

O come, O come, Emmanuel

O ANTIPHONS (12th – 13th centuries)

paraphrased as VENI EMMANUEL (1710)

translated by JOHN MASON NEALE (1851) *and* HENRY SLOANE COFFIN (1916)

O come, O come, Emmanuel
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
and order all things, far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show,
and cause us in her ways to go.

O come, Desire of nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease;
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

Text for stanzas translated by J.M. Neale from A Panorama of Christian Hymnody.

Text for stanzas translated by H. S. Coffin (Wisdom, Desire of nations) from The Baptist Hymnal, 1991 (with capitalization altered to match).