

Composer Notes

“Veni Sancte Spiritus” is ideal for Pentecost Sunday. The mantra may be repeated as required with assembly or alternated with the verses. Ideally it would be sung during the Confirmation rite. Musically, on account of the fairly static harmony and off-beat rhythms related to the Latin text, it is important to sing the piece lightly and without losing the flow. Care should be taken to put due accents on important syllables and to closely honor the stresses of the Latin text. This should always be pre-eminent in terms of interpretation. The music invokes the coming of the Holy Spirit through the use of repeated and ascending melodic material, finally coming to a rest. The verse takes up the invocation by an ever-ascending line and here, the invocation almost takes on a pleading role. I have attempted to incorporate a mood of consolation into the piece.

With the typically large assembly on Pentecost Sunday, supplemental instruments and accompaniment would undoubtedly be useful.

—Andrew Wright

SAMPLE

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Attributed to Archbishop Stephen Langton, ca. 1160–1228
Translated by Edward Caswall, 1814–1878

Andrew Wright

INTRO *Con moto* (♩ = ca. 100)

Keyboard *mp*

REFRAIN: Cantor

mp

Ve - ni, ve - ni San - cte Spí - ri - tus. Ve - ni, ve - ni San - cte Spí - ri - tus.

mp

Ve - ni, ve - ni San - cte Spí - ri - tus. - ni San - cte Spí - ri - tus.

REFRAIN: All
mf

Soprano
Alto
mf

Ve - ni, ve - ni San - cte Spí - ri - tus. Ve - ni, ve - ni San - cte Spí - ri - tus.

Tenor
Bass
mf

Ve - ni, ve - ni San - cte Spí - ri - tus. Ve - ni, ve - ni San - cte Spí - ri - tus.

VERSES: Cantor (or Sopranos)

mp

1. Ho - ly Spir - it, Lord of Light From the clear ce - les - tial
 2. Thou, of all con - so - lers be Thou, the soul's de - light - some
 3. Light im - mor - tal, light giv - er Vi - sit thou these hearts of
 4. Heal our wounds, our strength be - come; On our dry - ness pour thy
 5. Thou, on those who ev - er are Thee con - fess and thee a -

***Choir and/or Keyboard**
mp

A
Oo
T
B *mp*

*Cue-note melody notes are played if keyboard doubles choral parts.

1. height, Thy pure beam - ing ra - dianc e give; Come, thou Fa - ther
 2. guest, Dost re - fresh - ing peace be - stow: Thou in toil art
 3. thine, And our in - most be - ing fill: If thou take thy
 4. dew; Wash the stains of guilt a - way: Bend the stub - born
 5. dore, In thy sev'n - fold gifts de - scend: Give them com - fort

Oo

1. of the poor, Com with ta - sures which en - dure;
 2. com - fort sweet; Plea sant cel - ness in the heat;
 3. grace a - way, not in us will stay;
 4. heart and will; Melt the fro - zen, warm the chill;
 5. when they die; Give them life with thee on high;

Oo

1. Come, thou Light of all that live!
 2. Sol - ace in the midst of woe.
 3. All our good is turned to ill.
 4. Guide the steps that go a - stray.
 5. Give them joys that nev - er

Oo

1-4

D.S.

1-4

D.S.

Final

5. end.

Final

Final

mf

FINAL REFRAIN
Descant

f

Ve - ni, ve - ni San-cte Spi-ri-tus. Ve - ni, ve - ni San-cte Spi-ri-tus.

Melody

f

Ve - ni, ve - ni San-cte Spi-ri-tus. ve - ni, ve - ni San-cte Spi-ri-tus.

f

Ve - ni, ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus. Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus.

Ve - ni, ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus. Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus.

rall.

rall.

rall.


SAMPLE

Assembly Edition

VENI SANCTE SPIRITUS

Andrew Wright

Refrain



Ve - ni, ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus. Ve - ni, ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus.

Ve - ni, ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus. Ve - ni, ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus.

Verses

1. Ho - ly Spir - it, Lord of Light From the clear ce -
 2. Thou, of all con - so - lers best, Thou, the soul's de -
 3. Light im - mor - tal, Vi - sit thou these
 4. Heal our wounds, our strength re - new; On our dry - ness
 5. Thou, on those who ev - er - more Thee con - fess and

1. les - tial height, Thy pure beam - ing ra - diance give;
 2. light - some guest, Do not re - fresh - ing peace be - stow:
 3. hearts of thine, As thou wilt be - ing fill:
 4. pour thy dew; Wash the stains of guilt a - way:
 5. thee a - dore, In thy sev'n - fold gifts de - scend:

1. Come, thou Fa - ther of the heav'n Come with trea - sures
 2. Thou in toil art com - fort sweet Plea - sant cool - ness
 3. If thou take thy grace to us to - day, noth - ing pure in
 4. Bend the stub - born heart and will; Melt the fro - zen,
 5. Give them com - fort when they die: Give them life with

to Refrain

1. which en - dure; Come, thou King of all that live!
 2. in the heat; Sol - ace us in the midst of woe.
 3. us will stay; All our good is turned to ill.
 4. warm the chill; Guide our steps that go a - stray.
 5. thee on high; Give them joy that nev - er end.

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