

HYMNS & SONGS



“Thankfully sing to God psalms, hymns and holy songs” (Colossians 3:16). From the earliest centuries of Christianity, hymns and songs have played a major role in the liturgies and devotions of the faithful. A hymn is a song of praise or thanksgiving to God. All hymns are songs; but in contemporary liturgy the term “song” includes a wide variety of other musical forms: verse-refrain, litany, ostinato, chant, acclamation, spiritual and call-response. Often, but not always, liturgical song is based on scripture. Songs bring to expression and realize externally the inner attitudes of adoration, joy, sadness or petition, and they draw together in unity the diverse dispositions of community members. “A liturgical celebration can have no more solemn or pleasing feature than the whole assembly’s expressing its faith and devotion in song” (Musicam Sacram, #16). St. Augustine said simply, “They who love, sing.”

SEASONS AND SOLEMNITIES OF THE LORD

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O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VERSES:

Em G Am Bm Em G C

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
 2. O come, O Wis - dom from _____ on high, Who or - dered all things
 3. O come, O come, great Lord _____ of might, Who to your tribes on
 4. O come, O Rod of Jes - se's stem, From ev - 'ry foe de -
 5. O come, O Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our
 6. O come, O Day - spring from _____ on high And cheer us by your
 7. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In one the hearts of

Note: When guitar and keyboard play together, keyboardists should improvise using the guitar chords above the melody.

Text: LM with refrain; Latin, 9th cent; verses 1, 3–6, para. In *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Cologne, 1710; tr. by John M. Neale, 1818–1866; verses 2, 7, tr. fr. *Hymnal* 1940, alt.

Music: VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL; *Processionale*, 15th cent. French; adapt. by Thomas Helmore, 1811–1890; Chant, Mode I.

Am Bm Em Am Em A7 D

1. Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here Un -
 2. might - i - ly; To us the path of knowl - edge show, And
 3. Si - nai's height In an - cient times did give _____ the law, In
 4. - liv - er them That trust your might - y pow'r _____ to save, And
 5. heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that leads _____ on high, And
 6. draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds _____ of night, And
 7. hu - man - kind; Make all our sad di - vi - sions cease, And

Bm7 Em Am D7 G REFRAIN: D Em Bm G

1. til the Son of God _____ ap - pear.
 2. teach us in her ways _____ to go.
 3. cloud, and maj - es - ty, _____ and awe.
 4. give them vic - t'ry o'er _____ the grave. } Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
 5. close the path to mis - er - y.
 6. death's dark shad - ow put _____ to flight.
 7. be for us our King _____ of Peace.

Am D7 Em G C Am Bm Em

man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!