

Thou Light of Gentile Nations

Winkworth

1. Thou Light of Gentile nations,
thou Saviour from above,
drawn by thy Spirit's leading,
we come with joy and love
into thy holy temple
and wait with earnest mind
as Simeon once had waited
his God and Lord to find.
2. Yes, Lord, thy servants meet thee
in ev'ry holy place
where thy true word has promised
that we should see thy face.
Today thou still dost grant us
who gather round thee here
in arms of faith to bear thee
as did that aged seer.
3. Let us, O Lord, be faithful
like Simeon to the end,
so that his prayer exultant
may from our hearts ascend:
"O Lord, now let thy servant
depart in peace, I pray,
since I have seen my Saviour,
and here beheld his day."

Inspiration: Luke 2: 22-40; "Herr Jesu, Licht der Heiden"; Johann Franck, 1618-1677.
Lyrics: 76.76 D; Catherine Winkworth, 1817-1878, in her "Chorale Book for England", 1863.