Come Down, O Love Divine
Bianco da Siena
Ralph Vaughan Williams

Come down, O Love divine, seek Thou this soul of
O let it freely burn, till earthly passions
Let holy charity mine outward vest true
And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will

mine, and visit it with Thine own ardor glowing;
turn to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
be, and lowliness become mine inner clothing;
long, shall far outpass the pow'r of human telling;

O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear,
and let Thy glorious light shine ever on my true lowliness of heart, which takes the humbler no soul can guess its grace, till he become the

pear, and kindle it, Thy holy flame bestowing.
sight, and clothe me round, the while my path illumining.
part, and o'er its own short-comings weeps with loathing.
place where in the Holy Spirit makes His dwell ing.