

# Rorate cæli

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Superius [Soprano]  
 Medius [Alto]  
 Contratenor [Tenor]  
 Tenor [Tenor]  
 Bassus [Bass]

Ro - ra - te cæ - - - li de - su - per, de -  
 Ro - ra - te  
 Ro - ra - te cæ - - li de - su - per,  
 Ro - ra -  
 -

- su - per, ro - ra - te cæ - li de - su - per, et  
 cæ - - li de - su - per, de - - su - per, et nu - bes  
 ro - - ra - te cæ - li de - su - per,  
 - te cæ - - li de - su - per, et nu - bes plu - ant ju -  
 Ro - - ra - te cæ - li de - su - per, et nu - bes

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nu - bes plu - ant ju - - stum, ju - - stum, ju - stum: a -  
 plu - ant ju - stum, et nu - bes plu - ant ju - stum: a - pe - ri -  
 et nu - bes plu - ant ju - stum: a - pe - ri - a - tur  
 - stum, et nu - bes plu - ant ju - stum: a - pe - ri - a - tur  
 plu - ant ju - stum: a - pe - ri - a - - tur ter -

-pe - ri - a - tur ter - ra, a - pe - ri - a - tur ter - - -

- a - tur ter - ra, a - pe - ri - a - tur ter - ra, a - pe - ri - a - tur ter - ra, a - pe -

ter - ra, a - pe - ri - a - tur ter - ra, ter - -

ter - ra, a - pe - ri - a - tur ter - ra, a - pe - ri - a - tur

- ra, a - pe - ri - a - - tur ter - ra, ter - - ra,

20

- ra, et ger - mi-net sal - va - to - rem, et ger - mi-net sal - va -

- ri - a - tur ter - ra, et ger - mi-net sal - va - to -

- ra, et ger - mi-net sal - va - to - rem, sal - va - to - rem,

ter - ra, et ger - mi-net sal - va -

et ger - mi-net sal - va - to - rem,

Fine

- to - rem, et ger - mi-net sal - va - to - - - - rem.

- rem, sal - va - to - - - - rem.

et ger - mi-net sal - va - to - - - - rem.

- to - rem, et ger - mi-net sal - va - to - rem, sal - va - to - rem.

et ger - mi-net sal - va - to - - - rem.

Versus

S. Be - ne - di - xi - sti Do - mi - ne ter - ram tu - am, ter - ram tu -  
M. Be - ne - di - xi - sti Do - mi - ne ter - ram tu -  
Ct. Be - ne - di - xi - sti Do - mi - ne ter - ram tu -

40  
- am, A - ver - ti - sti cap - ti - vi - ta - tem Ja - cob,  
- am, A - ver - ti - sti, a - ver - ti - sti cap - ti - vi - ta - tem  
- am, A - ver - ti - sti cap - ti - vi - ta - tem Ja - cob,

a - ver - ti - sti cap - ti - vi - ta - tem Ja - cob, Ja - - - -  
Ja - cob, a - ver - ti - sti cap - ti - vi - ta - tem Ja - - - -  
a - ver - ti - sti cap - ti - vi - ta - tem Ja - - - -

50  
S. - cob. Glo - ri - a Pa - tri, et Fi - li - o, et Fi - li - o,  
M. - cob. Glo - ri - a Pa - tri, et Fi - li - o, et  
Ct. - cob. Glo - ri - a Pa - tri, et Fi - li - o, et Spi - ri - tu - i  
T. Glo - ri - a Pa - tri, et Fi - li - o, et Spi - ri - tu - i San -  
B. Glo - ri - a Pa - tri, et Fi - li - o, et

et Spi-ri-tu-i San-cto, et Spi-ri-tu-i San-cto,  
 Spi-ri-tu-i San-cto, San-cto, et Spi-ri-tu-i San-cto,  
 San-cto, San-cto, San-cto,  
 -cto, San-cto, et Spi-ri-tu-i San-cto,  
 Fi-li-o, et Spi-ri-tu-i San-cto, San-cto

-cto, Si-cut e-rat in prin-ci-pi-o, et  
 -cto, Si-cut e-rat in prin-ci-pi-o,  
 -cto. Si-cut e-rat in prin-ci-pi-o,  
 -cto, Si-cut e-rat in prin-ci-pi-o,  
 -cto, Si-cut e-rat in prin-ci-pi-o,

60  
 nunc, et sem-per, et in sæ-cu-  
 et nunc, et sem-per, et in sæ-cu-la sæ-  
 et nunc, et sem-per, et in sæ-cu-la sæ-cu-  
 et nunc, et sem-per, et in sæ-cu-la  
 et nunc, et sem-per, et in sæ-cu-

-la sæ - cu - lo - rum, sæ - cu - lo - rum, sæ - cu - lo - rum. A - -  
 - cu - lo - rum. A - - - - men, sæ - cu - lo - rum. A -  
 - lo - rum, sæ - cu - lo - rum. A - - - - men. A -  
 sæ - cu - lo - rum, sæ - cu - lo - rum. A - - - - men.  
 -la sæ - - - - cu - lo - rum, sæ -

men, sæ - cu - lo - rum. A - - - - men. 70 D.C. al Fine  
 - men. A - - - - men, sæ - cu - lo - rum. A - - - - men.  
 - men, sæ - cu - lo - rum. A - - - - men.  
 - - - - A - - - - men. A - - - - - - - - - - men.  
 - cu - lo - rum, sæ - cu - lo - rum. A - - - - - - - - - - men.

Drop dew ye heavens from above, and let the clouds rain the just: be the earth opened, and bud forth a saviour.  
 O Lord thou hast blessed thy land: thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob.  
 Glory be...

Source: William Byrd: *Gradualia, ac cantiones sacræ... Liber primus* (2nd edition, 1610), vol.1 no.12.

Text: Isaiah 45:8; Psalm 84: 1

Liturgical function: Votive Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary during Advent:

<b>Introit:</b>	<b>Rorate cæli</b>
Gradual:	Tollite portas
Alleluia:	Ave Maria
Offertory:	Ave Maria (without alleluia)
Communion:	Beata viscera

I.49.3: previous sharp not corrected, but in the same passage in *Salve sancta parens* (Gradualia I, vol.1 no.6) this note begins a new line without a repeated accidental.

II.52.2-55.1 Source has a single underlay repeat sign under the whole passage. The above expansion is taken from the almost identical setting in *Salve sancta parens*, bars 57-60.

Part of my complete edition of the published vocal works of William Byrd made available through the Choral Public Domain Library (<http://www.cpd.org>). For general editorial notes, please visit my user page at <http://www.cpd.org/wiki/index.php/User:DaveF>. All scores are made freely available according to the CPDL Licence for downloading, printing, performing and recording. No further conditions are or can be attached, although it's always good to hear of any performances. Please do not, without consulting me, make copies of my scores available through other websites – there's no need, first of all, as CPDL is always here, and secondly by doing so you put these editions beyond my control and so will miss out on any updates and revisions.