

With What Shall We Approach You?

Amanda Udis-Kessler, March 11, 2024 (suggested tune: Passion Chorale)

Biblical references: Micah 6:6-8; Amos 5:21-24; Isaiah 58:6-8

With what shall we approach you? What gift could be enough?
Shall we bring sacrifices to show our faith and love?
Shall we sing songs of worship, of wonder and of praise?
Oh, tell us what to offer this day and all our days.

We know that we have failed you. We know we have transgressed.
Our promises are broken. In sorrow we confess.
How may we earn your favor? What would you have us do?
Oh, God of love and mercy, return us now to you.

The prophets told their people of all that God demands:
That justice flows like water across a withered land,
That righteousness renews us, that kindness guides our hearts.
With what shall we approach you? The will to do our parts.

Our work for peace and justice sings louder than our songs.
Our tending to the stranger will show our love is strong.
The hungry and the homeless receive our food and care.
The freeing of the captive remains our greatest prayer.

The fast that God has chosen we now will make our own:
To live so all can flourish, to give to all a home,
To welcome every neighbor, to love the last and least
And so we shall approach you and join your joyous feast.