Ave Verum Corpus

SATB a cappella

William Byrd
(1543-1623)

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ed. 4/24/99
Ave verum corpus, natum de Maria Virgine,
vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine
Cuius latus perforatum, Unda fluxit sanguine.
Esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine:
O Dulcis, O pie, O Jesu fili Mariae,
miserere mei. Amen.

SOURCE: Gradualia, revised edition, 1610 (originally pub. 1605)
NOTES: Note values halved, bar lines, slurs added. Tenor (m. 39), Alto (mm. 40-41): text underlay uncertain.

TEXT/TRANSLATION:
Ave verum corpus, natum de Maria Virgine, Hail true body, born of the Virgin Mary.
vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine: Truly suffering, was sacrificed on the cross for mankind,
Cuius latus perforatum, Unda fluxit sanguine. From whose pierced side flowed blood,
Esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine: Be for us a foretaste in the final judgment.
O Dulcis, O pie, O Jesu fili Mariae, O sweet, O merciful, O Jesus, Son of Mary,

PERFORMANCE: Directors may want to raise the pitch one step
edited by Rafael Ornes (4/24/99)