

Holy Spirit, Lord of Light

Caswall

1. Holy Spirit, Lord of light,
from the clear celestial height
thy pure beaming radiance give.
Come, thou Father of the poor,
come with treasures which endure;
come, thou light of all that live.
2. Thou, of all consolers best,
thou, the souls delightful guest,
dost refreshing peace bestow;
thou in toil art comfort sweet;
pleasant coolness in the heat;
solace in the midst of woe.
3. Light immortal, light divine,
visit thou these hearts of thine,
and our in-most being fill:
if thou take thy grace away,
nothing pure in man will stay;
all his good is turned to ill;
4. Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
on our dryness pour thy dew;
wash the stains of guilt away:
bend the stubborn heart and will;
melt the frozen, warm the chill,
guide the steps that go astray.
5. Thou, on us who evermore
thee confess and thee adore,
with thy sevenfold gifts descend:
give us comfort when we die;
give us life with thee on high;
give us joys that never end.

Inspiration: Pentecost sequence, "Veni Sancte Spiritus", 13th cent., attrib. Pope Innocent III, ca. 1161-1216.
Lyrics: 77.7 D; Edward Caswall, 1814-1878, in his "Lyra Catholica", 1849.