

Light of the Gentile Nations
Johann Franck, 1674.
Music: Johann Cruger, 1653.

Light of the Gentile nations,
Thy people's joy and love,
Dawn by Thy Spirit hither,
We gladly come to prove
Thy presence in Thy temple,
And wait with earnest mind,
As Simeon once had waited
His Savior God to find.

Yes, Lord, Thy servants meet Thee,
Ev'n now, in ev'ry place,
Where Thy true Word hath promised
That they should see Thy face.
Thou yet wilt gently grant us,
Who gather round Thee here,
In faith's strong arms to bear Thee,
As once that aged seer.

Be Thou our joy, our brightness,
That shines 'mid pain and loss,
Our Sun in times of terror,
The glory round our cross;
A glow in sinking spirits,
A sunbeam in distress,
Physician, friend in sickness;
In death our happiness.

Let us, O Lord, be faithful
With Simeon to the end,
That so his dying song may
From all our hearts ascend;
"O Lord, now let Thy servant
Depart in peace for aye,
Since I have seen my Savior,
Have here beheld His day."

My Savior, I behold Thee
Now with the eye of faith;
No foe of Thee can rob me,
Though bitter words he saith;
Within Thy heart abiding,
As Thou dost dwell in me,
No pain, no death has terrors
To part my soul from Thee!