

Sancte venite, Corpus Christi sumite

Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

John M. Neale / ANIMA CHRISTI

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves, a treble clef on top and a bass clef on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with accompaniment in the bass clef. There are some notes in the bass clef that also function as part of the melody. The system ends with a fermata over the final note.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It features similar rhythmic patterns and chordal structures. The system concludes with a fermata over the final note.

The third system of musical notation is the final system of the piece. It maintains the same musical style and concludes with a double bar line and a fermata over the final note.

1. Draw near and take the body of the Lord,
and drink his holy blood for you outpoured;
saved by his body and his precious blood,
our souls refreshed, we offer thanks to God.
2. Our true redeemer, Christ the only Son,
by cross and blood a mighty vict'ry won,
off'ring himself for greatest and for least,
himself the victim and himself the priest.
3. The victims offered by the law of old,
as signs from God, eternal myst'ries told,
now Christ our light, the ransom of our race,
gives to his own this endless source of grace.
4. Let us approach with loving hearts sincere,
and take the pledge of our salvation here;
Christ, who his faithful servants rules and shields,
to all believers life eternal yields.
5. With bread of life he makes the hungry whole,
gives living waters to each thirsty soul.
Christ Jesus, first and last, is with us now,
to him at end of time we all shall bow.

Inspiration: "Sancte venite, Corpus Christi sumite" from the "Antiphony of Bennchar", 7th cent.
Lyrics: 10.10.10; John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, in his "Mediaeval Hymns and Sequences", 1851.
Music: ANIMA CHRISTI; William Joseph Maher, SJ, 1823-1877, in "Mission Hymns", 1864.