

THE LORD WALKS WITH ME AND TALKS WITH ME

Genesis 3:8-9 “And they (Adam and Eve) heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day. . . the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?”

Adam and Eve disobeyed God! They ate fruit from the tree God had specifically forbidden them to eat. They did what sinners do. Afraid of God, they tried to hide from Him. Sinners, knowing God’s holiness, His expectation that His commandments will be followed perfectly, try to cover up their sins. Sinners try to deflect or redirect the blame for their sins. Eve blamed the serpent. Adam blamed Eve and indirectly God Himself.

In spite of their sin, God reached out to Adam and Eve. He did not wait for them to come to Him. He went to them. He did not discount Adam and Eve’s sin. God in His grace was on a rescue mission. He came to cast them out of Paradise, but also to give them His promise of a Savior.

Note well you who sin every day, which we all do. God knows your sins. You cannot hide them from Him. Yet, God reaches out to you, as He did to Adam and Eve, as Jesus did to Peter after denying Him, as Jesus prayed from His cross, “Father forgive them for they know not what they do.” (Luke 23:34)

God comes to walk and talk with you through the Holy Scriptures as you read them privately, study them together with others in Bible studies, and receive them in the worship service. He comes to you even though He knows you are a sinner. He comes to confront your sin with His law. But He also comes to hear your confession and grant you absolution (forgiveness) for Jesus’ sake.

You can never hide your sins from God. He knows all! Nothing you do, think or say gets past Him. Satan wants you to believe there is no hope that God will forgive you. The Holy Gospel wants you to know God loves you and wants to shower upon You His forgiveness for Jesus’ sake.

Jesus, your Savior and friend invites you, especially when your sins burden you the most, “Come unto Me and rest; Lay down, thou weary one, lay down Thy

head upon My breast. Behold, I freely give The living water; thirsty one, Stoop down and drink and live.” (excerpts LSB 699.)

Prayer: Thank You Jesus for dying my death which I deserve because of my sins and giving me Your righteousness to stand confident before my heavenly Father of eternal life for Your sake. Amen.

In Adam we have all been one, One huge rebellious man;
We all have fled that evening voice That sought us as we ran.

But Thy strong love, it sought us still And sent Thine only Son
That we might hear His Shepherd’s voice And, hearing Him, be one.

O Thou who, when we loved Thee not, Didst love and save us all,
Thou great Good Shepherd of mankind, O hear us when we call.

Send us Thy Spirit, teach us truth; Thou Son, O set us free
From fancied wisdom, self-sought ways, To make us one in Thee.
(LSB 569 verses 1,3-5)