

Sancte venite, Corpus Christi sumite

Draw Nigh and Take the Body of the Lord

John M. Neale / ANIMA CHRISTI

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time, featuring a treble and bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score is divided into three systems, each with five measures. The first system begins with a treble clef and a bass clef. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The third system concludes the piece with a double bar line. The music consists of chords and simple melodic lines, with some notes beamed together. There are several accents (apostrophes) placed above certain notes in the treble clef.

1. Draw nigh and take the body of the Lord,
and drink the holy blood for you outpoured;
saved by that body, hallowed by that blood,
whereby refreshed, we render thanks to God.
2. Salvation's giver, Christ the only Son,
by that his Cross and Blood the vict'ry won;
off' red was he for greatest and for least,
himself the victim and himself the priest.
3. Victims were offered by the Law of old
that, in a type, celestial myst'ries told;
he, ransom from death and light from shade,
giveth his holy grace, his saints to aid.
4. Approach ye then with faithful hearts sincere,
and take the safeguard of salvation here.
He that in this world rules his saints, and shields,
to all believers life eternal yields;
5. with heav'nly bread makes them that hunger whole,
gives living waters to the thirsty soul.
Alpha and Omega, to whom shall bow
all nations at the doom, he is with us now.

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