

ANCIENT GROOVE MUSIC

Burial Sentences

Edited by
Ben Byram-Wigfield

THOMAS WILKINSON
(fl. 1575 - 1612)

VERSE

Medius Decani
I am the re-sur-rec - - ti - on and the life, and the life, saith

Medius Cantoris
I am the re-sur-rec - ti - - on and the life, saith

Contratenor
I am the re-sur-

Tenor Decani

Tenor Cantoris
I am the re-sur-rec - ti - on and the

Bassus

5

the Lord. I am the re-sur-rec - ti-on and the

the Lord. I am the re-sur-rec - - ti - on and the

-rec - ti - on and the life, saith the Lord. I am the re-sur-

I am the re-sur-rec - - ti - on and the

life, I am the re-sur-rec - - ti - on, I am the re-sur-

I am the re-sur-rec - - ti - on and the

CHORUS

life, saith the Lord. He that believeth in me, yea though

life, saith the Lord. He that believeth in me, yea though

-rec-ti-on and the life saith the Lord. He that believeth in me, yea though

life, saith the Lord. He that believeth in me, yea though

-rec-ti-on and the life saith the Lord. He that believeth in me, yea though

life, saith the Lord. He that believeth in me, yea though

— he were dead, yet shall he live, and who-so-ev-er liv-eth and be -

— he were dead, yet shall he live, and who-so-ev-er liv-eth and be -

he were dead, yet shall he live, and who-so-ev-er liv-eth, and who-so-ev-er liv-eth

— he were dead, yet shall he live, and who-so-ev-er liv-eth and believeth in

— he were dead, yet shall he live, and who-so-ev-er liv-eth and be -

— he were dead, yet shall he live, and who-so-ev-er liv-eth and be -

19

-liev - eth in me shall not die for - ev - - - - er, for - ev -
 -liev - eth in me shall _____ not die for - ev - - - - er, for -
 and be-liev - - eth in me shall not die for - ev - - - - - er, who-so -
 me, be-liev - eth in me shall not die for - ev - - - - - er,
 -liev - eth in me, be - liev - eth in me shall not die _____ for - ev - er,
 -liev - eth in me shall not die for - ev - - - - er,

23

- - - - - er, who - so - ev - - er be - liev - eth in me, who - so -
 - ev - - - - er, for - - ev - - er, who - so - ev - er be -
 - ev - - er be - liev - eth _____ in me, who - so - ev - - - - er be - -
 shall not die for - ev - - - - - er, who - so - ev - - - - er be - liev - -
 who - - so - - ev - - er be - liev - eth in me, be - - liev - eth in me,
 who - so - - ev - - er be - liev - eth in me,

26

- ev - - er be-liev-eth in me, be-liev-eth in me, be - liev-eth in _____

-liev-eth in me, in _____ me, who-so - ev - er be - liev - - - eth in

-liev - eth in me, be - liev - - eth in me, who-so - ev - er be-liev-eth in

- eth in me, who - so - ev - er be - liev-eth in me, be-liev - - eth in me, in

who - so-ev - er be-liev-eth in me, be - liev - eth in me, be - liev - eth in

in me, who - so - ev - er be - liev-eth in _____

30

me shall ___ not die for - ev - - er, shall not die for - ev - - -

me shall ___ not die for-ev - - - er, shall not die for - ev - - - -

me shall ___ not die for - ev - - er, shall not die for - ev - - -

me shall not die for-ev-er, for - ev - - er, shall not die for - ev - er,

me shall ___ not die for - ev - - er, shall not die for - ev - - -

me shall ___ not die for - ev - - er, shall not die for - ev - - -

35

VERSE



- er, shall not die for-ev - er, for - ev - - - er.
 - er, shall not die for - ev - - - er. I know that my re-deem - er
 - - - er, shall not die for - ev - - er.
 shall not die for - ev - er, for - ev - - - er. I know that
 - er, shall not die for - ev - - er, for - ev - - er.
 - er, for - - ev - - - - - - - - - er.

41



I know that my re - deem - er liv - eth
 liv - eth, that my re - deem - er liv - - - - - eth, I know that my re - deem - er
 I know that my re - deem - er liv - eth, I know my re - deem - er liv - - eth
 my re - deem - - er, my re - deem - er liv - - eth, and

46

and that I shall rise out of the earth, and that I shall rise out
 liv - - - eth and that I shall rise out of the earth, out of the
 and that I shall rise out of the earth at
 that I shall rise out of the earth, and that I shall rise out

51

of the earth at the last day, and shall be co-ver-ed with my skin, and
 earth at the last day, and shall be co-ver-ed with my skin, and shall be co-ver-ed with my
 the last day, and shall be co-ver-ed with my skin, and shall be
 of the earth at the last day, and shall be co - ver - ed, be co-ver-ed with my

56

CHORUS

shall be co-ver-ed with my skin, with my skin, and shall see God in
 skin, and shall be co - ver - ed with my skin, and shall see God
 co-ve-red with my skin, be co - ver - ed with my skin, and shall see God
 skin, and shall be co - ver - ed with my skin, and shall see God
 and shall see God in
 and shall see God

62

— my — flesh, yea — and I my - self shall be - hold — him,
 in my flesh, yea — and I my - - self shall be - hold him,
 in my flesh, yea — and I my - - self shall be - hold him,
 in my — flesh, yea — and I my - self shall be - hold — him,
 — my flesh, yea and — I my - self shall be - hold — him,
 in my flesh, yea — and I my - - self shall be - hold him,

67

not with oth - er but with — these same — eyes, these same eyes.
 not with oth - - er but with these same eyes, these same eyes.
 not with oth - er but with — these same — eyes, these same eyes.
 not — with oth - er but with these same — eyes, these same eyes.
 not with oth - er but — with these same — eyes, these same — eyes.
 not with oth - er but with — these same — eyes, these same eyes.

72

VERSE

We brought no-thing in - to this world, neith -
 We brought no-thing in - to this world, in - - to this world,
 We brought no-thing in - to this world, in - to this world, neith -
 We brought no-thing in - to this world, in - to this world,

76

- er shall we car - ry an - - y-thing out of _____ this world, out of _____ this_ world.
 neith - - er shall we car - ry an - y-thing out of this world. The
 - er shall we car - ry an - - y-thing out of _____ this_ world. _____ The Lord
 - neith - er shall we car - ry an - y - thing out of this world. The

80

The Lord giv - eth and the Lord tak - eth a - - way, _____ a - - way,
 Lord giv - eth and the Lord tak - eth a - - way, e'en as it
 giv - eth and the Lord tak - eth a - - - way, he tak - eth a - way, e'en
 Lord giv - eth and the Lord tak - - eth a - way, he tak - - eth a - way,

84

CHORUS

e'en
 e'en as it pleas-eth the Lord, so come things to pass, e'en
 pleas-eth the Lord, e'en as it pleas-eth the Lord, so come things to pass, e'en
 as it pleas-eth the Lord, come things to pass, so come things to pass, e'en
 e'en as it pleas-eth the Lord, so come things to pass, e'en
 e'en

89

— as it pleas-eth the Lord, so come things to pass. Bless - ed be the Lord,
 — as it pleas-eth the Lord, so come things to pass. Bless - - ed be the
 — as it pleas-eth the Lord, so come things to pass. Bless - ed be the Lord our
 as it pleas-eth the Lord, so come things to pass. Bless - ed be the Lord
 — as it pleas-eth the Lord, so come things to pass. Bless - ed be the Lord
 as it pleas-eth the Lord, so come things to pass. Bless - - ed be the

94

bless - ed be the Lord our God, bless-ed be the Lord our God, from this time
 Lord, for ev - er - more, bless - ed be the Lord our God from
 God for ev - er - more, for ev - - er - - more,
 our God for ev - - er-more, for ev - - er-more, for ev - - er -
 our God for ev - er - more, for ev - er - more, for ev - er -
 Lord for ev - - er-more, for ev - er - - more, for

98

forth for ev - - - - er - more, from this time forth for ev - - er-more.
 this time forth for ev - - - - er - - more, for ev - - - - er - more.
 from this time forth for ev - - - - er more.
 -more, from this time forth for ev - - - - er - - - - more.
 -more, from this time forth for ev - - - - er - more, for ev - - er-more.
 ev - - - - er - more, for ev - - - - er more.

102

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

105

-men, a - - - - - men.
- - - - - men, a - - - - - men.
a - - - - - men.
-men, a - - - - - men.
-men, a - - - - - men.
a - - - - - men.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Sources: **(P)** Cambridge, Peterhouse 'Latter Caroline Set', MSS 35, 36, 37, 42, 43, 44, 45. A set of partbooks dated c. 1625.

(BL) London, British Library, Add. 29366, 29367, 29368. Incomplete partbooks for Cantus, Quintus and Bassus in the hand of Alfonso Ferrabosco the Elder.

Thomas Wilkinson is a little known composer of the Elizabethan age. He was a lay-clerk at Norwich from 1575 to 1580, and then at King's College, Cambridge until 1595. He may have taught the choristers there until the appointment of Edward Gibbons in 1592-3.

A Thomas Wilkinson, 'musician' was married in Durham in 1604, and this may explain the presence of his music in Durham manuscripts. A man named 'Wilkinson' succeeded John Hilton as Master of the Choristers at Trinity College, Cambridge from 1609 until at least 1612, and circumstantial evidence suggests that it is the same person. He wrote a considerable quantity of music for viols, as well as verse and full anthems.

The Peterhouse partbooks ascribe the work to William Child, though the earlier incomplete partbooks by Ferrabosco give Wilkinson as the composer. (They also confirm that the work is for six voices, excluding the possibility of further missing parts.) Child seems unlikely, stylistically. The BL parts do not always construe with the Peterhouse set, but have been used to confirm suspected errors and adjust aspects of the Peterhouse complete set.

The music is presented up a tone in original note values. Bracketed accidentals and dashed slurs are editorial. The major editorial task is the

aligning of musical phrases in the parts between rests, where the length of those rests are not accurate. The following alterations have been made, described at editorial pitch:

9, Can Medius: **P** has '*and the life*'.

10, Dec Medius: '*the*' is *g* in source, changed to *a*.

16, Can Medius: a minim rest has been added.

18-19, Dec Alto: **P** lacks first crotchet *a*; F on '*liv*' is a minim. F on '*and*' in bar 19 is also a minim. Underlay in source for bar 18 is '*who*' with repeat marks.

25, 27, Can Medius: **P** has even crotchets on '*who-so*'; BL has dotted rhythm.

28-30, Can Medius: the music differs substantially between the sources, and **P** contain parallel motion with the Can Tenor. The **BL** source has been used here.

38, In **P**, Can Medius and Dec Tenor both have *a* with a *b* in the previous bar. To avoid parallel motion, one of them needs to change to *c* (adding the third to the chord.)

43, Can Medius: Sources have *b a* for 3rd and 4th notes. Notes changed to *b a*.

85, Can Medius: 2nd note is *g* in **P**, changed to *f*.

93-97: The **BL** has 'Blessed be the name of the Lord'; **P** has 'Blessed be the Lord our God'. 102: The **BL** 'Amen' does not fit with the **P** source.

102: Both Tenors have the same music, but the texture seems incomplete. The Cantoris Tenor part has been editorially reconstructed.

The music might seem rather joyful for a burial service, though would have been entirely in keeping with the Evangelical movement of the 16th century. These are 'comfortable words' that provide hope and solace at a time of sadness.

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