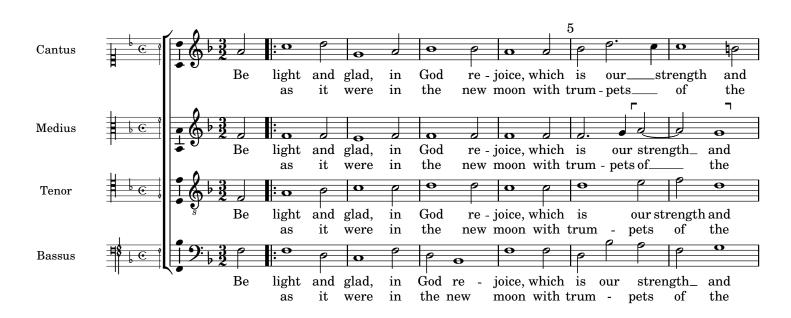
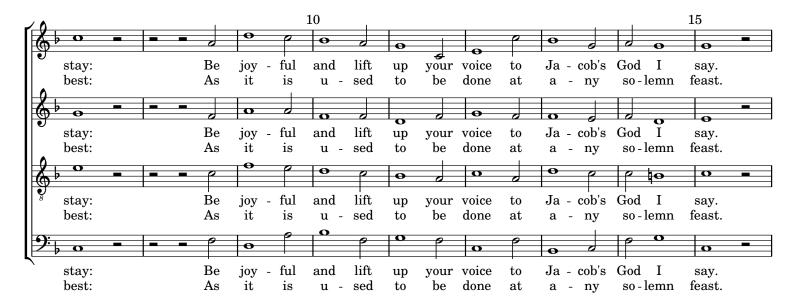
Be light and glad, in God rejoice

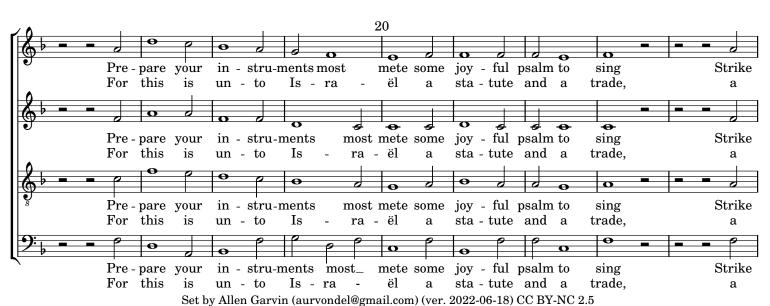
Psalm 81

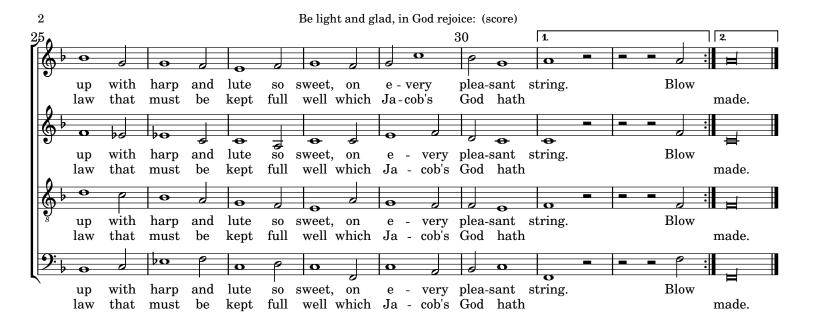
Richard Alison (c.1560-c.1610)

The Whole Booke of Psalmes (London, 1621)









- 1. Be light and glad, in God rejoice, which is our strength and stay:
 Be joyful and lift up your voice to Jacob's God I say.
 Prepare your instruments most mete some joyful psalm to sing
 Strike up with harp and lute so sweet, on every pleasant string.
- 4. I from his shoulders took, faith he, the burden clean away:
 And from the furnace set him free from burning brick of clay.
 When thou in grief didst cry and call I help thee by and by:
 And did I answer thee withall in thunder secretly.
- 7. And yet my people would not hear my voice when that I spake:
 Nor Israël would not obey, but did me quite forsake.
 Then did I leave them to their will in hardness of their heart, to walk in their own counsel still, themselves they might pervert.

- 2. Blow as it were in the new moon with trumpets of the best:
 As it is used to be done at any solemn feast.
 For this is unto Israël a statute and a trade, a law that must be kept full well which Jacob's God hath made.
- 5. Yea, at the waters of discord I did thee tempt and prove:
 Whereas the goodness of the Lord with muttering thou didst move.
 Hear, O my folk, O Israël and I assure it thee:
 Regard and mark my words full well, if thou wilt cleave to me.
- 8. O that my people would have heard the words that I did say:
 And eke that Israël would regard to walk within my way.
 How soon would I confound their foes and bring them down full low:
 And turn my hand upon all those that would them overthrow.

- 3. This law with Joseph was decreed when he from Egypt came:
 That as a witness, all his seed should still observe the same.
 When God I say had thus prepared to bring him from the land, whereas the speech which he had heard he did not understand.
- 6. Thou shalt no God in thee reserve of any land abroad:
 Nor in no wise to bow or serve a strange and foreign God.
 I am the Lord thy God, and I from Egypt set thee free:
 Then ask of me abundantly and I shall give it thee.
- 9. And they that at the Lord do rage, as slaves should seek him till:
 But of his folk the time and age should flourish ever still.
 I would have fed them with the crop and finest of the wheat:
 And made the rock with honey drop that they their fills should eat.