



# Tashlich תשליך

"To cast away our sins"

## **Pitchu Li**

*Pit-chu Li sh-a- rei tzedek -avo-vam, o-deh Yah.*

Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to Adonai.

Rabbi:

In many communities on Rosh Hashanah afternoon before the setting of the sun, the ritual of *tashlich* (the casting) is performed based on the scriptural verse (Michah 7:19): "And You shall cast off (*ve-tashlich*) all their sins into the depths of the sea." What do we do at *tashlich*? We go to a sea or a river, usually where there are fish. Like the fish, we are in danger of being caught in a net of pitfalls and temptations. We gaze at the water and contemplate how we can forgive. Then we throw the bread upon the water, symbolically representing our desire to cast off our sins in this season of hope. As our sins are cast, they become a useful blessing to the fish in the form of food. So, too, we hope God will help us to change all our sins to acts of blessing.

***Tekiah is sounded on the shofar and the community is called to prayer***

Each of us is an author,  
Writing, with our deeds, in life's Great Book.  
And to each of us You have given the power, To  
write lines that will be remembered forever.

*No song is so  
unimportant,  
No story is so  
commonplace,  
No deed is so  
insignificant,*



*That you do not  
record it.*

A single act of kindness can help change the world.  
We pray that You help us make the best  
choices we can, To improve our lives each  
day and each year.

*So help us to remember always,  
That our lives and actions will always be remembered  
A single act of kindness can help change the world.*

Rabbi:

Today we have come to the water for *tashlich* -- to send away our attitudes that hurt ourselves and others. This is a time for us to think about the things we want to send away, what we want to keep, and what we want to do to improve ourselves and the world in the coming year.

**I Stand By the River**     By Rachel Esserman

I Stand by the River  
Tension fills my soul,  
My life keeps growing darker,  
let the river flow

Let the river flow through me,  
Over every inch of my skin and bones,  
Let it take my troubles from me,  
River, help me regain my possession of my soul.

I stand by the river,  
Watch the water flow.  
My pain pours into the water,  
See the river cleanse my soul.



We cast away deception and lies, so we will not pretend to be what we are not.

*We cast away stubbornness so we will always be open to the ideas of others.*

We cast away selfishness, so we will always enrich our lives through sharing with and caring for others.

*We cast away pride and arrogance, so we can serve God in humility and truth.*

We cast away indifference, so we will be sensitive to the pain of others and be responsive to other people's needs.

*We pray for strength and courage to improve our lives.*

*As our tradition teaches cast away from yourselves all your transgressions.*

*And create with your heart a new spirit.*

### **OSEH SHALOM**

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרוֹמָיו, הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם עֲלֵינוּ  
וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאָמְרוּ : אָמֵן

O-seh sha-lom, sha-lom bim-ro-mav,  
Hu ya-a-seh, hu ya-a-seh sha-lom a-ley-nu,  
V'-al kol Yis-ra-eyl, v<sup>l</sup>-im-ru: A-men.

*Each person now "casts" birdseed/crumbs into a living body of water*



## Tashlich

“Casting away;” A traditional ceremony held during the Yamim Nora-im (Days of Awe), usually on the first day of Rosh HaShanah, in which individuals symbolically “cast away” their sins or wrong doings from the past year by throwing breadcrumbs into a flowing body of water.  
([reformjudaism.org](http://reformjudaism.org))

