

*O thou the central orb /
O all true faithful hearts*

ORLANDO GIBBONS

Alto verse

O thou, the cen- tral orb
O all true faith- ful hearts,

of right- eous love, pure beam of the most high; e-
with one ac- cord u- ni ted in one head, sing

ter- nal light of this, our win-try world, thy ra- diance bright a- wakes
to the Lord, for he our Da- vid from the snares of death hath freed;

new joy in faith, hope soars a- bove, hope soars a- bove.
pro- long his days, en- large his breath, en- large his breath.

Original key: a minor 3rd lower. For notes, see pages 3 & 4

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17 A_s

Come, quick-ly come, and let, and let thy glo- ry
 Re- joi- ce in him, give thanks, give thanks, his great name

A₁
 Come, quick- ly come, and let, and let thy glo- ry shine, thy glo- ry
 Re- joi- ce in him, re- joi- ce in him, give thanks, give thanks, his great name

A₂
 Come, quick- ly, quick- ly come, and let thy glo- ry, thy glo- ry
 Re- joi- ce in him, in him, give thanks, give thanks, his great name

T
 Come, quick- ly, quick- ly come, and let thy glo- ry
 Re- joi- ce in him, in him, give thanks, give thanks, his great name

B
 Come, quick- ly, quick- ly come, and let, and let thy glo- ry
 Re- joi- ce in him, in him, give thanks, give thanks, his great name

A

1st time straight on;

2nd time to C.

23

shine, gild- ing our dark- some heav'n with rays di- vine.
 bless, for a re- mem- brance of his ho- li- ness.

shine, gild- ing our dark- some heav'n with rays di- vine.
 bless, for a re- mem- brance of his ho- li- ness.

shine, gild- ing our dark- some heav'n with rays di- vine.
 bless, for a re- mem- brance of his ho- li- ness.

shine, gild- ing our dark- some heav'n with rays di- vine.
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shine, gild- ing our dark- some heav'n with rays di- vine.
 bless, for a re- mem- brance of his ho- li- ness.

shine, gild- ing our dark- some heav'n with rays di- vine.
 bless, for a re- mem- brance of his ho- li- ness.

1st time straight on;

2nd time to C.

28 **B** *Sop. verse*

Thy saints with ho-ly lus-tre round thee move as stars,
His life is worth ten thou-sand, there-fore give each soul,

Alto verse

Thy saints with ho-ly, ho-ly lus-tre round
His life, his life is worth ten thou-sand, there-

32

round thee move as stars, a-bout thy throne set in the height of
there-fore give each soul ten thou-sand thanks that he doth live, to

thee move as stars, a-bout thy throne set
fore give each soul ten thou-sand thanks that

36

God's or-dain-ing coun-sel, as thy sight,
lead his peo-ple forth to pas-ture green,

in the height of God's or-dain-ing coun-sel, as thy sight gives mea-sur'd
he doth live, to lead his peo-ple forth to pas-ture green, to praise his

Gibbons wrote *O all true faithful hearts*, "A thanks Giving for the Kings happie recoverie from a great dangerous sicknes", in April 1619. When Sir Frederick A. Gore Ouseley published *A Collection of the Sacred Compositions of Orlando Gibbons* in 1873, he asked Revd Henry Ramsden Bramley to supply liturgical texts for two items (this and *Great king of Gods*) which were originally written in honour of James I. For *O all true faithful hearts*, Bramley adapted his sonnet *O thou the central orb*, using the final couplet "Come, quickly come..." for the refrain. In Ouseley's edition, *O thou the central orb* bears the subtitle *An Advent Anthem*.

40 *Return to A*  *Sop. 1 verse*

gives mea- sur'd grace, to each thy pow'r to prove. Let thy bright
to praise his God, whose love to us is seen. Now for the

Sop. 2 verse

grace, to each thy pow'r, thy pow'r to prove. Let thy bright beams dis-
God, whose love to us, to us is seen. Now for the right- e-

Return to A

44

beams dis- perse the gloom, the gloom of sin, our na- ture, our
right- e- ous is sprung up a light, and glad- ness, and

perse the gloom of sin, light, our na- ture, our na- ture,
ous is sprung up a light, and glad- ness, and glad- ness,

48

na- ture, all shall feel, all shall feel e- ter- nal day.
glad- ness un- to each, and gladness unto each true - heart- ed wight.

all shall feel, shall feel e- ter- nal day.
un- to each true - heart- ed wight, each true - heart- ed wight.

It has been questioned (usually in reference to Charles Wood's familiar setting of the same text) whether the words "transforming day" (bars 58–60) should actually read "transforming clay". Although it seems odd that Bramley should choose to rhyme "day" with itself, it does seem more likely that it is correct: Ouseley's edition certainly says "transforming day", and the intended meaning appears to be that the eternal day is also a day of transformation.

The organ part presented here is based on Ouseley's arrangement of "the original Quintett string Band accompaniment in Gibbon's [*sic*] autograph by the Rev. Sir F.A.G. Ouseley, Bart.". The D-flats between bars 56 and 58, which do not appear in some modern editions, are taken from Ouseley's edition.

52 D *S1*

*In fellowship with thee,
Joy we in him with thanks,*

S2 *In fellow-ship with thee,
Joy we in him with thanks,* *in fellow-
joy we in*

A1 *In fellow-ship with thee, with thee,
Joy we in him with thanks, with thanks,* *in fellowship with thee,
joy we in him with thanks,*

A2 *In fellowship with thee, with thee,
Joy we in him with thanks, with thanks,* *in fellow-ship with thee,
joy we in him with thanks,*

T

B *In fellowship with thee,
Joy we in him with thanks,*

D

*in fel-low-ship with thee,
joy we in him with thanks,*

57 *ship with thee,
him with thanks,* *(Unis.)* *trans- form- ing day to
that he may bring more*

*trans- form- ing day
that he may bring*

*trans- form- ing day to souls
that he may bring more joy*

*trans- form- ing day to souls ere- while
that he may bring more joy un- to*

*thee,
thanks,* *trans- form- ing day to souls
that he may bring more joy* *ere- while
un- to*

61

souls erewhile un-clean, now pure with-in, now pure,
 joy un-to our-selves, health to our king, our king,
 now pure with-in,
 more joy un-to our-selves,
 erewhile unclean,
 un-to ourselves, now pure with-in, health to our king, now pure with-in, health to our king, our
 un-our- clean, now pure within, health to our king, now pure with-in, with-in, health to our king, our king,
 un-our- selves, may bring more joy un-to un-our- selves, now pure with-health to our

65

now pure with-in, health to our king, now pure with-in, pure with-in. health to our king, to our king.
 now pure with-in, health to our king, now pure with-in. health to our king.
 in, king, now pure with-in, to our souls now pure with-in. health to our king, health to our king.
 now pure with-in, health to our king, now health pure with-in. health to our king.
 in, king, to our souls king, now health pure with-in. health to our king.

69 E

Come, quick-ly come, and let, and let thy glo-ry
Re-joice in him, give thanks, give thanks, his great name

Come, quick-ly come, and let, and let thy glo-ry shine, thy glo-ry
Re-joice in him, re-joice in him, give thanks, give thanks, his great name

Come, quick-ly, quick-ly come, and let thy glo-ry, thy glo-ry
Re-joice in him, in him, give thanks, give thanks, his great name

Come, quick-ly, quick-ly come, and let thy glo-ry
Re-joice in him, in him, give thanks, give thanks, his great name

Come, quick-ly, quick-ly come, and let, and let thy glo-ry
Re-joice in him, in him, give thanks, give thanks, his great name

75

shine, gild- ing our dark- some heav'n with rays di- vine.
bless, for a re- mem- brance of his ho- li- ness.

shine, gild- ing our dark- some heav'n with rays di- vine.
bless, for a re- mem- brance of his ho- li- ness.

shine, gild- ing our dark- some heav'n with rays di- vine.
bless, for a re- mem- brance of his ho- li- ness.

shine, gild- ing our dark- some heav'n with rays di- vine.
bless, for a re- mem- brance of his ho- li- ness.

shine, gild- ing our dark- some heav'n with rays di- vine.
bless, for a re- mem- brance of his ho- li- ness.

80 F

A- - men, a- - - men, a- -

A- - men, a- - men, a- - - -

A- men, a- - - men, a- men, a- men,

A- - - men, a- - - - men, a-

A- - - men, a- - - - men, a- - - -

F

This block contains measures 80 through 83. It features five vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 2/2. A fermata is placed over the first measure of each system. The lyrics are 'A-men, a-men, a-men' repeated across the staves.

84

men, a- - - men, a- - - men, a- men. _____

- - - men, a- - - - men, a- - - - men.

a- - - - - men, a- - - - - men.

- - - men, a- - - - men, a- - - - men.

- - - men, a- - - - - men, a- - - - men.

This block contains measures 84 through 87. It continues the vocal parts and piano accompaniment from the previous block. The lyrics are 'men, a-men, a-men, a-men' repeated across the staves. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines.