

the Bible
ESV *except*
where otherwise indicated

O Antiphons
(8th century)

O come, O come, Emmanuel
VENI EMMANUEL (1693/1710/1874)
tr. by JOHN MASON NEALE (1851/1856),
revised by HENRY W. BAKER (1861),
and HENRY SLOANE COFFIN (1916)

They shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. *Matthew 1:23* KJV, *cf. Isaiah 7:14*

Throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed. *1 Peter 1:17-18*

There shall come forth a rod... a root of Jesse... for an ensign of the people. *Isaiah 11:1,10* KJV, *cf. Romans 15:12*
That through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. *Hebrews 2:14-15*

The dayspring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death. *Luke 1:78* KJV, *cf. Isaiah 9:2*

I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David. He shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open. *Isaiah 22:22*
Bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. *Isaiah 42:7*
I have the keys of Death and Hades. *Revelation 1:18*

And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. *Exodus 3:2*
The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain... that I may give you... the law." *Exodus 24:12*

O Emmanuel, our King and our lawgiver,
the hope of the nations and their Saviour:
Come and save us, O Lord our God.

O Root of Jesse, standing as a sign among the peoples;
before you kings will shut their mouths,
to you the nations will make their prayer:
Come and deliver us, and delay no longer.

O Dayspring,
splendour of light eternal and sun of righteousness:
Come and enlighten those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death.

O Key of David and sceptre of the House of Israel;
you open and no one can shut; you shut and no one can open:
Come and lead the prisoners from the prison house,
those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

O Adonai, and leader of the House of Israel,
who appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush
and gave him the law on Sinai:
Come and redeem us with an outstretched arm.

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 Day-Spring, 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 Antiphons: Text from The Church of England, churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/church-year/times-and-seasons/advent
except 'O Oriens,' for which I use the alternate rendering 'O Dayspring.'*

*Text for stanzas translated by J.M. Neale and revised by Henry W. Baker from Hymns Ancient & Modern (London: Novello, 1861).
Text for stanzas tr. by H. S. Coffin (Wisdom, Desire of nations) from Hymns of the Kingdom of God (New York: A.S. Barnes & Co., 1916).*

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Christ... the wisdom of God. *1 Corinthians 1:24*
When he established the heavens, I was there; ...when he
marked out the foundations of the earth. *Proverbs 8:27, 29*
I have taught you the way of wisdom. *Proverbs 4:11*

The desire of all nations shall come. *Haggai 2:7* κJV
He himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has
broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility...
Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone. *Ephesians*
2:14,20, cf. Isaiah 28:16

O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High,
reaching from one end to the other mightily,
and sweetly ordering all things:
Come and teach us the way of prudence.

O King of the nations, and their desire,
the cornerstone making both one:
Come and save the human race,
which you fashioned from clay.

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.

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