

How merrily we live

Michael East
(c.1580-1648)

Soprano I

Soprano II

Alto

Practice

The musical score consists of four staves. The top staff is for Soprano I, the second for Soprano II, the third for Alto, and the bottom for Practice. The music is in common time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The vocal parts sing "How mer - ri - ly we live that shep - herds be, we". The Practice staff shows a continuous eighth-note pattern.

S1

S2

A

The vocal parts continue with the lyrics "live that shep-herds be, how mer-ri-ly we live that shep-herds" (measures 5-6), "that shep - herds be, how mer-ri-ly we live that shep-herds" (measures 7-8), and "live that shep-herds be, how mer-ri-ly we live that shep-herds" (measures 9-10). The bass part provides harmonic support throughout.

S1

S2

A

The vocal parts continue with the lyrics "be, that shep - herds be, roun - de - lays still we sing, roun - de - lays still we" (measures 11-12), "be, that shep - herds be, roun - de - lays still we sing, roun - de -" (measures 13-14), and "be, that shep - herds be," (measure 15). The bass part continues its harmonic function.

S1

S2

A

S1 glee, roun - de - lays still we sing with mer - ry glee, On the plea - sant

S2 glee, roun - de - lays still we sing with mer - ry glee, On the plea - sant

A glee, still we sing with mer - ry glee, On the plea - sant

S1

S2

A

Bass

20

downs where as our flocks we see, on the pleasant downs where as our
downs where as our flocks we see, on the pleasant downs where as our flocks
downs where as our flocks we see, on the pleasant downs where as our

S1 flocks we see, we feel _____ no cares, we

S2 we see, we feel no cares, we

A flocks we see, we feel no cares, we

Bass - - - -

S1

S2

A

Bass

30

S1 en - vy which sweet mirth con - founds, which sweet mirth con - founds, sweet

S2 en - vy which sweet mirth con- founds, sweet

A which sweet mirth con - founds, sweet

35

S1 mirth con - founds,

S2 mirth con - founds, we have no en - vy which sweet mirth, sweet mirth con -

A mirth con - founds, we have no en - vy which sweet mirth, sweet mirth, no

40

S1 we have no en - vy which sweet mirth con- founds.

S2 founds, we have no en - vy which sweet mirth con- founds.

A en- vy which sweet mirth con - founds.