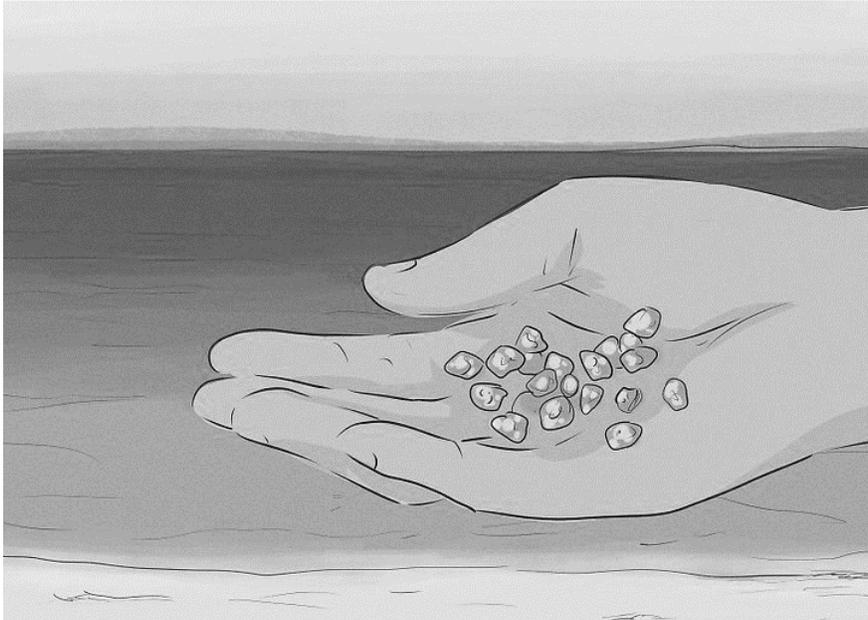


Tashlich



תַּשְׁלִיחַ

A service for Rosh Hashanah Afternoon
Suburban Temple – Kol Ami

*Hineih mah tov u'mah na-im
shevet achim gam yachad.*

הִנֵּה מֵהֵטוֹב וּמֵהַנְּעִים
שֵׁבֶת אַחִים גַּם יַחַד.

How good and how pleasant it is when we dwell together. (Psalm 133:1)



We have gathered here today to symbolically cast out our sins into a body of flowing water. Traditionally we do this by throwing bread or cracker crumbs into the water. Today we will use bird seed, as we do not want our act of repentance to harm the animals. The *minhag*, or custom, of *Tashlich* dates back 600 years. The name *Tashlich*, however, goes all the way back to the Bible. At the end of the Book of Micah we read, "And you will cast (*v'tashlich*) all their sins into the depths of the sea."

Our rabbis taught us, the Torah is like water because both water and Torah are free to all and clean the body and the soul (Sifrei Deut., Piska 48). Torah keeps us clean because it teaches us how to live, and how to be a good person. We have tried all year to be good people, but we have all made mistakes. May casting our sins into this water make us clean and pure in your eyes, O God.



Hin'ni

Here I am, one soul within this prayer community. Like those around me, I bring my own concerns and yearnings to this place, hoping they will find expressions in the time-hallowed words of my people and in the traditions cherished by generations before me.

May I bring the best of my energies to these Holy Days, approaching this spiritual work with open heart and mind, sincerity, and sustained focus on the deep questions of this season: Who am I? How shall I live? Where have I fallen short – or failed?

[Today] I take up the challenge of the Days of Awe: *cheshbon hanefesh* – searching examination of my life, a moral inventory of my deeds, words, and thoughts. During the next ten days, let me face the truth about myself and listen to your still, small voice. Taking comfort in your promise that I am always free to change, released from staleness and routine, let me know the joy of beginning again.

May I gain strength as I share this task with those around me, united by our common purpose: *Tikkun middot*, improving our characters and *tikkun olam*, repairing the world...(Mishkan Hanefesh)



May the Words – Noah Budin

May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable, to You, O God, my rock and my Redeemer, *y'hiyu l'ratzon*.



A Prayer for Tashlich

Here I am again
ready to let go of my mistakes.
Help me to release myself
from all the ways I've missed the mark.
Help me to stop carrying
the karmic baggage of my poor choices.
As I cast this bread upon the waters
lift my troubles off my shoulders.
Help me to know that last year is over,
washed away like crumbs in the current.
Open my heart to blessing and gratitude.
Renew my soul as the dew renews the grasses.
And we say together:
Amen.
(Rabbi Rachel Barenblat)

Today, we begin a New Year of goodness. Today, with these seeds, we are throwing away all the things that might spoil our New Year.

May all our bad habits
And all the grudges we hold
And all the bad things we have done
Be cast out
Forever.

(Please take a moment. With each handful of birdseed you throw in the water, think about a wrong doing or bad habit you wish to cast out. Please feel free to talk about and do those around you.)

The Rabbis ask, "What is perfect repentance?" And they answer, "When you are given the chance to repeat the same sin, but you do not do so." May our repentance today be perfect, and may we all do our best not to repeat our sins from this past year in the New Year.



L'shanah tovah tikateyvu
L'shanah tovah tikateyvu
Tikateyvu, v'teychateymu.

לְשָׁנָה טוֹבָה תִּכְתְּבוּ
לְשָׁנָה טוֹבָה תִּכְתְּבוּ
תִּכְתְּבוּ וְתִחַתְמוּ

May you be written and sealed in the Book of Life for a good year.



Other credits: Some prayers were written or significantly revised from the sources below by Rabbi Nyer
Other Prayers are from:

Gates of Repentance for Young People (Service for Younger Children and Service for Older Children), CCAR, 2002.
Tashlich: A Service for Rosh Hashanah Afternoon, Rabbi Susan Warshaw, Bet Harim, Flathead Valley, Montana, 2005.