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?
Shall ev'ry idol perish, To moles and bats be thrown?
And ev'ry prayer be offered To God in Christ alone?

2. Shall Jew and Gentile meeting From many a distant shore,
Around one altar kneeling, One common Lord adore?
Shall all that now divides us Remove, and pass away?
Like shadows of the morning Before the blaze of day?

3. Shall all that now unites us More sweet and lasting prove,
A closer bond of union In a blest land of love?
Shall war be learnt no longer? Shall strife and tumult cease?
All earth His blessed kingdom, The Lord and Prince of Peace!

4. O long expected dawning Come with thy cheering ray;
When shall the morning brighten, The shadows flee away?
Oh sweet anticipation! It cheers the watchers on
To pray and hope and labor, Till the dark night be gone. Amen.

Words: Jane Borthwick, 1859
Music: Samuel Smith, 1874