

O Lord because my hearts desire

Nunc dimittis (The Canticle of Simeon, Luke 2:29-32)

Thomas Ravenscroft (c.1592-c.1635)

Cantus (part 1 of 4)

The musical score is written on three staves in treble clef with a 3/2 time signature. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter and half notes. Measure numbers 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 are indicated above the staves. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

O Lord be-cause my hearts de-sire hath wish-ed long to see, my on-ly
Though suf-fer-est thy ser-vant now in peace for to de-part, ac-cor-ding
Lord and Sa-vi-our, thy Son be-fore I die: the joy and health of all man-kind de-
to the Ho-ly Word which light-en-eth my heart. Be-cause mine eyes which thou hast made to
si-red long be-fore, which now is come in-to the world, of mer-cy bring-ing store.
give my bo-dy light, have now be-held thy sa-ving health which is the Lord of might.