

MAY FESTIVAL

Choral Music of the Renaissance

Almighty and Everlasting God (2:45)

Orlando Gibbons – British

In the world of music, the year 1450 is usually given as an approximate starting date for the Renaissance, with the year 1600 roughly representing its conclusion.

We invite you to listen to a beautiful recording of this piece, written for the Anglican Church in England near the end of the Renaissance period. The melodies are smooth and flowing, because this music evolved from chant music that had been in use in churches and temples for hundreds of years. Notice how each phrase of the words is given its own melody, which is imitated in turn by other voice parts.

As you enjoy the video, listen for the imitating melodies overlapping with each other. If you would enjoy a detailed “play-by-play” version of events, you can either print out this sheet, or rather move the video and this Word document out of full screen view, adjust their sizes, and view both files side-by-side.

0:02 **Almighty and Everlasting God**

Bass, then Alto, then Tenor, then Soprano

0:22 **mercifully look upon our infirmities**

Alto, then Bass, then Soprano, then Tenor

0:35 **mercifully look upon our infirmities**

Tenor, then Soprano, then Bass, then Alto

0:51 **and in all our dangers and necessities**

Soprano, then Alto, then Tenor, then Bass

1:03 **and in all our dangers and necessities**

Soprano, then Alto

1:14 **stretch forth thy right hand**

Soprano, then together: Alto/Bass; then Tenor

1:22 **stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us**

Soprano, then together: Alto/Tenor/Bass

1:35 **stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us**

Soprano, then together: Alto/Tenor/Bass

2:09 **through Christ our Lord, Amen**

Soprano, then Bass, then Tenor, then Alto, then Soprano

Other beautiful Renaissance videos:

[Josquin des Prez](#)

[Giovanni Perluigi da Palestrina](#)