

from the
Great Antiphons
Antiphonae majores
8th century?

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

from
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
Veni, Veni Emmanuel

Latin text 1694, 1878

English metrical translation by

J.M. NEALE, HENRY W. BAKER, H. S. COFFIN

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 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 of English metrical version: First stanza (J.M. Neale,
revised by Henry W. Baker) from *Hymns Ancient &
Modern* (London: Novello, 1861). Last two stanzas
(H. S. Coffin) from *Hymns of the Kingdom of God*
(New York: A.S. Barnes & Co., 1916).

Literal English translation: Adam F McCune

Latin text: J.P. Migne, *Patrologiae Cursus Completus*, Series Latina, vol. 78, pp.
732–733, via *Hymnology Archive*.

English text: The Church of England.

Original Latin:

O Sapientia!
quae ex ore Altissimi produisti,
attingens a fine usque ad finem
fortiter, suaviter, disponensque omnia,
veni ad docendum nos viam prudentiae.

O Rex gentium, et desideratus earum,
lapisque angularis! qui facis utraque unum,
veni, salva hominem
quem de limo formasti.

O Emmanuel Rex et legifer noster,
expectatio gentium, et Salvator earum!
veni ad salvandum nos, Dominus Deus noster.

Literal translation:

Come, come, Emmanuel,
Release captive Israel,
Who groans in exile,
Deprived of the Son of God.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Will be born for you, Israel!

Come, O Wisdom,
You who set all things in order here.
Come, so that you may show
The way of prudence and glory!

Come, come, King of the Nations;
Come, Redeemer of all,
So that you may save your servants,
(Who are) conscious of their sin.

Text of Latin metrical version: Highlands Latin School Charleston. Compared to
the original published texts, this text reads *Nascetur* (“will be born”) instead
of *Est natus* (“was born”) in the refrain, and *Redemptor omnium* (“Redeemer
of all”) instead of *Redemptor hominum* (“Redeemer of men”).

Original publications of the Latin text: First stanza from *Triplex Horologium
Juventutis Studiosae* (Westphalia, 1693), via *Hymnology Archive*. Last two
stanzas from Joseph Mohr, *Cantiones Sacrae* (NY: Frederick Pustet, 1878),
via *Hymnology Archive*.

Original Latin:

Veni, veni Emmanuel,
Captivum solve Israel,
Qui gemit in exiliō,
Privatus Dei Filiō.

Gaudē! Gaudē! Emmanuel
Nāscetur prō tē, Israel.

Veni, o Sapientia,
Quae hīc dispōnis omnia.
Veni, viam prūdentiae,
Ut doceās et glōriae!

Veni, veni, Rēx Gentium;
Veni, Redēptor omnium,
Ut salvēs tuōs famulōs,
Peccātī sibi cōnsciōs.