From Virgin's womb this day / Rejoice, rejoice

A carol for Christmas day

Francis Kindermarsh (fl.1570s)

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

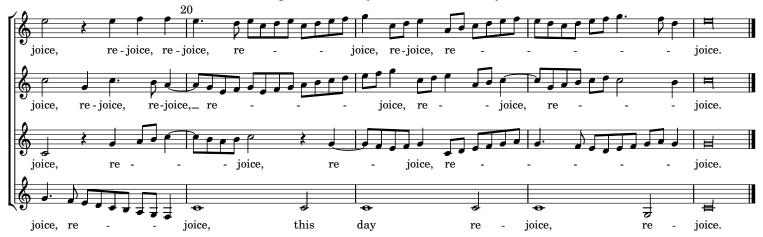
Songs of sundrie natures (Thomas East press, London, 1589)



Typeset by Allen Garvin (aurvondel@gmail.com) (orig. 2022-11-15 / ver. 2022-11-15) CC BY-NC 4.0







From Virgin's womb this day, this day did spring
The precious Seed that only saved man
This day let man rejoice and sweetly sing,
Since on this day our Saviour first began.
This day did Christ man's soul from death remove
With glorious saints to dwell in Heaven above.

This day to man came pledge of perfect peace, This day to man came love and unity, This day man's grief began for to surcease, This day did man receive a remedy For each offence and every deadly sin With guilty heart that erst he wandered in.

In Christ His flock let love be surely plac'd, From Christ His flock let concord hate expel, Of Christ His flock let love be so embrac'd As we in Christ and Christ in us may dwell. Christ is the author of sweet unity From whence proceedeth all felicity.

O sing unto this glittering, glorious King,
O praise His name let every living thing;
Let heart and voice like bells of silver ring
The comfort that this day to man doth bring:
Let lute, let shawm, with sound of sweet delight
These joys of Christ His birth this day recite.

Rejoice, rejoice, with heart and voice, In Christ his birth this day rejoice.