

# 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 Whole Booke of Psalmes* (London, 1621)

The musical score is written on three staves in 3/2 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/2 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and half notes. The lyrics are: "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-cord-ing". The second staff continues the melody with lyrics: "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". The third staff concludes the piece with lyrics: "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." Measure numbers 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 are indicated above the staves.

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-cord-ing

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.

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Medius (part 2 of 4)

*The Whole Booke of Psalmes* (London, 1621)

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 - cord - ing

10 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

20 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.

5  
15  
25

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

Thomas Ravenscroft (c.1592-c.1635)

Tenor (part 3 of 4)

*The Whole Booke of Psalmes* (London, 1621)

8 5  
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 - cord - ing

10 15  
8 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

20 25  
8 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.

# O Lord because my hearts desire

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

Thomas Ravenscroft (c.1592-c.1635)

Bassus (part 4 of 4)

*The Whole Booke of Psalmes* (London, 1621)

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 - cord - ing  
Lord and Sa - vi - our, thy Son be - fore I die: the joy and health of all man - kind de - si -  
to the Ho - ly Word which light - en - eth my heart. Be - cause mine eyes which thou hast made to give  
red long be - fore, which now is come in - to the world, of mer - cy bring - ing store.  
my bo - dy light, have now be - held thy sa - ving health which is the Lord of might.