

Transcribed & edited by Francis Bevan ~ November 2021

Accidentals above noteheads are editorial. All others present in source.

Brackets above notes indicate original ligatures.

Tomus primus operis musici...

Prague: Nigrinus, 1586

RISM H1980

Rorate cæli desuper
et nubes pluant iustum.
Aperiatur terra
et germinet salvatorem.

Drop down, ye heavens, from above,
and let the skies pour down righteousness:
 let the earth open,
 and let it bring forth a Saviour.

Rorate cæli

Jacob HANDL
(1550–1591)

Musical score for 'Rorate caelestis' in common time, treble clef, and B-flat major. The score consists of six voices:

- Cantus I: The first voice on the top staff.
- Cantus II: The second voice on the second staff.
- Altus: The third voice on the third staff.
- Tenor: The fourth voice on the fourth staff.
- Bassus I: The fifth voice on the fifth staff.
- Bassus II: The sixth voice on the bottom staff.

The lyrics 'Rorate caelestis' are written below the notes, corresponding to the vocal parts. The music features sustained notes and rhythmic patterns typical of Gregorian chant notation.

4

te cæ li de su - per, ro - ra - te

cæ li de su - per, ro - ra - te

te cæ li de su - per, cæ li

Ro - ra - te cæ -

8

- per, de - su - per, et nu -

cæ - li de - su - per, et nu -

cæ - li de - su - per,

de - su - per, et nu -

li de - su - per, et

li de - su - per, et nu -

12

bes plu -
plu - ant iu - - - - stum, plu -
et nu - - - bes plu - ant iu -
- ant iu - - - - stum, plu -
nu - - - bes plu - - - ant iu -
- - - - bes plu - - - - ant

16

- ant iu - - stum:
- ant iu - - stum:
- stum, plu - ant iu - stum:
- ant iu - stum: a - pe - ri - a - tur ter -
- stum, plu - ant iu - stum: a - pe - ri - a - tur ter -
iu - - - - stum: a - pe - ri - a - - - - tur

20

a - pe - ri - a - tur ter -

a - pe - ri - a - tur ter -

a - pe - ri - a - tur ter -

ra,

ra,

ter - ra,

24

- ra, a - pe - ri -

- ra, a - pe - ri -

- ra, a - pe - ri -

a - pe - ri - a - tur ter - ra,

a - pe - ri - a - tur ter - ra,

a - - pe - ri - a - tur ter - ra,

28

- a - - - tur ter - ra, et ger - mi - net, et ger - mi - net, et ger - mi -
 - a - - - tur ter - ra, et ger - mi - net, et ger - mi - net, et ger - mi -
 - a - - - tur ter - ra, et ger - mi - net, et ger - mi - net, et ger - mi -
 - a - - - tur ter - ra, et ger - mi - net, et ger - mi - net, et ger - mi -
 et ger - mi - net, et ger - mi - net, et ger - mi -
 et ger - mi - net, et ger - mi -
 et ger - mi - net, et ger - mi -
 et ger - mi - net,

33

- net Sal -
 - net Sal -
 - net Sal - va - to - rem, Sal -
 - net Sal - va - to - rem, Sal -
 - net Sal - va - to - rem,

37

va - to - rem, Sal - va -
va - to - rem, Sal - va - to -
va - to - rem,
va - to - rem,
Sal -
Sal - va - to -

41

to - rem, Sal - va - to -
- rem, Sal - va - to - rem, Sal - va - to -
Sal - va - to -
Sal - va - to -
va - to - rem, et
rem,

45

rem, Sal - va - to -
et ger - mi - net
rem, et ger - mi - net
ger - mi - net Sal - va - to - rem,
et ger - mi - net Sal - va - to - rem, Sal - va - to -

49

rem, Sal - va - to - rem, Sal - va - to - rem.
rem, Sal - va - to - rem.
to - rem.
rem, et ger - mi - net Sal - va - to - rem.
Sal - va - to - rem.
rem, Sal - va - to - rem.