

Come holy spirit the God of might

The Whole Booke of Psalmes (1621) - A Prayer to the holy Ghost

John MILTON (1562-1647)

CANTVS

MEDIVS

TENOR
or Playnsong

BASSVS

Yorke Tune

3

S.

A.

T.

B.

Come ho - ly spirit the God of might, com - for - ter of us all:

Come ho - ly spirit the God of might, com - for - ter of us all:

Come ho - ly spirit the God of might, com - for - ter of us all:

Come ho - ly spirit the God of might, com - for - ter of us all:

Teach us to know thy word a - right, that we do ne - ver fall.

Teach us to know thy word a - right, that we do ne - ver fall;

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Teach us to know thy word a - right, that we do ne - ver fall.

O holy Ghost visit our coast,
defend us with thy shield:
Against all sin and wickedness,
Lord, help us win the field.

Lord, keep our King and his Counsel,
and give them will and might
To persevere in thy Gospel,
which can put sin to flight:
O Lord, which givest thy holy word,
send Preachers plentifully:
that in the same we may accord,
and therein live and die.

O holy Spirit direct aright,
the preachers of thy word:
That thou by them may'st cut down sin
as it were with a sword.
Depart not from those pastors pure,
but aid them at all need:
Which break to us the bread of life,
whereon our souls do feed.

O Blessed spirit of truth keep us
in peace and unity:
Keep us from sects and errors all,
and from all papistry.

Convert all those that are our foes,
and bring them to thy light:
That they and we may well agree,
and praise thee day and night.
O Lord, increase our faith in us,
and love so to abound:
That man and wife be void of strife,
and neighbours about us round.

In our time give thy peace (O Lord)
to nations far and nye:
And teach them all thy holy word,
that we may sing to thee.

All glory to the Trinity,
that is of mighties most:
The living father and the son,
and eke the holy Ghost.
As it hath been in all the time,
that hath been heretofore:
As it is now, and so shall be,
henceforth for evermore.

Critical notes:

this setting is similar to the one of Psalm 138 from the same book;
the tune of the plainsong is the same as the one of Psalms 27 & 66 (same composer) and Psalms 100b and 115;
text somewhat modernised.