

to Dr. Jacqueline C. Perez

# The Call of Micah

Based on Micah 6:6-8

Laurence Rosania

INTRO *Strong, with movement* (♩ = 84-88)

Keyboard *mf*

5 Cantor/Unison Choir *mf* REFRAIN

Do jus - tice, love

9 kind - ness, walk hum - bly with your God. Do

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Parts for Violin (30108374) and Cello (30108375) are available online. Visit [ocp.org](http://ocp.org).

13

jus - tice, love kind - ness, walk

17

hum - bly with your God.

**VERSE 1**

21 **Cantor**  
*mp*

1. How shall I enter the presence of God? With what shall I

**Soprano/Bass** *p*

**Alto/Tenor**

1. With what shall I

25

1. bow be-fore the Lord? Shall I

1. bow be-fore the Lord?

28

1. bring my first-born, my flesh and my blood? With what shall I bow be-fore the Lord? Do

Soprano/Bass  
*mf*

1. With what shall I bow be-fore the Lord?

## REFRAIN

32

jus - tice, \_\_\_\_\_ love kind - ness, \_\_\_\_\_ walk  
 Do jus - tice, \_\_\_\_\_ love kind - ness, walk

36

hum - bly with your God. Do jus - tice, \_\_\_\_\_ love  
 hum - bly with your God. Do jus - tice,

40

kind - ness, \_\_\_\_\_ walk hum - bly with your \_\_\_\_\_

kind - ness, kind - ness, walk hum - bly with your \_\_\_\_\_

This section contains three staves of music. The top staff is the vocal line with lyrics. The middle staff is the vocal line with lyrics. The bottom staff is the piano accompaniment. The music is in a key with one flat and a 4/4 time signature.

VERSE 2

44

Cantor  
*mp*

God. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The Lord \_\_\_\_\_ has shown \_\_\_\_\_ what \_\_\_\_\_ is good. \_\_\_\_\_

God. \_\_\_\_\_

*mp*

This section contains three staves of music. The top staff is the vocal line with lyrics, marked 'Cantor mp'. The middle staff is the vocal line with lyrics. The bottom staff is the piano accompaniment, marked 'mp'. The music is in a key with one flat and a 4/4 time signature.

48

2. \_\_\_\_\_ What does the Lord re - quire \_\_\_ of you? \_\_\_\_\_

S/B  
A/T  
2. What does the Lord re - quire?

52

REFRAIN

S/B *mf*  
Do jus - tice, \_\_\_\_\_ love

A *mf*  
T  
2. What does the Lord re - quire? \_\_\_\_\_  
Ki im - a - so't \_\_\_\_\_

56

kind - ness, \_\_\_\_\_ walk hum - bly with your God. Do

\_\_\_\_\_ mish - pat \_\_\_\_\_ ve - a - ha - vat che - sed, \_\_\_\_\_

60

jus - tice, \_\_\_\_\_ love kind - ness, \_\_\_\_\_ walk

\_\_\_\_\_ ve - hatz - ne - a le - chet \_\_\_\_\_ im -

64 *allargando*

hum - bly with your God. **Hebrew** *Ki im - a -*  
**English (Optional)** *Do*

*allargando*

*e - lo - hei - cha.*

*allargando*

**FINAL REFRAIN**

67 *f a tempo*

*so't* \_\_\_\_\_ *mish - pat* \_\_\_\_\_ *ve - 'a -*  
*jus - tice,* \_\_\_\_\_ *love kind - ness,* \_\_\_\_\_ *walk* \_\_\_\_\_

*a tempo f*

*Ki im - a - so't* \_\_\_\_\_ *mish - pat* \_\_\_\_\_ *ve - 'a -*

*f a tempo*



71

ha - vat che - sed, ve - hatz - ne - a  
 hum - bly with your God. Do jus - tice, love

ha - vat che - sed, ve - hatz - ne - a

75

le - chet, walk hum - bly with your  
 kind - ness, walk hum - bly with your

le - chet, walk hum - bly with your

*rit.*

*rit.*

*rit.*

79 *a tempo* *mp*

God. \_\_\_\_\_

*a tempo*

God.

*a tempo* *mp*

83

*rit.* *pp*

—New York City, 2010

### Hebrew Pronunciation Guide

Hebrew is pronounced in a way similar to Latin, with pure, open vowels. The distinctive “kh” sound in “chesed” and “lechet” is a guttural sound produced toward the back of the throat as in the word “I’Chaim!”

Phonetic pronunciation:

<i>Ki</i>	=	Kee
<i>imaso't</i>	=	eem-a-soat
<i>mishpat</i>	=	meesh-paht
<i>ve'ahavat</i>	=	veh-ah-hah-vaht
<i>chesed</i>	=	kheh-sehd
<i>vehatznea</i>	=	veh-hahtz-neh-ah
<i>lechet</i>	=	leh-khet
<i>imeloheicha</i>	=	eem-el-o-heh-khah

## Assembly Edition

THE CALL OF MICAH

Laurence Rosania

Refrain

Hebrew Final Refrain *Ki im - a - so't*      *mish - pat*

walk hum - bly with your God.      Do - ve - hatz -  
ve - 'a - ha - vat che - sed,

jus - tice,      love kind - ness,      walk hum - bly  
ne - a      le - chet,      walk hum - bly

1, 2 to Verses      3 to Final Refrain      Final

with your God.      God.      God.

Verses

1. How shall I enter the presence of God?  
With what shall I bow before the Lord?  
Shall I bring my firstborn,  
my flesh and my blood?  
With what shall I bow before the Lord?
2. The Lord has shown what is good.  
What does the Lord require of you?

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## Composer Notes

In two mighty lines of Hebrew—*Ki imaso't mishpat ve'ahavat chesed, vehatzne'a lechet imeloheicha*—the prophet Micah articulated the simple requirement of all great spiritual traditions: “Do justice, love kindness, walk humbly with your God” (Micah 6:8). I have used this text in its original form because, although Hebrew Scripture resounds through every liturgy of the Church, few Christians ever encounter this sacred language for themselves.

The refrain may be sung by an assembly both in English and Hebrew, while the verses provide an opportunity for very expressive singing by a cantor/soloist and two-part choir with optional violin and cello (visit [ocp.org](http://ocp.org), Editions #30108374 and #30108375). The song’s universal message truly resonates in any liturgy of the year and in ecumenical and interfaith celebrations as well.

I hope that “The Call of Micah” can inspire us to the works of justice and compassion that the prophet called for over twenty-eight centuries ago. May it also call to us in this ancient tongue that Jesus heard, and that has spoken to countless generations of God’s people. Sing it with the strength and heart of the prophet himself!

—Laurence Rosania