

## **Hymn Verses for Vespers of the feast:**

## **Visitatio Beata Virgine Mariae:**

# **Gressum cepit cum concepit Maria/ Servit maior, gaudet minor**

from Ms without title 72 sacred songs - BSB Mus.ms. 52

## Text v. 2 and 5 from Hymn:

Ludwig Senfl

In Mariam vitæ viam

ed. Andreas Stenberg

#

DISCANTUS

Gresum

DISCANTUS IJ.

Gressum

ALTUS

Gressum

TENOR

Gressum

BASSUS

6

Gres - sum Ser - vit

ce - ma - pit, ior,

ce - ma -

cum con - gau - det

pit, ior

12

This musical score consists of five staves. The top four staves are for voices: soprano (S), alto (A), tenor (T), and bass (B). The bottom staff is for the basso continuo (BC). The music is in common time, with a key signature of one flat. The vocal parts sing in four-part harmony, while the continuo provides harmonic support with bass notes.

The lyrics are as follows:

ce - pit,  
mi - nor,  
cum con -  
gau - det  
ce - pit, Ma -  
mi - nor Ma -  
ri - a  
mul - tum,  
fert,

ce - pit,  
mi - nor,  
cum con -  
gau - det  
ce - pit,  
mi - nor  
pit,  
nor,  
Ma -  
ri - a  
mul -  
fert  
Ma -  
ri - a  
mul -  
fert

cum con -  
gau - det  
ce - pit,  
mi - nor  
Ma -  
ri - a  
mul - tum  
fert so -  
Ma -  
ri - a  
mul - tum  
fert so -  
pro -  
la -

18

mul - tum pro -  
fert so - la - ci -  
pro - pe - rans,  
so - la - ci - um  
ri - a mul - tum pro -  
ri - a fert so - la - ci -  
ri - a pro - pe - rans,  
ri - a fert so - la - ci - um  
pro - pe - rans,  
la - ci - um  
pe - rans  
ci - um  
vi - si - ta -  
vi - si - ta -

23

28

## Comments:

This is a setting of two stanzas (stanzas 2. and 5.) from a hymn for the first and second vespers of the feast Visitatio Beata Maria Virginis.

According to the Cantus database of Latin ecclesiastical chant, there exist two melodies for this chant. Senfl's setting uses melodic material reminiscent of the melody found in a manuscript Ms. 406 in Utrecht, Universiteitsbibliotheek. This source gives 7 stanzas in toto for the hymn as does the source in Danske Kongelige Bibliotek for the other melody to the hymn. The Sarum rite hymnal adds an eighth stanza to these.

**The hymn according to the Sarum Hymnal.**

Hymnale Secundum Usum Insignis Ac Praeclarae Ecclesiae Sarisburiensis (1850):

In Mariam vitæ viam  
Matrem vere viventium  
Pie venit Qui redemit  
Peccata delinquentium;

**2.**  
Gressum cepit, cum concepit,  
Maria multum properans,  
Visitavit, confortavit  
Elizabeth compatiens;

**3.**  
Salutatur inflammatur  
Elizabeth et Filius,  
Inaudita fiunt ita  
De dono Sancti Spiritus;

**4.**  
Impregnata, gravidata,  
Mater olim sterilis,  
Infans datus nondum natus  
Exultat Christo iubilis.

**5.**  
Servit maior, gaudet minor,  
Maria fert solatum  
Visitatis, præparatis  
Ad Spiritum propheticum.

**6.**  
Præcursorum et doctorem  
Maria plebi indicat,  
Qui Rectorem, Purgatorem  
Digito mundi nuntiat.

**7.**  
Leva plebem, duc ad Regem  
Maria cunctos visitans,  
Ut salvetur et lætetur  
Cum tu sis mater medians.

**8.**  
Honor Deo Vivo, Vero,  
Per infinita sæcula,  
Qui nos regat et protegat  
Materna per oracula. Amen.

The melody of Ms. 406, Utrecht, Universiteitsbibliotheek.

Choral notation

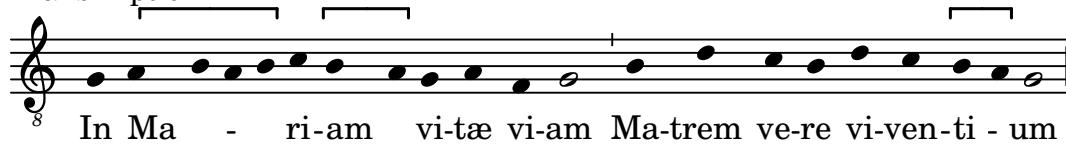


In Ma - ri-am vi-tæ vi-am Ma-trem ve-re vi-ven-ti-um



Pi-e venit Qui re-demit Pec-ca - ta delinquentium;

Transkription



8 In Ma - ri-am vi-tæ vi-am Ma-trem ve-re vi-ven-ti - um



Pi-e venit Qui re-de-mit Pec-ca - ta de - linquentium;