Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence 271

1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence,  
   and with fear and trembling stand,  
   ponder nothing earthly minded,  
   for with blessing in his hand  
   Christ our God to earth descended  
   our full homage to demand.
2. King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
   as of old on earth he stood,  
   Lord of lords, in human vesture --  
   in the body and the blood --  
   he will give to all the faithful  
   his own self for heav'nly food.
3. Rank on rank the host of heaven  
   spreads its vanguard on the way,  
   as the Light of light descending  
   from the realms of endless day,  
   that the powers of hell may vanish  
   as the darkness clears away.
4. At his feet the six-winged seraph;  
   cherubim, with sleepless eye,  
   veil their faces to the presence,  
   as with ceaseless voice they cry:  
   alleluia, alleluia,  
   alleluia, Lord Most High!

TEXT: From the Liturgy of St. James. Tr. Gerard Moultrie (1864)

TUNE: Trad. French melody

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