

Charles Coffin (trans.)
(1676-1749)

O Thou, who in the light dost dwell

Joseph Barnby
(1838-96)

88. 86

1. O Thou, who in the light dost dwell,
To mortals unapproachable,
Where angels veil them from Thy rays,
And tremble as they gaze.

2. Here we in depths of darkness lie,
Poor exiles from our home on high;
But bright shall dawn Thine endless day,
And chase our gloom away.

3. That day Thou hast in store with Thee,
Resplendent with Thy majesty,
But faintly shadowed here below
By sun in noontide glow.

4. Why lingers then, the golden dawn?
O why delay, thou glorious morn?
When shall we cast this flesh aside,
And in that light abide?

5. Our souls, O God, would fain take wing
From out their dark enveloping;
And see Thee, praise Thee, and adore
And love Thee evermore.

6. Blest Three in One, Thou Source of grace,
O fit us for that happy place;
An guide us safe through this our night
To see Thine endless light. Amen.