The Great Forerunner of the Morn

Neale

- The great forerunner of the morn, the herald of the Word, is born; and faithful hearts shall never fail with thanks and praise his light to hail.
- With heav'nly message Gabriel came, that John should be that herald's name, and with prophetic utt'rance told his actions great and manifold.
- Though not yet born, John gave aright his witness to the coming Light; and Christ, the Sun of all the earth, fulfulled that witness at his birth.
- Of woman born shall never be a greater prophet than was he, whose mighty deeds exalt his fame to greater than a prophet's name.
- 5. All praise to God the Father be, all praise, eternal Son, to thee, whom with the Spirit we adore for ever and for evermore.

Inspiration: Luke 1: 5-25, 39-45; "Praecursor altus luminis"; attr. to St. Bede the Venerable, 673-735. Lyrics: 88.88; John M. Neale, 1818-1866, in "The Hymnal Noted", 1852.