

Band devotions, 21st May 2020 – Vox Dilecti

During this period of isolation Marion has asked the members of the band to list their five favourite hymn tunes: not an easy task, and when sending mine in I qualified it by saying that next week's list could be quite different.

One tune that did not make the chosen five is called '*Vox Dilecti*', and is one of a small number of melodies that start in one key and ends in another. Closely matching the words, it starts in a minor mode, reflecting on the call Jesus issues to us, ending in an assertive major mode registering our positive response.

The lovely presentation here comes from Birmingham Citadel Band, based on an arrangement by Kenneth Downie that our band has used on several occasions. It includes appropriate scripture references and prayers for each verse of the song. One thing that did strike me listening to it was the line 'I came to Jesus as I was', and it made me consider how we may have changed during the period of lock-down. The call of Jesus is not just a one-off but is on-going, and requires a fresh response from us each day.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AIZg-CAfm00>