Veni, Veni Emmanuel
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni, Veni Emmanuel is a synthesis of the great "O Antiphons" that are used for Vespers during the octave before Christmas (Dec. 17-23). These antiphons are of ancient origin and date back to at least the ninth century. The hymn itself was composed in the 12th century in French and the Latin version of the hymn is from the 18th century. There are several arrangements of this hymn. The one below gives all seven verses in the order in which the antiphons appear during the octave before Christmas.

**VENI, veni, Emmanuel**
captivum solve Israel, 
qui gemit in exilio, 
privatus Dei Filio.  

**R:** Gaude! Gaude! Emmanuel, 
nascetur pro te Israel!

**VENI, O Sapientia,**
quae hic disponis omnia, 
veni, viam prudentiae ut doceas et gloriae. **R.**

**VENI, veni, Adonai,**
qui populo in Sinai legem dedisti vertice in maiestate gloriae. **R.**

**VENI, O Iesse virgula,**
ex hostis tuos ungula, 
de spectu tuos tartari educ et antro barathri. **R.**

**VENI, Clavis Davidica,**
regna reclude caelica, 
fac iter tumum superum, et cladeas et infernum. **R.**

**VENI, veni O Oriens,**
solare nos adveniens, 
nocitis depelle nebula, dirasque mortis tenebras. **R.**

**VENI, veni Rex Gentium,**
veni, Redemptor omnium, 
utt salvas tuos famulos peccati sibi conscios. **R.**

**COME, O come, Emmanuel,**
and ransom captive Israel, 
that morns in lonely exile here 
until the Son of God appear.  

**R:** Rejoice! Rejoice! O Israel, 
to thee shall come Emmanuel!

**COME, Thou Wisdom, from on high,**
and order all things far and nigh: 
to us the path of knowledge show, 
and teach us in her ways to go. **R.**

**COME, o come, Thou Lord of might,**
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times did give the law, in cloud, and majesty, and awe. **R.**

**COME, Thou Rod of Jesse's stem,**
form ev'ry foe deliver them 
that trust Thy mighty power to save, 
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. **R.**

**COME, Thou Key of David, come,**
and open wide our heavenly home, 
make safe the way that leads on high, 
that we no more have cause to sigh. **R.**

**COME, Thou Dayspring from on high,**
and cheer us by thy drawing nigh: 
disperse the gloomy clouds of night and death's dark shadow put to flight. **R.**

**COME, Desire of the nations, bind** 
in one the hearts of all mankind: 
bid every strife and quarrel cease 
and fill the world with heaven's peace. **R.**
Latin, paraphrase of the great "O antiphons". Translation by T. Helmore (1811-1890), J. M. Neale (1818-1866) and others.