

# Turn back, O man, forswear thy foolish ways

Louis Bourgeois, 1551

Old 124th  
10.10.10.10.10

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The music is primarily chordal, with the right hand playing chords and the left hand providing a bass line. A measure rest of 5 measures is indicated above the staff at the beginning of the system.

The second system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat. The music continues with chordal textures. A measure rest of 10 measures is indicated above the staff at the beginning of the system.

The third system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat. The music continues with chordal textures. Measure rests of 15 and 20 measures are indicated above the staff at the beginning of the system.

Turn back, O man, forswear thy foolish ways.  
old now is earth, and none may count her days.  
yet thou, her child, whose head is crowned with flame,  
still wilt not hear thine inner God proclaim,  
"Turn back, O man, forswear thy foolish ways."

Earth might be fair and all men glad and wise.  
age after age their tragic empires rise,  
built while they dream, and in that dreaming weep:  
would man but wake from out his haunted sleep,  
earth might be fair and all men glad and wise.

Earth shall be fair, and all her people one:  
nor till that hour shall God's whole will be done.  
Now, even now, once more from earth to sky,  
peals forth in joy man's old undaunted cry:  
"Earth shall be fair and all her folk be one!"

Clifford Bax