

# **O Crux fidelis**

**Andrea Gabrieli  
(1510 - 1586)**

**SATB**

**Edited by Gary Harney**

## *Translation*

**O faithful cross,  
above all other,  
the one noble tree.  
None in foliage, nor in blossom,  
nor in fruit offers more:  
sweetest wood and sweetest iron,  
sweetest weight is hung on thee!**

*Translation by Nathan Costa*



# O crux fidelis

Andrea Gabrieli  
(1510 - 1586)

Soprano

O Crux fi - de - lis, in - ter om - - - -

Alto

O Crux fi - de - lis in - ter

Tenor

O Crux fi -

Bass

O

6

- - - - nes O Crux fi -

(see edit. note on p. 4)

om - - - - nes, O Crux fi - de - lis in - -

de - lis in - ter om - - - - - - - - nes,

Crux, O Crux fi - de -

11

de - lis, in - - - - ter om - nes ar -

- - - - ter om - - - - - nes ar - bor u -

in - ter om - - - - - nes, ar - bor un - na no -

lis, in - ter om - - - - - nes, ar - bor u - na no -

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- bor u - na no - bi - lis: nul - la sil - - va ta - lem

- - na no - - bi - lis: nul - la sil -

- bi - lis: ar - bor u - na no - bi - lis: nul - la sil -

- bi - lis: nul - la sil - - va ta -

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pro - fert, nul - la sil - va ta - lem pro - fert,

- va ta - lem pro - fert, nul - la sil - va ta - lem pro -

- va ta - lem pro - fert, fron - de, flo - re, ger - mi - ne.

- lem pro - - - fert,

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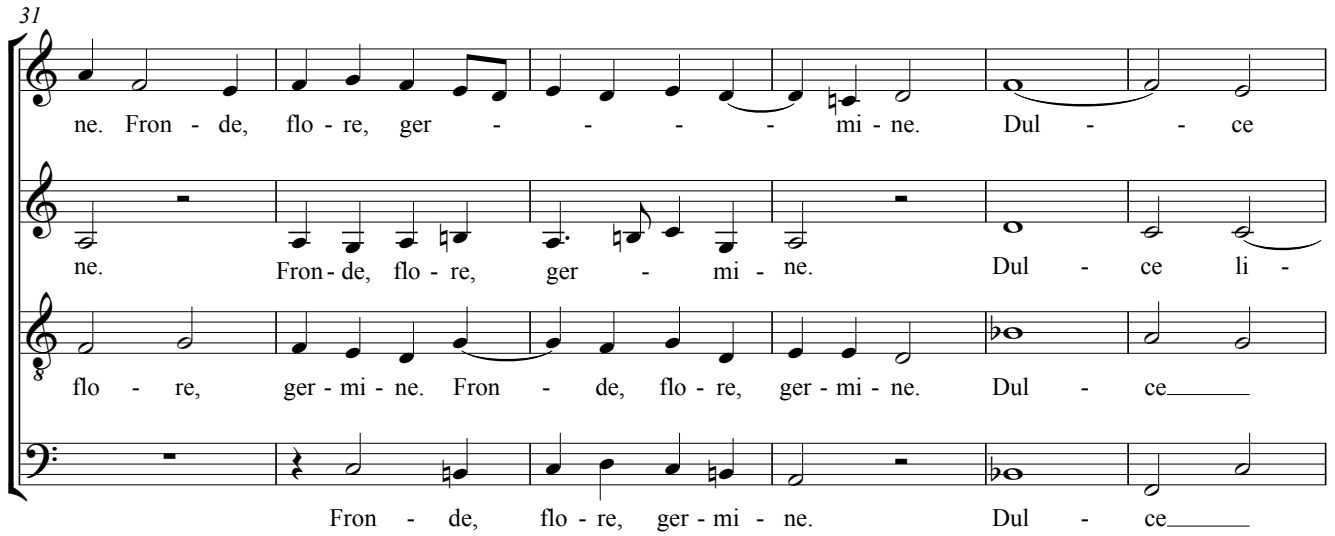
fron - de, flo - re, ger - mi - ne. Fron - de, flo - re, ger - - - mi -

fert, fron - de, flo - re, ger - mi - ne. Fron - de flo - re ger - mi -

Fron - de, flo - re, ger - mi - ne. Fron - de,

fron - de, flo - re, ger - mi - ne.

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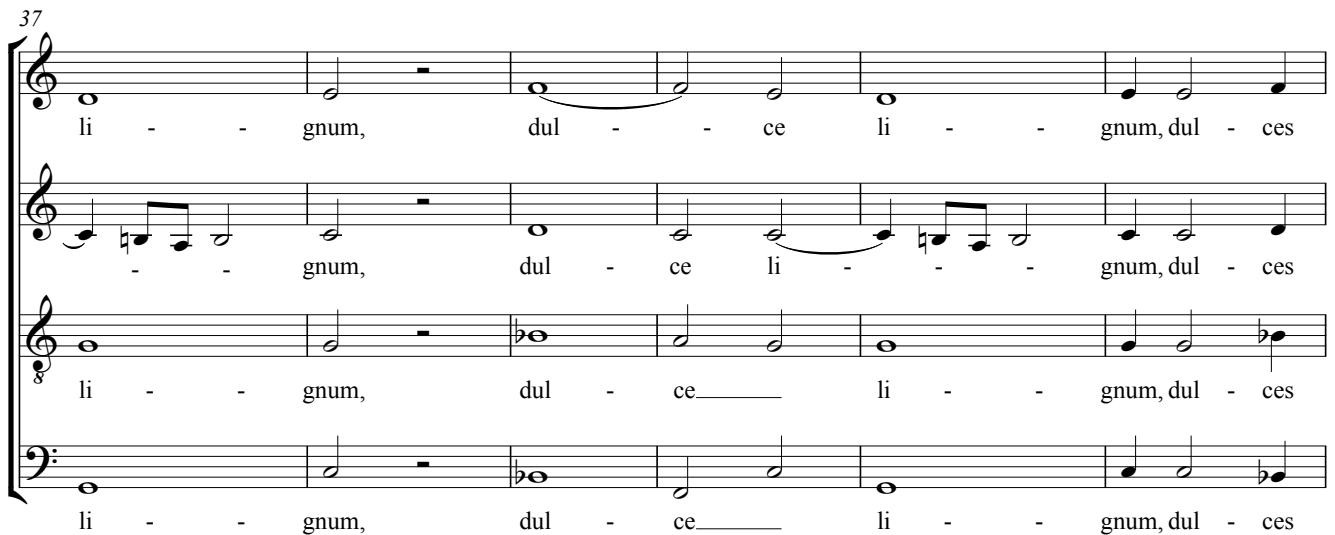
ne. Fron - de, flo - re, ger - mi - ne. Dul - ce

ne. Fron - de, flo - re, ger - mi - ne. Dul - ce li -

flo - re, ger - mi - ne. Fron - de, flo - re, ger - mi - ne. Dul - ce

Fron - de, flo - re, ger - mi - ne. Dul - ce

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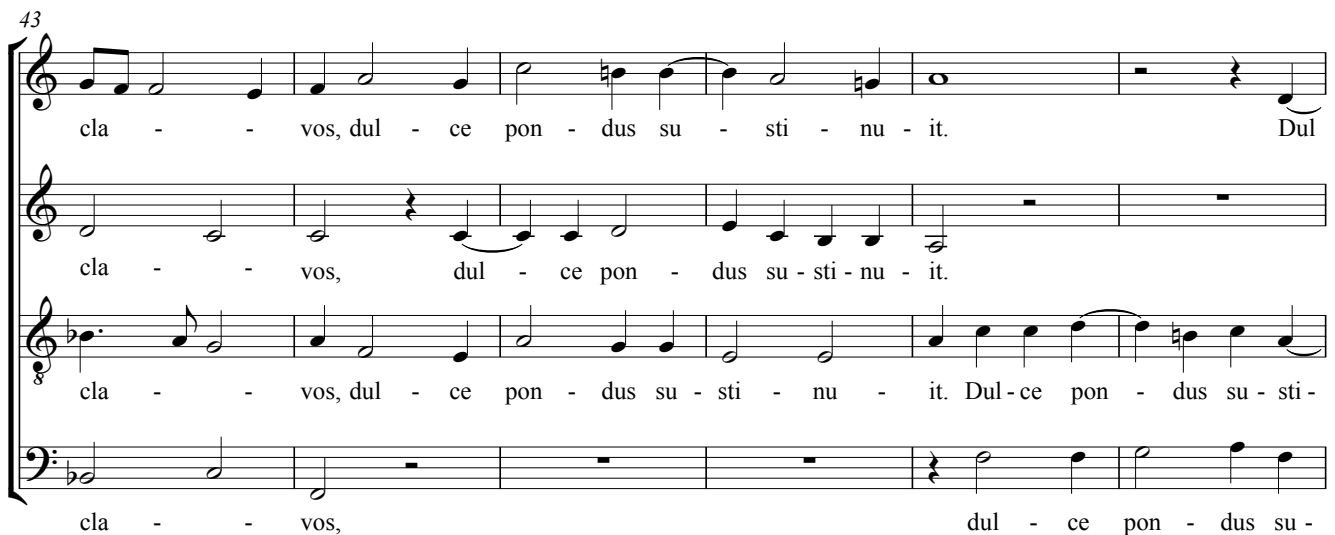
li - gnum, dul - ce li - gnum, dul - ces

li - gnum, dul - ce li - gnum, dul - ces

li - gnum, dul - ce li - gnum, dul - ces

li - gnum, dul - ce li - gnum, dul - ces

43



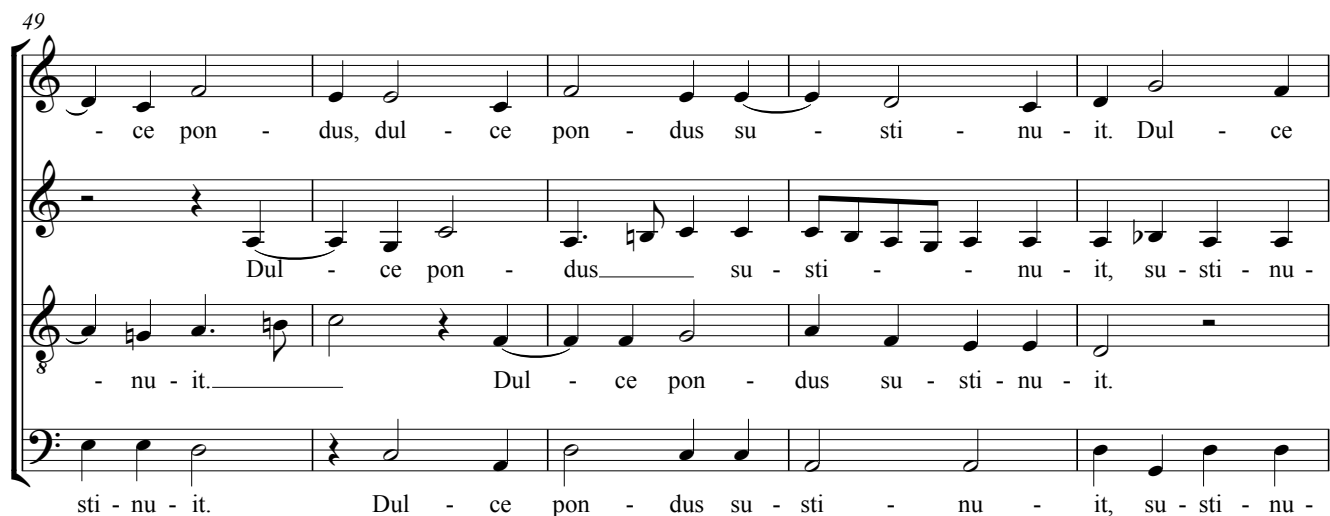
cla - vos, dul - ce pon - dus su - sti - nu - it. Dul

cla - vos, dul - ce pon - dus su - sti - nu - it.

cla - vos, dul - ce pon - dus su - sti - nu - it. Dul - ce pon - dus su - sti -

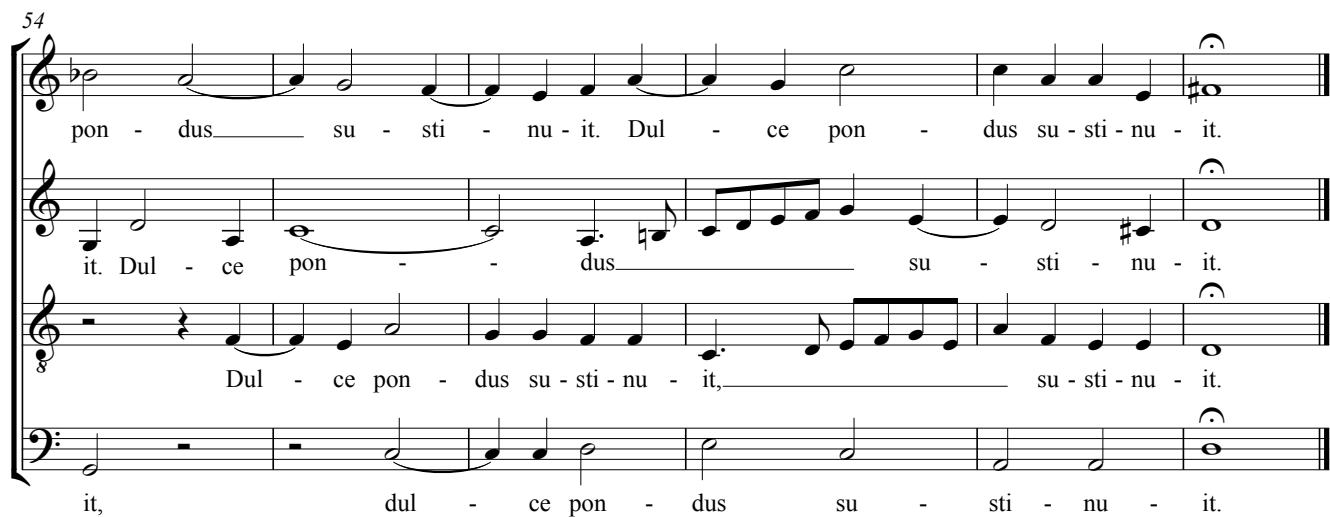
cla - vos, dul - ce pon - dus su -

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- ce pon - dus, dul - ce pon - dus su - sti - nu - it. Dul - ce  
 Dul - ce pon - dus su - sti - nu - it, su - sti - nu -  
 nu - it. Dul - ce pon - dus su - sti - nu - it.  
 sti - nu - it. Dul - ce pon - dus su - sti - nu - it, su - sti - nu -

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pon - dus su - sti - nu - it. Dul - ce pon - dus su - sti - nu - it.  
 it. Dul - ce pon - dus su - sti - nu - it.  
 Dul - ce pon - dus su - sti - nu - it, su - sti - nu - it.  
 it, dul - ce pon - dus su - sti - nu - it.

*Crux Fidelis* is part of a larger work by Saint Venantius Honorius Clementianus Fortunatus (c530-c609) entitled *Pange Lingua* (Sing, my Tongue). He wrote it for a procession that brought a part of the true Cross to Queen Radegunda in 570. This hymn is used on Good Friday during the Adoration of the Cross and in the Liturgy of the Hours during Holy Week and on feasts of the Cross. (from CPDL.org)

This setting by Andrea Gabrieli was likely performed in San Marco on 14 September (Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross). At San Marco, this was celebrated without instruments or the need for a double choir, so a simple SATB performance would be appropriate.

NOTE: The only source I possess for this work clearly shows that the last note of the alto line in bar 6 and the first note in bar 7 is a middle C. Nonetheless, given the harmony of that section, I suspect that these two beats should be a D rather than a C. It is left to your judgment which to use.