Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly minded,

2 King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord of lords, in human vesture,

3 Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its van-guard on the way, as the Light of light descend eth

4 At his feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim, with sleepless eye, veil their faces to the Presence,

for with blessing in his hand Christ our Lord to earth descend, he will give to all the realms of endless day, that the powers of hell may as with ceaseless voice they cry: "Alleluia, alle -

cend eth, our full homage to demand. faith ful his own self for heavenly food.

va nish as the dark - ness clears a way. lu ia, Aale - lui - a, Lord most high!"

Text: Liturgy of St. James, 4th c.; adapt. Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885)
Tune: French melody, 17th c.; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
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