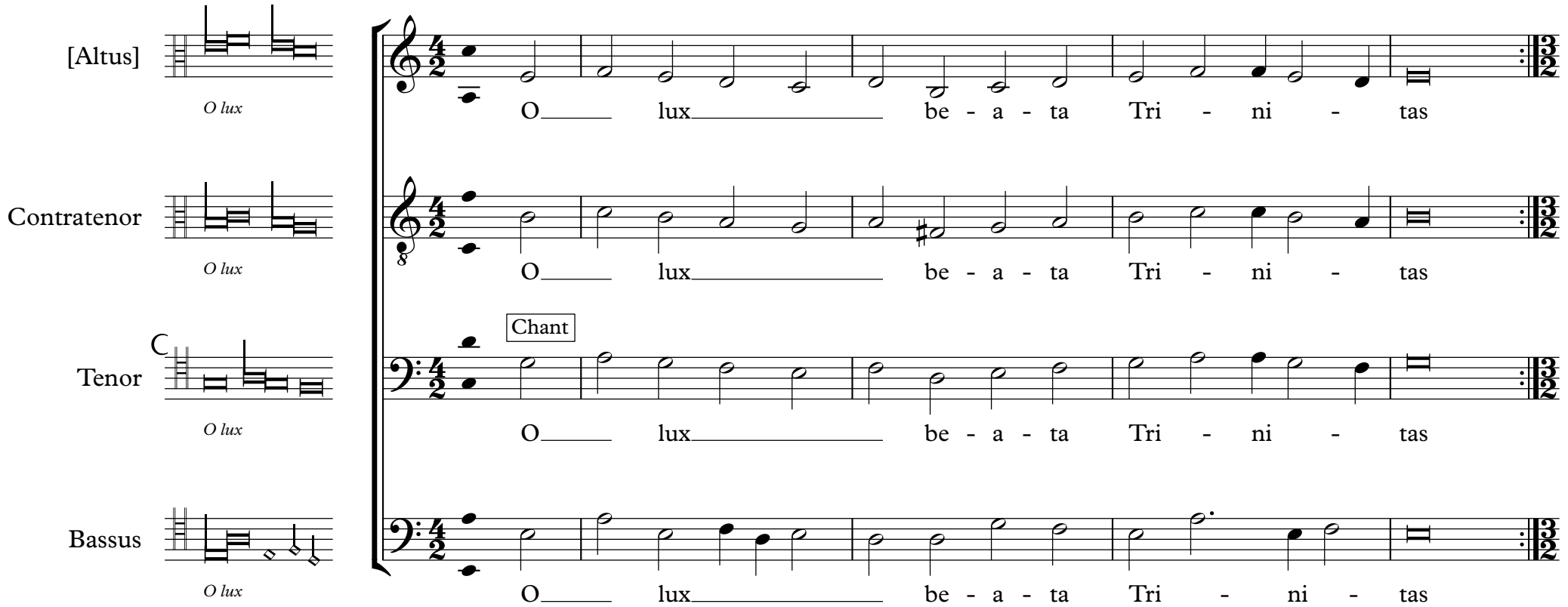
O lux beata Trinitas

A Hymn of St Ambrose for Sunday Vespers

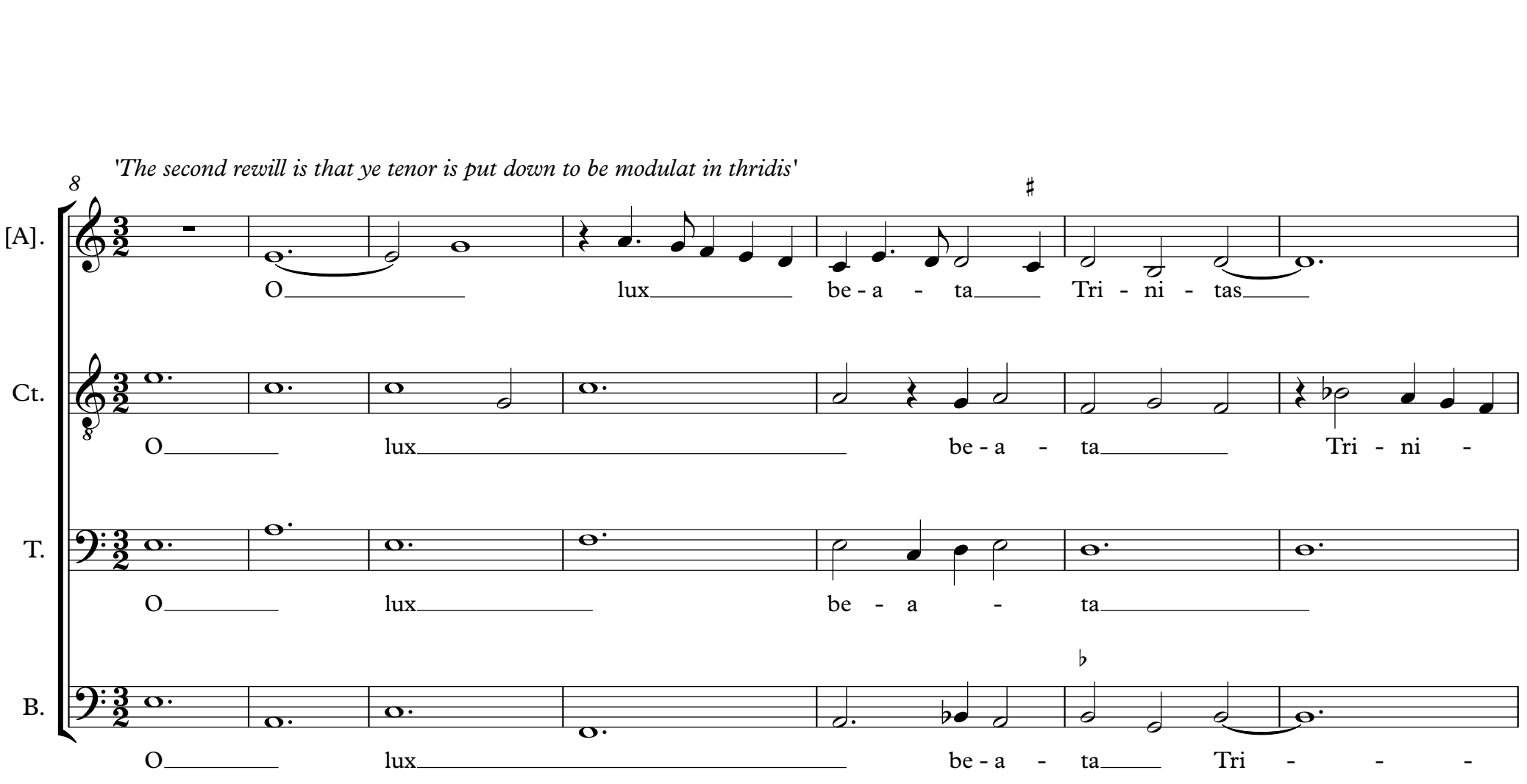
Edited by Humphrey Thompson.
Sources: GB-*Lbl* Add. MS 4911.
Ligature and coloration brackets have been omitted to aid readability.

Robert Fayrfax (1464-1521)

'The thrid kynd of faburdon'



'The second rewill is that ye tenor is put down to be modulat in thridis'



15

[A]. et prin - ci - - - - - - - - - - pa - - - lis

Ct. -tas et prin - ci - - - - - - - - - - pa

T. Tri - ni - tas et prin-ci - pa - - - -

B. -ni - - tas et prin - ci - pa - - -

22

[A]. U - ni - - - - - - - - - - tas:

Ct. - - - lis U - ni - - - - -

T. - - - - - lis U - ni - - - - - -

B. - - - - - - - - - - - lis U -

28

[A]. iam sol re - ce - - - - - - - - - -

Ct. tas, iam sol re - ce - - - - - - -

T. - - tas, iam sol re - ce - - - - - dit

B. - ni - tas: iam sol re - ce - dit

34

[A]. - - - dit ig - ne - - - - - - - -

Ct. -dit ig - - ne - - - - - - - - us: in -

T. ig - ne - - - - - - - - us:

B. ig - ne - - - - - - - -

40

[A]. - us in - - fun - - de lu - - - -

Ct. fun-de lu - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

T. in-fun-de lu - -

B. - us in - fun - - de lu - -

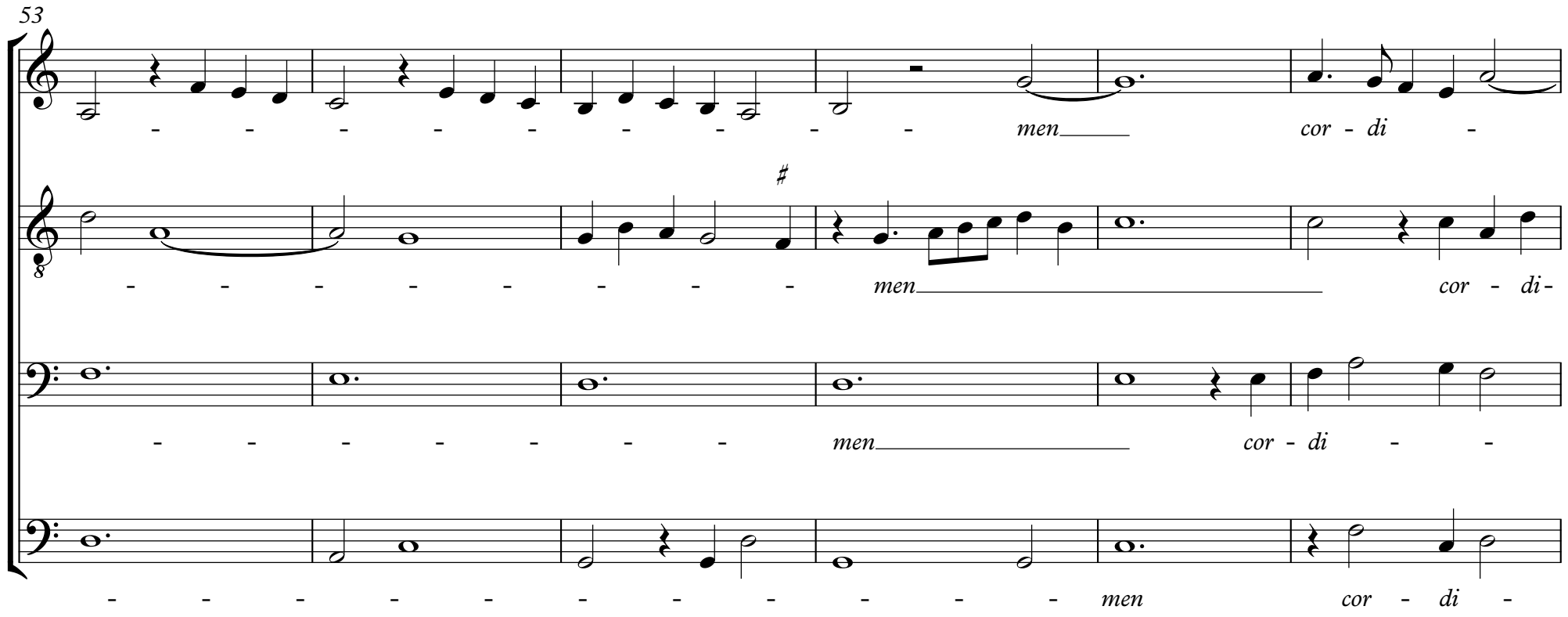
46

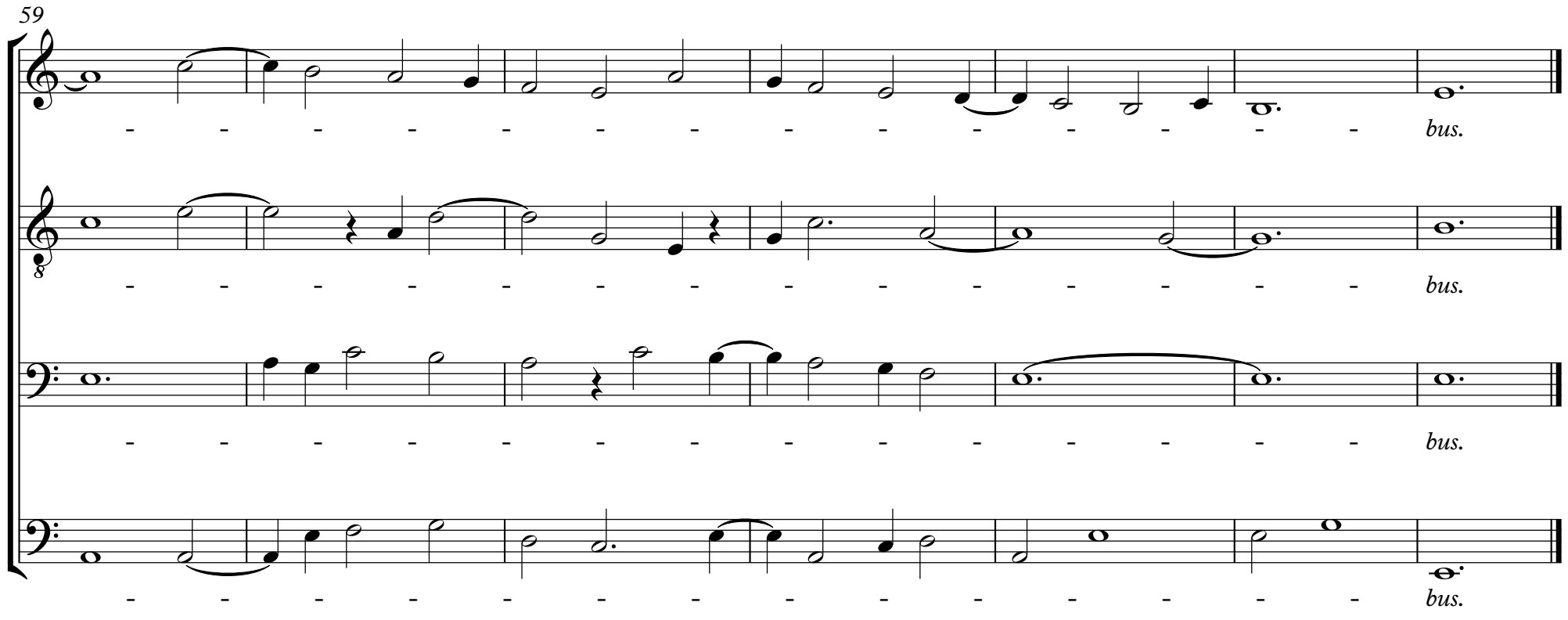
[A].

Ct.

T.

B.





Editorial note: this piece appears in a manuscript displaying examples of good compositional technique: first a simple homophonic faburdon around the plainchant Tenor, then more elaborate polyphony around a Tenor which is based upon faburdon a third below the original plainchant. Since no text is given for most of the polyphony, the editor has provided text. It's possible this piece was never performed or was used instrumentally. The text 'O lux beata' is copied at the beginning of each polyphonic part, but to squeeze in the remaining verses and doxology is nigh impossible. To enable liturgical or concert performance and to retain Tudor underlay practice the editor has therefore limited themselves to a verse of the hymn.