Prayers of the People

Christ was baptized as one of us, but he destroyed sins as God. *He was tempted as a human, but he conquered as God. He wants us to rejoice, for he has overcome the world.*

He hungered, but he fed thousands. He is the living bread that comes down from heaven. He thirsted, but he cried, "If anyone thirsts, let them come to me and drink." He promised that fountains would flow from those who believe.

He was wearied, but he is the rest of those who are weary and heavy-laden. *The demons acknowledge him, but he drives them out. He plunges into the sea the legions of foul spirits and sees the prince of demons falling like lightening.*

He prays, but he hears prayer. *He weeps, but he makes tears to cease.*

He asks where Lazarus was laid because he was a human; but he raises Lazarus because he was God. *He is* sold, and very cheap - for only thirty pieces of silver; but he redeems the world at a great price - the cost of his own blood.

As sheep he is led to the slaughter, but he is the Shepherd of Israel – and now of the whole world. *He is bruised and wounded, but he heals every disease and infirmity.*

He is lifted up and nailed to the tree, but he restores us by the tree of life. He lays down his life, but he has the power to take it up again.

He dies, but he gives life; and by his death he destroys death. He is buried, but he rises again.

He descends into hell, but he raises souls from death. He ascends to heaven, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. Amen.

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