

An earthly tree - Cast off all doubtful care

A Carol for Christmas day

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

5

Superius

Sextus

Contratenor

Tenor

Medius

Bassus

10

A case of clay

An earth - ly tree a heaven - ly fruit it bare,

15

con-tained a crown im - mor - tal,

a crown of crowns a king—

20

re - deemed poor man, whose race be - fore was—

—whose cost and— care

40

Superius

Cast off all doubt - ful care, all doubt - ful care,

Contratenor

Cast off all doubt - ful care, all doubt - ful care, cast off all doubt - ful

Tenor

Cast off all doubt - ful, doubt - ful

Bassus

Cast off all doubt - ful

ex - ile and ban - ish tears, to joy - ful news di - vine, di - vine, to

care, ex - ile and ban - ish tears, to joy - ful news di -

care, ex - ile and ban - ish tears, to joy - ful news di - vine, di - vine,

care, ex - ile and ban - ish tears, to joy - ful

45

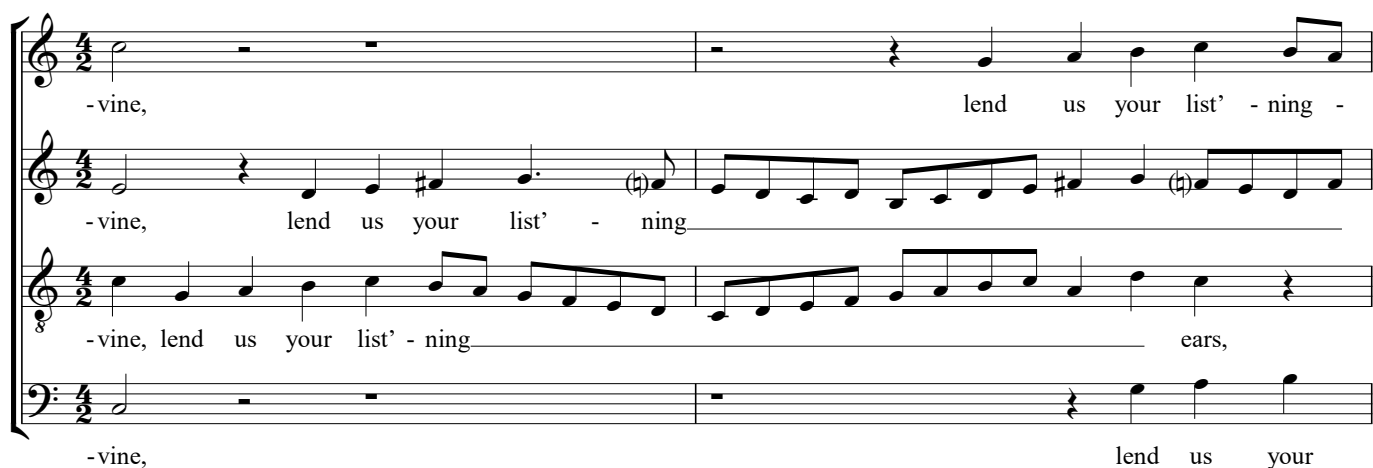
[o. → o.]

joy - ful news di - vine, di - vine, to joy - ful news di - vine, di -

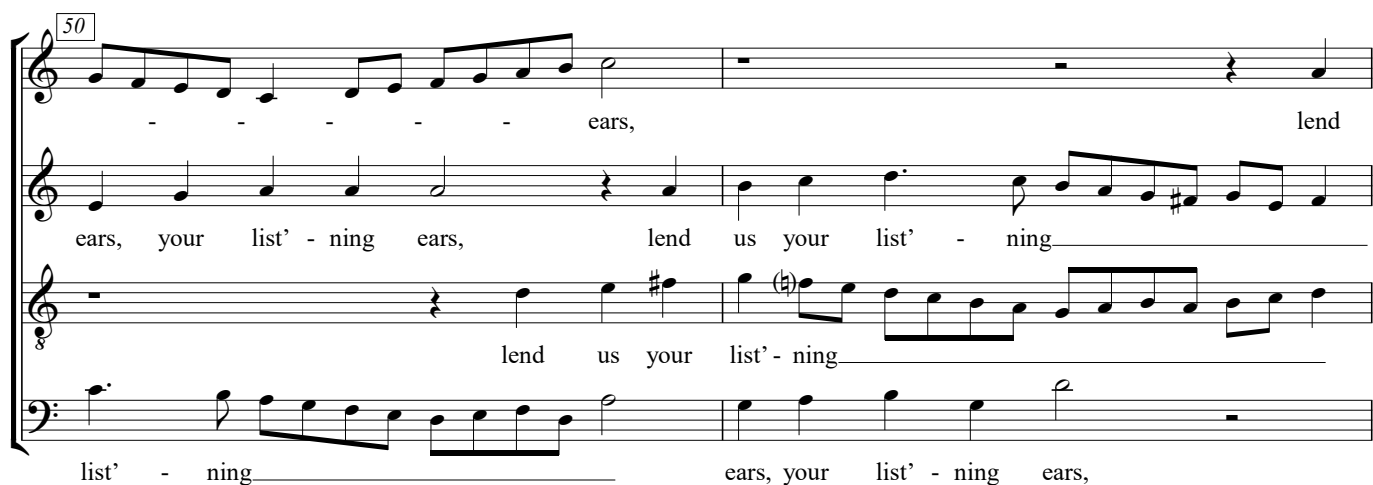
- vine, to joy - ful news di - vine, to joy - ful news di - vine, di -

to joy - ful news di - vine, to joy - ful news di -

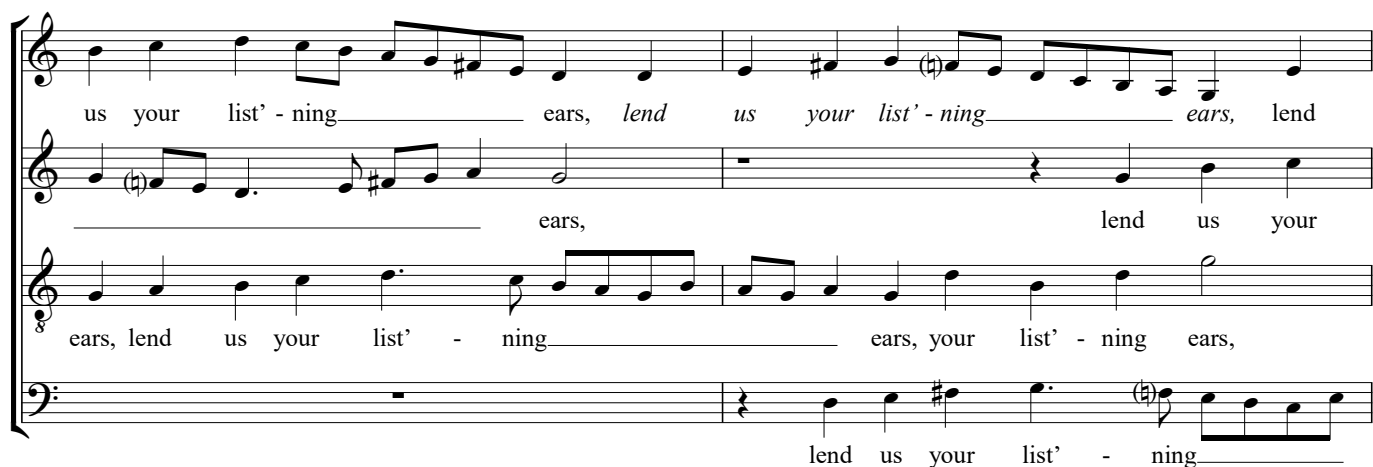
news di - vine, to joy - ful news di - vine, to joy - ful news di - vine, di -



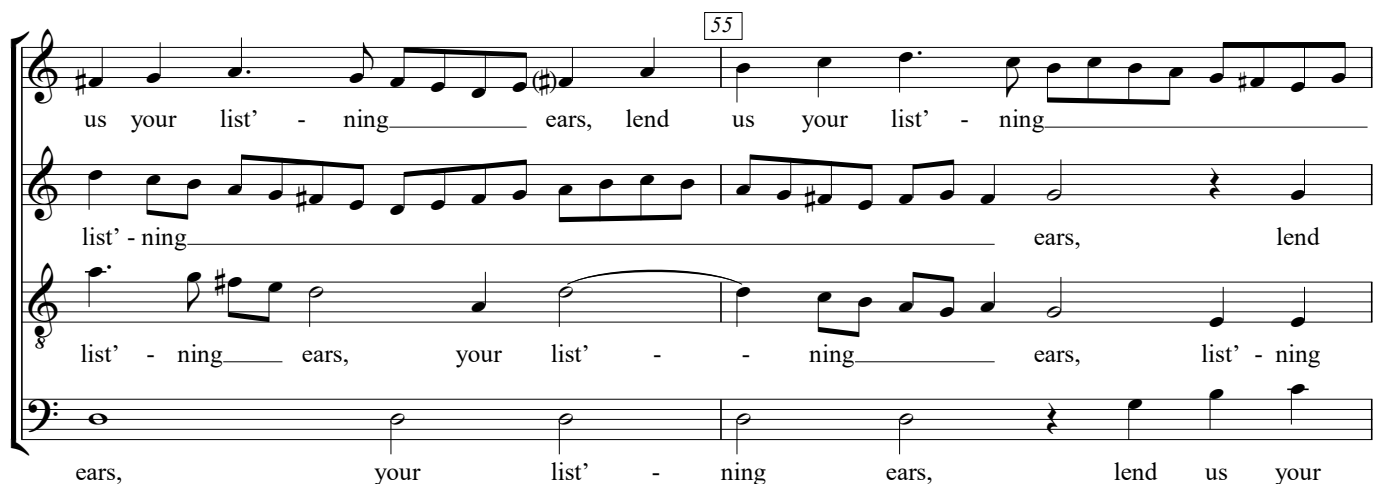
System 1: Four staves of music in 4/4 time. The lyrics are: -vine, lend us your list' - ning -



System 2: Four staves of music in 4/4 time. The lyrics are: ears, lend ears, your list' - ning ears, lend us your list' - ning list' - ning ears, your list' - ning ears,



System 3: Four staves of music in 4/4 time. The lyrics are: us your list' - ning ears, lend us your list' - ning ears, lend ears, lend us your list' - ning ears, your list' - ning ears, lend us your list' - ning



System 4: Four staves of music in 4/4 time. The lyrics are: us your list' - ning ears, lend us your list' - ning list' - ning ears, lend list' - ning ears, your list' - ning ears, list' - ning ears, your list' - ning ears, lend us your

ears, your list' - ning ears.

us your list' - - - ning ears.

ears, lend us your list' - ning ears.

list' - ning ears.

An earthly tree a heavenly fruit it bare,
 A case of clay containd a crowne immortall,
 A crowne of crownes, a king whose cost & care
 Redeemd poore man, whose race before was thrall
 To death, to dome, to paines of everlasting,
 By his sweet death, skornes, strypes, & often fasting.

A Starre above the Starres, a Sonne of light,
 Whose blessed beames this wretched earth bespred
 With hope of Heaven and of Gods sonne the sight
 Which in our flesh and sinfull soule lay dead,
 O fayth, O hope, O joyes renownd for ever,
 O lively lyfe that deathlesse shall persever.

Then let us sing the lullabyes of sleepe,
 To this sweet babe, borne to awake us all,
 From drowsie sinne that made old Adam weepe,
 And by his fault gave to mankind the fall,
 For loe this day, the byrth day, day of dayes,
 Somons our songs to give him laud & praise.

Cast of all doubtfull care, exile and banish teares,
 To joyfull newes devine, lend us your listning eares.

Source: William Byrd, *Songs of sundrie natures...* (London, 1589-1610) nos. 40 & 25 (42 & 24 in 1610 edition).

Sextus, prefatory bar: the voice-range shown includes that of the Contratenor in the chorus.

38-47: note-values halved in sections in black notation

II.38.2: *ts* 3

I.39: *ts* 3

III.40: *ts* 3

IV.40.2: *ts* 3

III.43: *ts* 3

I.43.3: *ts* 3

II.44: *ts* 3

IV.44.2: *ts* 3

III.47.2: *ts* 3

III.48: *ts* C (♢ in 1589 - the sole indication in any partbook of a return to imperfect time)

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