

REX SEMPITERNE COELITUM

Under Urban VIII, the correctors of the hymns omitted the fourth stanza and, in their zeal to turn the rhythm into Classical iambic dimeter, **altered every line except one**. Hymnologists, Catholic and non-Catholic alike, are usually severe in their judgment of the work of the correctors; but in this instance, Pimont, who thinks the hymn needed no alteration at their hands, nevertheless hastens to add that “never, perhaps, were they better inspired.” And it is only just to say that, as found now in the Roman Breviary, the hymn is no less vigorous than elegant.

Organ accompaniment by Louis Bourgeois (d. 1559); SATB harmonies based on a work by Charles Wood (d. 1926). The hymn melody is called “Old Hundredth,” and J.S. Bach later harmonized a version in triple time.

For even numbered verses, sung by either Men or Trebles, the organist will accompany:

The first system of musical notation consists of four measures. It is written for a grand staff with a treble clef and a bass clef. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody in the treble clef begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass line consists of a half note G2, followed by quarter notes A2, B2, and C3.

5

The second system of musical notation consists of four measures, starting with a measure number '5' above the first measure. The melody in the treble clef continues with a half note D5, followed by quarter notes E5, F5, and G5. The bass line continues with a half note D2, followed by quarter notes E2, F2, and G2.

9

The third system of musical notation consists of four measures, starting with a measure number '9' above the first measure. The melody in the treble clef continues with a half note A5, followed by quarter notes B5, C6, and B5. The bass line continues with a half note A2, followed by quarter notes B2, C3, and B2.

13

The fourth system of musical notation consists of four measures, starting with a measure number '13' above the first measure. The melody in the treble clef continues with a half note C6, followed by quarter notes B5, A5, and G5. The bass line continues with a half note C2, followed by quarter notes B1, A1, and G1.

17
Tenors?
with organ

1. Rex sem - pi - tér - ne Caé - li - tum, Ré - rum Cre - á - tor ó - mni - um,
1. To Thee, O Heav'n's e - ter - nal King, And Mak - er of the worlds, we sing,
25
Ae - quá - lis án - te saé - cu - la Sém - per Pa - rén - ti Fí - li - us:
Who, with the Fa - ther ev - er one, Wert ev - er His co - e - qual Son.

ETERNAL KING of the blessed, creator of all things and the Father's co-equal Son from all eternity...

(2) ...when the world was at its beginning You created Adam and gave him the image of Your own likeness, joining a soul of noble destiny with slime of the earth.

33

2. Na - scén - te qui mún - do Fá - ber
2. Cre - a - tor who, when earth be - gan,
2. Na - scén - te qui mún - do Fá - ber
2. Cre - a - tor who, when earth be - gan,
2. Na - scén - te qui mún - do Fá - ber
2. Cre - a - tor who, when earth be - gan,
2. Na - scén - te qui mún - do Fá - ber
2. Cre - a - tor who, when earth be - gan,

37

I - má - gi - nem vúl - tus tú - i Trá - dens A - dá - mo,
To Thine own im - age mad - est man, Thou didst, in Ad - am,
I - má - gi - nem vúl - tus tú - i Trá - dens A - dá - mo,
To Thine own im - age mad - est man, Thou didst, in Ad - am,
I - má - gi - nem vúl - tus tú - i Trá - dens A - dá - mo,
To Thine own im - age mad - est man, Thou didst, in Ad - am,
I - má - gi - nem vúl - tus tú - i Trá - dens A - dá - mo,
To Thine own im - age mad - est man, Thou didst, in Ad - am,

43

nó - bi - lem Lí - mo ju - gá - sti spí - ri - tum:
wed to clay A spir - it no - ble eve - ry way.
nó - bi - lem Lí - mo ju - gá - sti spí - ri - tum:
wed to clay A spir - it no - ble eve - ry way.
nó - bi - lem Lí - mo ju - gá - sti spí - ri - tum:
wed to clay A spir - it no - ble eve - ry way.
nó - bi - lem Lí - mo ju - gá - sti spí - ri - tum:
wed to clay A spir - it no - ble eve - ry way.

(1)

Rex sempitérne Caélitum,
Rerum Créator ómniium,
Aequális ánte saéculum
Sémper Parénti Fílius:

(2)

Nascénte qui mún-do Fáber
Imáginem vúl-tus túi
Trádens Adámo, nóbilem
Límo jugásti spírítum:

49 Sopranos? with organ

3. Cum lí - vor et fraus daé - mo - nis Foe - dás - set hu - má - num gé - nus,
 3. And when, with en - vy man - y - wiled, The dev - il had our race de - filed,

57 Tu, cár - ne a - mí - ctus, pér - di - tam Fór - mam re - fór - mas ár - ti - fex.
 Made Man, man's like - ness un - to Thee Thou didst re - store with mas - ter - y.

(3) But when an envious, deceitful enemy had covered mankind with the filth of sin, You clothed Yourself in man's flesh and, a creator once again, gave man back the beauty he had lost.

(4) Once You were born of a virgin. Now born from the tomb, You command us, buried in sin, to rise with You from the dead.

65

S 4. Qui, ná - tus ó - lim e Vir - gi - ne,
 4. Now born a - gain from out - the tomb,

A 4. Qui, ná - tus ó - lim e Vir - gi - ne,
 4. Now born a - gain from out - the tomb,

T 4. Qui, ná - tus ó - lim e Vir - gi - ne,
 4. Now born a - gain from out - the tomb,

B 4. Qui, ná - tus ó - lim e Vir - gi - ne,
 4. Now born a - gain from out - the tomb,

69

S Nunc e se - púl - cro ná - sce - ris, Te - cúm - que nos a
 As once, from Mar - y's vir - gin womb, Thou bid - dest us our -

A Nunc e se - púl - cro ná - sce - ris, Te - cúm - que nos a
 As once, from Mar - y's vir - gin womb, Thou bid - dest us our -

T Nunc e se - púl - cro ná - sce - ris, Te - cúm - que nos a
 As once, from Mar - y's vir - gin womb, Thou bid - dest us our -

B Nunc e se - púl - cro ná - sce - ris, Te - cúm - que nos a
 As once, from Mar - y's vir - gin womb, Thou bid - dest us our -

75

S mór - tu - is Jú - bes se - púl - tos súr - ge - re.
 selves - be - stir And quit - with Thee the sep - ul - chre.

A mór - tu - is Jú - bes se - púl - tos súr - ge - re.
 selves - be - stir And quit - with Thee the sep - ul - chre.

T mór - tu - is Jú - bes se - púl - tos súr - ge - re.
 selves - be - stir And quit - with Thee the sep - ul - chre.

B mór - tu - is Jú - bes se - púl - tos súr - ge - re.
 selves - be - stir And quit - with Thee the sep - ul - chre.

(3) Cum lívor et fraus daémonis
 Foedásset humanum génus,
 Tu, cárne amictus, pérditam
 Fórmam refórmás ártífex.

(4) Qui, nátus ólim e Virgine,
 Nunc e sepúlcro násceris,
 Tecúmque nos a mórtuis
 Júbes sepúltos súrgere.

81
Tenors?
with organ

5. Qui Pá - stor ae - tér - nus, gré - gem Á - qua lá - vas ba - ptís - ma - tis:
5. He leads through the bap - tis - mal flood, A stream he tinc - tured with his blood,

89
Haec est la - vá - crum mén - ti - um: Haec est se - púl - crum crí - mi - num.
By which, as from the grave of sin, The soul re - vives and lives a - gain.

(5) As our eternal shepherd You wash Your flock in the waters of baptism, where souls are cleansed and sins are buried.

(6) And as our redeemer, fastened to the cross that we ought to have suffered, You gave Your blood to the last drop as the price of our salvation.

97

S
6. Nó - bis dí - u qui dé - bi - tae
6. Re - deem - er, on the Cross_ up - raised,

A
6. Nó - bis dí - u qui dé - bi - tae
6. Re - deem - er, on the Cross_ up - raised,

T
6. Nó - bis dí - u qui dé - bi - tae
6. Re - deem - er, on the Cross_ up - raised,

B
6. Nó - bis dí - u qui dé - bi - tae
6. Re - deem - er, on the Cross_ up - raised,

101

S
Red - ém - ptor af - fi - xus Crú - ci, Nó - strae de - dí - sti
Long ow - ing to our - selves, be praised That there Thy Blood sal -

A
Red - ém - ptor af - fi - xus Crú - ci, Nó - strae de - dí - sti
Long ow - ing to our - selves, be praised That there Thy Blood sal -

T
Red - ém - ptor af - fi - xus Crú - ci, Nó - strae de - dí - sti
Long ow - ing to our - selves, be praised That there Thy Blood sal -

B
Red - ém - ptor af - fi - xus Crú - ci, Nó - strae de - dí - sti
Long ow - ing to our - selves, be praised That there Thy Blood sal -

(5)

Qui Pástor aetérnus, grégem
Áqua lávas baptismatis:
Haec est lavácrum méntium:
Haec est sepúlcrum críminum.

(6)

Nóbis díu qui débitae
Redémptor affíxus Crúci,
Nóstrae dedísti pródigus
Prétium salútis sánguinem.

107

S
pró - dí - gus Pré - tí - um sa - lú - tis sán - gui - nem.
va - tion's price Paid lav - ish - ly in sac - ri - fice.

A
pró - dí - gus Pré - tí - um sa - lú - tis sán - gui - nem.
va - tion's price Paid lav - ish - ly in sac - ri - fice.

T
pró - dí - gus Pré - tí - um sa - lú - tis sán - gui - nem.
va - tion's price Paid lav - ish - ly in sac - ri - fice.

B
pró - dí - gus Pré - tí - um sa - lú - tis sán - gui - nem.
va - tion's price Paid lav - ish - ly in sac - ri - fice.

113 Sopranos? with organ

7. Ut sis pe - rén - ne mén - ti - bus Pas - chá - le, Jé - su, gáu - di - um,
 7. O Je - sus, that Thou may - est thus Be - end - less Pas - chal joy to us,

121 A mór - te dí - ra cri - mi - num Ví - tae re - ná - tos lí - be - ra.
 Keep us, who now new life be - gin, Free from the woe - ful death of sin.

(7) That You, O Jesus, may be an everlasting Paschal joy to our hearts, deliver us re-born to life, from a dire death of sin.

(8) Be God the Father glorified, and He who rose, from death, His Son, and You, the Spirit Paraclete, while everlasting ages run.

129

S 8. Dé - o Pá - tri sit gló - ri - a,
 8. May end - less worlds the glo - ries tell

A 8. Dé - o Pá - tri sit gló - ri - a,
 8. May end - less worlds the glo - ries tell

T 8. Dé - o Pá - tri sit gló - ri - a,
 8. May end - less worlds the glo - ries tell

B 8. Dé - o Pá - tri sit gló - ri - a,
 8. May end - less worlds the glo - ries tell

133

S Et Fí - li - o, qui a mór - tu - is Sur - ré - xit, ac Pa -
 Of Christ, who van - quished death and hell; And one e - ter - nal

A Et Fí - li - o, qui a mór - tu - is Sur - ré - xit, ac Pa -
 Of Christ, who van - quished death and hell; And one e - ter - nal

T Et Fí - li - o, qui a mór - tu - is Sur - ré - xit, ac Pa -
 Of Christ, who van - quished death and hell; And one e - ter - nal

B Et Fí - li - o, qui a mór - tu - is Sur - ré - xit, ac Pa -
 Of Christ, who van - quished death and hell; And one e - ter - nal

(7) Ut sis perénne méntibus Paschále, Jésu, gáudium, A mórtē díra críminum Vítae renátos líbera.

(8) Déo Pátri sit glória, Et Fílio, qui a mórtuis Surréxit, ac Paráclito, In sempitérna saécula.

139

S rá - cli - to, In sem - pi - tér - na saé - cu - la.
 praise - re - peat The Fa - ther and the Par - a - clete.

A rá - cli - to, In sem - pi - tér - na saé - cu - la.
 praise - re - peat The Fa - ther and the Par - a - clete.

T rá - cli - to, In sem - pi - tér - na saé - cu - la.
 praise re - peat The Fa - ther and the Par - a - clete.

B rá - cli - to, In sem - pi - tér - na saé - cu - la.
 praise re - peat The Fa - ther and the Par - a - clete.