## I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU COMFORTLESS



- 2. In spirit thou art ever nigh O holy blessed nearness! which shows itself, not visibly, but yet with soul-felt nearness. Thou giv'st us light in this dark vale, and living streams that never fail; our souls with food providest; and our faint steps, in every stage of this our weary pilgrimage, most mercifully guidest.
- 3. Thou in thy word art also nigh, thyself therein revealing; and understandest well thereby to touch our inmost feeling. Now comforting, correcting now, a mighty master versed art thou in every kind of teaching! One word of thine can heal the smart, or kindle fire within the heart, so powerful thy preaching!
- 4. Thou in thy sacrament art nigh, wherein we are invited to feed upon thee thankfully, by faith to thee united. The heart, that once its precious blood poured out for our eternal good, to us is freely offered; what is there that he will not give, who gave his life that we might live, and pangs unheard of suffered?
- 5. Thou art with us, where two or three in thy Name meet together, to pray in faith, from all doubt free, to God their heavenly Father. Sweet are the hours when thus we meet as brethren at thy mercy-seat, with hearts and voices blended; a foretaste of the bliss to come, when we shall reach our Father's home, our painful journey ended.

- 6. Lord, thou art with us in the woe this cruel world has wrought us; thou givest us e'en here below the peace thy blood has bought us. Though sin, the world, and Satan try to threaten us and terrify, we bid them all defiance: our peace abideth firm in thee, for none shall e'er confounded be, who place in thee reliance.
- 7. Thou art with us then why should we be sad, perplexed, and fearful? Thou art with us – then why not be in danger calm and cheerful? Why fear affliction's darkest night? Why tremble at the rage and might of hell's devouring lion? The Lord of lords, and King of kings, will hide us underneath his wings, and bring us safe to Sion.
- 8. Thou art with us unseen, but we ere long shall stand before thee, and see thee in the majesty and brightness of thy glory. Then shall we see thee face to face, not darkly, or as in a glass, but full and perfect vision. O Lord, our guide and guardian be, till of thy glorious majesty we have in heaven fruition.