Ye Olde Recorder Christmas



Angel Playing a Flageolet – Edward Burne-Jones

INTRODUCTION

This collection of easy Christmas carols from the Renaissance through the Victorian era has been created for adult beginner and intermediate recorder players. Recorders are particularly well associated with Christmas time in America. I have selected some lesser known carols for novelty sake.

All tunes and illustrations are old enough to be considered in the public domain, and I have arranged the parts to resemble the accompanying voices in the simple style of Victorian church hymnal. License is granted to any teacher, student or non- profit group to freely copy and distribute for musical performance or educational purposes. Permission is NOT granted for commercial sale or publishing .

Michael Yee

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In dulci jubilo

This is a traditional medieval carol, with its macaronic, mixed language lyrics in Latin and vernacular German. The song is first attributed to Heinrich Seuse, c.1328. It later appears in the early 17th century works of Michael Preatorius, Dietrich Buxtehude in 1683 and J.S. Bach. In the early 18th Century. The following arrangement is based on John Mason Neale's (1818 - 1866) hymn, "Good Christian Men Rejoice"

Original Lyrics:

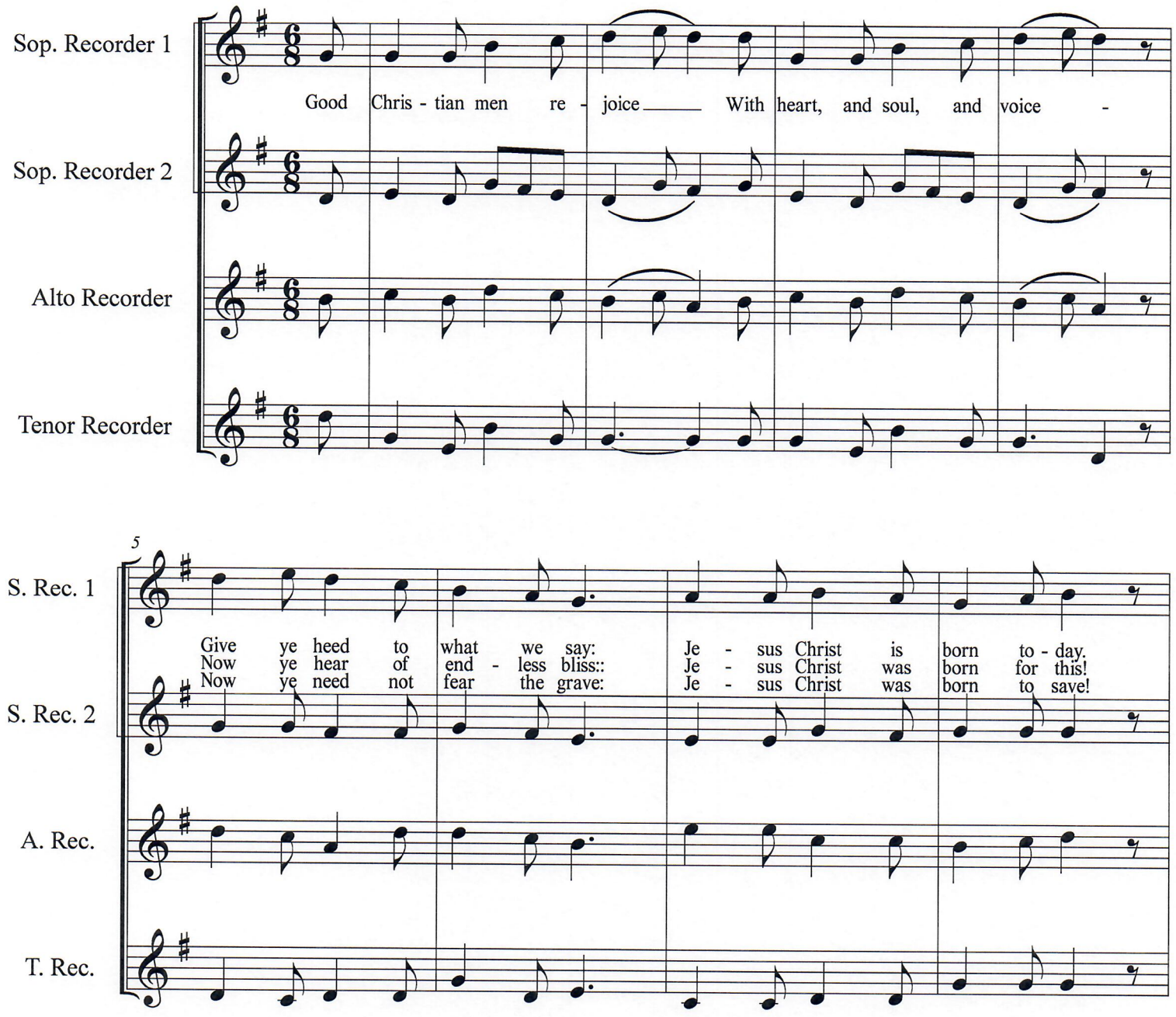
In dulci jubilo, nun singet und seid froh! Unsers Herzens Wonne leit *in præsepio* und leuchtet als die Sonne *matris in gremio.* *Alpha es et O.* – – –	In sweet jubilation, now sing and be glad! Our heart's bliss carried in a manger and shines like the sun in his mother's lap. You are the alpha and omega. ["the beginning and end"]
O Jesu parvule, nach dir ist mir so weh. Tröst mir mein Gemüte, *o puer optime;* durch alle deine Güte, *o princeps gloriae,* *trahe me post te.*	O tiny Jesus, I ache for Thee. Comfort me in mind, o best of boys; through all your good, o prince of glory, draw me to you.
Ubi sunt gaudia? Nirgend mehr denn da, da die Engel singen *nova cantica* und die Schellen klingen *in regis curia.* Eia, wärn wir da!	Where is joy? Nowhere more than there where angels sing new songs and the bells ring in the courts of the King. Oh, were we only there!
O pater caritas *o mater lenitas* wir waren gar verdorben *per nostra crimina:* So hast du uns erworben *coelorum gaudia.* Maria, hilf uns da!	Oh love of the Father oh gentleness of the Mother We were spoiled by our crimes: thus Thou hast for us acquired the joys of heaven. Maria, help us there!

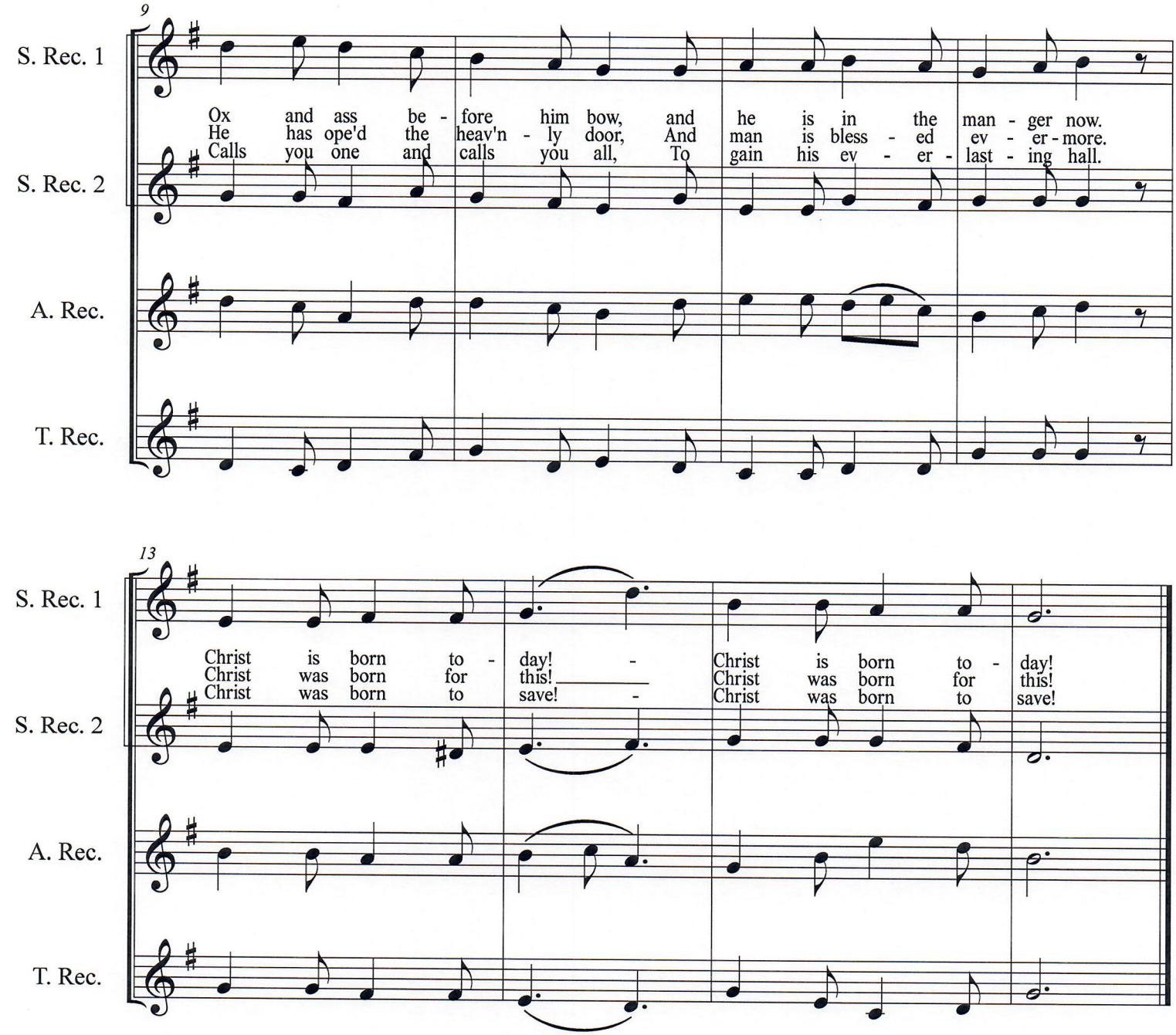
Good Christian Men, Rejoice

In Dulci Jubilo

Traditional German Carol
arr. Michael Yee

Andante ♩ = 120




9
S. Rec. 1
Ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
He has ope'd the heav'n - ly door, And man is bless - ed ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all, To gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.
S. Rec. 2
A. Rec.
T. Rec.
13
S. Rec. 1
Christ is born to - day! - Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! - Christ was born to save!
S. Rec. 2
A. Rec.
T. Rec.

A Great and Mighty Wonder

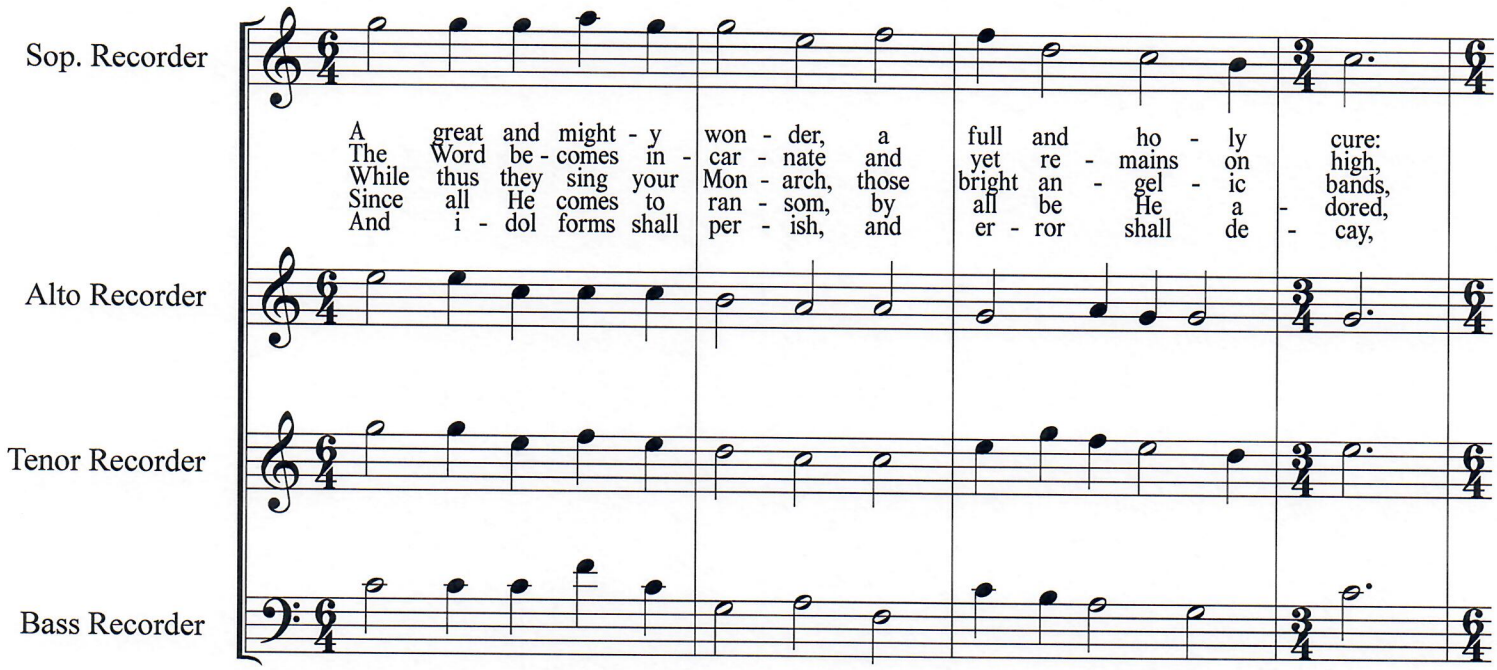
'Es Ist Ein Ros Entsprungen' Koln 1599

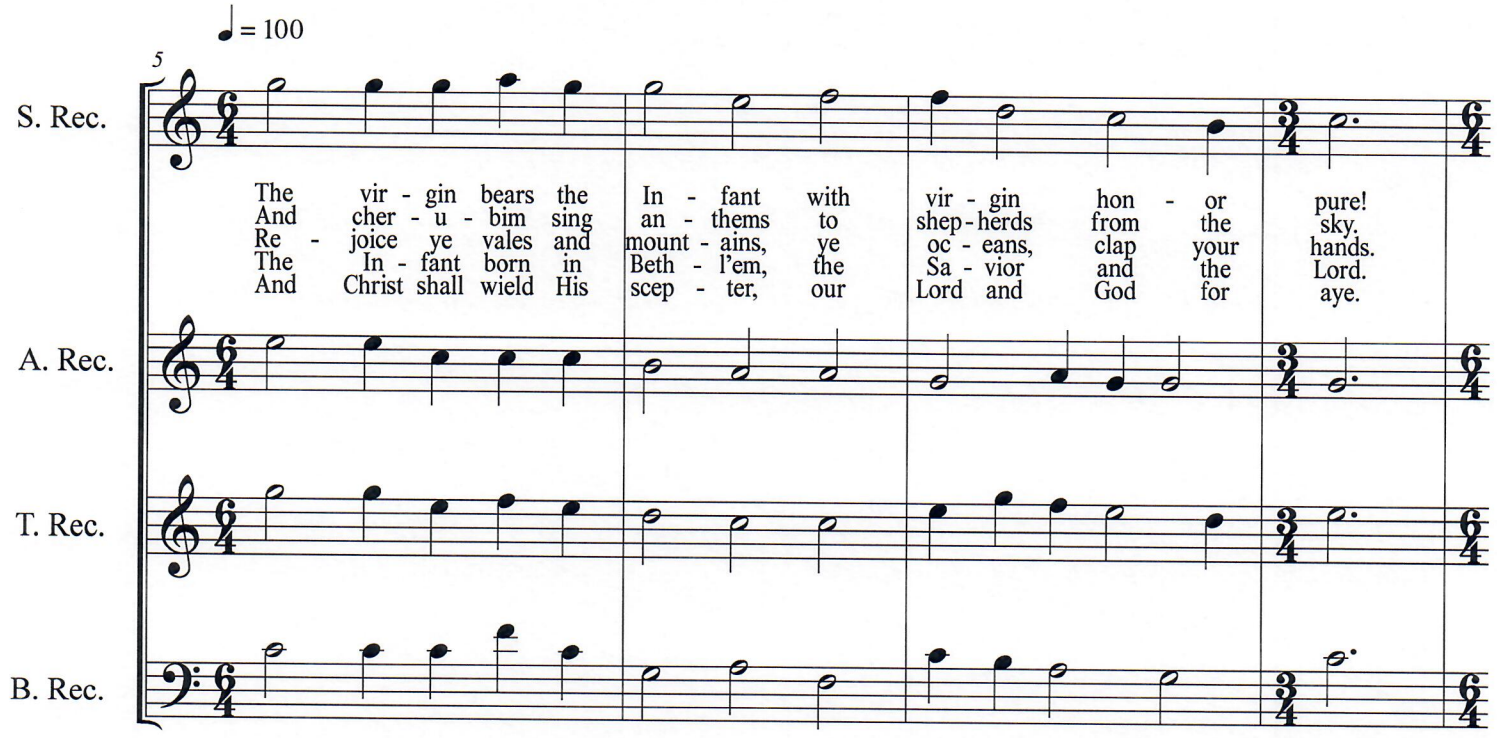
♩ = 100

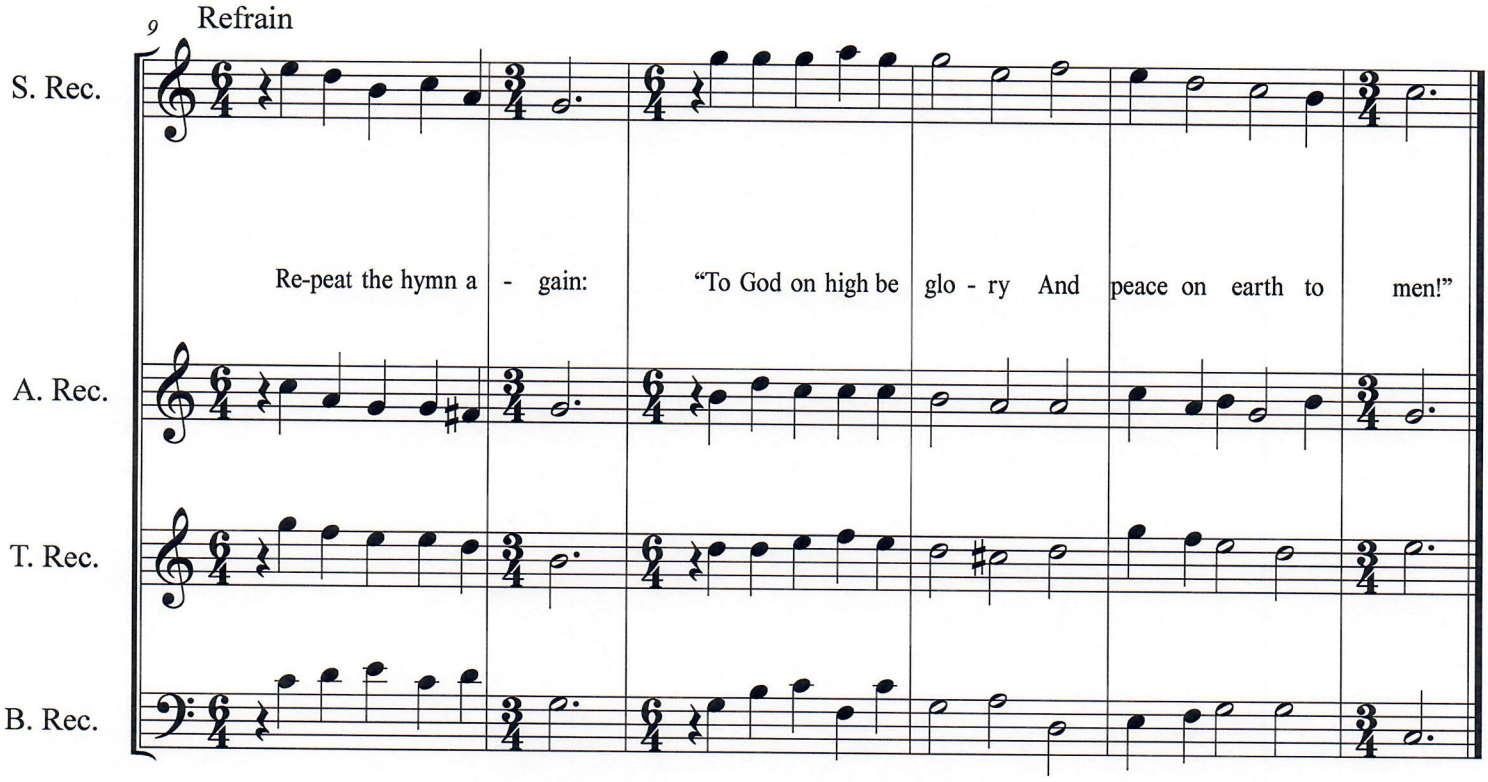
Michael Preatorius, 1609

arr. Michael Yee

Verse



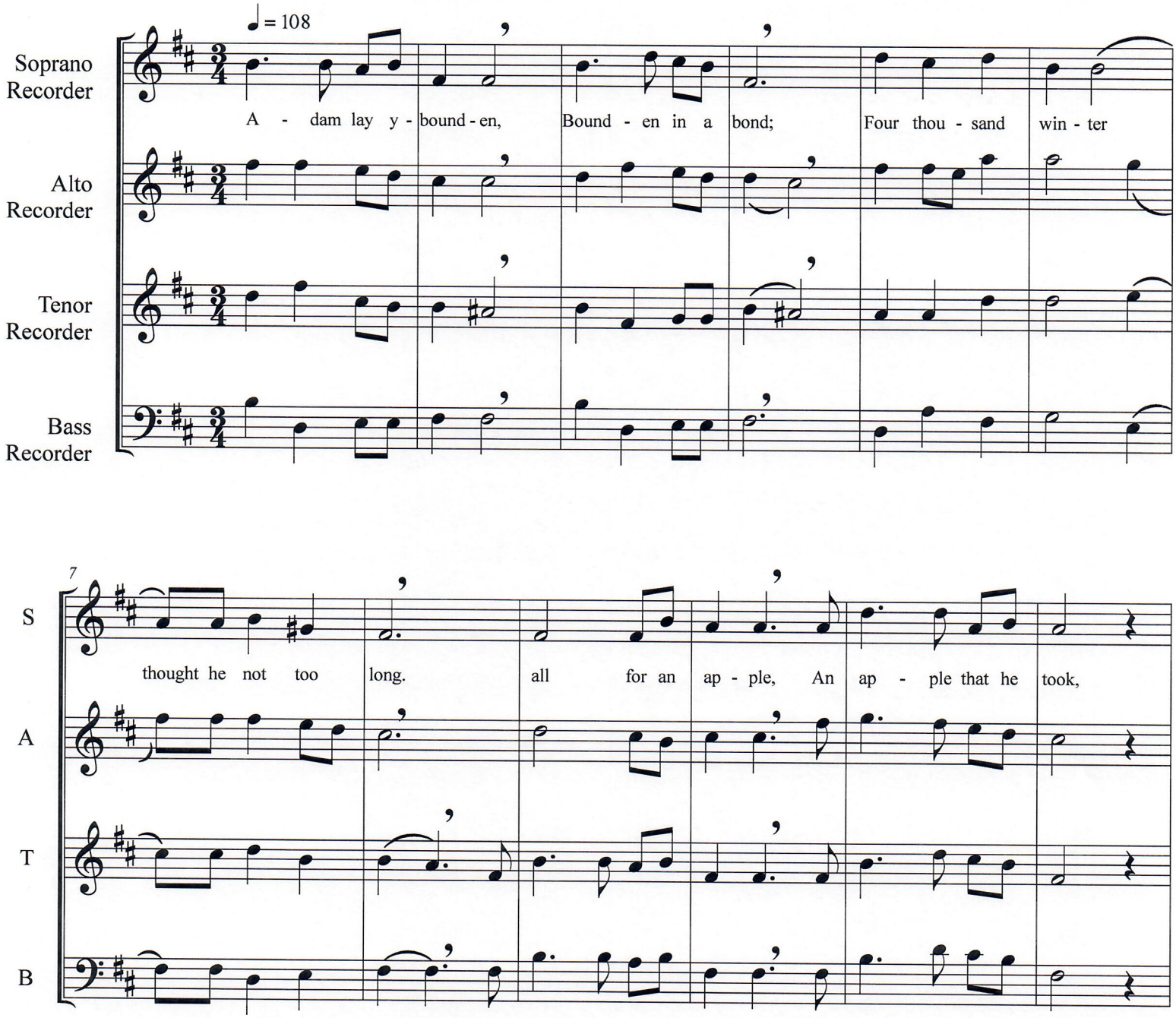


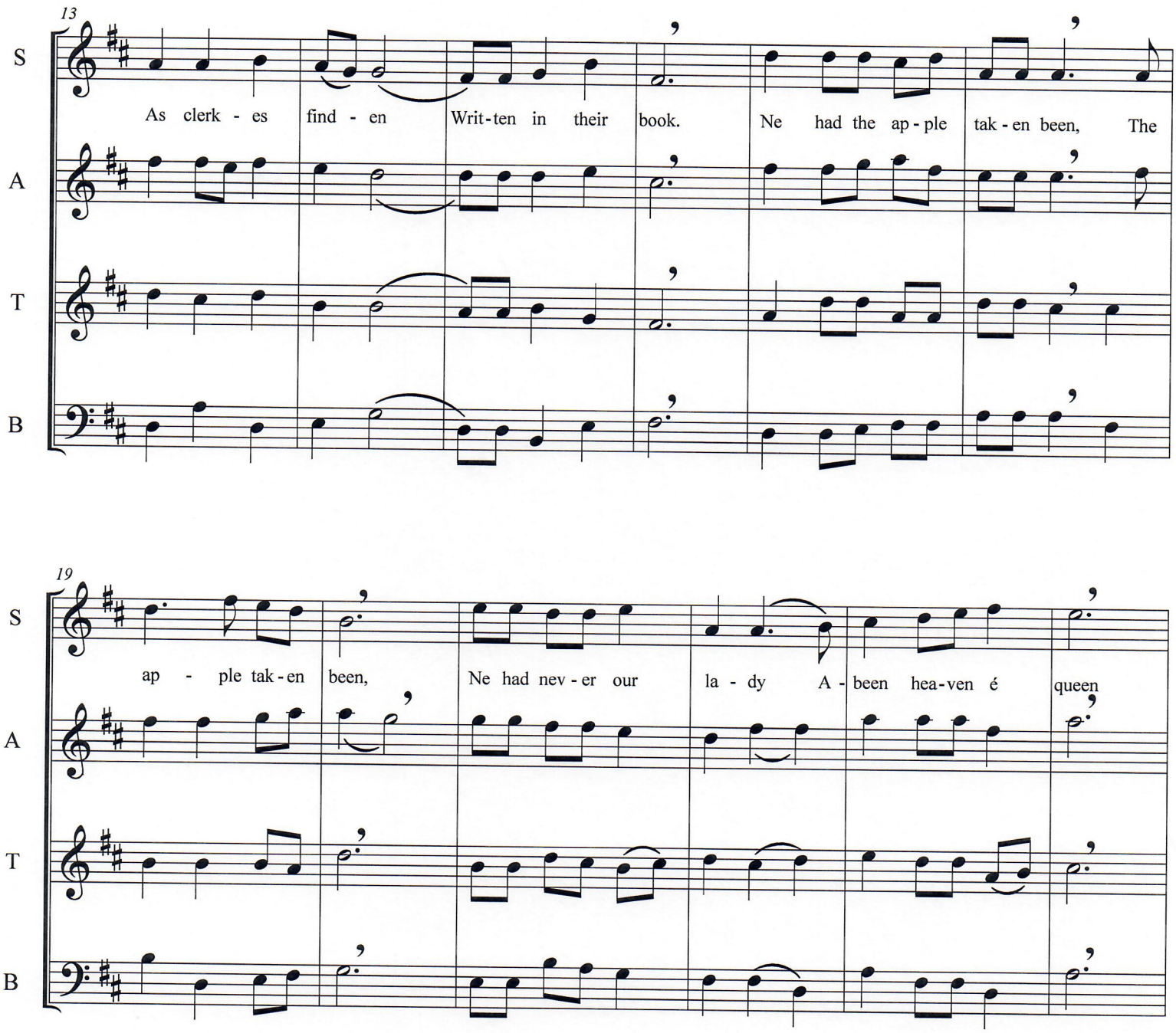

9
Refrain
S. Rec.
A. Rec.
T. Rec.
B. Rec.
Re-peat the hymn a - gain: "To God on high be glo - ry And peace on earth to men!"

Adam Lay YBounden

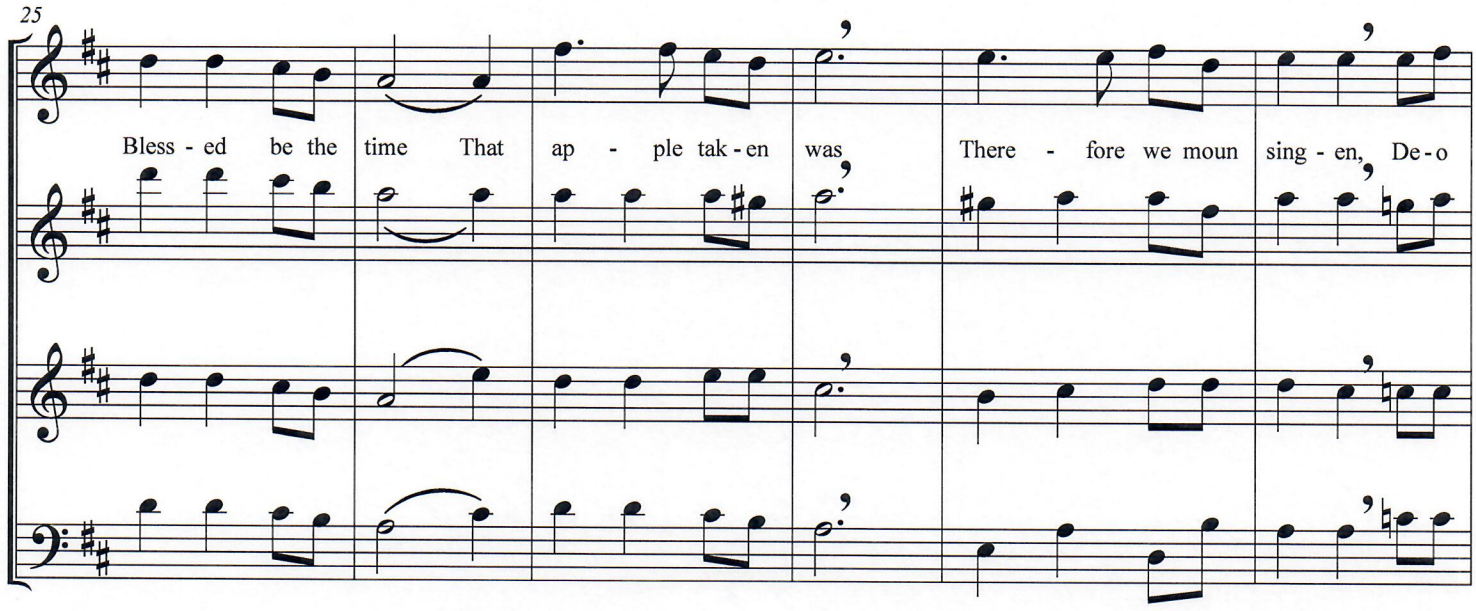
English carol c. 1400

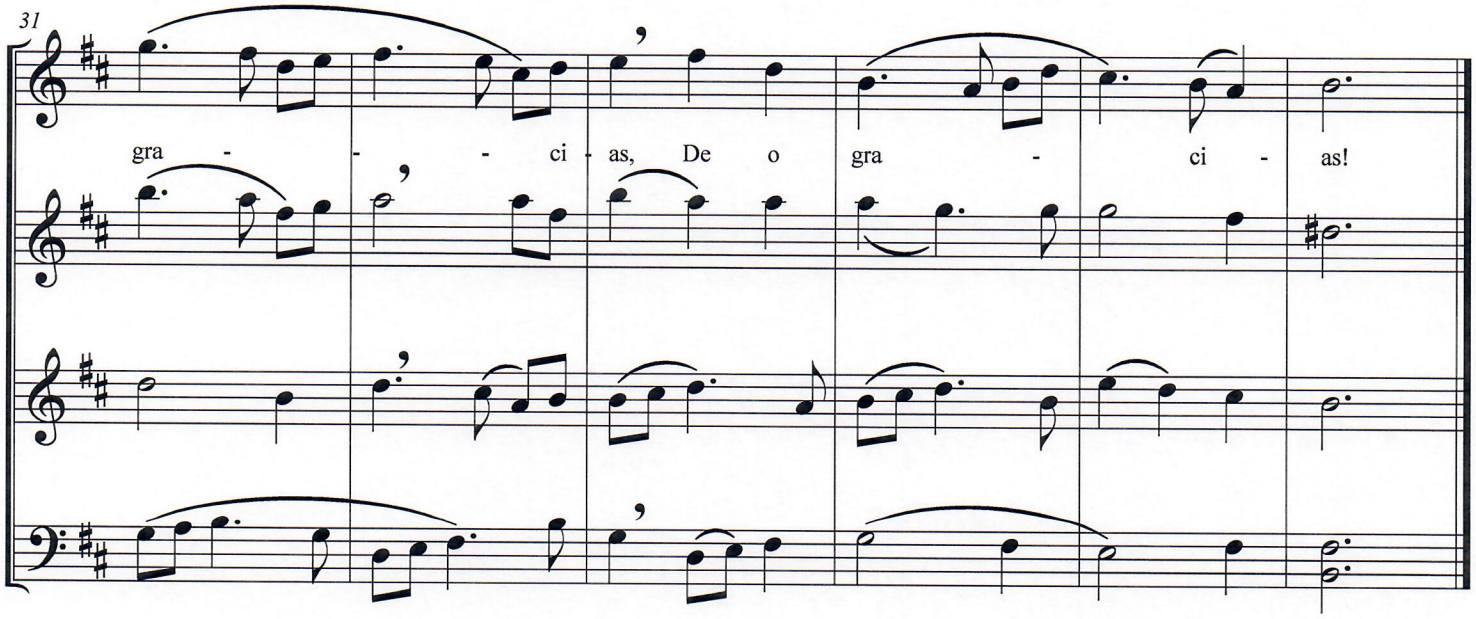
Boris Ord
1897 – 1961




13
S
A
T
B
As clerk - es find - en Writ-ten in their book. Ne had the ap - ple tak - en been, The

19
S
A
T
B
ap - ple tak - en been, Ne had nev - er our la - dy A - been hea - ven é queen

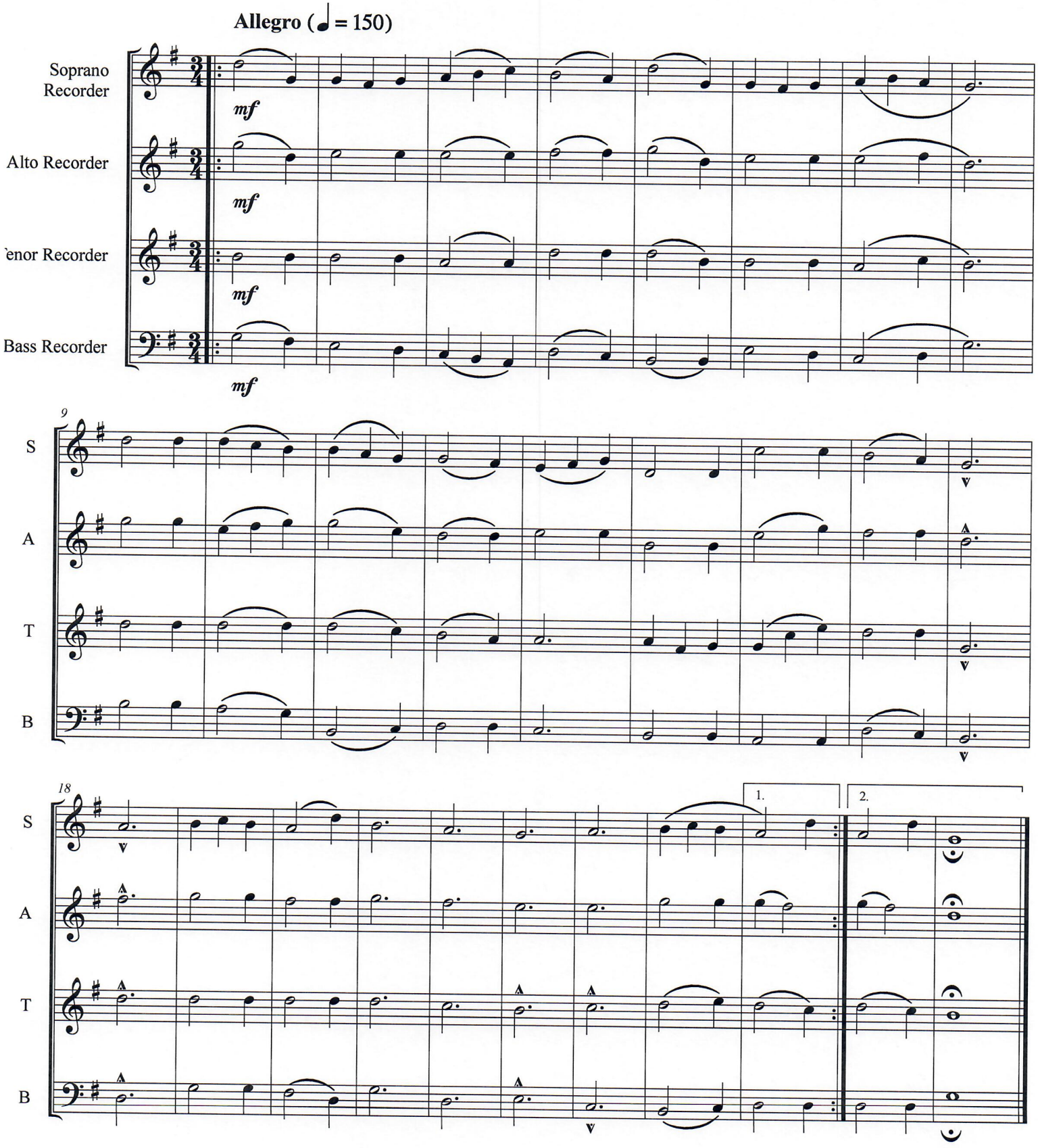

25
S
A
T
B
Bless - ed be the time That ap - ple tak - en was There - fore we moun sing - en, De - o


31
S
A
T
B
gra - - - ci - as, De o gra - ci - as!

Bring a Torch Jeanette, Isabella

(Un flambeau, Jeannette, Isabelle)

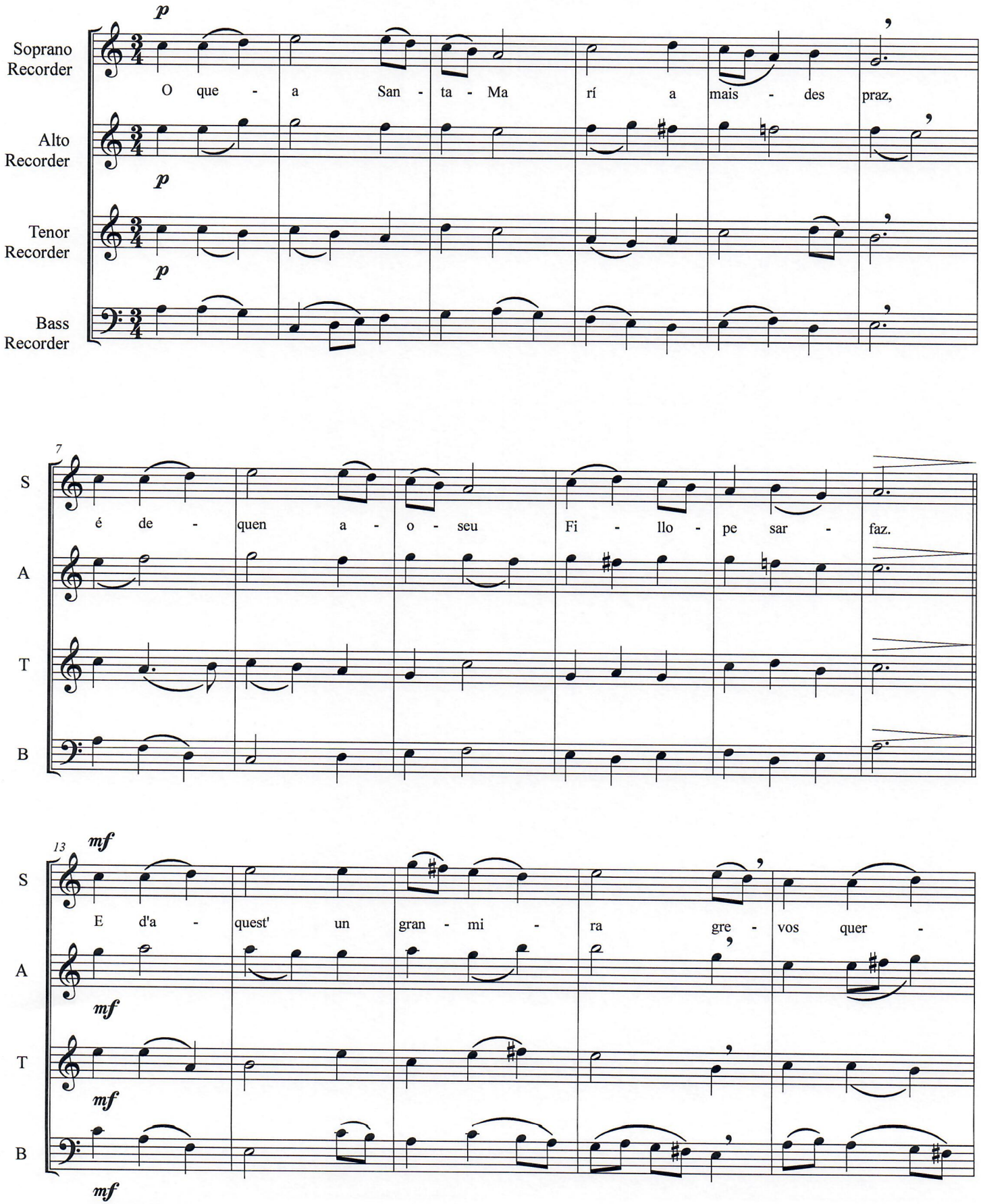
16th Century French Christmas Carol

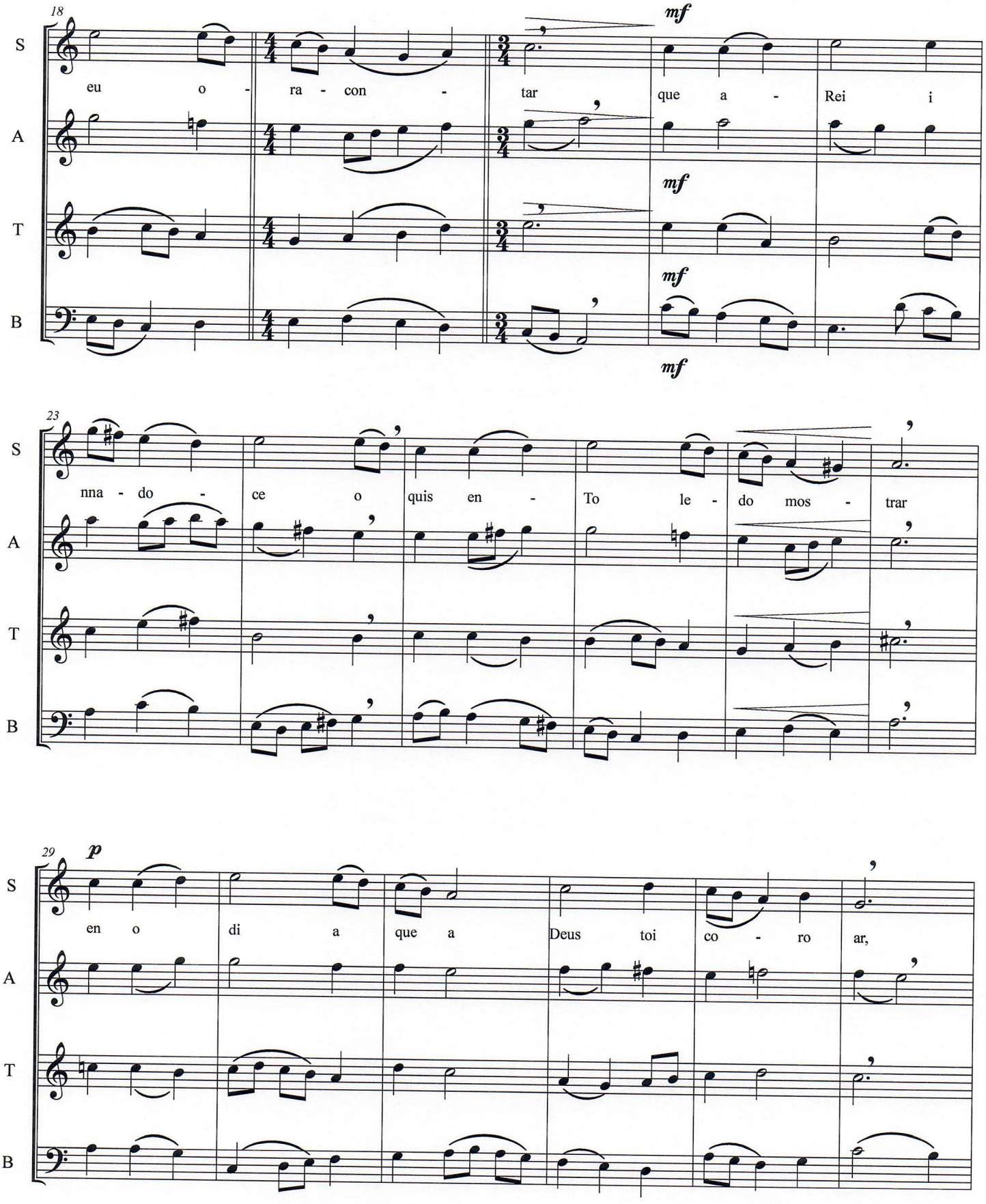


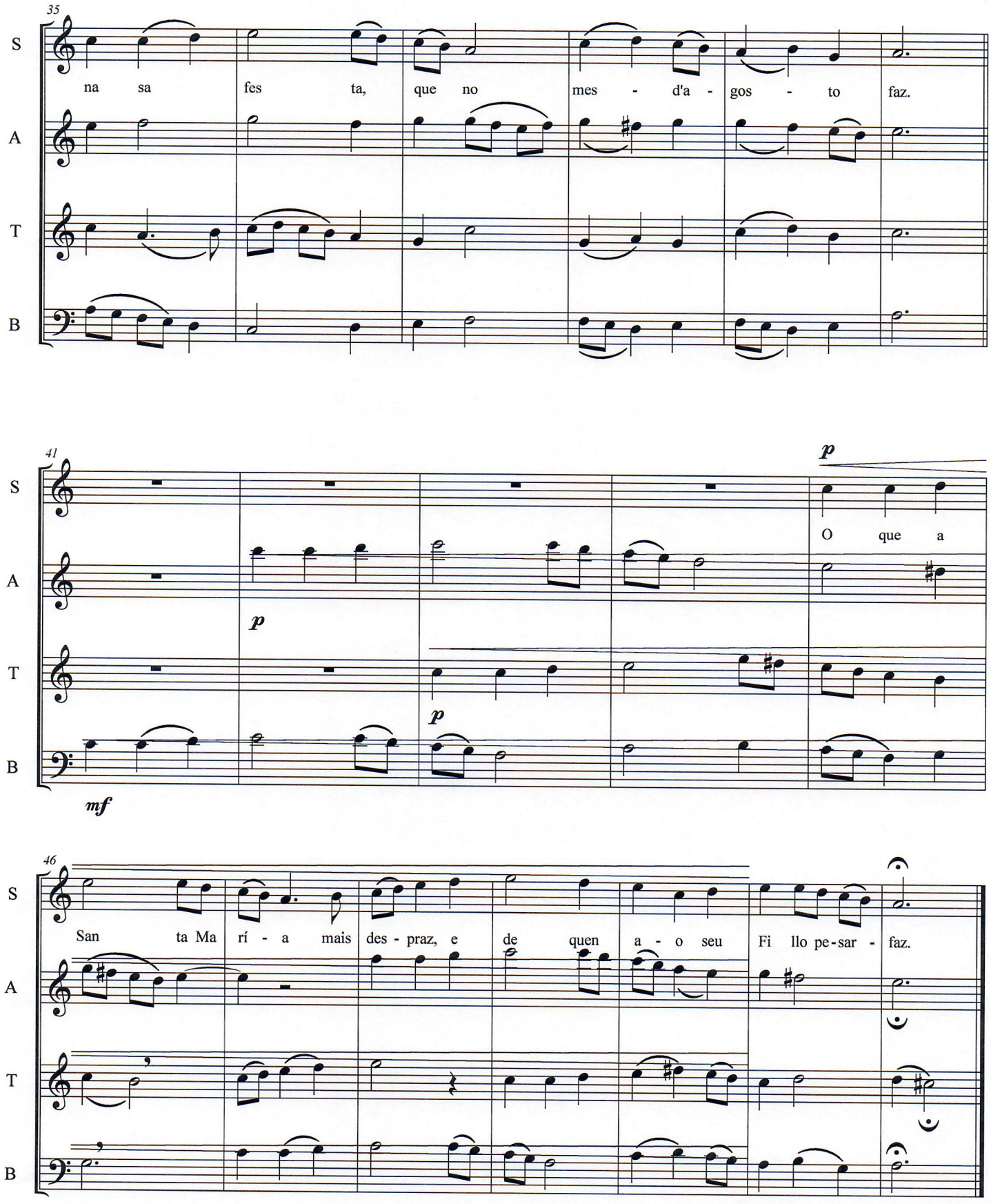
Canticle XII

O que a Santa María mais despraz

Alfonso X The Wise



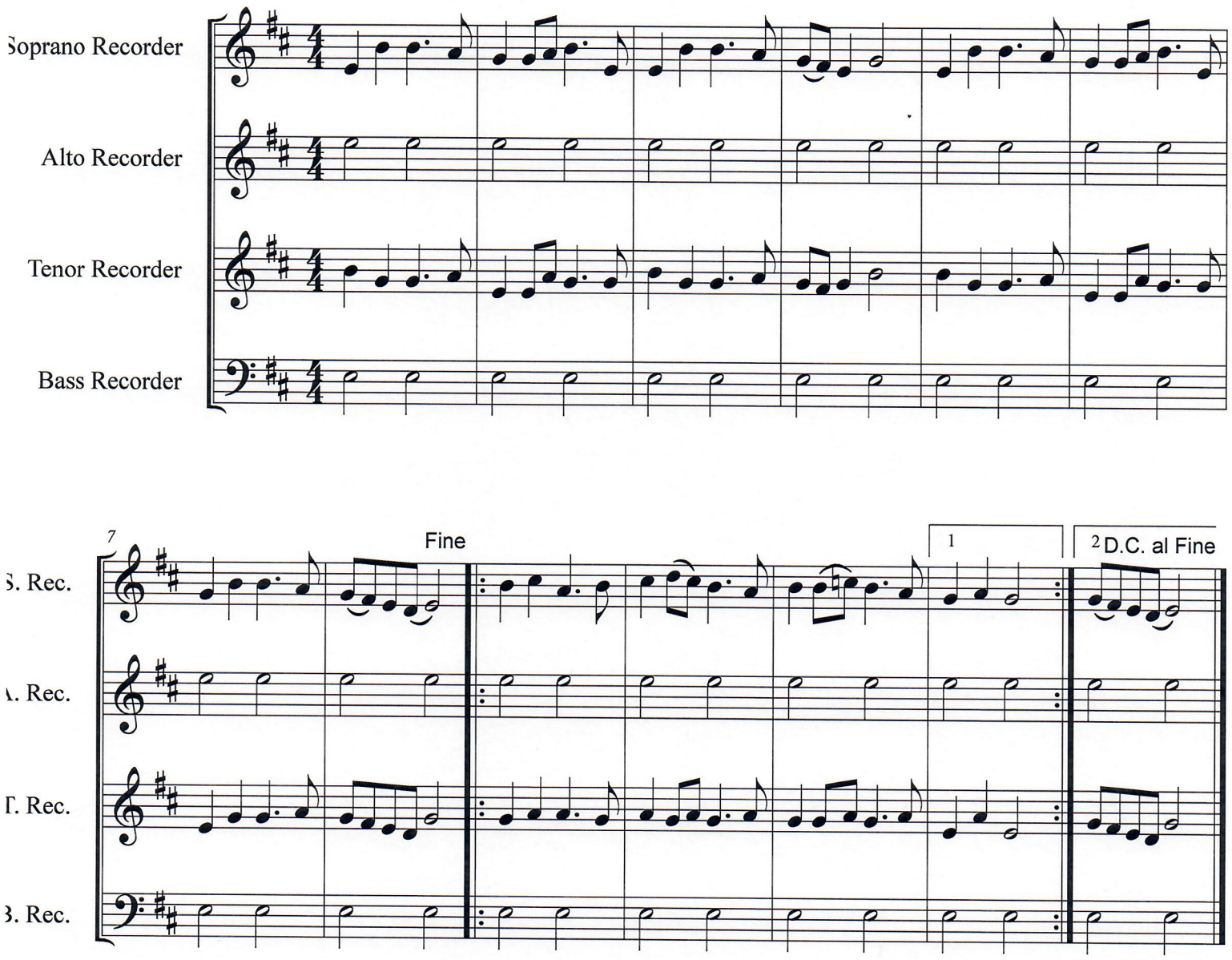

18
S
A
T
B
eu o - ra - con - tar que a - Rei i
mf
mf
mf
mf
23
nna - do - ce o quis en - To le - do mos - trar
29
p
en o di a que a Deus toi co - ro ar,


35
S
A
T
B
na sa fes ta, que no mes - d'a - gos - to faz.
41
p
O que a
p
p
mf
46
San ta Ma rí - a mais des - praz, e de quen a - o seu Fi llo pe-sar - faz.

The Image of the Virgin

Canticle 353 of Santa Maria

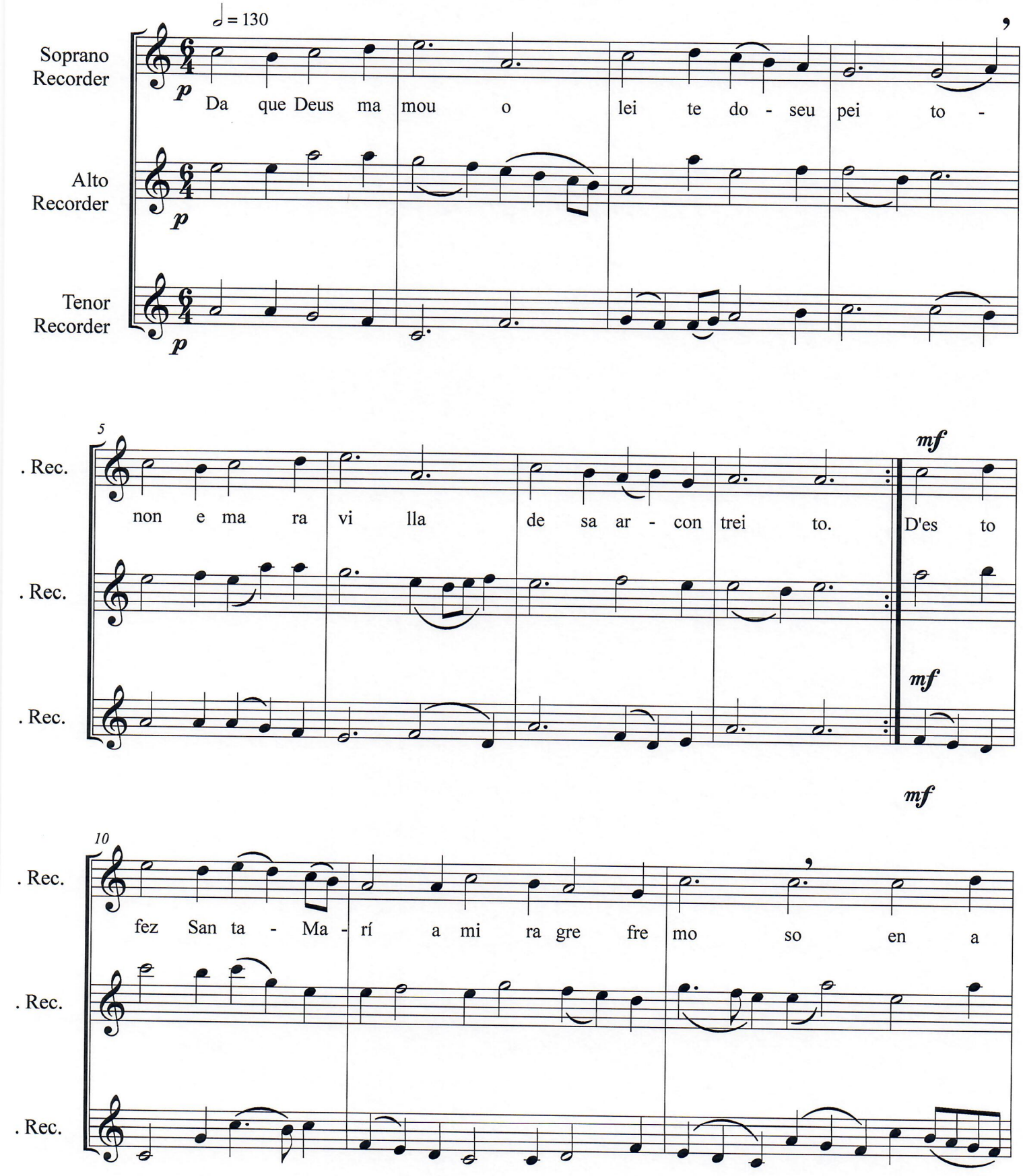
Alfonso the Wise

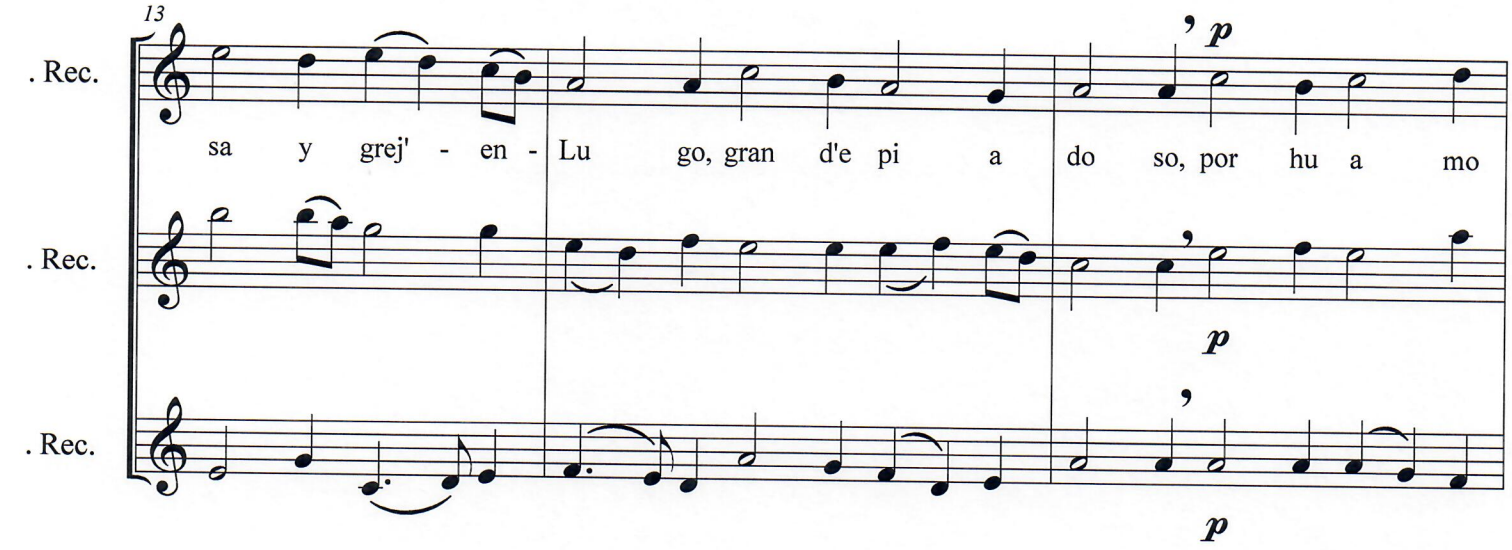


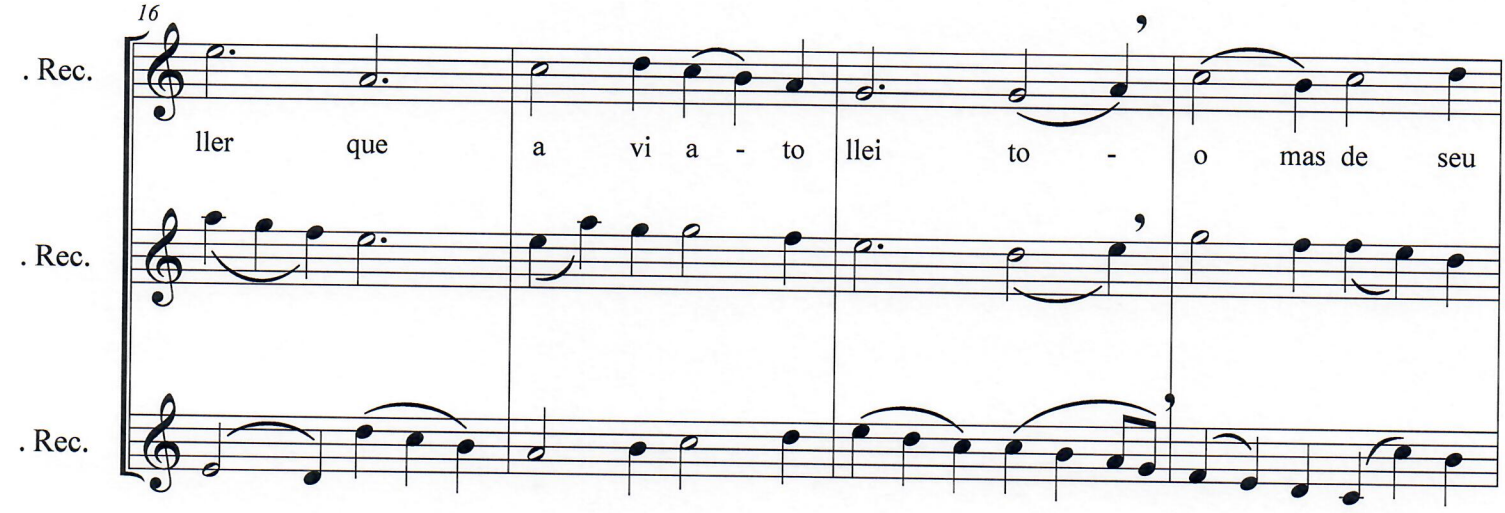
Canticle LXXVII

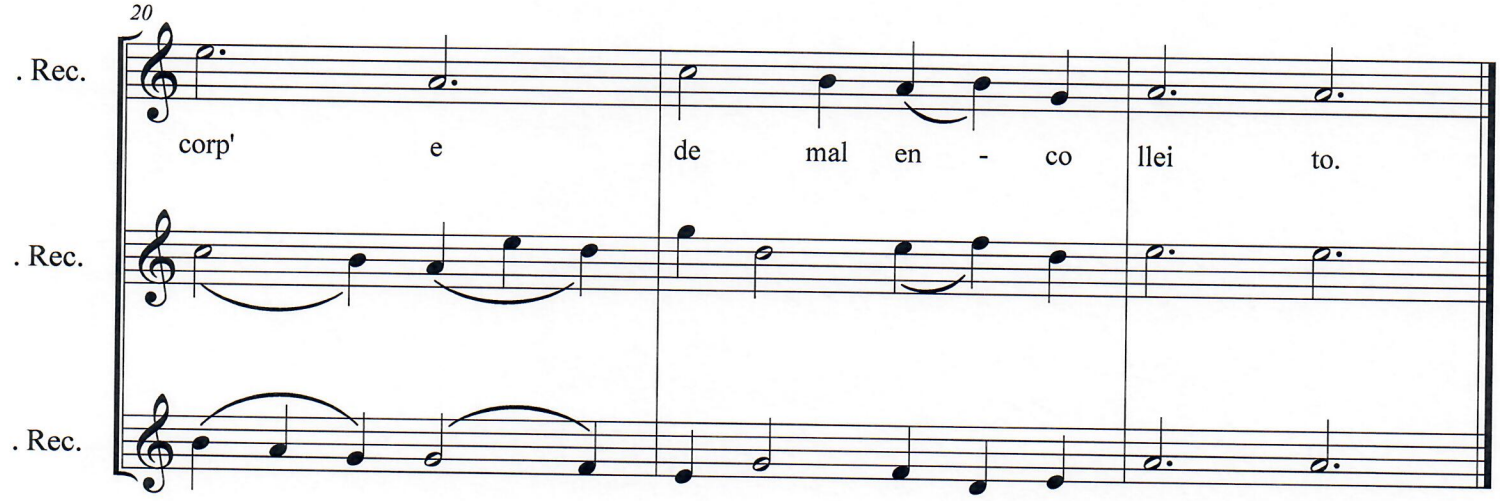
Da que Deus mamou

Alfonso X the Wise




13
. Rec.
. Rec.
. Rec.
sa y grej' - en - Lu go, gran d'e pi a do so, por hu a mo
p
p
p


16
. Rec.
. Rec.
. Rec.
ller que a vi a - to llei to - o mas de seu

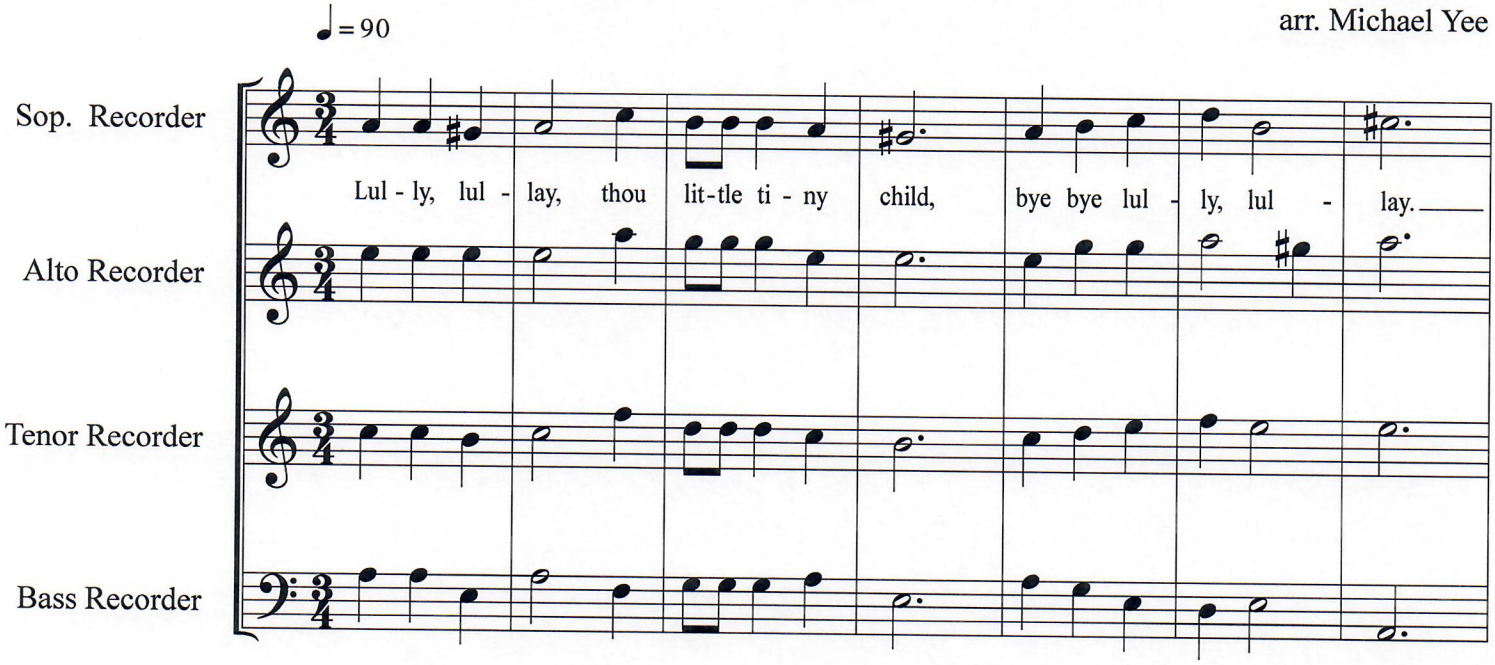

20
. Rec.
. Rec.
. Rec.
corp' e de mal en - co llei to.

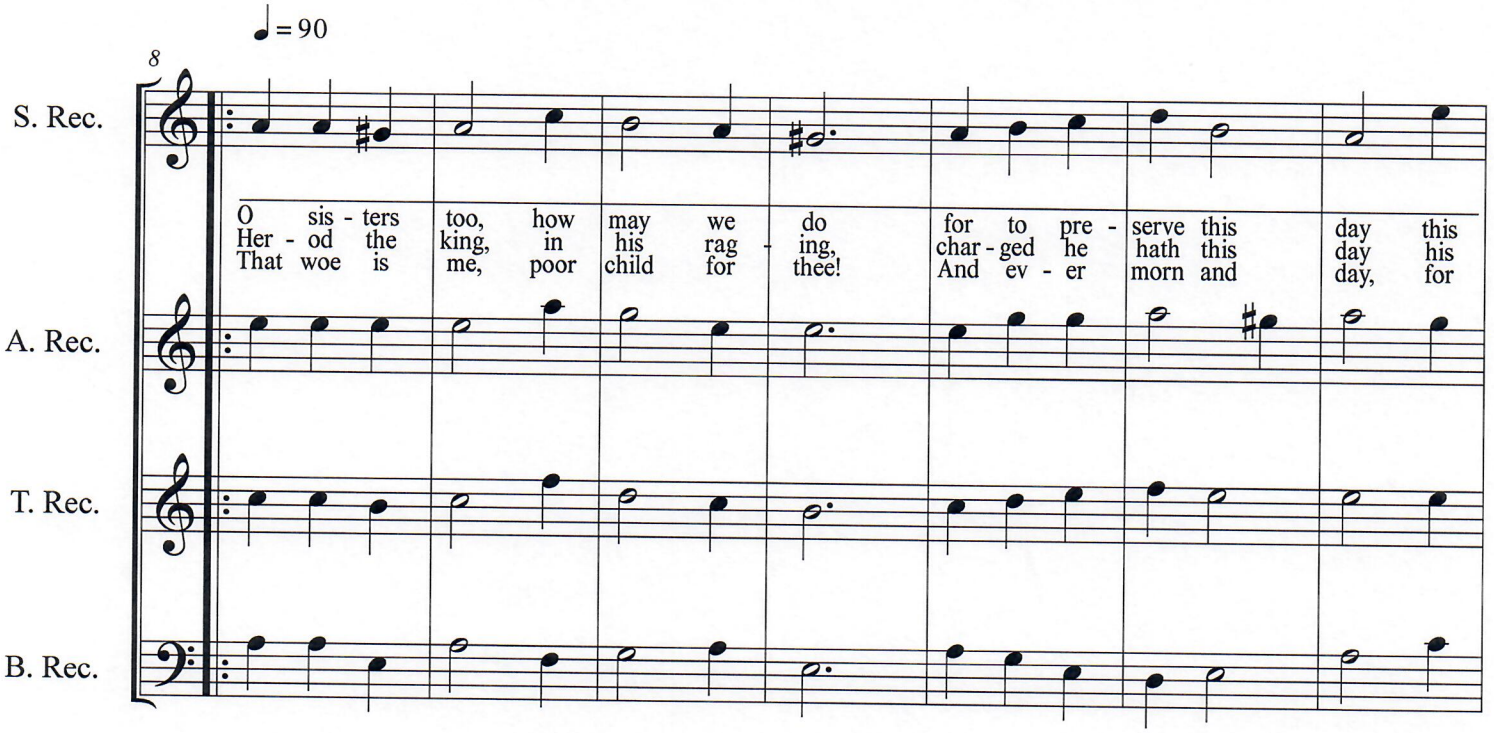
Coventry Carol

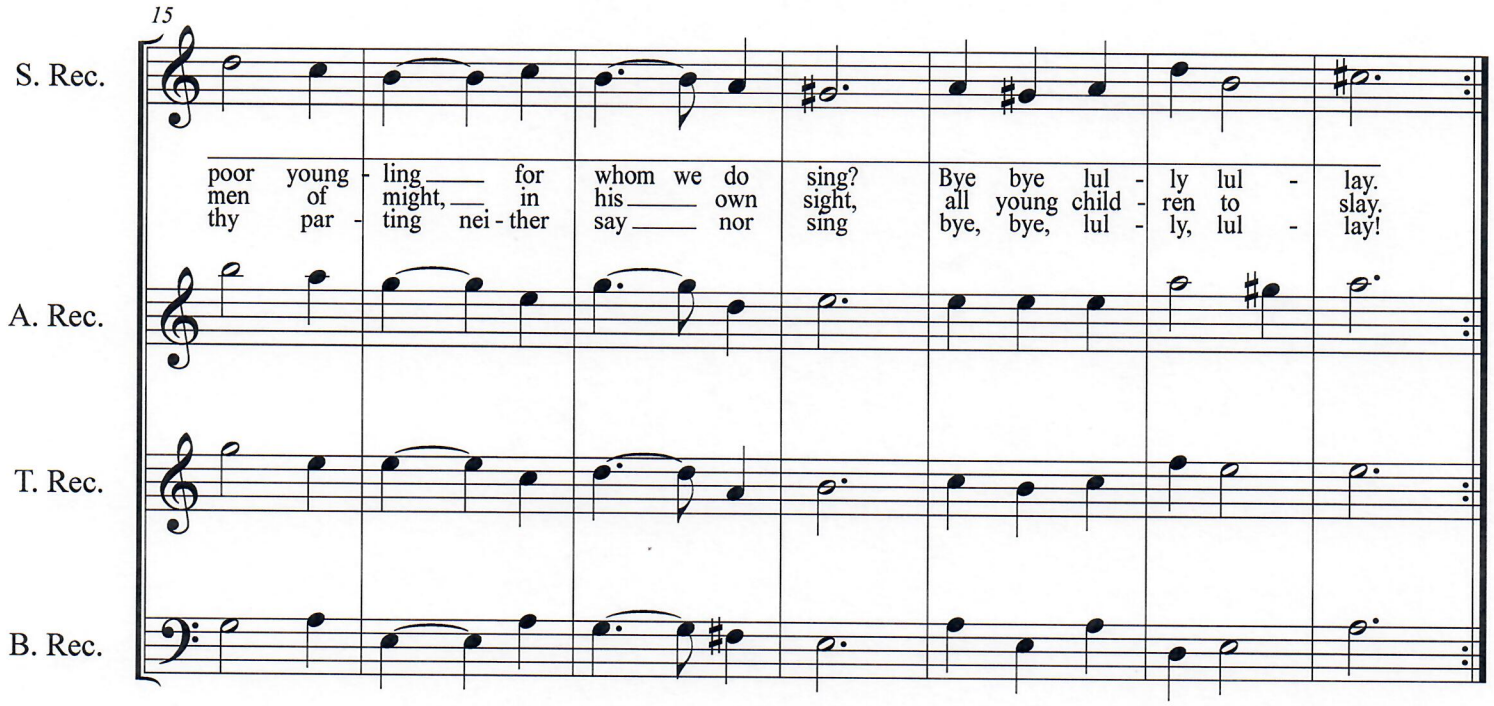
English 15th Century Carol

Traditional

arr. Michael Yee

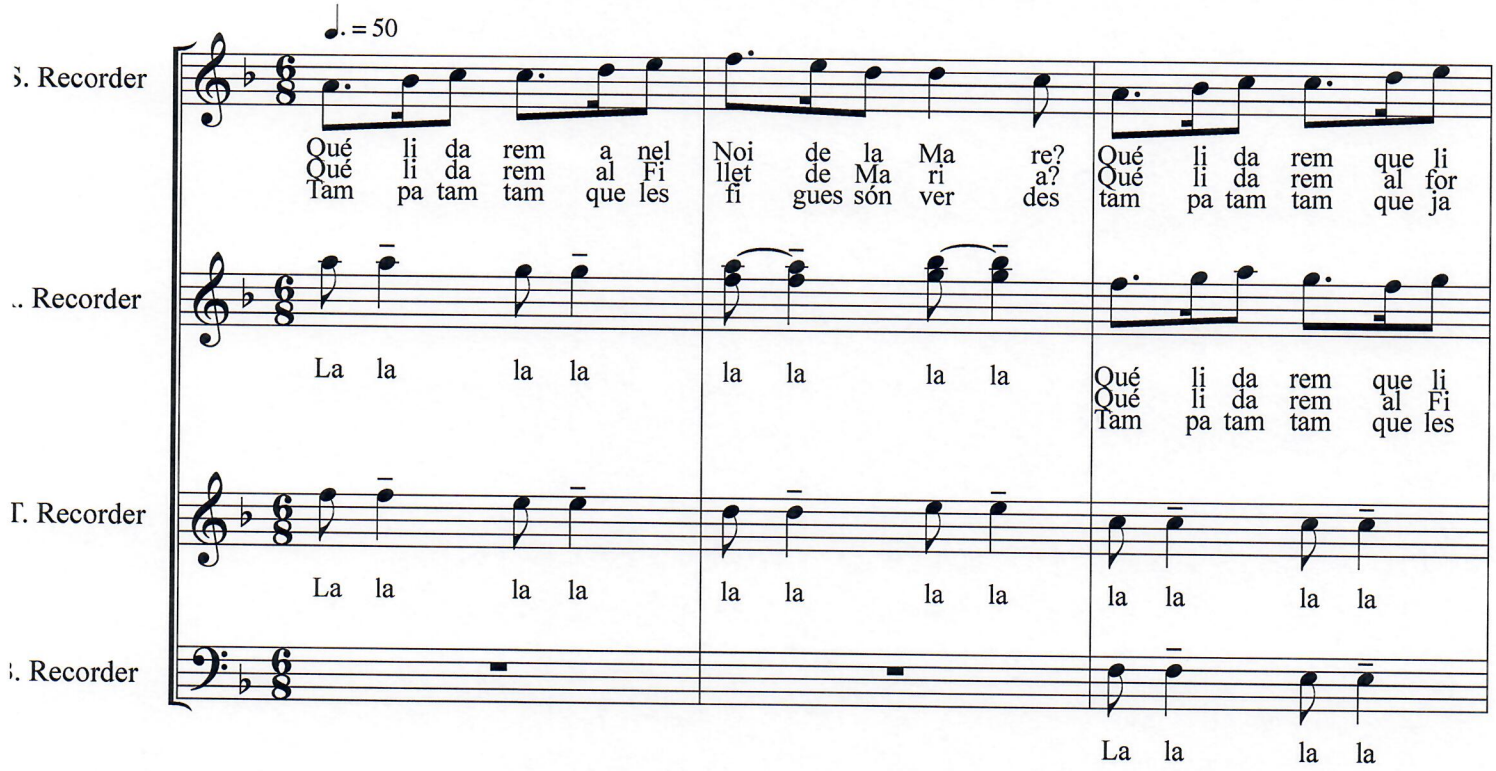


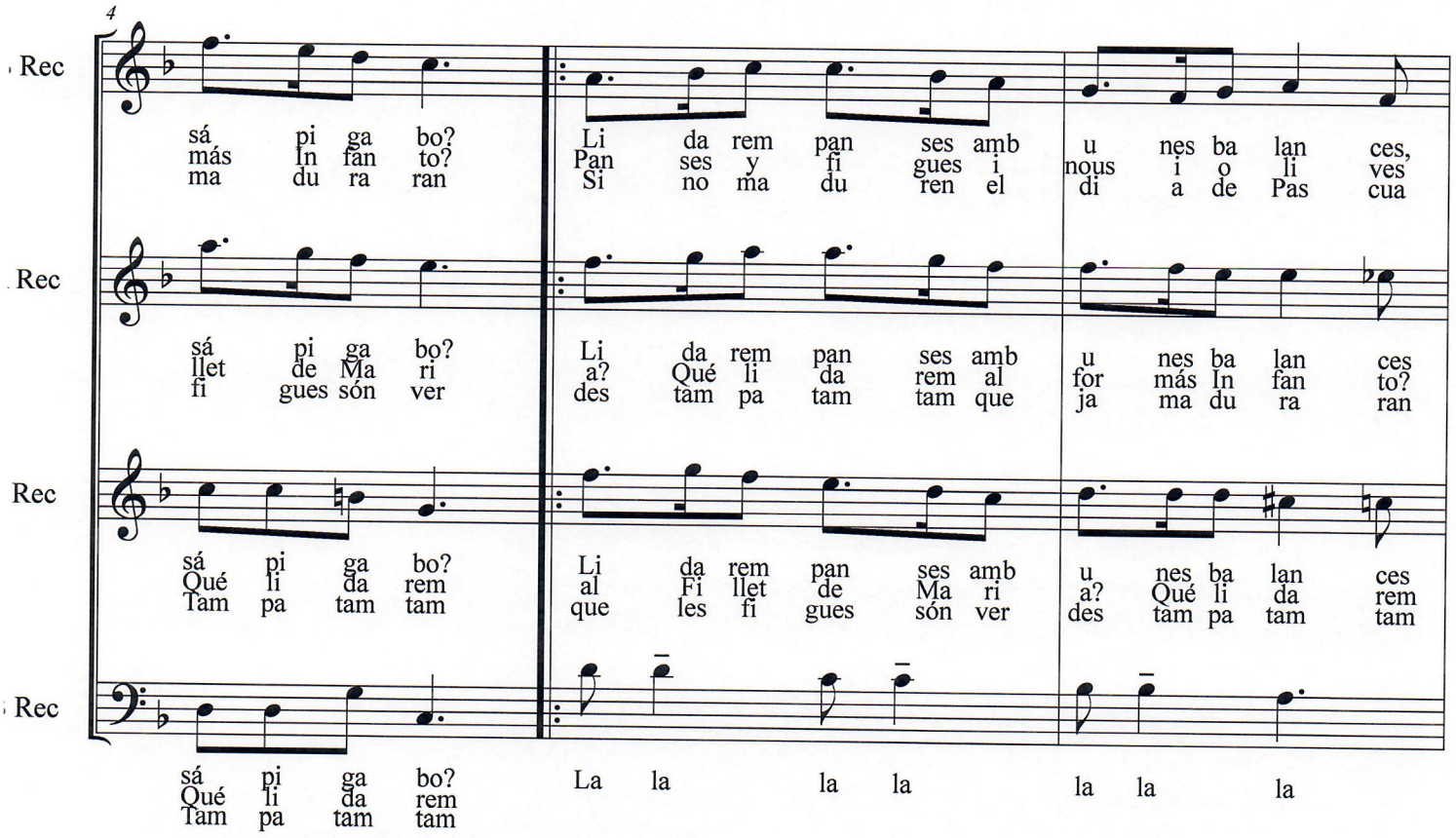


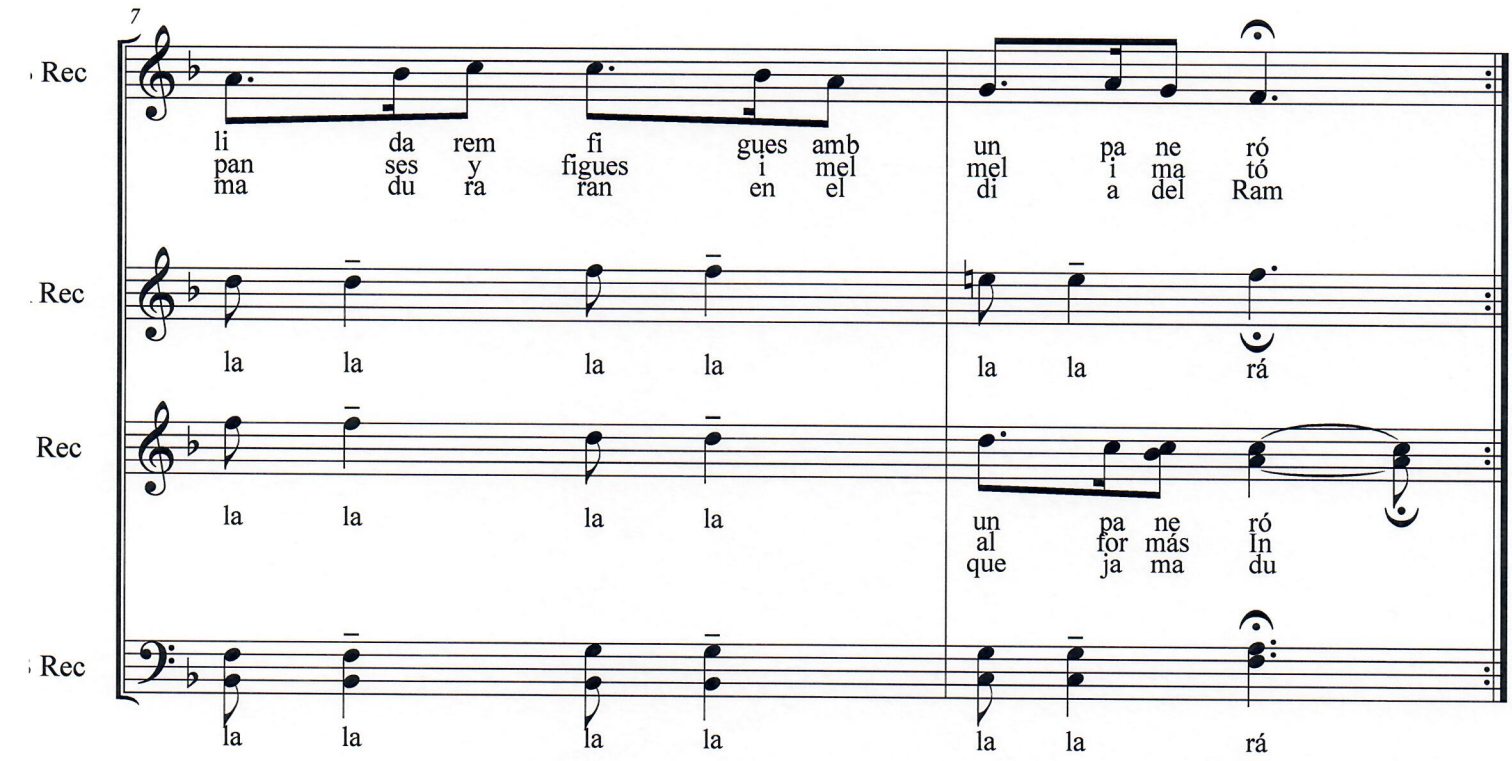

15
S. Rec.
A. Rec.
T. Rec.
B. Rec.
poor young - ling ___ for whom we do sing? Bye bye lul - ly lul - lay.
men of might, ___ in his ___ own sight, all young child - ren to slay.
thy par - ting nei - ther say ___ nor sing bye, bye, lul - ly, lul - lay!

The Child of the Mother

Traditional Catalan Villancico

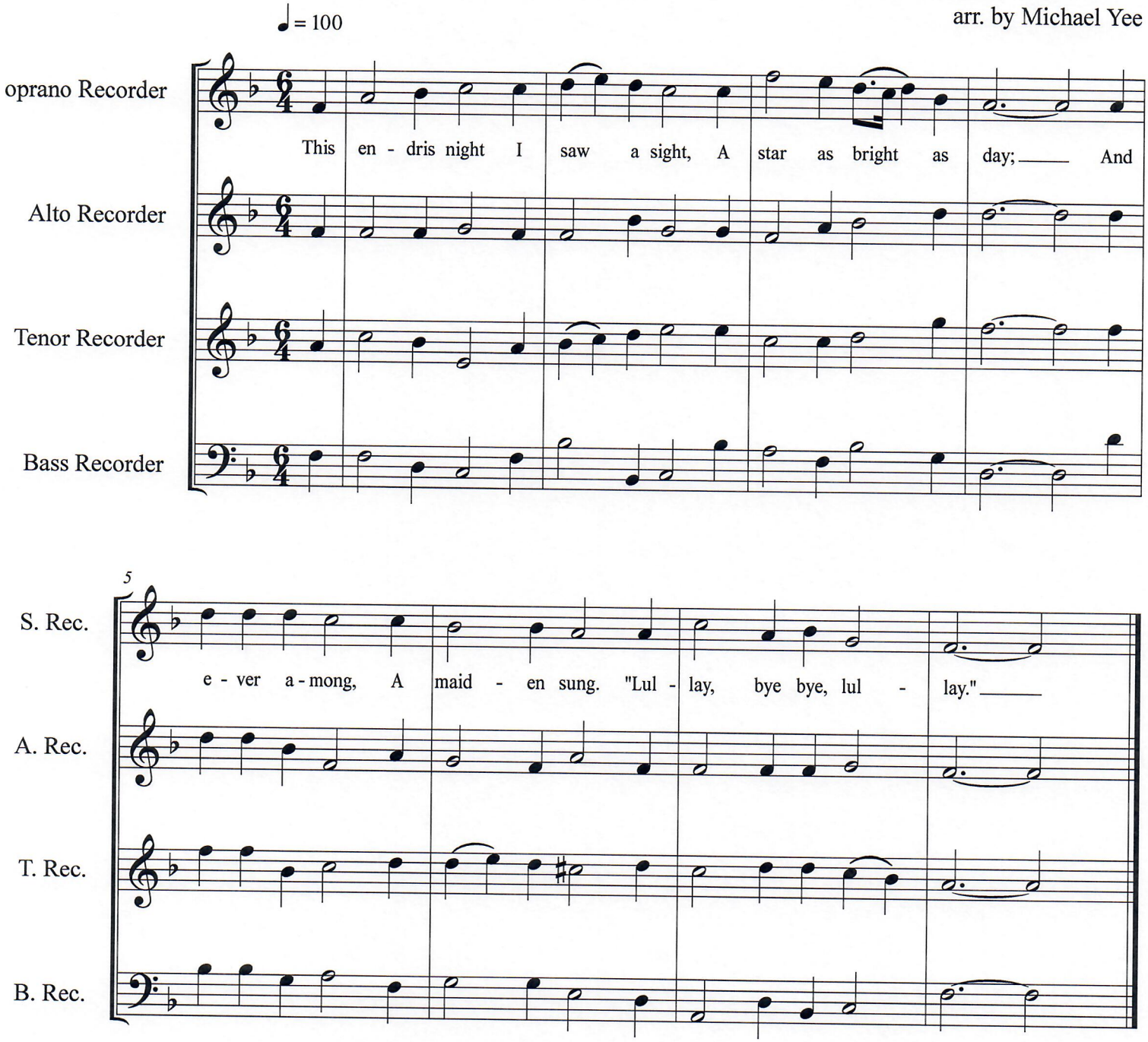





7
Rec
li da rem fi gues amb un pa ne ró
pan ses y figues i mel mel i ma tó
ma du ra ran en el di a del Ram
Rec
la la la la la la rá
Rec
la la la la un pa ne ró
al for más In
que ja ma du
Rec
la la la la la la rá

This Endris Night

15th Century English Carol
arr. by Michael Yee



This Endris Night

This endris night I saw a sight,
A star as bright as day,
And now and then, a maiden sung,
"Lullay, by, by, lullay."

This lovely lady sat and sung,
And to her child did say,
"My son, my brother, my father dear,
Why liest thou thus in hay?

My sweetest bird, 'tis thus betid
Though thou be king verray,
But nevertheless I will not cease
To sing 'By, by, lullay'."

The child then spake in his talking,
And to his mother said,
"I am known as Heaven-King
In crib though I be laid.

For angels bright gave to me light;
Thou knowest 'tis no nay.
And of that sight thou mayst be light
To sing, 'By, by, lullay'."

"Now, sweet son, since thou art king,
Why art thou laid in stall?
Why ne thou ordained thy bedding
In some great kinge's hall?

"Methinks 'tis right that king or knight
Should lie in good array.
And then, as so, it were no wrong
To sing 'By, by, lullay'."

"Mary mother, I am thy Child,
Though I be laid in stall;
For lords and dukes shall worship Me,
And so shall kinges all.

"Ye shall well see that kinges three
Shall come the Twelfth Day.
For this behest give Me thy breast
And sing, 'By by, lullay'."

"Now tell, sweet Son, I Thee do pray,
Thou art beloved and Dear—
How should I keep Thee to Thy pay,
And make Thee glad of cheer?

For all Thy will I would fulfill—
Thou knowest full well, in fay;
And for all this I will Thee kiss,
And sing, 'By, by, lullay'."

"My dear mother, when time it be,
Thou take Me up on loft,
And set Me then upon thy knee,
And handle me full soft.

"And in thy arm thou hold Me warm,
And keepe night and day,
And if I weep, and may not sleep,
Then sing, 'By, by, lullay'."

"Now sweet Son, since it is come so,
That all is at Thy will,
I pray Thee grant to me a boon,
If it be right and skill:

"That child or man, who will or can
Be merry on my day,
To bliss Them bring—and I shall sing,
'Lullay, by, by, lullay'."

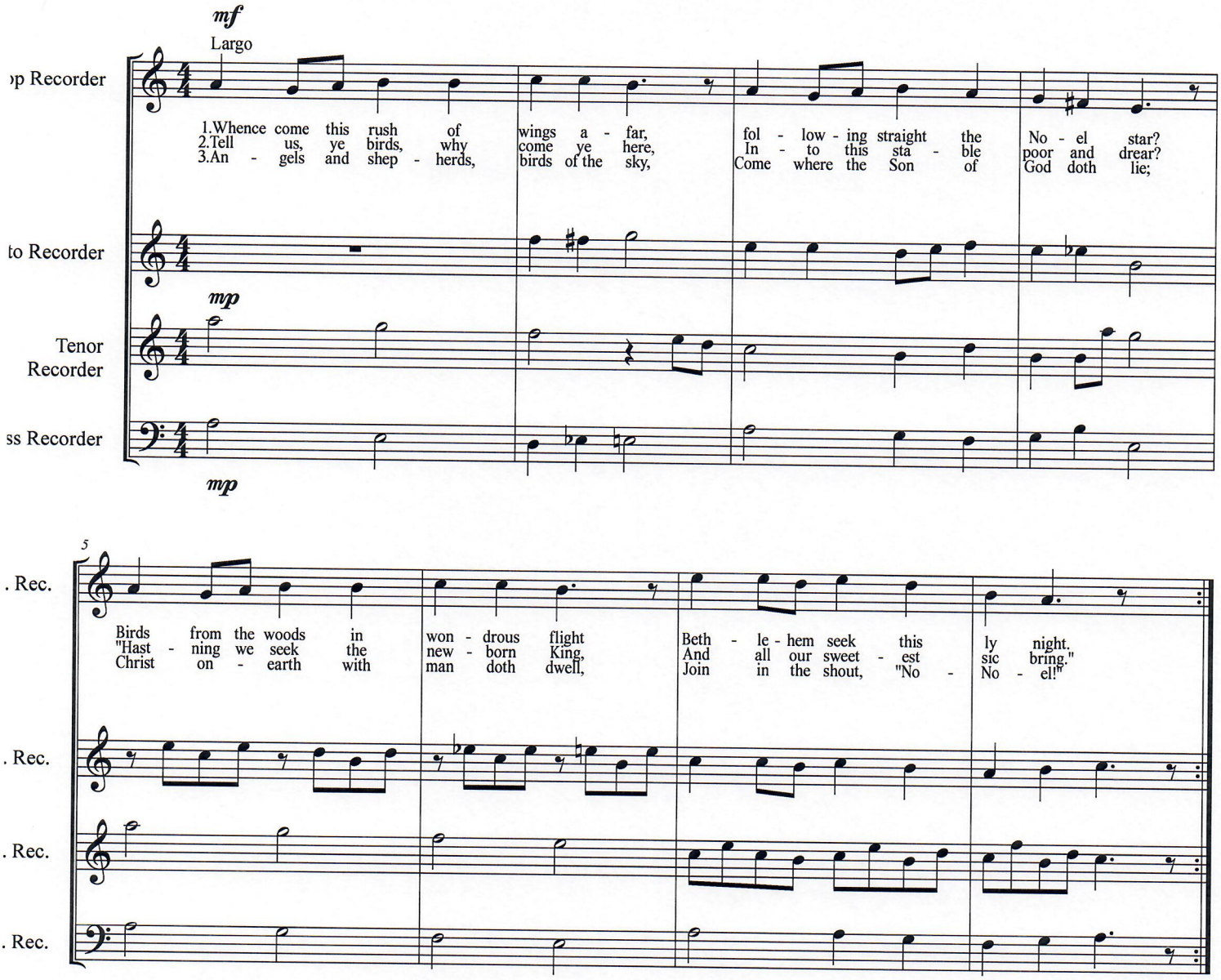
Notes

Endris – recently past, other
betid – happened
verray – in truth
among – in that circumstance
behest – promise
lief – beloved
pay – liking
fay – faith
skill – reason.

Carol of the Birds

Traditional French Carol

Traditional



Fum, Fum, Fum

Traditional Catalonian Carol

