ROBERT SHAW

Winthrop Rogers Edition

Rejoice in the Lamb

Festival Cantata

Words by

CHRISTOPHER SMART

Music by

BENJAMIN BRITTEN

Boosey & Hawkes
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Festival Cantata

by

BENJAMIN BRITTEN

Programme Note.

The words of the Cantata—" Rejoice in the Lamb "—are taken from a long poem of the same name. The writer was Christopher Smart, an eighteenth century poet, deeply religious, but of a strange and unbalanced mind.

" Rejoice in the Lamb " was written while Smart was in an asylum, and is chaotic in form but contains many flashes of genius.

It is a few of the finest passages that Benjamin Britten has chosen to set to music. The main theme of the poem, and of the Cantata, is the worship of God, by all created beings and things, each in its own way.

The Cantata is made up of ten short sections. The first sets the theme. The second gives a few examples of one person after another being summoned from the pages of the Old Testament to join with some creature in praising and rejoicing in God. The third is a quiet and ecstatic Hallelujah. In the fourth section Smart takes his beloved cat as an example of nature praising God by being simply what the Creator intended it to be. The same thought is carried on in the fifth section with the illustration of the mouse. The sixth section speaks of the flowers—" the poetry of Christ." In the seventh section Smart refers to his troubles and suffering, but even these are an occasion for praising God, for it is through Christ that he will find his deliverance. The eighth section gives four letters from an alphabet, leading to a full chorus in section nine which speaks of musical instruments and music's praise of God. The final section repeats the Hallelujah.

Note by THE REV. WALTER HUSSEY.

For the Rev. Walter Hussey and the choir of S. Matthews Church, Northampton— on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the consecration of their church. September 21st 1943.

Rejoice in the Lamb

Words by CHRISTOPHER SMART

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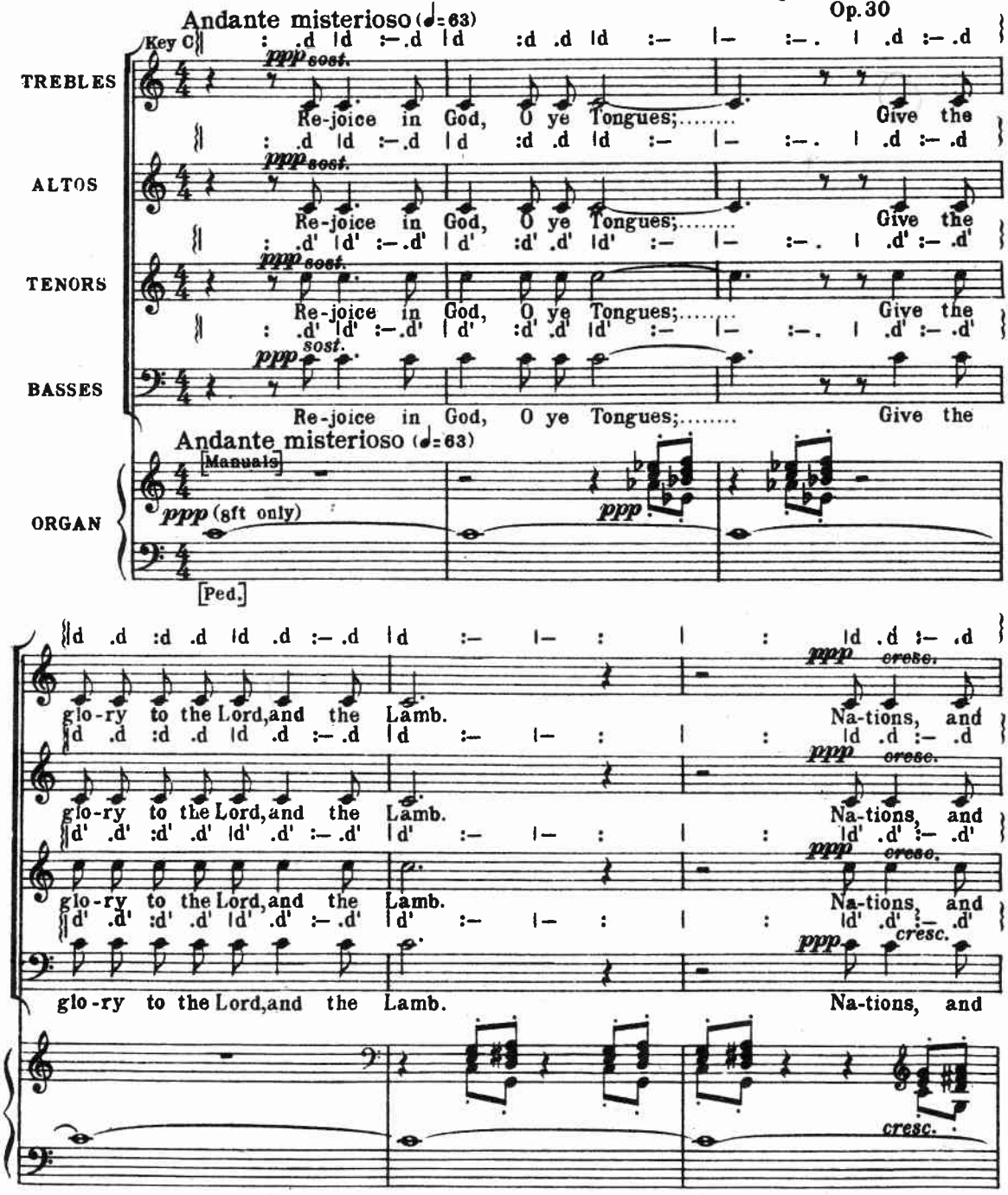
Op. 30



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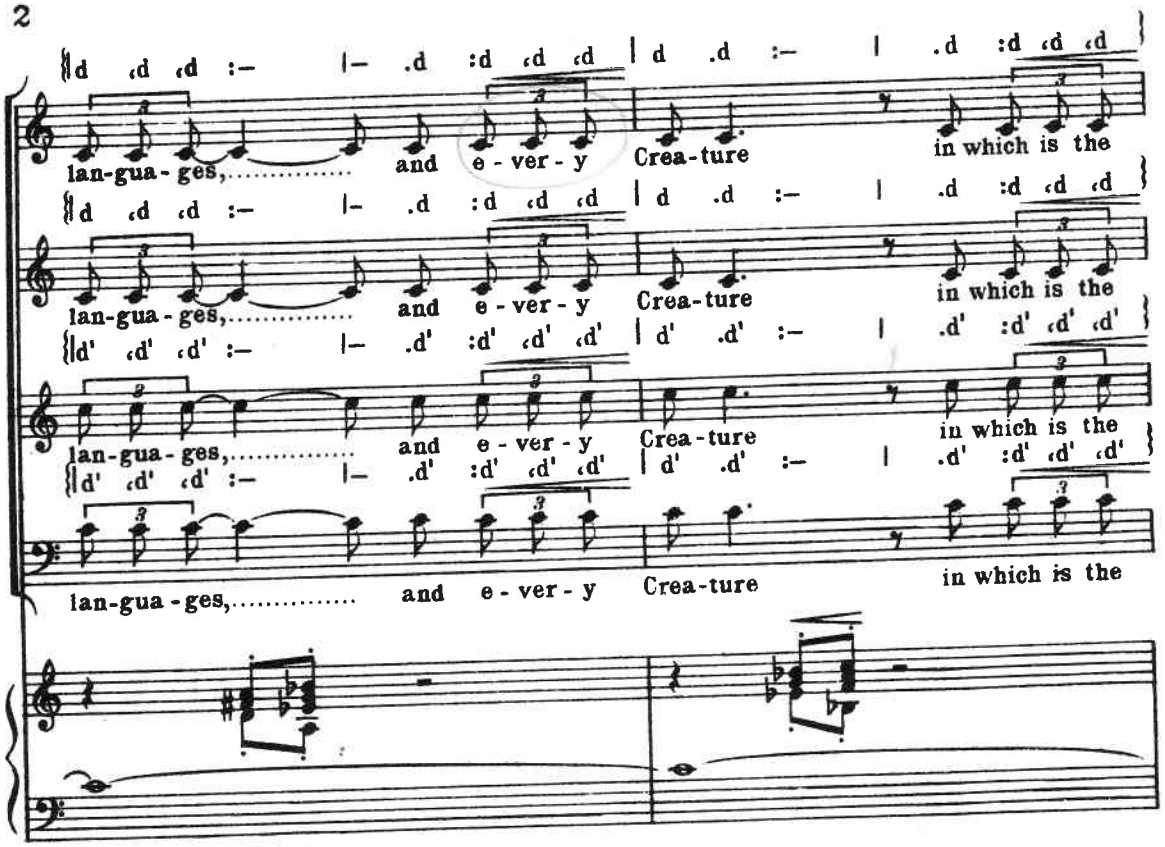
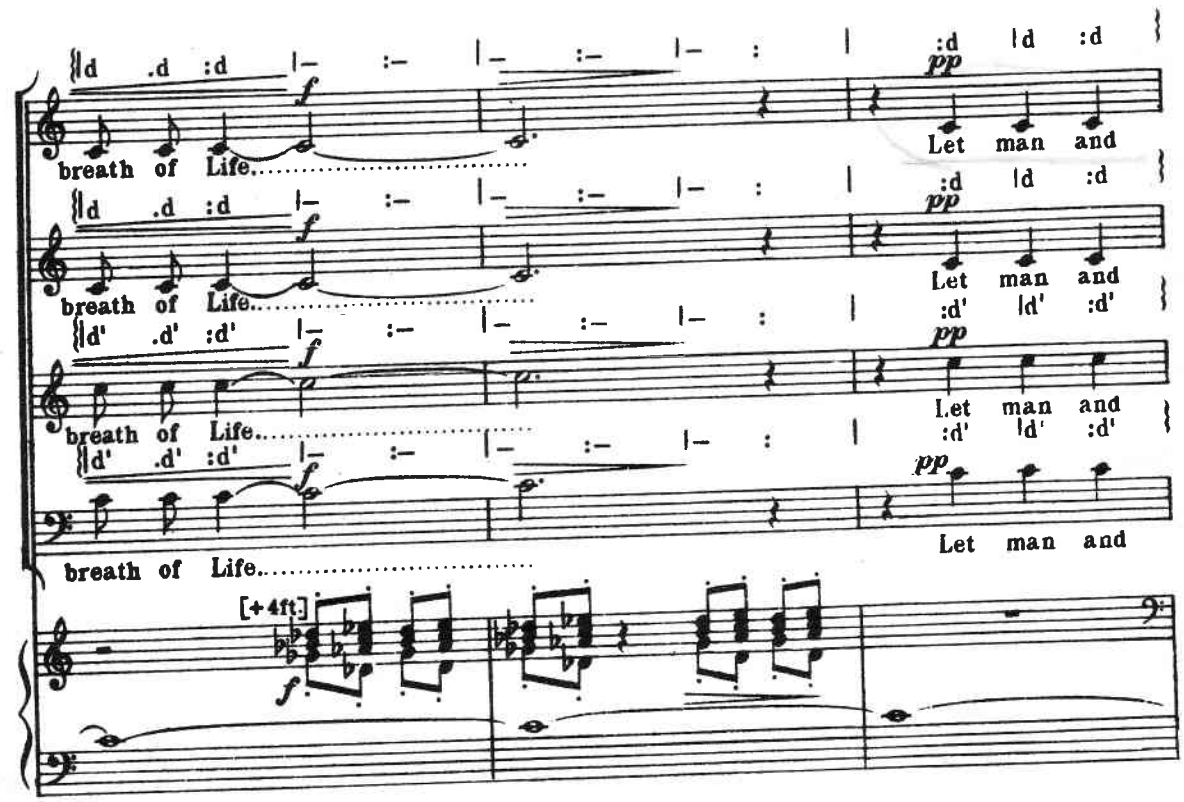
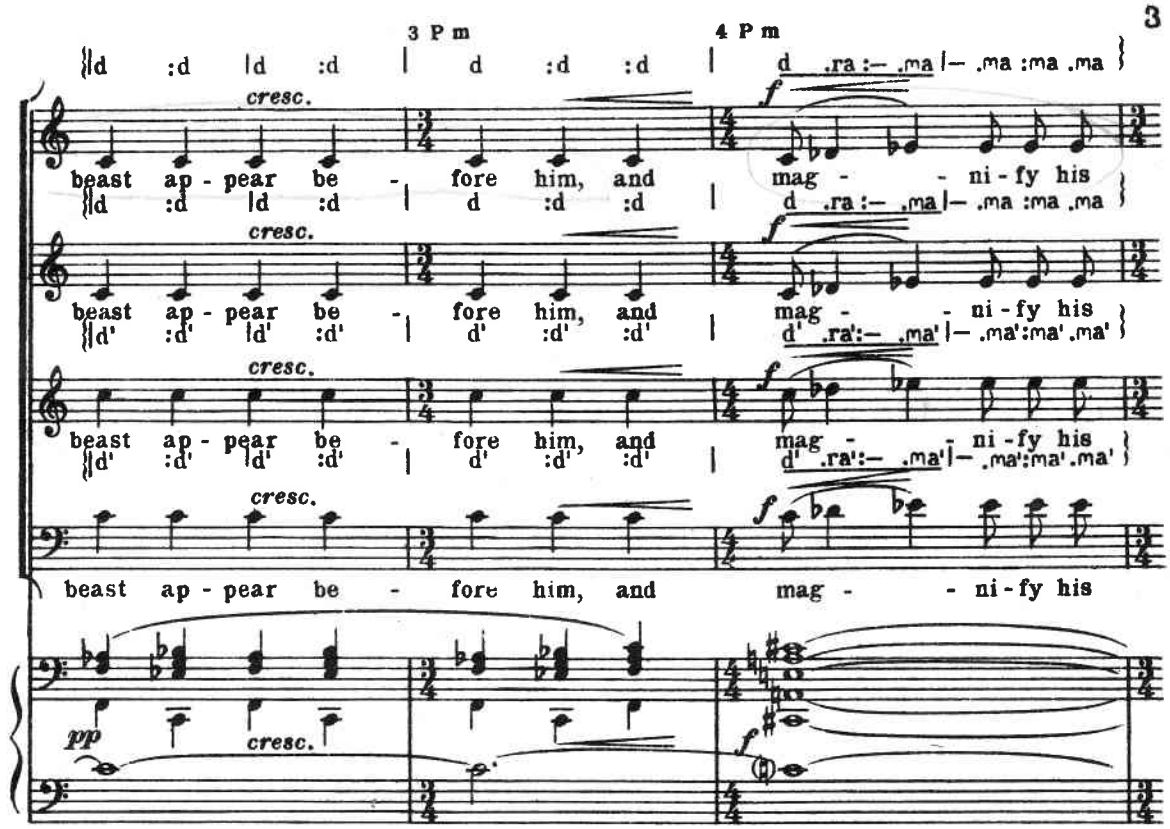
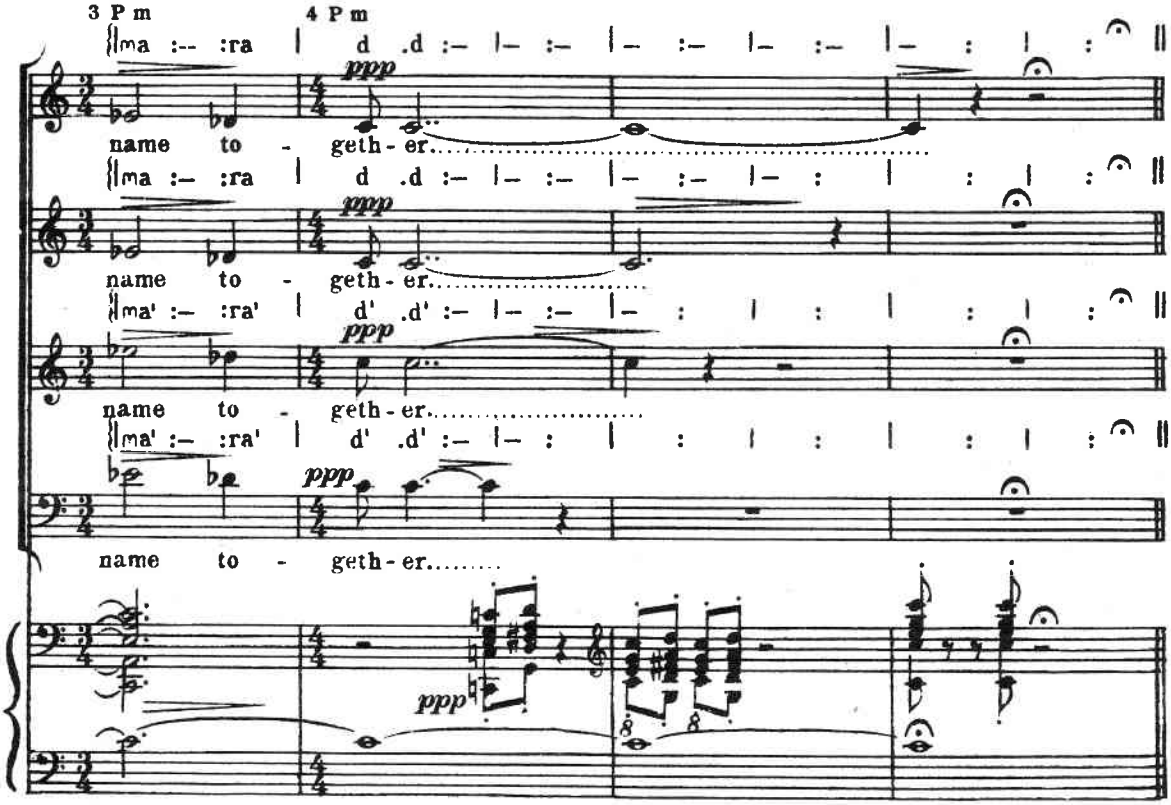
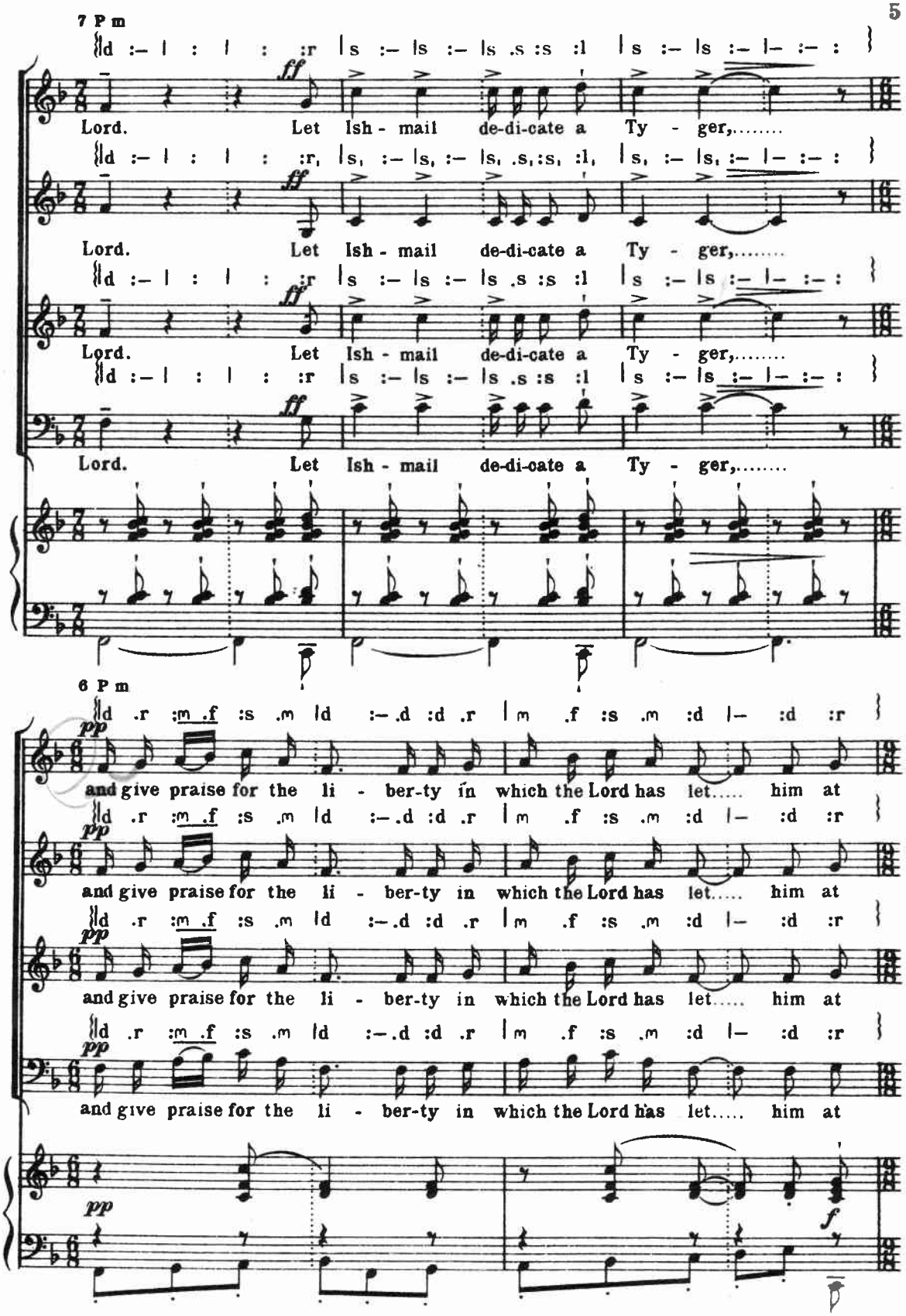
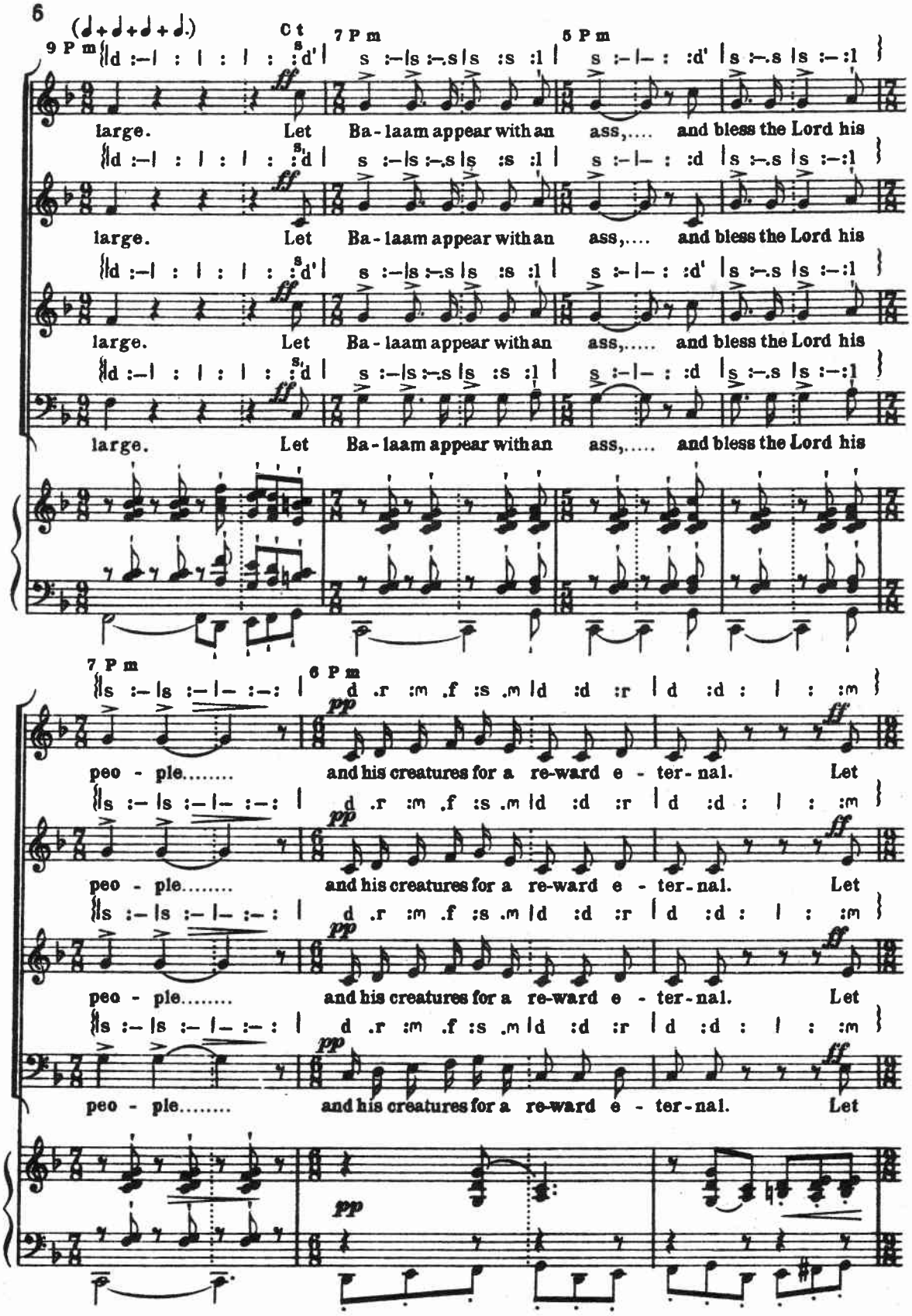

lan-gua-ges,..... and e-ver-y Crea-ture in which is the
lan-gua-ges,..... and e-ver-y Crea-ture in which is the
lan-gua-ges,..... and e-ver-y Crea-ture in which is the
lan-gua-ges,..... and e-ver-y Crea-ture in which is the

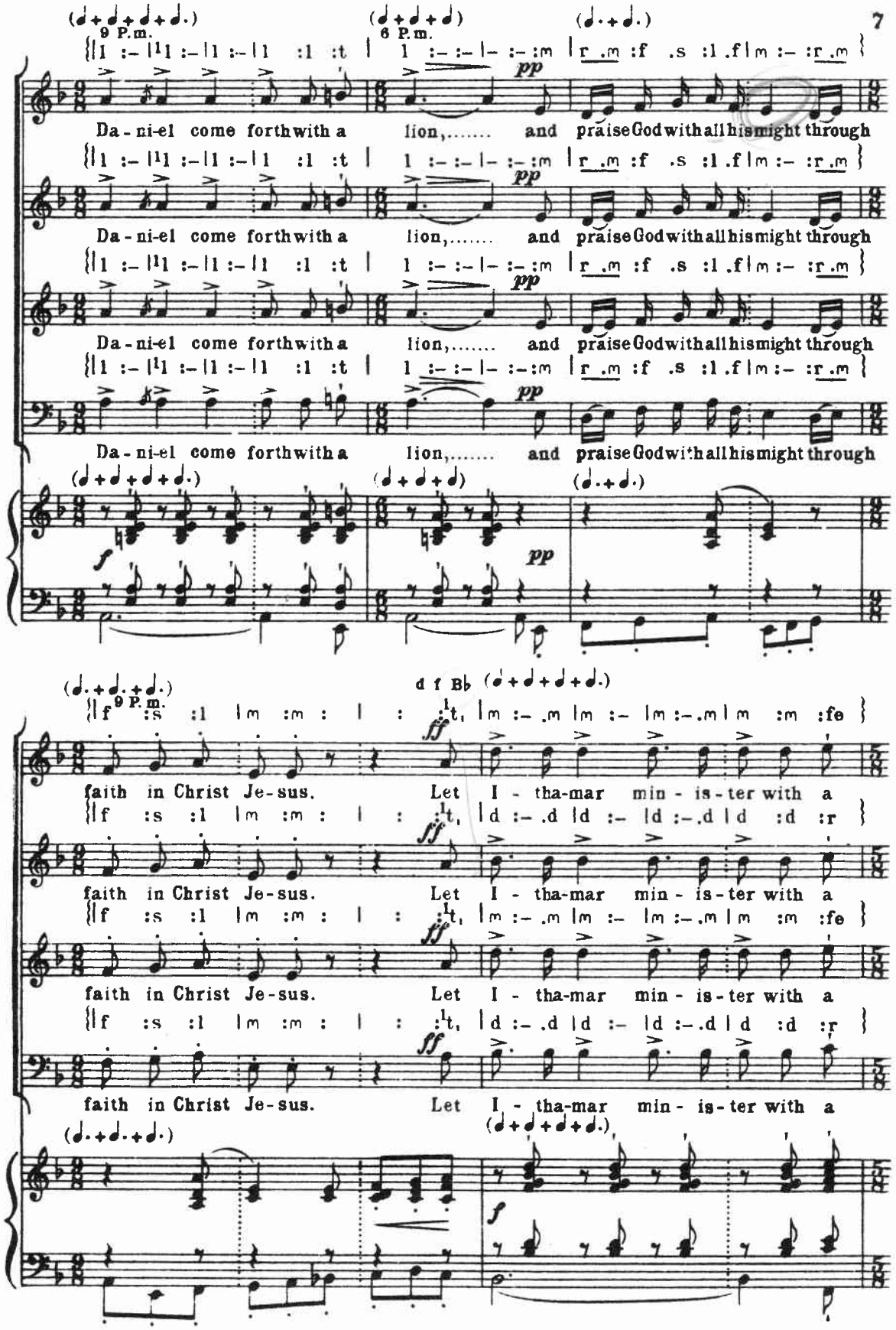

breath of Life.....
Let man and
breath of Life.....
Let man and
breath of Life.....
Let man and
breath of Life.....
Let man and
[+4ft.]

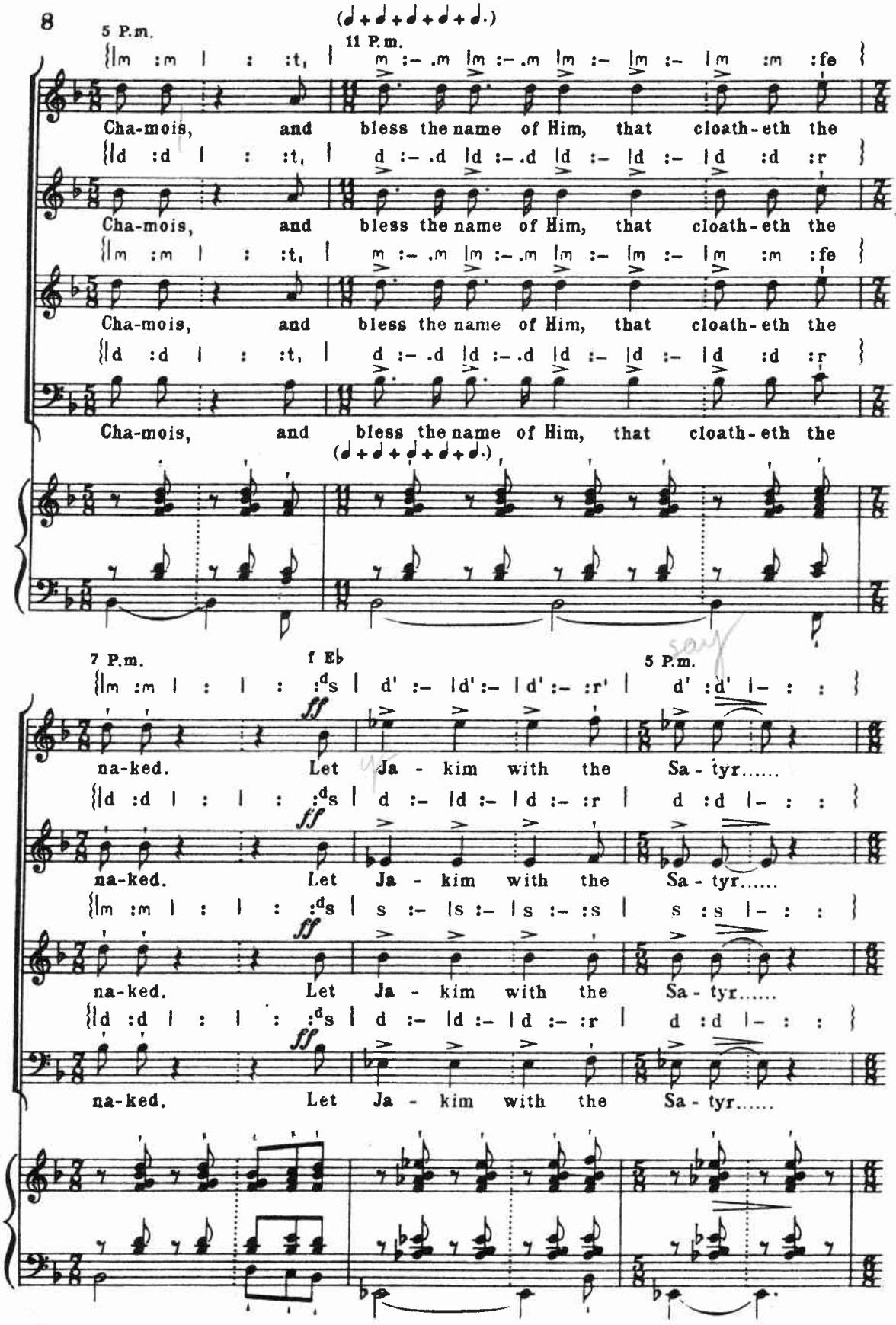

3 P m
4 P m
cresc.
beast ap - pear be - fore him, and mag - ni - fy his
pp
cresc.
f

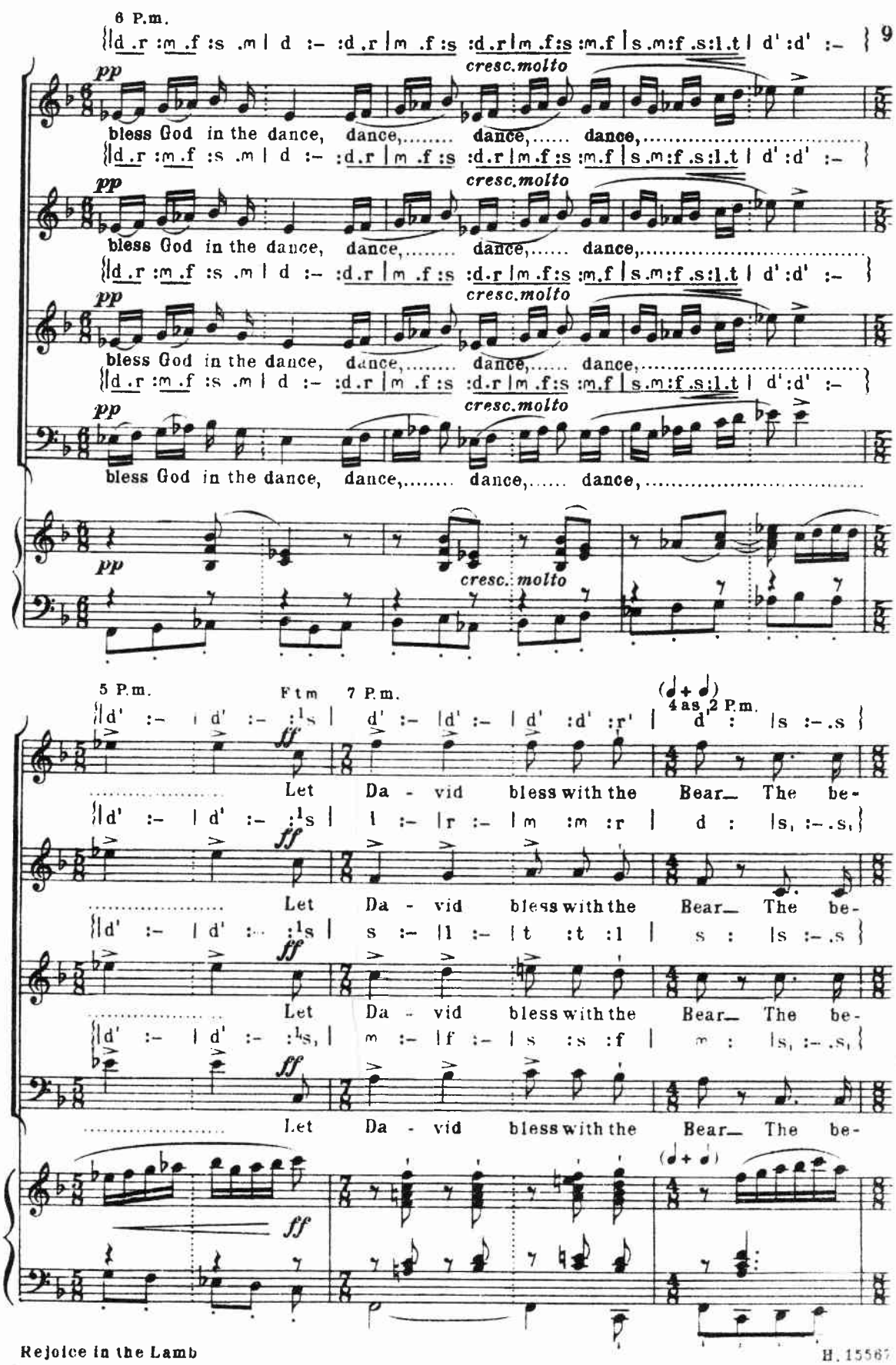

3 P m
4 P m
ppp
name to - geth - er.....
ppp

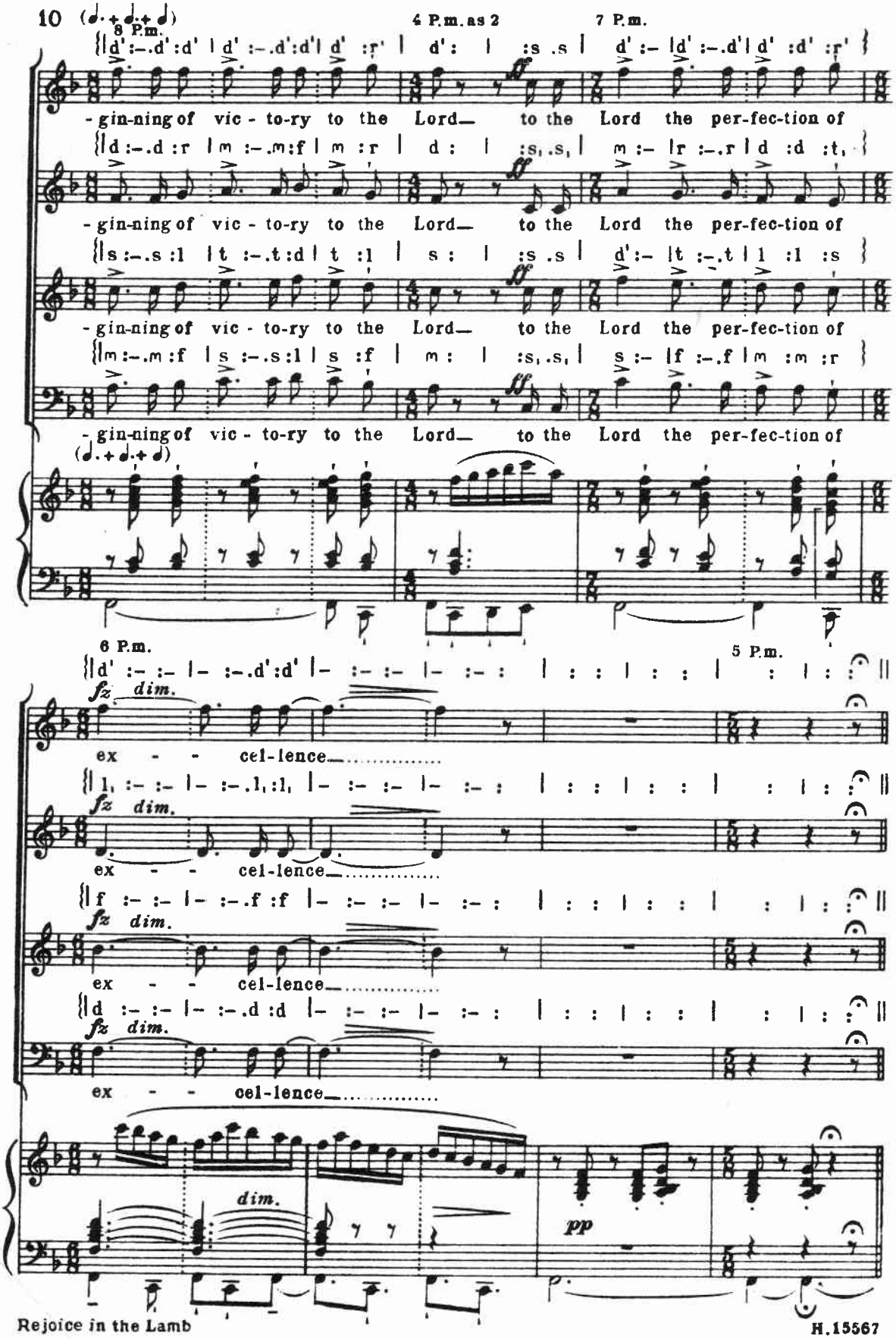

7 P m
Lord. Let Ish - mail de-di-cate a Ty - ger,.....
Lord. Let Ish - mail de-di-cate a Ty - ger,.....
Lord. Let Ish - mail de-di-cate a Ty - ger,.....
Lord. Let Ish - mail de-di-cate a Ty - ger,.....
6 P m
and give praise for the li - ber-ty in which the Lord has let..... him at
and give praise for the li - ber-ty in which the Lord has let..... him at
and give praise for the li - ber-ty in which the Lord has let..... him at
and give praise for the li - ber-ty in which the Lord has let..... him at

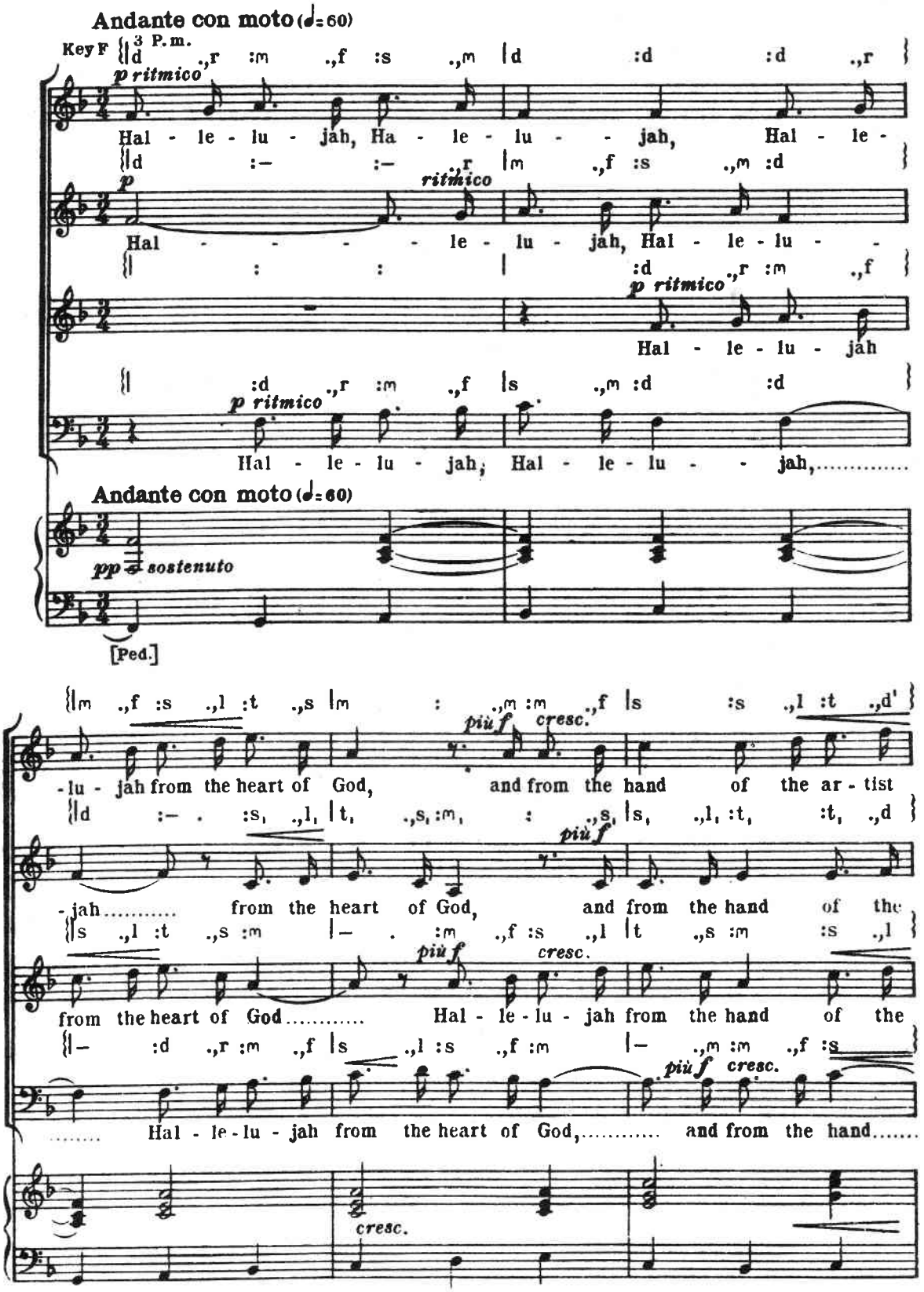

6
(♩+♩+♩+♩.)
C t
9 P m
7 P m
5 P m
large. Let Ba - laam appear with an ass,.... and bless the Lord his
large. Let Ba - laam appear with an ass,.... and bless the Lord his
large. Let Ba - laam appear with an ass,.... and bless the Lord his
large. Let Ba - laam appear with an ass,.... and bless the Lord his
7 P m
6 P m
peo - ple..... and his creatures for a re-ward e - ter - nal. Let
peo - ple..... and his creatures for a re-ward e - ter - nal. Let
peo - ple..... and his creatures for a re-ward e - ter - nal. Let
peo - ple..... and his creatures for a re-ward e - ter - nal. Let

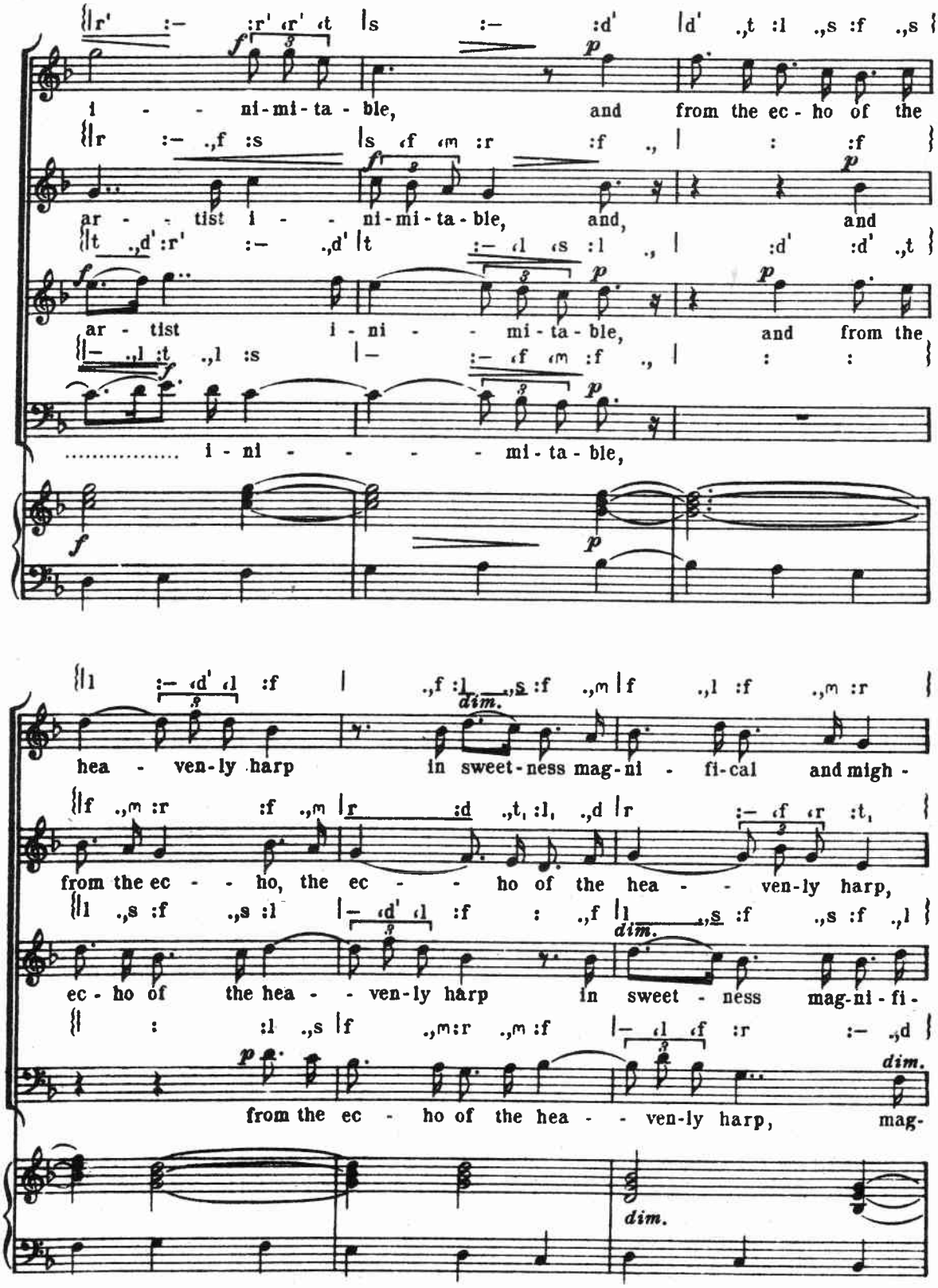

9 P.m.
6 P.m.
Da - ni-el come forth with a lion,..... and praise God with all his might through
Da - ni-el come forth with a lion,..... and praise God with all his might through
Da - ni-el come forth with a lion,..... and praise God with all his might through
Da - ni-el come forth with a lion,..... and praise God with all his might through
9 P.m.
faith in Christ Je-sus. Let I - tha-mar min - is-ter with a
faith in Christ Je-sus. Let I - tha-mar min - is-ter with a
faith in Christ Je-sus. Let I - tha-mar min - is-ter with a
faith in Christ Je-sus. Let I - tha-mar min - is-ter with a

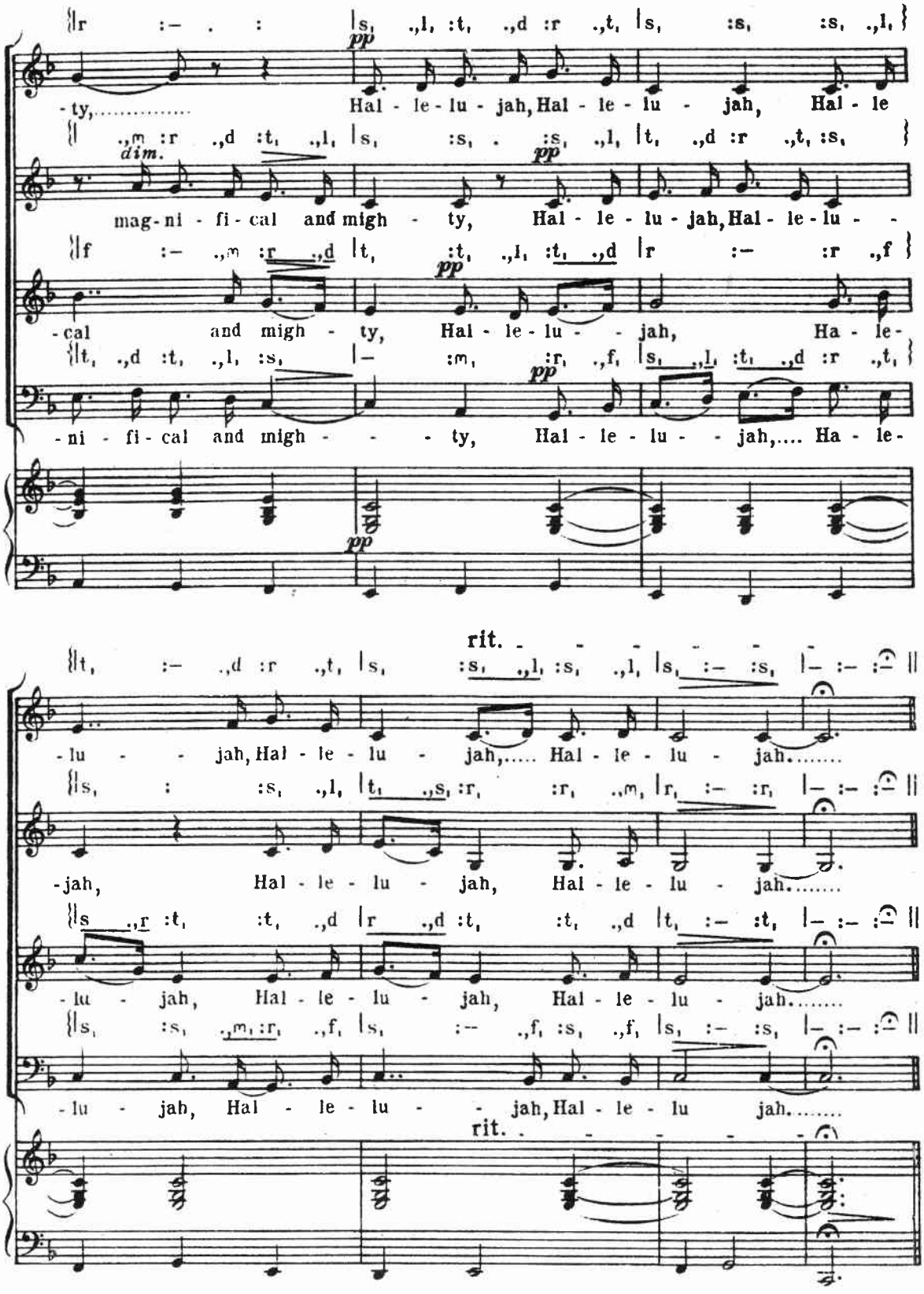

5 P.m.
11 P.m.
Cha-mois, and bless the name of Him, that cloath-eth the
Cha-mois, and bless the name of Him, that cloath-eth the
Cha-mois, and bless the name of Him, that cloath-eth the
Cha-mois, and bless the name of Him, that cloath-eth the
7 P.m.
f Eb
5 P.m.
ff
na-ked. Let Ja - kim with the Sa - tyr.....
na-ked. Let Ja - kim with the Sa - tyr.....
na-ked. Let Ja - kim with the Sa - tyr.....
na-ked. Let Ja - kim with the Sa - tyr.....

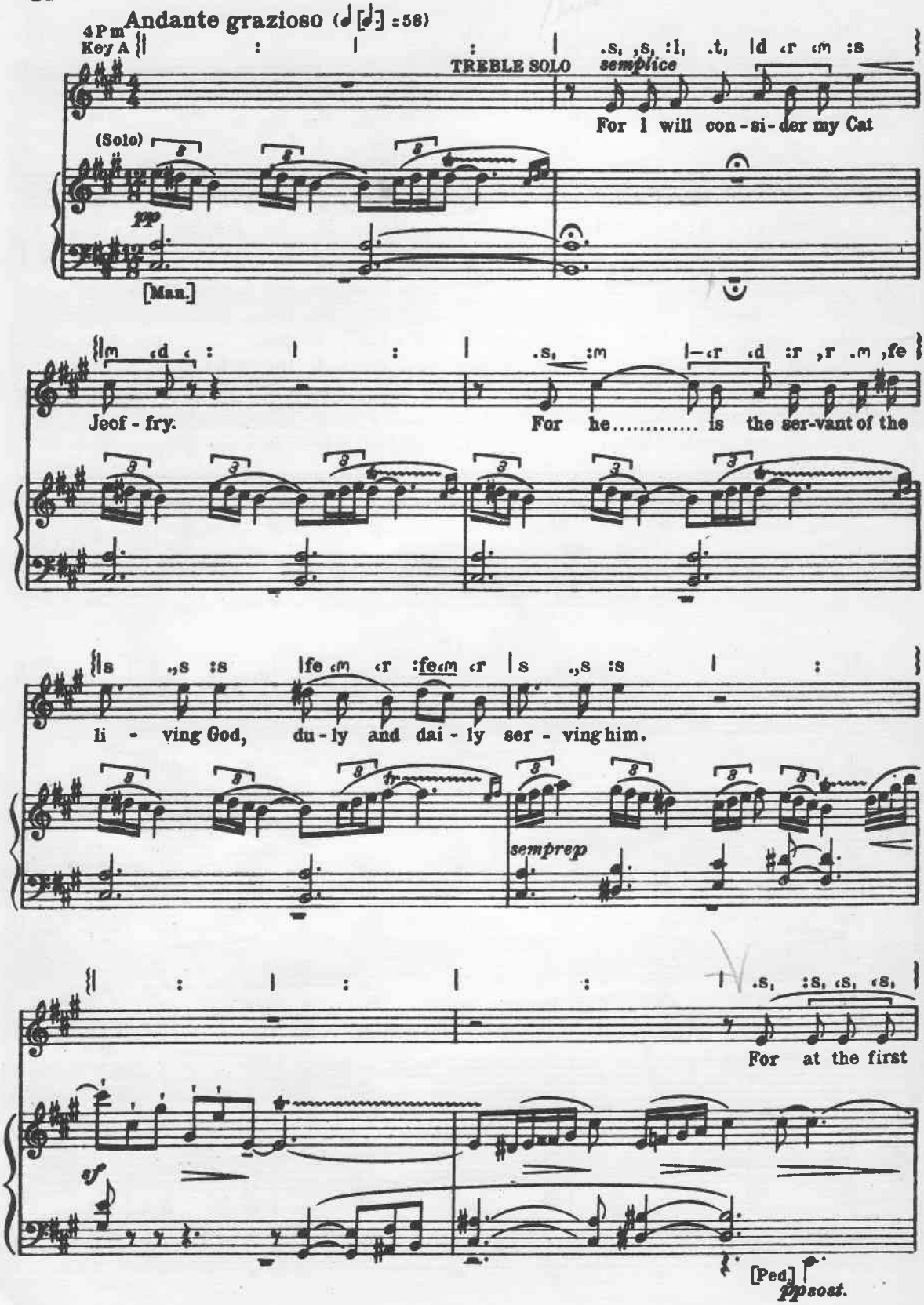

6 P.m.
pp
cresc.molto
bless God in the dance, dance,..... dance,..... dance,.....
5 P.m.
F t m
7 P.m.
4 as 2 P.m.
ff
Let Da - vid bless with the Bear_ The be-

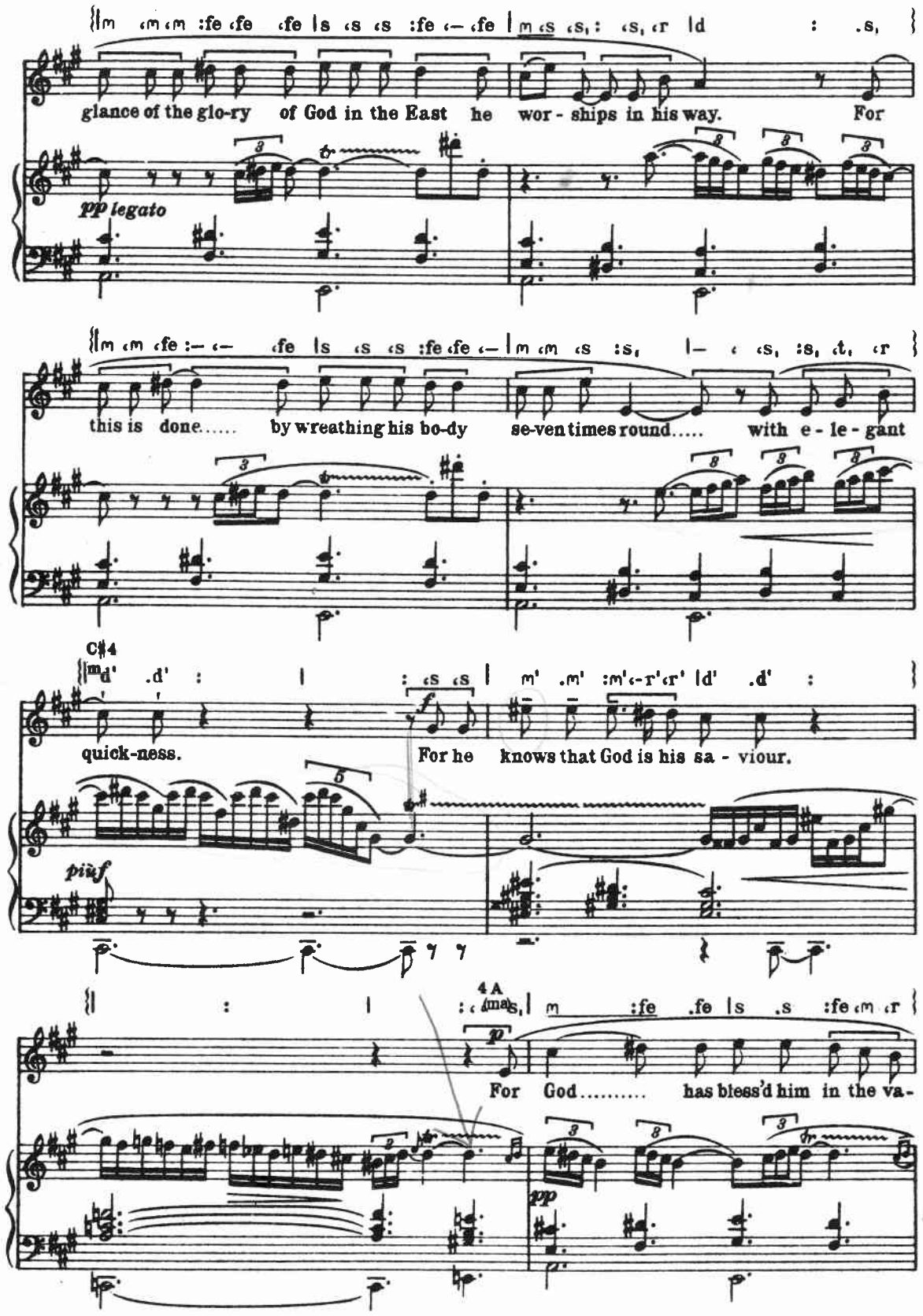

8 P.m.
4 P.m. as 2
7 P.m.
-gin-ning of vic - to-ry to the Lord— to the Lord the per-fec-tion of
-gin-ning of vic - to-ry to the Lord— to the Lord the per-fec-tion of
-gin-ning of vic - to-ry to the Lord— to the Lord the per-fec-tion of
-gin-ning of vic - to-ry to the Lord— to the Lord the per-fec-tion of
6 P.m.
5 P.m.
fz dim.
ex - - cel-lence
pp

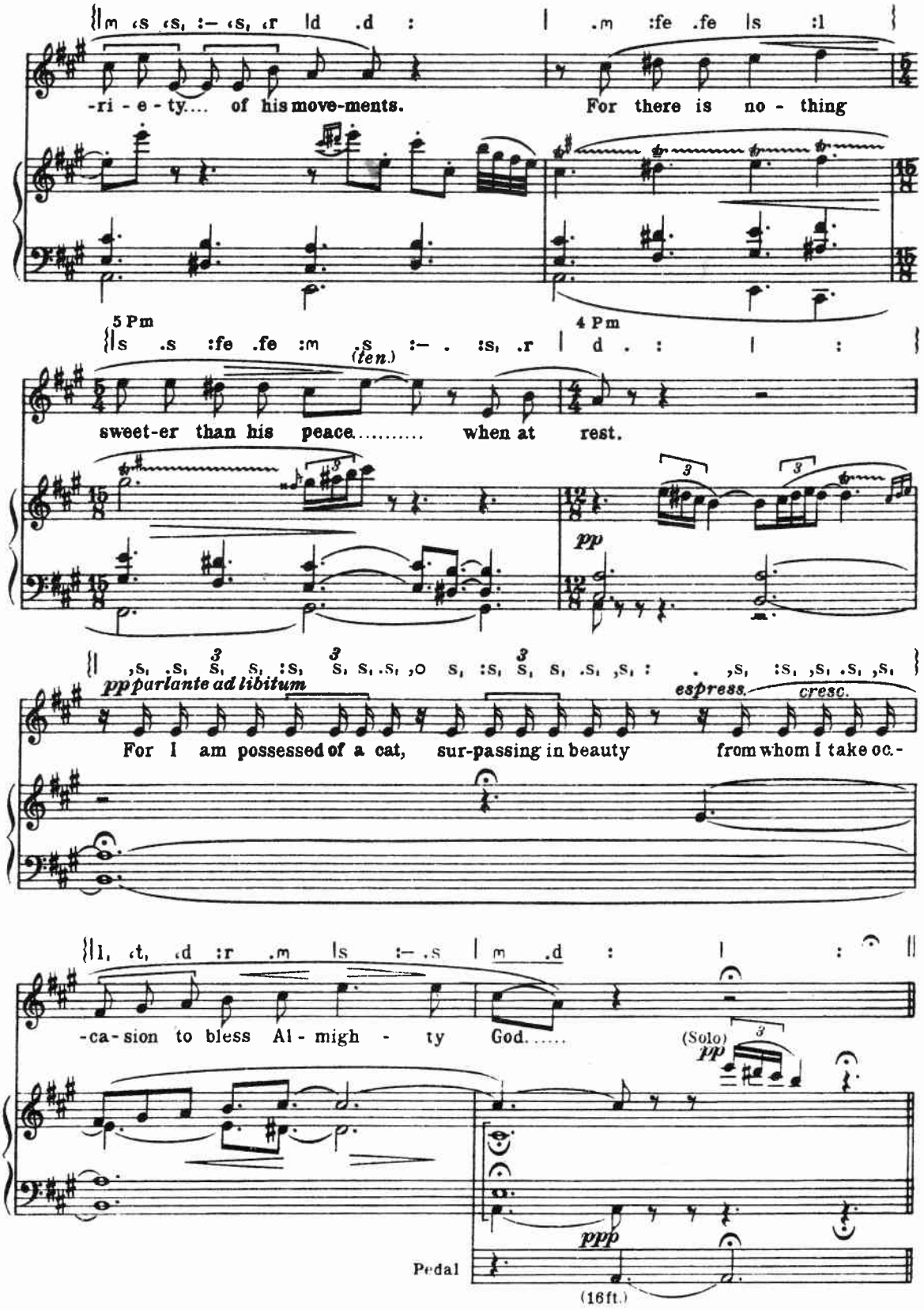

Andante con moto (♩= 60)
Key F
3 P.m.
p ritmico
Hal - le - lu - jah, Ha - le - lu - jah, Hal - le -
p
ritmico
Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu -
p ritmico
Hal - le - lu - jah
p ritmico
Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah,
Andante con moto (♩= 60)
pp sostenuto
[Ped.]
-lu - jah from the heart of God, and from the hand of the ar - tist
più f
cresc.
-jah from the heart of God, and from the hand of the
più f
from the heart of God Hal - le - lu - jah from the hand of the
più f
cresc.
Hal - le - lu - jah from the heart of God, and from the hand
più f
cresc.
cresc.

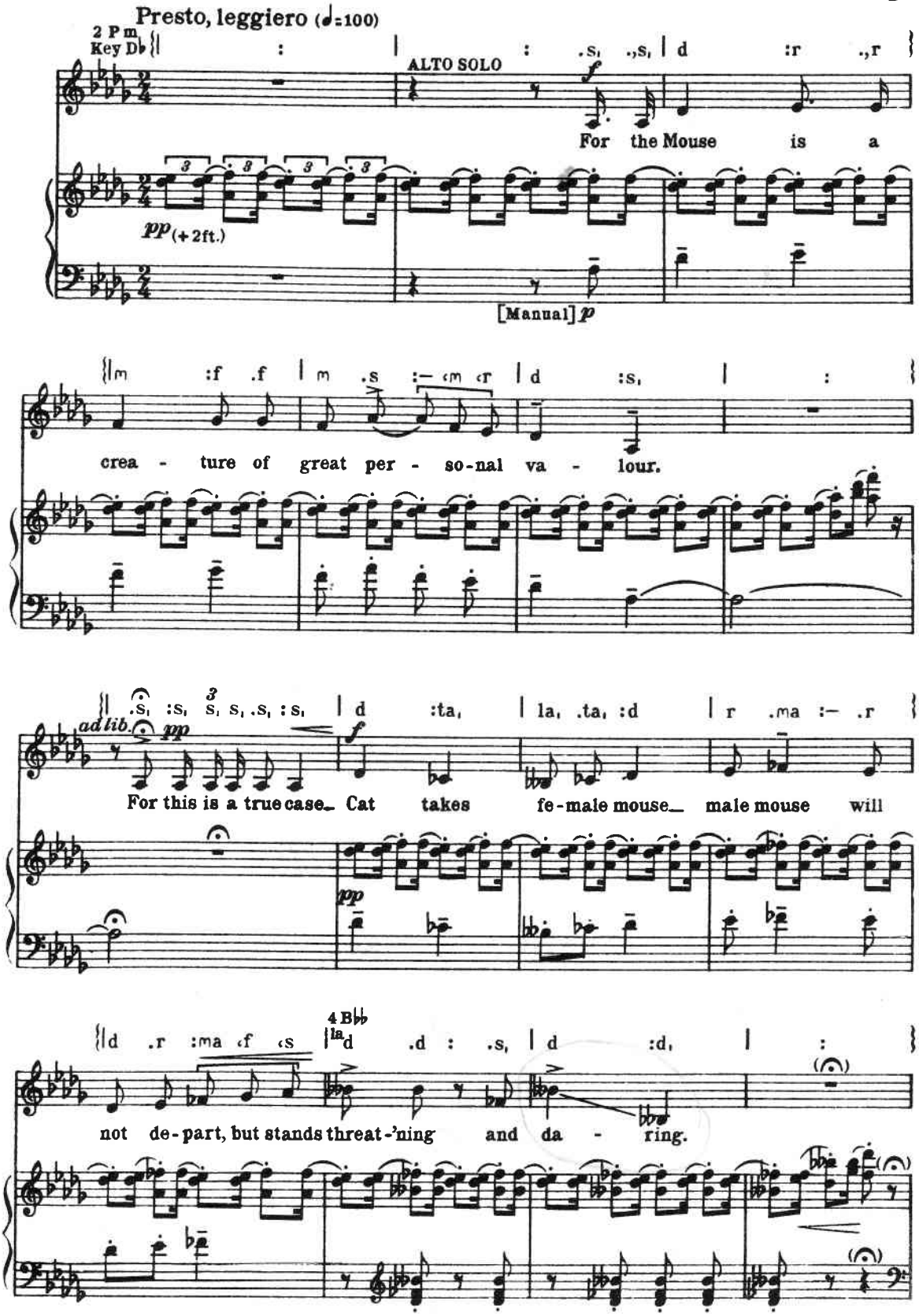

i - - ni-mi-ta-ble, and from the ec-ho of the
ar - - tist i - - ni-mi-ta-ble, and, and
ar - tist i - ni - - mi-ta-ble, and from the
..... i - ni - - - - mi-ta-ble,
hea - ven-ly harp in sweet-ness mag-ni - fi-cal and migh -
from the ec - - ho, the ec - - ho of the hea - - ven-ly harp,
ec - ho of the hea - - ven-ly harp in sweet - ness mag-ni - fi -
from the ec - ho of the hea - - ven-ly harp, mag-
dim.

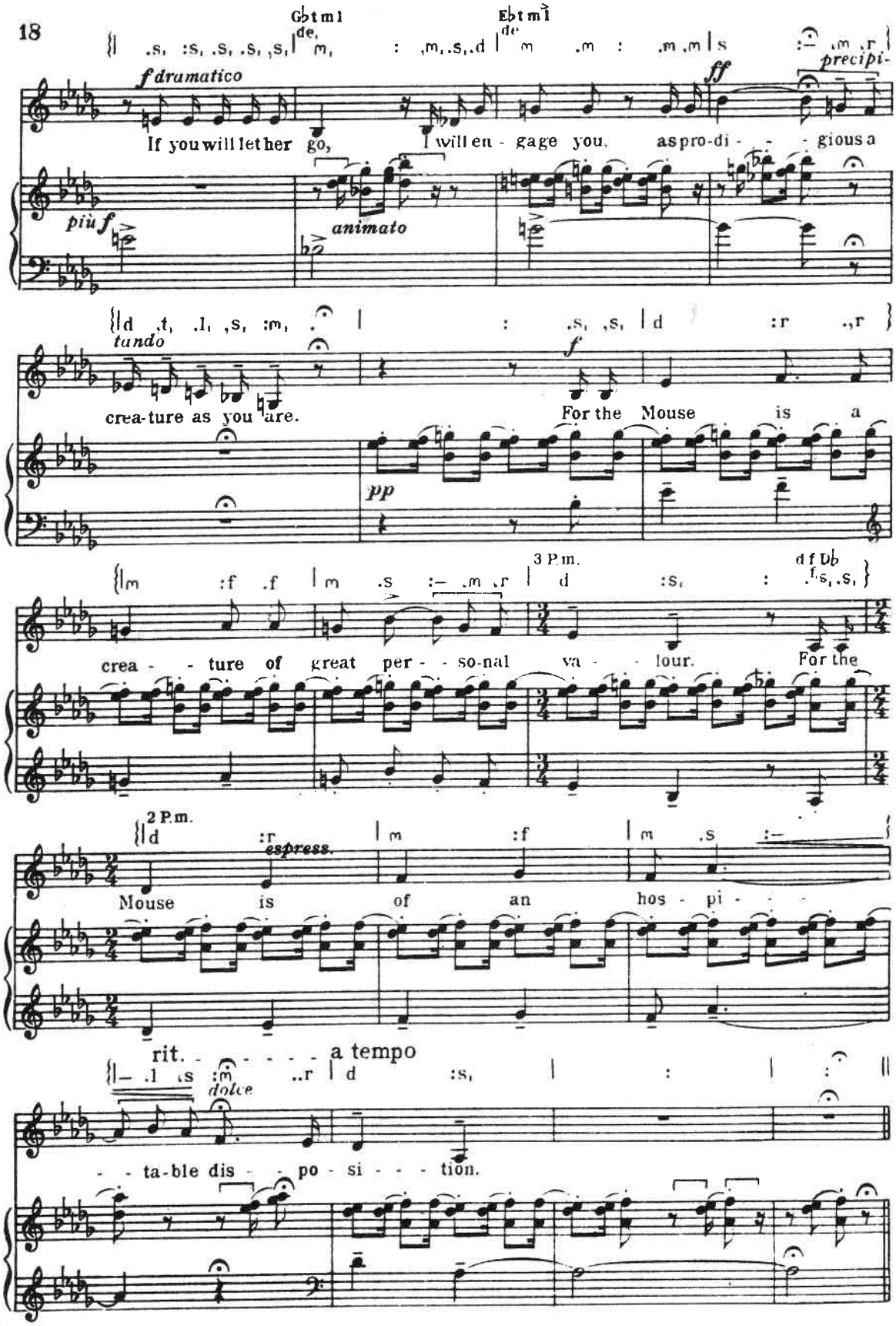

pp
-ty, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le
dim.
pp
mag - ni - fi - cal and migh - ty, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu -
pp
-cal and migh - ty, Hal - le - lu - jah, Ha - le -
pp
-ni - fi - cal and migh - - - ty, Hal - le - lu - - jah,.... Ha - le -
rit.
-lu - - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah,..... Hal - le - lu - jah.....
-jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.....
-lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.....
-lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - - jah, Hal - le - lu jah.....
rit.

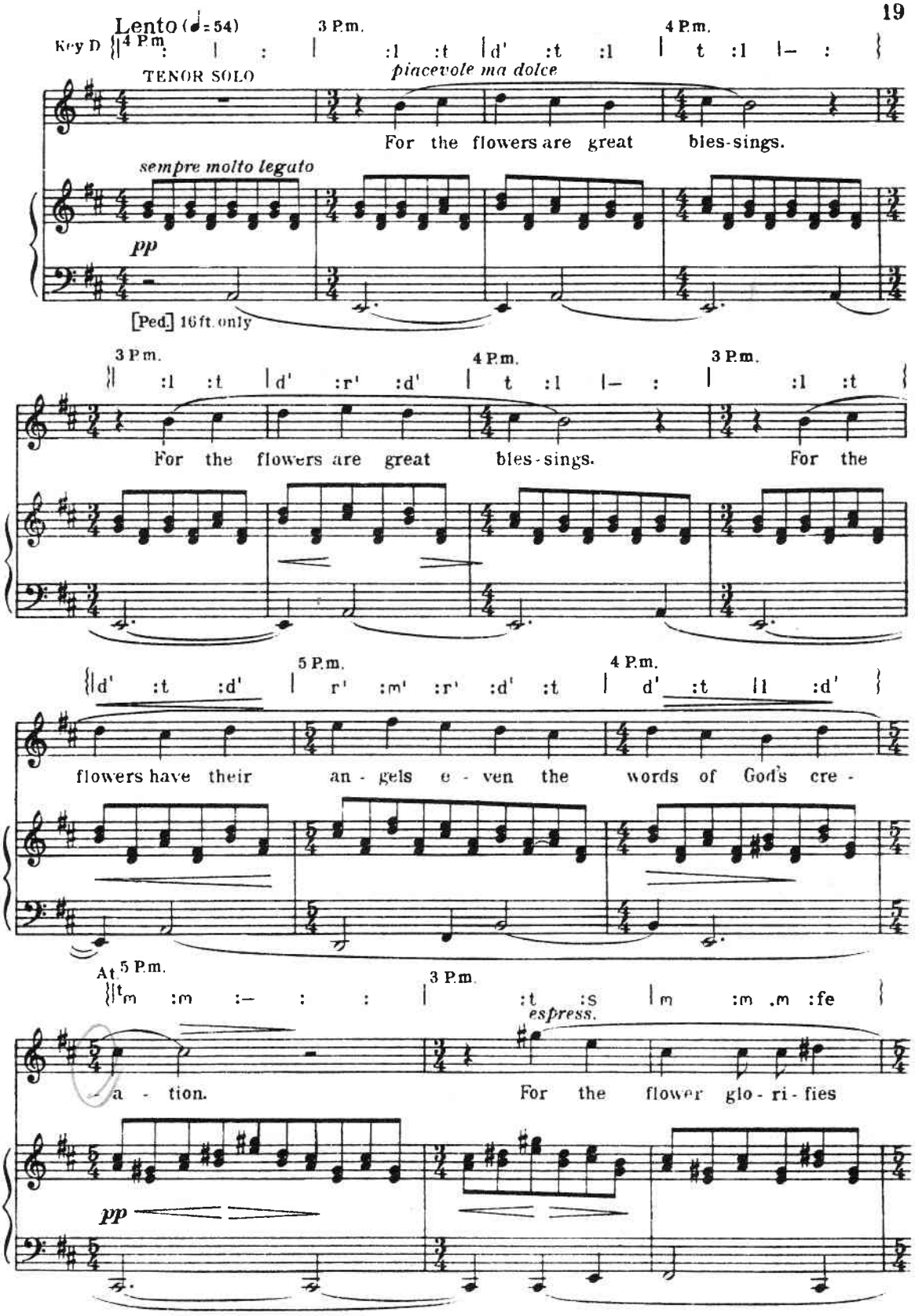

Andante grazioso (♩ [♩.] = 58)
4 P m
Key A
TREBLE SOLO
semplice
For I will con - si - der my Cat
(Solo)
pp
[Man.]
Jeof - fry.
For he..... is the ser-vant of the
li - ving God, du - ly and dai - ly ser - ving him.
semprep
For at the first
sf
[Ped.]
ppsost.

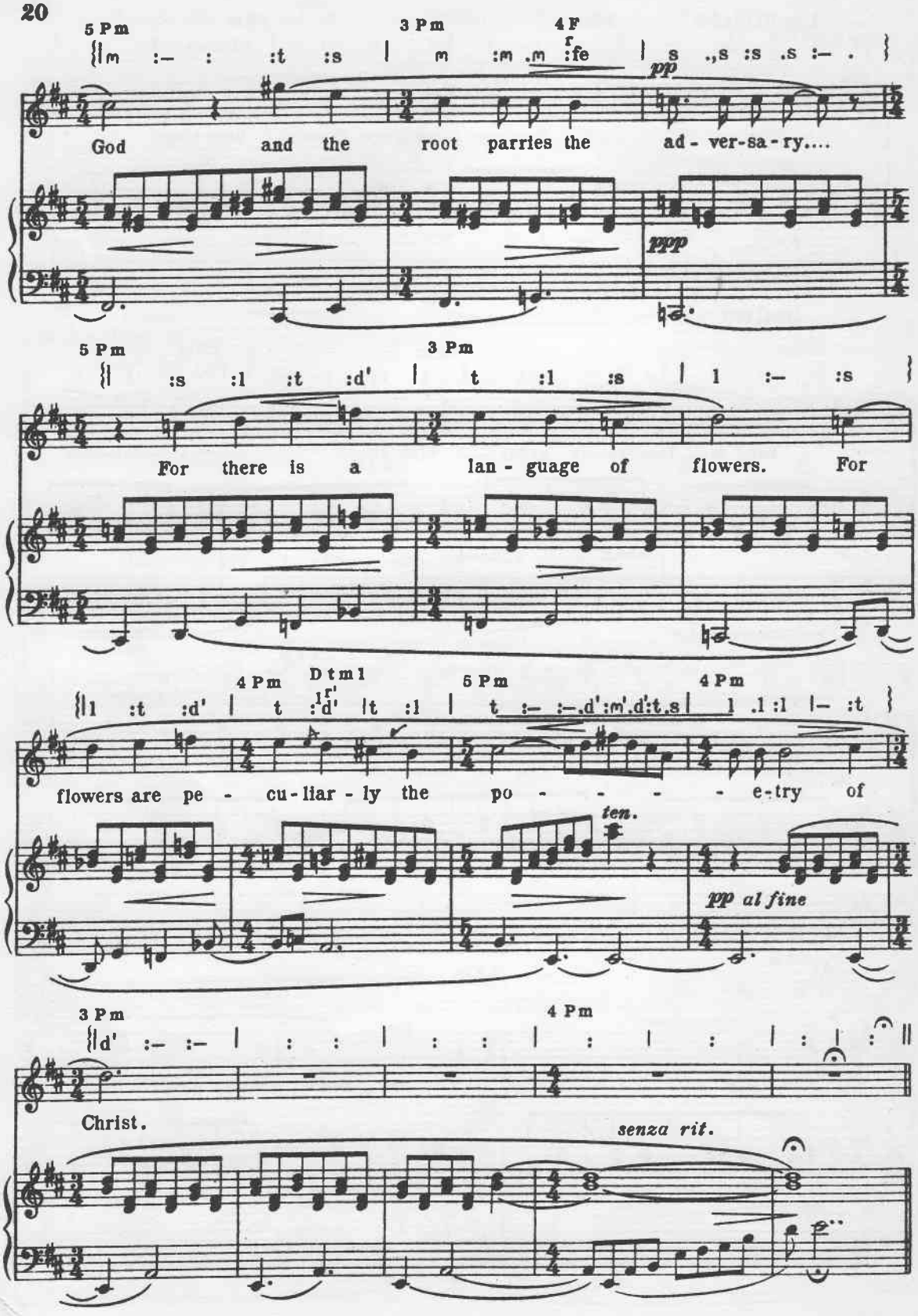

glance of the glo-ry of God in the East he wor - ships in his way. For
pp legato
this is done..... by wreathing his bo-dy se-ven times round..... with e - le - gant
C♯4
quick-ness. For he knows that God is his sa - viour.
più f
4 A
For God..... has bless'd him in the va-
pp

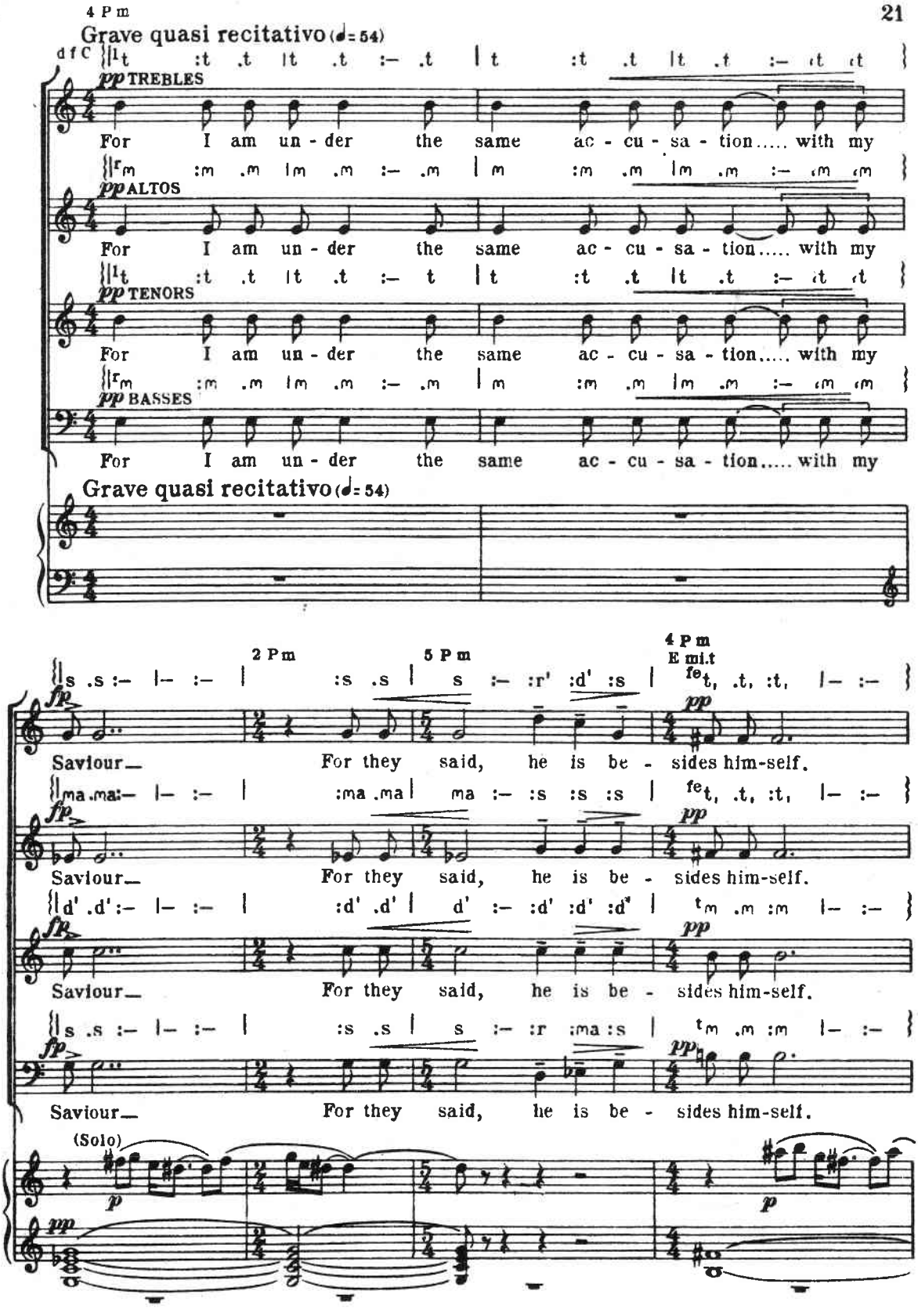

-ri - e - ty.... of his move-ments. For there is no - thing
5 P m
4 P m
(ten.)
sweet-er than his peace..... when at rest.
pp
pp parlante ad libitum
espress.
cresc.
For I am possessed of a cat, sur-passing in beauty from whom I take oc.-
-ca-sion to bless Al - migh - ty God.....
(Solo)
pp
ppp
Pedal
(16ft.)

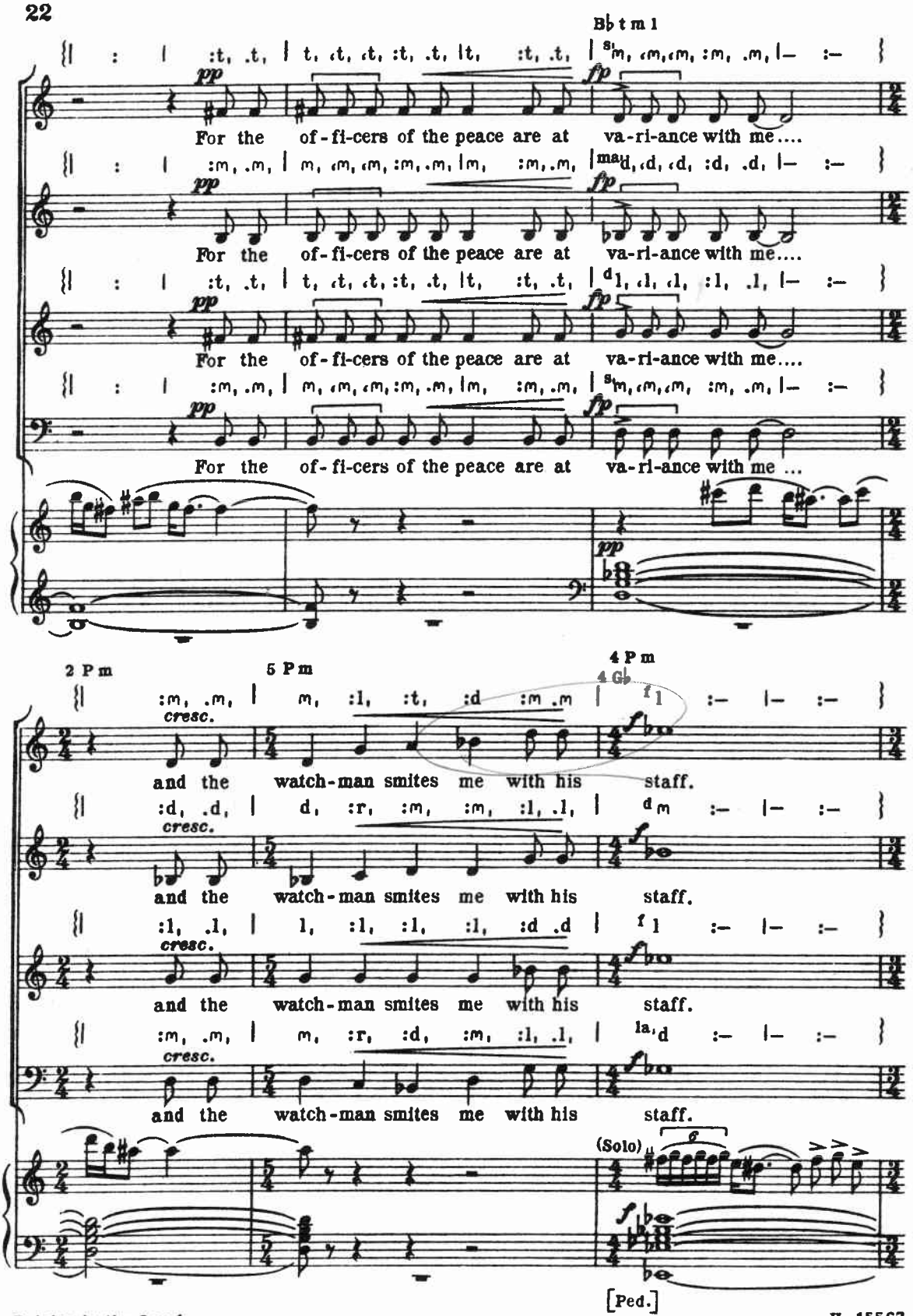

Presto, leggiero (♩=100)
2 P m
Key D♭
ALTO SOLO
For the Mouse is a
pp (+2ft.)
[Manual] p
crea - ture of great per - so-nal va - lour.
ad lib.
pp
f
For this is a true case_ Cat takes fe-male mouse_ male mouse will
pp
4 B♭♭
not de-part, but stands threat-'ning and da - ring.

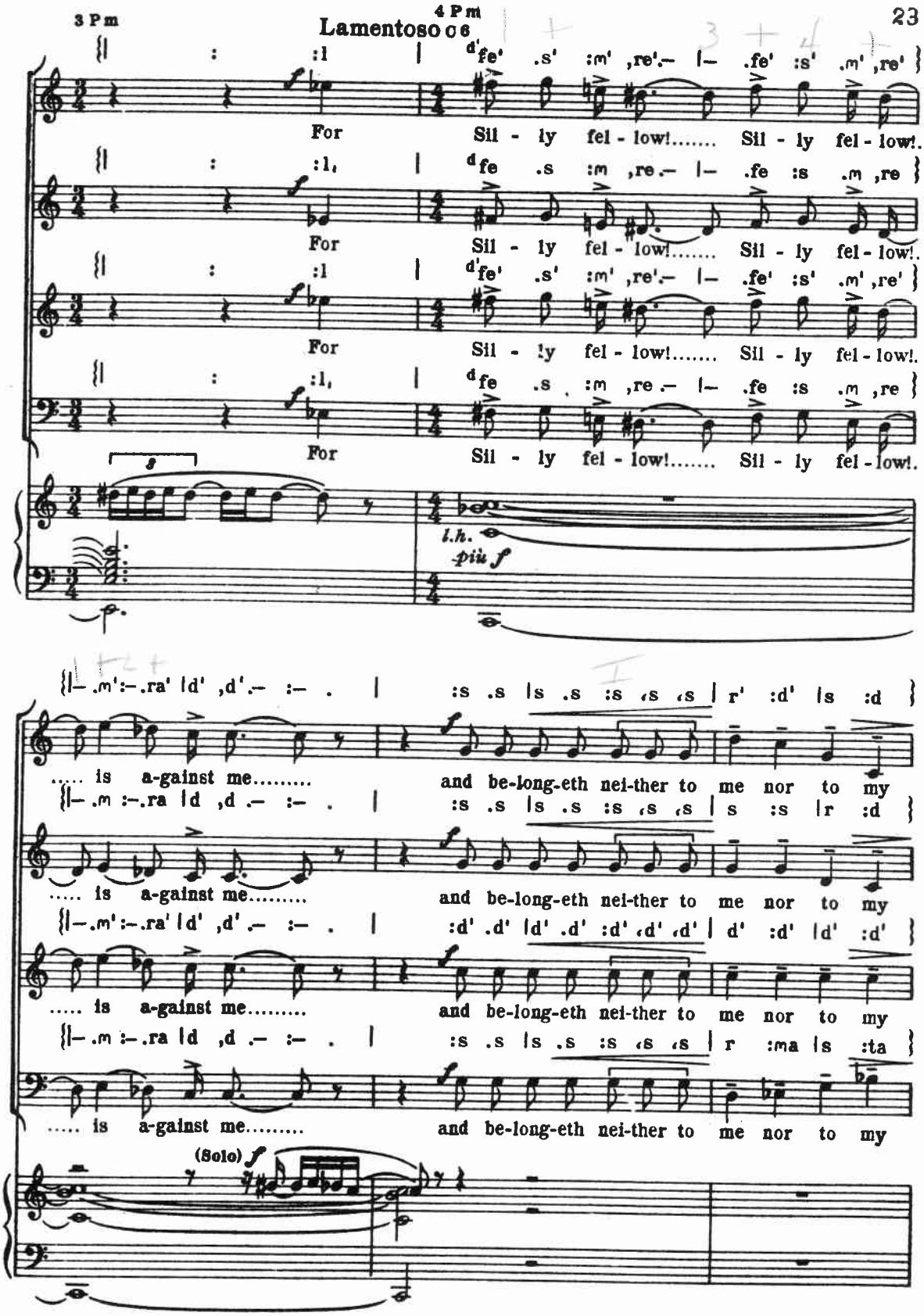

f dramatico
ff
precipi-
If you will let her go, I will en - gage you, as pro-di - - gious a
più f
animato
tando
crea-ture as you are.
f
For the Mouse is a
pp
3 P.m.
crea - ture of great per - so-nal va - lour. For the
2 P.m.
espress.
Mouse is of an hos - pi - - -
rit. - - - - - a tempo
dolce
- - ta-ble dis - - po - si - - - tion.

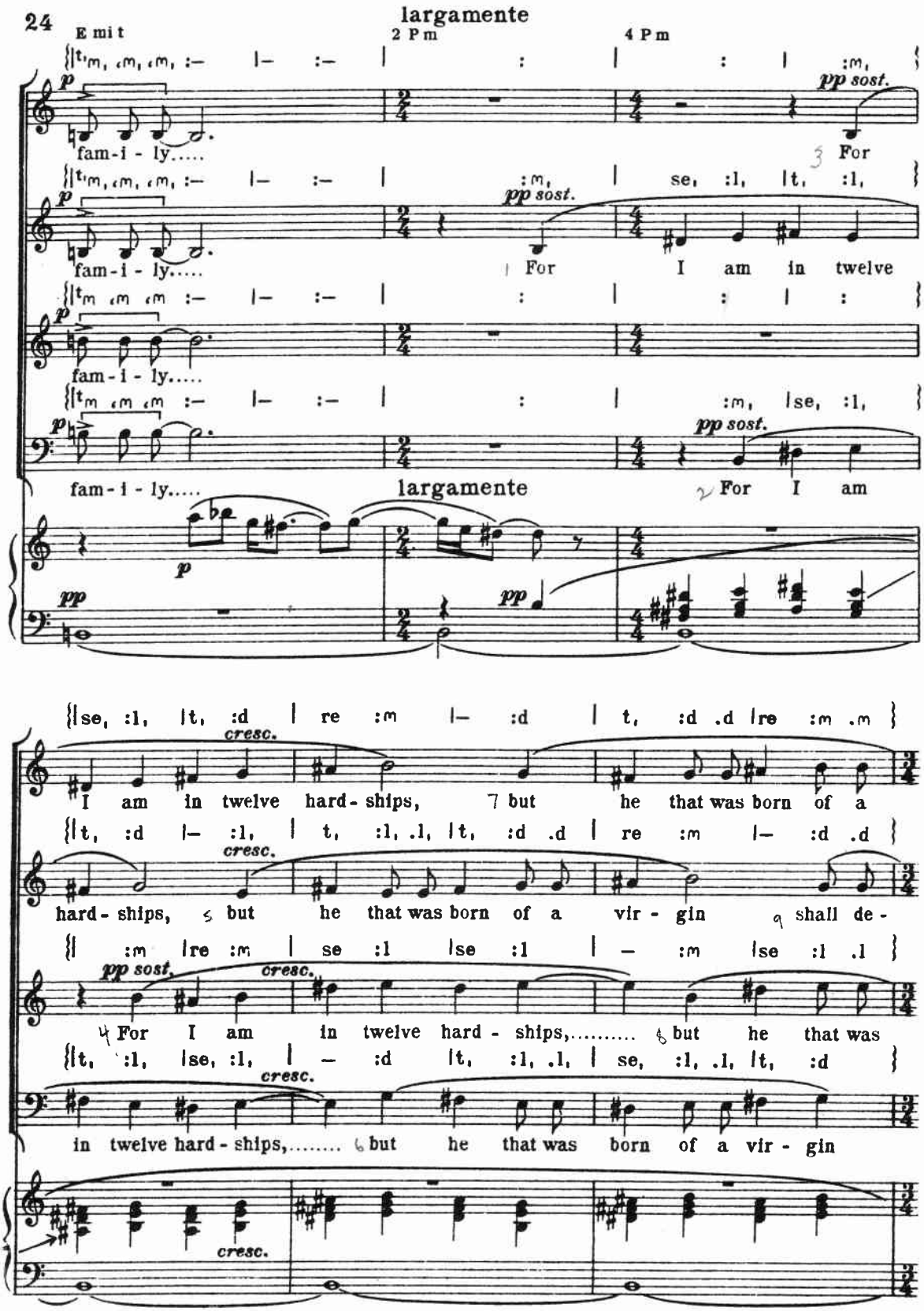

Lento (♩= 54)
Key D
4 P.m.
3 P.m.
4 P.m.
TENOR SOLO
piacevole ma dolce
For the flowers are great bles-sings.
sempre molto legato
pp
[Ped.] 16 ft. only
3 P.m.
4 P.m.
3 P.m.
For the flowers are great bles-sings. For the
5 P.m.
4 P.m.
flowers have their an-gels e-ven the words of God's cre-
At 5 P.m.
3 P.m.
espress.
a-tion. For the flower glo-ri-fies
pp

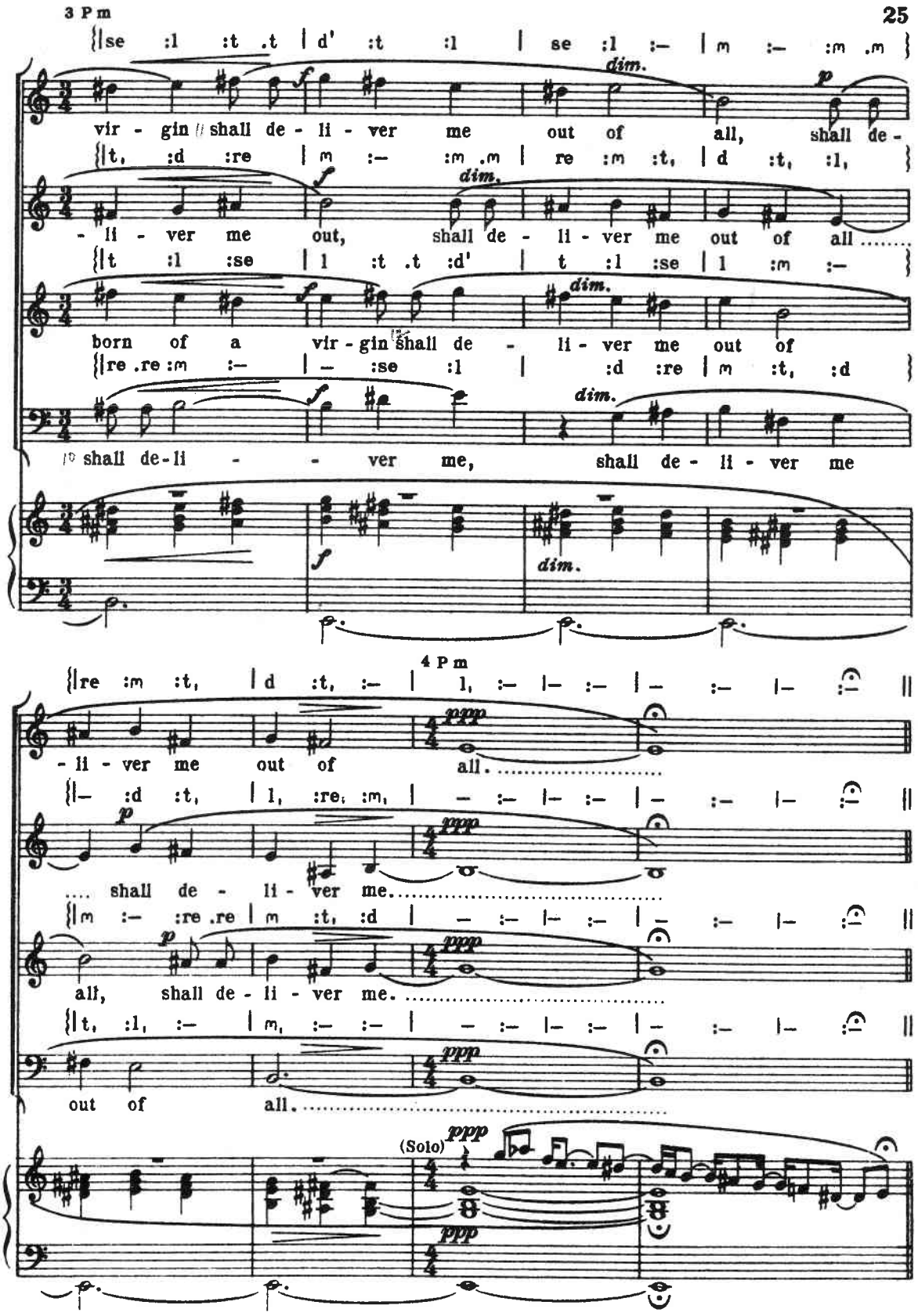

5 Pm
3 Pm
4 F
pp
God and the root parries the ad - ver-sa-ry....
ppp
5 Pm
3 Pm
For there is a lan - guage of flowers. For
4 Pm
D t m l
5 Pm
4 Pm
flowers are pe - cu-liar - ly the po - - - - e-try of
ten.
pp al fine
3 Pm
4 Pm
Christ.
senza rit.

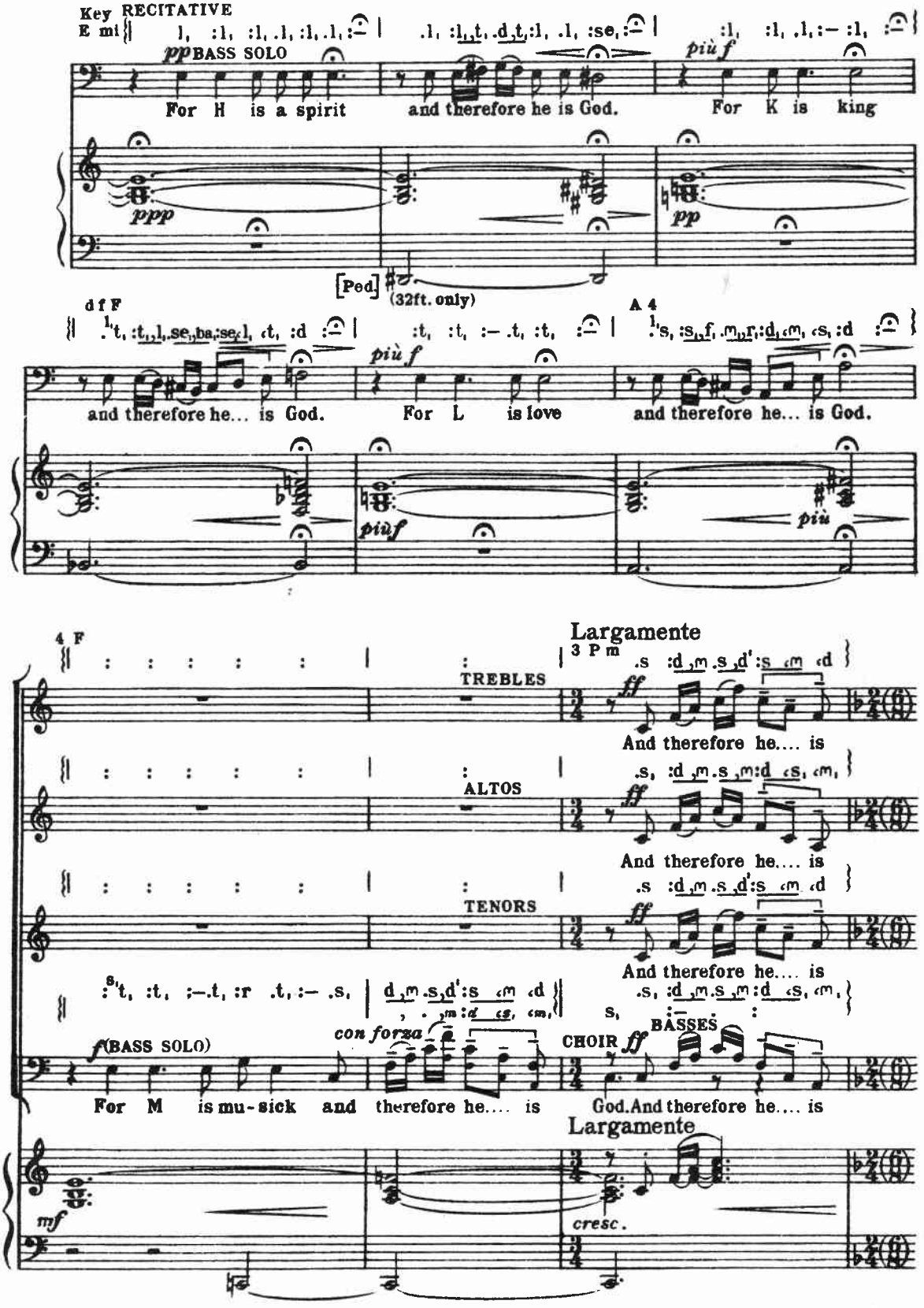

Grave quasi recitativo (♩= 54)
pp TREBLES
For I am un - der the same ac - cu - sa - tion..... with my
pp ALTOS
For I am un - der the same ac - cu - sa - tion..... with my
pp TENORS
For I am un - der the same ac - cu - sa - tion..... with my
pp BASSES
For I am un - der the same ac - cu - sa - tion..... with my
Grave quasi recitativo (♩= 54)
2 P m
5 P m
4 P m
E mi.t
Saviour_ For they said, he is be - sides him-self.
Saviour_ For they said, he is be - sides him-self.
Saviour_ For they said, he is be - sides him-self.
Saviour_ For they said, he is be - sides him-self.
(Solo)

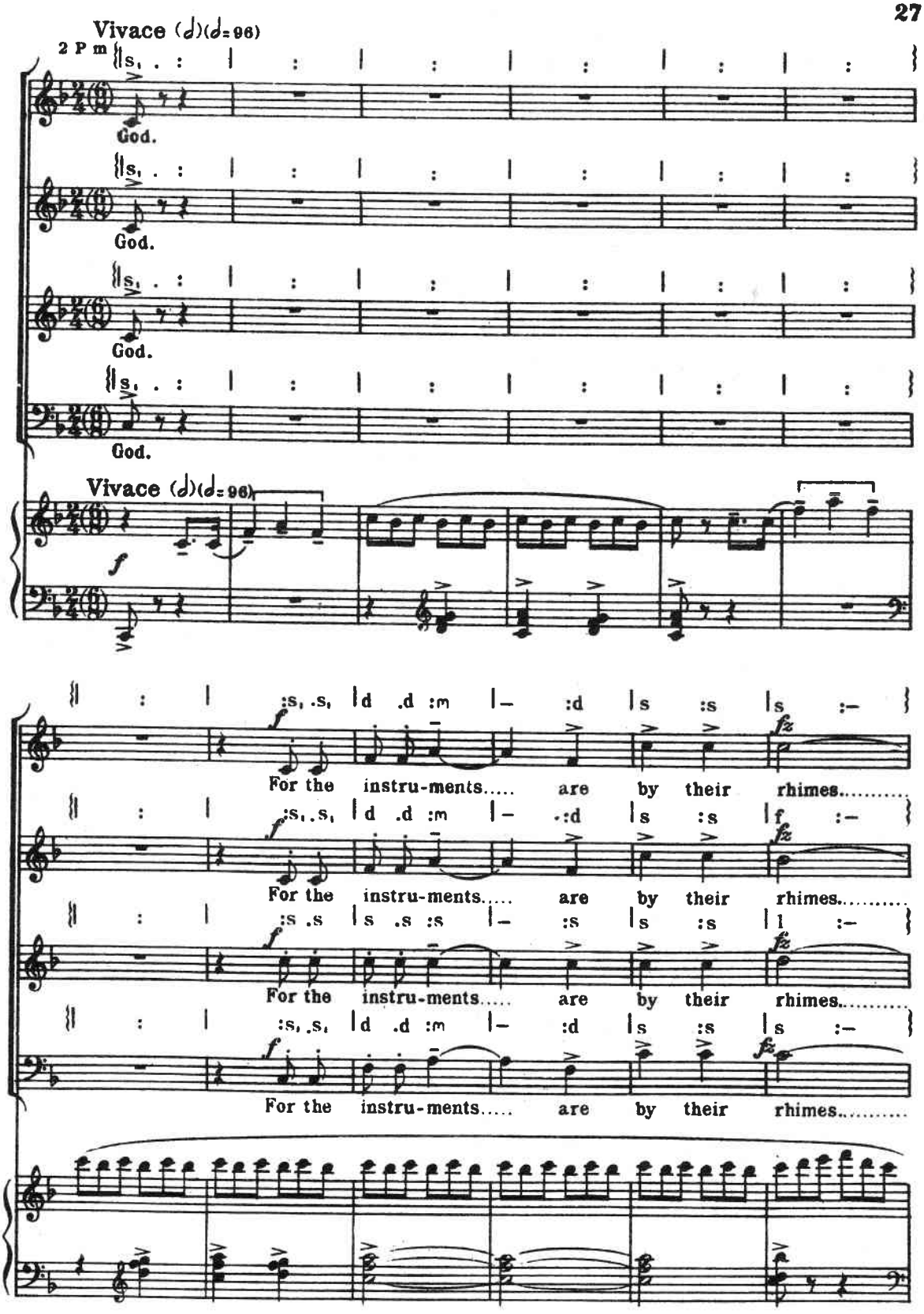

B♭ t m l
pp
fp
For the of-fi-cers of the peace are at va-ri-ance with me....
For the of-fi-cers of the peace are at va-ri-ance with me....
For the of-fi-cers of the peace are at va-ri-ance with me....
For the of-fi-cers of the peace are at va-ri-ance with me ...
2 P m
5 P m
4 P m
4 G♭
cresc.
and the watch-man smites me with his staff.
and the watch-man smites me with his staff.
and the watch-man smites me with his staff.
and the watch-man smites me with his staff.
(Solo)
[Ped.]

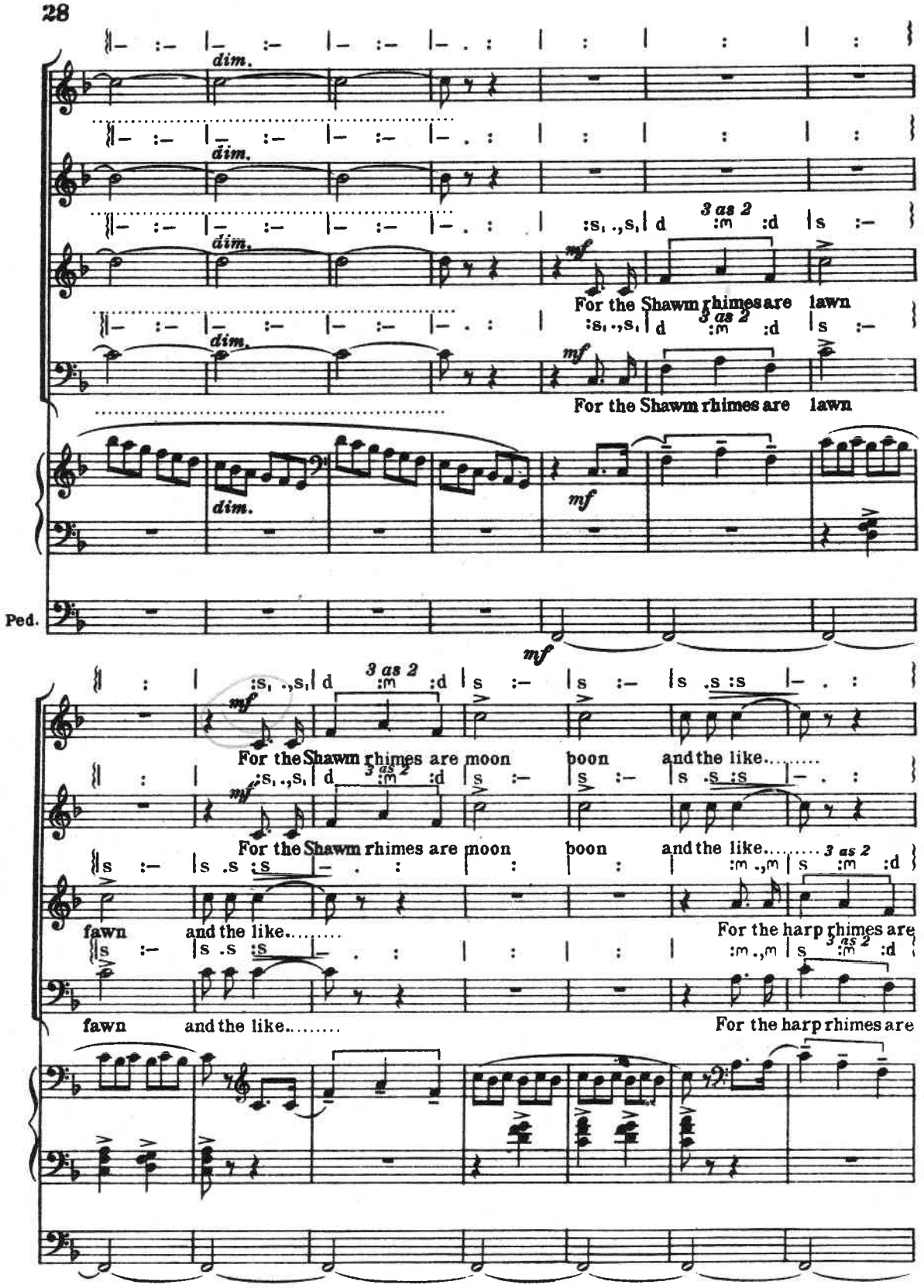

3 P m
4 P m
Lamentoso
For Sil - ly fel - low!..... Sil - ly fel - low!.
For Sil - ly fel - low!..... Sil - ly fel - low!.
For Sil - ly fel - low!..... Sil - ly fel - low!.
For Sil - ly fel - low!..... Sil - ly fel - low!.
l.h.
più f
..... is a-gainst me..... and be-long-eth nei-ther to me nor to my
..... is a-gainst me..... and be-long-eth nei-ther to me nor to my
..... is a-gainst me..... and be-long-eth nei-ther to me nor to my
..... is a-gainst me..... and be-long-eth nei-ther to me nor to my
(Solo) f

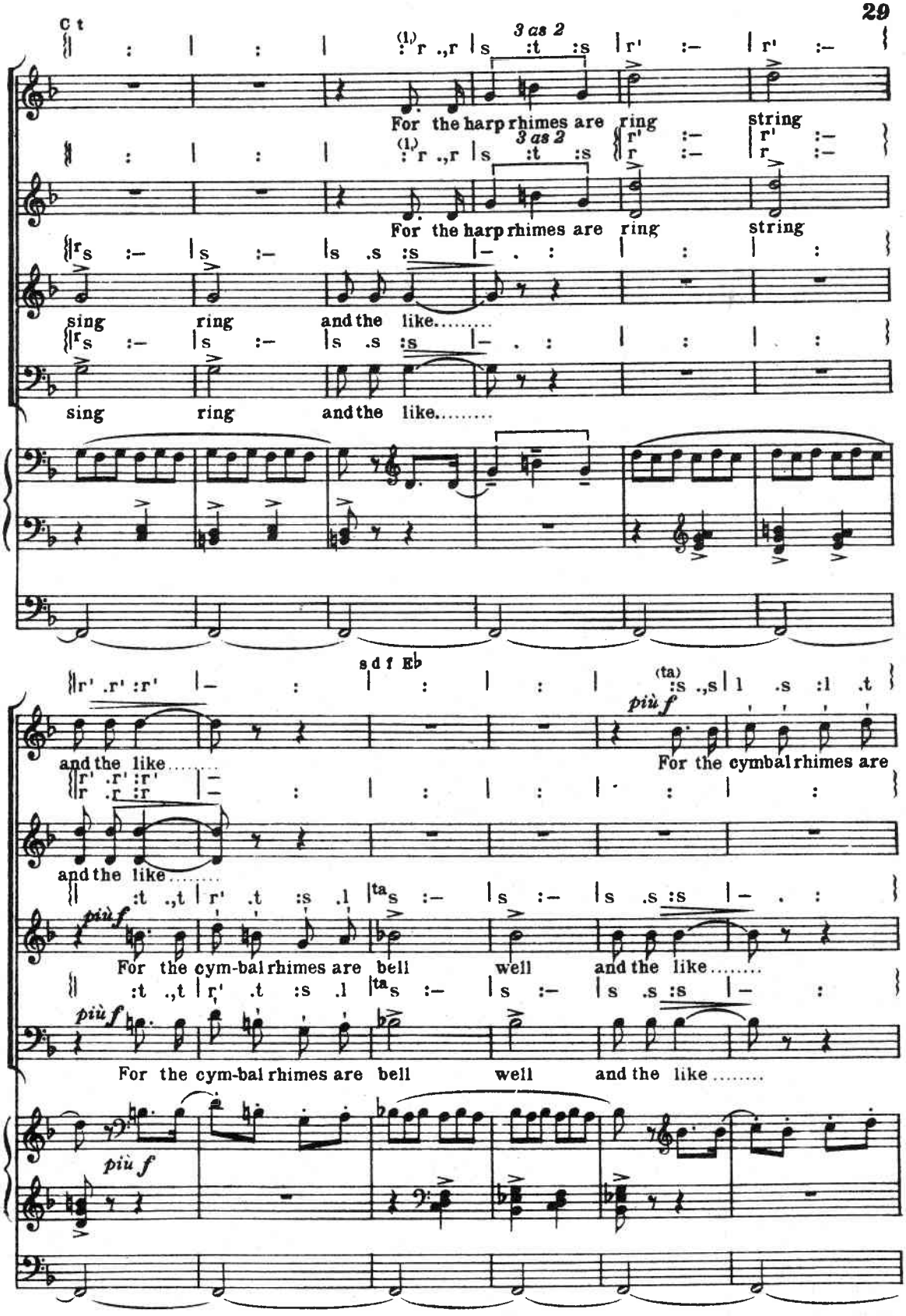

largamente
E mit
2 P m
4 P m
pp sost.
fam-i-ly.....
For
I am in twelve
largamente
For I am
I am in twelve hard-ships, but he that was born of a
hard-ships, but he that was born of a vir-gin shall de-
For I am in twelve hard-ships,..... but he that was
in twelve hard-ships,..... but he that was born of a vir-gin
cresc.

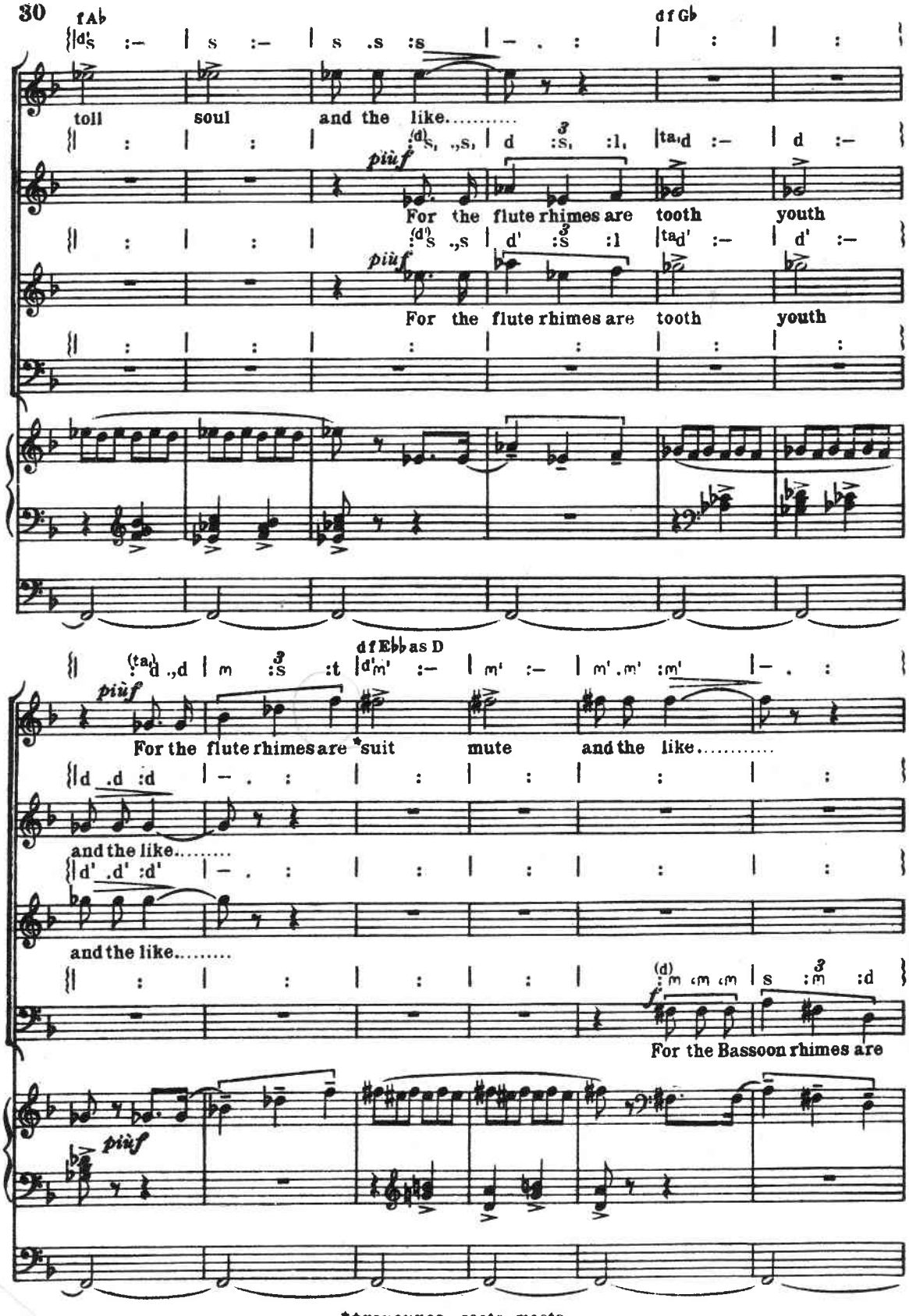

3 P m
vir - gin // shall de - li - ver me out of all, shall de -
- li - ver me out, shall de - li - ver me out of all
born of a vir - gin shall de - li - ver me out of
shall de-li - - ver me, shall de - li - ver me
4 P m
- li - ver me out of all.
.... shall de - li - ver me.
all, shall de - li - ver me.
out of all.
(Solo)


Key RECITATIVE
E mi
pp BASS SOLO
For H is a spirit
and therefore he is God.
più f
For K is king
ppp
pp
[Ped]
(32ft. only)
d f F
A 4
and therefore he... is God.
più f
For L is love
and therefore he... is God.
più f
più
4 F
Largamente
3 P m
TREBLES
ff
And therefore he.... is
ALTOS
And therefore he.... is
TENORS
And therefore he.... is
f (BASS SOLO)
con forza
For M is mu-sick and therefore he.... is
CHOIR ff
BASSES
God. And therefore he.... is
Largamente
mf
cresc.

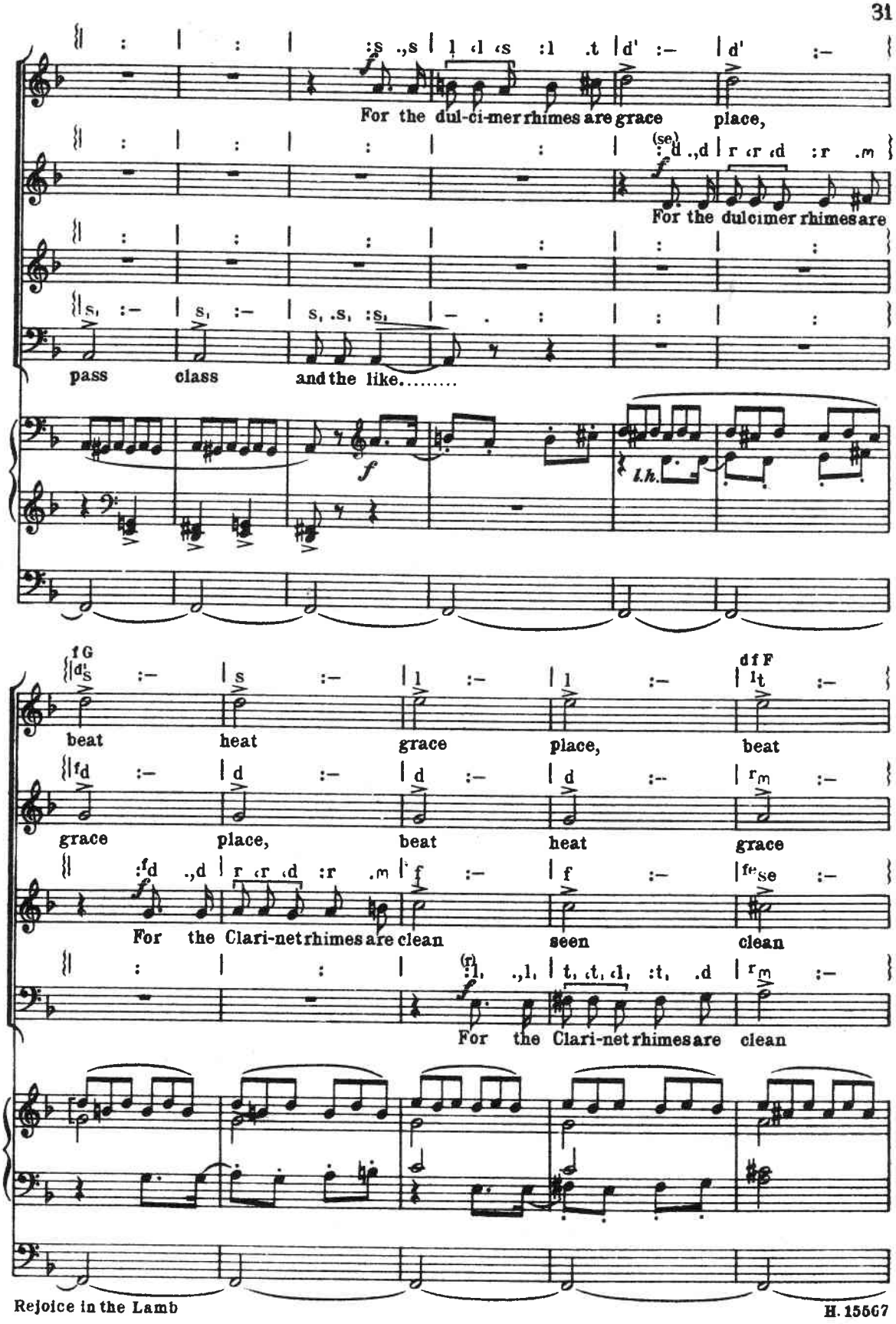

Vivace (♩)(♩=96)
2 P m
God.
God.
God.
God.
Vivace (♩)(♩=96)
For the instru-ments..... are by their rhimes.....
For the instru-ments..... are by their rhimes.....
For the instru-ments..... are by their rhimes.....
For the instru-ments..... are by their rhimes.....

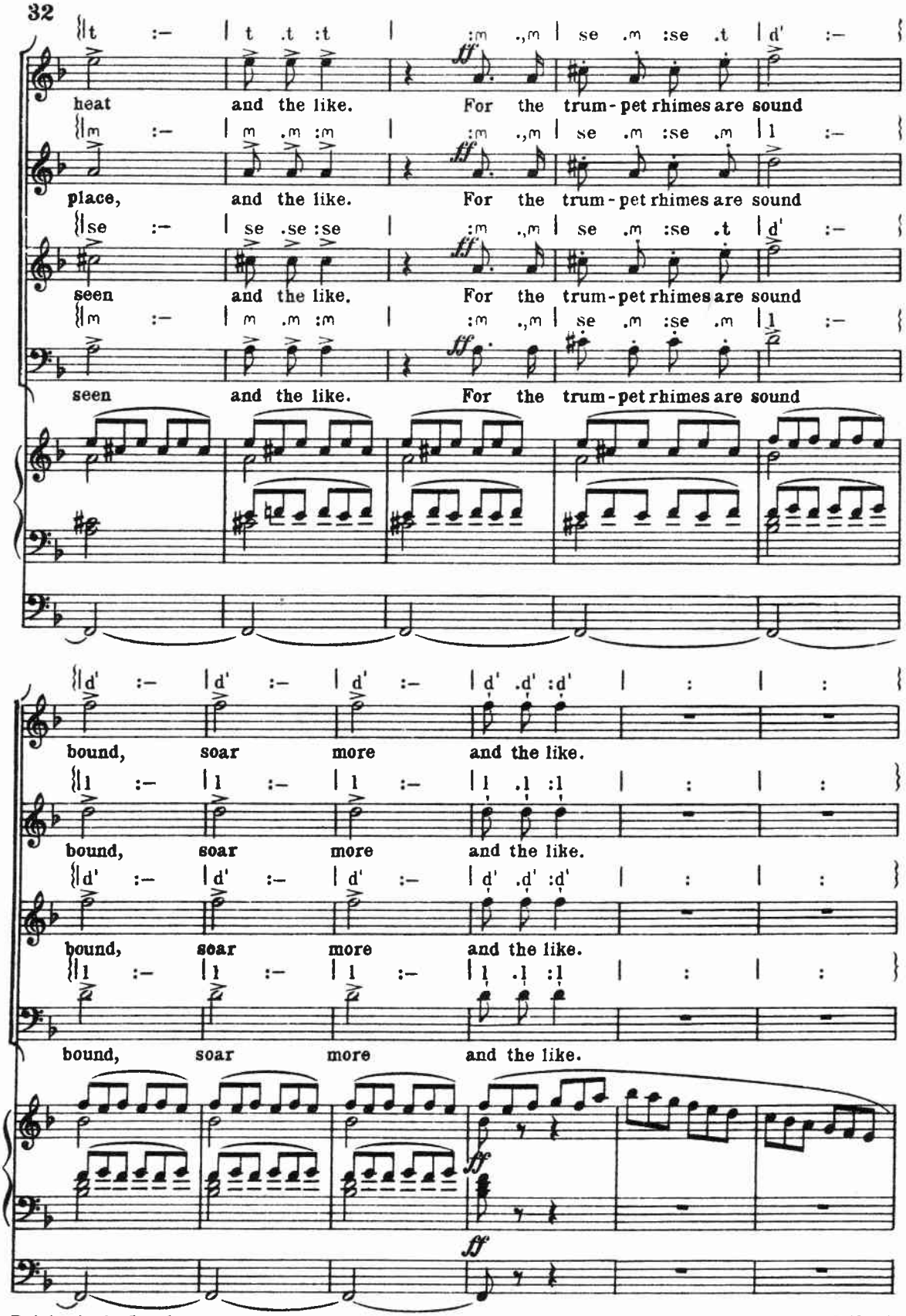

dim.
dim.
dim.
dim.
3 as 2
mf
For the Shawm rhimes are lawn
For the Shawm rhimes are lawn
mf
Ped.
mf
For the Shawm rhimes are moon boon and the like.....
For the Shawm rhimes are moon boon and the like.....
3 as 2
fawn and the like.....
For the harp rhimes are
fawn and the like.....
For the harp rhimes are

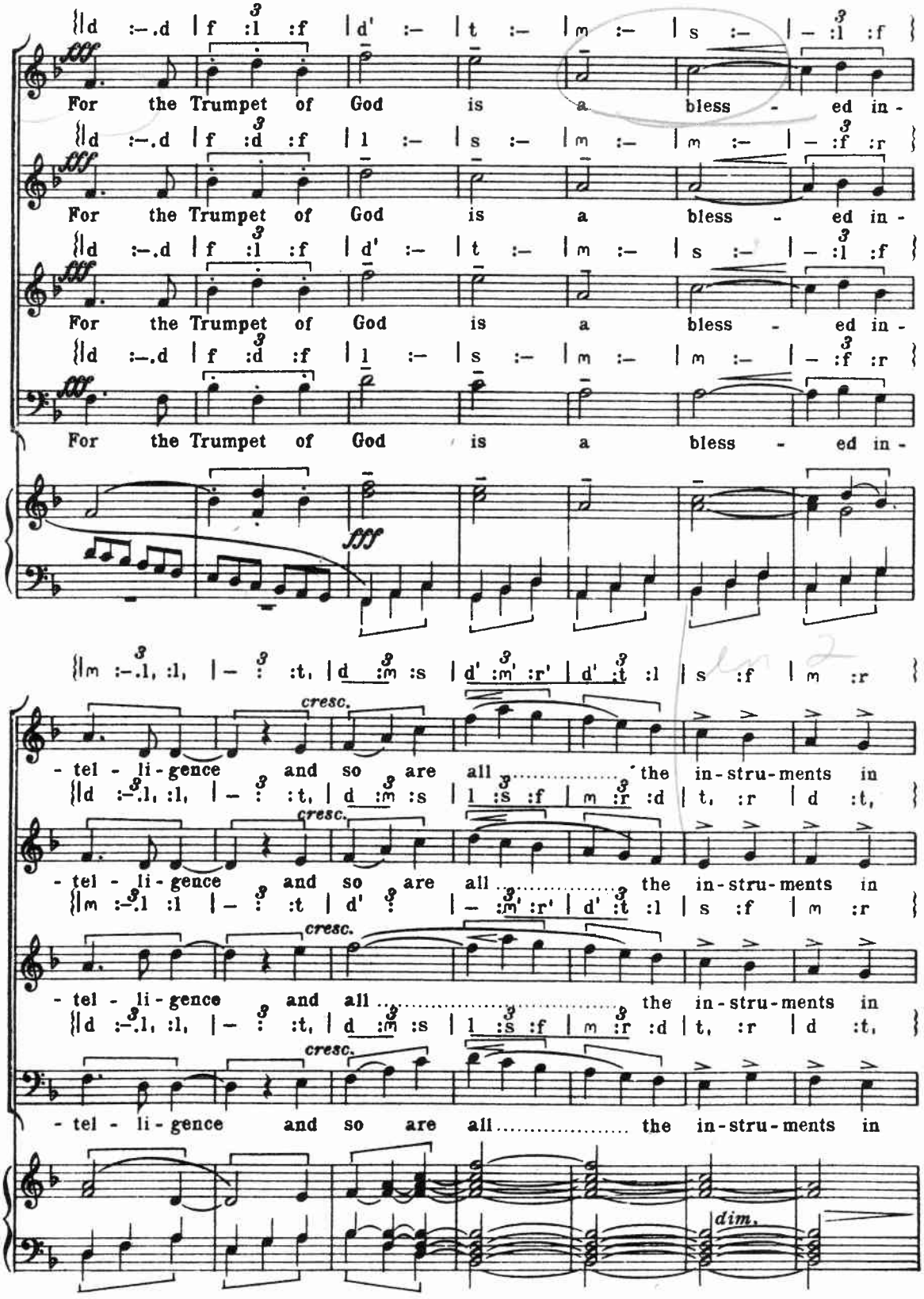

C t
3 as 2
For the harp rhimes are ring string
For the harp rhimes are ring string
sing ring and the like.....
sing ring and the like.....
s d f Eb
and the like.....
For the cymbal rhimes are
and the like.....
più f
For the cym-bal rhimes are bell well and the like.....
For the cym-bal rhimes are bell well and the like.....
più f

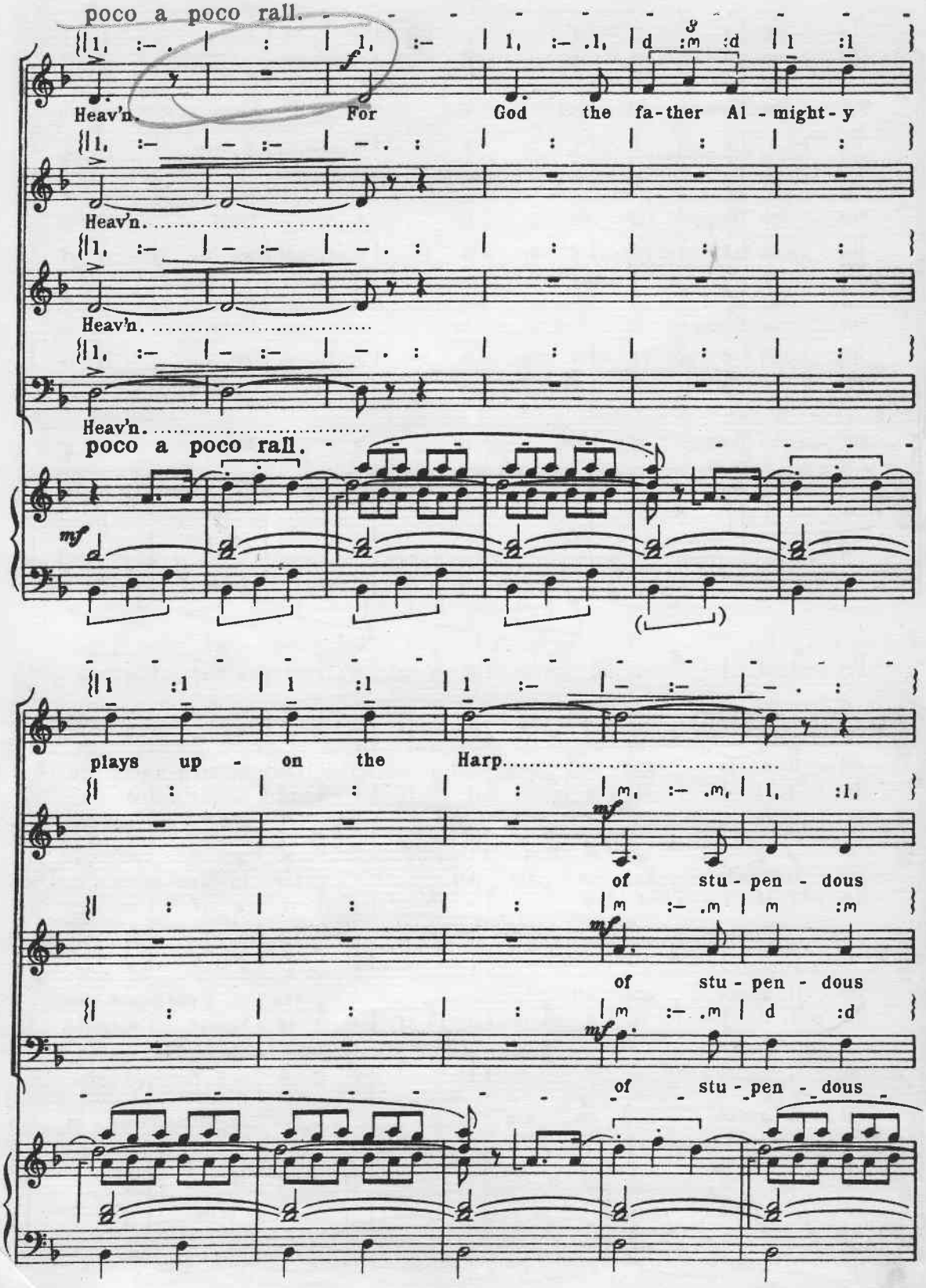


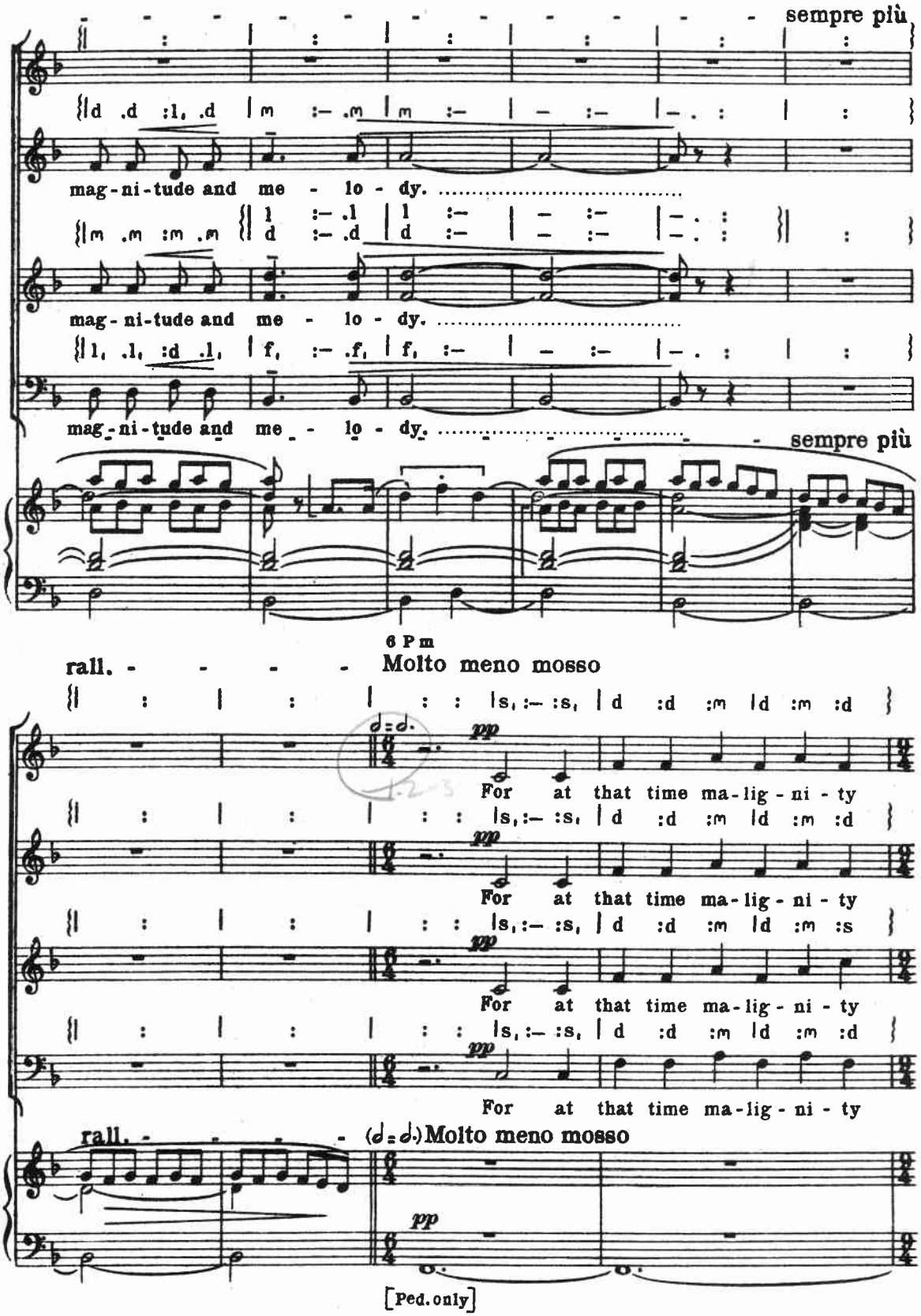
*pronounce: soote, moote.

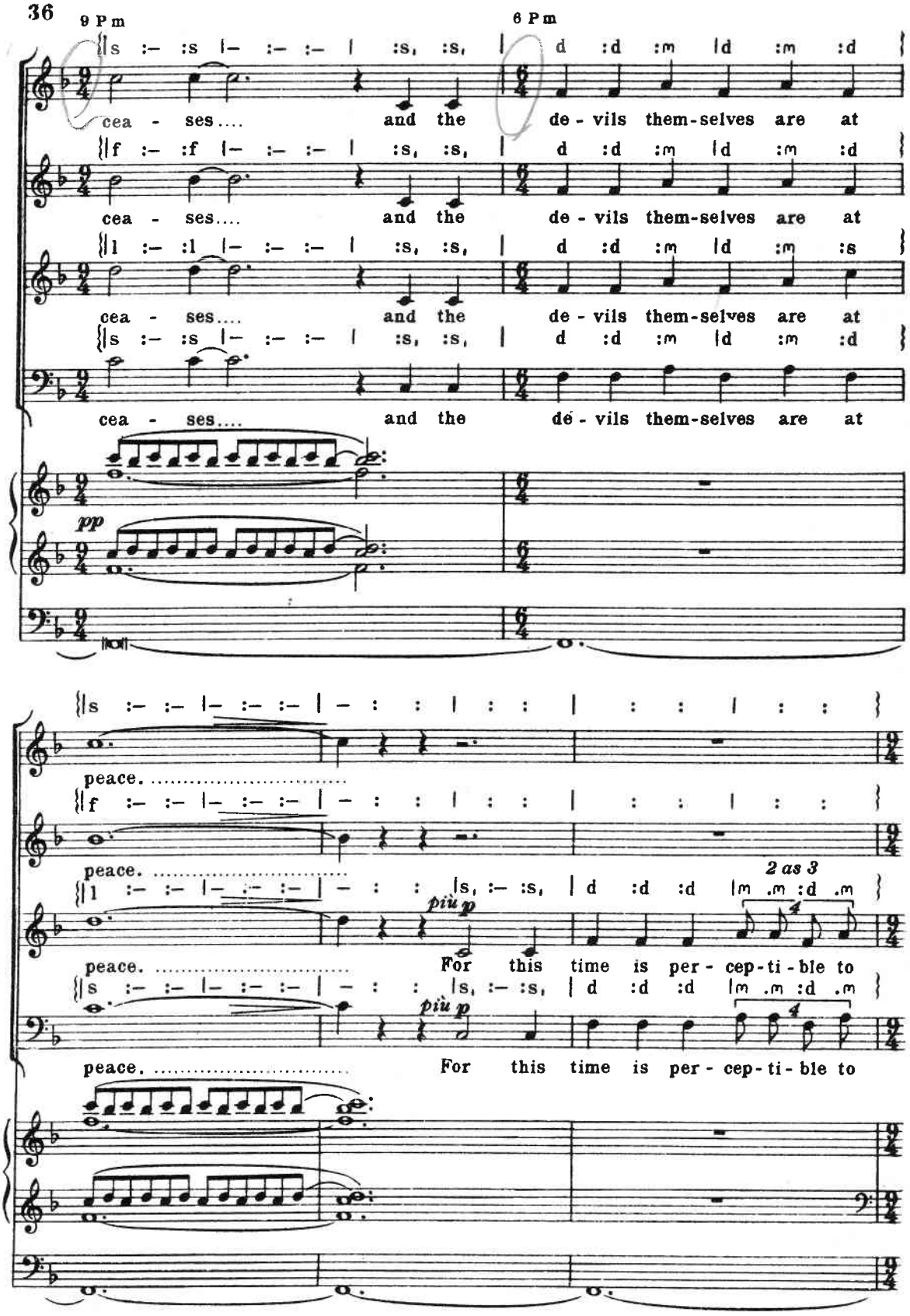

For the dul-ci-mer rhimes are grace place,
For the dulcimer rhimes are
pass class and the like.....
l.h.
beat heat grace place, beat
grace place, beat heat grace
For the Clari-net rhimes are clean seen clean
For the Clari-net rhimes are clean

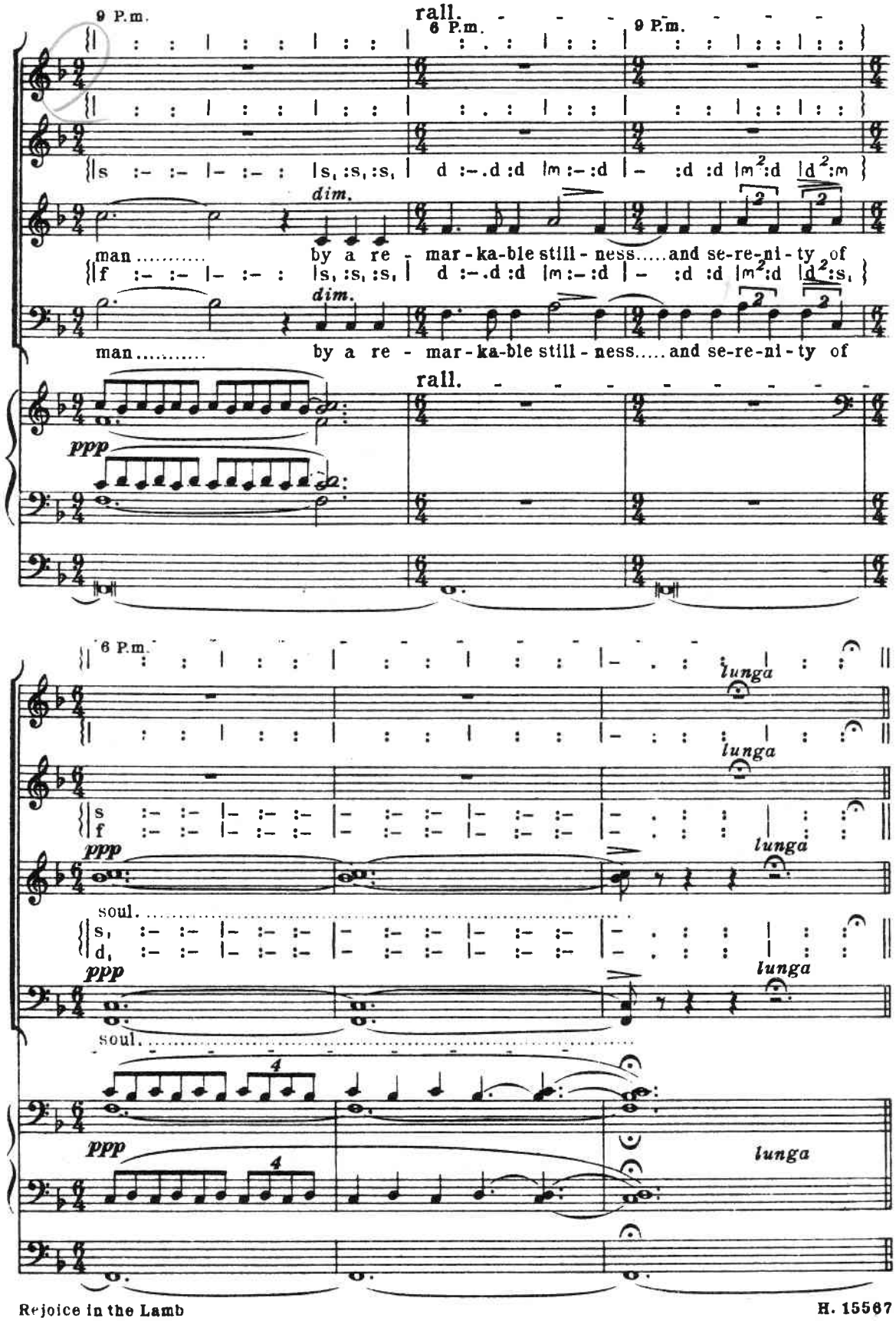

heat and the like. For the trum-pet rhimes are sound
place, and the like. For the trum-pet rhimes are sound
seen and the like. For the trum-pet rhimes are sound
seen and the like. For the trum-pet rhimes are sound
bound, soar more and the like.
bound, soar more and the like.
bound, soar more and the like.
bound, soar more and the like.
ff
ff
ff


For the Trumpet of God is a bless - ed in -
For the Trumpet of God is a bless - ed in -
For the Trumpet of God is a bless - ed in -
For the Trumpet of God is a bless - ed in -
cresc.
- tel - li - gence and so are all the in - stru - ments in
cresc.
- tel - li - gence and so are all the in - stru - ments in
cresc.
- tel - li - gence and all the in - stru - ments in
cresc.
- tel - li - gence and so are all the in - stru - ments in
dim.

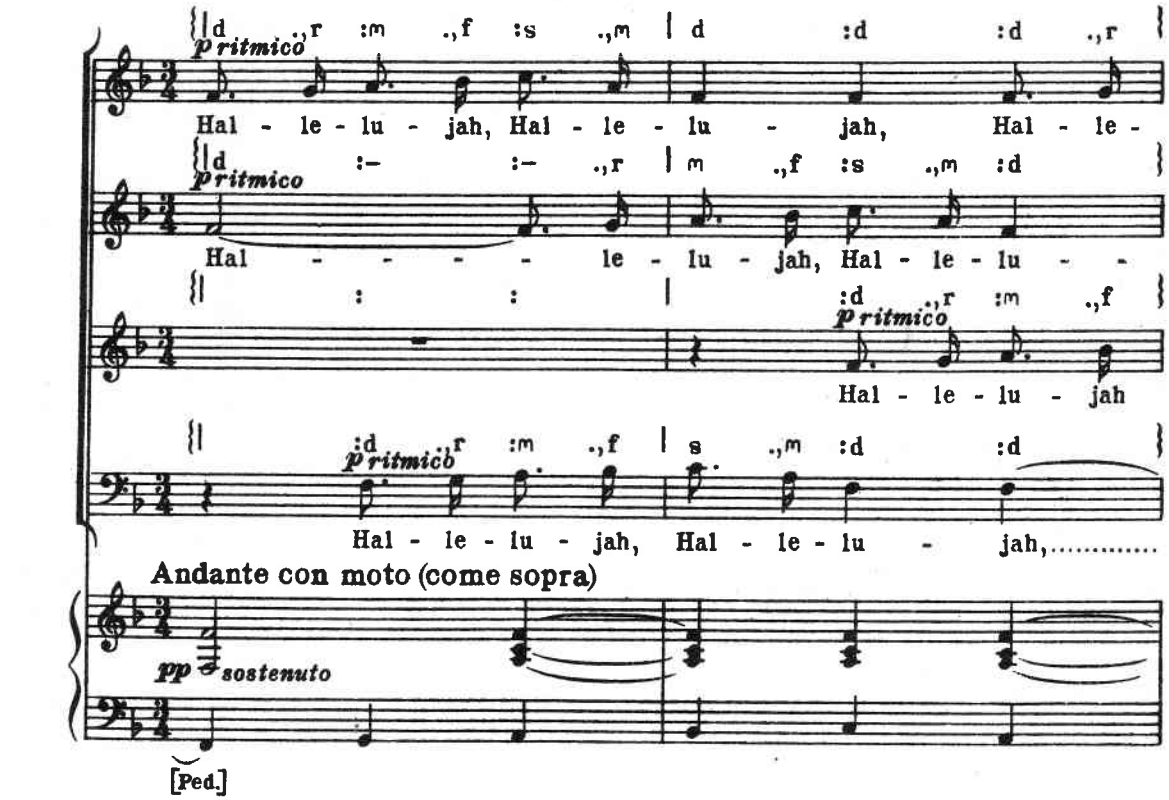

poco a poco rall.
Heav'n. For God the fa-ther Al-might-y
Heav'n.
Heav'n.
Heav'n.
poco a poco rall.
plays up-on the Harp.
of stu-pen-dous
of stu-pen-dous
of stu-pen-dous

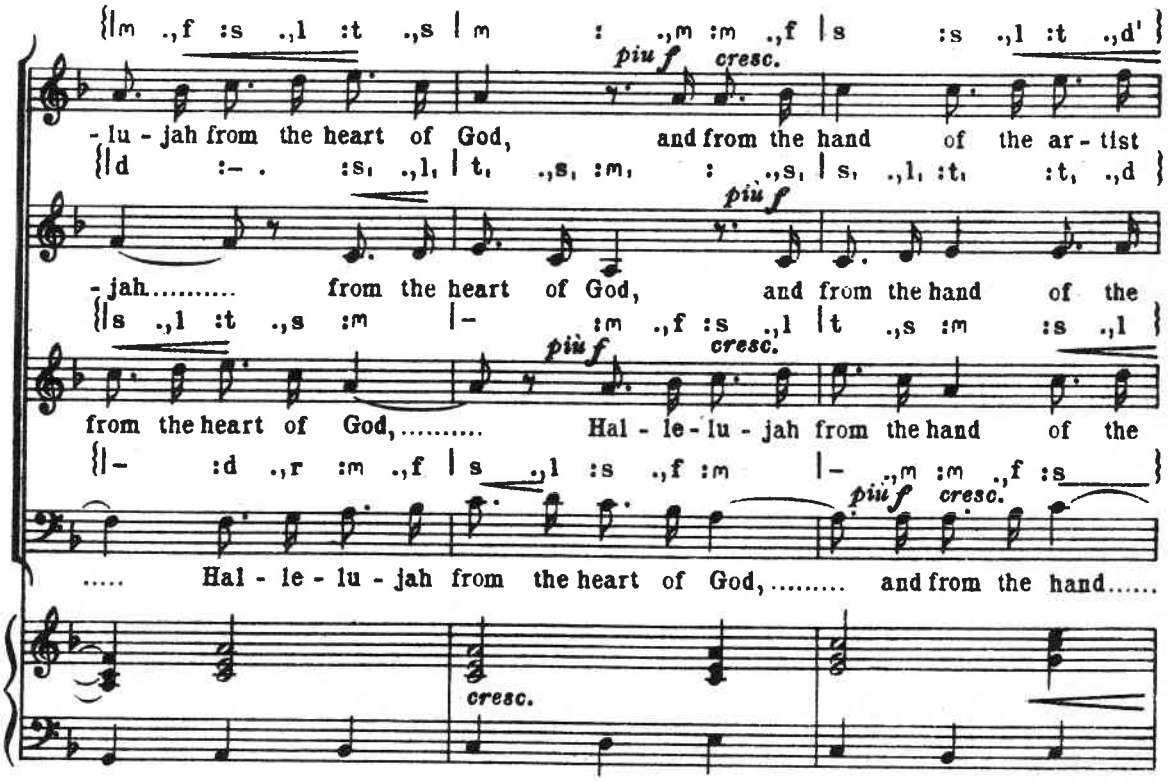

sempre più
mag-ni-tude and me - lo - dy.
mag-ni-tude and me - lo - dy.
mag-ni-tude and me - lo - dy.
sempre più
6 P m
rall. - - - - Molto meno mosso
For at that time ma-lig-ni-ty
For at that time ma-lig-ni-ty
For at that time ma-lig-ni-ty
For at that time ma-lig-ni-ty
rall. - - - - (𝅗𝅥=𝅗𝅥.) Molto meno mosso
[Ped. only]

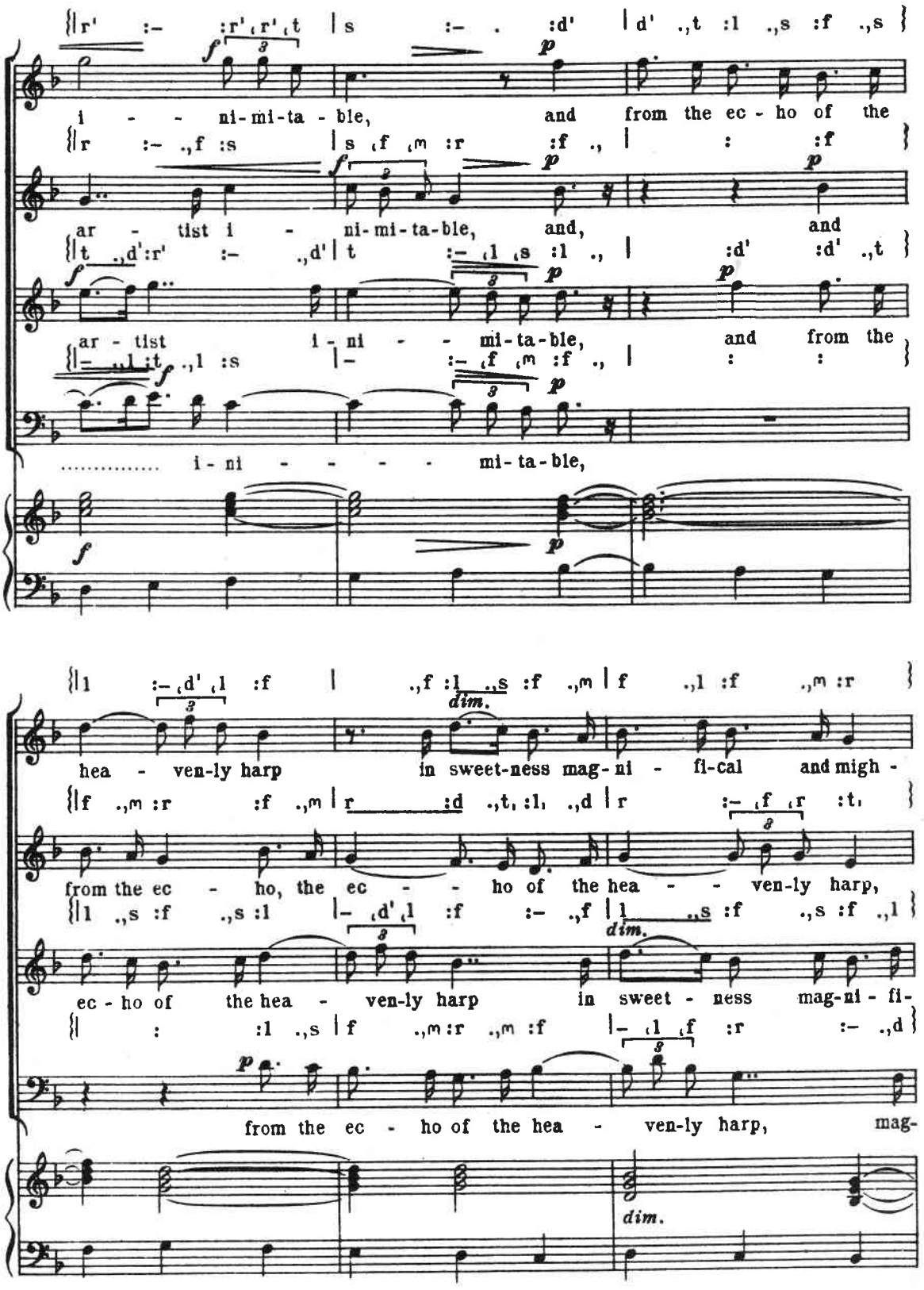

9 P m
6 P m
cea - ses.... and the de - vils them-selves are at
cea - ses.... and the de - vils them-selves are at
cea - ses.... and the de - vils them-selves are at
cea - ses.... and the de - vils them-selves are at
pp
peace. .....
peace. .....
peace. .....
peace. .....
2 as 3
più p
più p
For this time is per - cep-ti - ble to
For this time is per - cep-ti - ble to

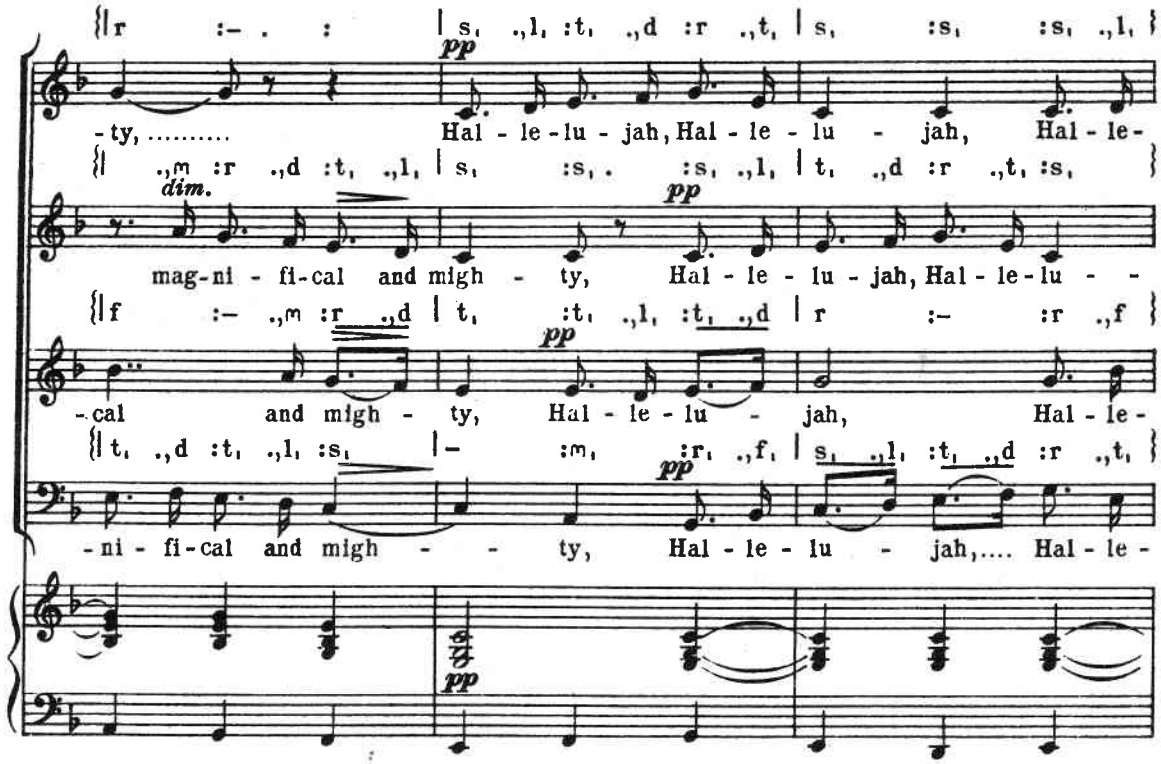

9 P.m.
rall.
6 P.m.
9 P.m.
dim.
man ..... by a re - mar-ka-ble still - ness.....and se-re-ni-ty of
dim.
man ..... by a re - mar-ka-ble still - ness.....and se-re-ni-ty of
rall.
ppp
6 P.m.
lunga
lunga
ppp
lunga
soul.
soul.
ppp
lunga
ppp
lunga

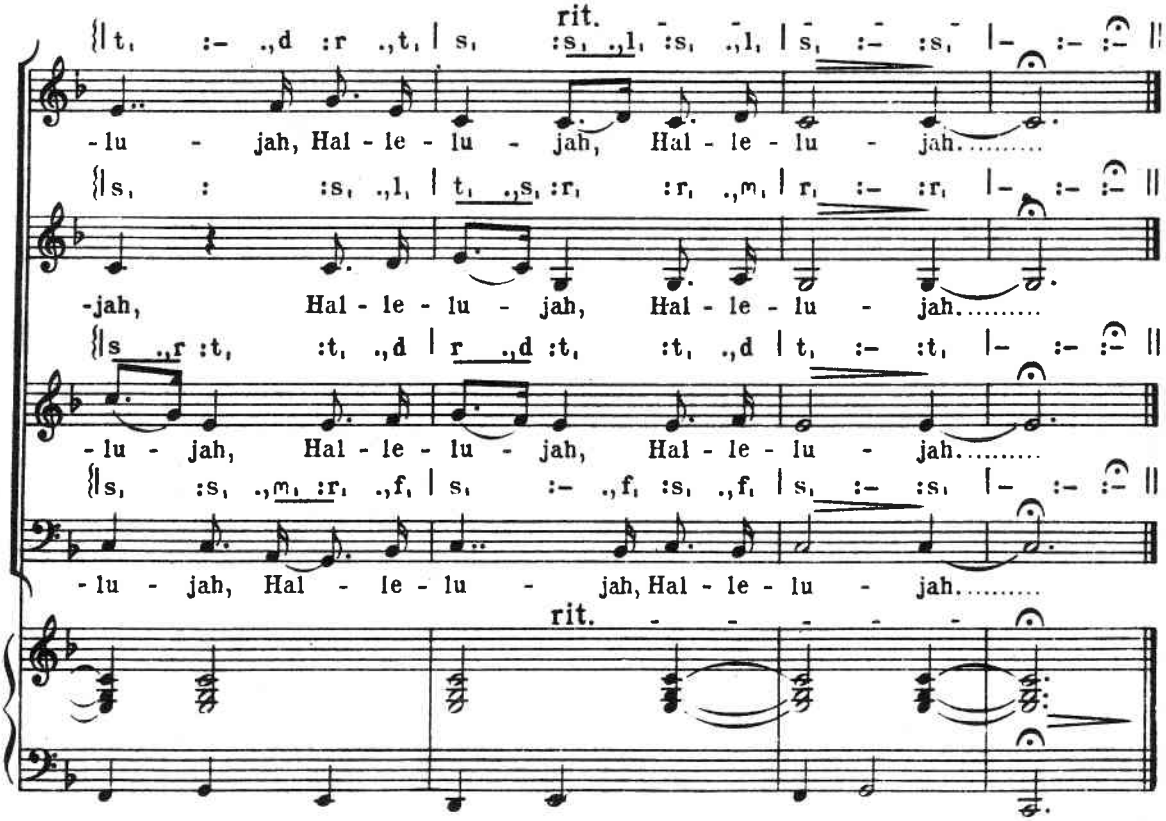
Andante con moto (come sopra)






i - - ni-mi-ta-ble, and from the ec-ho of the
ar - tist i - ni-mi-ta-ble, and, and
ar - tist i - ni - - mi-ta-ble, and from the
..... i - ni - - - - mi-ta-ble,
hea - ven-ly harp in sweet-ness mag-ni - fi-cal and migh -
from the ec - ho, the ec - - ho of the hea - - ven-ly harp,
ec - ho of the hea - ven-ly harp in sweet - ness mag-ni - fi-
from the ec - ho of the hea - ven-ly harp, mag-
dim.


pp
-ty, ... Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le -
dim.
pp
mag-ni - fi-cal and migh - ty, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - -
pp
-cal and migh - ty, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le -
pp
-ni - fi-cal and migh - - ty, Hal - le - lu - jah,.... Hal - le -


rit.
-lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.....
-jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.....
-lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.....
-lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.....
rit.

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Edited by C. V. Stanford

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for Chorus, Strings and Piano
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The River
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