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1. O Word of God Incarnate,

O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging,
O Light of our dark sky,
We praise Thee for the radiance
That from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps
Shines on from age to age.

2. The Church from her dear Master

Received the gift divine,
And still that light she lifteth
O'er all the earth to shine.
It is the golden casket
Where gems of truth are stored;
It is the heaven-drawn picture
Of Christ, the living Word.

**3. It floateth like a banner
before God's host unfurled;**

It shineth like a beacon
above the darkling world;
It is the chart and compass
that o'er life's surging sea,
mid mists and rocks and quicksands,
still guides, O Christ, to Thee.

4. Oh, make Thy church, dear Savior,

a lamp of burnished gold
to bear before the nations
Thy true light as of old!
Oh, teach Thy wandering pilgrims
by this their path to trace
Till, clouds and darkness ended,
they see Thee face to face! Amen.

Lesson: Isaiah 61.1-3

1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; 2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; 3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

Epistle: Romans 12:1-5

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. 3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. 4 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: 5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

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Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things: and blessed be His glorious name forever. The mountains shall bring peace to Thy people: and the hills righteousness. Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands: serve the Lord with gladness. Hallelujah.

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

41 Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover. 42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast. 43 And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it. 44 But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance. 45 And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him. 46 And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. 47 And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers. 48 And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. 49 And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business? 50 And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them. 51 And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

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1. Within the Father's house

The Son hath found His home,
And to His Temple suddenly
The Lord of Life hath come.

2. The doctors of the Law
Gaze on the wondrous Child
And marvel at His gracious words
Of wisdom undefiled.

3. Yet not to them is given
The mighty truth to know,
To lift the earthly veil which hides
Incarnate God below.

4. The secret of the Lord
Escapes each human eye,
And faithful pondering hearts await
The full epiphany.

5. Lord, visit Thou our souls
And teach us by Thy grace
Each dim revealing of Thyself
With loving awe to trace,

6. Till from our darkened sight
The cloud shall pass away
And on the cleansed soul shall burst
The everlasting day;

7. Till we behold Thy face
And know as we are known
Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Coequal Three in One. Amen.

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Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.