

Hymn Lyrics

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Before the cock crew twice

Before the cock crew twice -
dread hour of trial -
the apostle uttered thrice
his stark denial.

And then the Savior turned,
on Peter gazing
a look divine, that yearned
with love amazing.

Swiftly to Peter's face
the shame came leaping.
He had denied such grace,
and went forth weeping.

Lord Jesus, look on me,
your kind face turning.
My soul with agony
of sin is burning!

The way is long, I find
my weak steps falling.
Return, unto my mind
your grace recalling.

Oft, oft with weeping eyes
I gaze to heaven;
then at your look, arise
restored, forgiven.

Hallgrim Pjeturssen (1615-1674) in *Fimmtiu Pssiusalmar*, 1659; trans Charles Venn Pilcher (1879-1961)