Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent

PICARDY

Liturgy of St. James, 5th Cent.,
Adapted by Gerard Moultrie, 1864

French melody 17th Cent,
Arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams 1906

1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
2. King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
3. Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its van-guard on the way,
4. At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim, with sleepless eye,

ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessings in his hand,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,

Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.
he will give to all the faithful his own self for heav'nly food.
that the pow'rs of hell may vanish as the dark-ness clears a way.
"Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, Lord Most. High!"

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