

We have not known Thee as we ought

Henry F. Hemy, 1818-1888

St. Catherine
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The first system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody in the treble clef begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass clef accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern. A measure rest is indicated above the fifth measure.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It includes measure rests above the 10th and 15th measures.

The third system of musical notation concludes the piece with measures 16 through 20. The melody in the treble clef ends with a final cadence.

We have not known Thee as we ought,
Nor learned Thy wisdom, grace and power;
The things of earth have filled our thought,
And trifles of the passing hour.
Lord, give us light Thy truth to see,
And make us wise in knowing Thee.

We have not loved Thee as we ought,
Nor cared that we are loved by Thee;
Thy presence we have coldly sought,
And feebly longed Thy face to see.
Lord, give a pure and loving heart
To feel and know the love Thou art.

We have not served Thee as we ought,
Alas, the duties left undone,
The work with little fervor wrought,
The battles lost or scarcely won!
Lord, give the zeal, and give the might,
For Thee to toil, for Thee to fight.

When shall we know Thee as we ought,
And fear and love and serve aright?
When shall we, out of trial brought,
Be perfect in the land of light?
Lord, may we day by day prepare
To see Thy face and serve Thee there.

Thomas B. Pollock