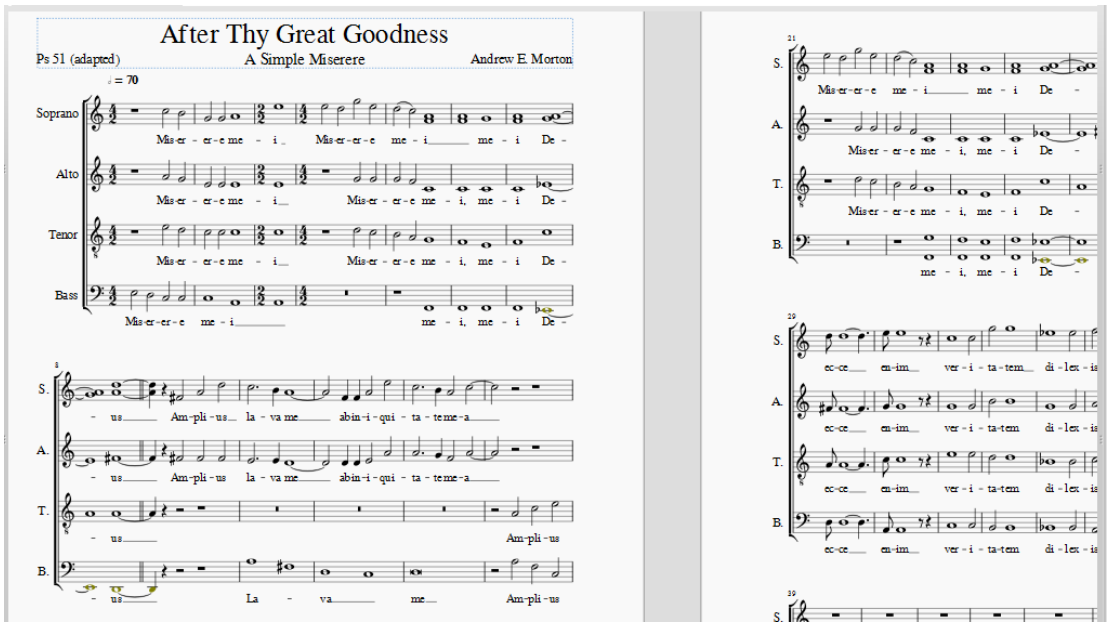
Drew Morton MUSIC

After Thy Great Goodness: A Short Miserere (words from Ps 51 – in Latin)

SATB Moderate difficulty – suitable for a good church choir.

Psalm 51 is often used during Holy Week during the penitential liturgies, and has been set to music many times, most notably by Allegri in his famous setting of the Latin text.

Its main message is one of mercy rather than judgement – the first line in English reads: “Have mercy upon me O Lord after Thy great goodness” and this present setting is a reflection of that more positive tone, moving as it does through both major and minor key sequences.

The repeated text “Miserere mei, Deus” suffuses the work with light and gentleness, ending on an unapologetically uplifting chord of G major.