And Is The Time Approaching

1. And is the time approaching, By prophets long foretold,
   When all shall dwell together, One Shepherd and one fold?

2. Shall Jew and Gentile meeting From many a distant shore,
   Around one altar kneeling, One common Lord adore?

3. Shall all that now unites us More sweet and lasting prove,
   A closer bond of union In a blest land of love?

4. O long expected dawning Come with thy cheering ray;
   When shall the morning brighten, The shadows flee away?

Shall every idol perish, To moles and bats be thrown?
Shall all that now divides us Remove, and pass away
Shall war be learnt no longer? Shall strife and tumult cease?
O sweet anticipation! It cheers the watchers on

And every prayer be offered To God in Christ alone?
Like shadows of the morning Before the blaze of day?
All earth His blessed kingdom, The Lord and Prince of Peace!
To pray and hope and labor, Till the dark night be gone. Amen

Music: Samuel Smith, 1874

Words: Jane Borthwick, 1859

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