

ANCIENT GROOVE MUSIC

WILLIAM CROFT

(1678 - 1727)

**Sentences for the
Burial Service**

Edited by

BEN BYRAM-WIGFIELD



www.ancientgroove.co.uk

EDITORIAL NOTES

William Croft's Burial Service is one of the great traditions of English sacred choral music, having been performed at every state funeral since its inception. When Croft composed it, he included the setting of *Thou knowest, Lord*, the secrets of our hearts by Henry Purcell. He later gave the reason for doing so:

"In that service, there is one verse composed by my predecessor, the famous Mr. Henry Purcell, to which, in justice to his memory, his name is applied. The reason why I did not compose that verse anew (so as to render the whole service entirely of my own composition) is obvious to every Artist; in the rest of that service composed by me, I have endeavoured as near as I could, to imitate that great master and celebrated composer, whose name will for ever stand high in the rank of those who have laboured to improve the English style."

Source: British Library E. 472: *Cathedral Music: 30 select anthems in score, to which is added the burial service as it is now occasionally performed in Westminster Abbey.* (London, 1775, 'Printed for J. French'.)

Notes are presented at pitch and with original note values. The time signature has been standardised into 2/2. The key signature has been given an extra flat in *I know that my Redeemer liveth*. Accidentals in brackets are editorial.

The original figures have been included, and a realisation supplied editorially.

Bar 124: E natural in Bass missing in score.

The section by Henry Purcell has been altered to conform with other editions from original Purcellian sources. The variants in Croft's account of the music are as follows:

Bar 184: 1st beat: Tenor C minim; Soprano GA crotchets

Bar 200: equal minims all parts

Bar 205: equal minims all parts

Bar 209: STB: 'Mer' minim; 'ci-ful' on beats 3 and 4.

Bar 210: equal minims

Bar 214: equal minims

Ben Byram-Wigfield
Revised 2019

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WILLIAM CROFT
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Sentence I

Soprano
I am the re-sur-rec-tion and the life, saith the Lord: he that be -

Alto
I am the re-sur-rec-tion and the life, saith the Lord: he that be -

Tenor
I am the re-sur-rec-tion and the life, saith the Lord: he that be -

Bass
I am the re-sur-rec-tion and the life, saith the Lord: he that be -

Organ

9/7 8/6 6 #

11

-liev-eth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and who - so -

-liev-eth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and who - so -

-liev-eth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and who - so -

-liev-eth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and who - so -

Organ

4 3 6/4 5/3 6 7 6 4+ 2 6

22

-ev - er liv - eth and be - liev - eth in me shall ne - ver die, shall

-ev - er liv - eth and be - liev - eth in me shall ne - ver die, shall

-ev - er liv - eth and be - liev - eth in me shall ne - ver die, shall

-ev - er liv - eth and be - liev - eth in me shall ne - ver die, shall

4 3 6 5 b 6 # # 5 6

32

ne - ver, shall ne - ver die. I know ___ that my re - deem - er liv - eth and that

ne - ver, shall ne - ver die. I know ___ that my re - deem - er liv - eth and that

ne - ver, shall ne - ver die. I know ___ that my re - deem - er liv - eth and that

ne - ver, shall ne - ver die. I know ___ that my re - deem - er liv - eth and that

4 # 4 # # 4/2 6 7 6

43

he shall stand at the lat - ter day up - on the earth. And though af - ter my

he shall stand at the lat - ter day up - on — the earth. And though af - ter my

he shall stand at the lat - ter day up - on the earth. And though af - ter my

he shall stand at the lat - ter day up - on the earth. And though af - ter my

♯ 7 6 7 6 4 3 ♯ b

52

skin, worms de - stroy this bo - dy, yet in my flesh shall I see — God: whom

skin, worms de - stroy this bo - dy, yet in my flesh shall I see — God: whom

skin, worms de - stroy this bo - dy, yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom

skin, worms de - stroy this bo - dy, yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom

♯ 5 b6 6 7 5 6 4 ♯ b6 7 6 6 4 3 b

61

I shall see for my - self and mine eyes shall be - hold, and not an - oth - er.

I shall see for my - self and mine eyes shall be - hold, and not an - oth - er.

I shall see for my - self and mine eyes shall be - hold, and not an - oth - er.

I shall see for my - self and mine eyes shall be - hold, and not an - oth - er.

5 6 4

8 7 6 5 4

70

We brought no - thing in - to this world, and it is cer - tain we can car - ry

We brought no - thing in - to this world, and it is cer - tain we can car - ry

We brought no - thing in - to this world, and it is cer - tain we can car - ry

We brought no - thing in - to this world, and it is cer - tain we can car - ry

6 5 6 7 6 6 9 8 b

79

no-thing out. The Lord gave and the Lord hath ta-ken a-way: bles-sed

no-thing out. The Lord gave and the Lord hath ta-ken a-way: bles-sed

no-thing out. The Lord gave and the Lord hath ta-ken a-way: bles-sed

no-thing out. The Lord gave and the Lord hath ta-ken a-way: bles-sed

4 ♯ ♭ 6/5 7 6 ♯ ♭

89

be the name of the Lord, bles-sed be the name of the Lord.

be the name of the Lord, bles-sed be the name of the Lord.

be the name of the Lord, bles-sed be the name of the Lord.

be the name of the Lord, bles-sed be the name of the Lord.

4/2 6 7 6 #5 # 4/2 6 7 6 6 4 # ♯

Sentence II

Soprano
Man — that is born of a wo-man hath but a short time to live, and is full of

Alto
Man — that is born of a wo-man hath but a short time to live, and is full of

Tenor
Man — that is born of a wo-man hath but a short time to live, and is full of

Bass
Man — that is born of a wo-man hath but a short time to live, and is full of

Organ

6
5

♭

6
♭

♭

7 5

9
mi - se - ry. is full of mi - se - ry. He com - eth up, and is cut down, like a

mi - se - ry. is full of mi - se - ry. He com - eth up, and is cut down, like a

mi - se - ry. is full of mi - se - ry. He com - eth up, and is cut down, like a

mi - se - ry. is full of mi - se - ry. He com - eth up, and is cut down, like a

Organ

♭

♭

6
4 5
3

♭

♭7

9 8
4 3

4 3

18

flow - er: he com - eth up, and is cut down, like a - flow - er; he fle - eth as it

flow - er: he com - eth up, and is cut down, like a - flow - er; he fle - eth as it

flow - er: he com - eth up, and is cut down, like a - flow - er; he fle - eth as it

flow - er: he com - eth up, and is cut down, like a - flow - er; he fle - eth as it

6 4 7 9/4 8/3 4 # b 6/5

27

were_ a sha - dow, and ne - ver con - tin - u - eth, ne - ver con - tin - u - eth in one stay.

were a sha - dow, and ne - ver con - tin - u - eth, ne - ver con - tin - u - eth in one stay.

were a sha - dow, and ne - ver con - tin - u - eth, ne - ver con - tin - u - eth in one stay.

were a sha - dow, and ne - ver con - tin - u - eth, ne - ver con - tin - u - eth in one stay.

6/5 b7 6 4 6/5 9/4 8/3 6/5 4 # b

35

In the midst of life we are in death: of whom may we seek for

In the midst of life we are in death: of whom may we seek for

In the midst of life we are in death: of whom may we seek for

In the midst of life we are in death: of whom may we seek for

6 4 6 7 6 \flat 4 6

45

suc - cour, but of thee, of thee, O Lord, who for our sins art just - ly

suc - cour, but of thee, of thee, O Lord, who for our sins art just - ly

suc - cour, but of thee, of thee, O Lord, who for our sins art just - ly

suc - cour, but of thee, of thee, O Lord, who for our sins art just - ly

6 5 \sharp 4+ 6 \flat 4 \flat \flat 7 4 \flat

55

dis - - pleas - ed? Yet, O Lord God most ho - ly, O Lord most

dis - - pleas - ed? Yet, O Lord God most ho - ly, O Lord most

dis - - pleas - ed? Yet, O Lord God most ho - ly, O Lord most

dis - - pleas - ed? Yet, O Lord God most ho - ly, O Lord most

7 6 ♭ ♭ ♭ ♭ ♭

65

migh - ty, O ho - ly and most_ mer - ci - ful__ Sa - viour,

migh - ty, O ho - - ly and most mer - - ci - ful Sa - viour,

migh - ty, O ho - - ly and most mer - ci - ful Sa - viour,

migh - ty, O ho - - ly and most mer - ci - ful Sa - viour,

7 6 9 8 9 8 4 # ♭

71

de - liv - - er us not in - to the

de - liv - er us not, de - liv - er us not in -

de - liv - - er us not, de - liv - er us not in - to the

de - liv - - er us not, de - liv - er us not in - to the

6 7 6 7 6 6 7 6 6 6

78

bit - ter, the bit - - ter pains of e - ter - - - nal death.

- - to the bit - ter pains of e - ter - - - nal death.

bit - ter, the bit - ter pains of e - ter - - - nal death.

bit - ter, the bit - ter pains of e - ter - nal death.

7 6 6 4 6 6 5

HENRY PURCELL

85

Thou know - est, Lord, the se - crets of our hearts; shut __ not, shut __ not thy

Thou know - est, Lord, the se - crets of our hearts; shut __ not, shut __ not thy

Thou know - est, Lord, the se - crets of our hearts; shut __ not, shut __ not thy

Thou know - est, Lord, the se - crets of our hearts; shut __ not, shut __ not thy

6 7

95

mer - ci - ful _ ears un - to our prayer; but spare us, Lord, spare us, Lord most ho - ly,

mer - ci - ful ears un - to our prayer; but spare us, Lord, spare us, Lord most ho - ly,

mer - ci - ful ears un - to our prayer; but spare us, Lord, spare us, Lord most ho - ly,

mer - ci - ful ears un - to our prayer; but spare us, Lord, spare us, Lord most ho - ly,

6 5 6 7 6 # # 6 5 #

105

O God, O God most mighty, O holy and most merciful Sa-viour,

O God, O God most mighty, O holy and most merciful Sa-viour,

O God, O God most mighty, O holy and most merciful Sa-viour,

O God, O God most mighty, O holy and most merciful Sa-viour,

4 # 6 7 6

115

thou most worthy judge eternal, suffer us not, suffer us

thou most worthy judge eternal, suffer us not, suffer us

thou most worthy judge eternal, suffer us not, suffer us

thou most worthy judge eternal, suffer us not, suffer us

6 4 6 4 ♯ ♯ 4/2 6 6

124

not at our last hour for a - ny pains of death, for a - ny
 not at our last hour for a - ny pains of death, for a - ny
 not at our last hour for a - ny pains, for
 not at our last hour for a - ny pains of

6 5 # 6 7 8 5 6 # 6 7
 4 4 4 5 6 # 4 4

131

pains of death, to fall, to fall from thee. A - men.
 pains of death, to fall, to fall from thee. A - men.
 a - ny pains of death, to fall from thee. A - men.
 death, to fall, to fall from thee. A - men.

6 # 6 6 6 7 7 # 6
 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4

Sentence III

WILLIAM CROFT

Soprano
I heard a voice from heav'n, from heav'n say - ing un - to me,

Alto
I heard a voice_ from heav'n, from heav'n say - ing un - to me,

Tenor
I heard a voice from heav'n, from heav'n say - ing un - to me,

Bass
I heard a voice from heav'n, from heav'n say - ing un - to me,

Organ

4 b 7 6 7 6 7 6 4

Detailed description: This system contains the first eight measures of the piece. It features four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and an Organ staff. The vocal parts are in a homophonic setting, with each voice part having the same lyrics. The organ part provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines in both hands. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The organ part includes figured bass notation below the staff: 4, b, 7, 6, 7, 6, 7, 6, 4.

10
Write, from hence - forth bles - sed, bles - sed are the dead which die_ in

Write, from hence - forth bles - sed, bles - sed are the dead which die_ in

Write, from hence - forth bles - sed, bles - sed are the dead which die in

Write, from hence - forth bles - sed, bles - sed are the dead which die in_

Organ

6 9 8 6 5 # # 6

Detailed description: This system contains measures 10 through 17. It features the same four vocal staves and organ staff as the first system. The lyrics continue with 'Write, from hence - forth bles - sed, bles - sed are the dead which die_ in'. The organ part continues with harmonic support, including some chromatic movement. The figured bass notation below the organ staff is: #, 6, 9, 8, 6, 5, #, #, 6.

19

the_ Lord: ev'n so saith the Spi - rit; for they rest from their_

the_ Lord: ev'n so saith_ the_ Spi - rit; for they rest from their_

the Lord: ev'n so saith the Spi - rit; for they rest from their

the Lord: ev'n so saith the Spi - rit; for they rest from their

4 3 | | | 5 7 6 | | | 6 8 6 7 5 | | | b6 5 | | | 4 5 | | |

28

la - bours. Ev'n so saith the Spi - rit; for they rest from their_ la - bours.

la - bours. Ev'n so saith the Spi - rit; for they rest from their la - bours. A -

la - bours. Ev'n so saith the Spi - rit; for they rest from their la - bours.

la - bours. Ev'n so saith the Spi - rit; for they rest from their la - bours.

b | | | | | # 8 7 5 | | | 4 # | | | #

37

A - - - - - men, A - men A - - - - -

- - - - - men, A - - - - - men, A - - - - -

A - - - - - men, A - - - - - men,

A - - - - - men, A - - - - - men, A - - - - -

8 7 6 5 4 # 6 2 6 6 4 3 7 b6

43

-men, A - - - - - men.

-men, A - - - - - men, A - - - - - men.

A - - - - - men, A - - - - - men.

- - - - - men, A - - - - - men.

6 7 6 4 #