

Care for thy soul

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Dow Partbooks (Christ Church, 1580s, Oxford MSS 984-988)

Superius

Medius

Contra

Tenor

Bassus

Care

5

for thy soul as thing of grea - test price, made to the

10

end to taste of power di - vine, de - void of guilt, ab -

15 20

hor - ring sin and vice, apt by God's grace to vir - tue to in - cline.

25

Care for it so, as by thy retch - less train, it be not

30

brought to taste, to taste e - ter - nal pain. Care for it so, as by

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Care for thy soul'. It consists of five staves. The top staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The second staff is a vocal line with lyrics: '- thy retch - less train, it be not brought to taste, to taste e - ter - nal pain.' The third staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature. The fourth staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The fifth staff is a bass clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, accidentals, and a fermata at the end of each staff.

Care for thy soul as thing of greatest price,
 made to the end to taste of power divine,
 devoid of guilt, abhorring sin and vice,
 apt by God's grace to virtue to incline,
 care for it so, as by thy retchless train,
 it be not brought to taste eternal pain.