

Our light and peace and joy

After Symeon the New Theologian

Abba Amma,
our light and peace and joy,
our life, our food and drink.
You are our clothing,
our royal robe,
the tent in which you deign
to dwell near us.
Our East and Easter,
our resurrection and repose,
our baptism, bath,
running river, source of life
and flowing stream.
You are our daily fire,
our bread and wine,
our banquet and every pleasure
we may please upon.
Sun without setting,
star always shining,
flame never consuming,
the lamp that burns within the soul's dwelling.

© Nicola Slee, *Abba Amma: Improvisations on the Lord's Prayer* (Canterbury Press, 2022)