

On this night of atonement



O God of forgiveness,
on this night of atonement we come before You,
haunted by memories of duties unperformed,
of promptings disobeyed, of beckonings ignored.

We confess
that there were opportunities for kindness and service
which we allowed to pass by in the year just ended.

We are ashamed
of sins committed with evil intent,
as well as of follies committed unwittingly,
or even with good intentions.

*Make us honest enough to recognize our transgressions,
big enough to admit them, strong enough to forsake them.*

*Humble us by showing us what we are;
exalt us with a vision of what we may yet grow to be.*

*Keep us ever mindful of our dependence upon You,
and help us to understand Your need of us.*

*United with You in a holy partnership,
may we dedicate our lives to Your law of love.*

*Help us to create homes filled with joy and harmony,
and to labor for peace among communities and nations.*

*On this sacred night, grant us atonement,
and help us to find serenity within ourselves.*

*Kindle within us the fires of faith,
and set aglow our courage to live the words we pray.*