

LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE

Words: Liturgy of St. James, 5th Century

Music: French Tradition, 7th Century

Dm F Bb F A7
Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Dm F Bb F A7
Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand
Bb C Dm C Bb C Dm
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

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 heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of Light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

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!"