Pastyme

Sopranos sing the alto part for verses 1 and 2, and only in the 3rd verse sing the “soprano” line. It is a descant version of the tenor part. As shown below, two bars of clapping precede the start of verse 1, but only one bar separates the two following verses.

Henry VIII of England

Sopranos

1. Pas-time with good com-pa-ny, I

2. Com-pa-ny with hon-esty, Is

3. Com-pa-ny with hon-esty, Is

love and shall un-till I die. Grudge who lust but none de-ny, so

virtue, vi-ces to flee. Com-pa-ny is good and ill, but

love and shall un-till I die. Grudge who lust but none de-ny, so

love and shall un-till I die. Grudge who lust but none de-ny, so
ev - ry man hath his free will. The best en - sue, the worst es - chew, my

God be pleas’d thus live will I. For my pas - tance, hunt, sing and dance, my

God be pleas’d thus live will I. For my pas - tance, hunt, sing and dance, my

God be pleas’d thus live will I. For my pas - tance, hunt, sing and dance, my

2. Youth must have some dalliance, of good or ill some pastance.
Company methinks then best, all thoughts and fancies to digest.
For idleness, is chief mistress of vices all Then who can say but mirth and play is best of all.

3. Company with honesty,
Is virtue, vices to flee.
Company is good and ill, but every man hath his free will.
The best ensue, the worst eschew, my mind shall be _ Virtue to use, vice to refuse, thus shall I use me.

Pastyme has a tendency to get faster, so if at all possible those who clap the rhythm should try to keep as tight a rein on the tempo as is practical. The syncopated rhythms (bar 11 onwards) were never used by TUMS buskers in the early 90s, but times change and most mainlanders use this pattern now; but it may often be clearer and easier to keep the same rhythm constant throughout.

Sopranos sing with the altos for verses 1 and 2, and then jump up to the soprano line for verse 3. Note that the last note of verse 3 is held for double the length: ♪, and the clappers will usually bring the singing to an emphatic end.

The rapid alternation between F♯ and F♭ in the alto part has never convinced me as being stylistically true, so this version has a few extra F♭s at cadences.