

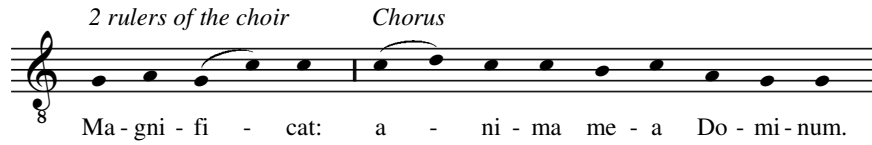
Magnificat and Nunc dimittis

Edited by Jason Smart

Thomas Tallis (c.1505–1585)

Magnificat

2 rulers of the choir *Chorus*



Ma - gni - fi - cat: a - ni - ma me - a Do - mi - num.

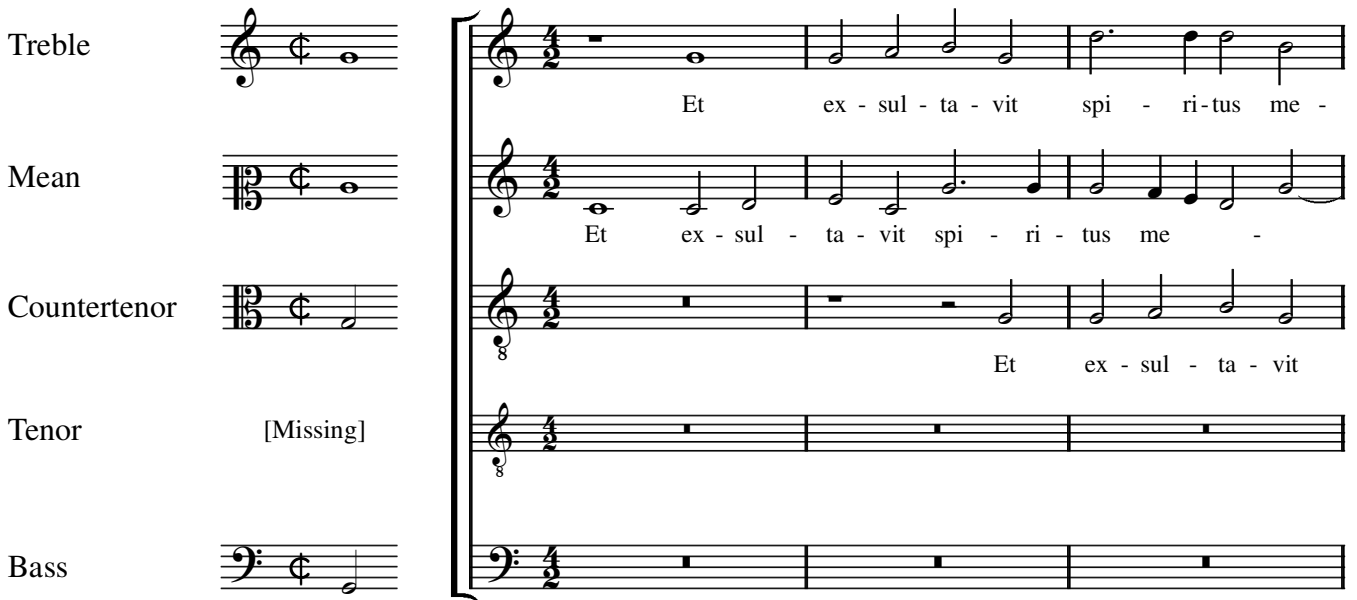
Treble

Mean

Countertenor

Tenor [Missing]

Bass

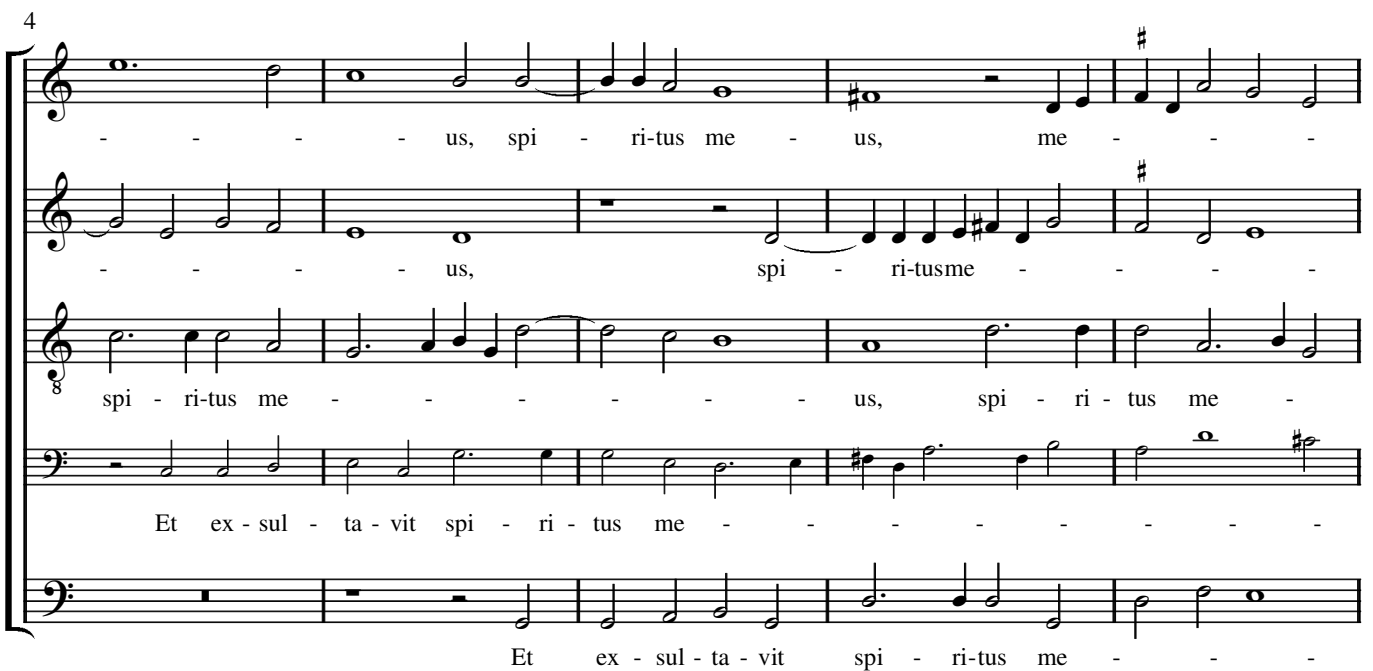


Et ex - sul - ta - vit spi - ri - tus me -

Et ex - sul - ta - vit spi - ri - tus me -

Et ex - sul - ta - vit

4



- - - us, spi - ri - tus me - us, me -

- - - us, spi - ri - tus me -

spi - ri - tus me - - - us, spi - ri - tus me -

Et ex - sul - ta - vit spi - ri - tus me - - -

Et ex - sul - ta - vit spi - ri - tus me - - -

9

- us in De - o sa-lu-ta - ri me - - - o, sa-lu-ta -
 - us in De - o, in De - o sa - lu -
 - us in De - o sa - lu - ta - ri me - o,
 - us in De - o sa - lu - ta - ri me - - -
 - us in De - o sa-lu-ta - ri me -

14

- ri me - - - o, in De - o
 - ta - ri me - - - o, in De - o
 sa - lu-ta - ri me - o, in De - o
 - o, me - - - o, in De - o sa - lu - ta - ri me -
 - o, me - - - o, in De - o sa - lu -

19

sa - lu - ta - ri me - o, sa - lu - ta - ri me -
 sa - lu - ta - ri me - - - o, me - - -
 sa - lu - ta - ri me - - - o, sa -
 - o, sa - lu - ta - ri me - - -
 - ta - ri me - - - o, sa - lu - ta - ri me -

24

- o, sa - lu - ta - ri me - - - o.
 - o, sa - lu - ta - ri me - - - o.
 - lu - ta - ri me - o, sa - lu - ta - ri me - - - o.
 - o, sa - lu - ta - ri me - - - o.
 - o, sa - lu - ta - ri me - - - o.

Chorus

Qui - a re - spe - xit hu - mi - li - ta - tem an - cil - lae su - ae:
 ec - ce e - nim ex hoc be - a - tam me di - cent o - mnes ge - ne - ra - ti - o - nes.

29

Qui - a fe - cit mi - hi
 Qui - a fe - cit mi - hi ma - gna qui po - tens est, qui po - tens, - qui
 Qui - a fe - cit mi - hi ma - gna qui po - tens est, qui
 Qui - a fe - cit mi - hi ma -

34

ma - gna qui po - tens est, et san - ctum
 po - tens est, et san - ctum no - men e - ius, et
 po - tens est, et san - ctum no - men e -
 - gna qui po - tens est, et san - ctum no - men e -

39

Qui - a fe - cit mi - hi ma - gna qui po - tens
 no - men e - ius, qui - a fe - cit mi - hi ma - gna qui
 san - ctum no - men e - ius, qui - a fe - cit
 - - - ius,
 - - - ius,

44

est, qui po - tens est,
 po - tens est, qui po - tens est, et san - ctum no - men e -
 mi - hi ma - gna qui po - tens est, qui po -
 qui - a fe - cit mi - hi ma - gna qui po - tens est, qui po -
 qui - a fe - cit mi - hi ma - gna qui

49

et san - ctum no - men e - - - ius,
 - - - ius, e - - - ius,
 - tens est, et san - ctum no - men e -
 - tens est, et san - ctum no - men e - ius, et san - ctum
 po - - tens est, et san - ctum no - men e - - -

53

et san - ctum no - men e - ius.
 et san - ctum no - men e - - - ius.
 - ius, et san - ctum no - men e - - - ius.
 no - men e - - - ius.
 - ius, et san - ctum no - men e - - - ius.

Et mi - se - ri - cor - di - a e - ius a pro - ge - ni -

- e in pro - ge - ni - es: ti - men - ti - bus e - um.

57

Fe - cit po - ten - ti-am, fe - cit po - ten - ti - am

Fe - cit po - ten - ti - am, fe - cit po - ten - ti - - - - am

Fe - cit po - ten - ti - am, fe - cit po - ten - ti - -

Fe - cit po - ten - ti-am, fe - cit po - ten - ti -

Fe - cit po - ten - ti -

62

in bra - chi - o su - - - - o, in bra -

in bra - chi - o su - - - - o,

- am in bra - chi - o su -

- am in bra - chi - o

- am

66

- chi - o su - - - - o;

in bra - chi - o su - o, in bra - chi - o su -

- - - - o, in bra - chi - o su -

su - - - - o, in bra - chi - o

in bra - chi - o su - - - - o, in bra - chi - o

70

di - sper - sit su - per - - - bos, su - per - - -
 - - - o; di - sper - sit su - per - - - -
 - - - [o]; di - sper - sit su -
 su - - - o; di - sper - -
 su - - - o;

75

- - - bos men - te cor - dis su - - - -
 - - - bos men - te cor - dis su -
 - per - - - bos, su - per - - - bos men - te cor - dis
 - sit su - per - bos, su - per - - - bos men - te
 di - sper - sit su - per - - - bos

80

- i, men - te cor - dis su - - - i, - - -
 - - i, men - te cor - dis su - - - i,
 su - - - i, men - te cor - dis su - - -
 cor - dis su - i, men - te cor - dis su - - -
 men - te cor - dis su - - - i, men - te cor - dis su -

85

di - sper - sit su - per - - - bos [men - te cor - dis,]
 di - sper - sit su - per - bos — men-te cor - dis su - - - -
 - i, di - sper - sit su - per - - - - bos men-te cor - dis su - - - -
 - i, di - sper - sit su - per - - - - bos men-te
 - i, di - sper - sit su - per - - - - bos

90

men-te cor - dis su - - - - - i, men-te cor - dis
 - i, men - te cor - dis su - - - - - i, men-te cor - dis
 - - - - - i,
 cor - dis su - - - - - i, men-te cor - dis
 men-te cor - dis su - - - - - i,

94

su - - - - - i.
 su - - - - - i, su - - - - - i.
 men-te cor - dis su - - - - - i.
 su - - - - - i.
 men-te cor - dis su - - - - - i.

De - po - su - it po - ten - tes — de se - de: et ex - al - ta - vit hu - mi - les.

99

E - su - ri - en - tes im -

E - su - ri - en - tes im - ple - vit bo - nis, im - ple - vit bo -

E - su - ri - en - tes im - ple - vit bo - nis, —

E -

104

E - su - ri - en - tes im - ple - vit

- ple - vit bo - nis, bo - - - -

- - - - - nis, e - su - ri - en - - - - tes im -

E - su - ri - en - tes im - ple - vit bo - nis,

— im - ple - vit bo - nis,

- su - ri - en - tes im - ple - vit bo - nis, e - su - ri -

129

et di - vi-tes di - mi - sit in - a - - - -

et di - vi-tes di - mi - sit in - a - - nes,

- mi - sit in - a - - - - nes, et di - vi-tes di - mi - sit in - a - -

- tes di - mi - sit in - a - - nes, et di - vi-tes di - mi - sit in - a - - - -

- tes di - mi - sit in - a - - nes, et di - vi - tes di - mi - sit in - a - - nes, et

- mi - sit in - a - - - - nes,

134

- - - - - nes, di - mi - sit in - a - -

di - mi - sit in - a - -

- nes, di - mi - sit in - a - -

- - - - nes, in - a - - nes, di - mi - sit in - a - -

di - vi-tes di - mi - sit in - a - - - - nes,

et di - vi - tes di - mi - sit in - a - - nes,

148

Si - - - cut lo - cu - tus est

Si - cut lo - cu - tus est ad pa - tres

Si - cut lo - cu - tus est ad pa - tres no - -

Si - cut lo - cu - tus est ad

Si - cut lo - cu - tus est ad pa - tres no - - - - -

153

ad pa - tres no - - - - - stros, A -

no - - - - - stros, ad pa - tres no - - - - - stros, A -

- - - - - stros, ad pa - tres no - - - - - stros, A -

pa - tres no - - - - - stros, ad pa - tres no - stros, A -

- stros, ad pa - tres no - - - - - stros, A -

158

- bra - ham et se - mi - ni e - ius in sae - cu - - - - la,

- bra - ham et se - mi - ni e - ius,

- bra - ham et se - mi - ni, et se - mi -

- bra - ham et se - mi - ni e -

- bra - ham et se - mi - ni e - ius in sae -

163

et se - mi - ni e - ius in sae - cu - la,
 et se - mi - ni e - ius, e - ius in sae - cu - la, —
 - ni e - ius in sae - cu - la, e - ius in sae - cu - la,
 - ius in sae - cu - la, et
 - cu - la, et se - mi - ni e -

167

et se - mi - ni e - ius in sae - cu - la.
 et se - mi - ni e - ius in sae - cu - la.
 et se - mi - ni e - ius in sae - cu - la, e - ius in sae - cu - la.
 se - mi - ni e - ius in sae - cu - la.
 - ius in sae - cu - la, in sae - cu - la.

Glo - ri - a Pa - tri et Fi - li - o: et Spi - ri - tu - i San - cto.

187

et in sae - cu-la sae-cu-lo - rum, A - men,

et in sae - cu - la sae - cu - lo - rum, A - men,

et in sae - cu-la sae-cu-lo - - - rum, A - men,

et in sae - cu - la sae - cu - lo - rum, _____ A - - - men,

et in sae - cu-la sae - cu-lo - - - - - - - rum, A - men,

192

et in sae - cu-la sae-cu-lo - rum, A -

et in sae - cu - la sae - cu - lo - rum, A -

et in sae - cu-la sae-cu-lo - - - - - rum, A -

et in sae - cu - la sae - cu - lo - rum, _____ A - - -

et in sae - cu-la sae - cu-lo - - - - - - - rum, A -

196

- - - - men, sae-cu-lo - rum, A - - - - men.

- - - - men, sae-cu-lo - rum. A - - - - men.

- - - - men, _____ sae-cu - lo - rum, A - - - - men.

- - - - men, sae - cu-lo - rum, A - men, A - - - - men.

- - - - men, sae-cu-lo - rum, A - - - - - - - men.

Nunc dimittis

Solo *Chorus*

Nunc di - mit - tis ser - vum tu - um, Do - mi - ne: se - cun - dum ver - bum tu - um in pa - ce.

Qui - a vi - de - runt o - cu - li me -

Qui - a vi - de - runt o - cu - li me -

Qui - a vi - de - runt o - cu - li me -

Qui - a vi -

5

- i, o - cu - li me -

- i, qui - a vi - de - runt o - cu - li me -

- i, o - cu - li me -

- de - runt o - cu - li me -

Qui - a vi - de - runt o - cu - li me -

9

- i sa - lu - ta - re tu -

- i sa - lu - ta - re

- i sa -

- i sa - lu - ta - re tu - - - - um,

- i sa - lu - ta - re tu - - - - um,

13

- um, sa - lu - ta - re tu - - - - - um.

tu - - - - um, sa - lu - ta - re tu - um.

lu - ta - re tu - - - - - um.

sa - lu - ta - re tu - - - - - um.

sa - lu - ta - re tu - - - - - um.

Chorus

8 Quod pa - ra - sti: an - te fa - ci - em o - mni - um po - pu - lo - rum.

18

Lu - men ad re - ve - la - ti - o - nem gen - ti - - -

Lu - men ad re - ve - la - ti - o - nem gen - ti - um,

Lu - men ad re - ve - la - ti -

Lu -

22

- - - - - um, ad re - ve - la - ti - o - nem gen - ti -

gen - ti - um,

- o - nem gen - ti - um, gen - ti - - - -

- men ad re - ve - la - ti - o - nem gen - ti - - - -

Lu - men ad re - ve - la - ti - o - nem gen - ti -

26

- um, et glo - ri - am ple - bis tu - ae I - sra - - -

et glo - ri - am ple - bis tu - ae I - sra - - - el, et

- um, et glo - ri - am ple - bis tu - ae I - sra - - - el, et

- um, et

- um,

30

el, et glo - ri -
 glo - ri - am ple - bis tu - ae I - sra - el, et glo - ri -
 glo - ri - am ple - bis tu - ae I - sra - el, et glo - ri -
 glo - ri - am ple - bis tu - ae I - sra - el, et glo - ri -
 et glo - ri -

34

- am ple - bis tu - ae I - sra - el.
 - am ple - bis tu - ae I - sra - el.
 - am ple - bis tu - ae I - sra - el.
 - am ple - bis tu - ae I - sra - el.
 - am ple - bis tu - ae I - sra - el.

Glo - ri - a Pa - tri et Fi - li - o: et Spi - ri - tu - i San - cto.

Si - cut e - rat in prin - ci - pi - o, in prin - ci -

Si - - - cut e - rat in prin - ci - pi - o, in prin -

Si - cut e - rat in prin -

et in sae - cu - la, sae - cu - la

et in sae - cu - - - - la

- pi - o, [et nunc et sem - per.] et in sae - cu -

- ci - pi - o, et nunc et sem - per, et in sae -

- ci - pi - o, et nunc et sem - per, et in sae -

sae - cu - lo - rum, sae - cu - lo - rum, A - men.

sae - cu - lo - rum, A - men, sae - cu - lo - rum, A - men.

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

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

- cu - la, et in sae - cu - la sae - cu - lo - rum, A - men.

The Music

On 6 April 1560 Elizabeth I issued letters patent authorising the publication of a Latin version of the Book of Common Prayer, the *Liber Precum Publicarum*, for use in college chapels, by ministers in private, and for study by those on the Continent who had no English. It has been suggested that Tallis composed his Latin evening canticles for use with this book. That they are a pair is confirmed by the shared material in their opening sections and this in turn appears to point to use within the Anglican Evensong since, prior to the Reformation, the two canticles had belonged to separate services: the Magnificat to Vespers, the Nunc dimittis to Compline. However, this supposition is not without problems. The Latin prayer book was not popular and saw little use outside of the universities, with which Tallis had no known connections. Nor is it certain how far an alternatim setting, with the clear pre-reformation overtones that this implied, would have been tolerated by the Elizabethan church, irrespective of whether the choral polyphony alternated with plainsong or an organ. Nick Sandon has pointed out that, although no examples have survived, there are one or two archival references hinting that paired Magnificat and Nunc dimittis settings may not have been unknown before the Reformation. Tallis's imitation-led texture and, especially, the absence of any structural plainsong tone or faburden within the polyphony do not favour a very early date. Yet Vespers and Compline were usually sung consecutively, so a Magnificat and Nunc dimittis pair for the Latin rite is not unthinkable. Might Tallis have composed his canticles during the reign of Mary Tudor, building on his experience of vernacular service music during the reign of Edward VI?

Editorial Conventions

The nomenclature of the voice-parts follows the Tudor convention.

The original clef, mensuration symbol and first note of each part are shown on the prefatory staves.

Editorial accidentals are placed above the notes concerned and remain operative throughout the bar.

Ligatures are denoted by the sign $\overline{\quad}$.

Spelling of the text has been modernised.

Ambiguities in the underlay have mostly been resolved tacitly. The more contentious examples have been noted below.

Text repetition signs in the underlay have been expanded editorially in italics.

Source

Oxford, Christ Church, Mus. 979–83 (c.1575–1581 with later additions; lacking T).

979	(Tr)	no.62	at end:	m ^r : tallis·
980	(M)	no.62	at end:	m ^r : tallis
981	(Ct)	no.62	at end:	m ^r : tallis·
982	(<i>Esurientes</i> , Ct1)	no.62	[no attribution]	
983	(B)	no.62	index heading:	M ^r Tho Tallis [later hand]
			at beginning:	a 6 voc [with the 6 overwritten by 5]
			at end:	m ^r : tallis·

Notes on the Readings of the Source

The notation is error-free and the underlay, if imprecise, is mostly easily decipherable. However, the source is deficient—for modern editors at least—in its supply of accidentals, making the application of *musica ficta* more than usually problematical. Many different approaches are viable and performers should feel free to experiment. This topic is discussed in Stephen Rice, 'Reconstructing Tallis's Latin *Magnificat* and *Nunc dimittis*', *Early Music* xxxiii/4 (2005), pp.647–658.

In the *Esurientes* section of the Magnificat (bars 99–147) both voices of the Countertenor *gimell* are entered in MS 981, but Ct1 is also entered, much more neatly and without the use of underlay repetition signs, in MS 982. In this latter copy the part is written out to the end of the section, unlike MS 981 which ends at the E in bar 138 as the two voices combine. The two copies are distinguished in the notes below as Ct1(a) for MS 981 and Ct1(b) for MS 982.

In the notes below, multiple readings in the same voice are separated by commas and readings in different voices by semicolons. The order within each entry is: 1) bar number(s); 2) voice; 3) reading of the source. For extended references subsequent bar numbers are in brackets. Pitches are in capital letters, preceded by a number where necessary, e.g. ¹C = first note C in the bar. The symbol + denotes a tie and ≈ an underlay repetition sign.

Accidentals

Magnificat

27 B ♯ for B

121 Tr ♯ for E

157 M ♯ for ²F

161 Tr ♯ for F is placed immediately after the F in 160 even though there is more space for it before that note

Nunc dimittis

29 M $\frac{1}{2}$ for B

30 M $\frac{1}{2}$ for B

31 M $\frac{1}{2}$ for B

Underlay

Magnificat

11 Ct *salutari* undivided below CDEFF, (12) *me-* below ¹E

13 B slur for ²FE

32–33 Ct *potens* undivided below E+EDD

42 Tr *magna* undivided below FED, (43) *qui potens* below ¹D¹C²D

49 M *-ius* below ¹E (not in 50); B slur for CD¹E

61 B slur for C¹D

87–88 M slur for ¹B¹C

89 Tr *-bos* below ²D (not in 88)

107 Ct1(a) *-tes* below ³E

117 Ct1(a) \neq for *-tes implevit bo-* below ¹E; Ct2 *-tes im-* below B²C; *-ple-* \neq ambiguously aligned

119 Ct1(a) \neq for *-plevit bonis* below ²A

121 Ct1(a) \neq for *-plevit bonis* below E

127 Ct2 slur for BG

128 Ct1(a) slur for CE

132 Ct1(a) \neq for *-tes dimisit ina-* D

135 Ct2 \neq inserted as afterthought below ²D, following *dimisit* ambiguously aligned

140 Ct1(a) \neq for *-sit ina-* below B

143 M *dimi-* \neq below ¹EFD (not in 142)

144 Ct1(a) \neq for *-sit inanes* below ²D

146 Ct(a) \neq below ¹D, Ct(b) \neq omitted

156 B *-stros* below ¹A (not in 157)

162–163 B slur for ²B¹A (only), *saecula* undivided below ³C²BAA

164 M *-ius e-* below ²AF (not in 165)

167–168 B slur for ²B¹A (only), *saecula* undivided below ³C²BAA

172–178 all parts underlay *Sicut erat in principio* follows that of M which is clarified by slurs

173 M slur for FG

174 M slur for EF

172–175 Tr *erat in principio* ambiguously aligned below BCDABCDEDD, (175) slur for ¹DE

177–178 Ct *in principio* below ¹DABC²DE, *-o* also in 179; B *in princi-* below DAB

186 Ct *-rum* below ²D

188 B *-rum* below A (and in 190)

190–191 B slur for ¹DE

195–196 B slur for ¹DE

Nunc dimittis

8 B *-i* below D, (9–11) *salutare* undivided and misaligned below D rest DBDC, (11) *tu-* below G

26–34 M Ct *glorie* for *gloriam*

28–29 Ct slur for BC, slur for ¹D²A

38–39 Ct slur for C²D, slur for ¹E¹F

43 Ct *-o* below B (not in 41)

44–45 Tr slur for CB+B

Other Readings

Magnificat

99 Ct1 at beginning in MS 981: ‘this part, of this songe / is in the sixte booke / the firste songe in y^e booke:’, ‘Gimell’ on staff; in MS 982: ‘this songe belongeth: to the: 62. songe in thes bookes:–’, mensuration symbol ♩

105 Ct2 ‘Gimell’ on staff below CCC

Nunc dimittis

1 Ct B mensuration symbol ♩