Preces & Responses for the 1549 Prayerbook

John Merbecke (1550)

The Choir with the Priest

O Lord, o-pen thou my lips. And my mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save me. O Lord, make haste to help me.

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost. As it was in the be-gin-ning,

is now, and e-ver shall be, world with-out end. A-men. Praise ye the Lord.___

After the Canticles

Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

The Choir with the Priest

I be-lieve in God the Fa-ther.... (etc., then 'Our Father...') And lead us not in-to temp-ta-ti-on.

But de-li-ver us from evil. A-men.

O Lord, shew thy mer-cy up-on us. And grant us thy sal-va-ti-on.

O Lord, save the King. And mer-ci-ful-ly hear us when we call up-on thee.

En-due thy Mi-ni-sters with right-e-ous-ness. And make thy cho-sen peo-ple joy-ful.

O Lord, save thy peo-ple. And bless thine in-he-ri-tance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord. Be-cause there is none o-ther that fight-eth for us, but on-ly thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts with - in us. And take not thy Ho-ly Spi-rit from us.

The Lord be with you. And with thy spi - rit. Let us pray.

[Collects] A - men.

Merbecke's black notation has three basic note-lengths, the equivalent of breve, semibreve and minim, and he also uses dotted semibreves and an additional symbol for a held note at the end of a phrase. The notation has been rendered here with stemless noteheads according to the following proportions:

Note lengths: 1/2   1   2   for a 'close'