

From Virgin's womb
A Carol for Christmas day

William Byrd (ca.1540-1623)

Superius
(Descant)

Medius
(Descant or Treble)

Contratenor
(Treble or Tenor)

Tenor
(Tenor)

Bassus
(Bass)

The musical score consists of five staves, each representing a different voice part: Superius (Descant), Medius (Descant or Treble), Contratenor (Treble or Tenor), Tenor (Tenor), and Bassus (Bass). The music is in common time and uses a key signature of one sharp. The vocal parts are separated by vertical bar lines, and the basso continuo part is indicated by a bass clef and a bass staff at the bottom.

6

Vir - gin's womb this day, this day did spring the pre - ci -

ous seed that on - ly sa - ved man, this day let man re - joyce

and sweet - ly sing. since on this day our Sa - vi - our

11

16

21

first be - gan. This day, this day did Christ man's soul _

26

_ from death re - move with glo - ri - ous Saints to dwell in heaven a -

31

bove, with glo - ri - ous Saints __ to dwell in heaven a - bove, __ a - bove.

Chorus

Superius
(Descant)

Re - joyce, re - joyce, with heart and voice

Contratenor
(Descant)

Tenor
(Treble)

Bassus
(Treble)

Re -

39

voice, with heart and _____
with heart and _____ voice, with heart and _____
joice, with heart and _____ voice, and _____ voice,
joice, re - - - - joice, with _____

42

voice, in Christ his birth this day, this day re - joice, re -
voice, in Christ his birth this day, this day re - joice, re -
in Christ his birth this day, re - - - - joice, re -
heart and _____ voice, in Christ his birth this day, this day re - joice, re -

46

joice, re - - - - joice, in Christ his birth this day, this day
- - - - joice, in Christ his birth this day, this day
- joice, in Christ his birth this day, this day
- joice, in Christ his birth this day, this day re - joice, _____.

49

day, this day re - joice, re - - - - joice, this day re - - - - joice, re - joice, ____ re - - - -
this day re - - - - joice, re - joice, ____ re - - - -
re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, re - - - - joice, re - joice, re - - - -
re - joice, re - joice, ____ re - - - - joice, re - joice, _____.

52

re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, re -
re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, re -
re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, re -
re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, re -
re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, re -

55

re - joice, re - joice, re - joice
re - joice, re - joice, re - joice
re - joice, re - joice, re - joice
re - joice, this day re - joice, re - joice

2. This day to man came pledge of perfect peace,
This day to man came love and unity,
This day man's grief began for to surcease,
This day did man receive a remedy
For each offence and every deadly sin
With guilty heart that erst he wandered in.
 Rejoice, rejoice, with heart and voice,
 In Christ his birth this day rejoice.
3. In Christ his flock let love be surely placed,
From Christ his flock let concord hate expel,
Of Christ his flock let love be so embraced,
As we in Christ, and Christ in us, may dwell.
Christ is the author of sweet unity,
From whence proceedeth all felicity.
 Rejoice, rejoice, with heart and voice,
 In Christ his birth this day rejoice.
4. O sing unto this glittering glorious king,
O praise his name let every living thing,
Let heart and voice like bells of silver ring
The comfort that this day to man doth bring,
Let Lute, let Shalm, with sound of sweet delight
These joys of Christ his birth this day recite.
 Rejoice, rejoice, with heart and voice,
 In Christ his birth this day rejoice.