It is a thing both good and meet





2. To shew the kindness of the Lord betime, ere day be light: And eke declare his truth abroad when it doth draw to night.

3. Upon ten stringed instruments, on Lute and harp so sweet: With all the mirth you can invent on onstruments most meet. 4. For thou hast made me to rejoice in things so wrought by thee: And I have joy in heart and voice thy handy work to see.

5. O Lord how glorious and how great are all thy works so stout: Se deeply are thy counsels set that none can try them out. 6. The man unwise hath not the wit this gear to pass to bring: And all such fools are nothing fit to understand this thing.

7. When so the wicked at their will as grass do spring full fast: They, when they flourish in their ill, for ever shall be waste. 8. But thou art mighty Lord most high yea, thou dost reign therefore: In ev'ry time eternally, both now and evermore.

9. For why? O Lord behold and see, behold my foes I say: How all that work iniquity shall perish and decay 10. But thou like as an Unicorn shalt lift mine horn on high: With fresh and new-prepared oil thine ointed king am I.

11. And of my foes before mine eyes shall see the fall and shame: Of all that up against me rise mine ears shall hear the same. 12. The just shall flourish up on high, as Date trees bud and blow: And as the Cedars multiply in Libanus that grow.

13. For they are planted in the place and dwelling of our God: Within his courts they spring apace and flourish all abroad. 14. And in their age much fruits shall bring, both fat and well beseen And pleasantly both bud and spring with boughs and branches green.

15. To shew that God is good and just, and upright in his will: He is my rock, my hope and trust, in him there is no ill.

Critical notes:

Cantus bar 6/note 5: there is no # in the original, but it is in the similar settings of Psalms 118, 149 & 'A Thanksgiving'; this setting is similar to the one of Palms 39, 75, 99, 118, 149 & 'A Thanksgiving' from the same book; text somewhat modernised.