Nain

Sacred Cantata

by

Homer A. Norris

H.B. Stevens Co. Boston.

114406

NAIN

A SACRED CANTATA.

WORDS
SELECTED FROM THE BIBLE
AND OTHER SOURCES.

MUSIC COMPOSED BY
HOMER A. NORRIS.

PRICE, $1.00, NET.

H. B. STEVENS COMPANY,
BOSTON, MASS.

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Cl. Sh.

To Mr. Russell Goodnow
with Compliments of
Boston May 7, 95 Homer A. Norris.

NAIN.

FIRST PERFORMANCE GIVEN BY THE

ORPHEUS CLUB

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., JAN. 27, 1892,

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

MR. E. CUTTER, JR.

JESUS THE CHRIST . . . . . MR. GEO. J. PARKER
MARY MAGDALENE . . . . . MRS. E. HUMPHREY-ALLEN
THE CHILDREN . . . THE MISSES CARRIE AND MABEL BOND

Chorus of Angels. Chorus of Disciples. Chorus of Pharisees, etc.

AND THE

PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA,

BERNHARD LISTEMANN, *Conductor.*
ALFRED DE SEVE, *Concertmeister.*

TO

ONE

WHO SHALL HERE BE NAMELESS,

THIS WORK

IS

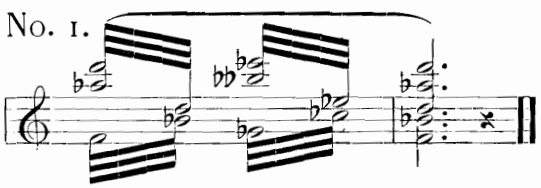
AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED.

EXT MORN, down our silver mere He sailed
To Nain . . . That night He lay at meat
In Simon's house, in my own city here, —
It stands there yonder, with the three white domes. . .
And 'midst the others I, too, entered in,
Bearing my box, the costliest thing I owned,
Holding much precious spikenard, subtly pressed
From flower and root of delicatest growth
By some far river in thy distant Hind. . . .
When I stood
Unnoticed at his feet, dropping hot tears
Which ran on them, wiping my tears away
With these unbraided hairs, ashamed to moist
Such sacred palms with water from such source:
I would not merely lift the seal of silk
That shut the casket's lid, and spill the spice,
Lest somewhere, afterwards, some others use
My box — His box — for something ill again.
But on the stones I broke the dainty work,
And from these ruined fragments poured forth all
Over his feet, with many a fervent kiss
Adoring, and annointing. Then there spread
The long-imprisoned spirit of that balm
To every quickened nostril at the feast;
And he that was its master spake — half heard:
'My guest, the Prophet, being such, should wist
Who and what manner of a wench it is
Which toucheth him, for she is *Miriam!*' . . .
With that, — beyond all music ever heard, —
Fell dulcet on mine ears: 'Go thou in peace,
Thy faith hath saved thee! Go in peace, thy sins
Are all forgiven!'
And, from that glad hour,
Followed I Him, and ministered to him;
And found myself alive who had been dead,
And saved by Love, who dwelt so lovelessly."

Sir Edwin Arnold.

ATTENTION is called to the following themes, the recurrence of which will, it is hoped, give some unity to the work: —

No. 1.



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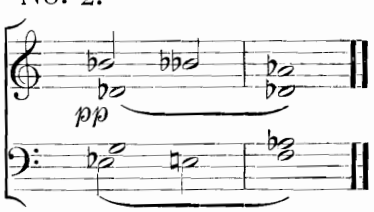

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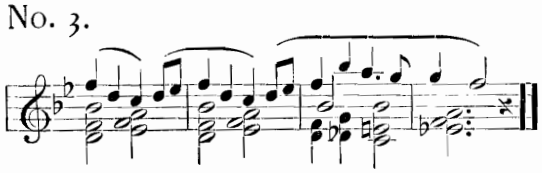


ARGUMENT.

SUMMER EVENING. — The Christ and a body of followers on the highway between Capernaum and Nain. Passing slowly along, the night seems filled with heavenly choirs singing ("Benedictus"): "Lo, He cometh, the Saviour of Israel, Prince of Peace!" The followers, kneeling, unite with the spirit voices.

The Christ has gone on, and, standing alone by the wayside, communes with the Father. Mary Magdalene, unperceived, now hears and sees, for the first time, the new prophet. Christ resumes his journey toward Nain and is followed by his disciples. Mary Magdalene joins them.

After raising the widow's son, the Christ is followed by many of the people into the village. Children come reverently from Simon the Pharisee's house, and ask Him to sup with them. While the villagers surround the house, singing in honor of the great teacher, the Christ, from the inside, is heard teaching the twelve the "Lord's Prayer." Suddenly, Mary Magdalene glides into the room, and, prostrating herself, bathes His feet in her tears. The Pharisees, horrified, express their disapproval. The Christ rises, and, with upturned, expectant face, waits for some sign from the Father before He shall proclaim His divine authority. Softly again the voices steal down through the evening shadows: "Lo, He cometh. This is my beloved son; hear ye Him."

Then the Christ proclaims peace and pardon, and all the people cry: "Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and the King of Glory shall come in."

INDEX.

SCENE I.

On the highway between Capernaum and Nain.

NO. 1. INTRODUCTION AND CHORUS . . BENEDICTUS.
2. ARIOSO . . . . . YEA, THOUGH I WALK.

SCENE II.

Mary Magdalene and the Disciples.

NO. 1. RECITATIVES AND HYMN . . ART THOU WEARY?

SCENE III.

The Christ, the Children and the Townspeople.

NO. 1. INTRODUCTION AND RECITATIVE, SUFFER THE CHILDREN.
2. DUET . . . . . . ABIDE WITH US.
3. CHORUS . . . . PRAISE YE THE LORD.

SCENE IV.

The evening meal in the house of Simon the Pharisee.

NO. 1. MALE CHORUS . OUR FATHER WHICH ART IN HEAVEN.
2. ARIA . . . . . OUT OF THE DEPTHS.
3. CHORUS OF PHARISEES . THIS MAN, WERE HE A PROPHET.
4. RECITATIVE, SOLO AND CHORUS . SEEK YE THE LORD.
5. RECITATIVES . . . . COME UNTO ME.
6. SOLO . . . . . WONDROUS WORDS!
7. CHORUS . . . . WHO SHALL ASCEND?

NAIN.

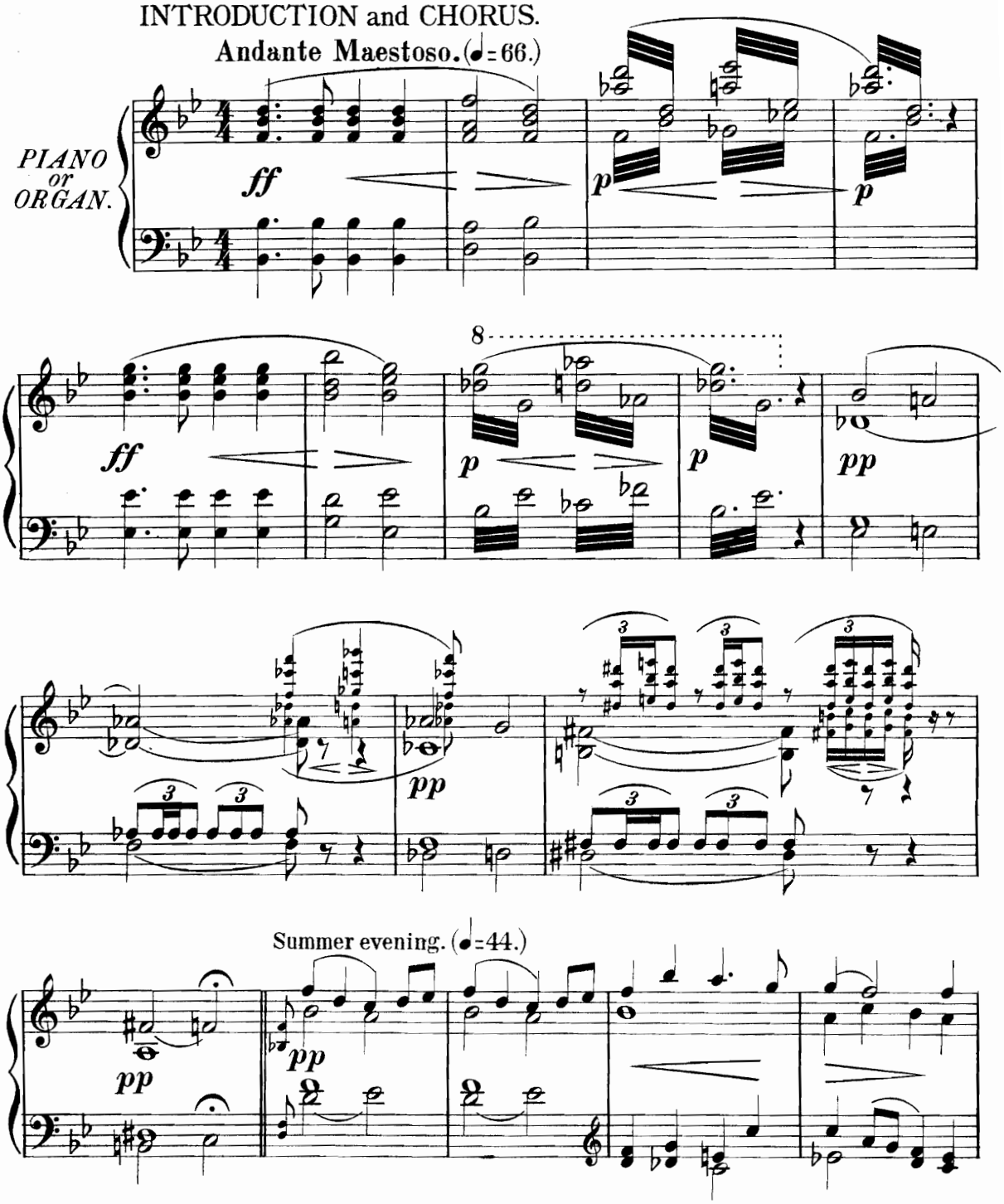
Place. A highway between Capernaum and Nain.
Time. Summer evening. Christ and a body of followers on the highway.

SCENE I.

By HOMER A. NORRIS.

INTRODUCTION and CHORUS.

Andante Maestoso. (♩=66.)



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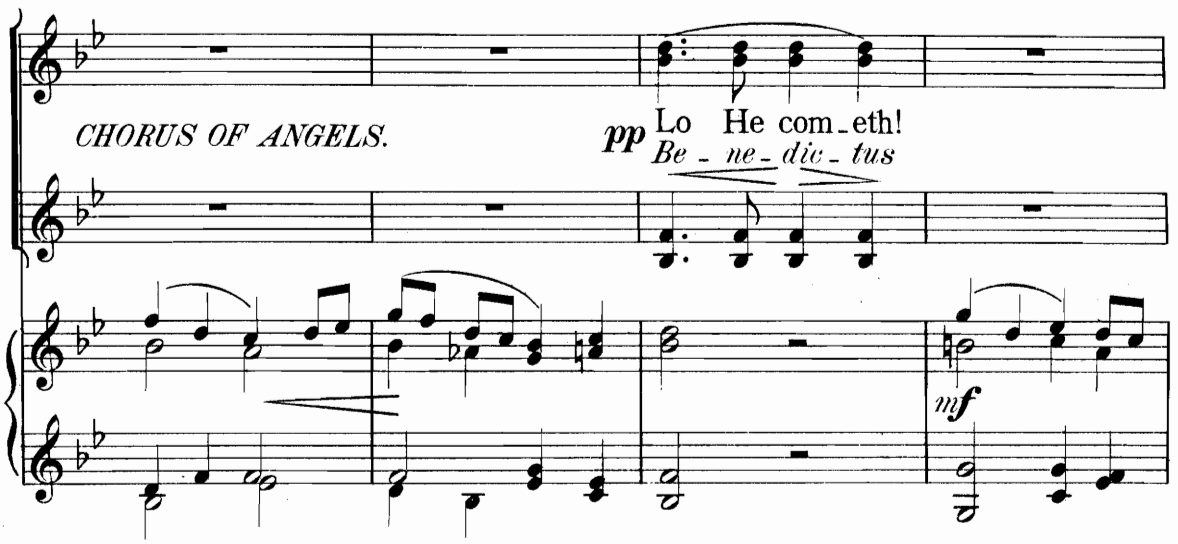
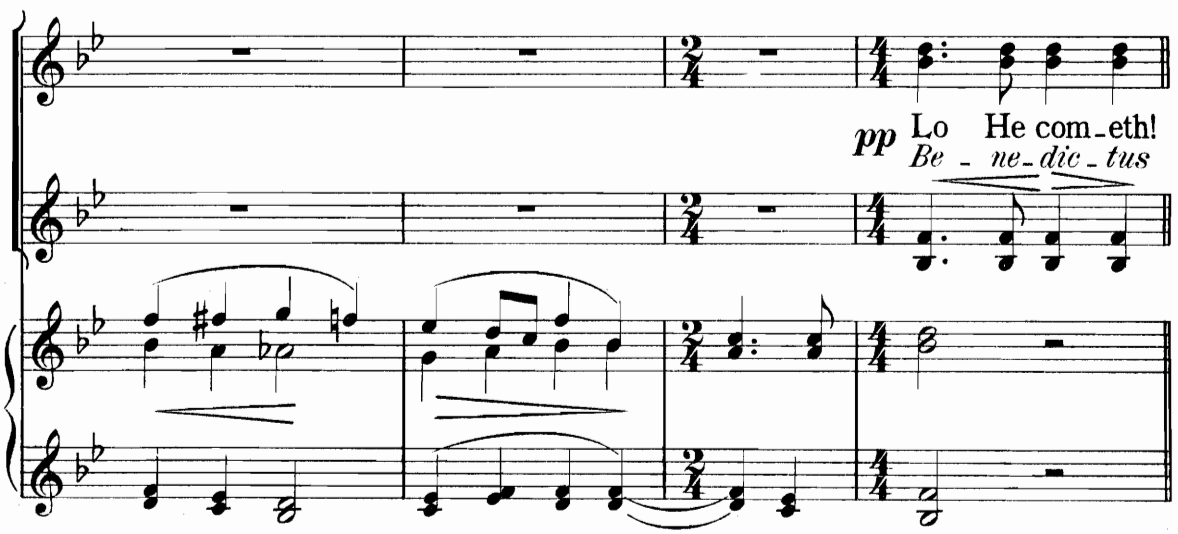




Benedictus.

Andante Moderato. (♩=116.)

CHORUS OF ANGELS.

SOPRANOS.

CONTRALTOS.

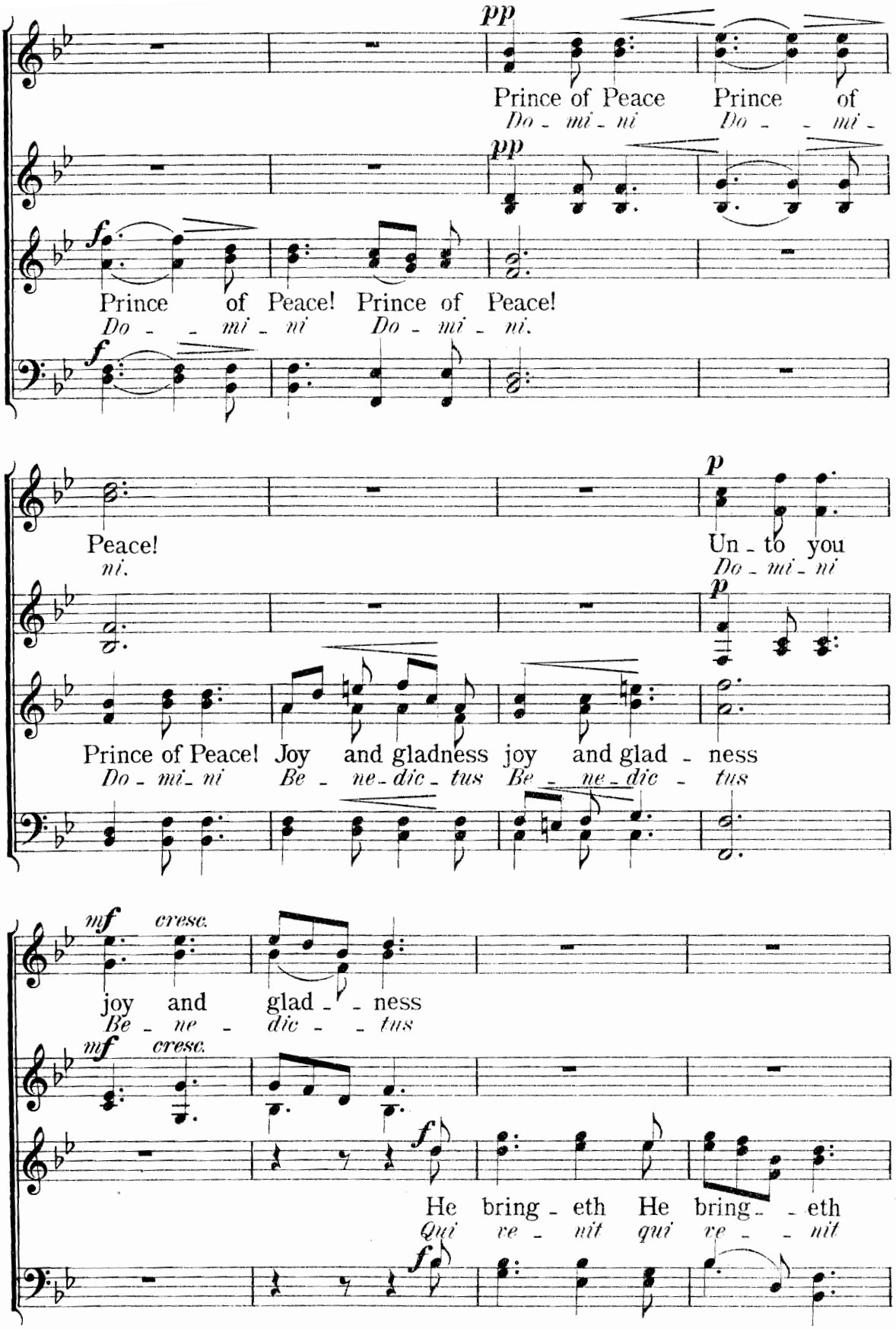
(The followers kneel by the wayside.

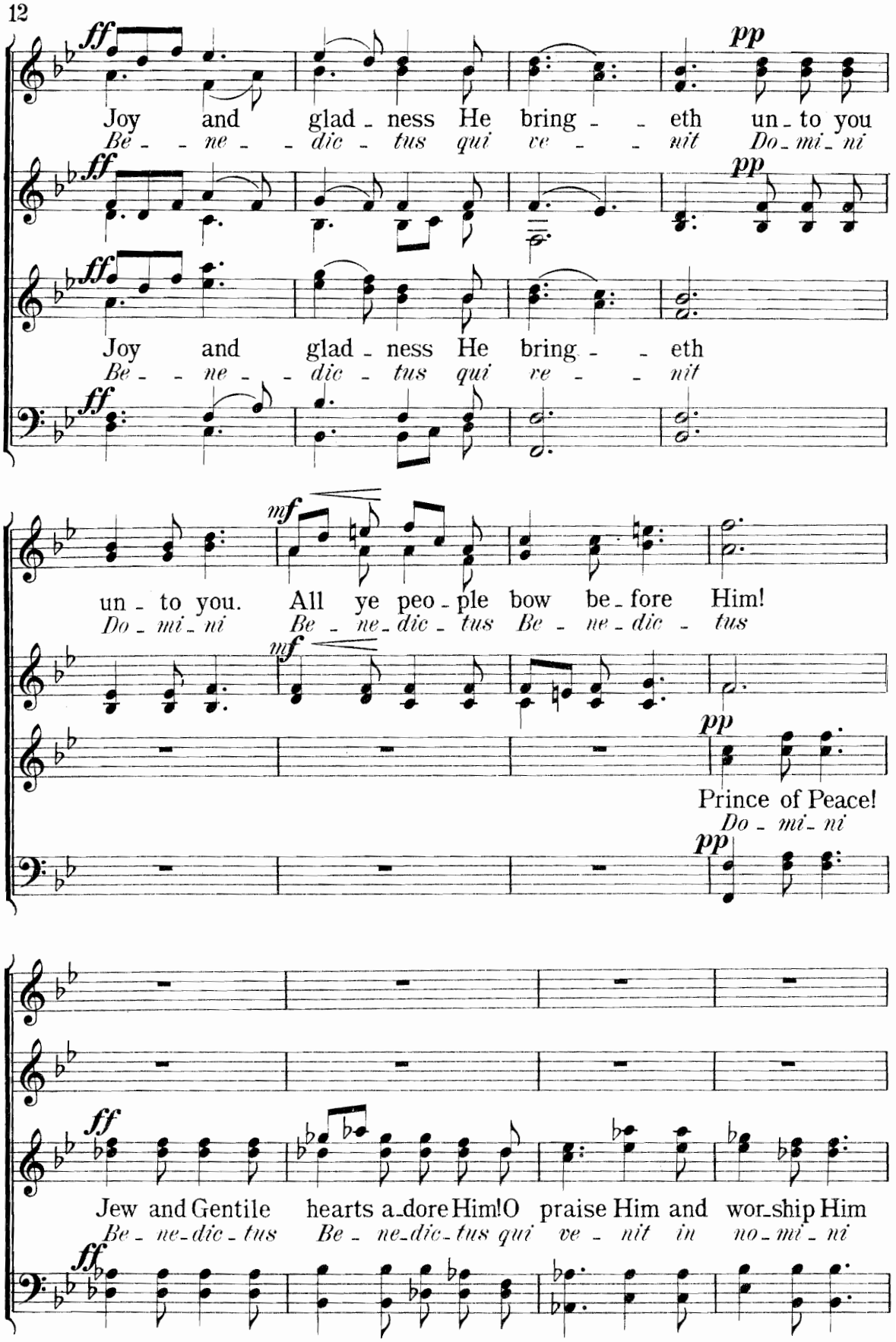
CHORUS OF DISCIPLES.

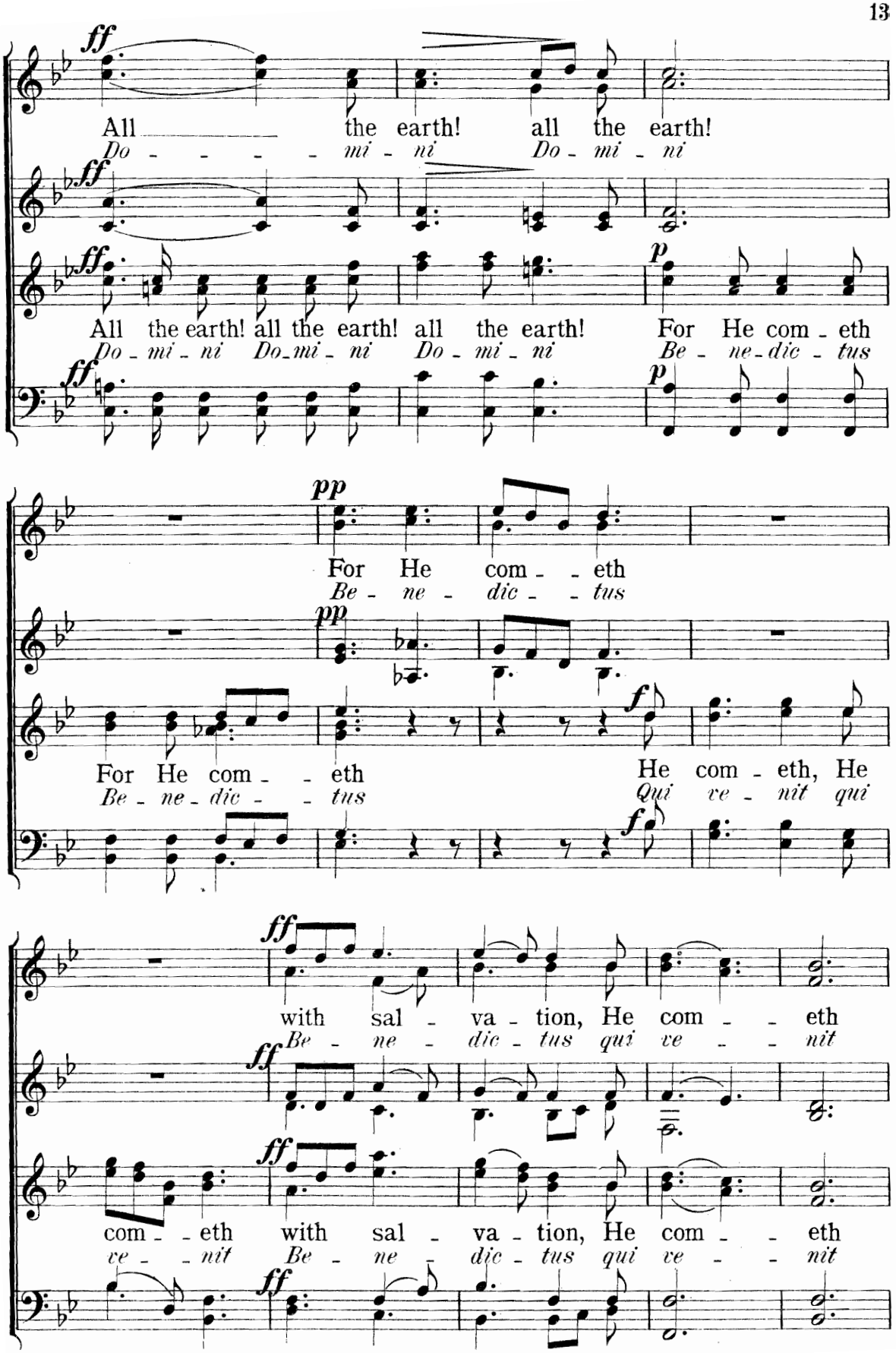
TENORS.

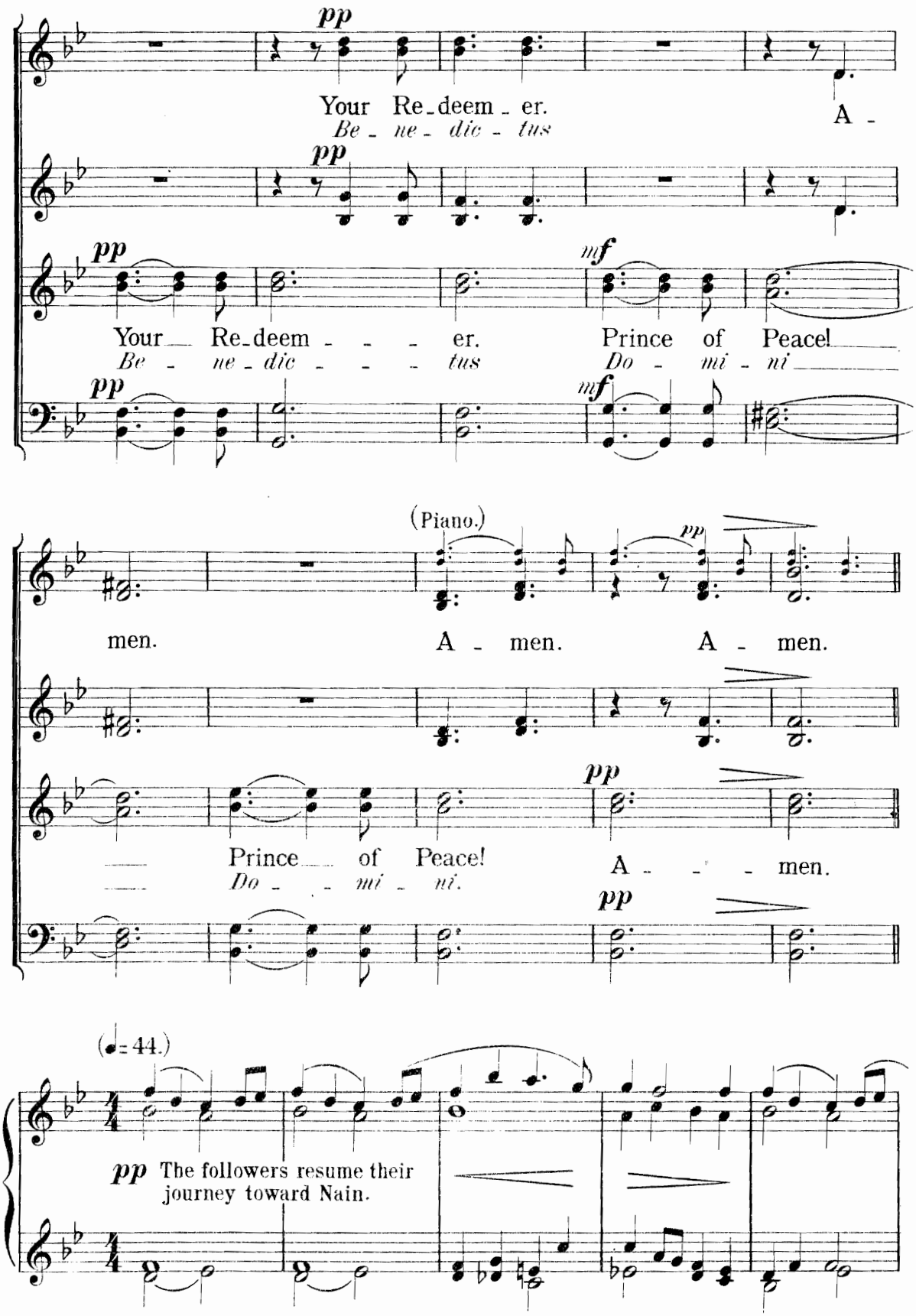
p Lo He com-eth! Lo He com-eth! The Sa-viour of Is-ra-el.
Be - ne-dic-tus Be - ne-dic-tus qui ve - nit in no - mi-ne

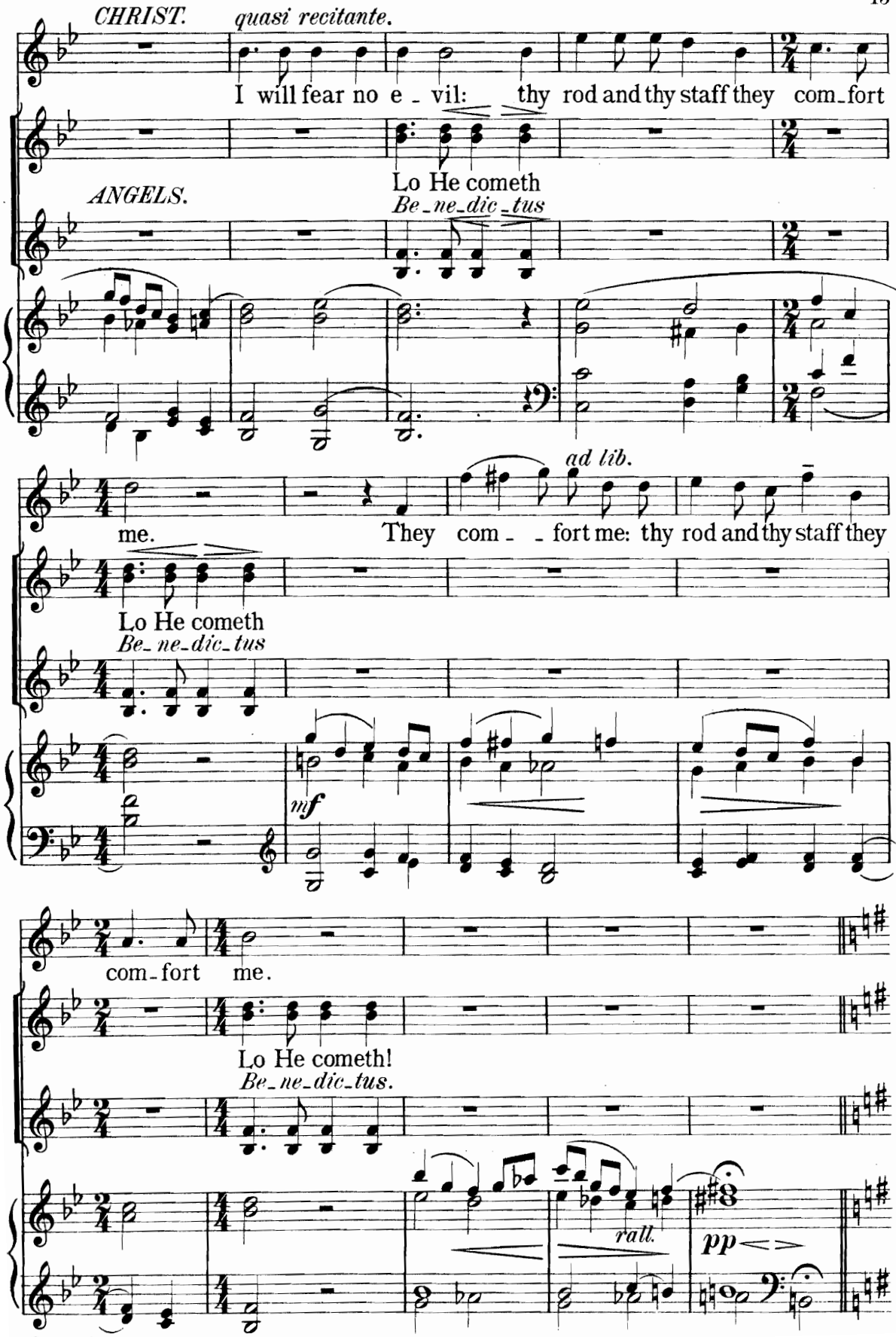
BASSES.


pp
Prince of Peace Prince of
Do - mi - ni Do - - mi -
pp
f
Prince of Peace! Prince of Peace!
Do - - mi - ni Do - mi - ni.
f
Peace!
ni.
p
Un - to you
Do - mi - ni
p
Prince of Peace! Joy and gladness joy and glad - ness
Do - mi - ni Be - ne - dic - tus Be - ne - dic - tus
mf cresc.
joy and glad - - ness
Be - ne - dic - - tus
mf cresc.
f
He bring - eth He bring - - eth
Qui ve - nit qui ve - - nit
f


ff
pp
Joy and glad - ness He bring - - eth un - to you
Be - - ne - - dic - tus qui ve - - nit Do - mi - ni
ff
pp
Joy and glad - ness He bring - - eth
Be - - ne - - dic - tus qui ve - - nit
ff
mf
un - to you. All ye peo - ple bow be - fore Him!
Do - mi - ni Be - ne - dic - tus Be - ne - dic - tus
mf
pp
Prince of Peace!
Do - mi - ni
pp
ff
Jew and Gentile hearts a - dore Him! O praise Him and wor - ship Him
Be - ne - dic - tus Be - ne - dic - tus qui ve - nit in no - mi - ni
ff

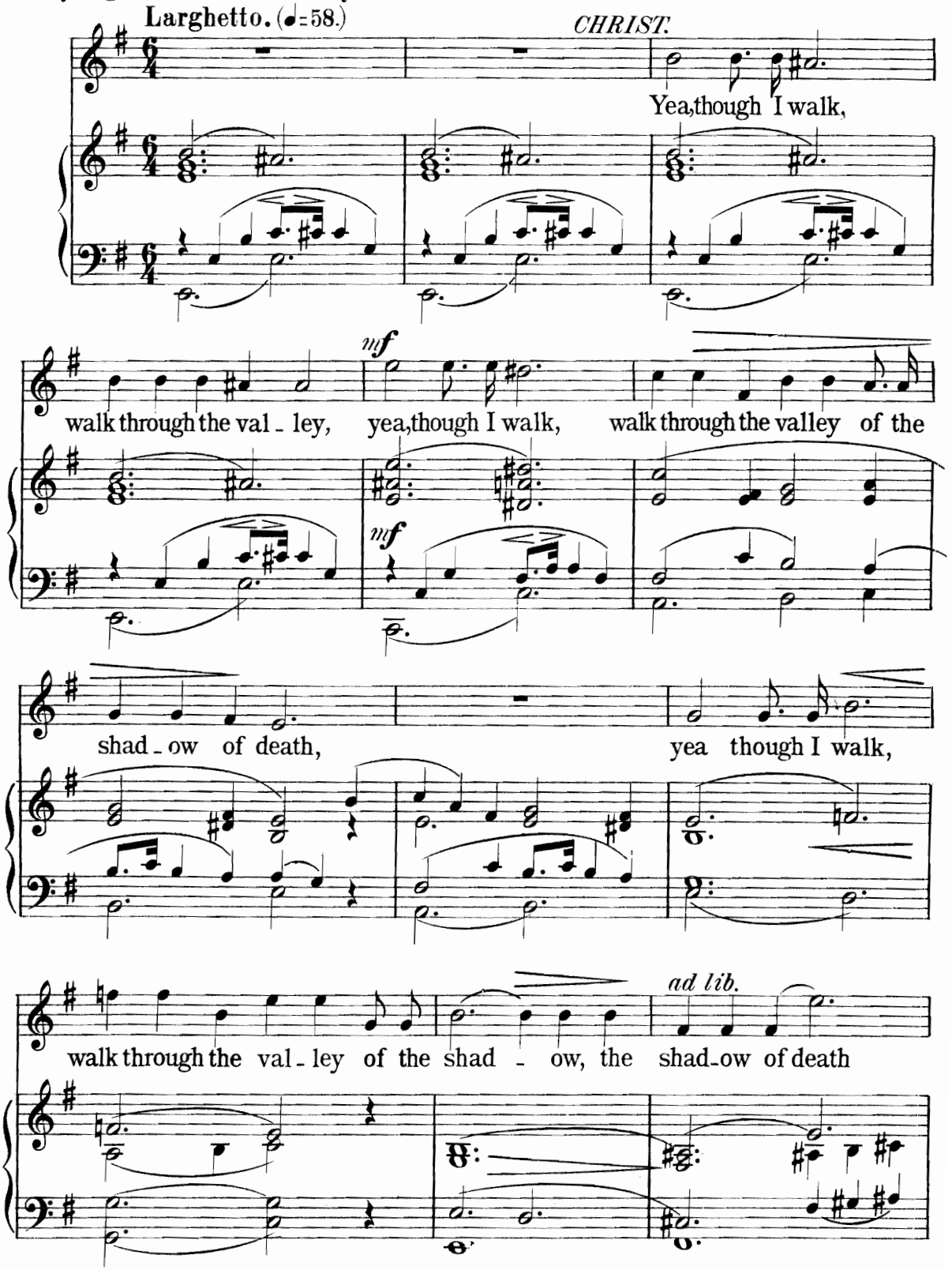

ff
All the earth! all the earth!
Do - - - - - mi - ni Do - mi - ni
ff
ff
All the earth! all the earth! all the earth! For He com - eth
Do - mi - ni Do - mi - ni Do - mi - ni Be - ne - dic - tus
p
ff
p
pp
For He com - eth
Be - ne - dic - tus
pp
For He com - - eth
Be - ne - dic - - tus
f
He com - eth, He
Qui ve - nit qui
f
ff
with sal - va - tion, He com - - eth
Be - ne - dic - tus qui ve - - nit
ff
ff
com - - eth with sal - va - tion, He com - - eth
ve - - nit Be - ne - dic - tus qui ve - - nit
ff

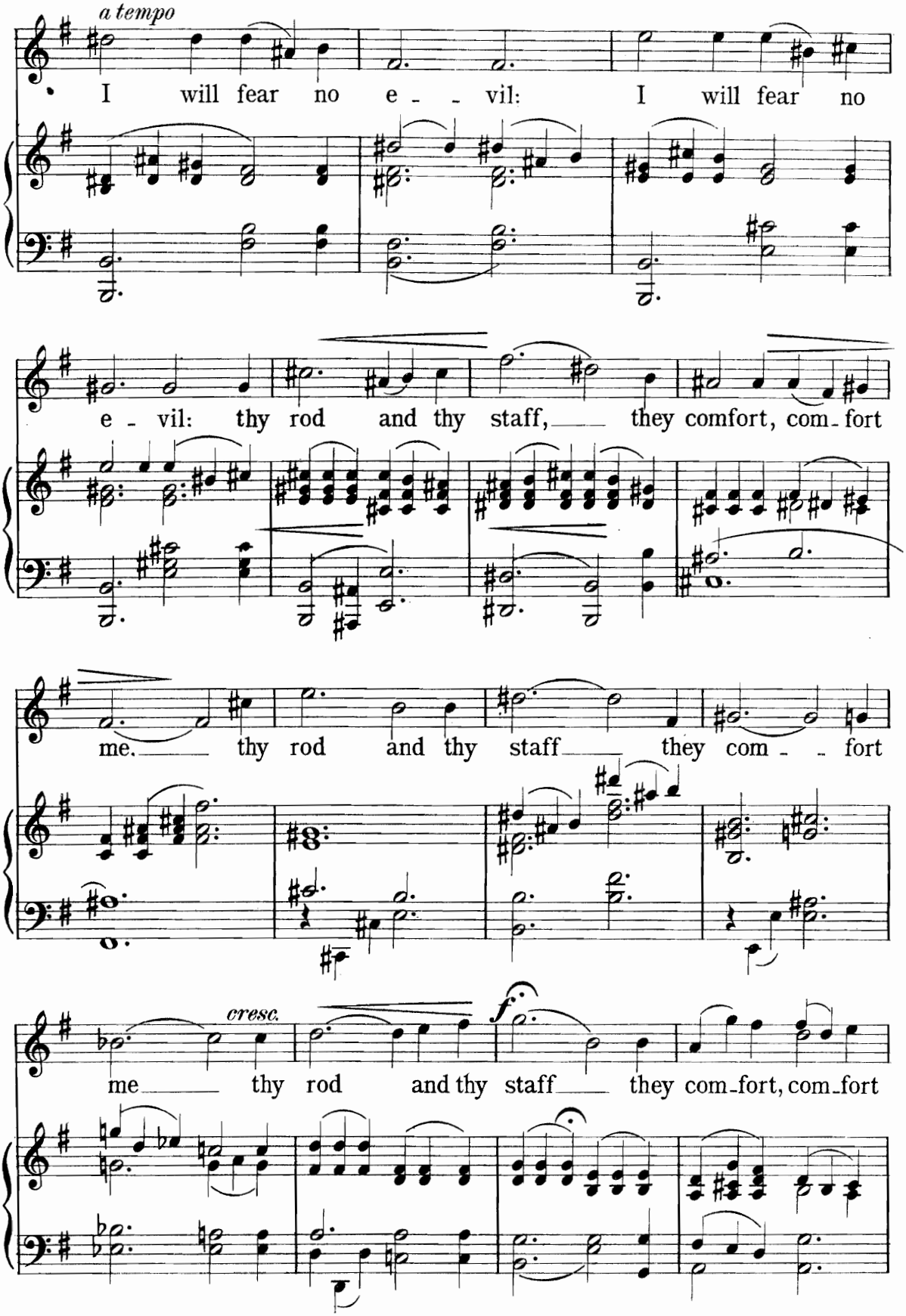

pp
Your Re-deem-er.
Be-ne-dic-tus
A-
pp
pp
mf
Your Re-deem---er.
Be-ne-dic---tus
Prince of Peace!
Do-mi-ni
pp
mf
(Piano.)
pp
men.
A-men.
A-men.
pp
Prince of Peace!
Do---mi-ni.
A---men.
pp
(♩=44.)
pp The followers resume their journey toward Nain.

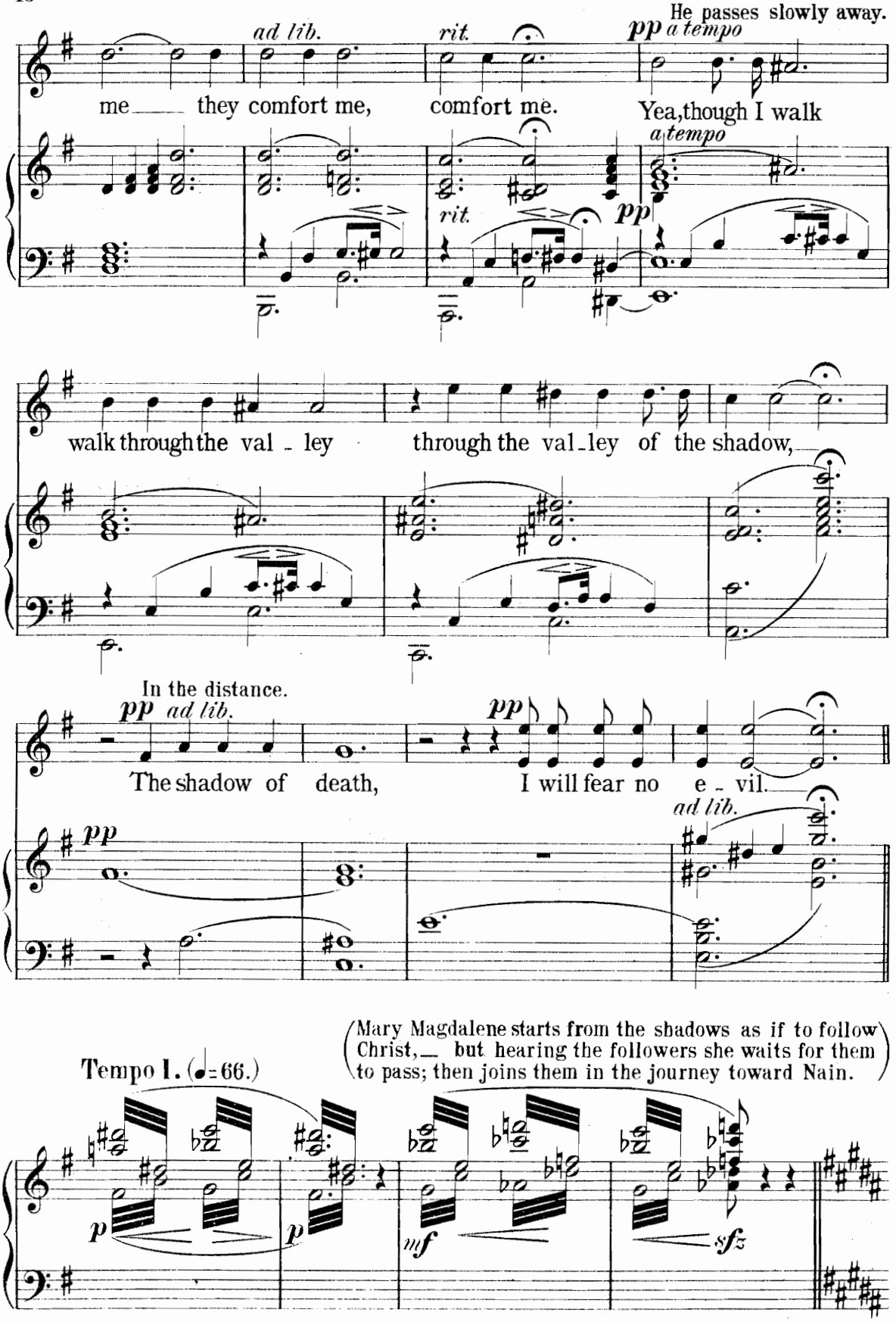

CHRIST.
quasi recitante.
I will fear no e - vil: thy rod and thy staff they com-fort
ANGELS.
Lo He cometh
Be-ne-dic-tus
me.
ad lib.
They com - - fort me: thy rod and thy staff they
Lo He cometh
Be-ne-dic-tus
mf
com-fort me.
Lo He cometh!
Be-ne-dic-tus.
rall.
pp

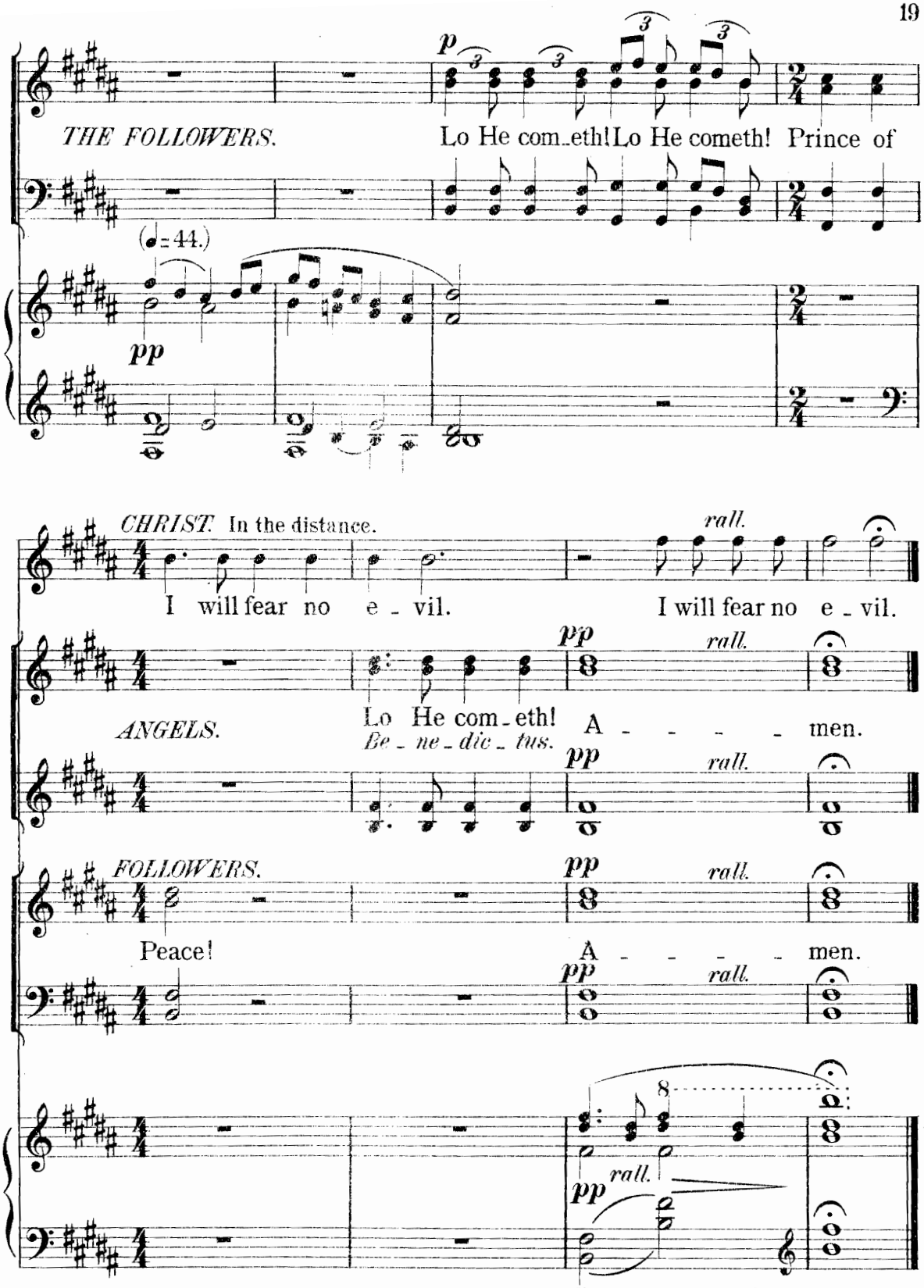
Arioso
"Yea, though I walk."

Christ alone on the highway.
Mary Magdalene listens sheltered by the trees.




a tempo
I will fear no e - - vil: I will fear no
e - vil: thy rod and thy staff, they comfort, com - fort
me. thy rod and thy staff they com - - fort
cresc.
f
me thy rod and thy staff they com-fort, com-fort


He passes slowly away.
ad lib.
rit.
pp a tempo
me they comfort me, comfort me. Yea, though I walk
a tempo
rit.
pp
walk through the val - ley through the val - ley of the shadow,
In the distance.
pp ad lib.
pp
The shadow of death, I will fear no e - vil.
ad lib.
pp
(Mary Magdalene starts from the shadows as if to follow Christ,— but hearing the followers she waits for them to pass; then joins them in the journey toward Nain.)
Tempo I. (♩= 66.)
p
p
mf
sfz



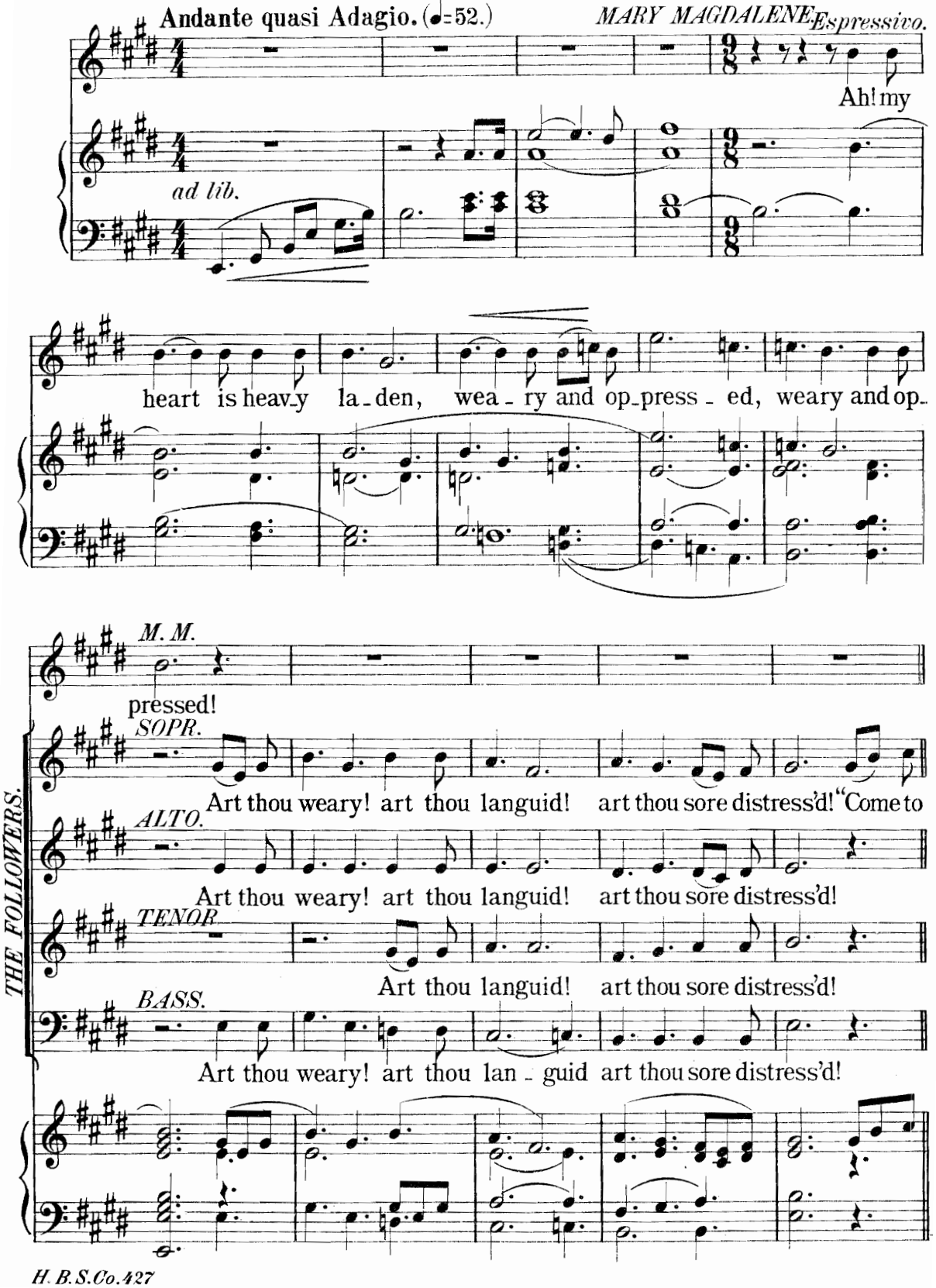
End of Scene I.

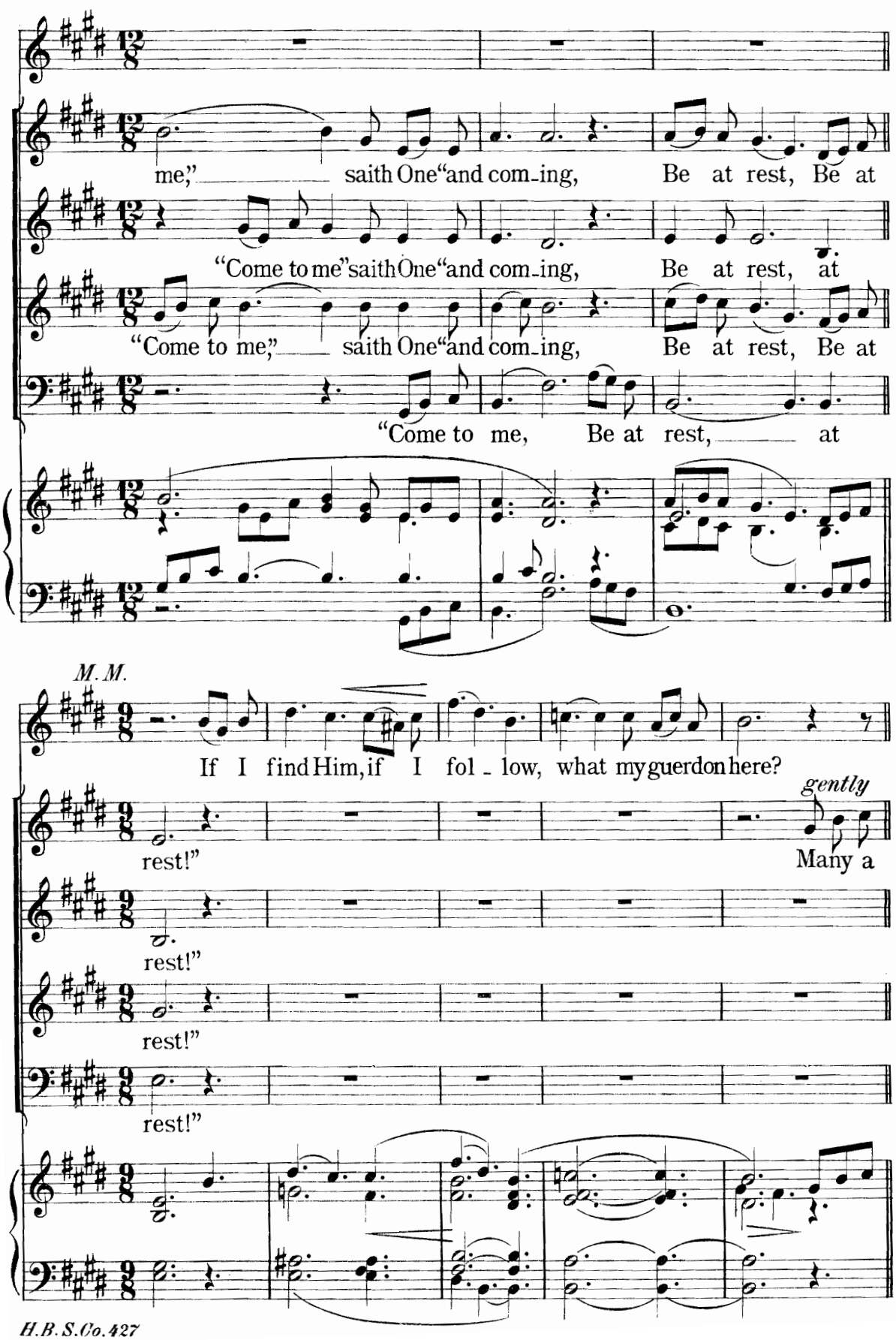
(The time taken to give the 1st. scene, including the introduction, should not exceed ten minutes.)

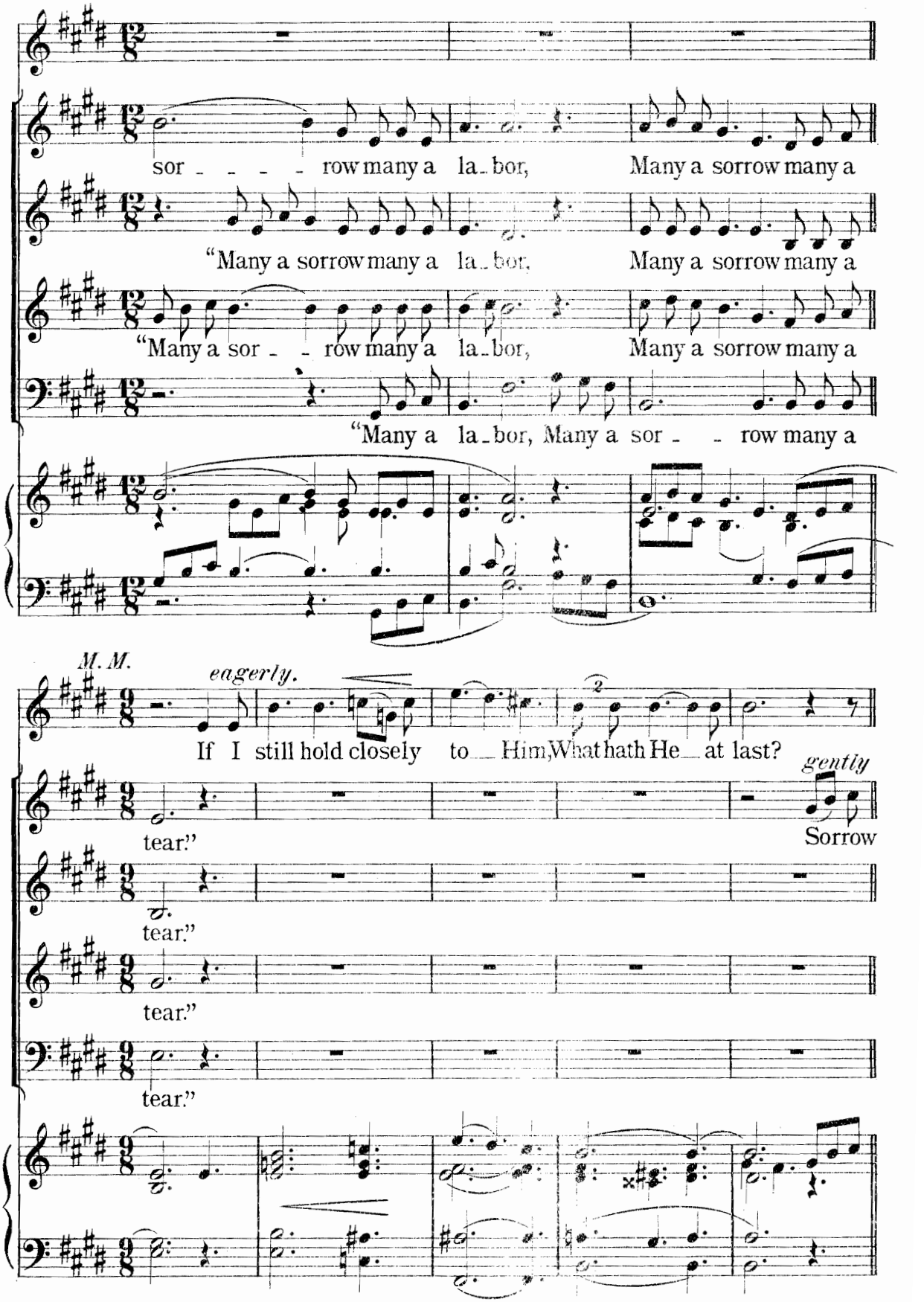
SCENE II.

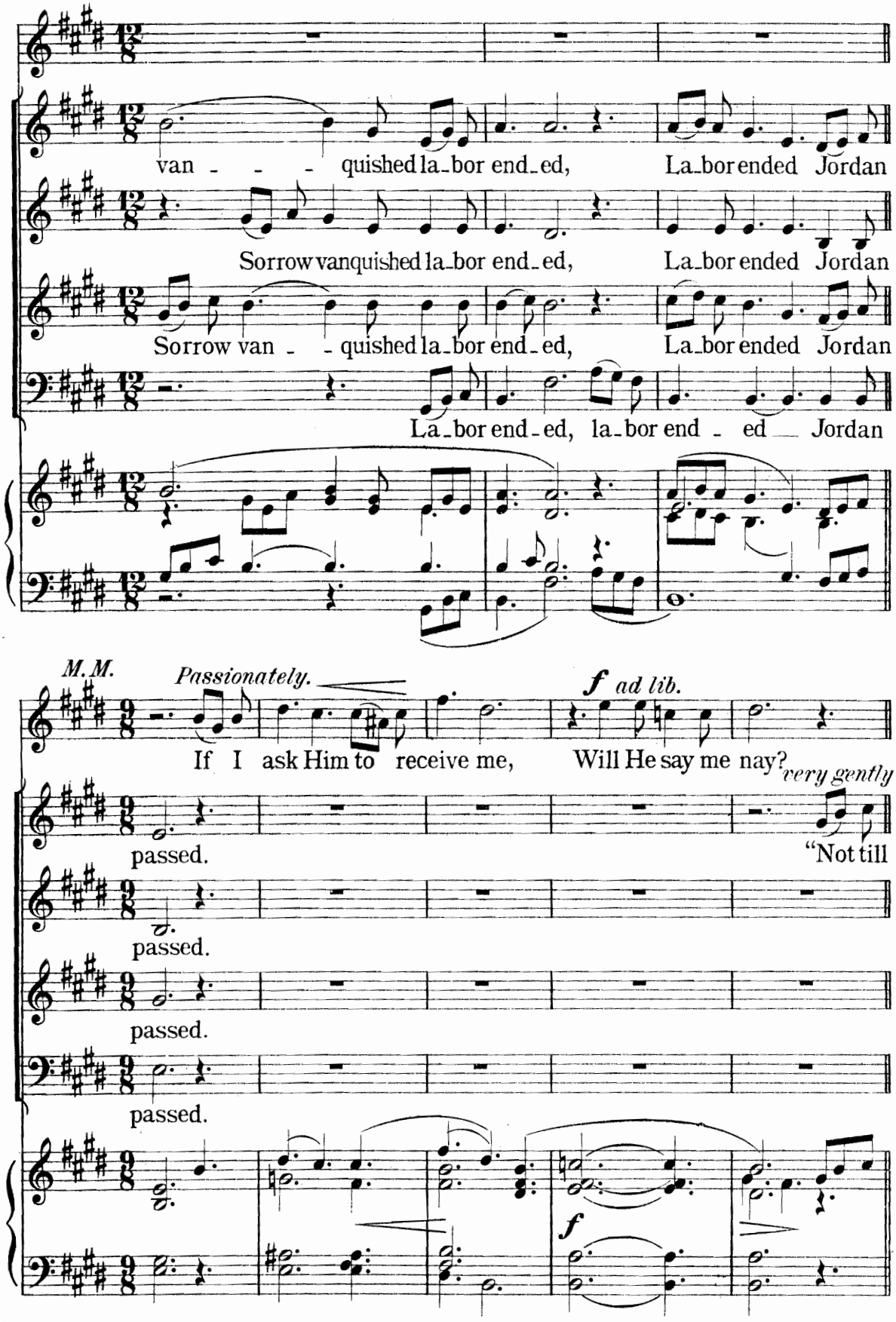
Art thou Weary?

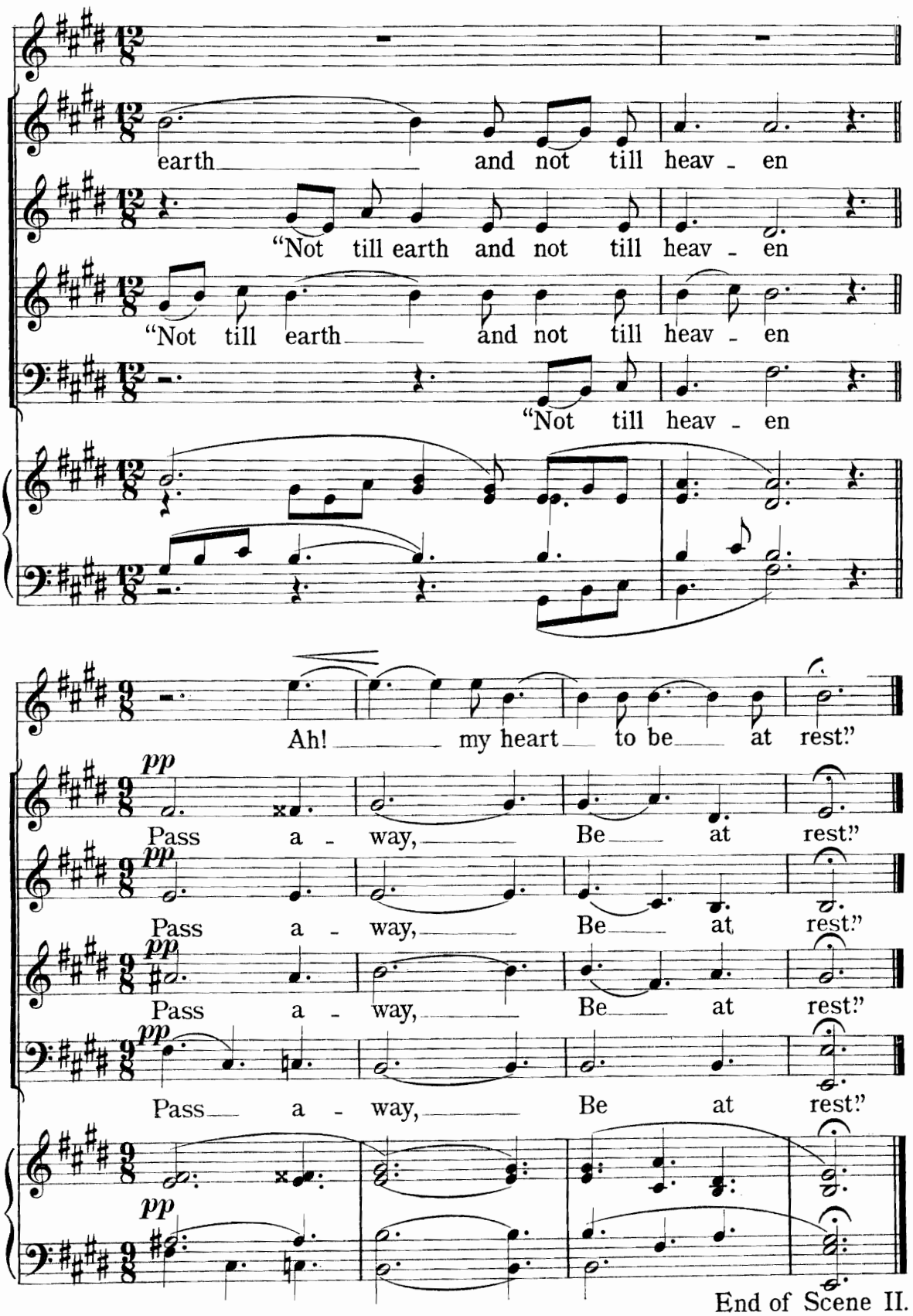
Mary Magdalene and the followers of Christ.




me," saith One "and com-ing, Be at rest, Be at
"Come to me" saith One "and com-ing, Be at rest, at
"Come to me," saith One "and com-ing, Be at rest, Be at
"Come to me, Be at rest, at
M.M.
If I find Him, if I fol-low, what my guerdon here?
gently
rest!" Many a
rest!"
rest!"
rest!"


sor - - - - row many a la - bor, Many a sorrow many a
"Many a sorrow many a la - bor, Many a sorrow many a
"Many a sor - - row many a la - bor, Many a sorrow many a
"Many a la - bor, Many a sor - - row many a
M. M.
eagerly.
If I still hold closely to - Him, What hath He - at last?
gently
Sorrow
tear."
tear."
tear."
tear."


van - - - quished la-bor end-ed, La-bor ended Jordan
Sorrow vanquished la-bor end-ed, La-bor ended Jordan
Sorrow van - - quished la-bor end-ed, La-bor ended Jordan
La-bor end-ed, la-bor end - ed Jordan
M.M.
Passionately.
f ad lib.
If I ask Him to receive me, Will He say me nay?
very gently
passed.
"Not till
passed.
passed.
passed.
f

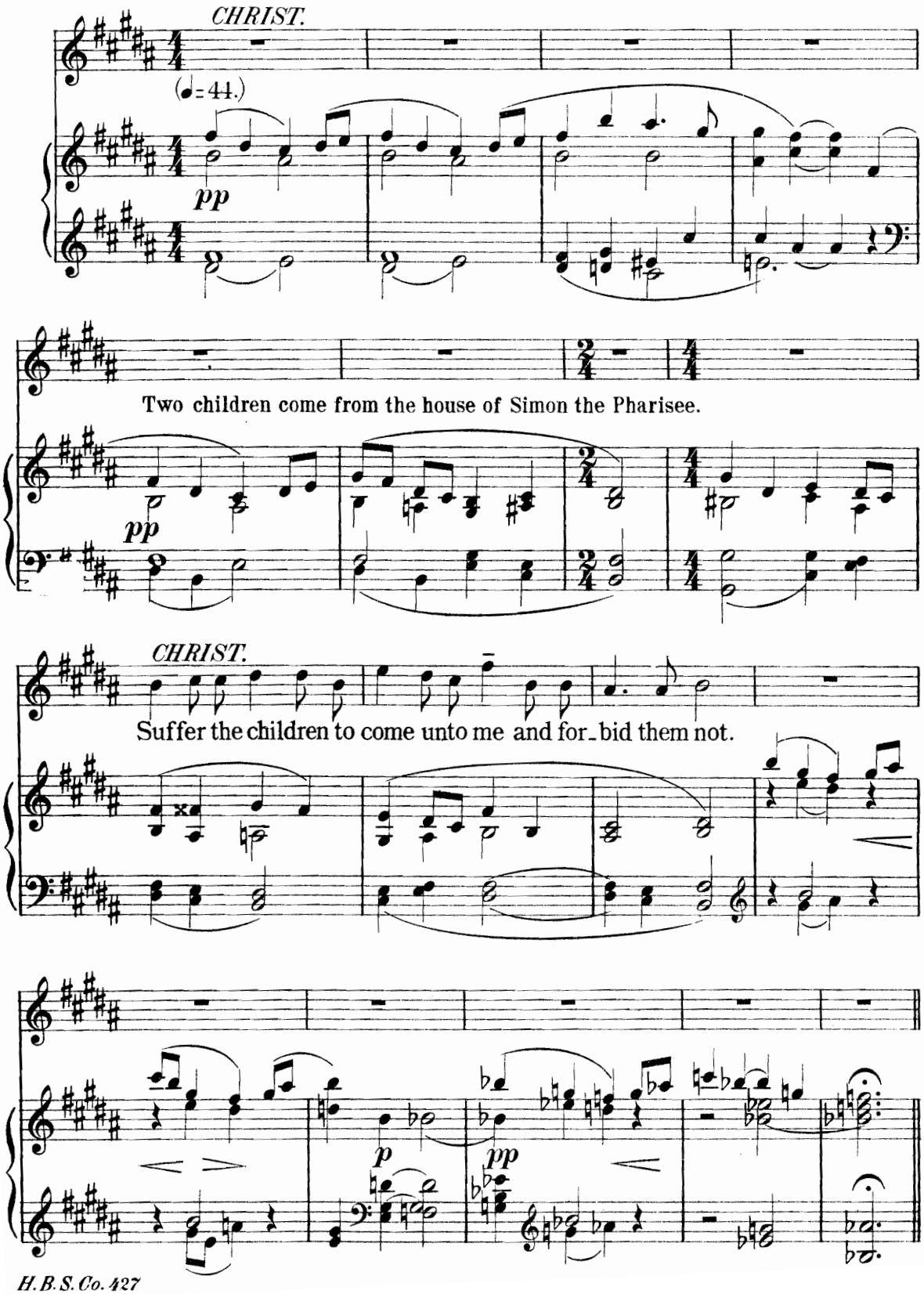


End of Scene II.

(The time taken to give the 2nd. scene should not exceed two and one half minutes.)

SCENE III.

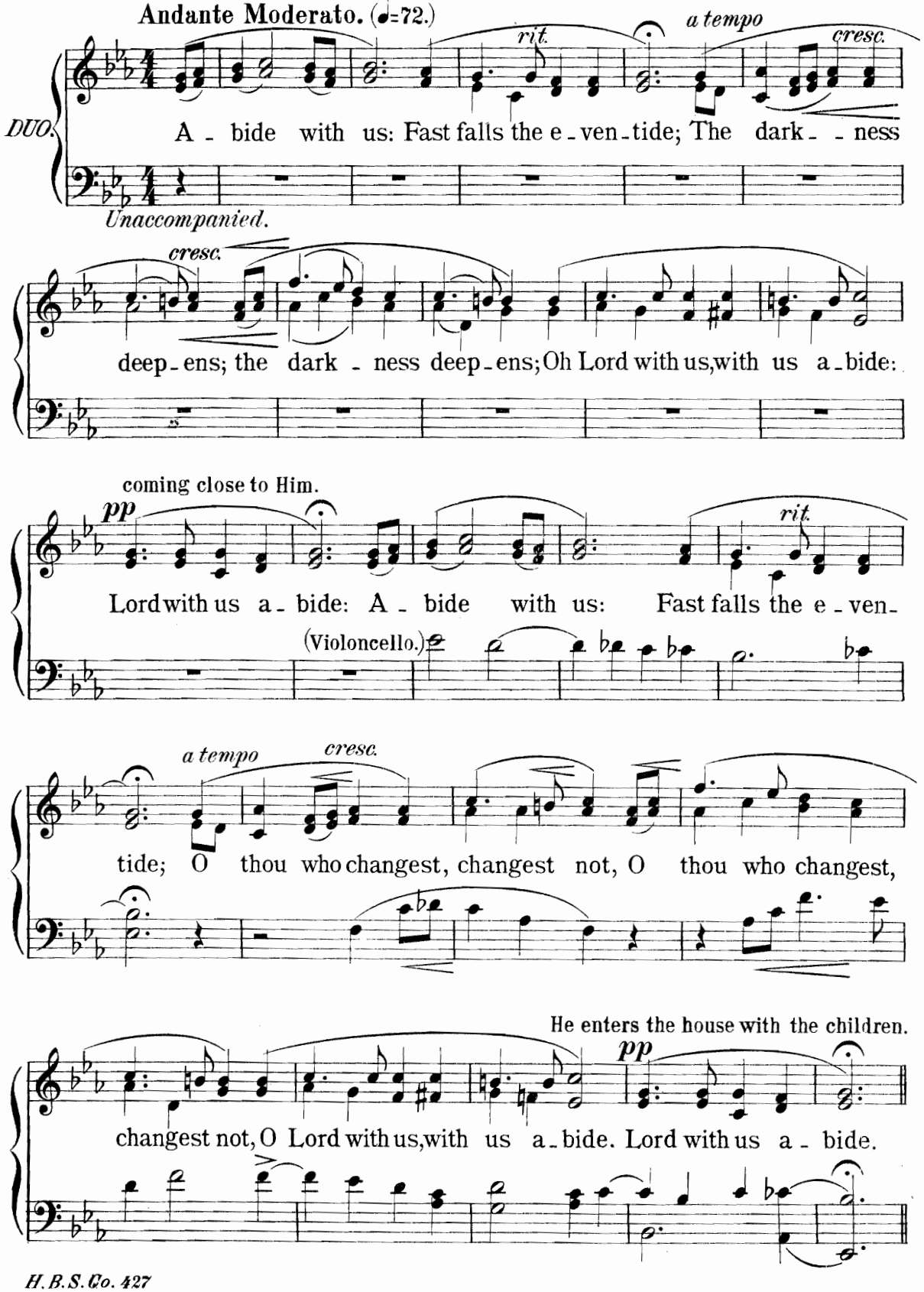
The Christ alone on the highway near Nain.



(The children stand reverently at a little distance from the Christ.)

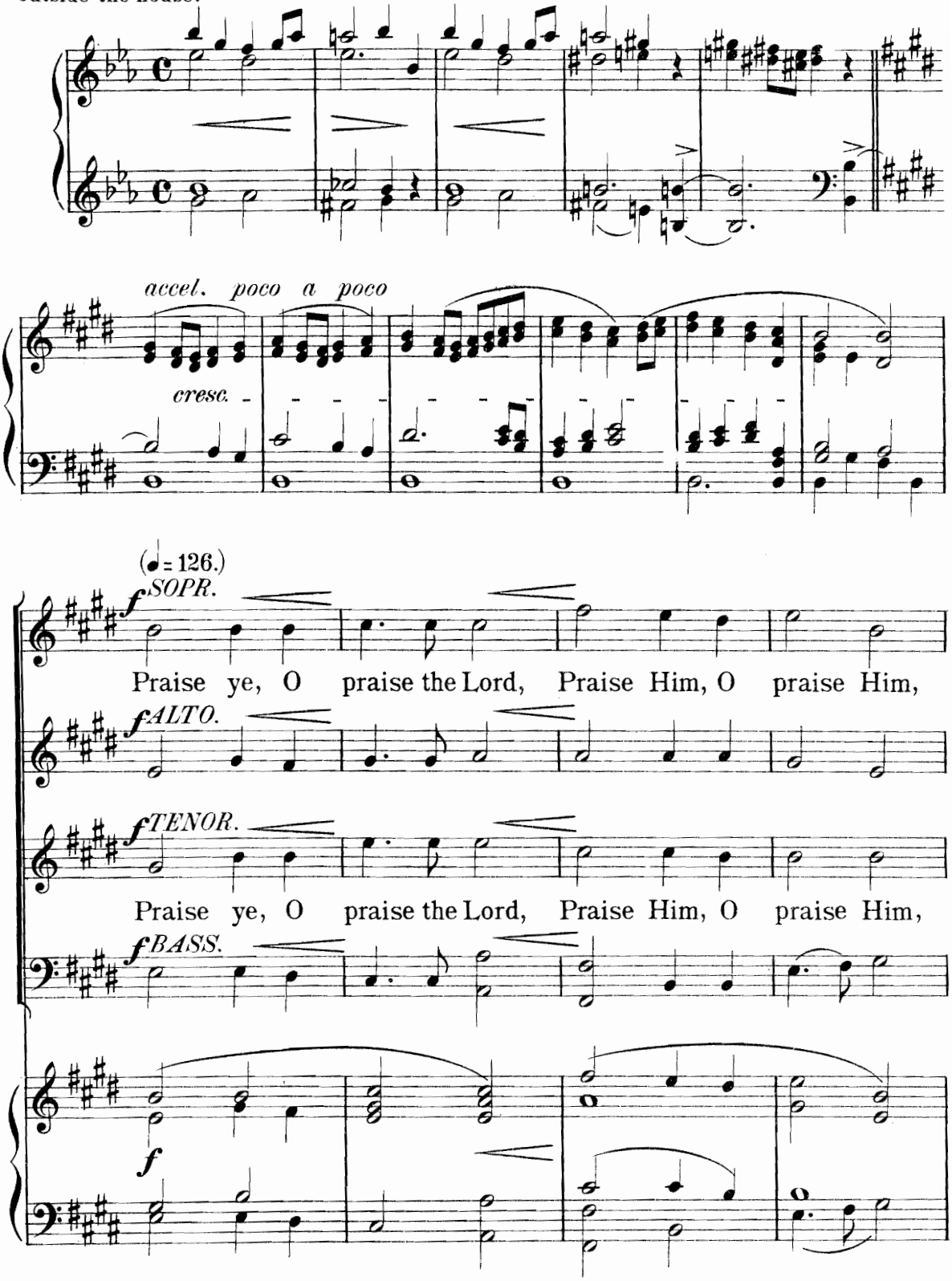
THE CHILDREN.

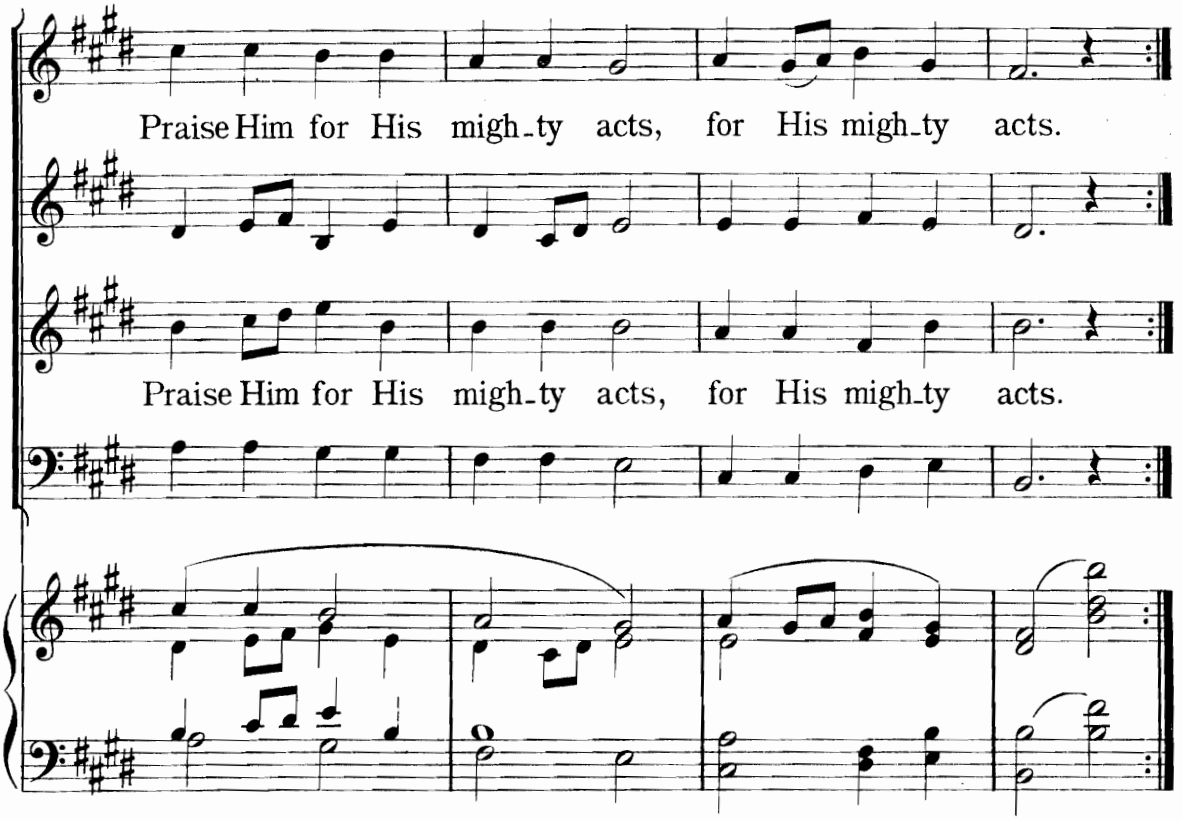
Andante Moderato. (♩=72.)

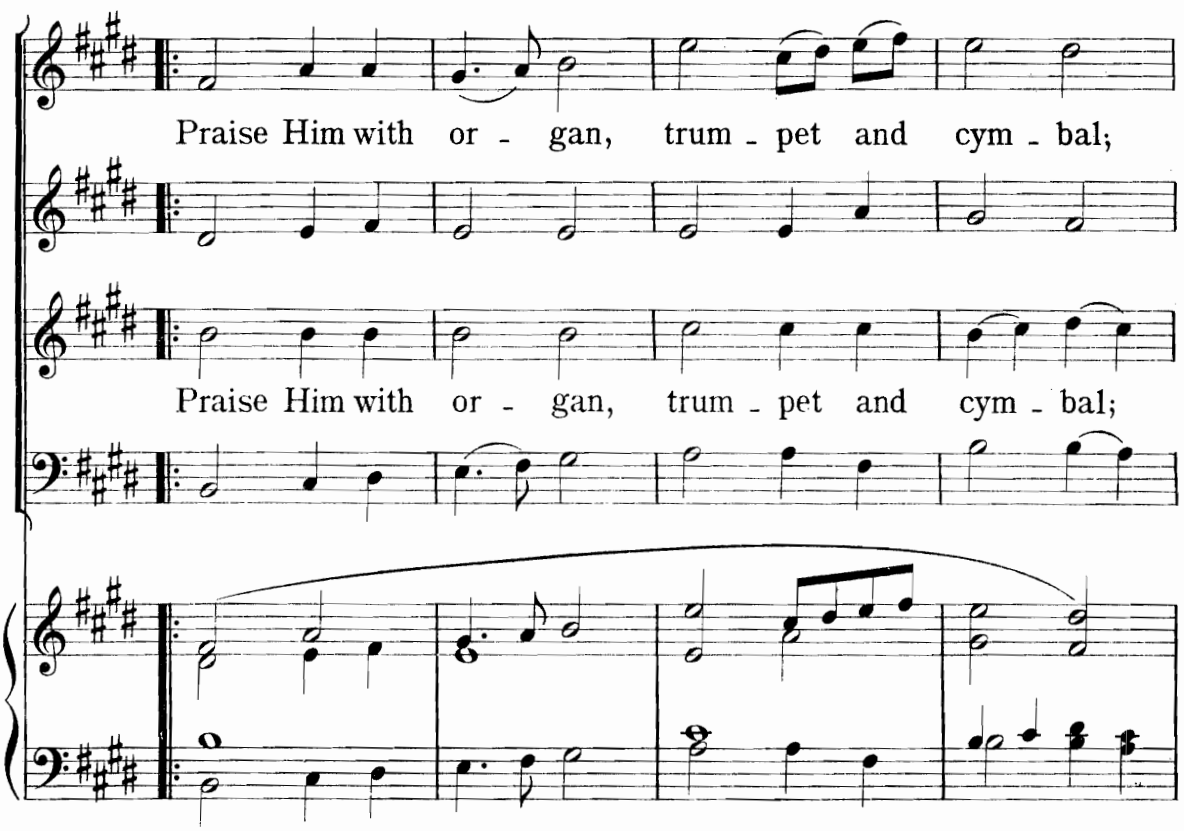


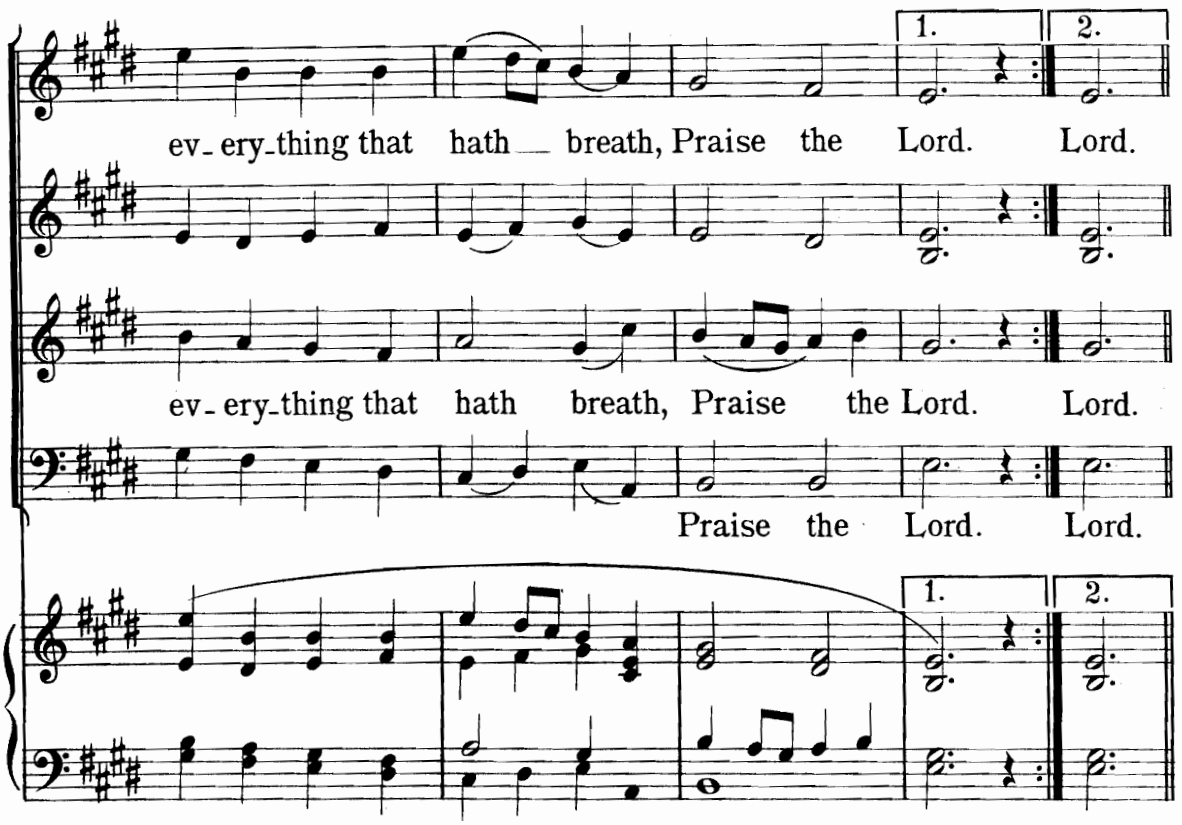
Praise ye the Lord.

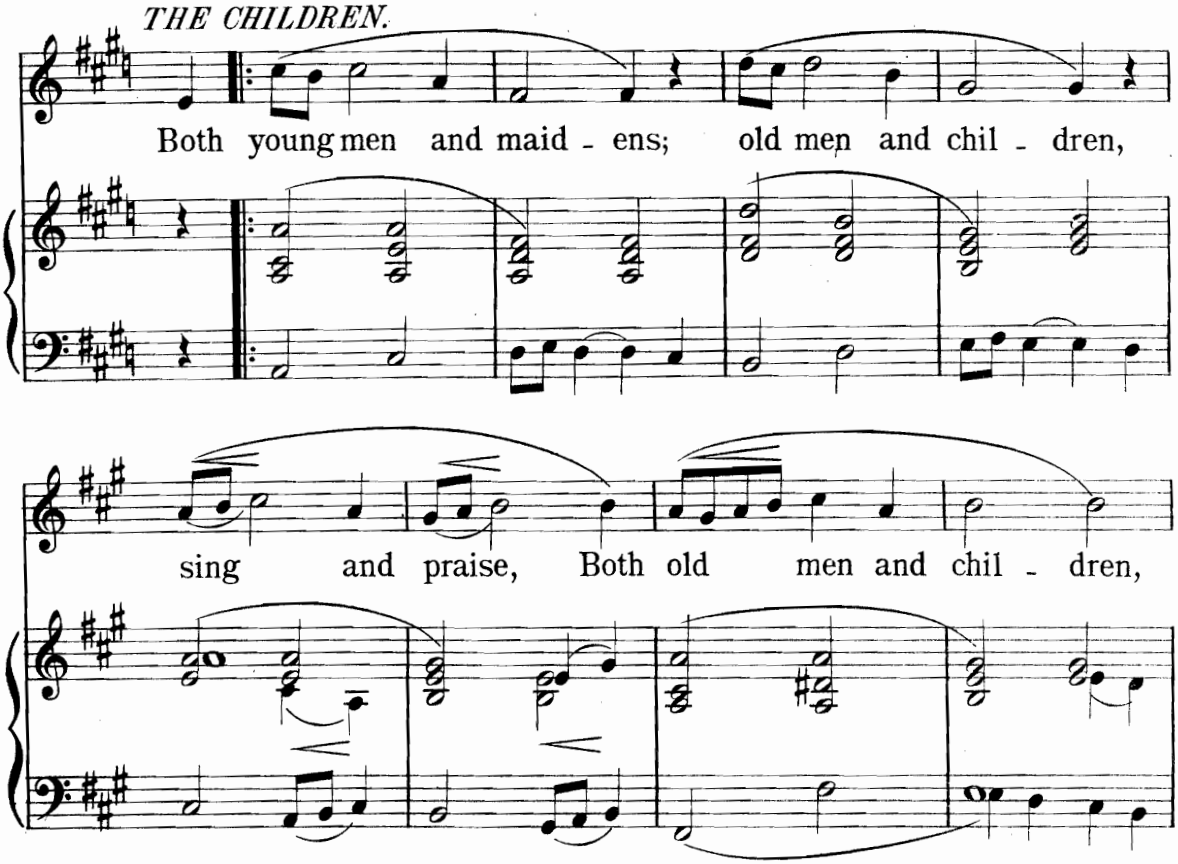
Followers and townspeople outside the house.

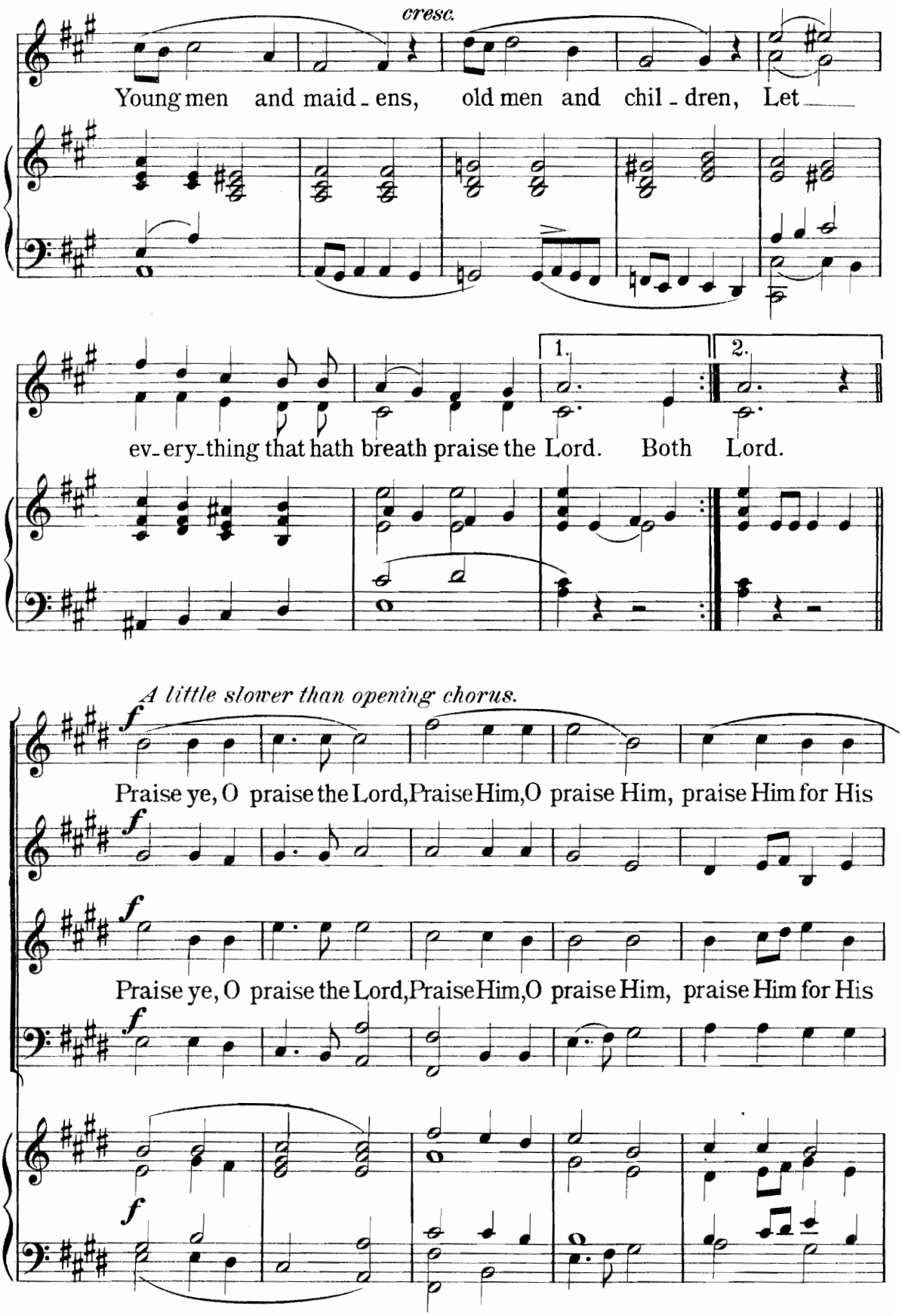


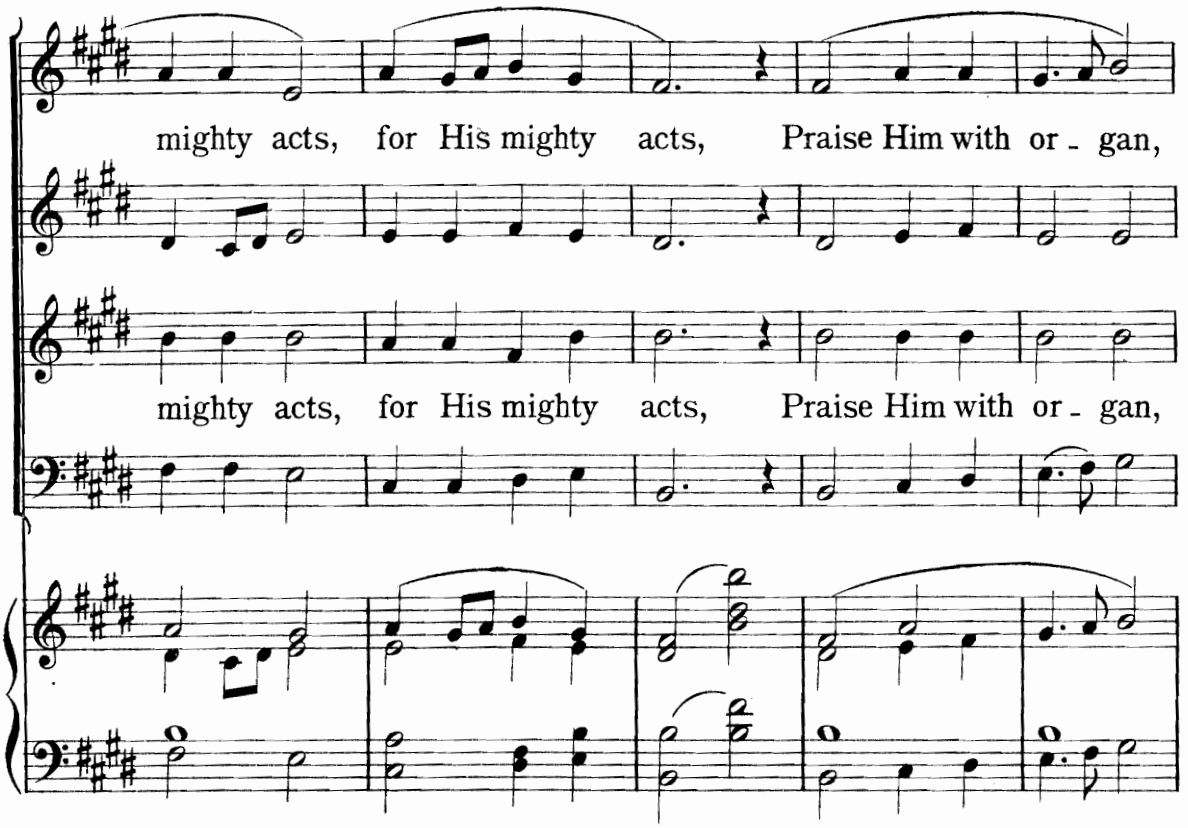

Praise Him for His migh-ty acts, for His migh-ty acts.
Praise Him for His migh-ty acts, for His migh-ty acts.

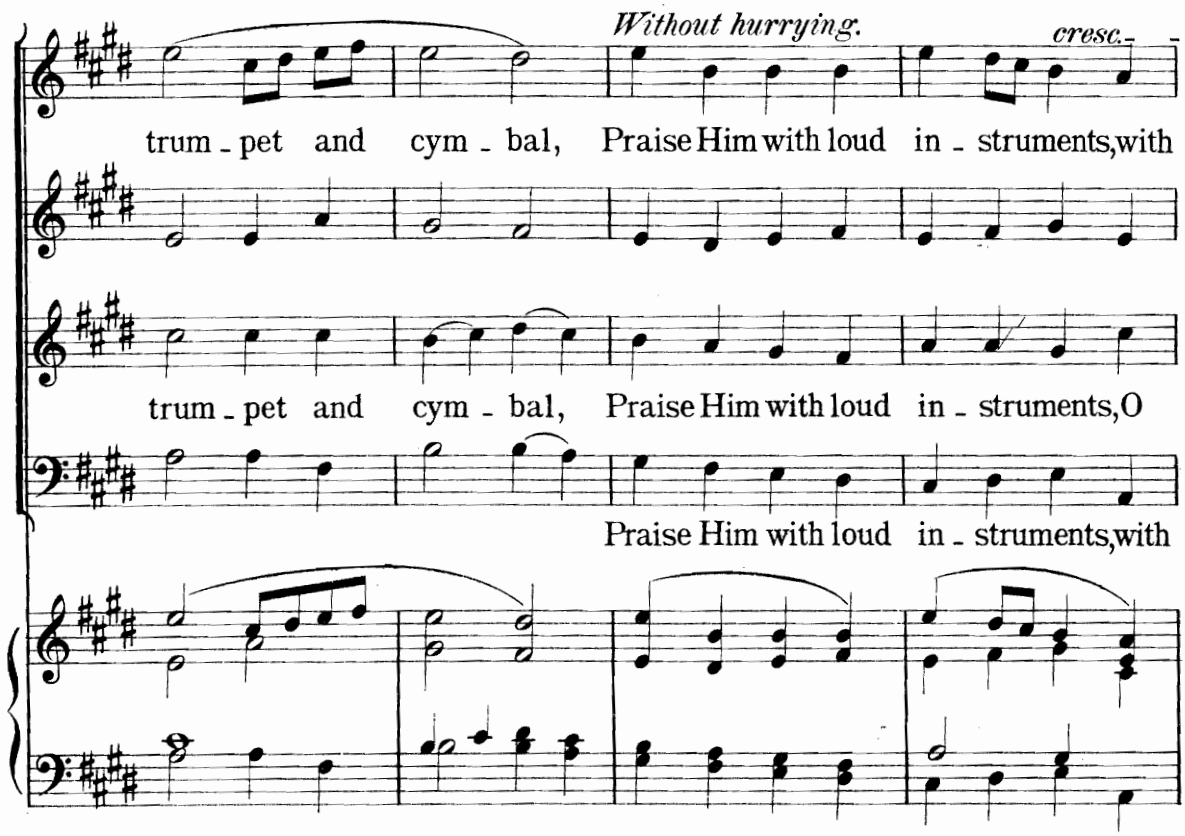

Praise Him with or - gan, trum - pet and cym - bal;
Praise Him with or - gan, trum - pet and cym - bal;

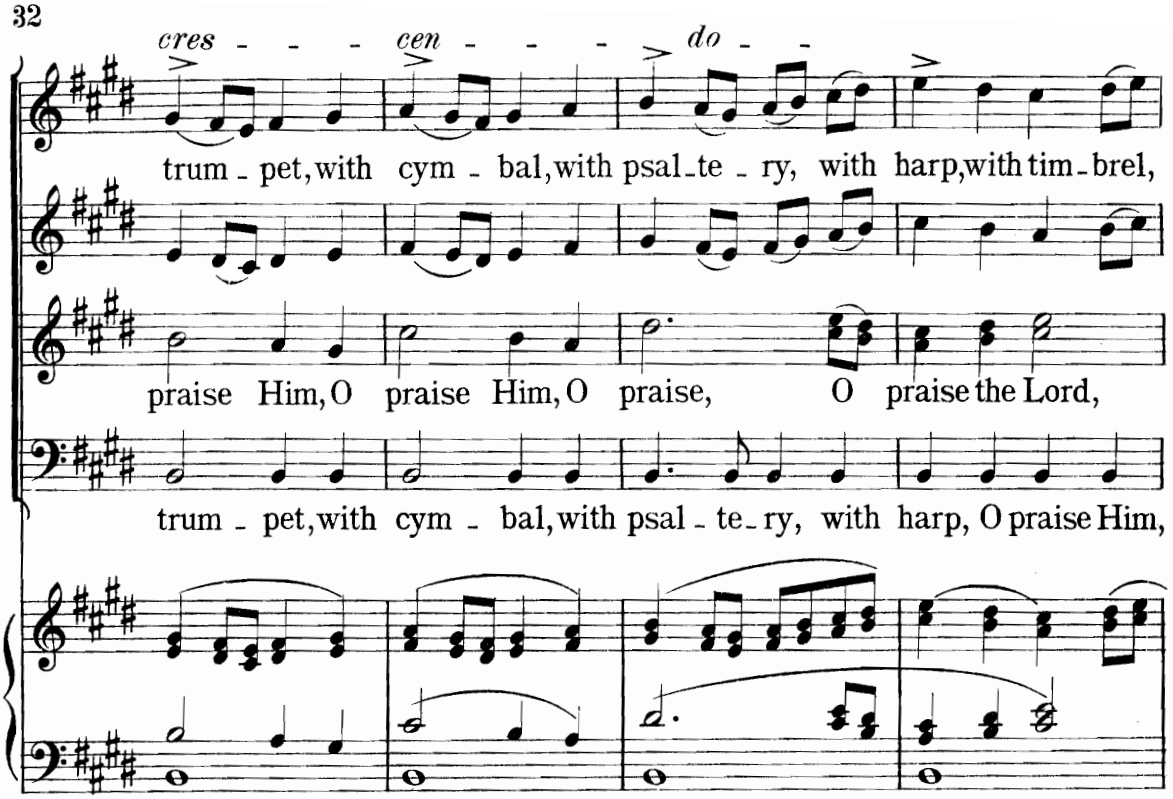

1.
2.
ev- ery-thing that hath breath, Praise the Lord. Lord.
ev- ery-thing that hath breath, Praise the Lord. Lord.
Praise the Lord. Lord.
1.
2.

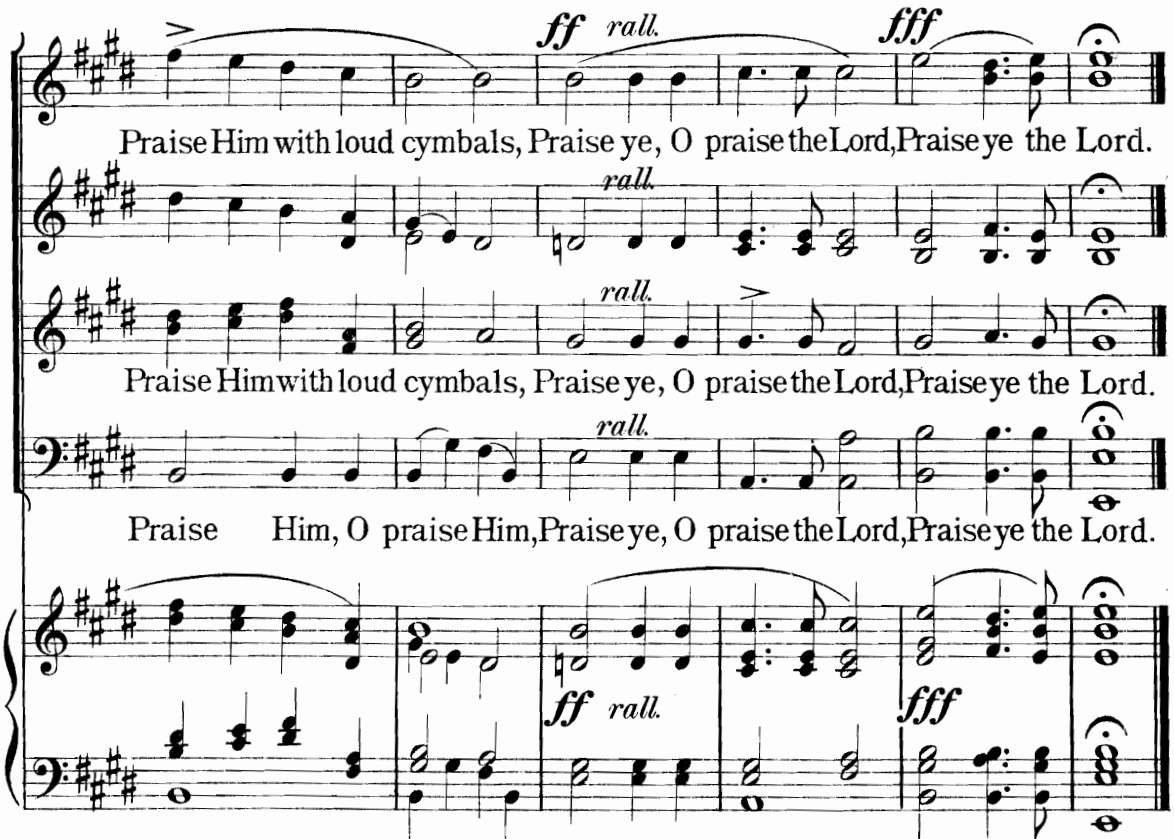

THE CHILDREN.
Both young men and maid - ens; old men and chil - dren,
sing and praise, Both old men and chil - dren,


cresc.
Young men and maid - ens, old men and chil - dren, Let
1.
2.
ev - ery - thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Both Lord.
A little slower than opening chorus.
f
Praise ye, O praise the Lord, Praise Him, O praise Him, praise Him for His
Praise ye, O praise the Lord, Praise Him, O praise Him, praise Him for His


mighty acts, for His mighty acts, Praise Him with or - gan,
mighty acts, for His mighty acts, Praise Him with or - gan,


Without hurrying.
cresc.
trum - pet and cym - bal, Praise Him with loud in - struments, with
trum - pet and cym - bal, Praise Him with loud in - struments, O
Praise Him with loud in - struments, with





End of Scene III.

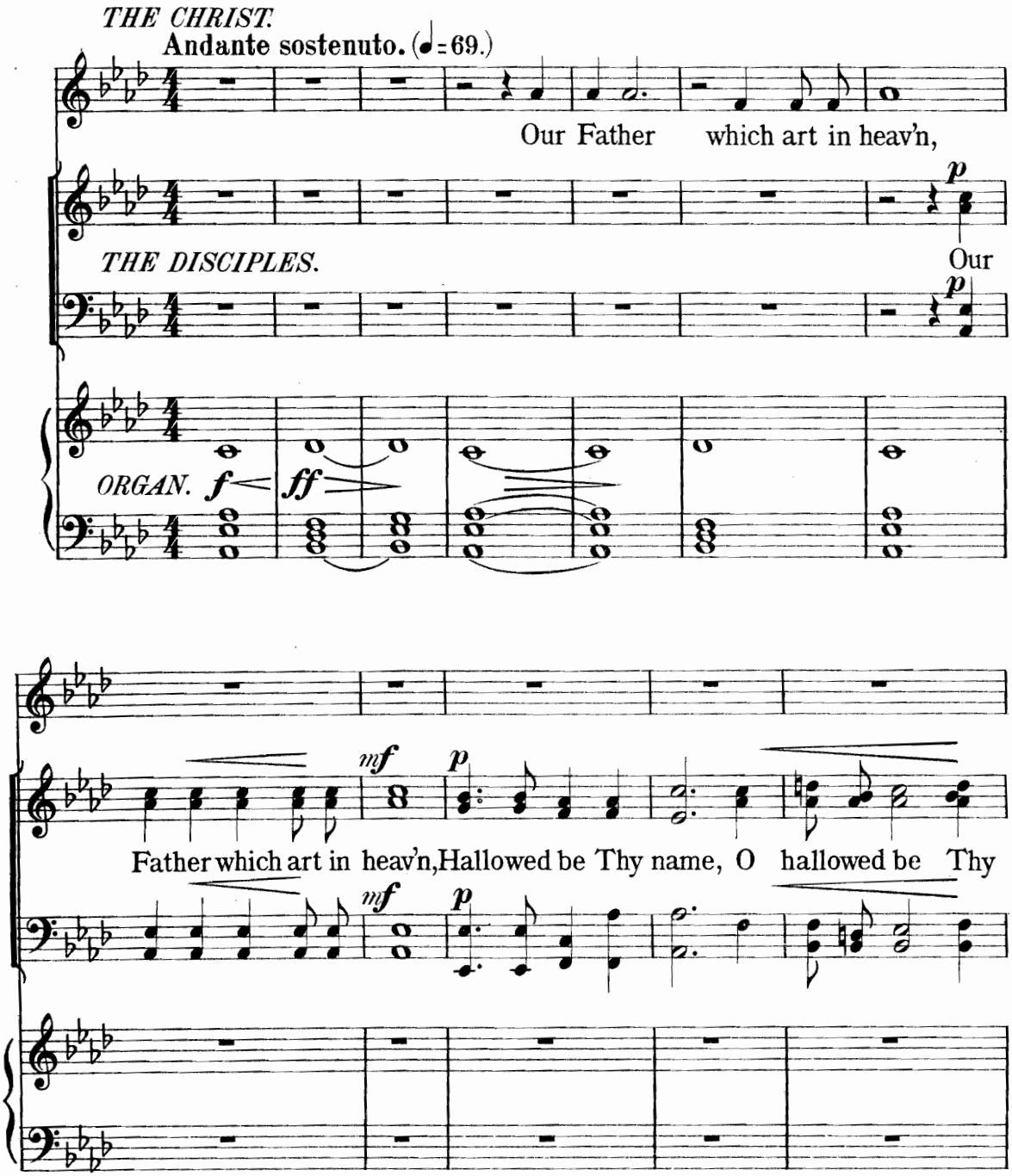
(The time taken to give the 3d. scene should not exceed five minutes.)

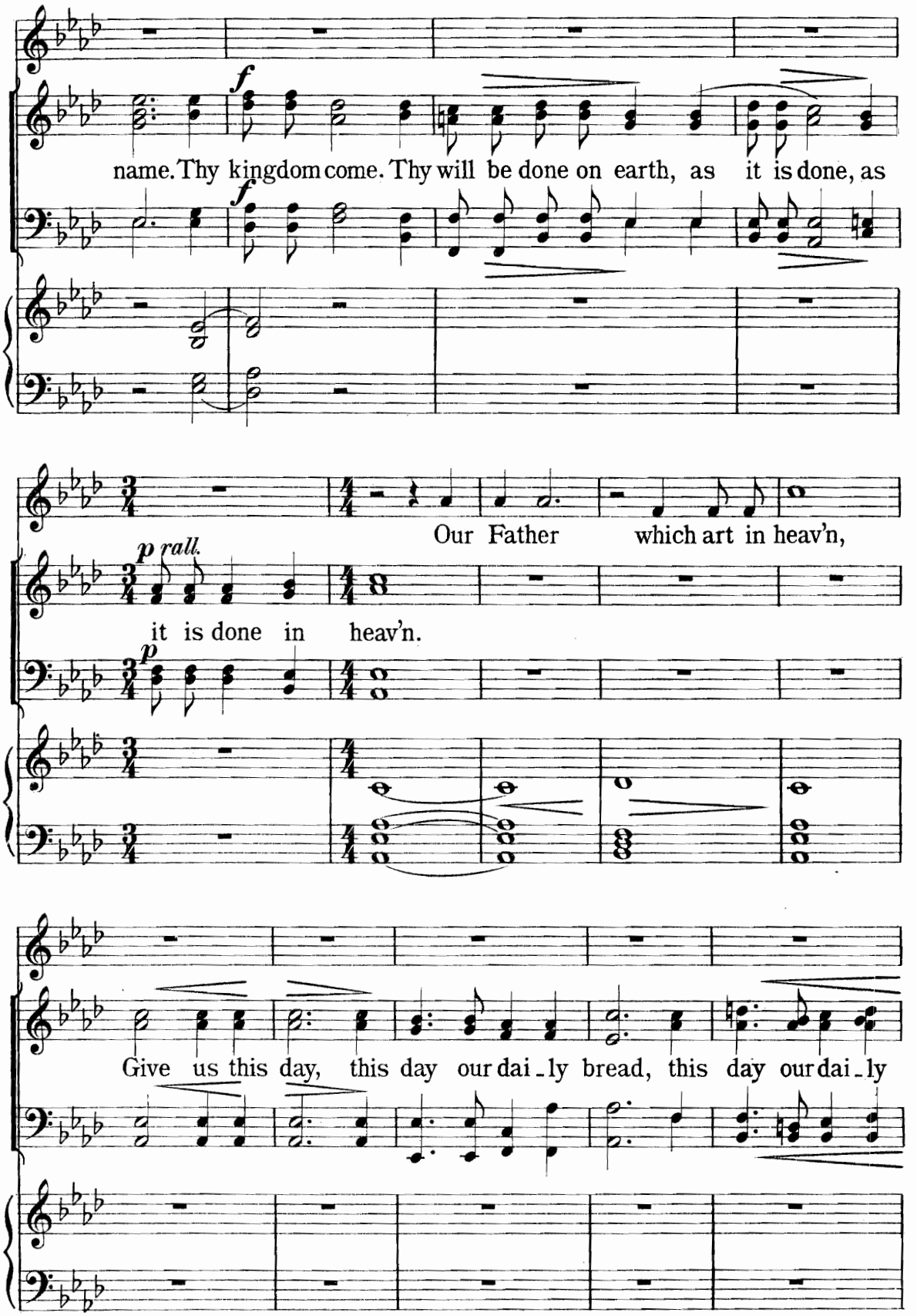
SCENE IV.

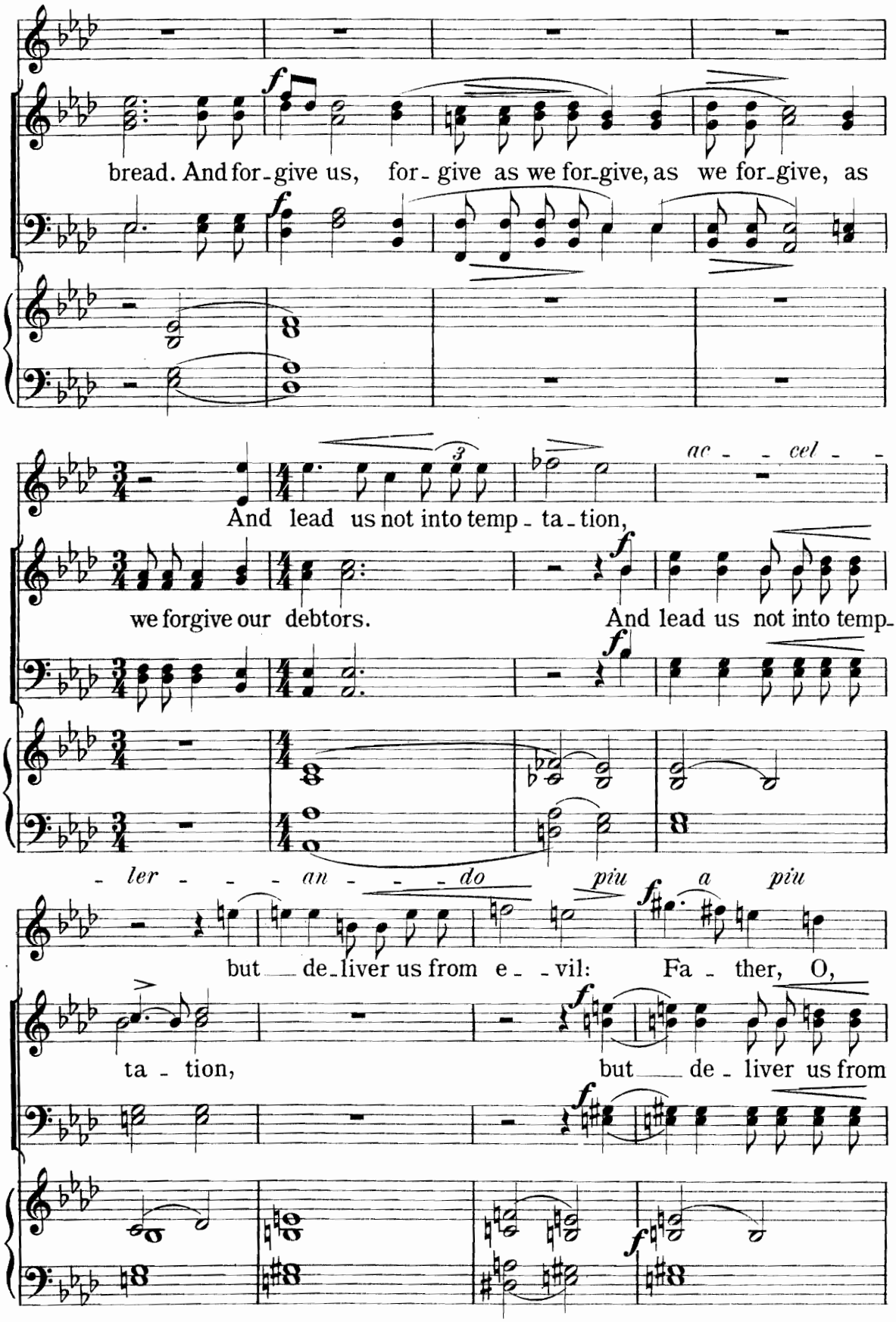
The evening meal in Simon's house.
Christ and the disciples reclining around the table.
Groups of Pharisees in the room.
Villagers pass in and out at will. The children near Christ.

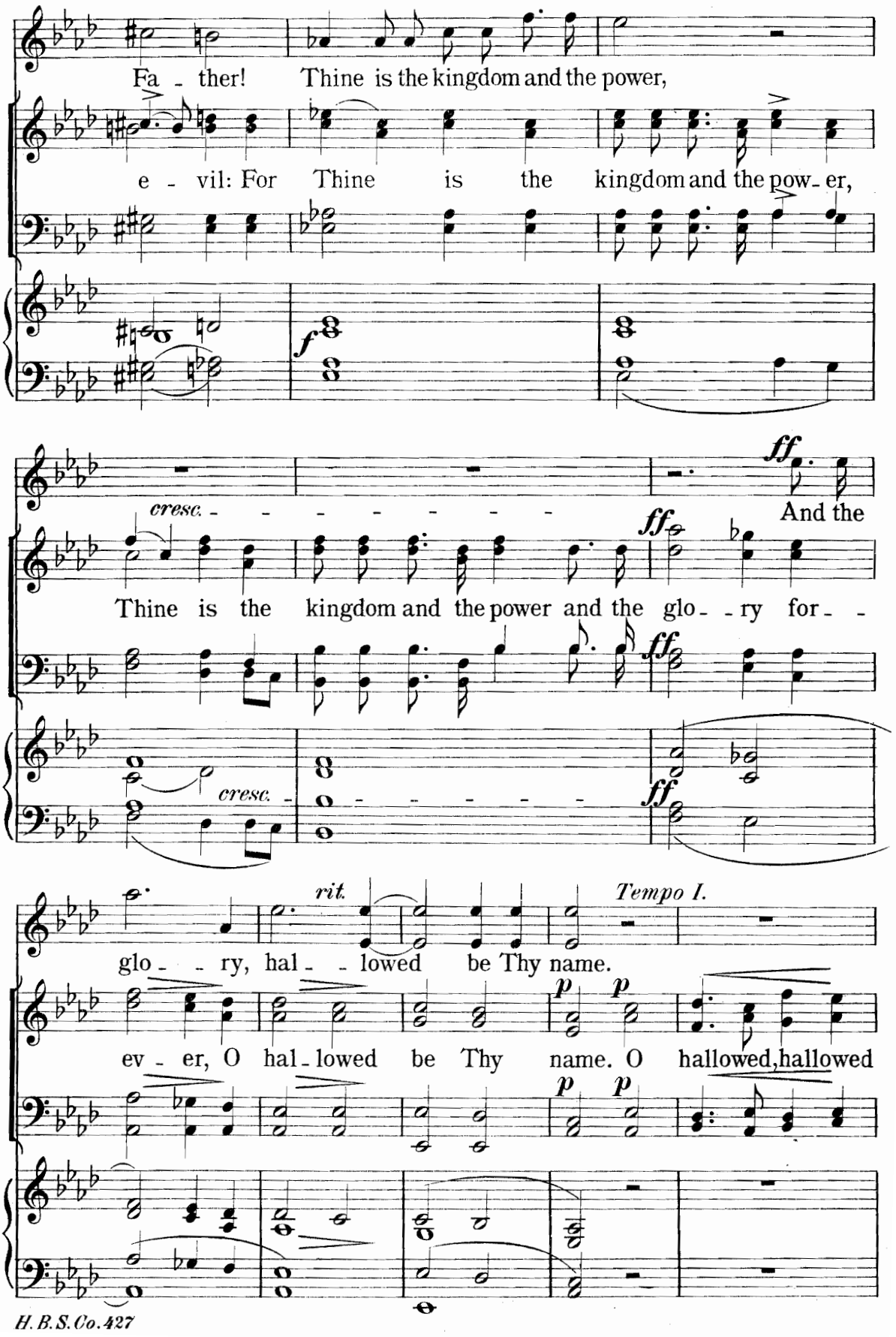
Our Father which art in Heaven.

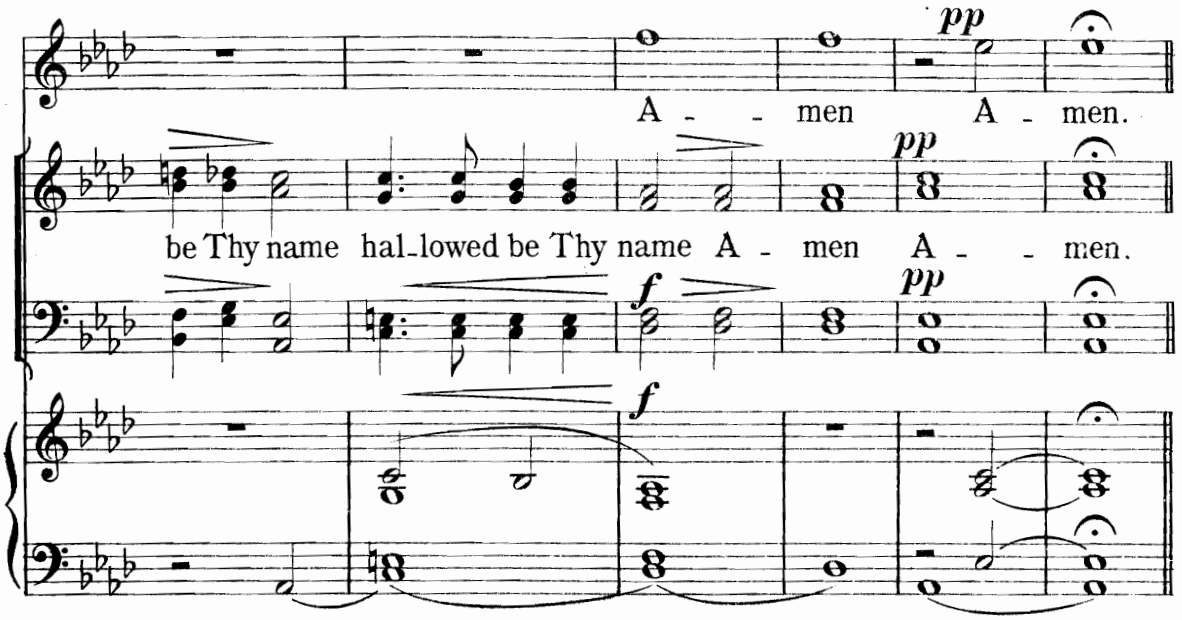
Tenor Solo and Male Chorus.




f
name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is done, as
f
Our Father which art in heav'n,
p rall.
it is done in heav'n.
p
Give us this day, this day our dai - ly bread, this day our dai - ly

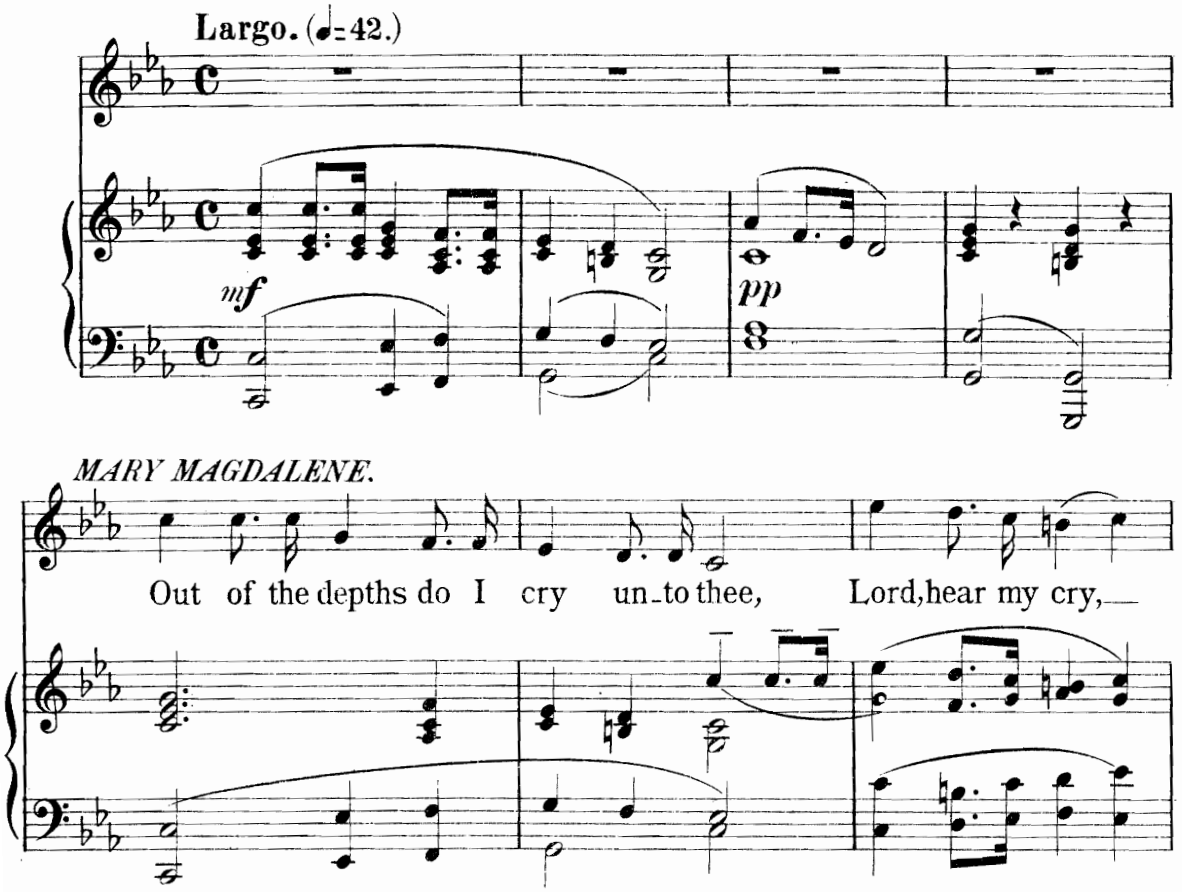

bread. And for-give us, for-give as we for-give, as we for-give, as
And lead us not into temp-ta-tion,
ac - - cel - -
we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temp-
- ler - - - an - - - do
piu a piu
but de-liver us from e- -vil: Fa - ther, O,
ta - tion,
but de - liver us from

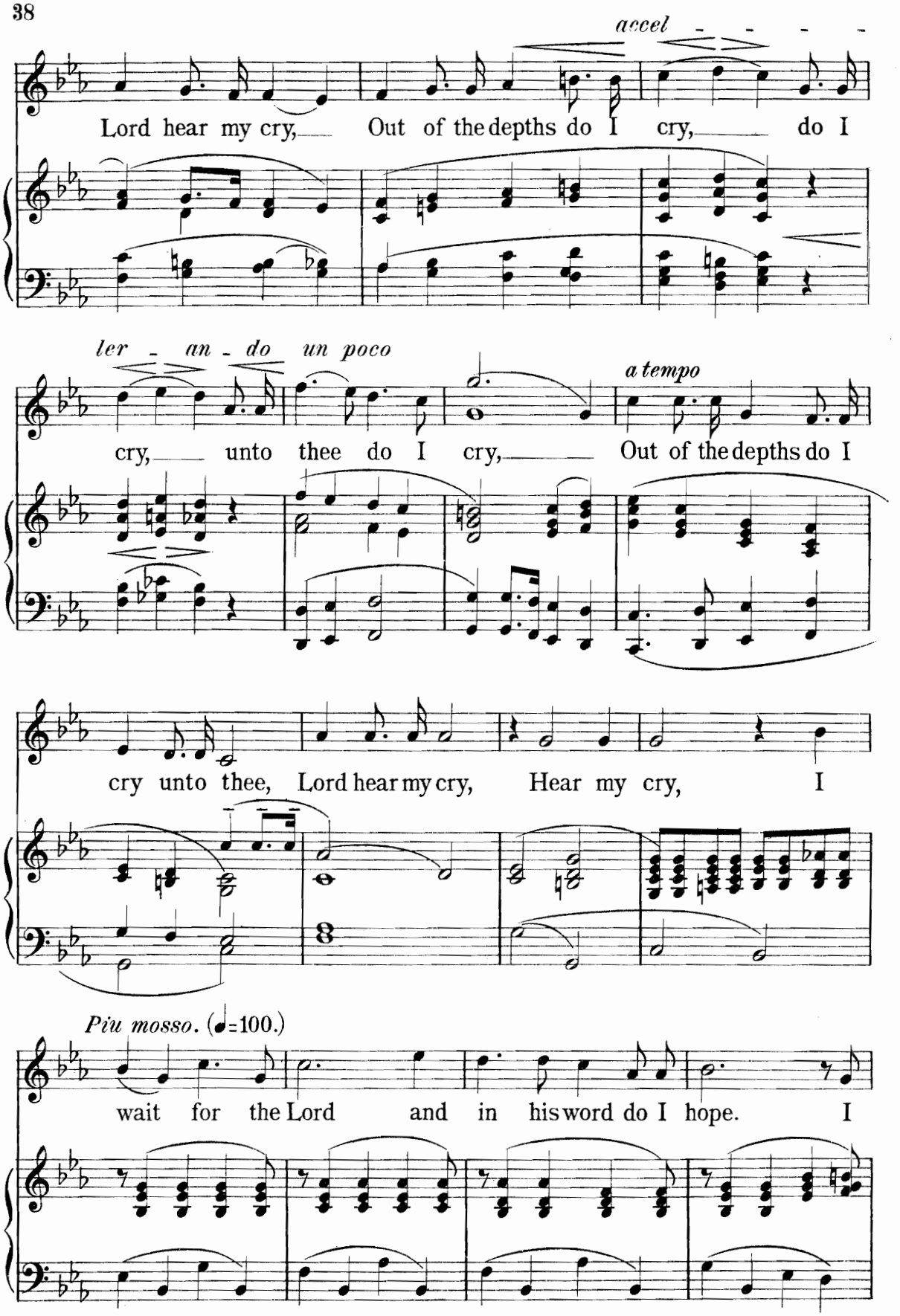

Fa - ther! Thine is the kingdom and the power,
e - vil: For Thine is the kingdom and the pow- er,
f
cresc. - - - - - - - -
ff
And the
Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glo- - ry for- -
ff
cresc. -
ff
rit.
Tempo I.
glo- - ry, hal- - lowed be Thy name.
p
p
ev - er, O hal- lowed be Thy name. O hallowed, hallowed
p
p

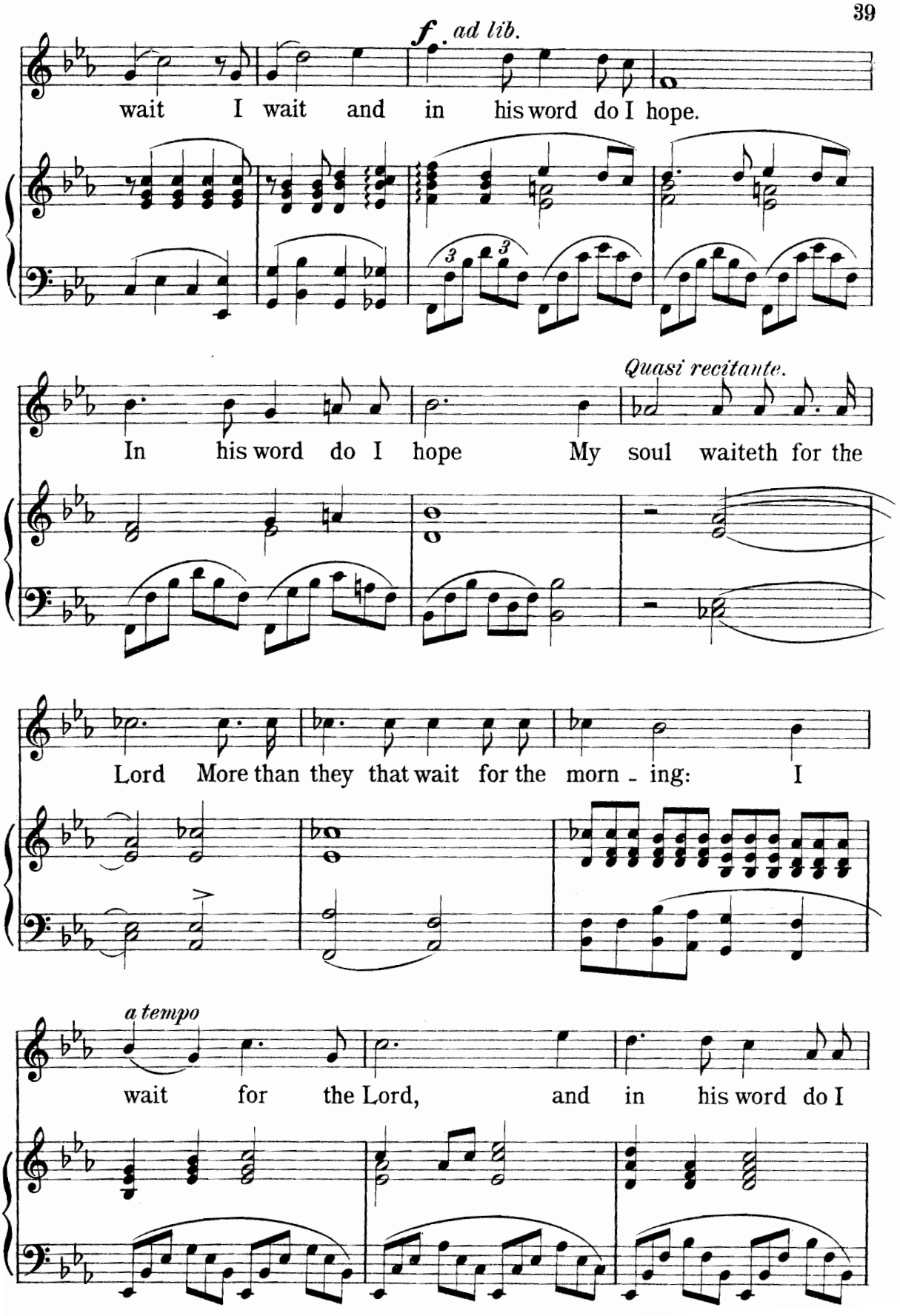


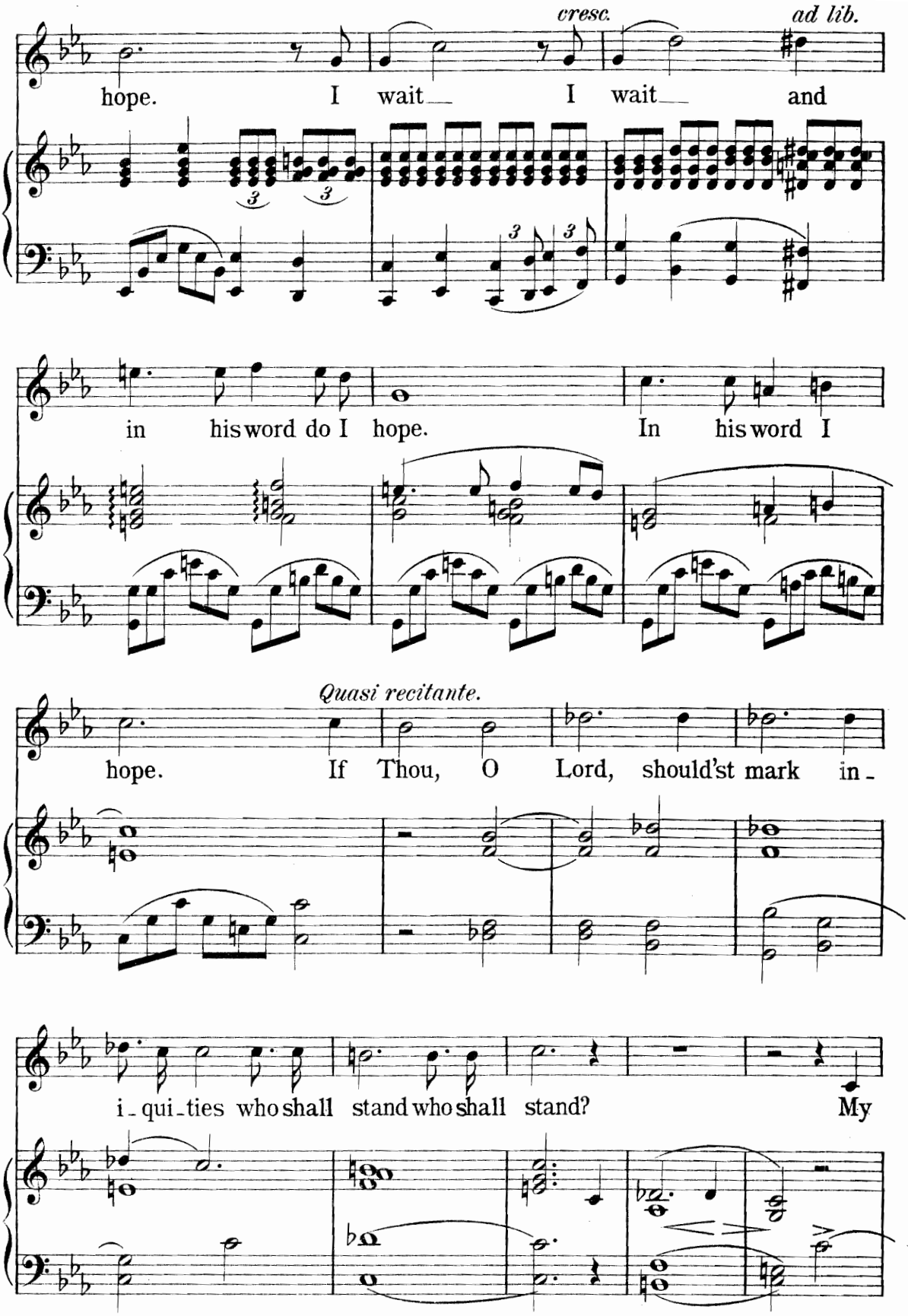
Aria
"Out of the Depths."

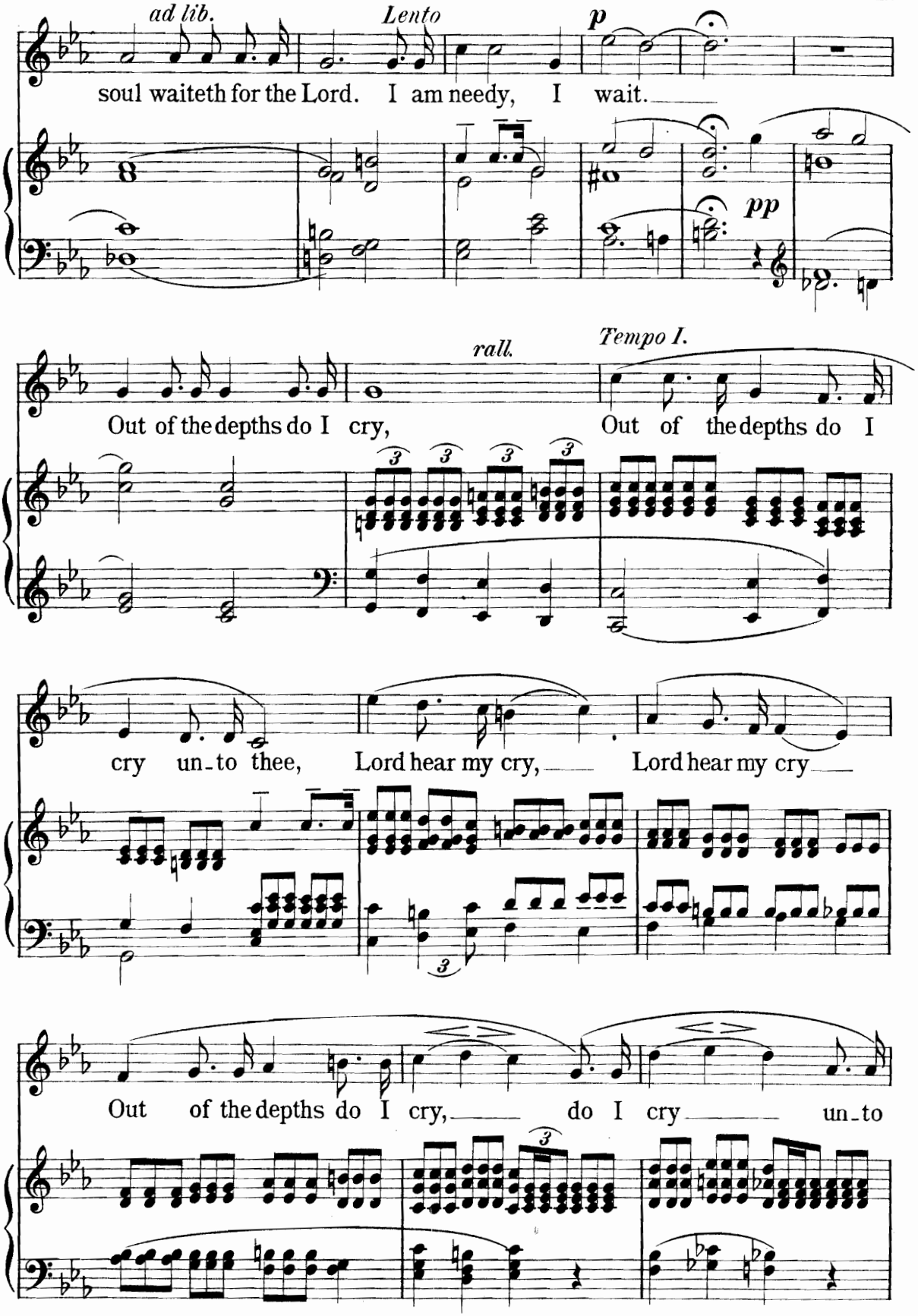
Mary Magdalene glides into the room, prostrates herself before Christ and bathes his feet in her tears.

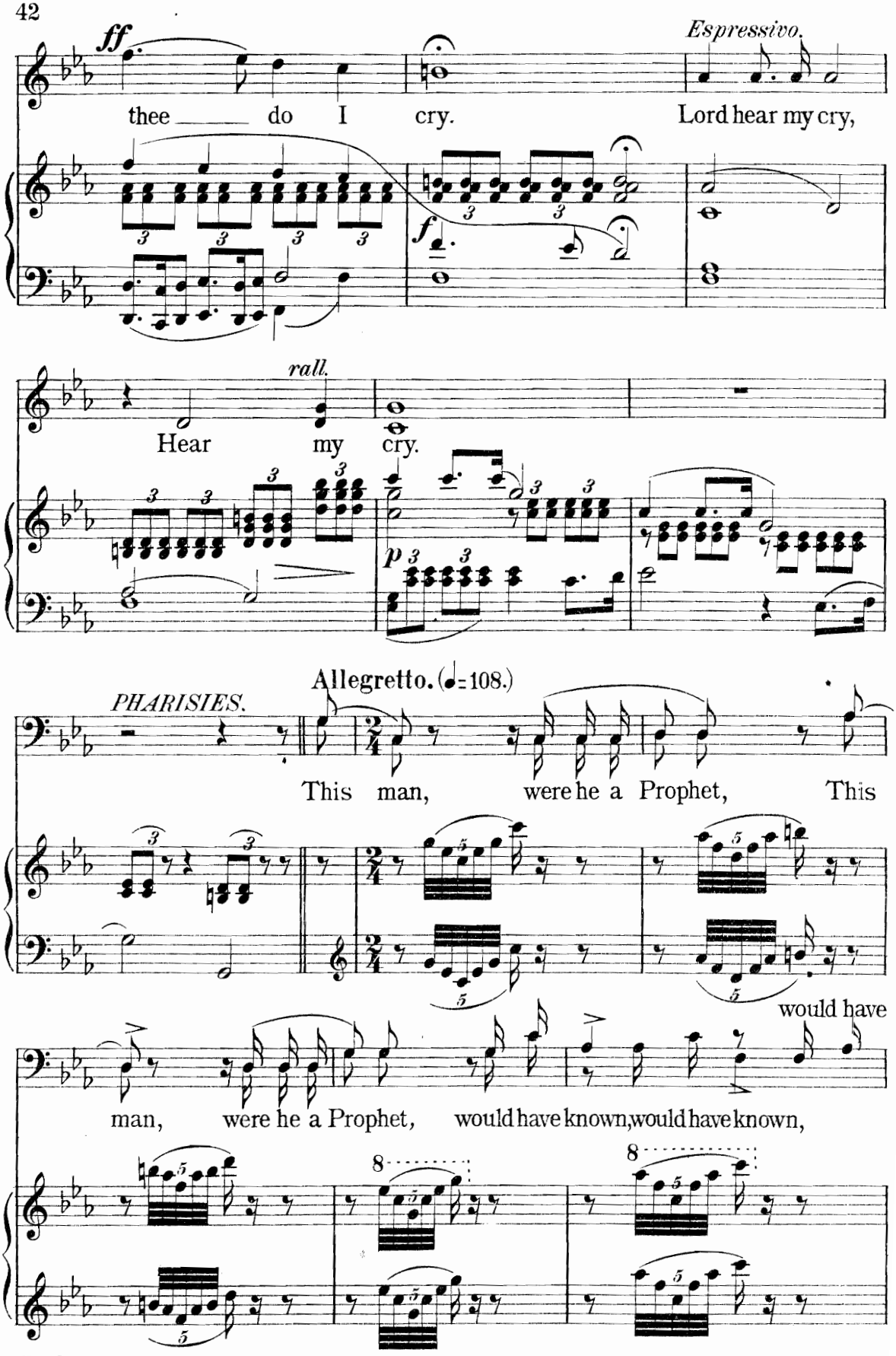


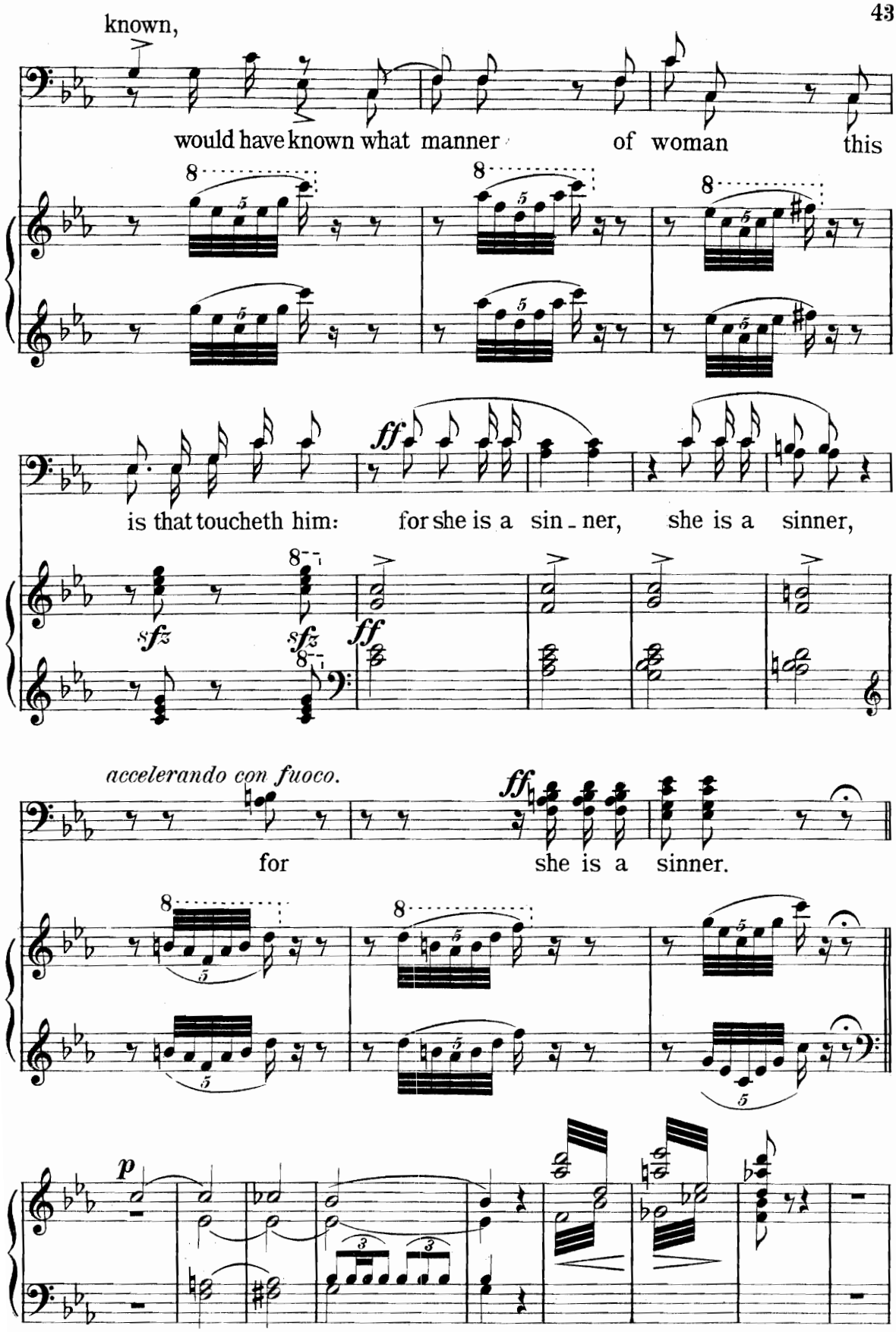

accel
Lord hear my cry, Out of the depths do I cry, do I
ler - an - do un poco
a tempo
cry, unto thee do I cry, Out of the depths do I
cry unto thee, Lord hear my cry, Hear my cry, I
Più mosso. (♩=100.)
wait for the Lord and in his word do I hope. I

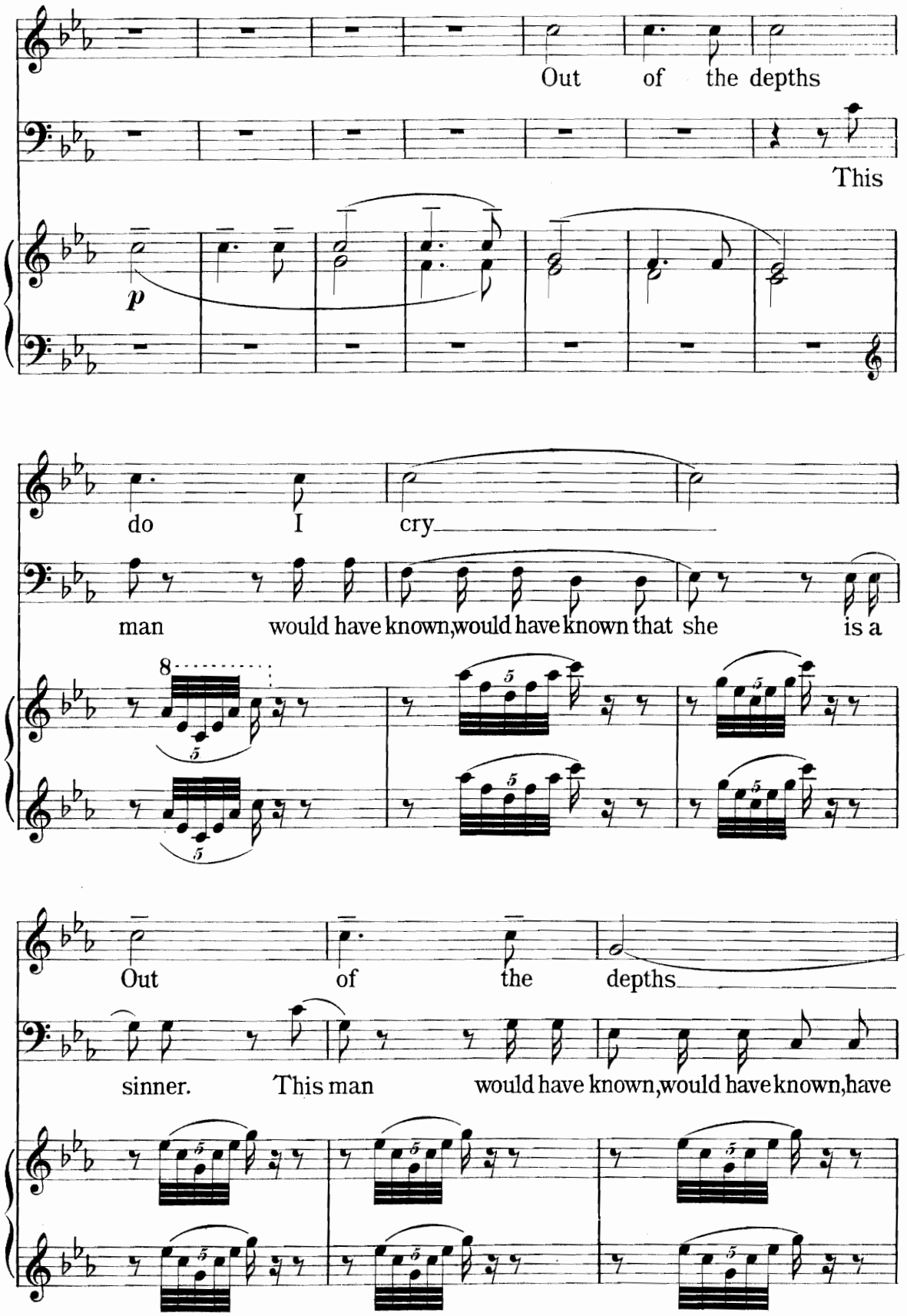

f. ad lib.
wait I wait and in his word do I hope.
Quasi recitante.
In his word do I hope My soul waiteth for the
Lord More than they that wait for the morn - ing: I
a tempo
wait for the Lord, and in his word do I

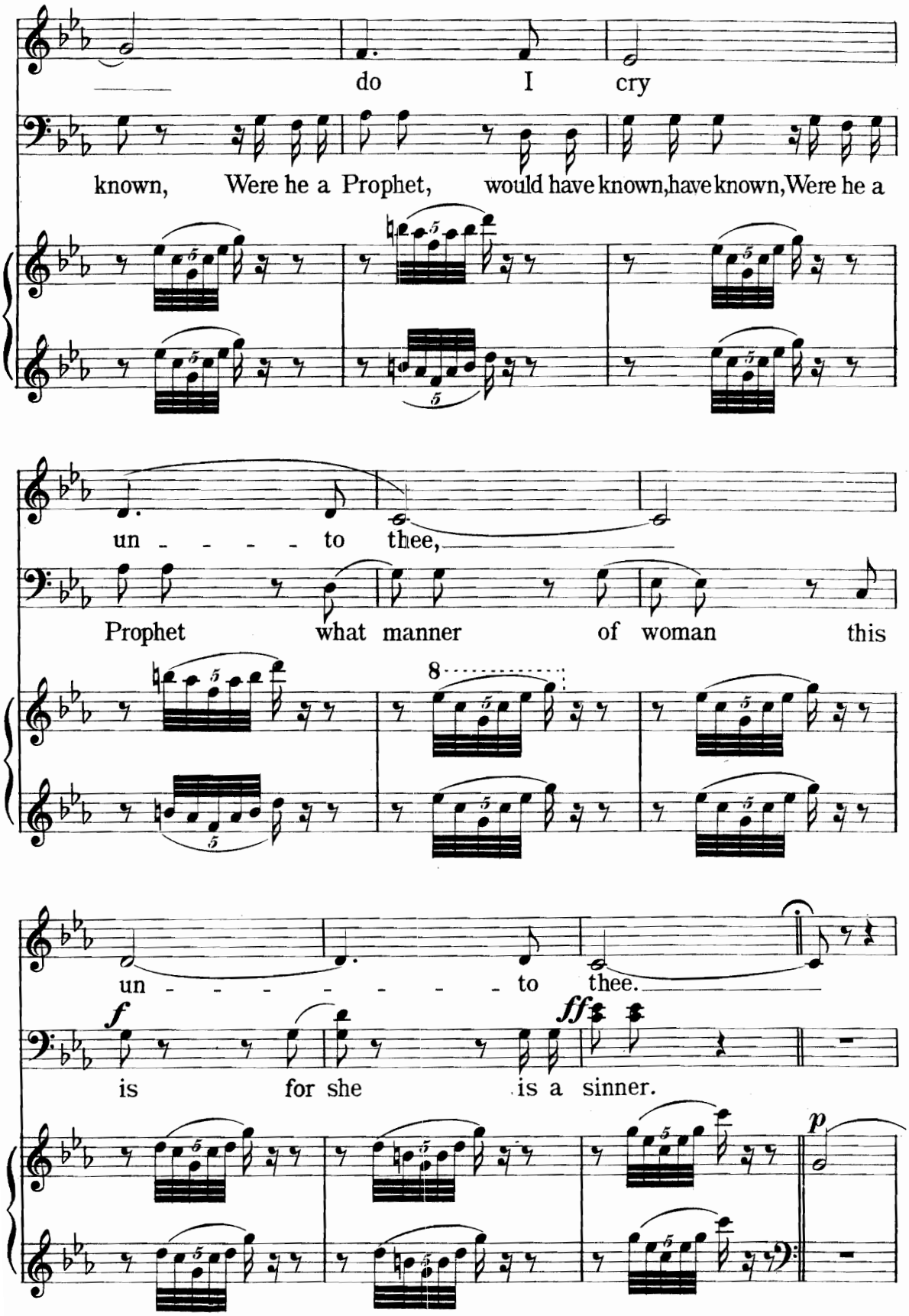

cresc.
ad lib.
hope. I wait I wait and
in his word do I hope. In his word I
Quasi recitante.
hope. If Thou, O Lord, should'st mark in-
i-qui-ties who shall stand who shall stand? My

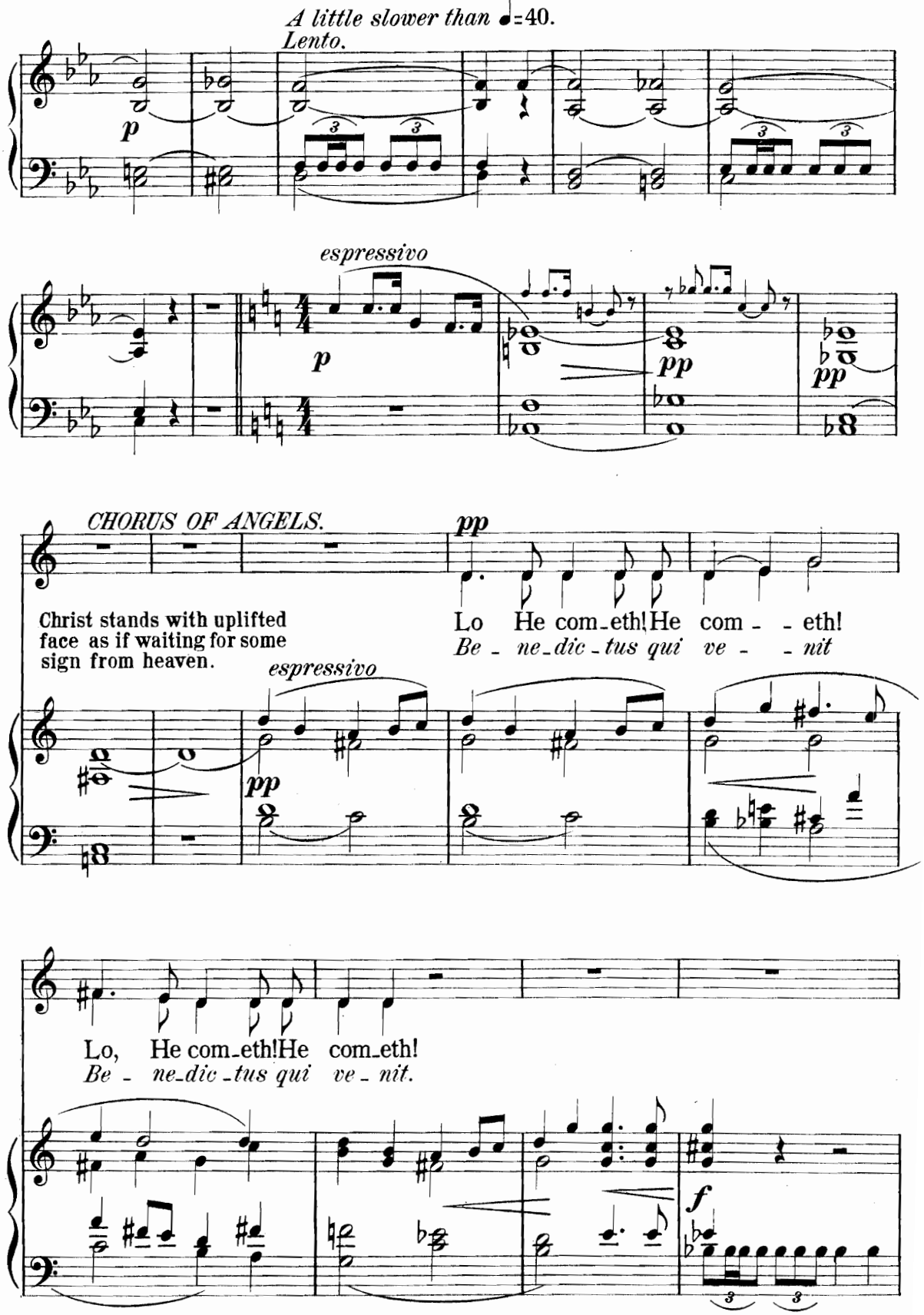

ad lib.
Lento
p
soul waiteth for the Lord. I am needy, I wait.
pp
rall.
Tempo I.
Out of the depths do I cry,
Out of the depths do I
cry un-to thee, Lord hear my cry, Lord hear my cry
Out of the depths do I cry, do I cry un-to

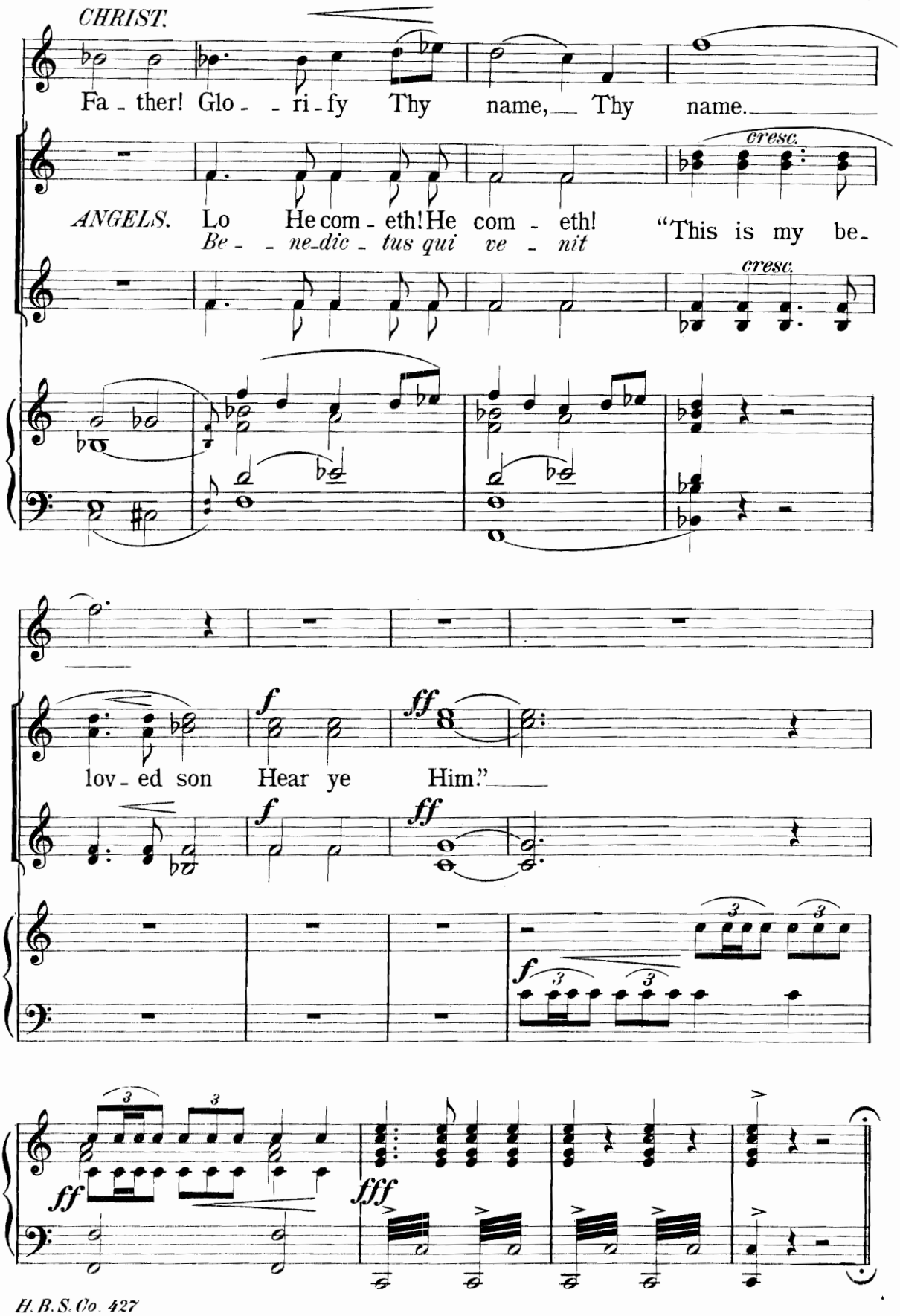

ff
thee do I cry.
Espressivo.
Lord hear my cry,
f
rall.
Hear my cry.
p
Allegretto. (♩=108.)
PHARISIES.
This man, were he a Prophet, This
would have
man, were he a Prophet, would have known, would have known,
8
8


known,
would have known what manner of woman this
is that toucheth him: for she is a sin - ner, she is a sinner,
accelerando con fuoco.
for she is a sinner.

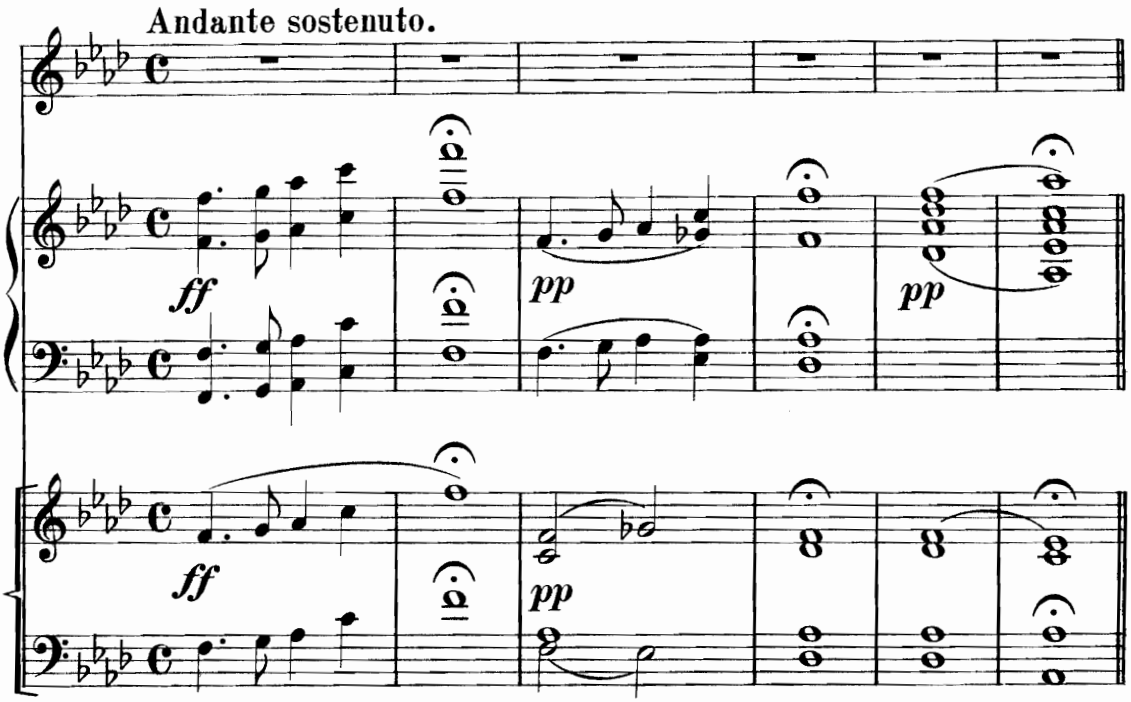

Out of the depths
This
p
do I cry
man would have known,would have known that she is a
Out of the depths
sinner. This man would have known,would have known,have

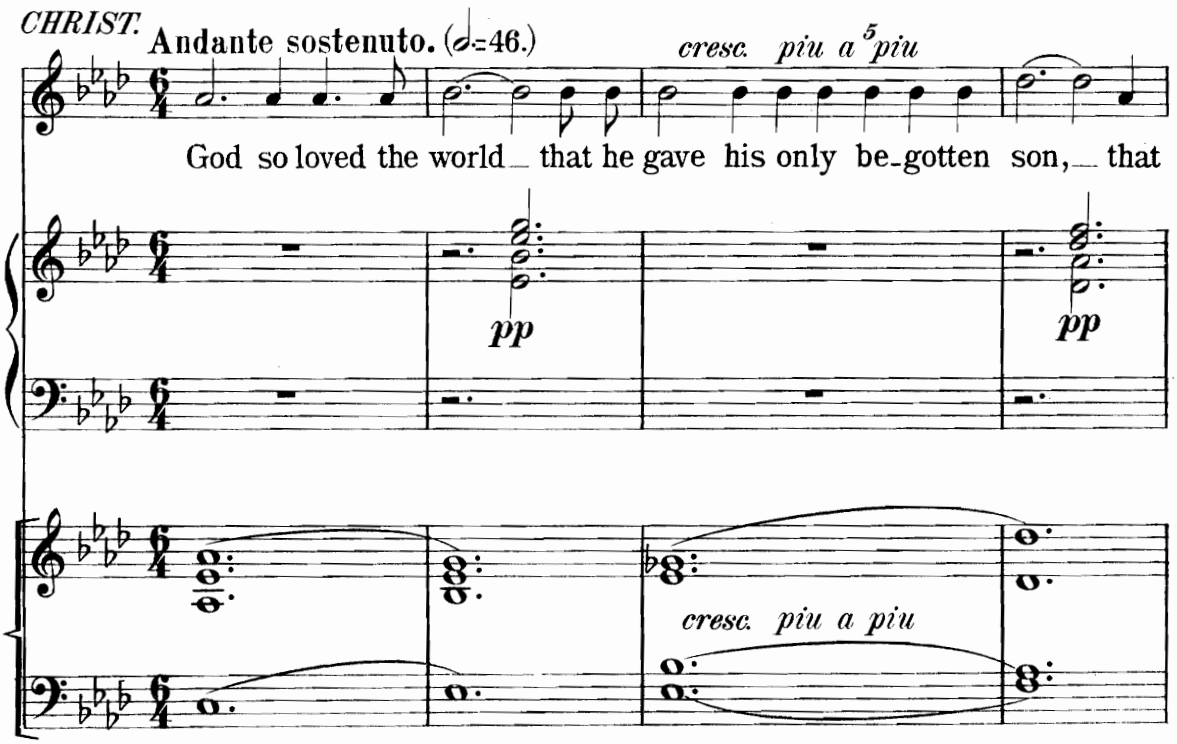

do I cry
known, Were he a Prophet, would have known, have known, Were he a
un - - - - to thee,
Prophet what manner of woman this
un - - - - - - - - to thee.
f
ff
is for she is a sinner.
p

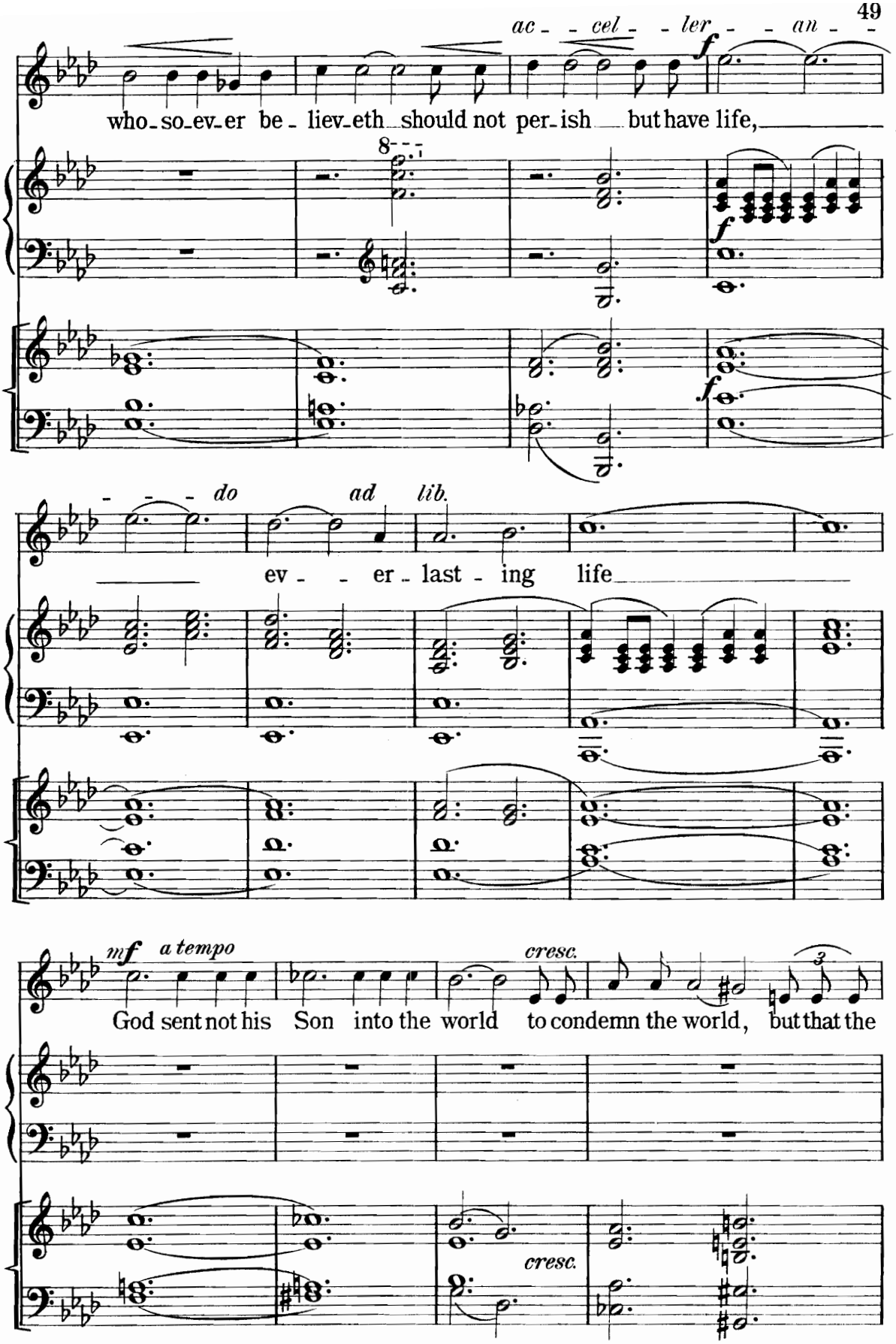

A little slower than ♩=40.
Lento.
p
espressivo
p
pp
pp
CHORUS OF ANGELS.
pp
Christ stands with uplifted face as if waiting for some sign from heaven.
Lo He com-eth! He com - - eth!
Be - ne-dic-tus qui ve - - nit
espressivo
pp
Lo, He com-eth! He com-eth!
Be - ne-dic-tus qui ve - nit.
f

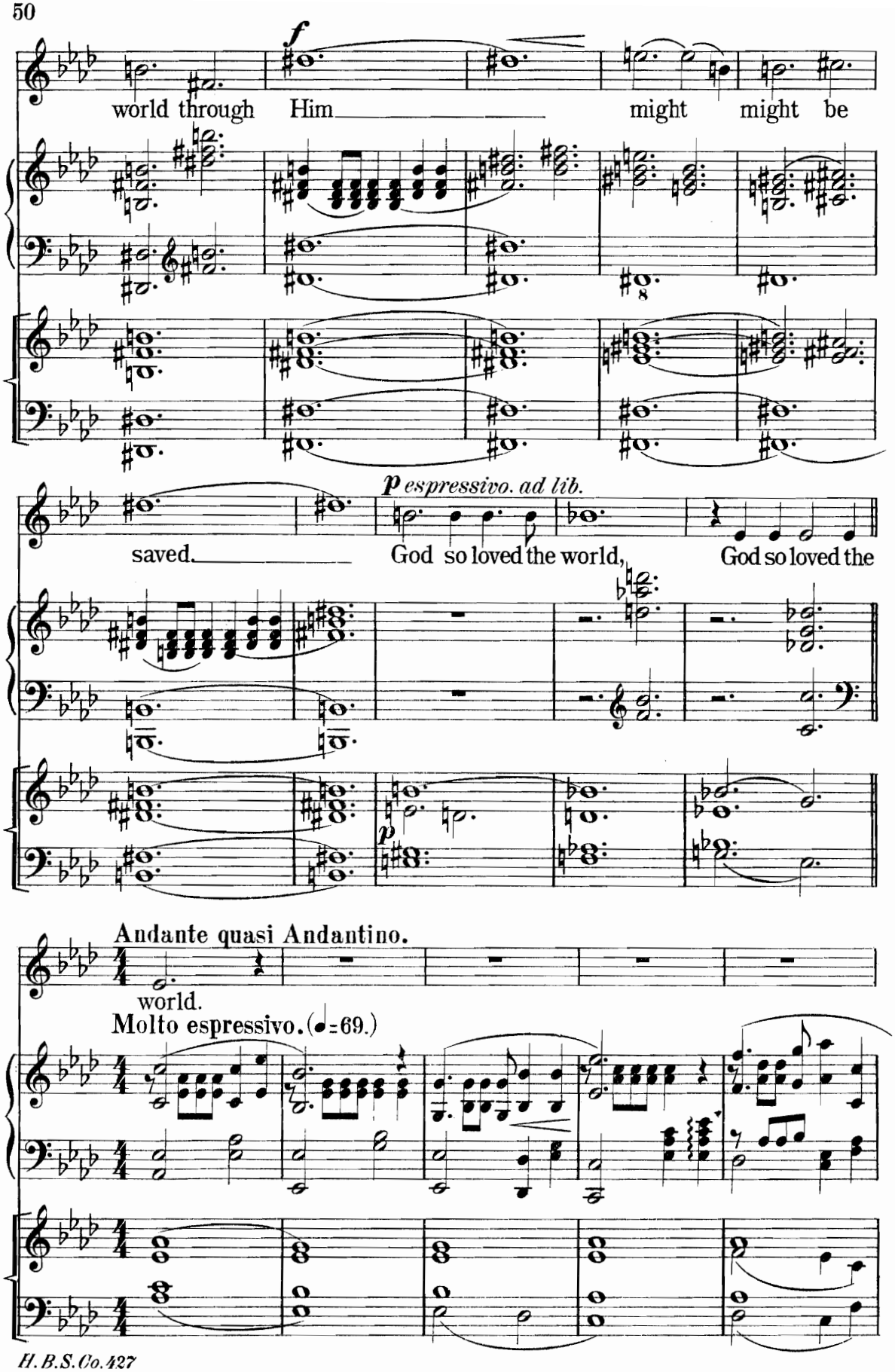

CHRIST.
Fa - ther! Glo - - ri - fy Thy name, Thy name.
cresc.
ANGELS. Lo He com - eth! He com - eth! "This is my be-
Be - - ne - dic - tus qui ve - nit
cresc.
lov - ed son Hear ye Him."
f
ff
f
ff
f
3
3
3
3
ff
fff

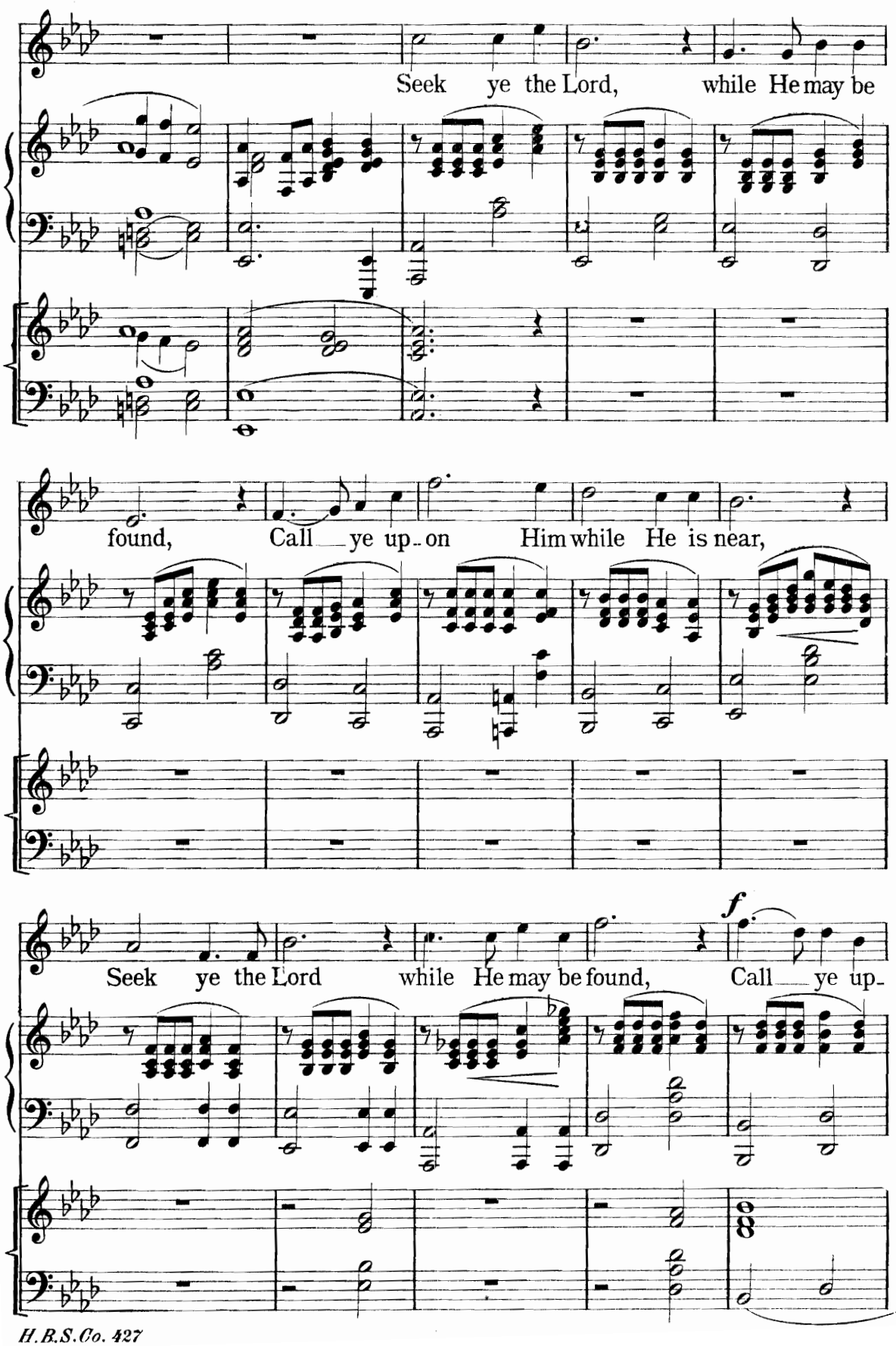
Seek ye the Lord.

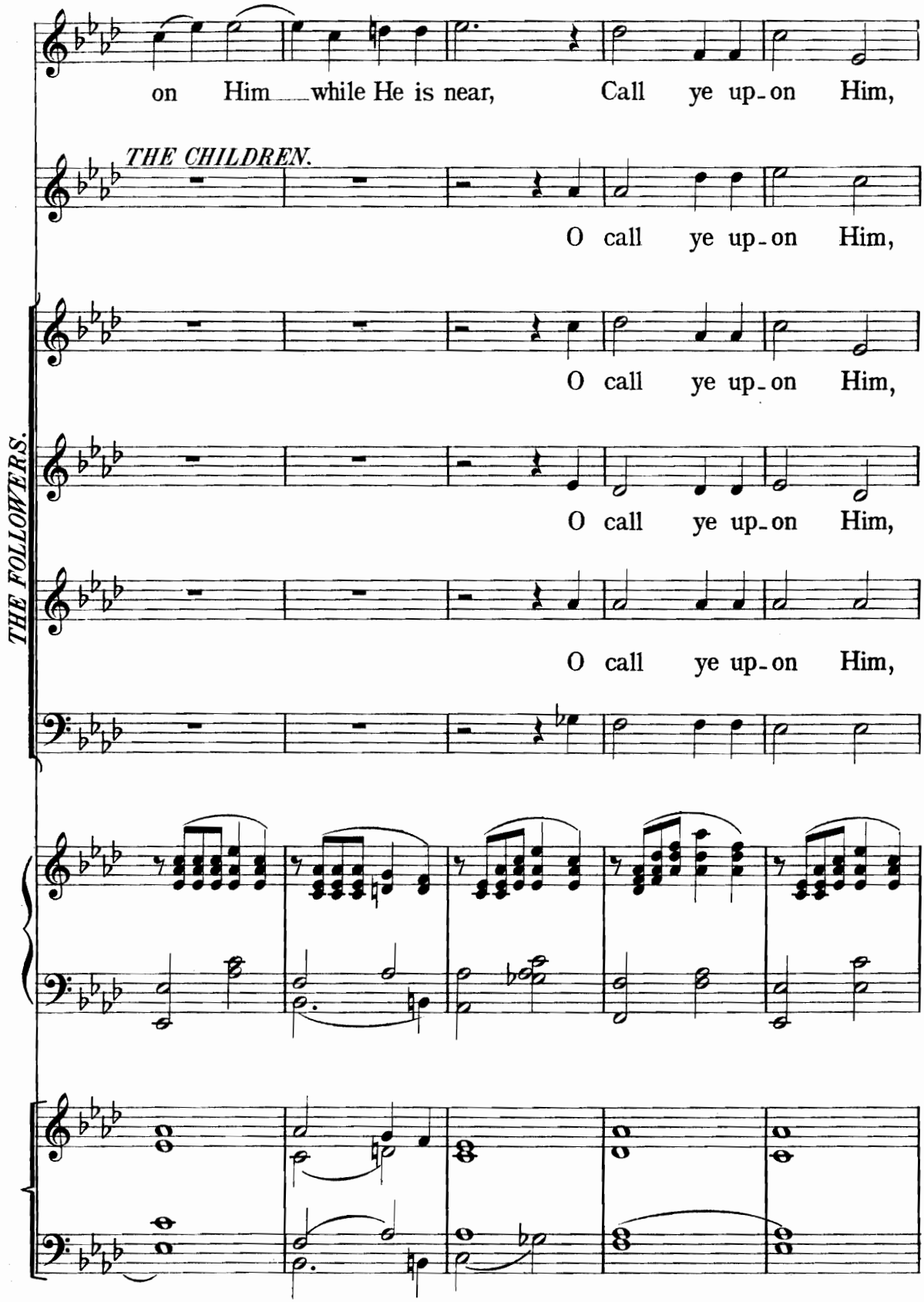


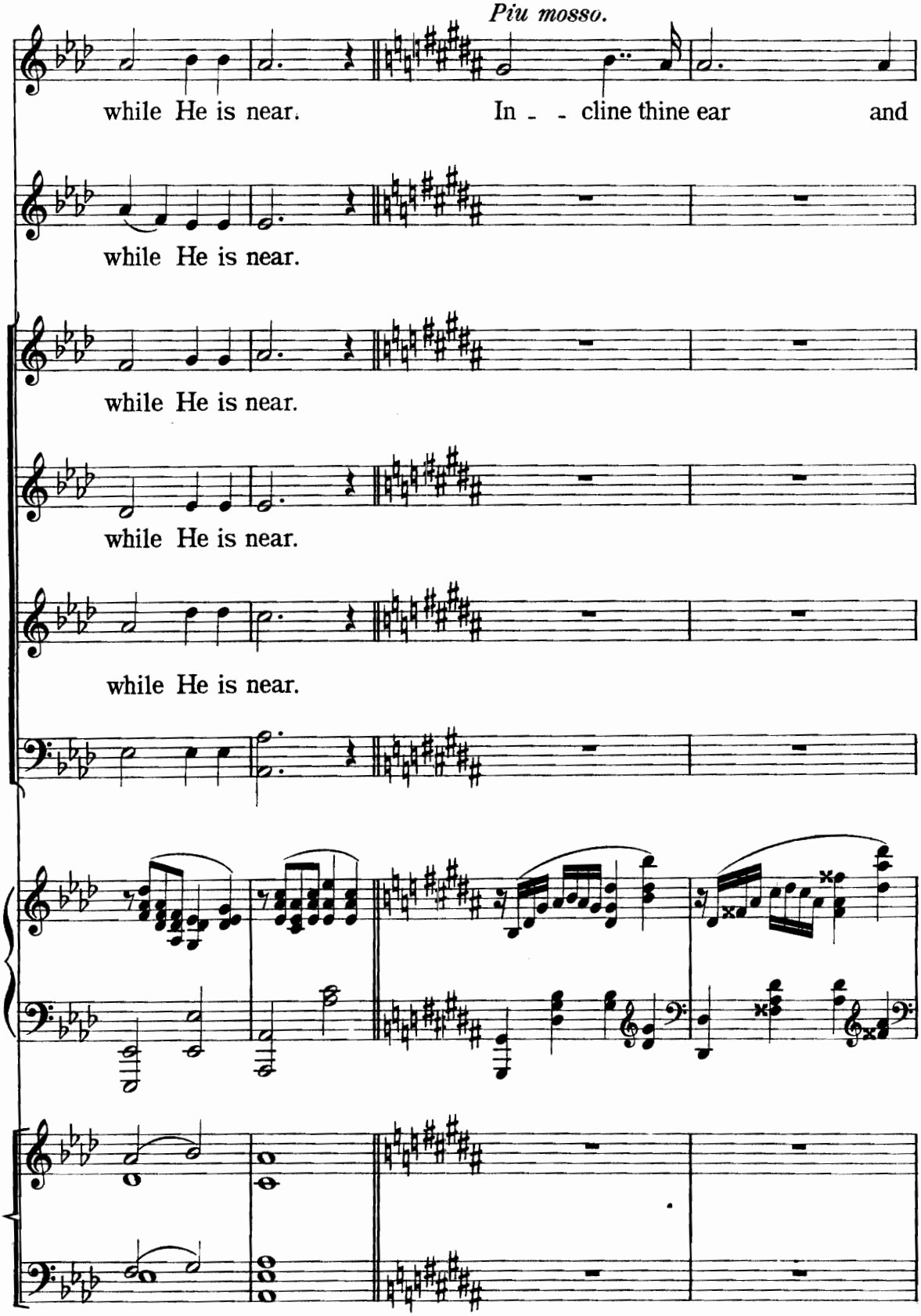


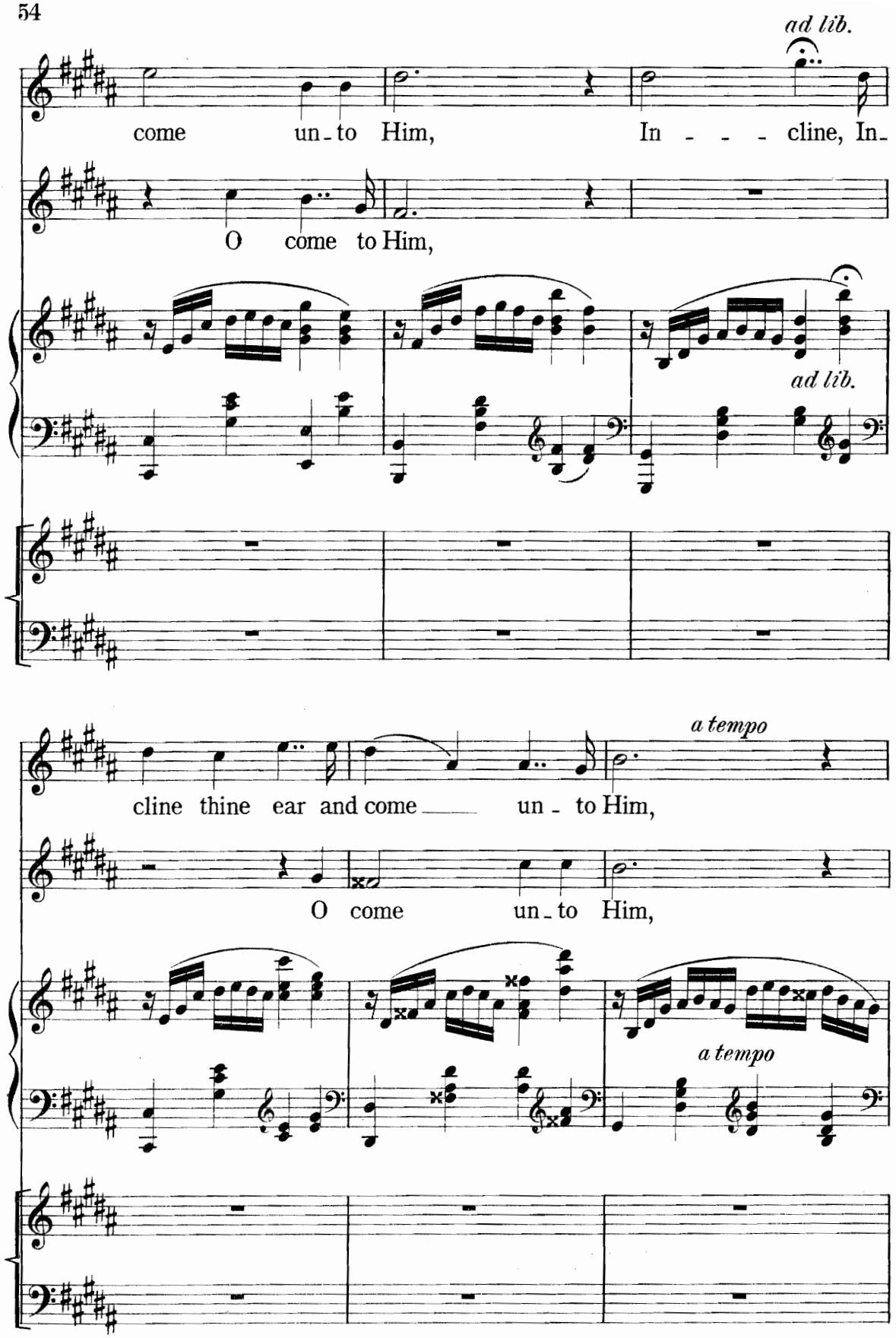

ac - - cel - - ler - - an - -
f
who-so-ev-er be-liev-eth should not per-ish but have life,
8
f
f
- - - do
ad lib.
ev - - er-last-ing life
mf
a tempo
cresc.
God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the
cresc.

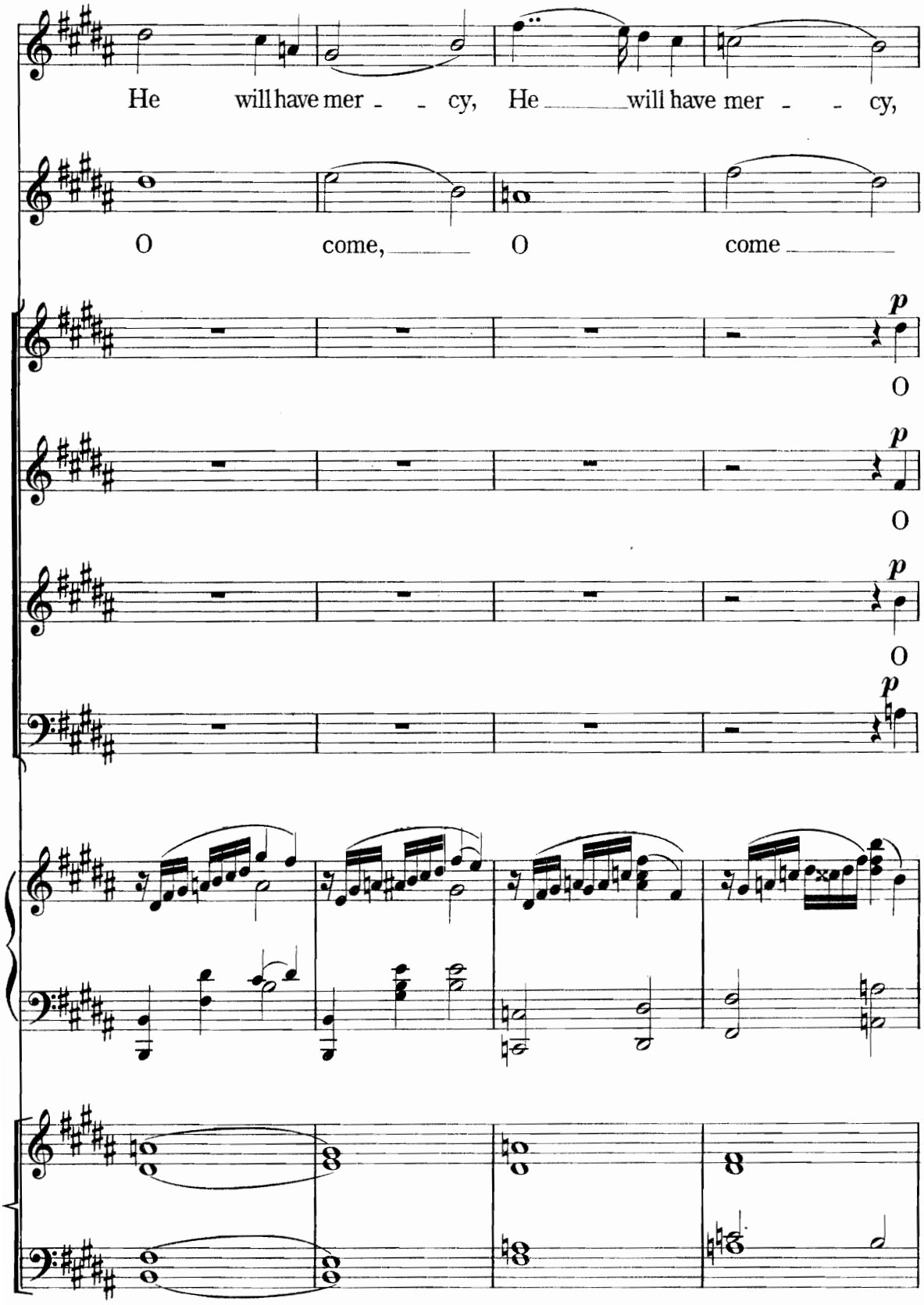

f
world through Him might might be
p espressivo. ad lib.
saved. God so loved the world, God so loved the
p
Andante quasi Andantino.
world.
Molto espressivo. (♩=69.)

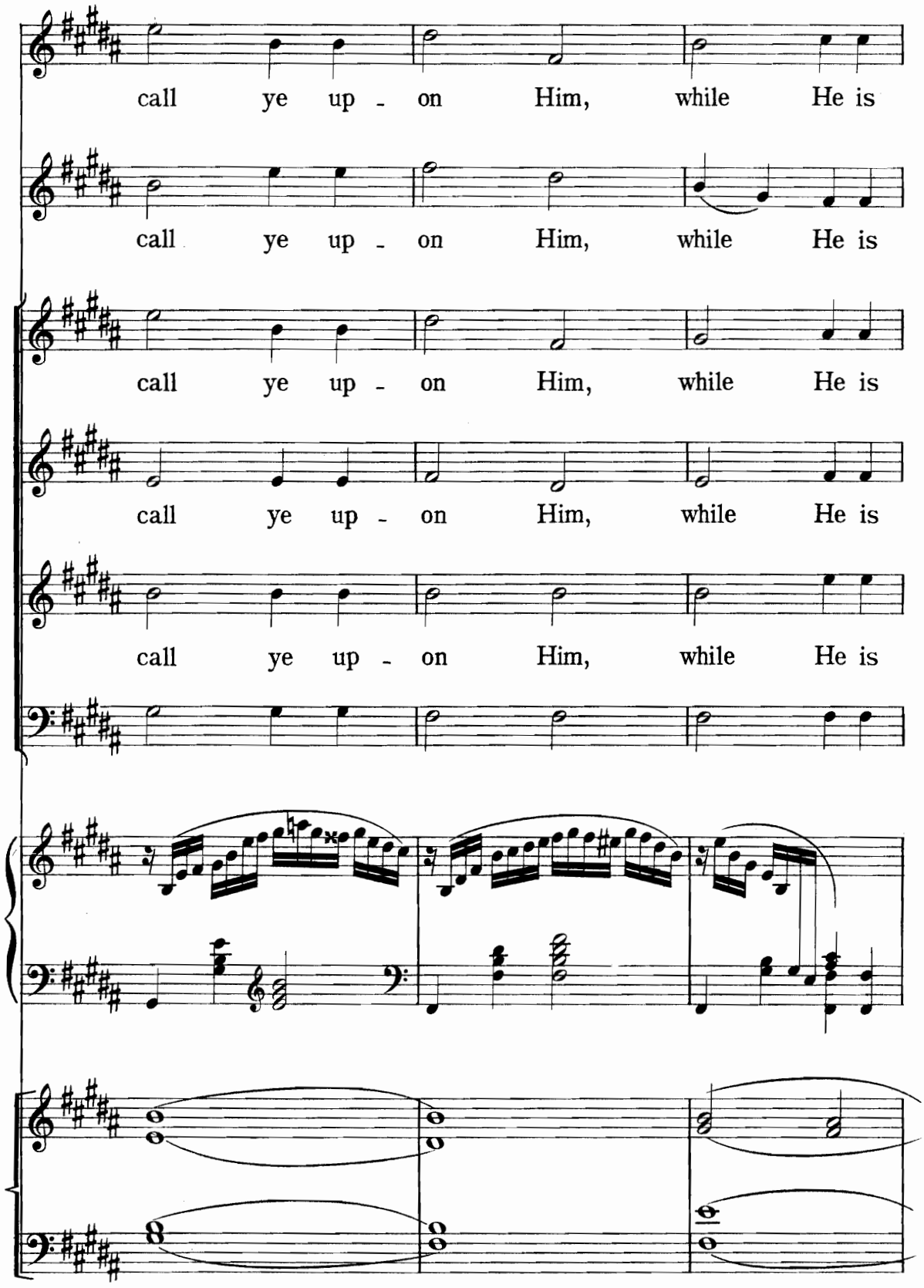

Seek ye the Lord, while He may be
found, Call ye up-on Him while He is near,
Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, Call ye up-
f

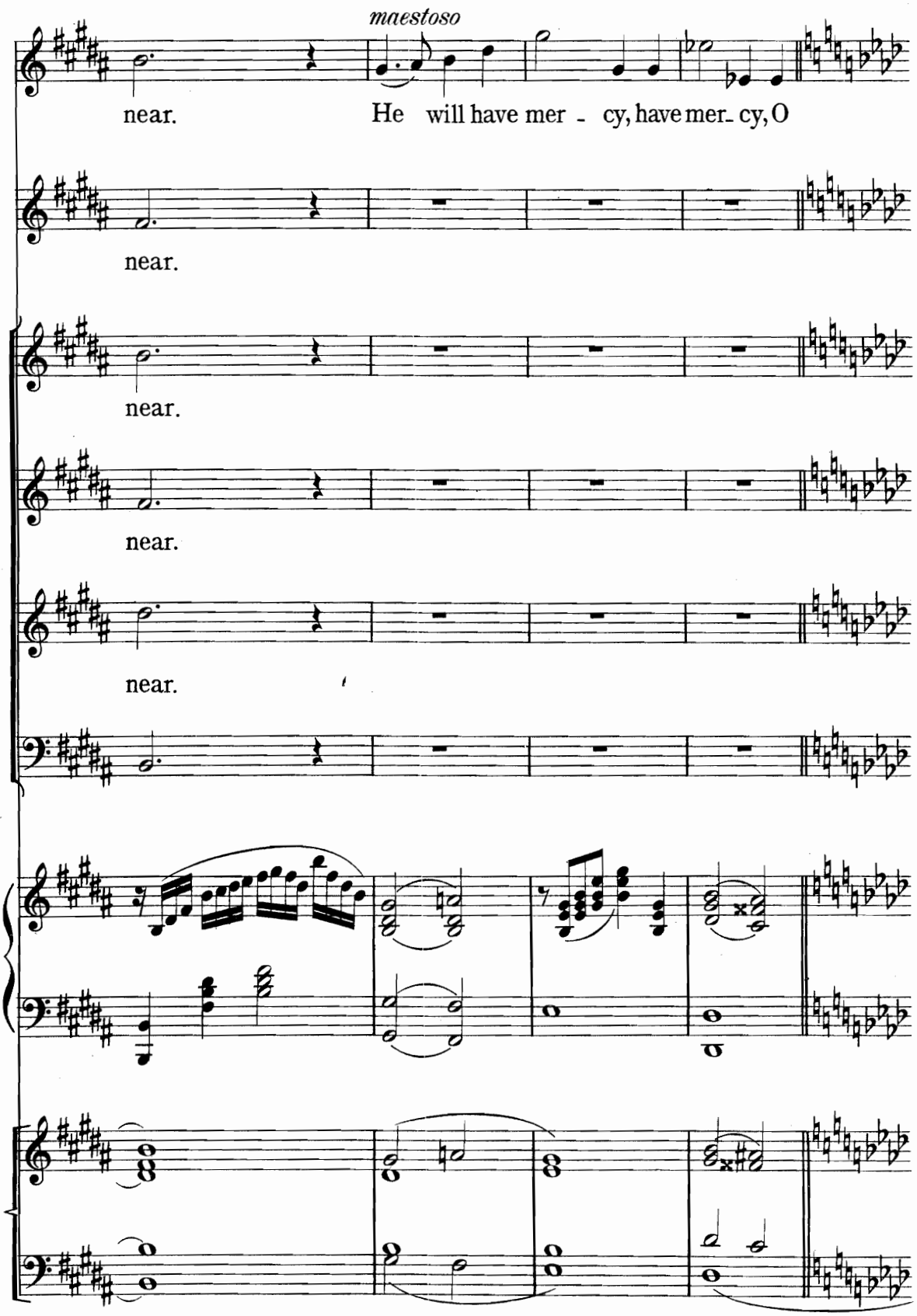

on Him while He is near, Call ye up-on Him,
THE CHILDREN.
O call ye up-on Him,
O call ye up-on Him,
O call ye up-on Him,
O call ye up-on Him,
THE FOLLOWERS.

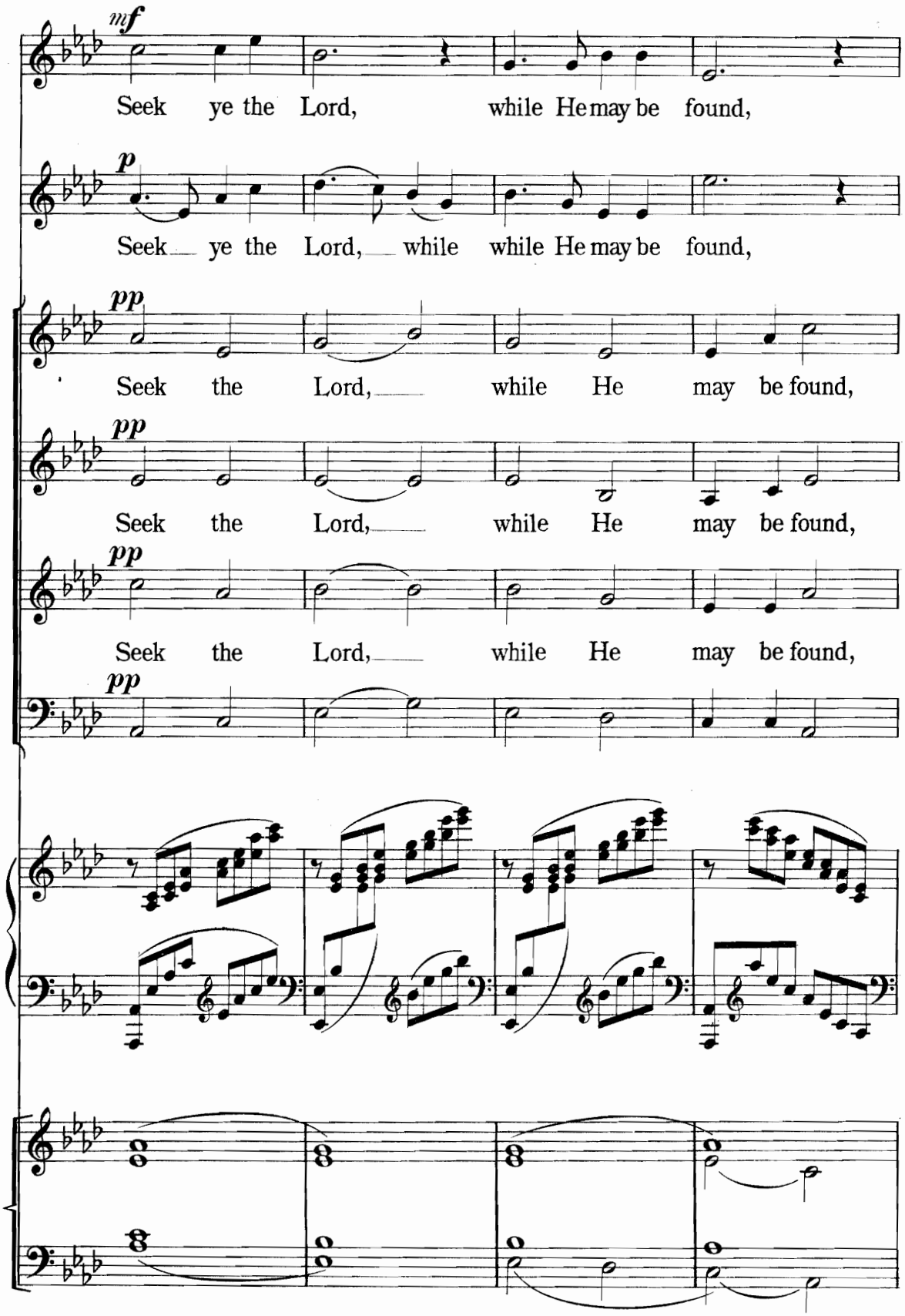

Piu mosso.
while He is near.
In - - cline thine ear and
while He is near.
while He is near.
while He is near.
while He is near.

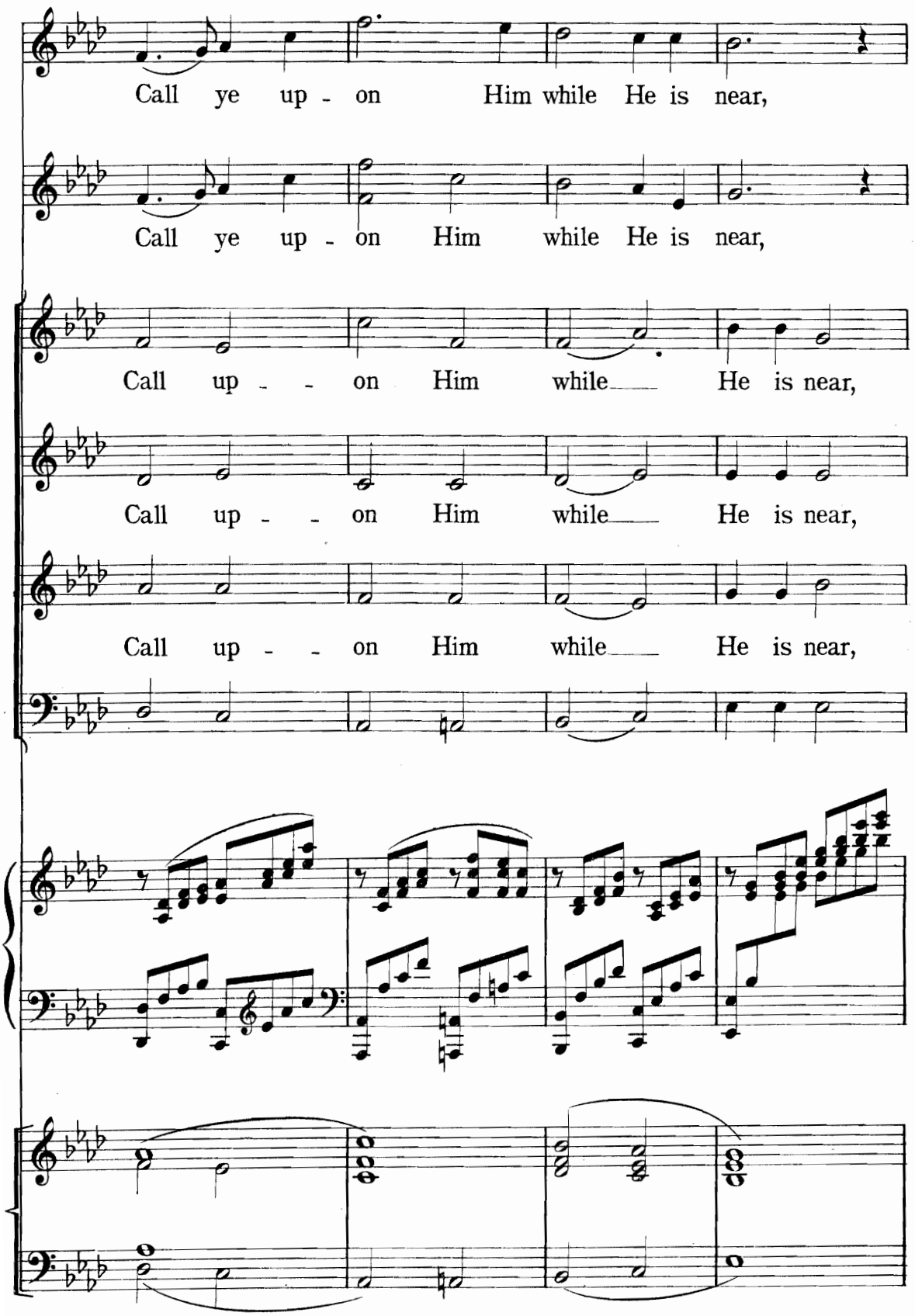

ad lib.
come un - to Him, In - - - cline, In -
O come to Him,
ad lib.
a tempo
cline thine ear and come un - to Him,
O come un - to Him,
a tempo

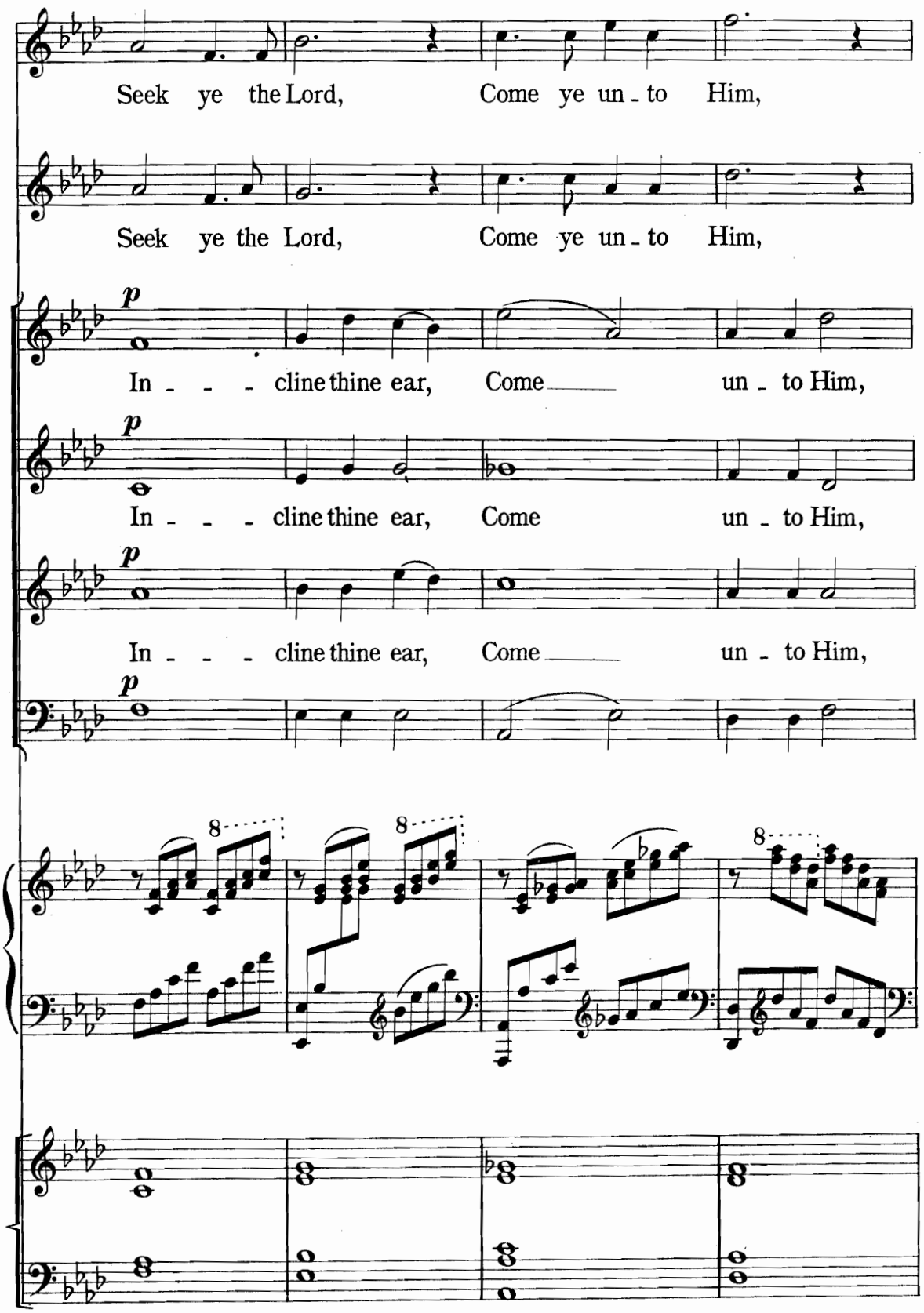

He will have mer - - cy, He will have mer - - cy,
O come, O come
p
O
p
O
p
O
p

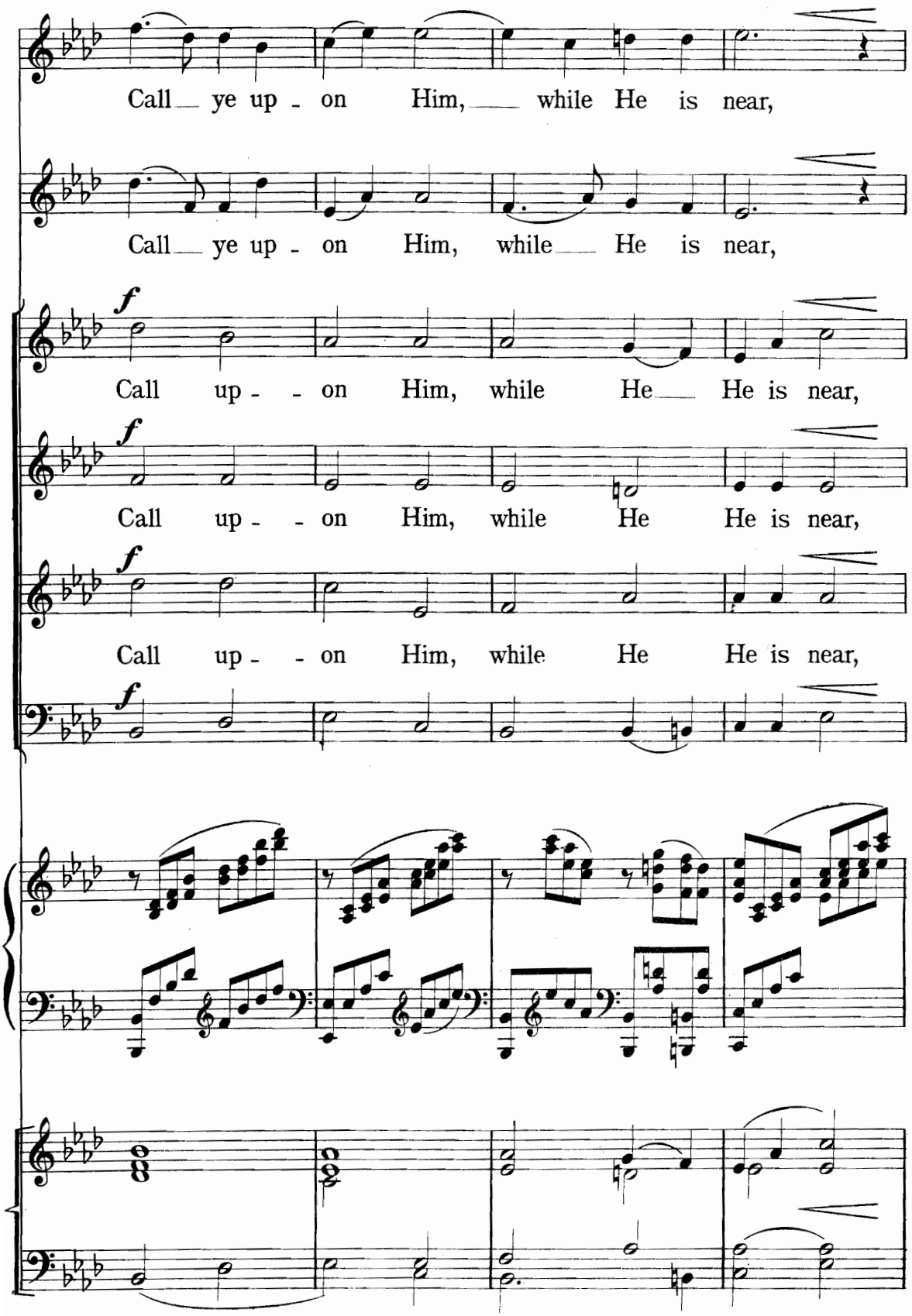

call ye up - on Him, while He is
call ye up - on Him, while He is
call ye up - on Him, while He is
call ye up - on Him, while He is
call ye up - on Him, while He is

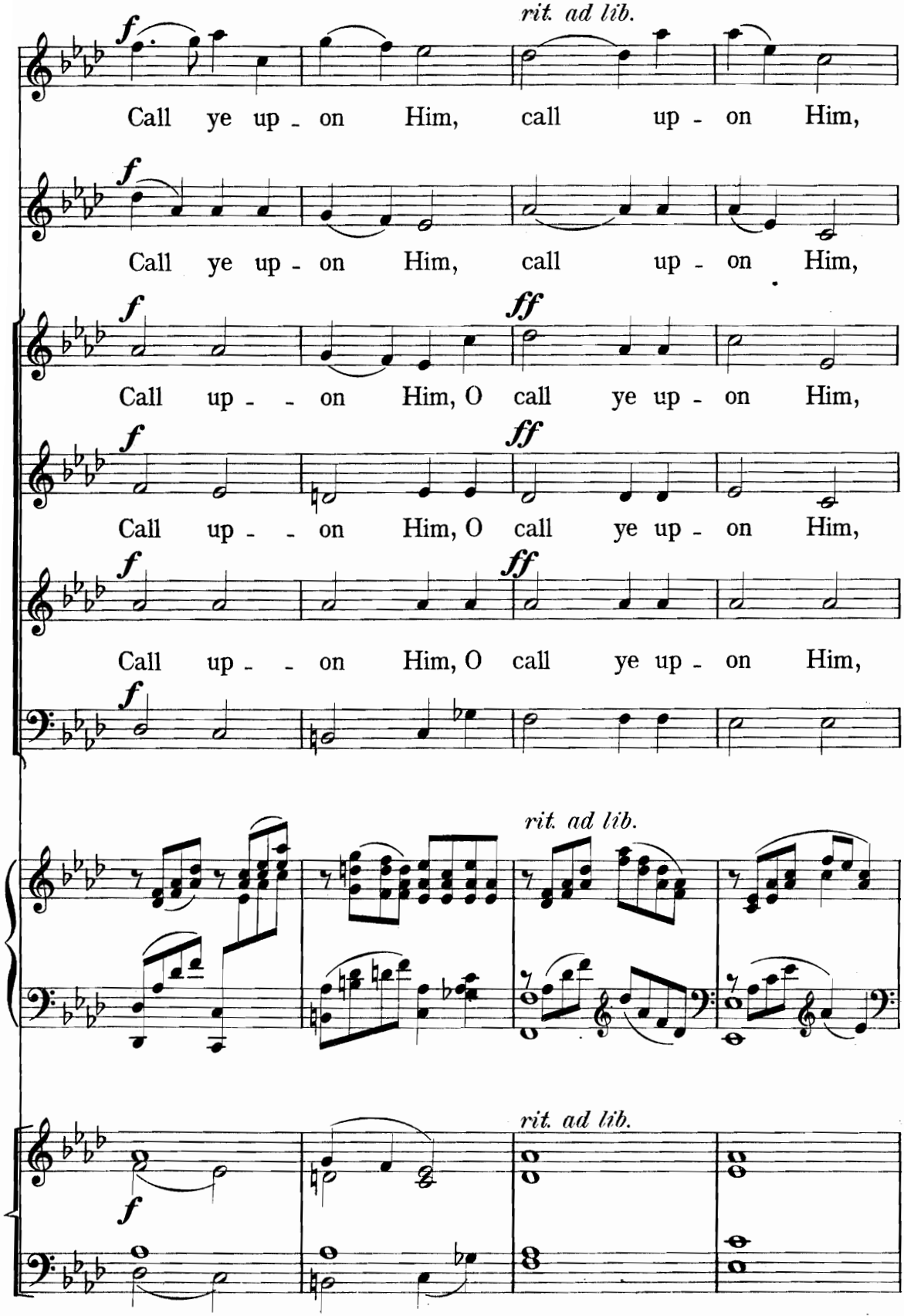

maestoso
near.
He will have mer - cy, have mer- cy, O
near.
near.
near.
near.

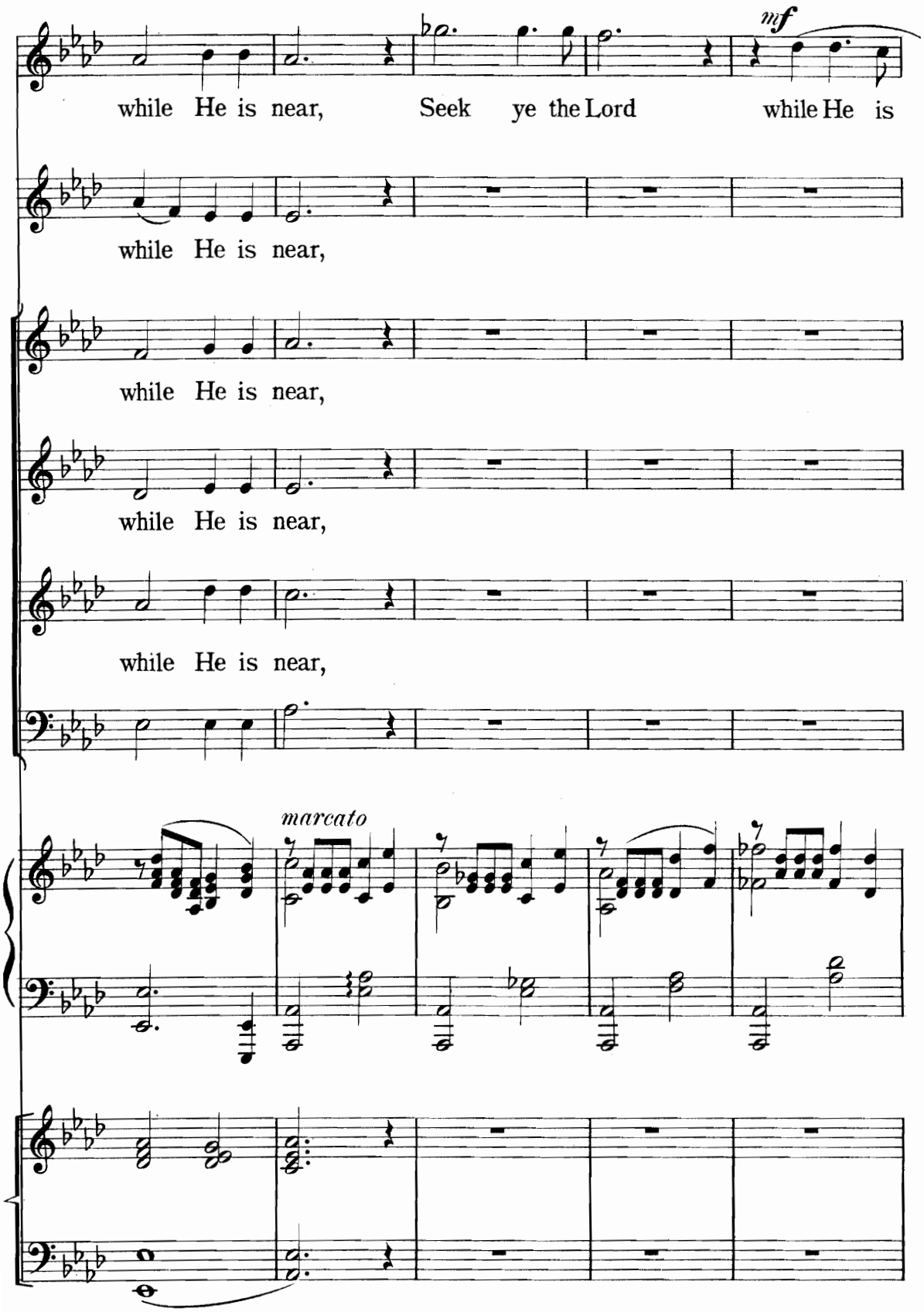

mf
Seek ye the Lord, while He may be found,
p
Seek ye the Lord, while while He may be found,
pp
Seek the Lord, while He may be found,
pp
Seek the Lord, while He may be found,
pp

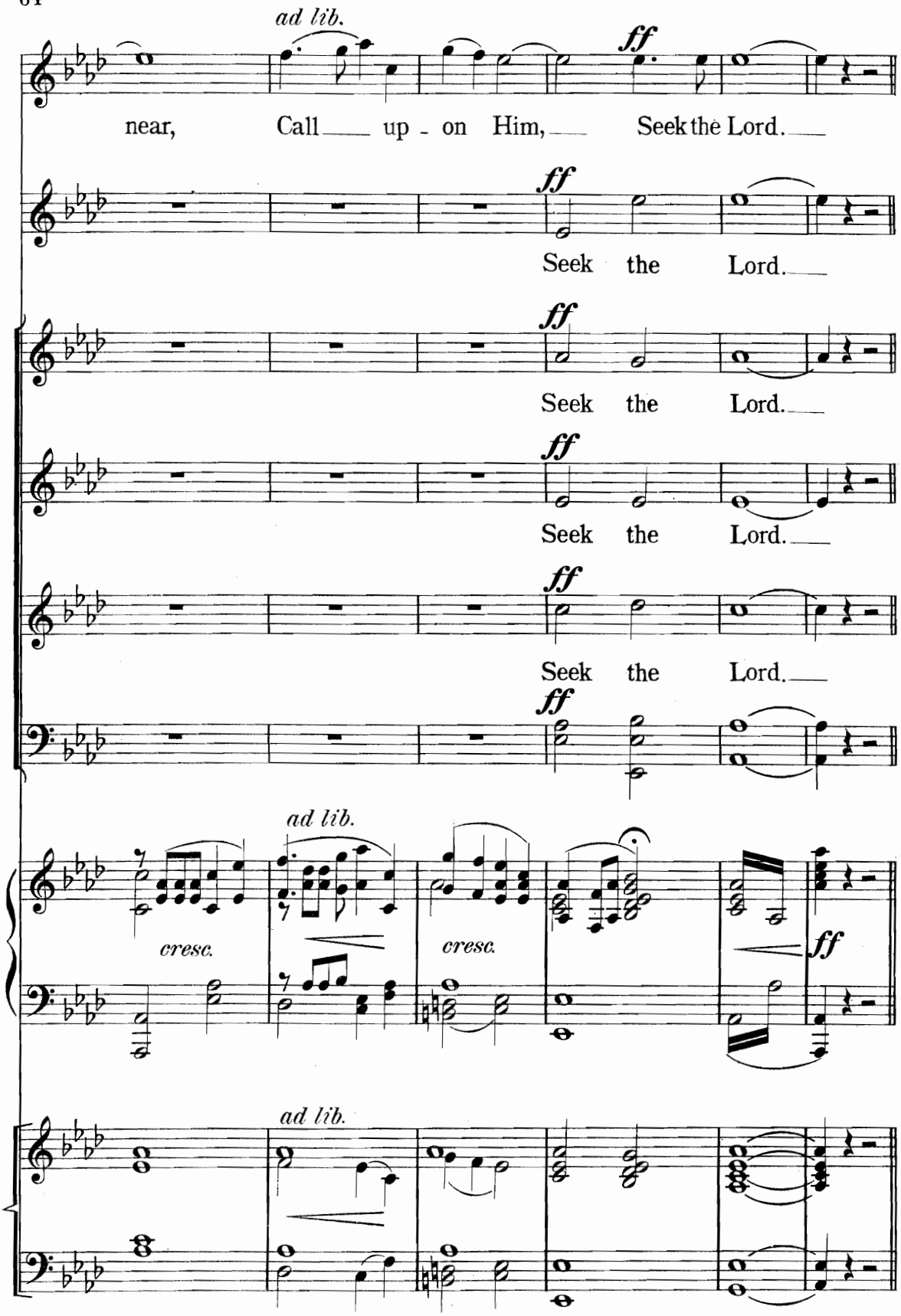

Call ye up - on Him while He is near,
Call ye up - on Him while He is near,
Call up - - on Him while He is near,
Call up - - on Him while He is near,
Call up - - on Him while He is near,


Seek ye the Lord, Come ye un - to Him,
Seek ye the Lord, Come ye un - to Him,
p
In - - - cline thine ear, Come un - to Him,
p
In - - - cline thine ear, Come un - to Him,
p
In - - - cline thine ear, Come un - to Him,
p
8
8
8

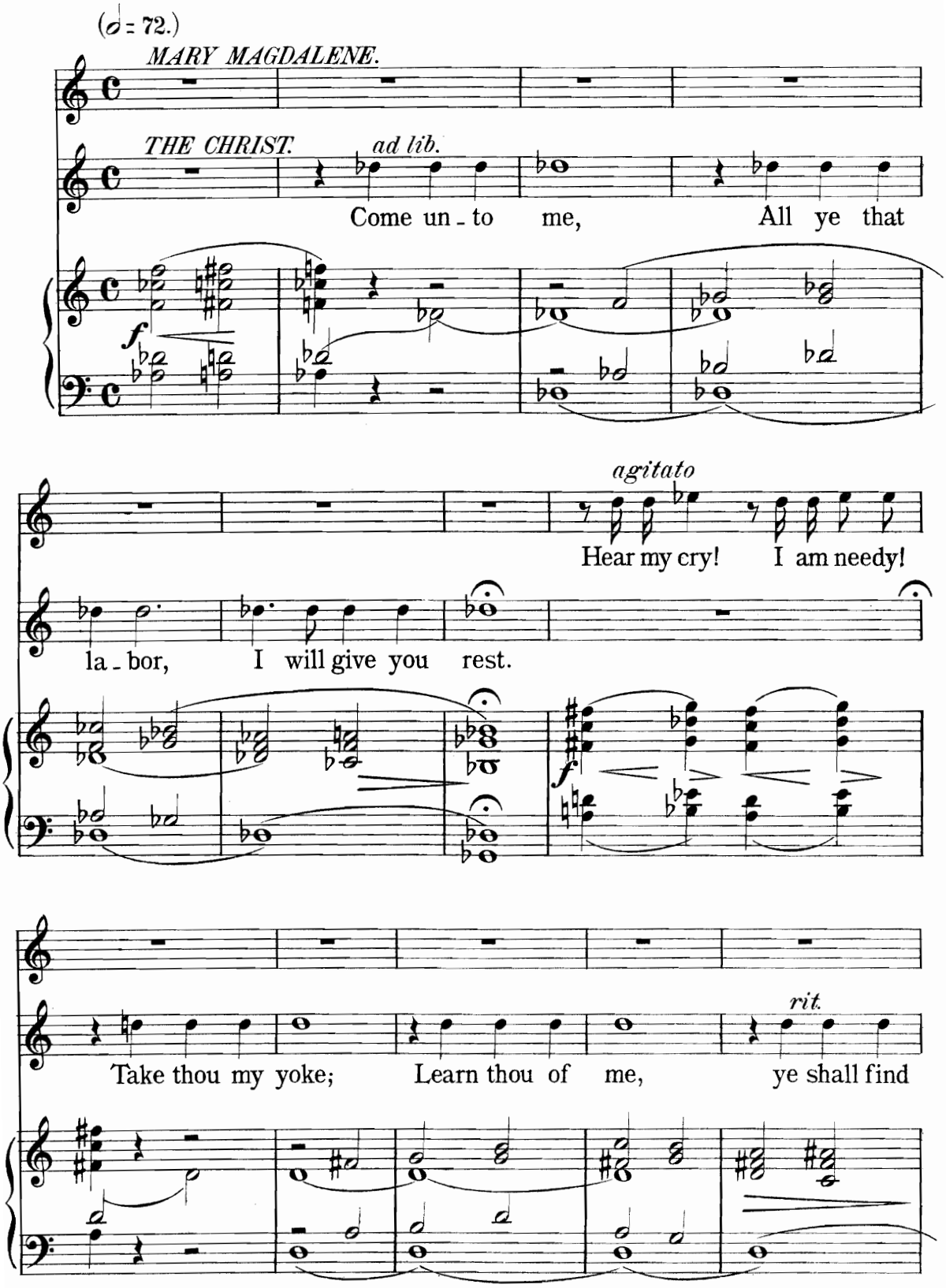

Call ye up - on Him, while He is near,
Call ye up - on Him, while He is near,
f
Call up - - on Him, while He He is near,
f
Call up - - on Him, while He He is near,
f
Call up - - on Him, while He He is near,

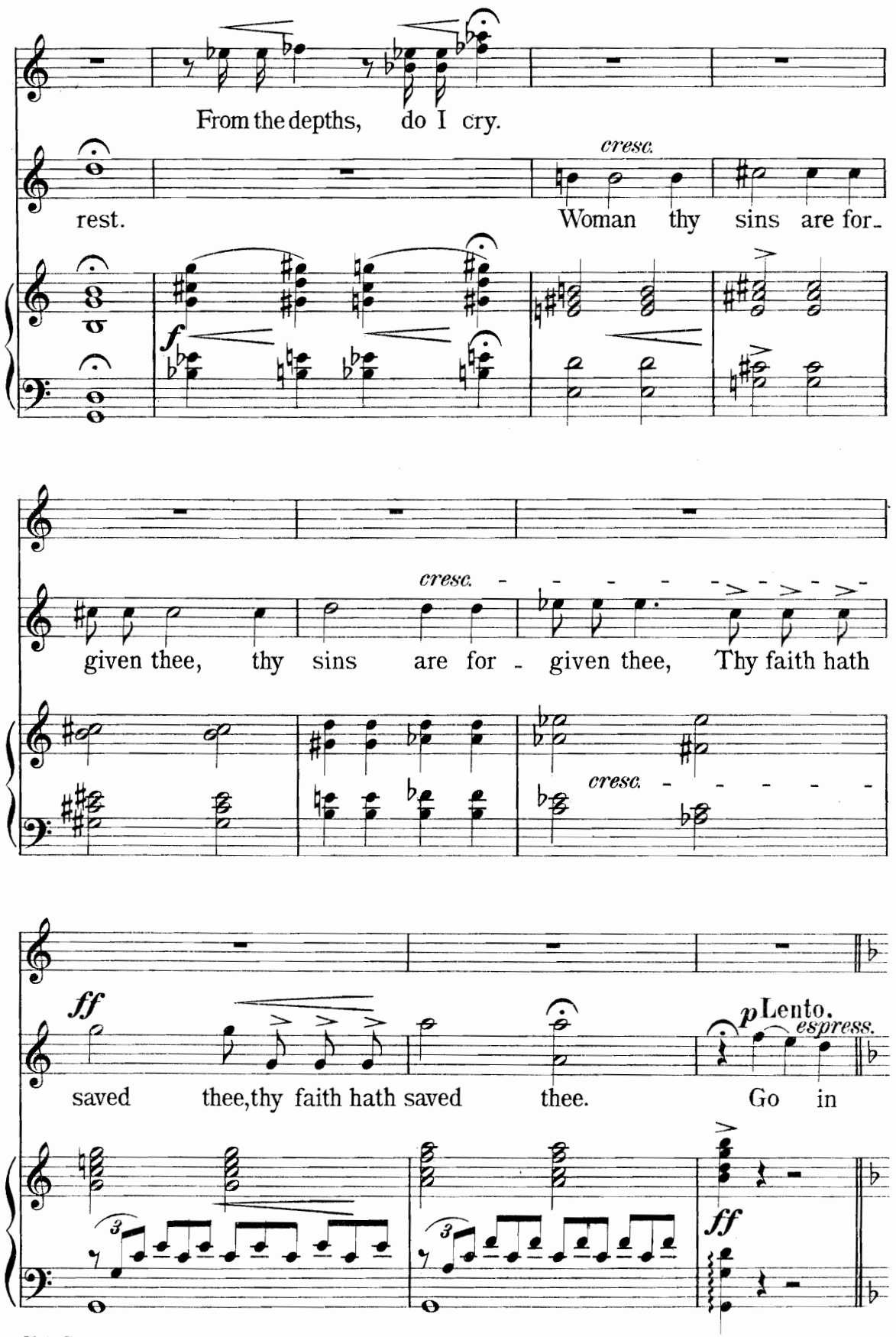

rit. ad lib.
Call ye up - on Him, call up - on Him,
Call ye up - on Him, call up - on Him,
Call up - - on Him, O call ye up - on Him,
Call up - - on Him, O call ye up - on Him,
Call up - - on Him, O call ye up - on Him,
rit. ad lib.
rit. ad lib.

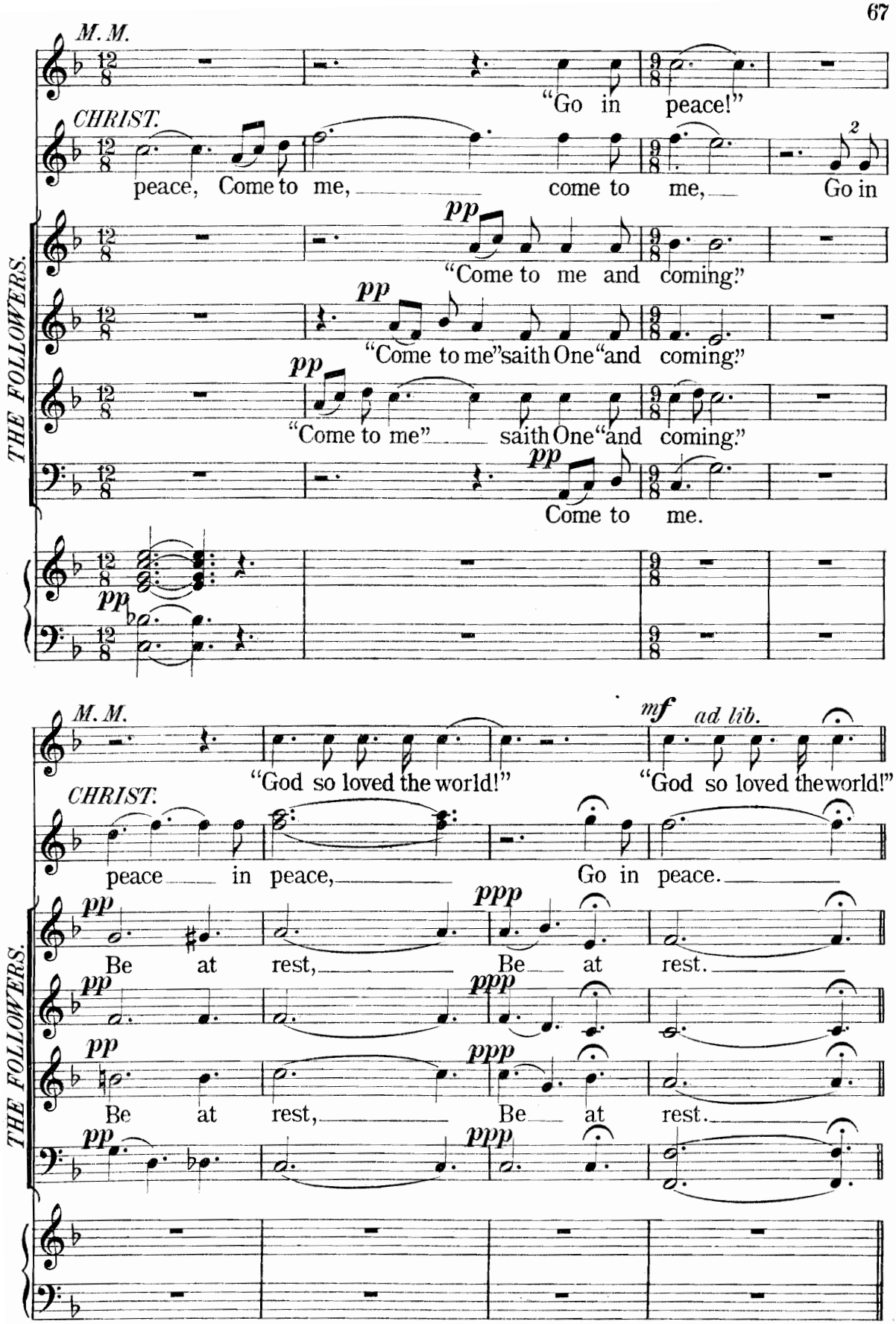

mf
while He is near, Seek ye the Lord while He is
while He is near,
while He is near,
while He is near,
while He is near,
marcato


ad lib.
ff
near, Call up - on Him, Seek the Lord.
ff
Seek the Lord.
ff
Seek the Lord.
ff
Seek the Lord.
ff
ad lib.
cresc.
cresc.
ff
ad lib.

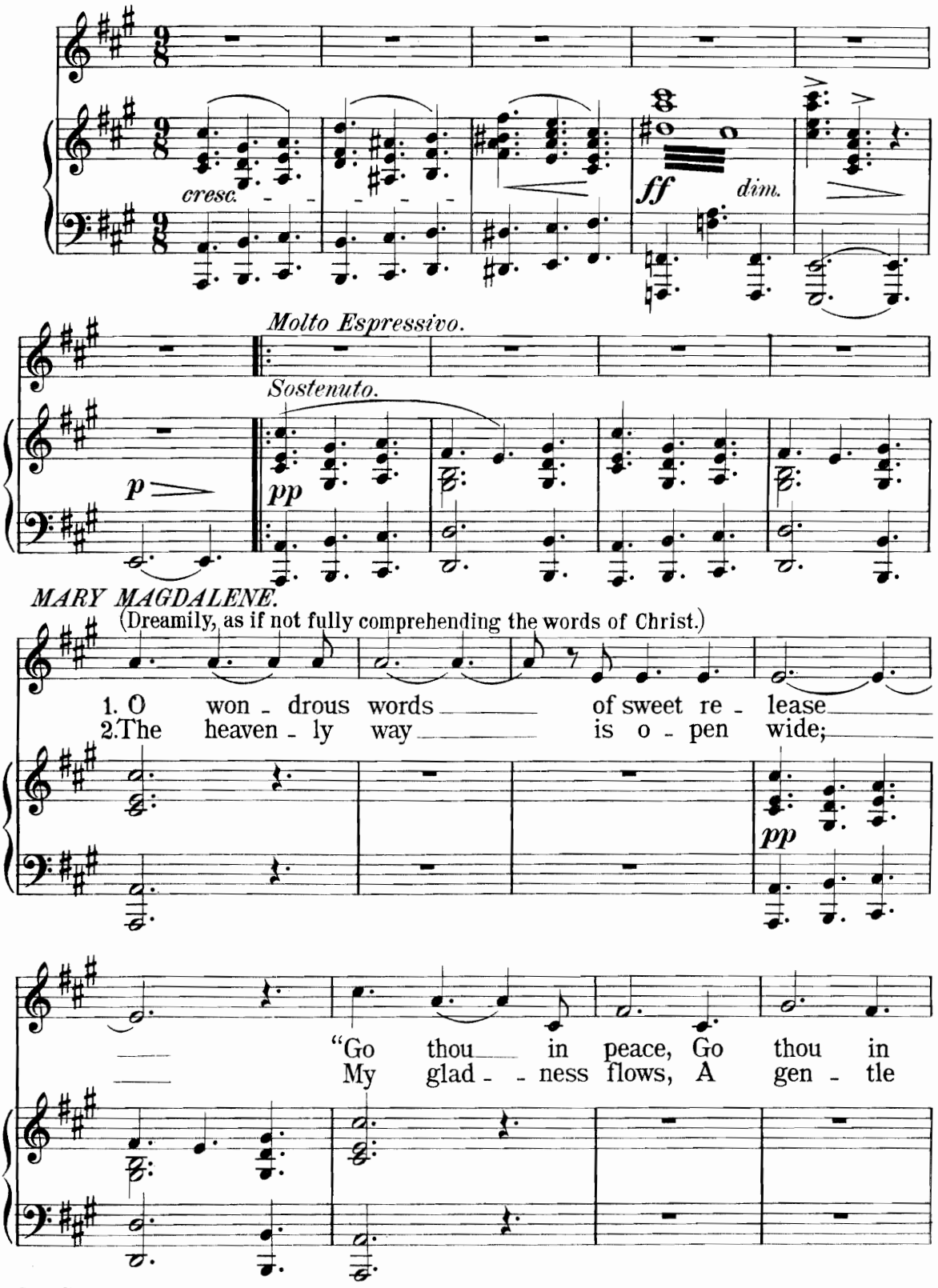
Recitatives.

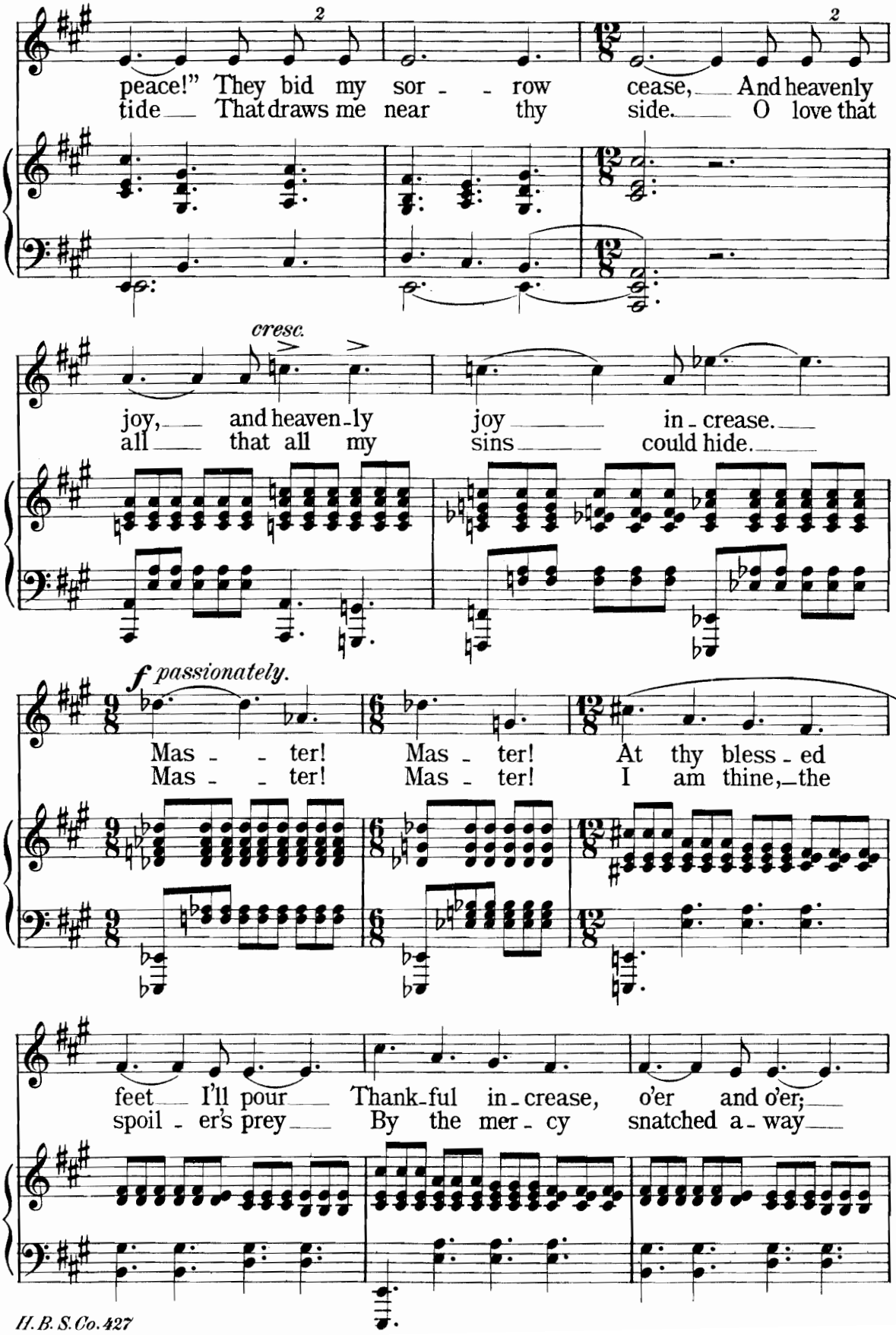


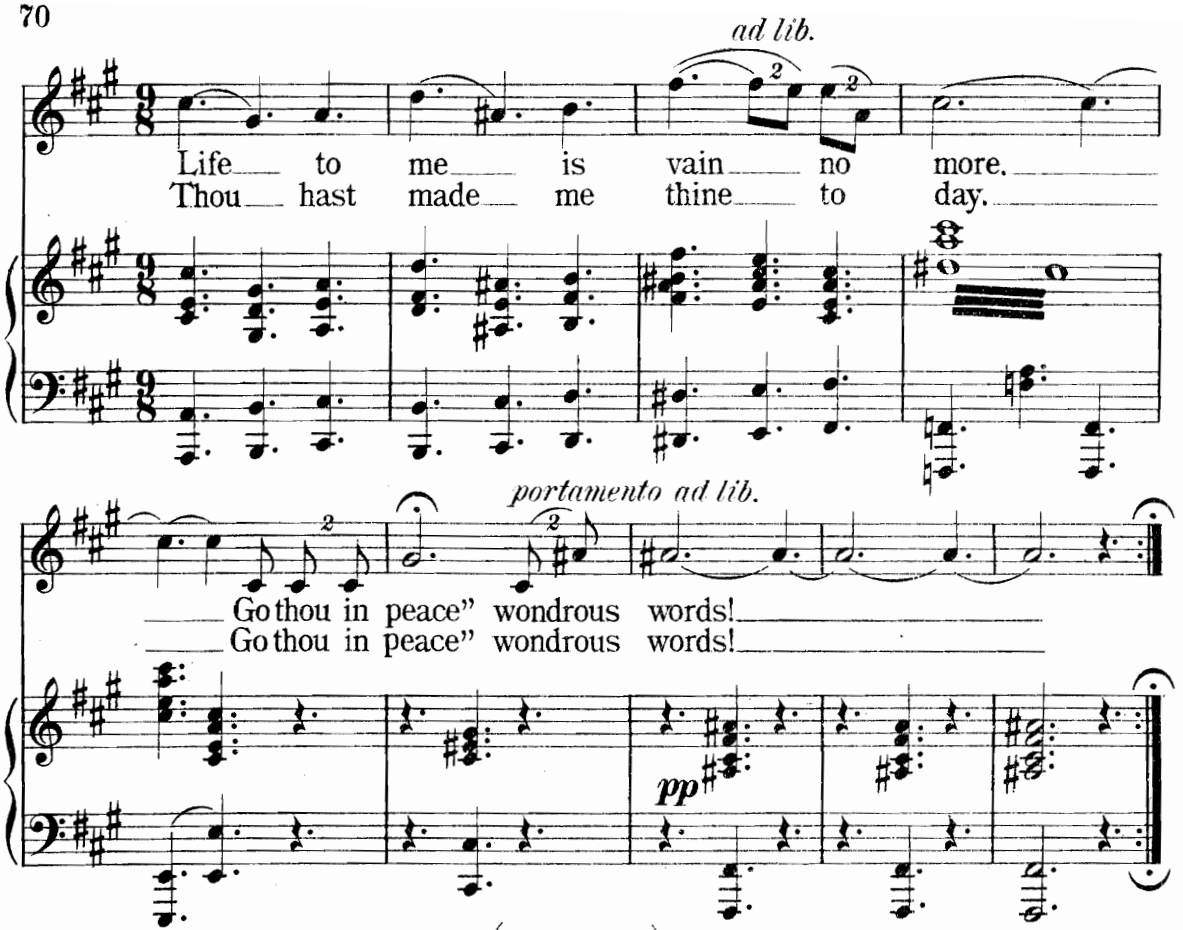

From the depths, do I cry.
rest.
cresc.
Woman thy sins are for-
f
given thee, thy sins are for - given thee, Thy faith hath
cresc.
ff
saved thee, thy faith hath saved thee.
p Lento.
espress.
Go in
ff


M. M.
"Go in peace!"
CHRIST.
peace, Come to me, come to me, Go in
pp
"Come to me and coming."
pp
"Come to me" saith One "and coming."
pp
"Come to me" saith One "and coming."
pp
Come to me.
THE FOLLOWERS.
pp
M. M.
"God so loved the world!"
mf ad lib.
"God so loved the world!"
CHRIST.
peace in peace, Go in peace.
pp
Be at rest,
ppp
Be at rest.
pp
ppp
pp
Be at rest,
ppp
Be at rest.
pp
ppp
THE FOLLOWERS.

The Song of the Magdalene.

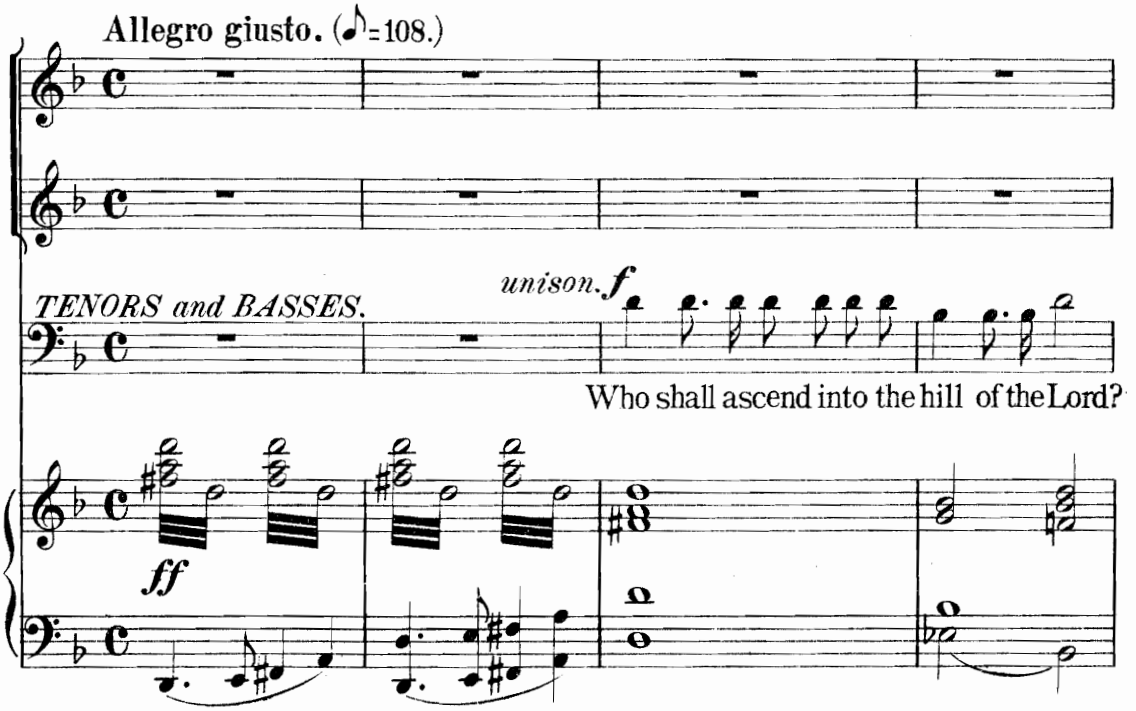


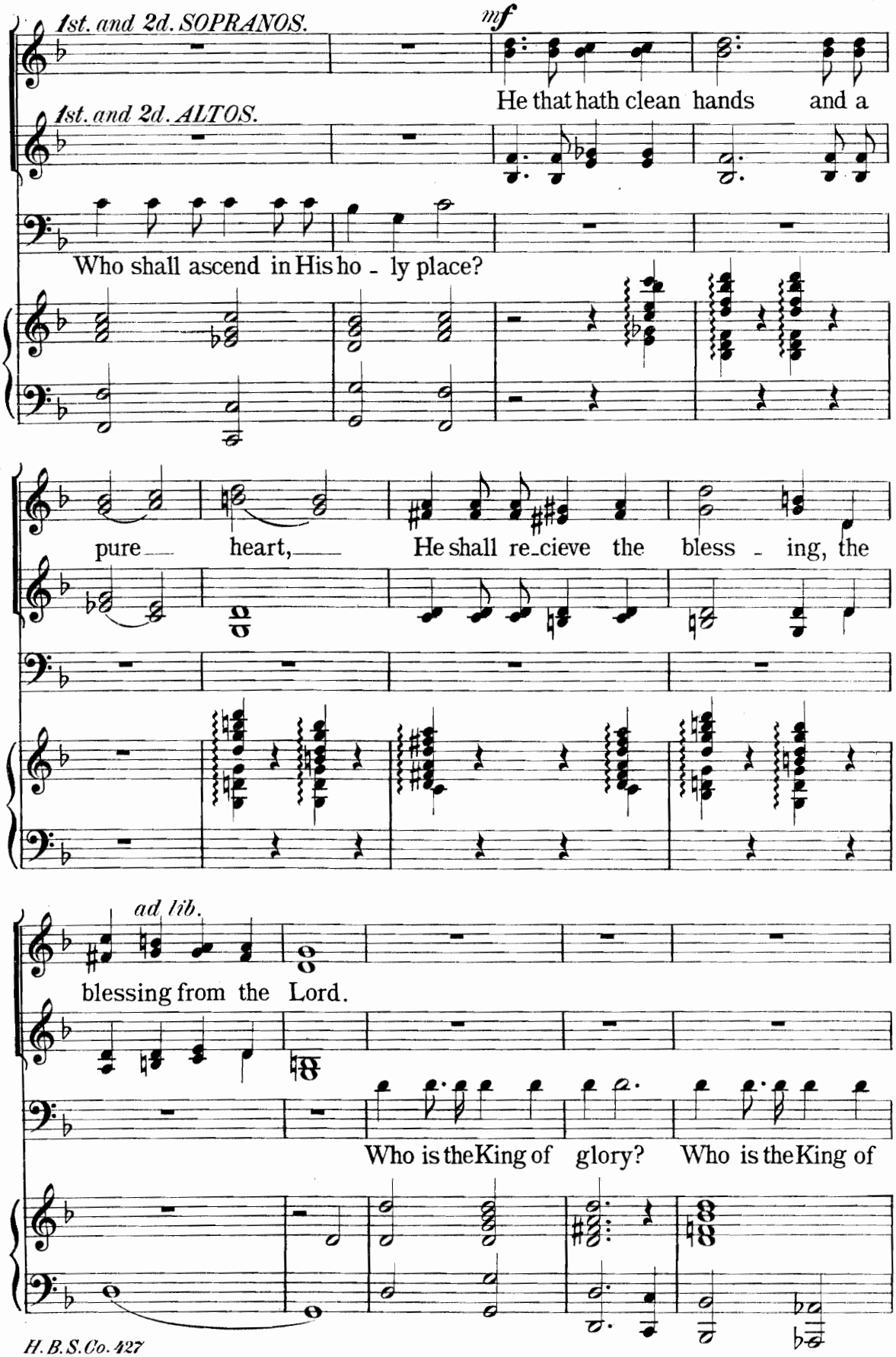

peace!" They bid my sor - - row cease, And heavenly
tide That draws me near thy side. O love that
cresc.
joy, and heaven-ly joy in-crease.
all that all my sins could hide.
f passionately.
Mas - - ter! Mas - ter! At thy bless-ed
Mas - - ter! Mas - ter! I am thine,—the
feet I'll pour Thank-ful in-crease, o'er and o'er;
spoil - er's prey By the mer - cy snatched a - way

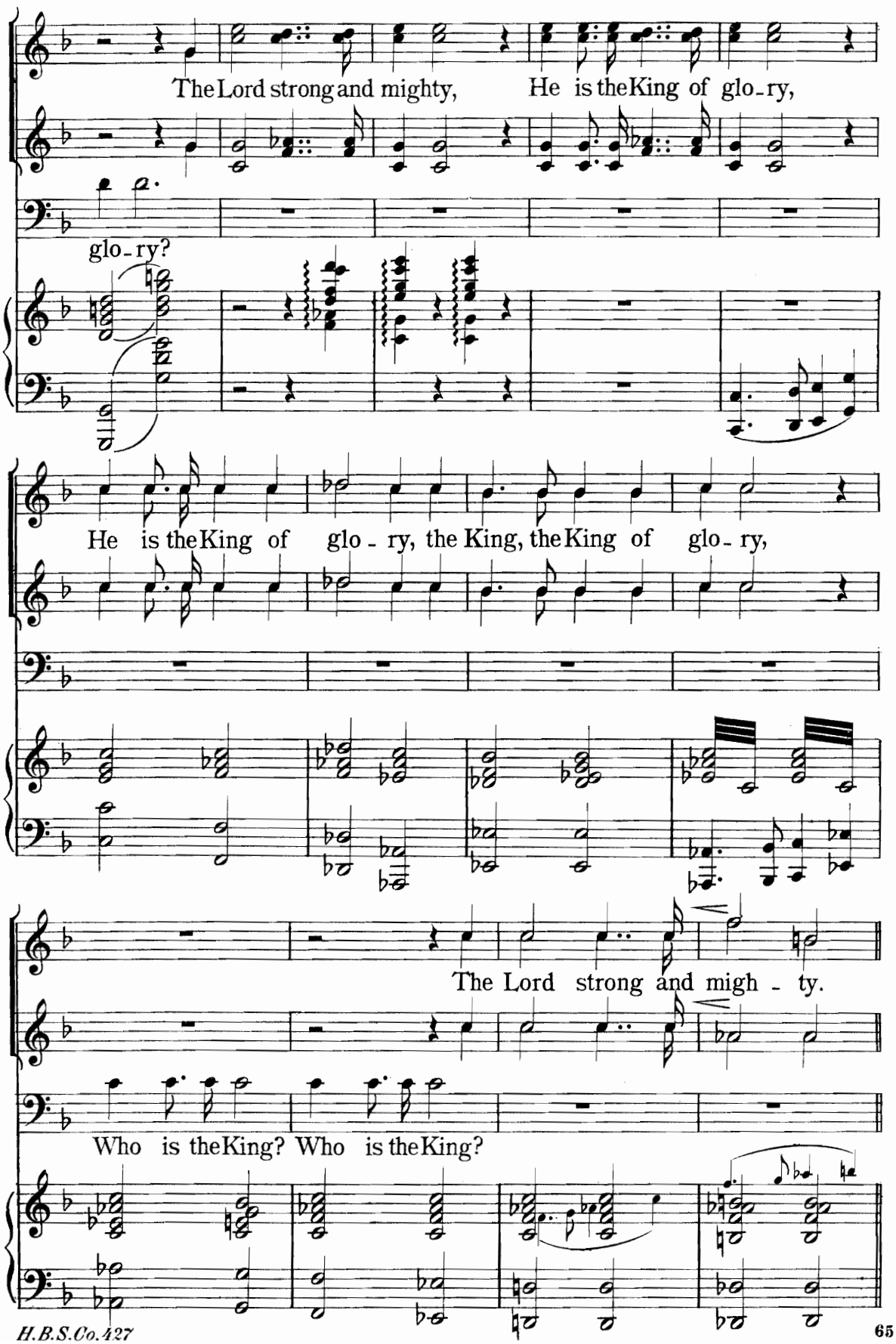


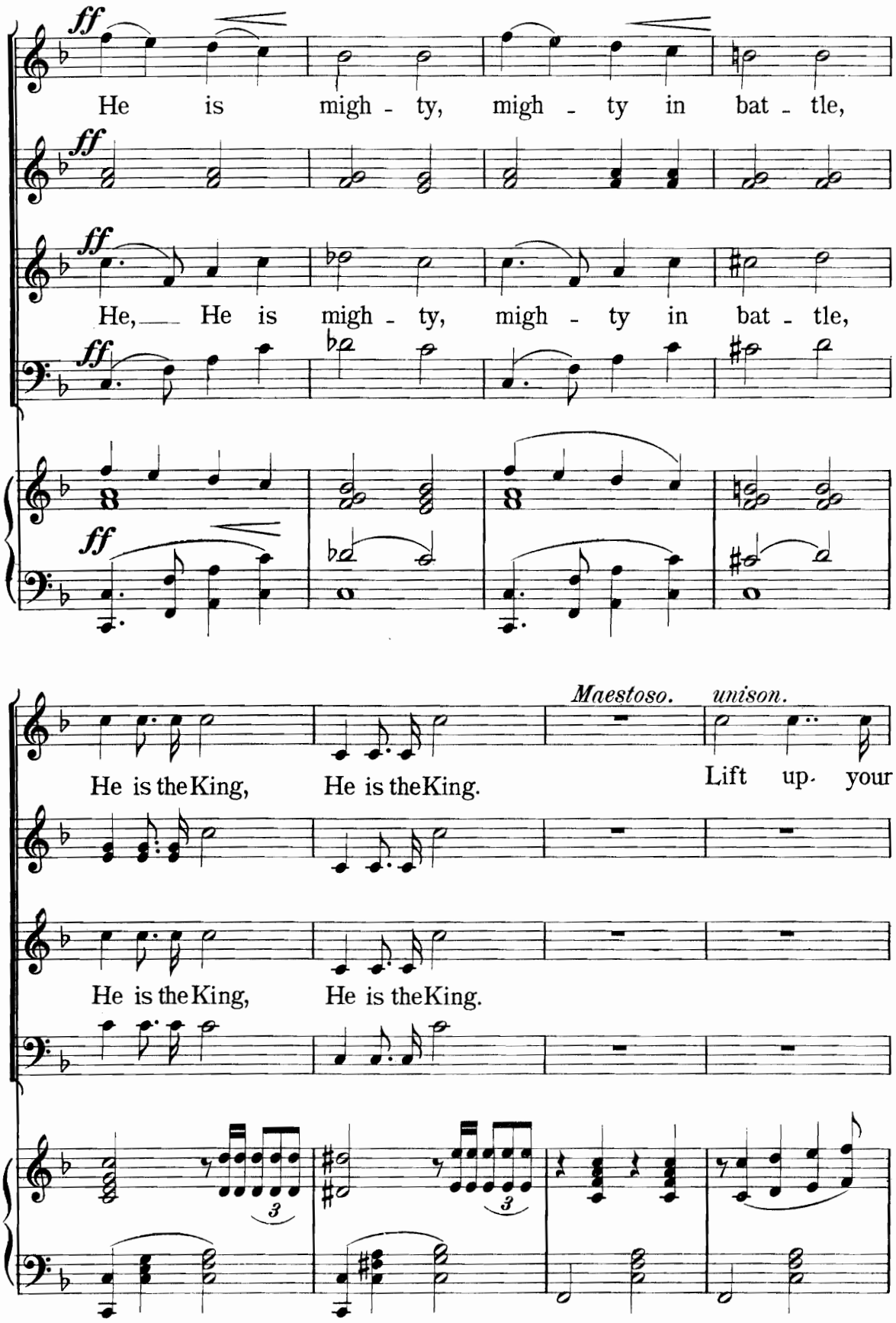
(FINALE.)

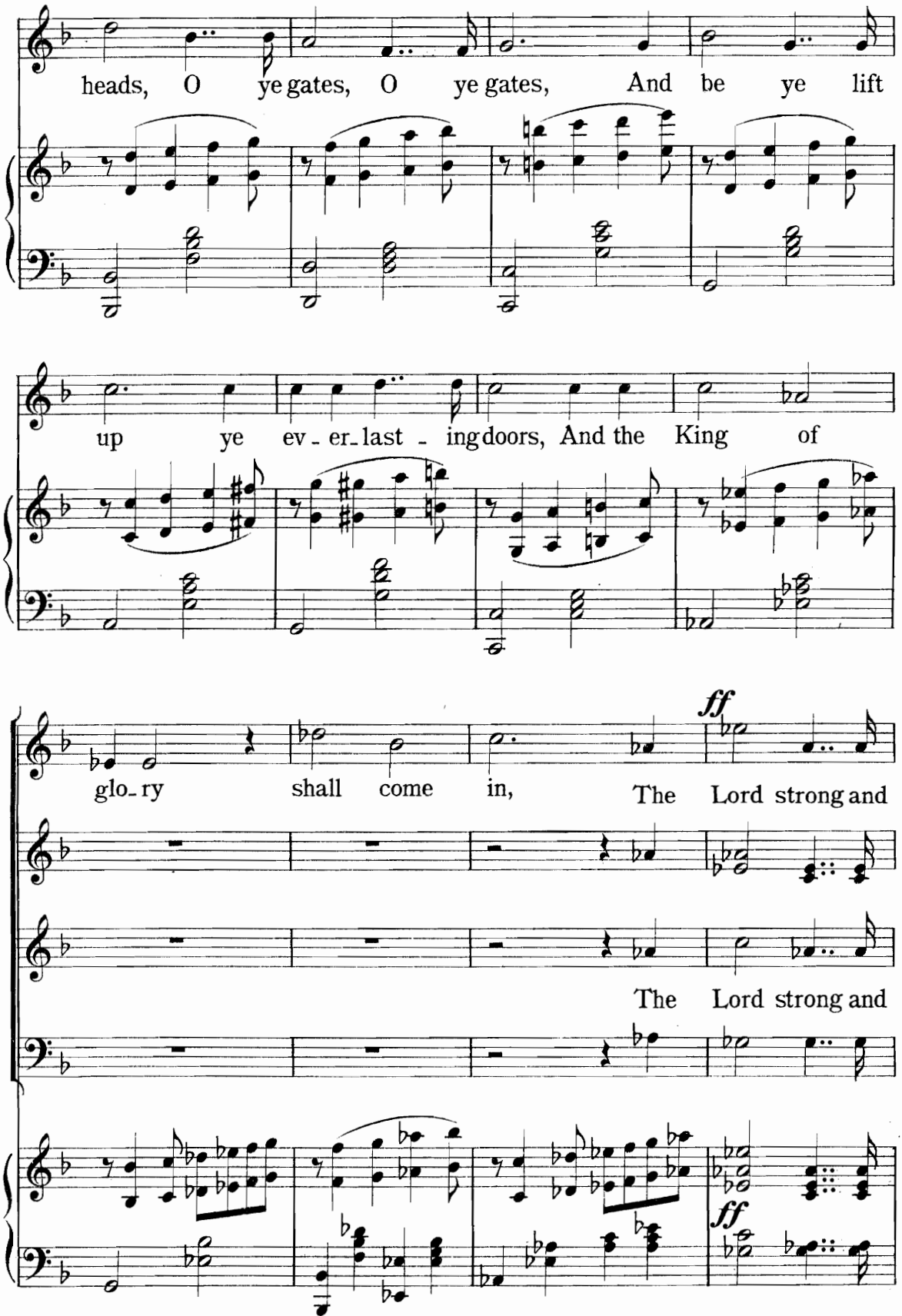
Lift up your heads.

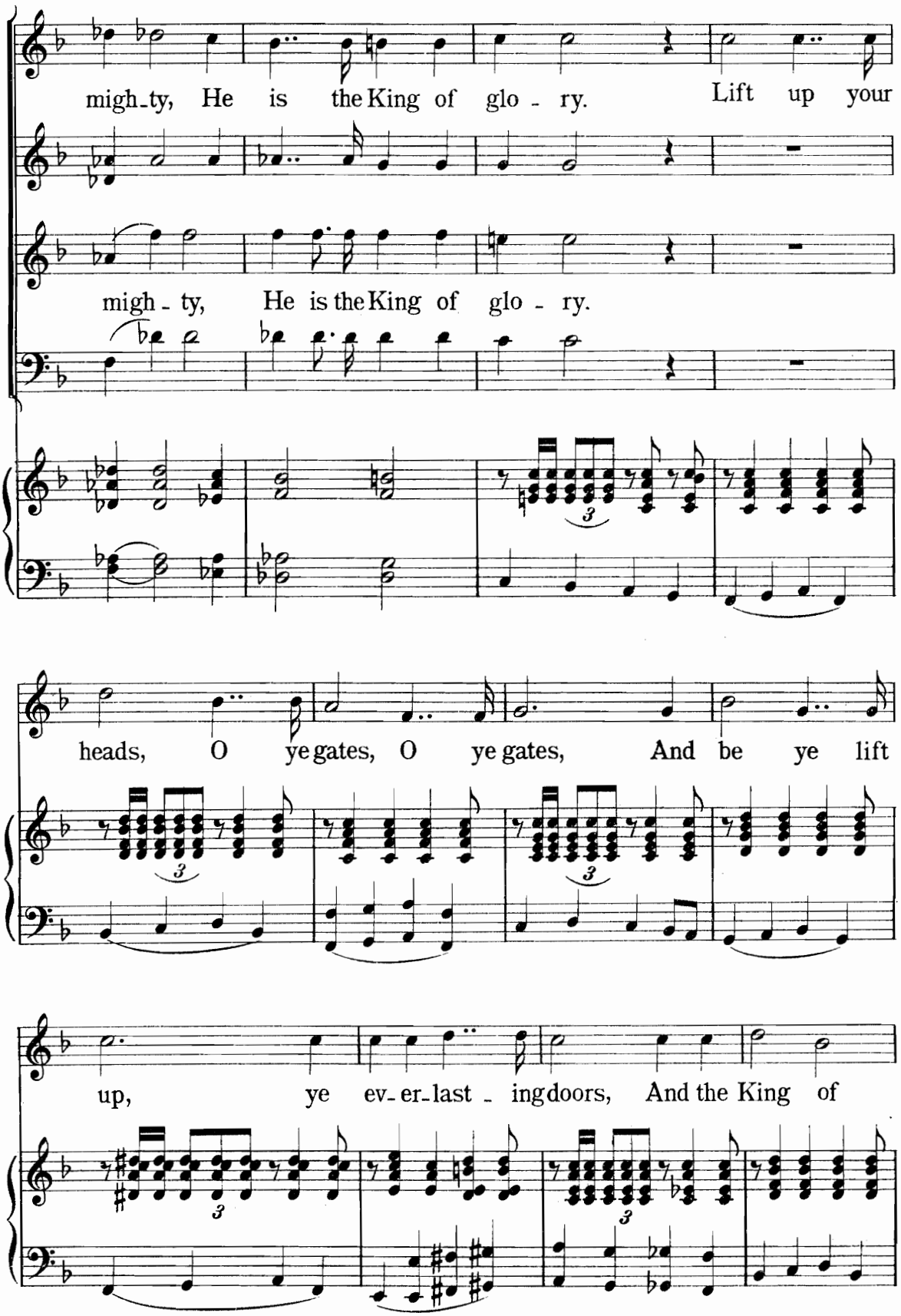


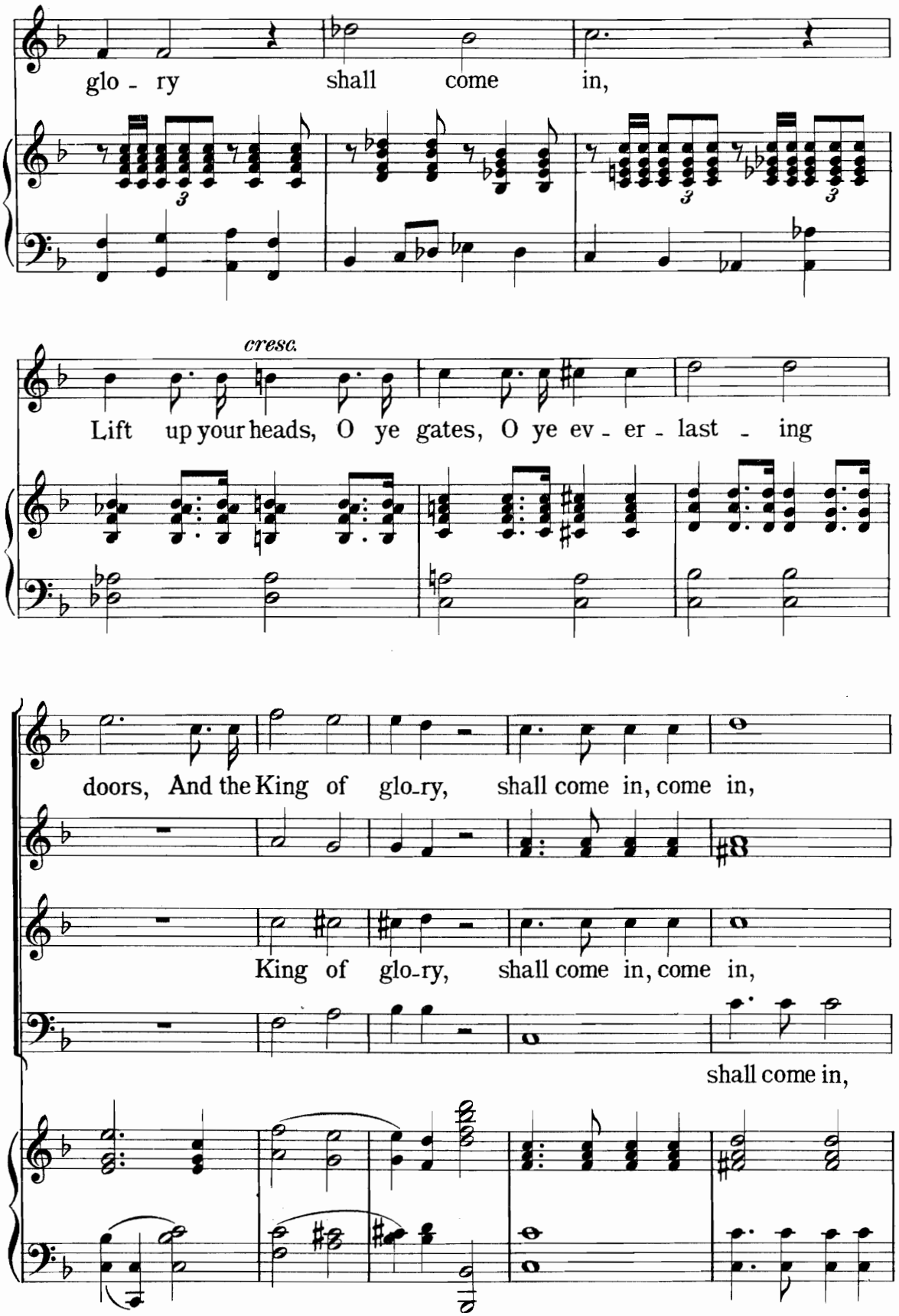

1st. and 2d. SOPRANOS.
mf
He that hath clean hands and a
1st. and 2d. ALTOS.
Who shall ascend in His ho - ly place?
pure heart, He shall re-cieve the bless - ing, the
ad lib.
blessing from the Lord.
Who is the King of glory? Who is the King of

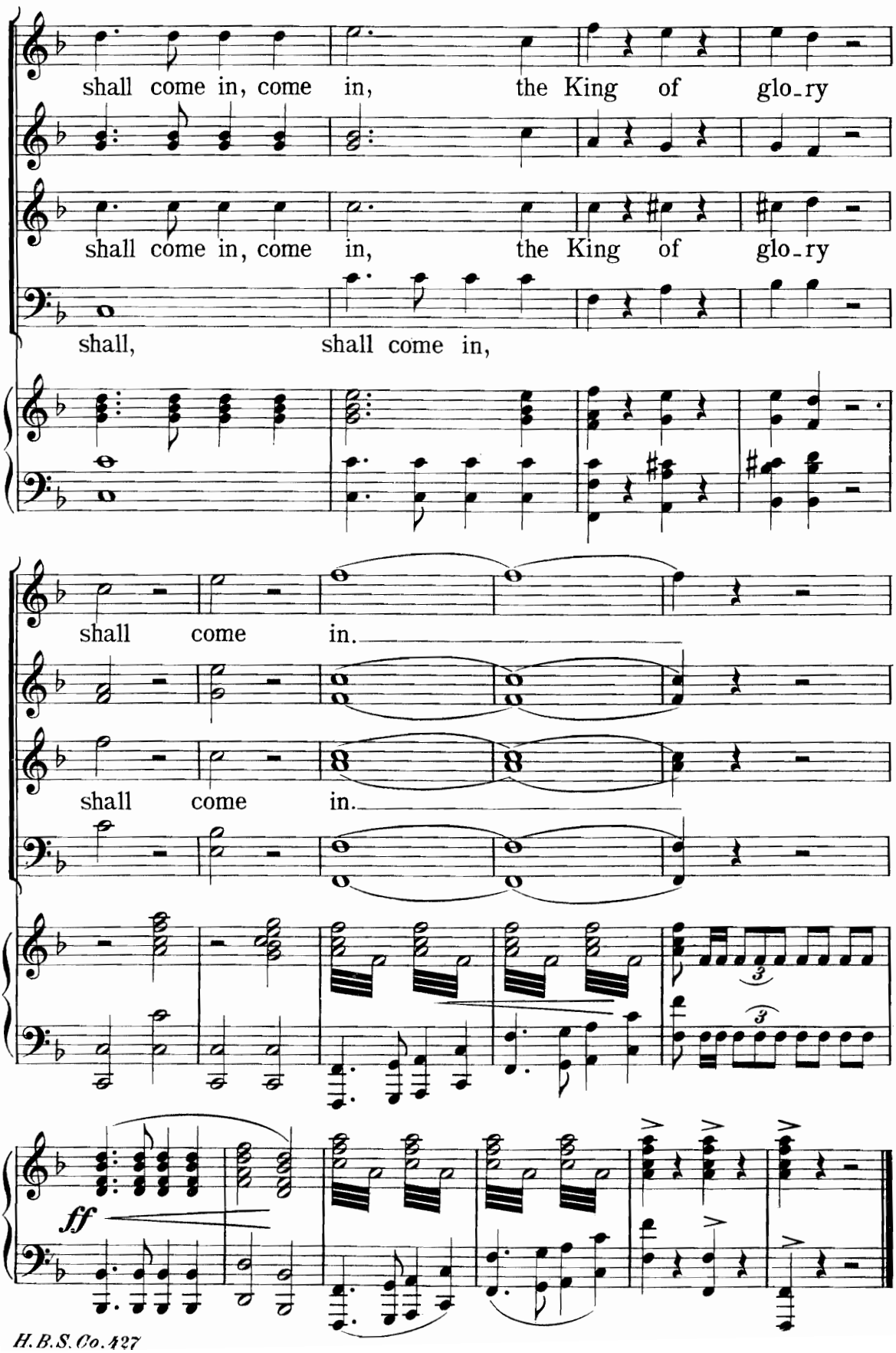

The Lord strong and mighty, He is the King of glo-ry,
glo-ry?
He is the King of glo - ry, the King, the King of glo - ry,
The Lord strong and migh - ty.
Who is the King? Who is the King?


ff
He is migh - ty, migh - ty in bat - tle,
ff
He, He is migh - ty, migh - ty in bat - tle,
ff
ff
Maestoso.
unison.
He is the King, He is the King.
Lift up your
He is the King, He is the King.
3
3


heads, O ye gates, O ye gates, And be ye lift
up ye ev - er - last - ing doors, And the King of
glo - ry shall come in,
ff
The Lord strong and
The Lord strong and
ff


migh-ty, He is the King of glo - ry. Lift up your
migh - ty, He is the King of glo - ry.
heads, O ye gates, O ye gates, And be ye lift
up, ye ev-er-last - ing doors, And the King of


glo - ry shall come in,
cresc.
Lift up your heads, O ye gates, O ye ev - er - last - ing
doors, And the King of glo-ry, shall come in, come in,
King of glo-ry, shall come in, come in,
shall come in,


shall come in, come in, the King of glo-ry
shall come in, come in, the King of glo-ry
shall, shall come in,
shall come in.
shall come in.
ff