

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Walter C. Smith / SAINT DENIO



1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessèd, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, your great name we praise.
2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
not wanting, nor wasting, you rule day and night;
your justice like mountains high soaring above
your clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. Life-giving Creator, of both great and small,
of all life the maker, the true life of all;
we blossom, then wither, as leaves on a tree,
but you live for ever, who is and will be.
4. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
your angels adoring, all veiling their sight;
we too, God invisible, offer our praise,
O light inaccessible, Ancient of Days!

Inspiration: 1 Timothy 1: 17.

Lyrics: 11.11.11.11; Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824-1908, in his "Hymns of Christ and the Christian Life", 1867; adapted in "The English Hymnal", 1906.
Music: SAINT DENIO (JOANNA); traditional Welsh melody; adapted in John Roberts' "Canaidau y Cyssegr" ("Hymns of the Sanctuary"), 1839.