

## 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 melodic 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

Preview

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

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

**REFRAIN: All**  
*mf*

**Soprano**  
**Alto**  
*mf*

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

**Tenor**  
**Bass**  
*mf*

Ve - ni, ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus. Ve - ni San - cte Spi - 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 best,	Thou, the soul's de - light - some
3. Light im - mor - tal, light div - ine,	Vi - sit thou these hearts of
4. Heal our wounds, our strength re - new;	On our dry - ness pour thy
5. Thou, on those who ev - er - more	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.

Veni Sancte Spiritus

1. height, Thy pure beam - ing ra - diance 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, Come with trea - sures which en - dure;  
 2. com - fort sweet; Plea - sant cool - ness in the heat;  
 3. grace a - way, noth - ing pure 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

1-4 *D.S.*

Oo

1-4 *D.S.*

**Final**

5. end.

**Final**

**Final**

*mf*

This system contains three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in G major with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. It begins with a whole note G4, followed by a whole rest for three measures. The middle staff is a vocal line in G major with a key signature of one flat and a common time signature. It begins with a whole note G4, followed by a whole rest for three measures. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in G major with a key signature of one flat and a common time signature. It features a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, both starting with a half note G4 and followed by quarter notes.

**FINAL REFRAIN**

**Descant**

*f*

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

This section consists of a single staff with a vocal line. It begins with a dynamic marking of *f*. The melody starts with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5. The lyrics are "Ve - ni, ve - ni San-cte Spi-ri-tus." followed by a fermata and then "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.

This section consists of a single staff with a vocal line. It begins with a dynamic marking of *f*. The melody starts with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5. The lyrics are "Ve - ni, ve - ni San-cte Spi-ri-tus. Ve - ni, ve - ni San-cte Spi-ri-tus.".

*f*

This section consists of two staves for piano accompaniment. The top staff is the right hand and the bottom staff is the left hand. Both staves begin with a dynamic marking of *f*. The right hand features a melody of quarter notes, while the left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

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.*

The musical score consists of three systems. The first system has two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and a piano accompaniment. The second system also has two vocal staves and piano accompaniment. The third system shows the piano accompaniment in both treble and bass clefs. The lyrics are: 'Ve - ni, ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus. Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus.' The tempo marking 'rall.' is present above the vocal staves and below the piano accompaniment.

Preview

## 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 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, light div - ine,  | 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, | Dost re - fresh - ing | peace be - stow:  |
| 3. hearts of thine,    | And our in - most     | 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 poor,    | Come with trea - sures  |
| 2. Thou in toil art com - fort sweet;   | Plea - sant cool - ness |
| 3. If thou take thy grace a - way,      | 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     |



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

to Refrain

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