

Veni, Redemptor gentium

Saviour of the Nations, Come

William M. Reynolds + Martin L. Seltz / NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND



1. Saviour of the nations, come;
show the glory of the Son!
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,
that our Lord chose such a birth.
2. Not by human flesh and blood,
but the Spirit of our God
was the Word of God made flesh;
woman's offspring, pure and fresh.
3. Wondrous birth! O wondrous child
of the Virgin undefiled!
Mighty God and man in one,
eager now his race to run!

4. God Creator is his source,
back to God he runs his course,
down to death and hell descends,
God's high throne he reascends.
5. Now your lowly manger bright
hallows night with new-born light;
let no night this light subdue,
let our faith shine ever new.

Inspiration: "Veni, Redemptor gentium", Latin, Ambrose of Milan, 340-397; German translation by Martin Luther, 1483-1546, "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland", 1524.
Lyrics: 77.77; vss 1-3a, William M. Reynolds, 1812-1876, and "Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book", 1893; vss 3b-5, Martin L. Seltz, 1909-1967, in "Worship Supplement", 1969.
Music: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND; "Enchiridion", Erfurt, 1524; harmonized by Melchior Vulpius, 1570-1615, in "Ein schön geistlich Gesangbuch", Erfurt, 1609.