

O HOW blest the hour, Lord Jesus,
When we can to Thee draw near,
Promises so sweet and precious
From Thy gracious lips to hear!

- 2 Be with us this day to bless us,
That we may not hear in vain;
With the saving truths impress us,
Which the words of life contain.
- 3 Open Thou our minds, and lead us
Safely on our heavenward way;
With the lamp of Truth precede us,
That we may not go astray.
- 4 Lord, endue Thy Word from Heaven
With such light, and love, and power,
That in us its silent leaven
May work on from hour to hour.
- 5 Give us grace to bear our witness
To the truths we have embraced;
And let others both their sweetness
And their quickening virtue taste.

*Carl Johann Philipp Spitta, 1801-59,
tr Richard Massie, 1800-87*