

A Godly Psalm of Mary Queene

Edited by Jason Smart

Anon., 1553

Medius

Contratenor

Tenor

Bassus

Al Eng - land now bee glad at ones, with

Al Eng - land now bee glad at _____ ones, with one _____

Al Eng - land now bee _____ glad at ones, with

Al Eng - land now bee glad at _____ ones, with

4

one heart mynde and voyce: for now haue

_____ heart mynde and voyce: for _____ now haue wee _____ the great-est cause,

one heart mynde and voyce: for now haue wee the great - est cause, the

one heart mynde and voyce: for now haue wee the great - est cause,

8

wee the great - est cause to syng and eke re - ioyce, to syng and eke re - ioyce.

the great - est cause to syng and eke re - ioyce.

great - est _____ cause to syng and eke re-joyce, to syng and eke re - ioyce.

the great - est cause to syng and eke re - ioyce, to syng and eke re - ioyce.

1. Al England now bee glad at ones,
With one heart mynde and voyce:
For now haue wee the greatest cause
To sing and eke reioyce.
2. For God hath brought his seruaunts trew
From troubles sore and great,
Put downe the proude, and hathe the meeke
In theyr iust places set.
3. The Lord hathe turnd his wrath and ire
From us out of hys mynde:
Beeholding vs with countenance
Moast louing sweete and kynde.
4. That God which might haue right wisely
Destroyde vs euery one,
Hathe shewd him self moast merciful
To healp vs al alone.
5. He hathe regarded equitie,
Treuth, iustice, law, and right:
And ouerthrowne and vanquished
The wrongful dealers might.
6. Wee looked al for pestilence
And vengeaunce at his hand,
And eke innumerable plagues
To come upon the land:
7. But nowe hathe hee sent downe his grace
And mercy from aboue,
And shewed vs undoubtedly
A token of his loue.
8. Wee haue ful iustly looked heeare
For death and ruines rife:
And now doo wee beehold and trust
A good and ioyful lyfe.
9. Yea, wee that weare moast sorowful,
Without a spreet or heart:
Within a quarter of an houre
Did quicken and reuert.
10. Wee which weare brought by seruitude
Untrewth and wronge tobey,
Do trewth and iustice execute,
And put that wrong away.
11. Wee for our owne great variaunce
Did forayne straungers feare,
Lest they throughe oure discension heare
Might rule among vs beare:
12. But now wee shal with vnytie
Bee able to withstand
And vanquish al our enemies,
And driue such from oure land.
13. Oure kyngdome which deuyded so
Could neuer long abyde
Shall nowe in vnitie bee kept,
And treason bee espide.
14. And wee that onely looked for
Gods vengeaunce to vs bent
Haue now his greatest benefyte
Whiche hee to vs hathe sent.
15. Hee doothe beehold vs meryli
And wil continew stil,
Yf wee as seruauntes to his trewth
Obey vnto his wyl.
16. Hee saw that wickednesse arose,
And bare his trewth despite:
And now wil hee out of the land
Destroy the workers quite.
17. When tyme that none durst speake for trewth
Then hee him selfe so good
Hathe stepped foorth and opened al
Tauenge the gyltlesse bloude.
18. He setteth and establyssheth
His seruauntes in their right:
And ouerthrowes the wicked sort,
For al theyr strength and might.
19. It is not armoure, harneyse bright,
Nor any weapon strong,
The strength that to the handes of men
Or hoorses dothe belong:
20. Nor any power on the earth
That can preuayle or stand,
But onely God the Lord him self
Wil haue the vpper hand.
21. What can a fortresse, castel strong,
Or bulwarke els preuayle:
Against the Lorde that maketh al;
In neede these thinges wyl fayle.
22. The lord beeholdes the hearts and myndes
Of godly men ful playne,
Which onely seeke that ryghtwysenesse
And equitie may raygne.
23. How wondersly doothe God with vs
His people England deale;
Suche ioy as wee scarce looked for
Among vs to reueale.
24. Hee heelps the captiues out of prison,
Breakes the walles of stone:
And riddes his chosen from the death,
And peryls euery one.

25. Oure comfort is come neare, and eke
Oure prayer heard, I trust:
Of God which in the heauen dwelles,
And fyghteth for the iust.
26. For hee hathe set and stablysshed
Oure worthy soueraygne:
And oure liege lady, Marie Queene,
On vs by trewth to raygne.
27. Hee hathe vs sent a comforter
To bee oure healp and guyde:
With pitie and with vertues al
Endewd on euery syde.
28. The lawful, iust, and rightuouse,
Of England, head, and Queene:
To bee the true enheritoure,
As hathe her brother beene.
29. Not clayming by collusion,
Nor cloking it by sleight:
But by her byrth, descending from
Her godly father streight.
30. She beeing eldest sister right
Unto oure soueraigne Lord,
Kynge Edward late the syxt by name,
Whose strength was gods trew word.
31. For which moast godly impe and bud
Of Jessees stocke and roote,
Thoughe wee haue almost cause to sighe,
And sorow bee oure boote:
32. Yet are wee comforted agayne,
Lyft up, and eke erect:
Bycause the Lord hath placed thus
His chosen and elect.
33. Whiche beeing oure moast godly Queene,
That seeks our preseruacion,
No doubt wil strongly buyld vpon
Her brothers good fondacion.
34. The ground worke hee hathe layde him selfe,
And shee is left a lon
To buyld the house and fortresse vp
Of trew religion.
35. O England now continew styl
In myrth and ioy therefore:
For God wyl strengthen day by day
Your gladnesse more and more.
36. Our soueraygne and rightioyse Queene
Wyl vyce and syn depresse,
Wyl cheafly loue the churche of God,
And punysh wickednesse.
37. The Lord almighty graunte that shee
May prospere to succede,
To haue on vs moast quiet raygne,
And healp her in her neede.
38. The Lorde destroy her enemyes
And make her foes bewrayde,
To bee soone catched in the snare
That they for her haue layde.
39. Defend her, Lord, and eke al those
That beare to her good heart:
And graunte that from thy holy word
She neuer swarue ne start.
40. Then doubtlesse al, bothe old and yong,
Shal prayse thy name for euer:
And sing in psalmes to thee on earth,
Which doost forsake vs neuer.
41. Lord saue our Queene moast graciouse,
From euel and from feare:
The Lady eke Elizabeth,
Her godly sister deare.
42. Lord God preseue the noble men,
From daungers il and crime:
And send vs peace and quietnesse,
In this same later tyme.
43. Al glory bee to God therefore,
The father and the sone:
And also to the holy ghost,
In deityte but one.
44. As it hath been from al beginniges
Unto this beefore:
As now it is, and from this tyme,
Shalbee for euermore.

Editorial Conventions

The nomenclature of the voice parts is that of the source.

The original clef, staff signature and first note of each part are shown on the prefatory staves at the start of the piece. No mensuration symbols are given.

Editorial accidentals are placed above the notes concerned. Accidentals not given explicitly in the source, but required through modernisation of the staff signature are placed before the note and have a superscript dot.

The spelling of the underlay in the four voice parts is mostly, but not entirely consistent; in this edition it has been made to agree with the Mean, which in turn agrees with the first verse of the poem. Contractions in the poem have been expanded and the punctuation lightly modernised throughout.

Source

Richard Beard, *A Godly Psalme of Mary Queene* (London: William Griffith, 1553), RSTC 1655.

The full title of the work is:

A Godly Psalme, of Mary Queene,
Which brought us comfort al,
Through God, whom wee of dewtye prayse,
That giues her foes a fal.

Only the first verse of Beard's poem is underlaid to the music. The poem is followed by a versification of psalm 145 by Thomas Bownell. It, too, is in common metre, so could have been sung to the same music.

Beard (fl.1553–1574) was a Protestant clergyman who from 1560 to 1574 was rector of St Mary-at-Hill, Billingsgate. His *Godly Psalme* must have been written soon after Mary Tudor's accession in July 1553, for it calls on her to build strongly upon the church founded by her brother King Edward, 'whose strength was God's true word'. Beard is not known as a composer and the music is uncredited, so it may well be that the music was written for him and should be treated as anonymous.

Bownell (d.1571) was instituted as vicar of Heston in 1560, having previously been curate of St James Garlickhithe.

Notes on the Readings of the Source

7 Ct new staff line in source with staff signature \flat s for B and E begins with second C / 11 Ct new staff line in source with staff signature \flat for B only begins with D /