The following transcription is intended only for performing purpose and doesn’t seek any critical goal.

The keys, notes’ values, accidentals and colourings are as in the original manuscript.

The C clefs are transposed to the G clef and modern Tenor clef, the F clef on the third line to the Bass clef.

The time signature is missing in all the three voices. On the base of the notes’ values I assumed the “tempus imperfectum diminutum”.

I decided to keep the original manuscript’s text placement, positioned above the staves, to leave the performers the freedom to make the effective text placement at their own judgement.

Instead of marking the “ligaturæ” with the usual square brackets, I tried to keep their original shape, as far as possible in the score alignment, to make them more visible. To represent the notes’ values I used the following rules (simplifying the old ones):

- the left upstemmed notes are semibreves
- the notes without stem are breves
- the right downstemmed notes are longæ
In the music before the baroque, the Time Signatures are intended just only as “time” prescription, i.e. which note value as to be counted (mensura) and how the different note values are to be divided (perfection and imperfection). This music is above all a vocal music and its rhythm (the accents) is based upon the text rhythm (the text accents) either following or contrasting it. The text rhythm being not modular by definition, forcing a bar division, i.e. a modular rhythm, upon this music is a theoretical error involving practical ones: to put the accents in the wrong places and to prevent a correct understanding of the melodic flowing.

The single parts are put together in score for a better overall sight of the harmonic, melodic and rhythmic structure of the composition.

If you have any doubt you can download the fac simile of the manuscript from the following address:


Those peoples interested in the mensural notation can find useful to visit the following website (only Italian, sorry):

http://www.musica-antica.info/paleografia/
Ecclesiarum mores

Ecclesiarum

et vita moderare

Anthioecus

et remus concedunt

Anthioecus

tibi petre regni solium

Ethiopes

horridos mathae agnelli

Anonymous – Trento - tr91 71v-72r

Transcription by Renato Calcaterra