The Word of God, proceeding forth



The word of God, proceeding forth yet leaving not his Father's side, and going to his work on earth had reached at length life's eventide.

By false disciple to be given to foemen, for his blood athirst, himself, the living Bread from heaven, he gave to his disciples first.

In twofold form of sacrament he gave his Flesh, he gave his Blood, that man, of twofold substance blent, might wholly feed on mystic food. In birth man's fellow-man was he, his meat while sitting at the board; he died, his ransomer to be, he reigns to be his great reward.

O saving Victim! opening wide the gate of heaven to man below, our foes press hard on every side, thine aid supply, thy strength bestow.

All praise and thanks to thee ascend for evermore, blest One in Three; O grant us life that shall not end in our true native land with thee.

St. Thomas Aquinas

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