

Senex puerum portabat

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

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

Se - - nex pu - e - rum por - ta - - - -
Se - - nex pu - e - rum por - ta -
Se - -
Se -

- bat, pu - e - rum por - ta - - - bat, pu - er
- - bat, por - ta - bat, por - ta - - - bat,
- nex pu - e - rum por - ta - - - bat, pu - er
- nex pu - e - rum por - ta - bat,

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au - tem se - nem re - ge - - - bat, quem
pu - er au - tem se - nem re - ge - - - bat, quem
au - tem, pu - er au - tem se - nem re - ge - bat,
pu - er au - tem se - nem re - ge - - - bat,

Vir - go pe - pe - rit, et post par - tum Vir - go per - man -
Vir - go pe - pe - rit, et post par - tum Vir - go per - man - sit:
quem Vir - go pe - pe - rit, et post par -
quem Vir - go pe - pe - rit, et

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- sit: i - - -
 et post par - tum Vir - go per - man - - sit: i -
 - tum Vir - go per - man - sit, per - man - - sit:
 post par - tum Vir - go per - man - - sit:

- psum, i - - - - psum, quem ge - - nu -
 - psum, i - - - - psum, quem ge -
 i - - - - psum, quem ge - nu - it, quem
 i - - - - psum, quem ge - - nu - it,

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- it, quem ge - - nu - it, a - do -
 - nu - it, quem ge - nu - it, a - do - ra - - vit,
 ge - - nu - it, quem ge - - nu - it, a - do -
 quem ge - - nu - it, a - do - ra - -

- ra - - - vit, a - do - ra - - -
 a - do - ra - - - vit, a - do - ra - - -
 - ra - - - vit, a - do - ra - - - vit, a - do -
 - vit, a - do - ra - - - vit, a - do - ra - - -

- vit, a - do-ra - - - - - vit.
- vit, a - do - ra - - - - - vit.
- ra - - - - - vit, a - do-ra - - - - - vit.
- vit, a - do-ra - - - - - vit.

The old man carried the child, but the child ruled the old man. Him that a Virgin bore, remaining evermore a virgin, she adored.

Source: William Byrd: *Gradualia, ac cantiones sacræ... Liber primus* (2nd edition, 1610), vol.2 no.18.

Liturgical function: Magnificat antiphon, First Vespers, the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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