SATB

A Celtic Christmas Celebration

Have You Heard?

Joel Raney

Music by Joel Raney

Orchestration by Ed Hogan

Editor: Lloyd Larson
Music Engraving: Linda Taylor
Cover Design: Patti Jeffers

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Foreword

Perhaps it's my own Scottish heritage, but to me there's something wonderfully compelling about Celtic music. Whether it's the lively rhythms of the hoop drum, or the stylistic ornamentation used by the whistles and pipes, this music has a unique and joyous sound. What better way to tell the joyful story of Christmas! Even though it originates in a different part of the world, there is something about the earthiness of the Celtic style that seems right at home in the cobblestone streets of Bethlehem.

Have You Heard? is a 35-minute work for SATB Choir that revisits the Christmas story using this captivating musical language. Orchestrator Ed Hogan did a fantastic job of bringing these eight arrangements to life while maintaining the distinctive Celtic sounds. You'll find many familiar Christmas carols, but also some familiar Christmas texts set to beloved Irish and Welsh folk songs. These, combined with original music and scripture-based narration, complete a surprisingly refreshing re-telling of the Christmas story.

An ethereal, haunting opening sets the stage, underscoring the familiar scripture from John 1:1-5 before breaking into an exuberant rendition of *I Saw Three Ships*. *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus, Away in a Manger, Gentle Mary Laid Her Child,* and the beloved *Angels We Have Heard on High* all make appearances as the work progresses, culminating with a rhythmic re-imagining of *O Come, All Ye Faithful,* set to the traditional Scottish Melody, LOCH LOMOND. One of the highlights of this musical is *O Holy Night* for soloist and choir, set to the timeless tune, LONDONDERRY AIR.

There's a vibrant orchestration available for this work, or accompaniment can be provided by piano alone, or the orchestral accompaniment track. The SATB choral parts can be easily mastered by choirs of any size.

However you choose to present this work, I pray your congregations and audiences will be blessed and filled with the joy of this wonderful season. *Erin go bragh!*

—Joel Raney

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From the Publisher

Some of the cover-art images and graphics from this work are available as free downloads. We hope that you can use them to assist in the making of your bulletins, posters, flyers, website and email announcements, and in any other way that's within your organization and in conjunction with performances of this work.

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Due to the vast number of differences in computer system setups, we are unable to provide technical support for downloadable images/graphics by either phone or email.

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65/2107L	SATB Score with Performance CD
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Orchestration by Ed Hogan for Irish Fl (Whistles, Alto Fl, Picc), Ob & Eng Hn, Cl & Bs Cl, Fiddle, Hn, Tpt 1-2, Tbn 1-2 (Bari T.C.), Perc, Harp, Pno, Synth, Ac Gtr, El Bass, Vln 1-2, Vla (Cl), Cello, Digital String Reduction

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30/3731L	Full Score
e30/3731L	Full Score (Digital Download)
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e30/3732L	Set of Parts (Digital Download)
30/3733L	CD with Printable Parts
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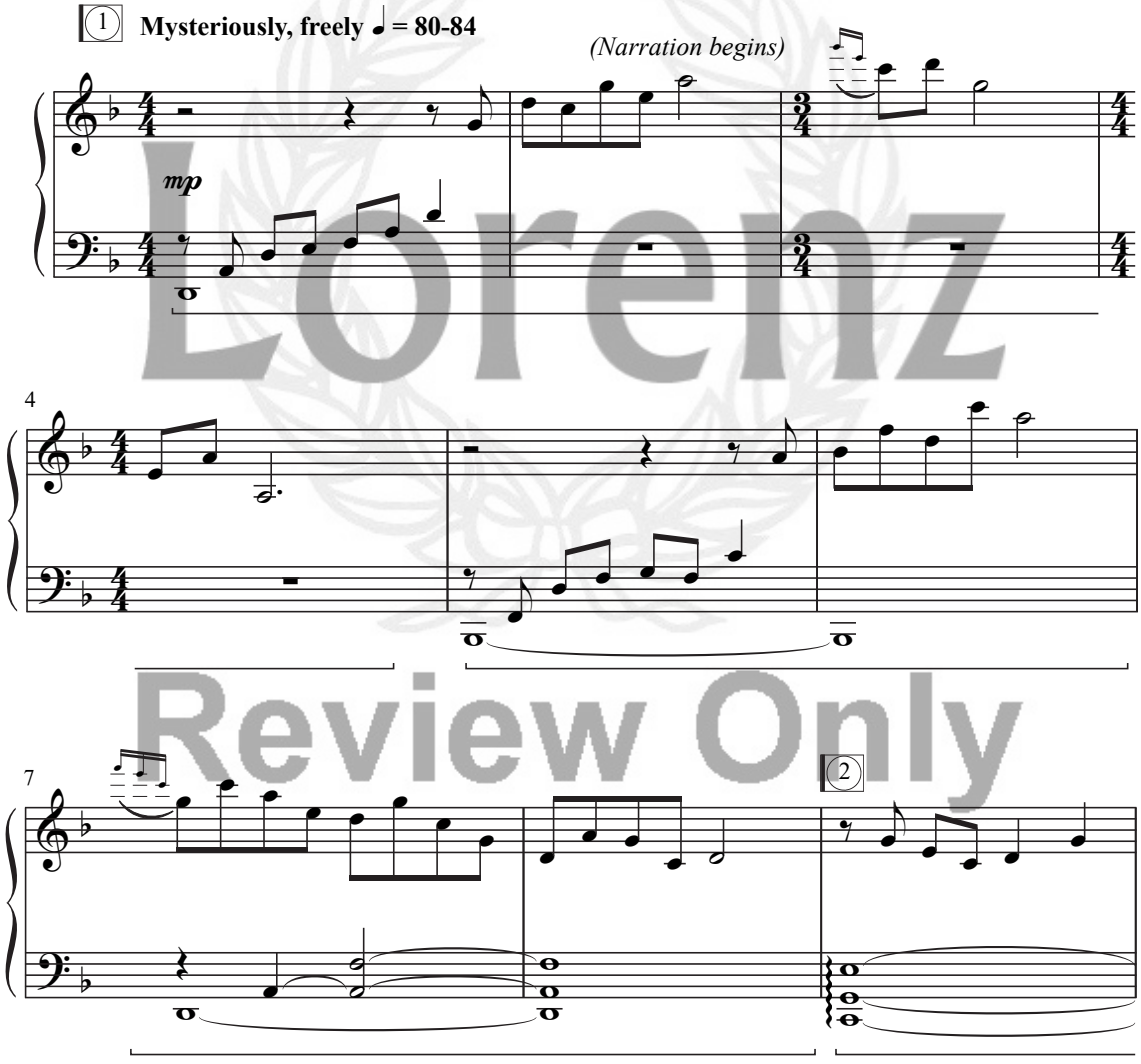
Christmas Day in the Morning

Arranged with New Music
by **Joel Raney**

Narrator: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of all humankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. *(John 1:1-5)*



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*"God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen"

10

SA

mp **In tempo ♩ = 80-84**

God rest ye mer-ry, gent-le-men, let noth-ing you dis-may,

TB

mp Have you

In tempo ♩ = 80-84

ped. simile

13

Have you heard? re - mem-ber Christ our Sav - ior,

mp

heard? 8va was

15

Have you heard? to

Have you heard? to

born on Christ-mas day,

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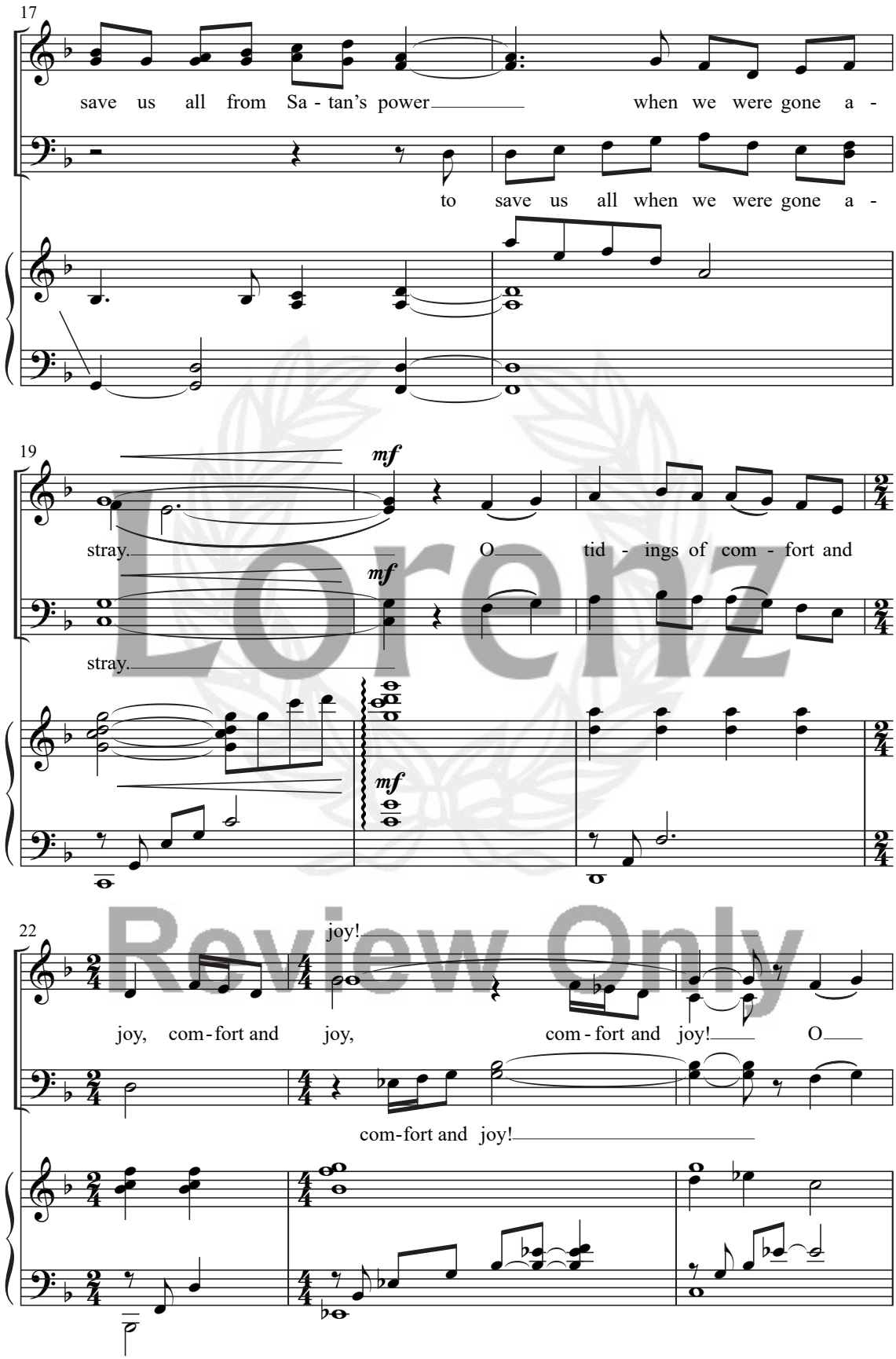
*Traditional English Carol



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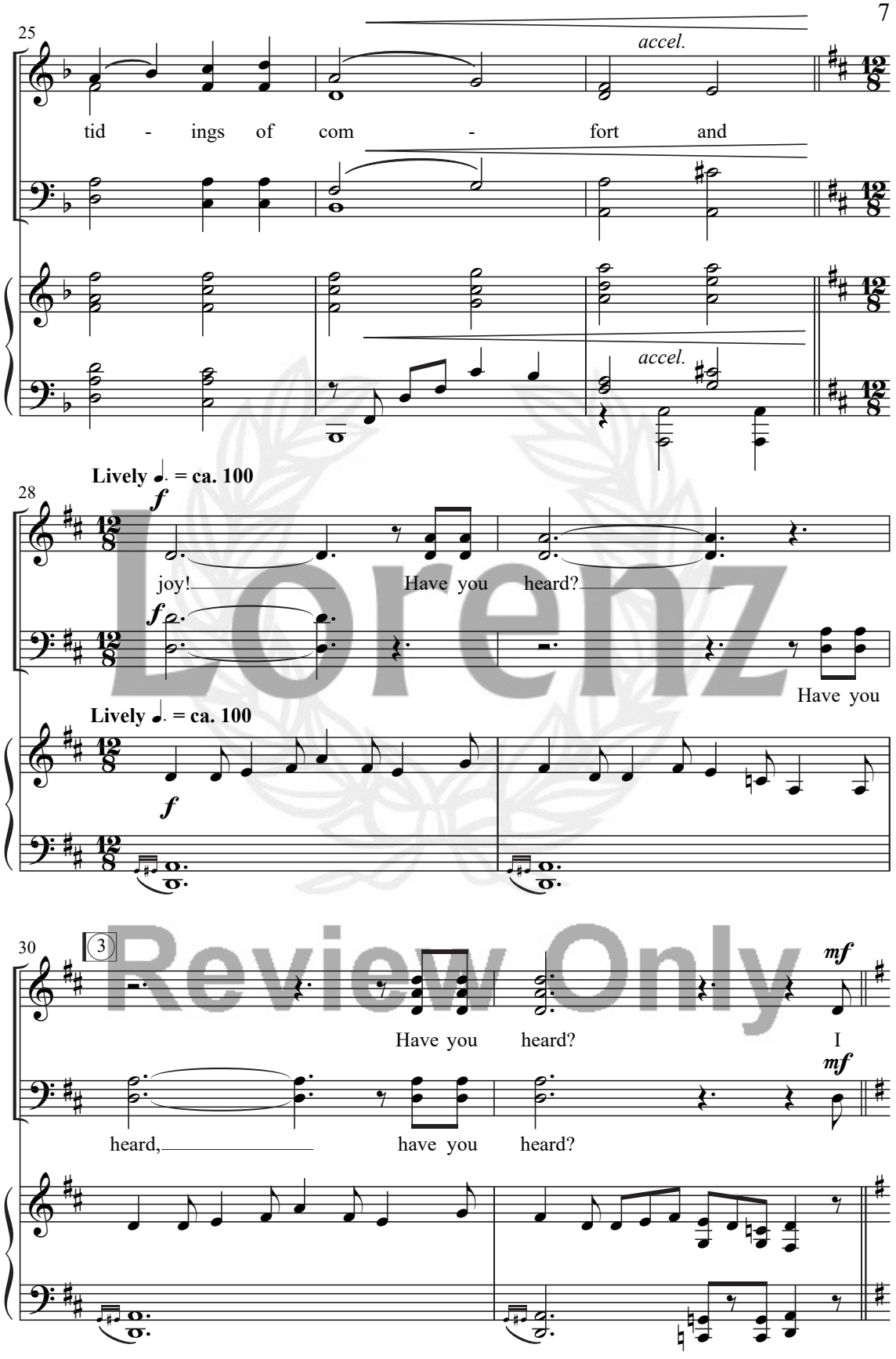

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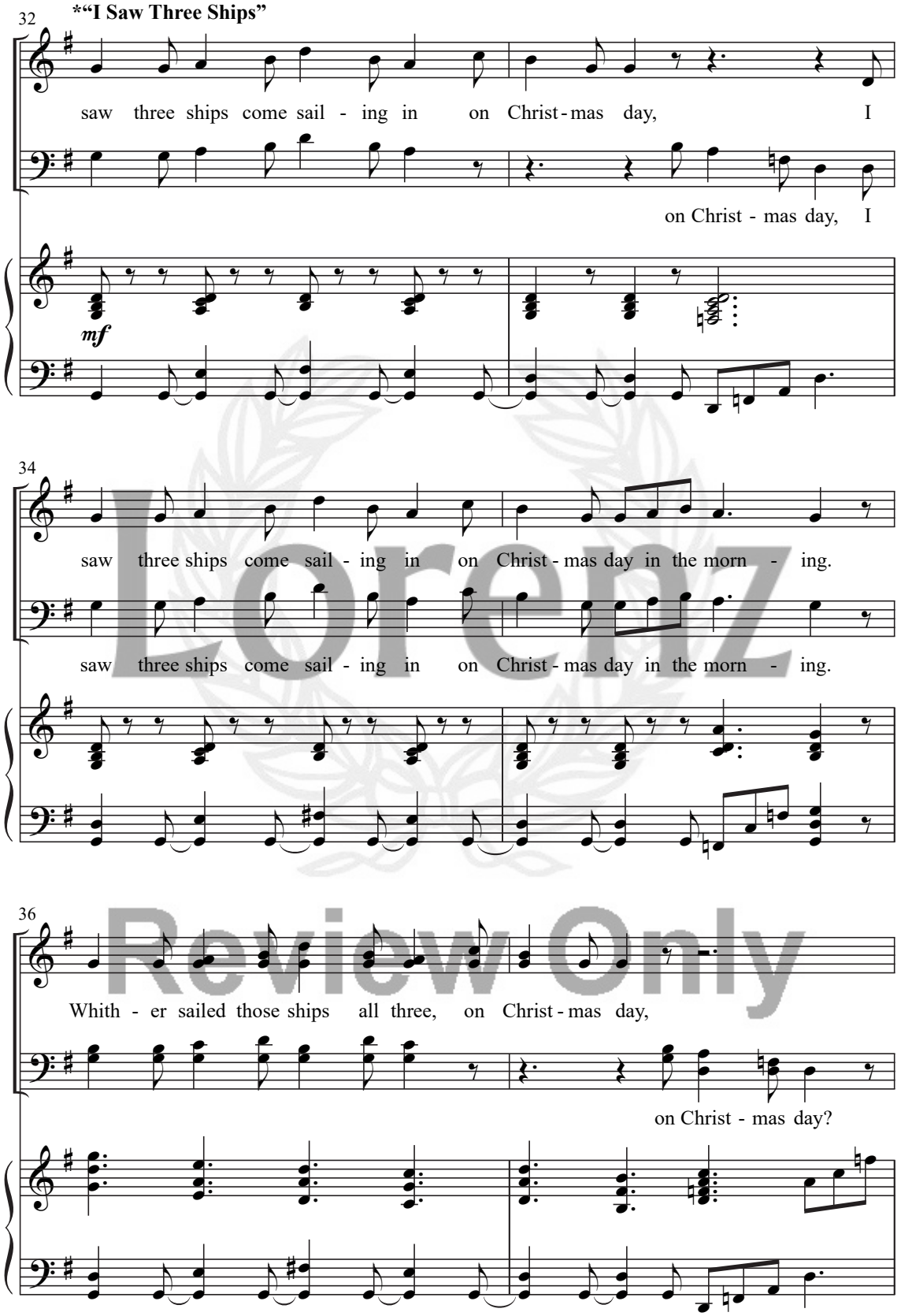

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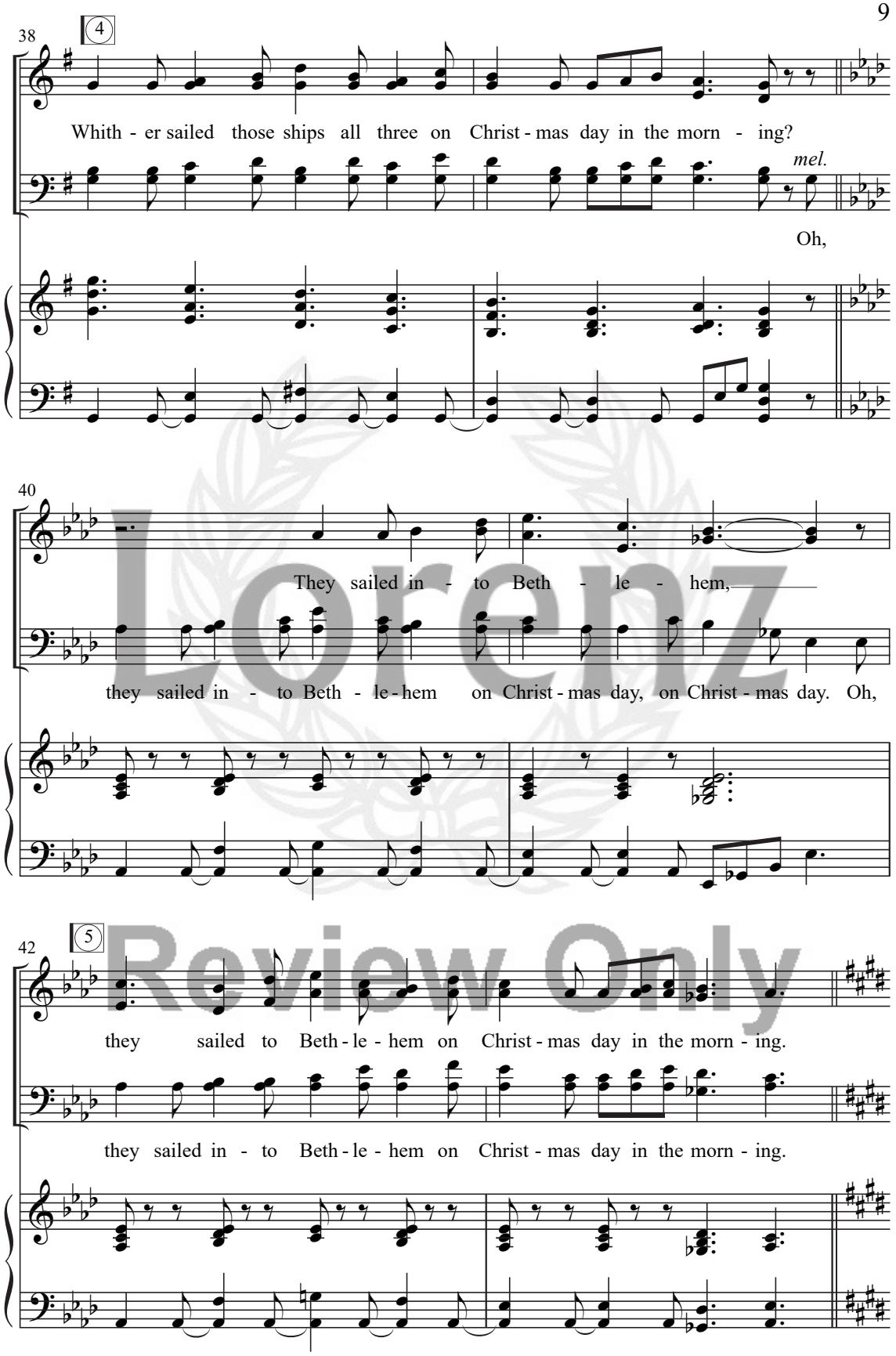
*Traditional English Carol



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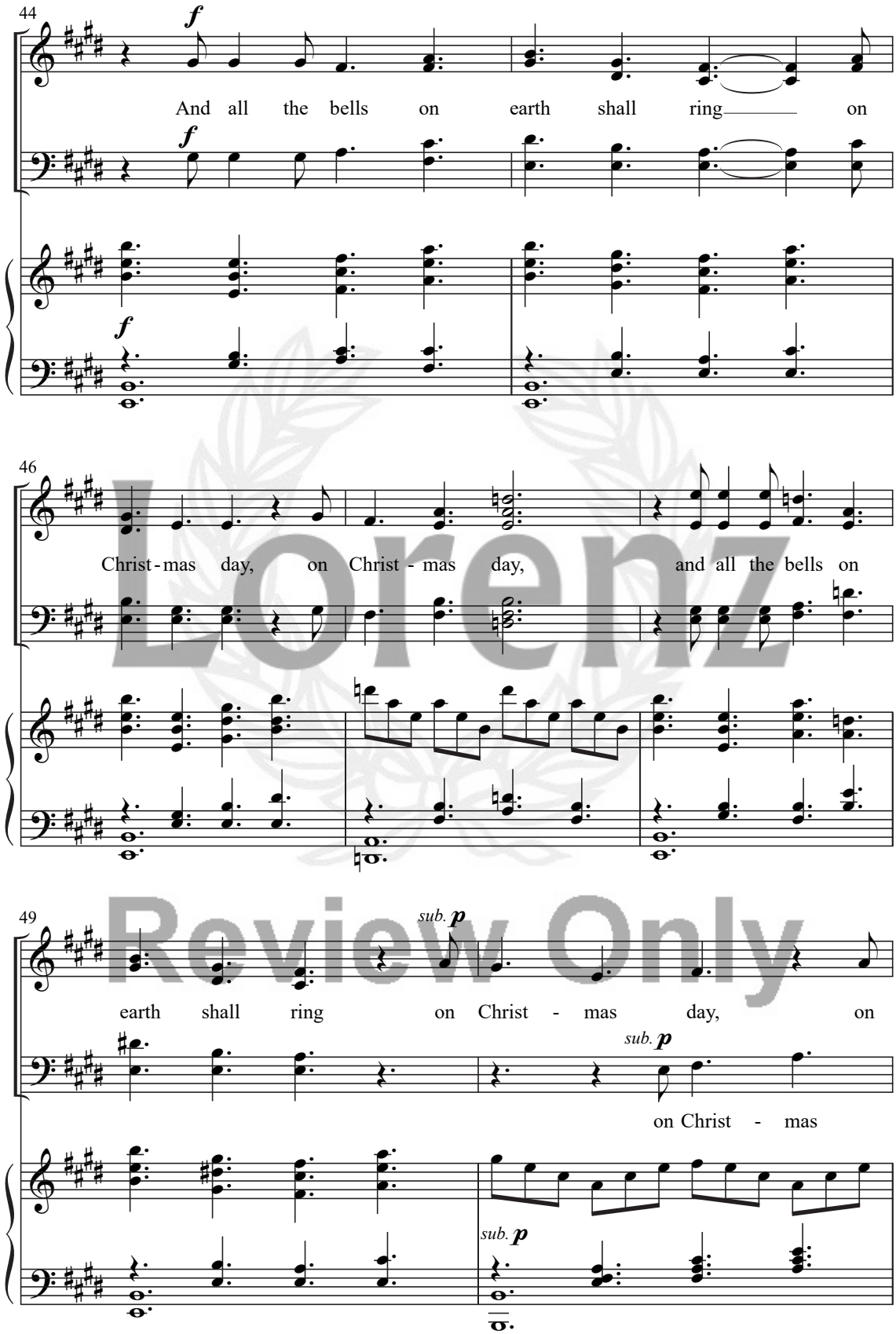

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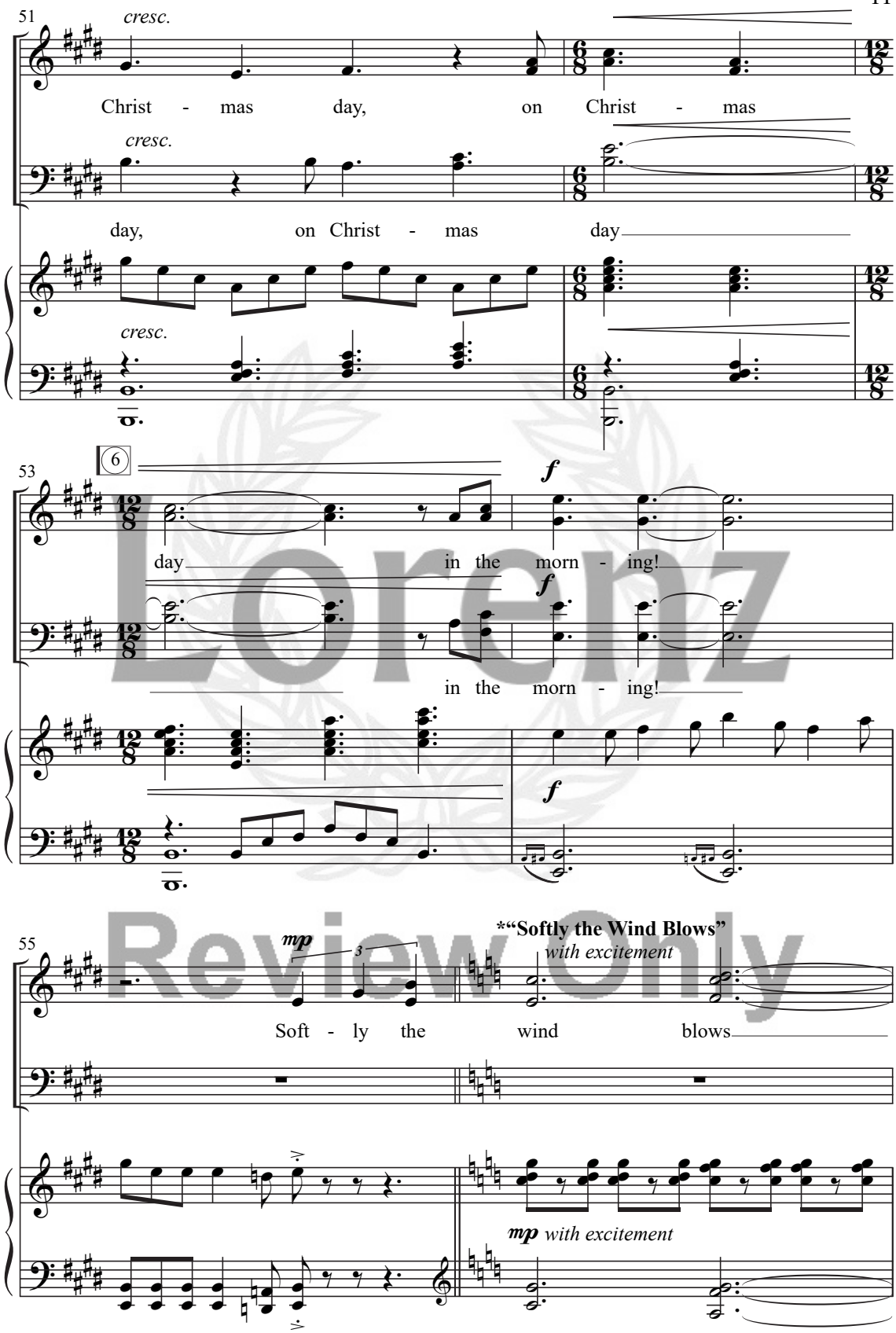

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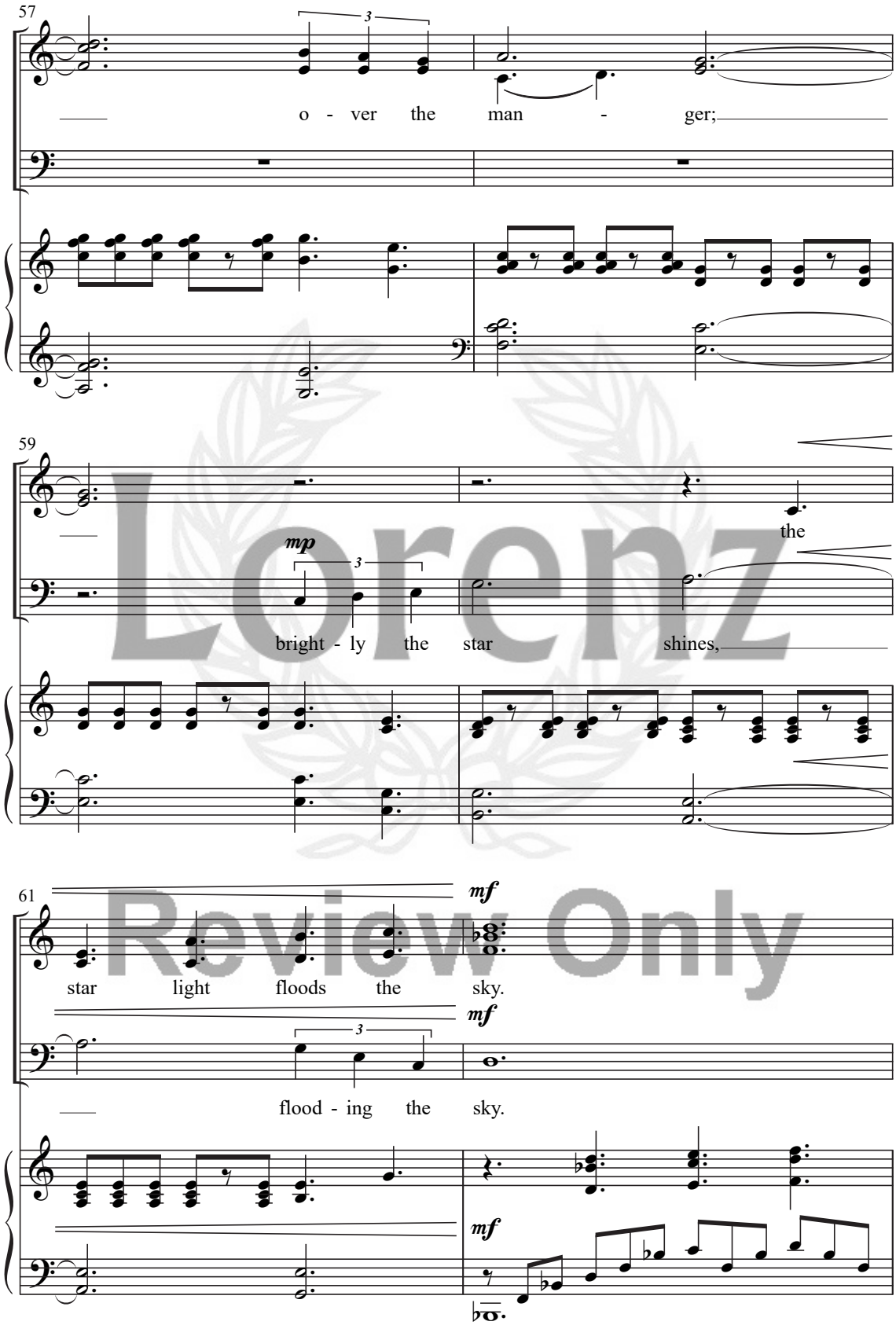
*Words by **Joel Raney**; Tune: **BUNESSAN**, Traditional Gaelic Melody



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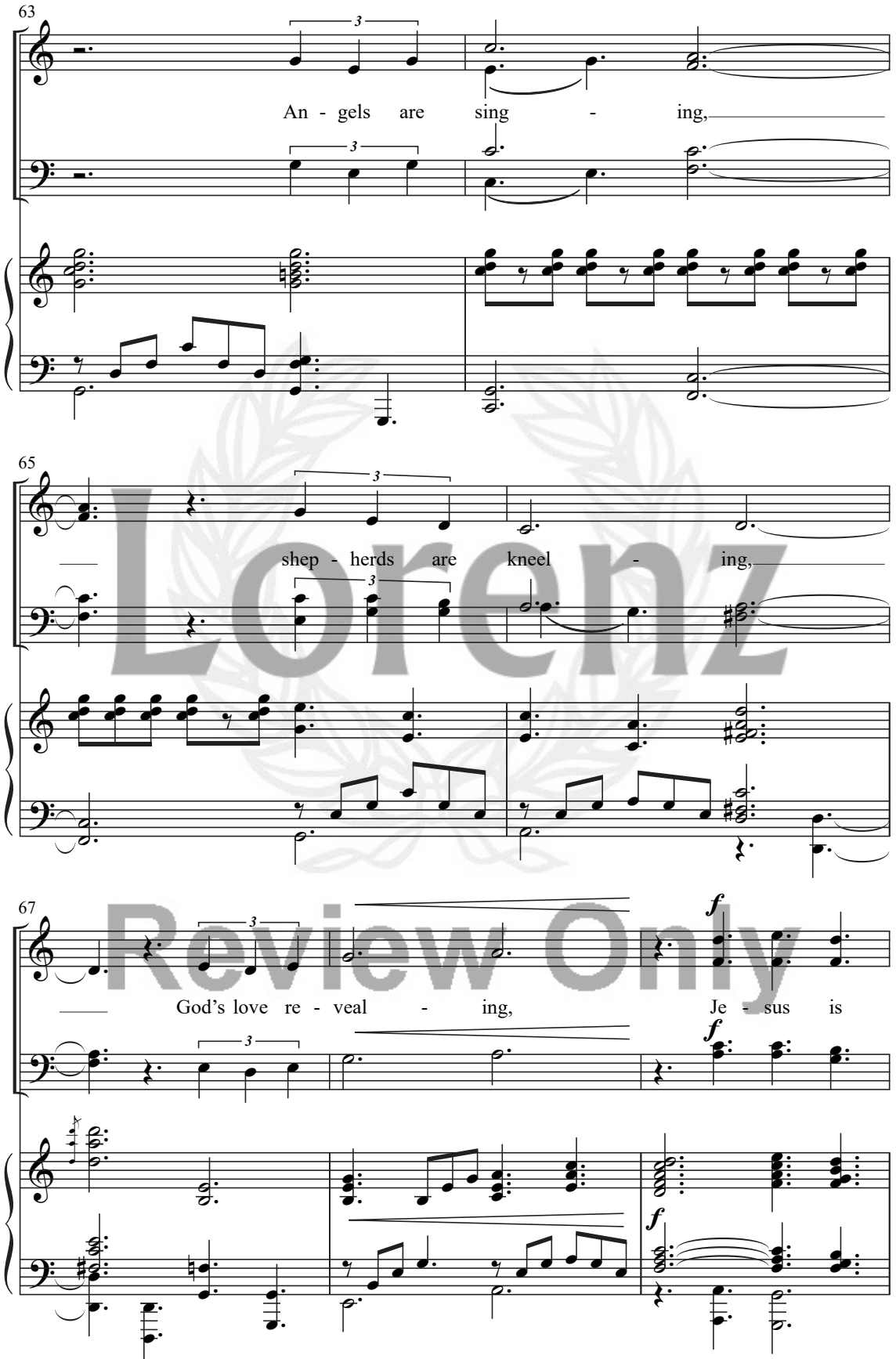

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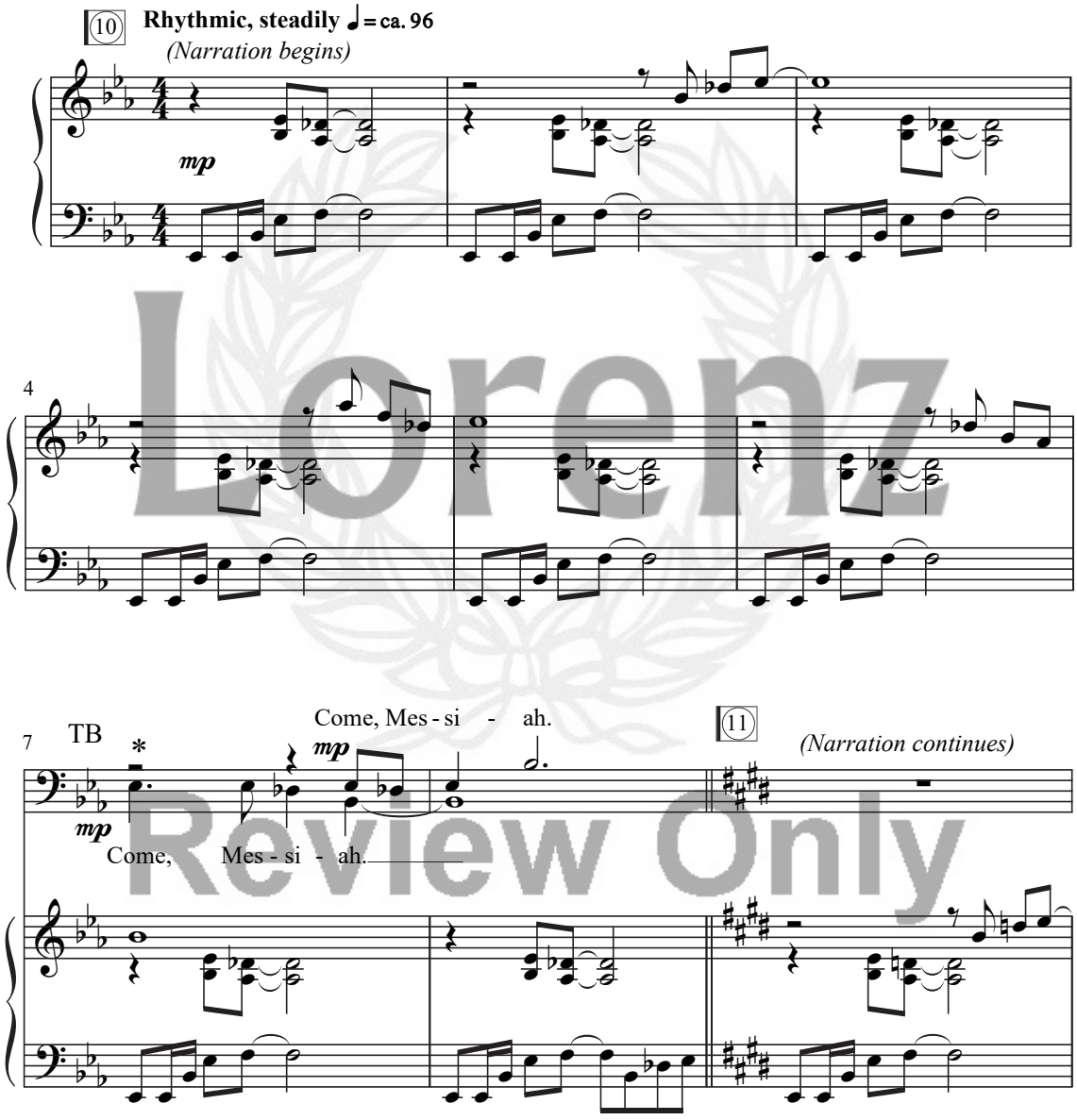
Come Messiah, Come Emmanuel

Arranged with New Music
by **Joel Raney**

Narrator: The Christmas story began long before Jesus was born. The scriptures are filled with detailed predictions – voices from history declaring that a Savior was on the way.



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* Basses close immediately to "mm" (and all other similar figures throughout).

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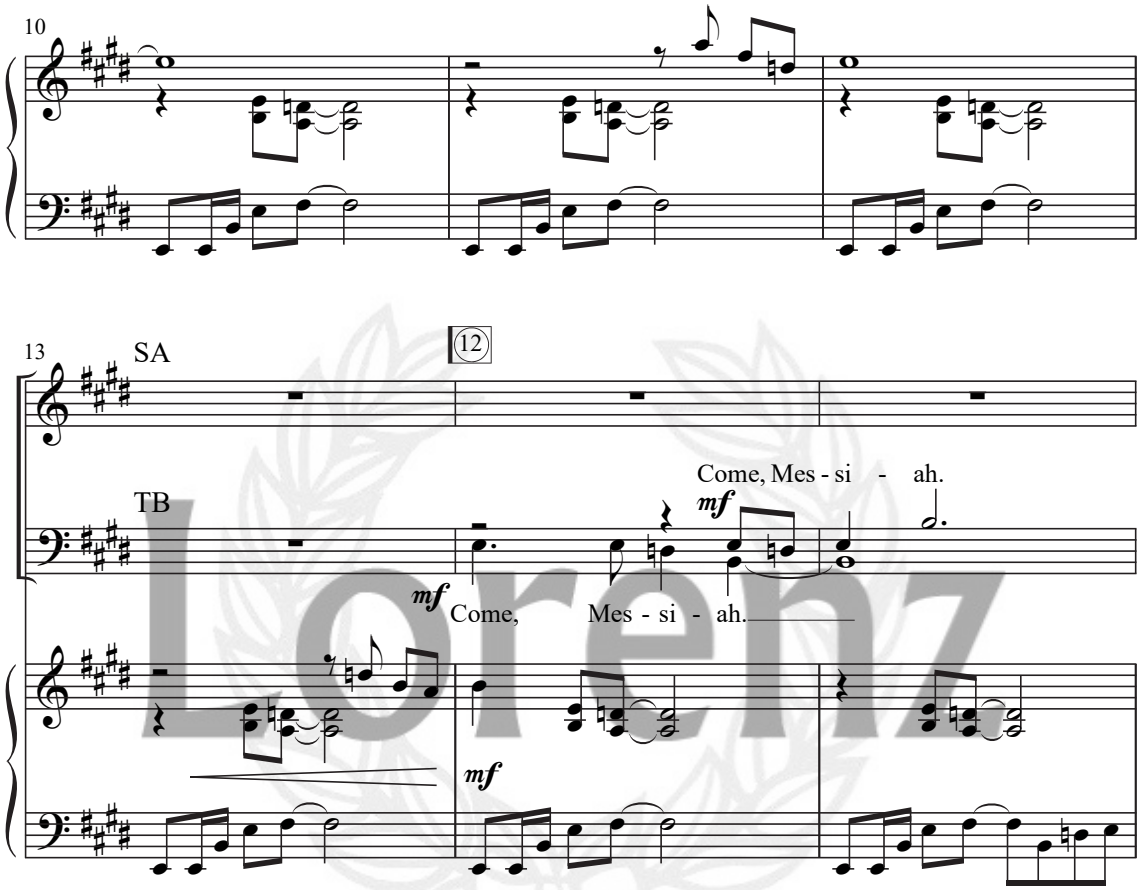
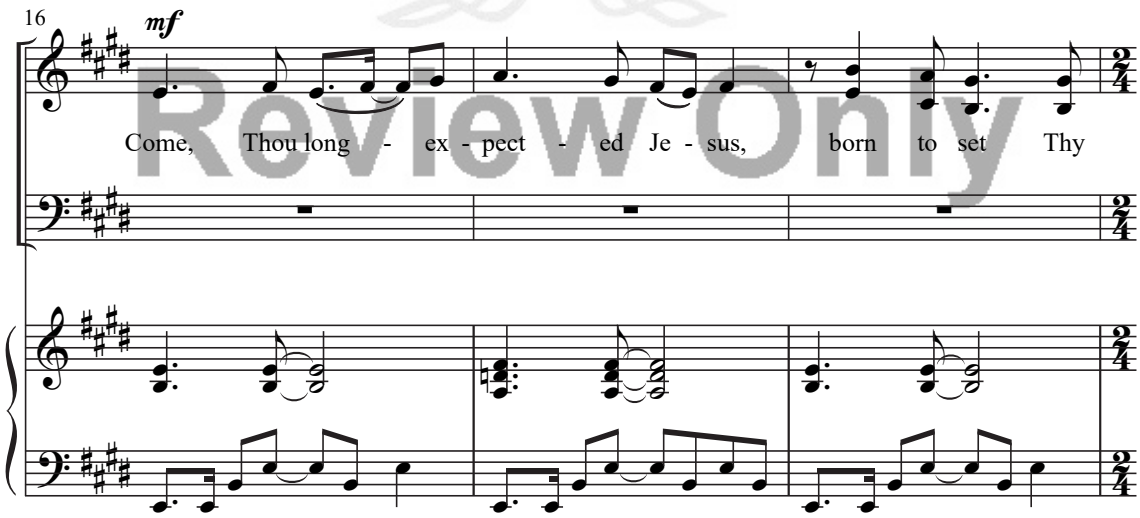
Narrator: The prophet Isaiah wrote that God would bring comfort to all people, that a voice would be heard in the wilderness, a voice of one calling: "Prepare the way for the Lord."



***"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"**



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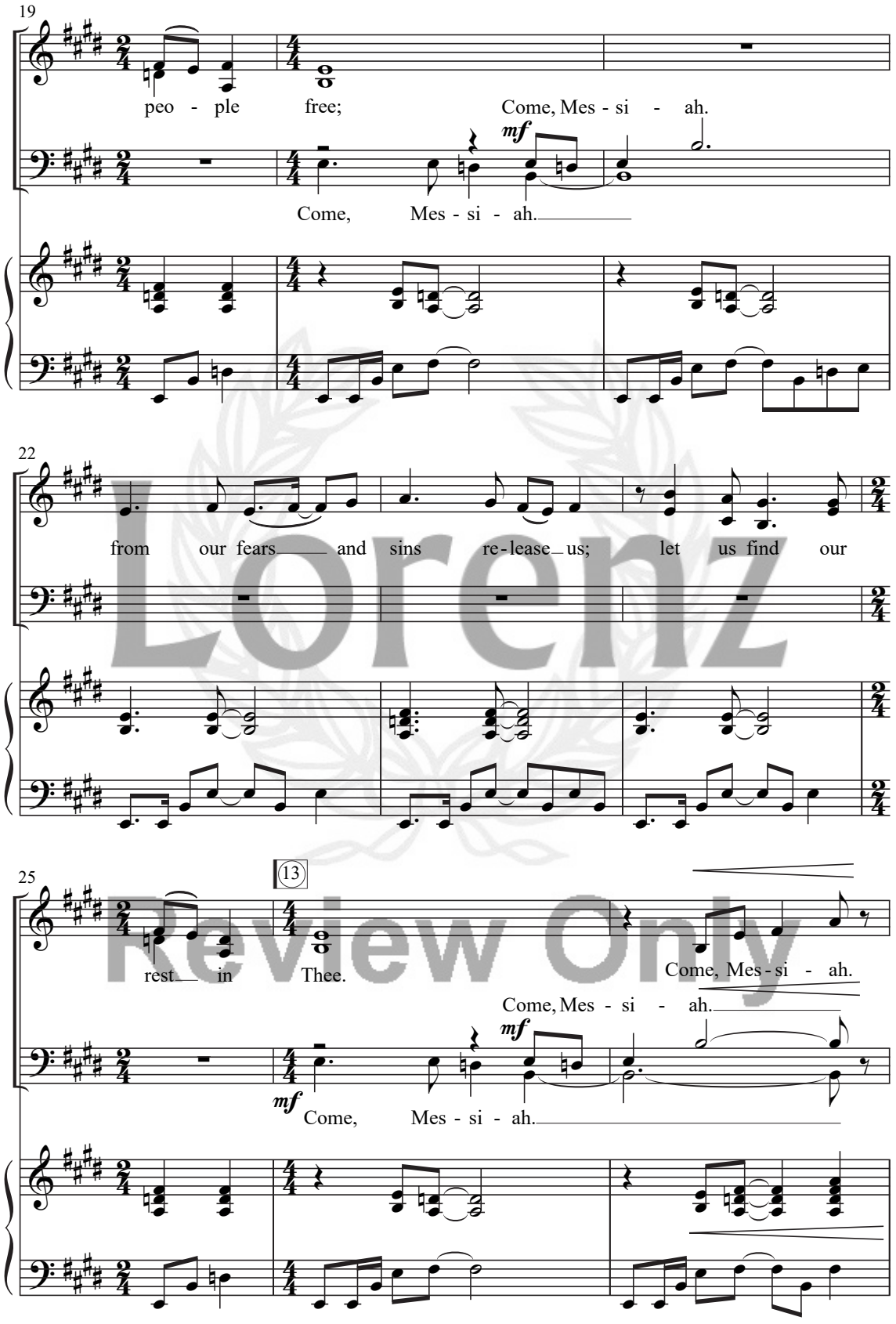
*Words by **Charles Wesley**, 1744; Tune: **HYFRYDOL** by Rowland H. Prichard, c. 1830



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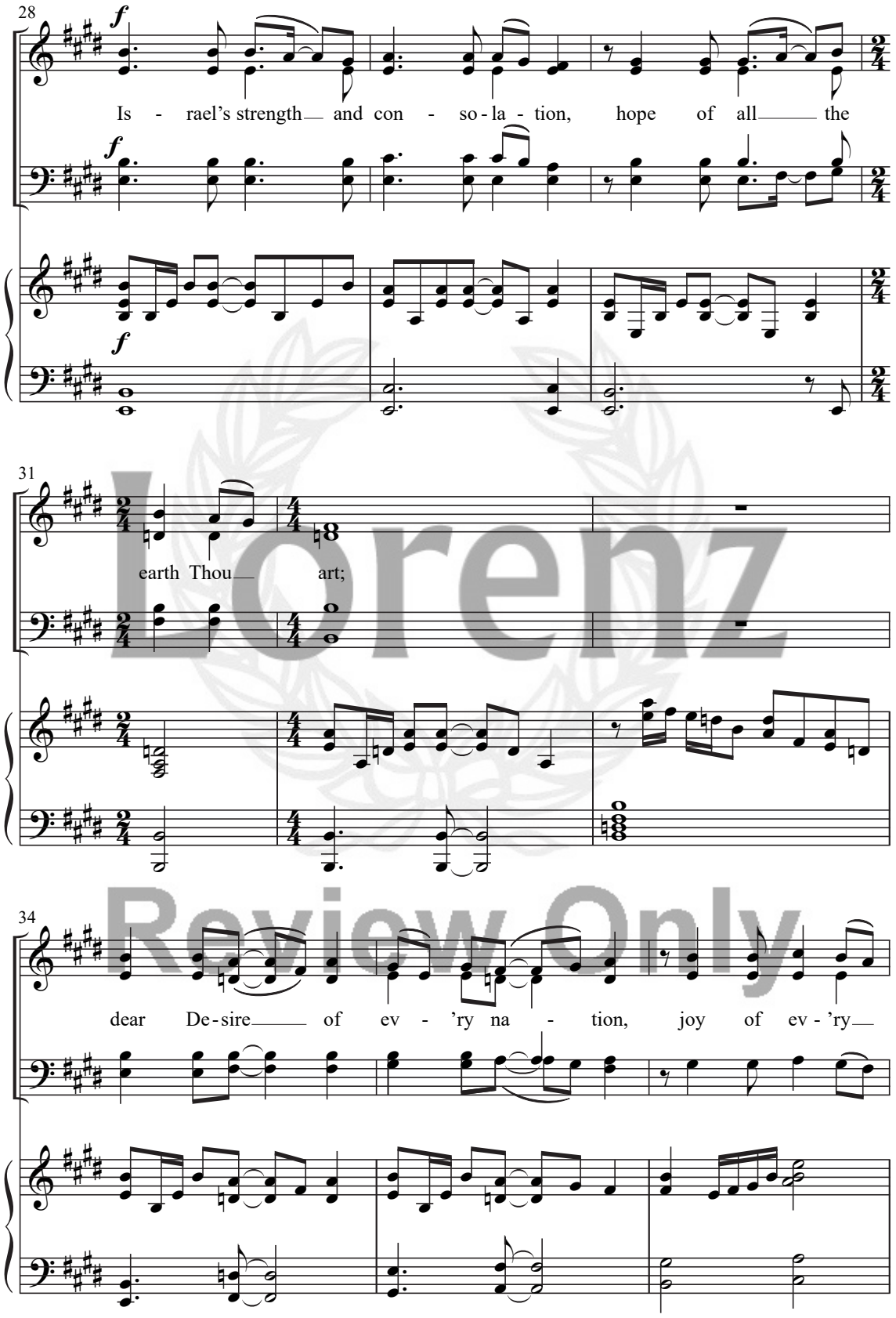

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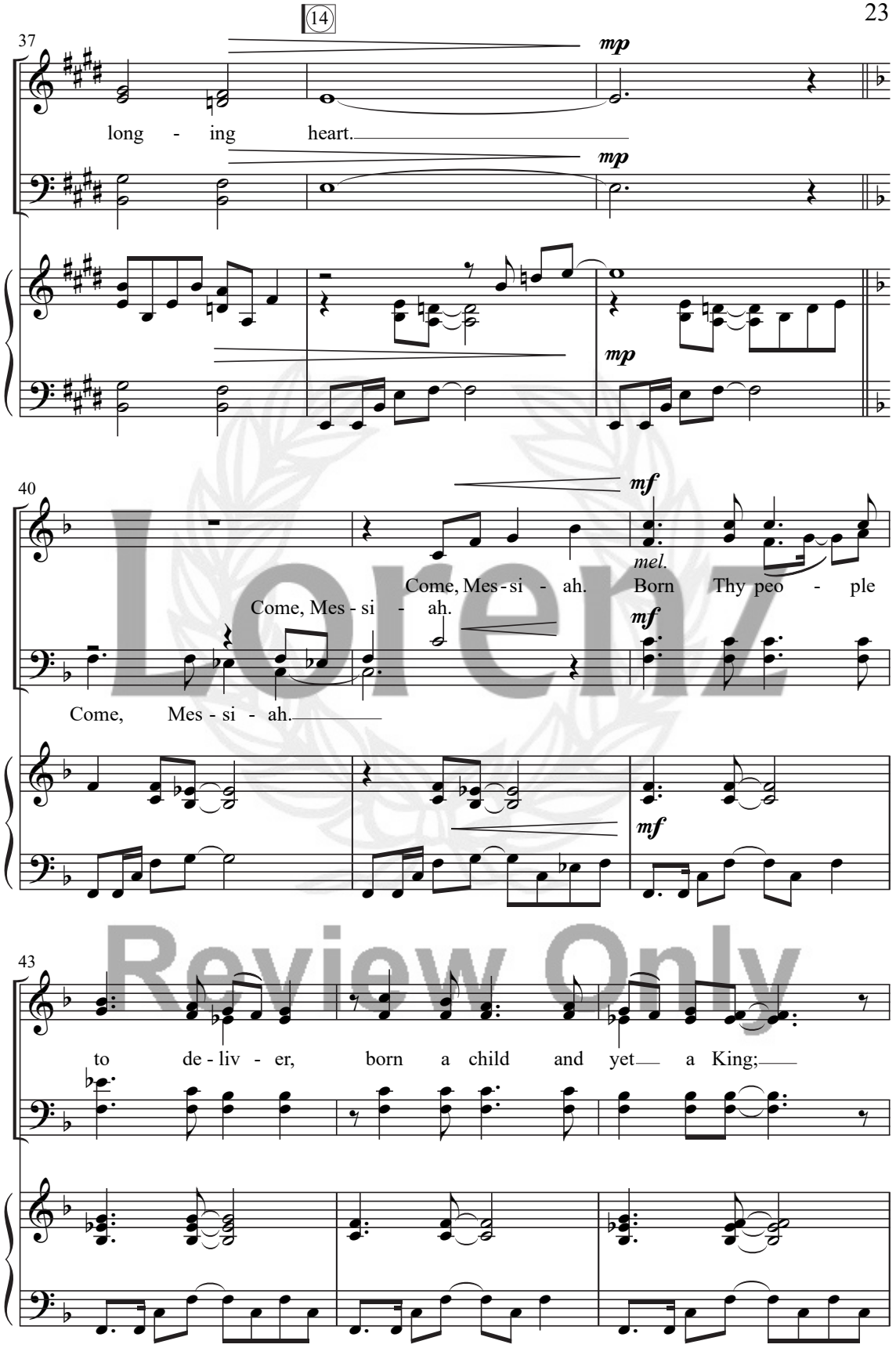

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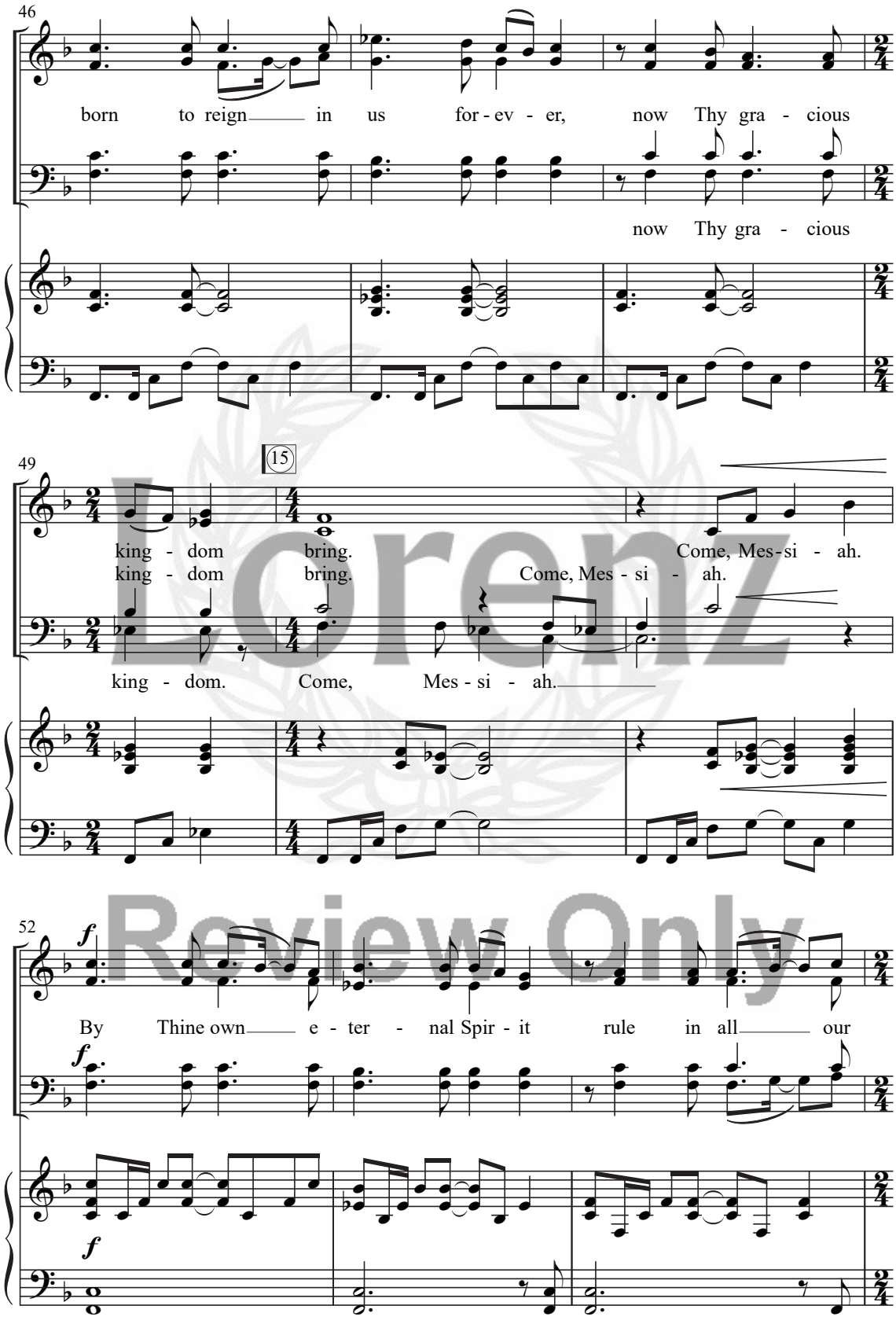

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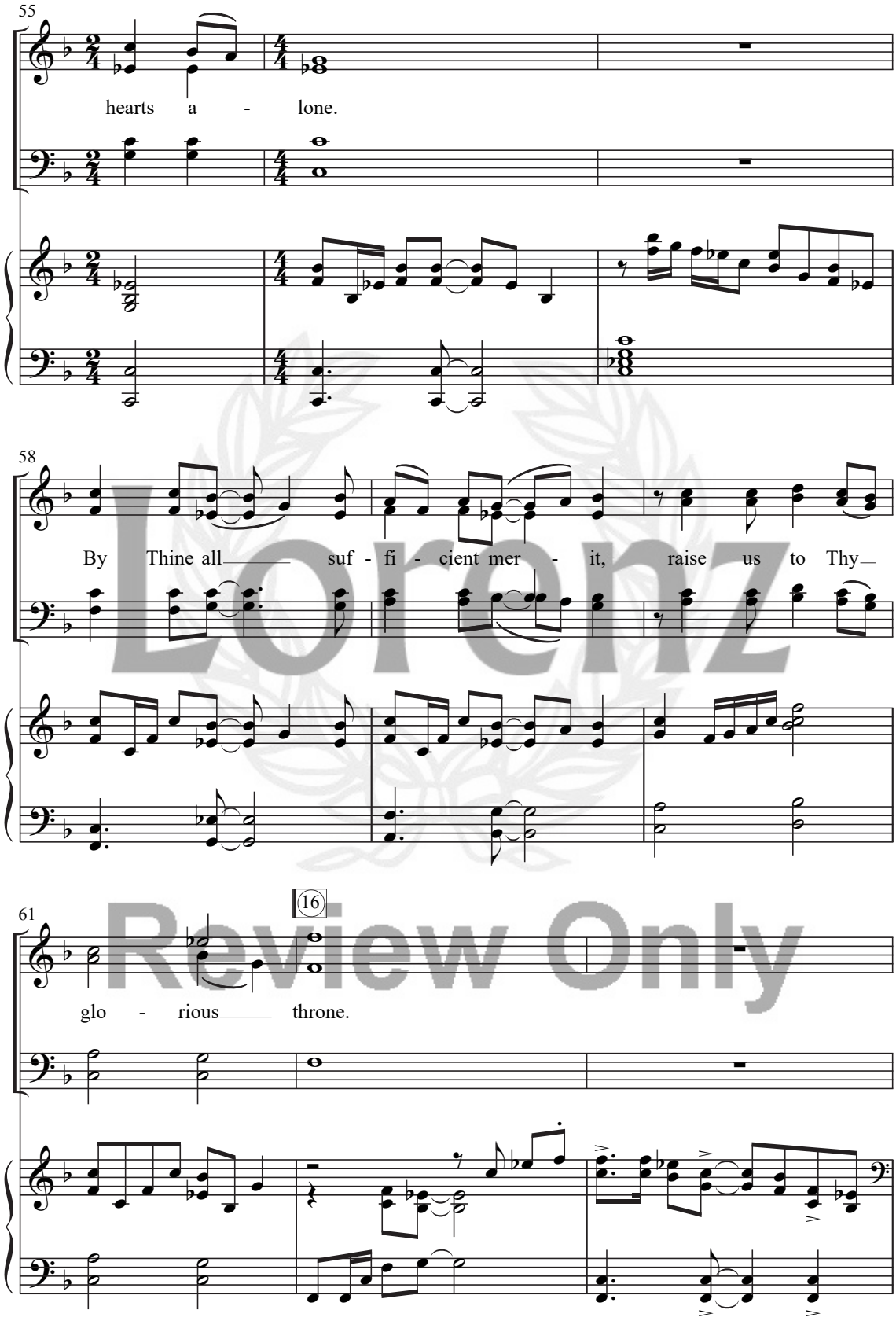

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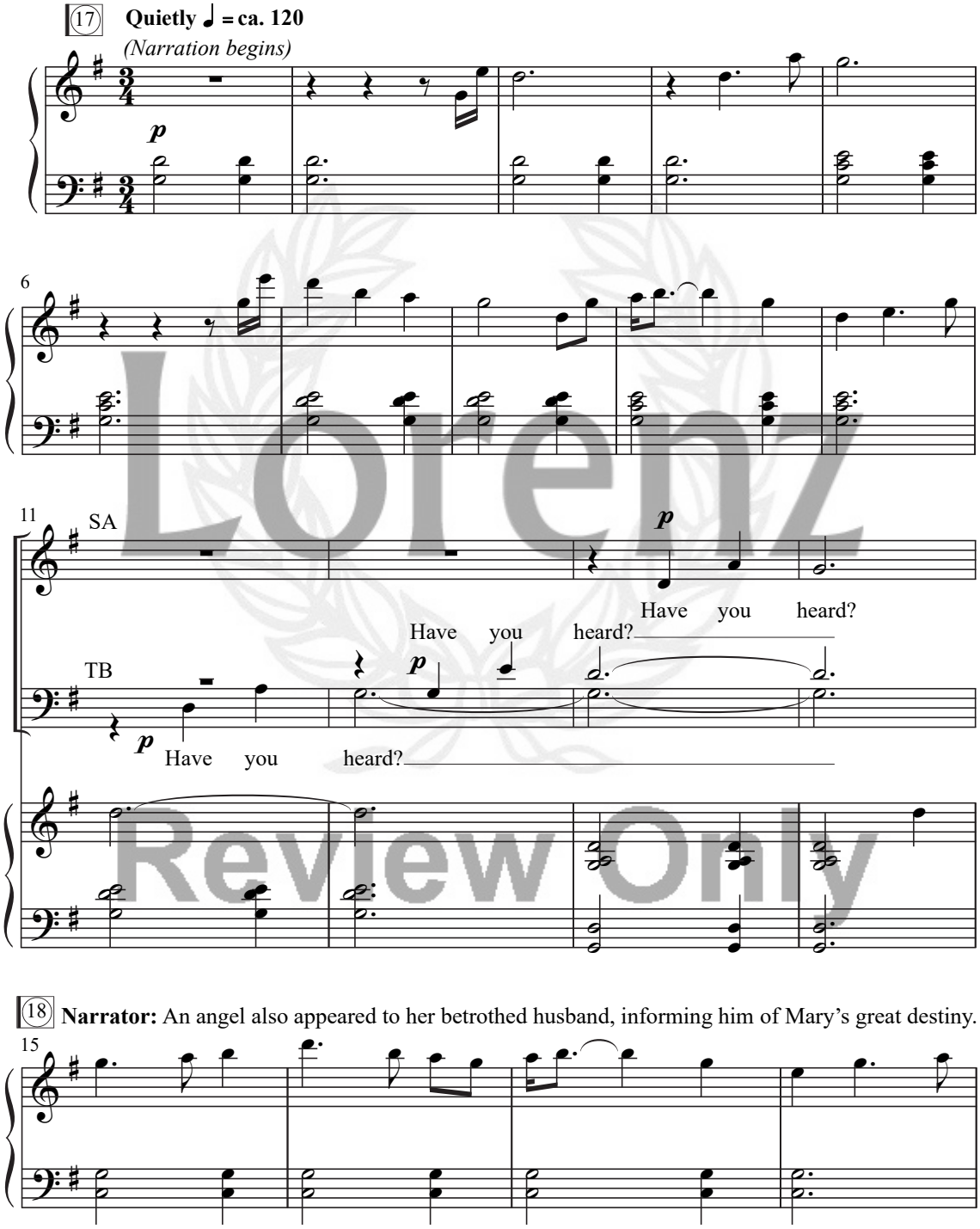
Have You Heard?

Arranged with New Music
by **Joel Raney**

Narrator: Around 2,000 years ago, events began to unfold signaling the Messiah was on His way. An angel first appeared to a young girl named Mary, and told her she was chosen to bring the promised Savior into the world.



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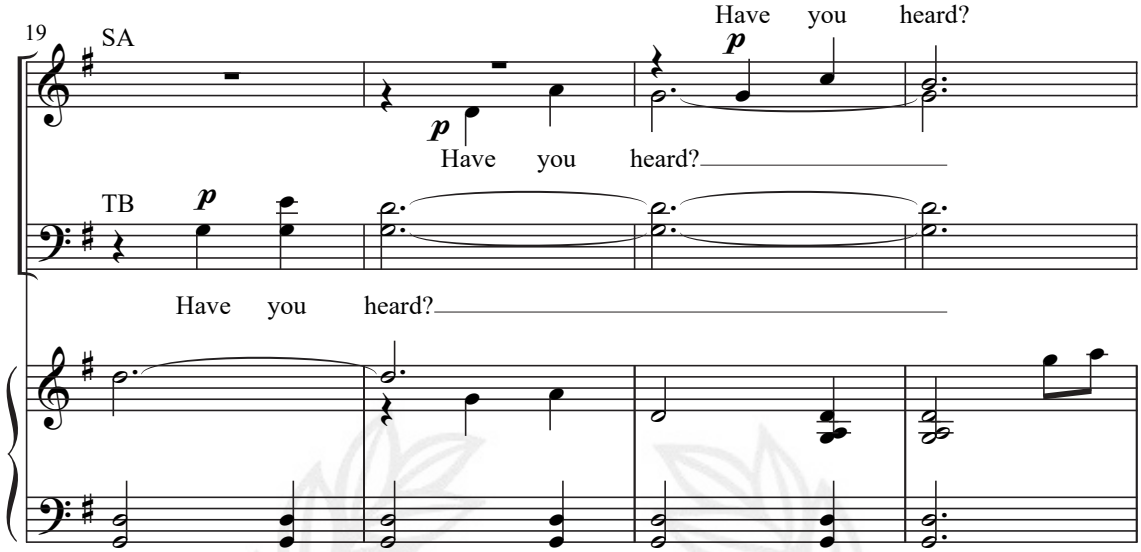
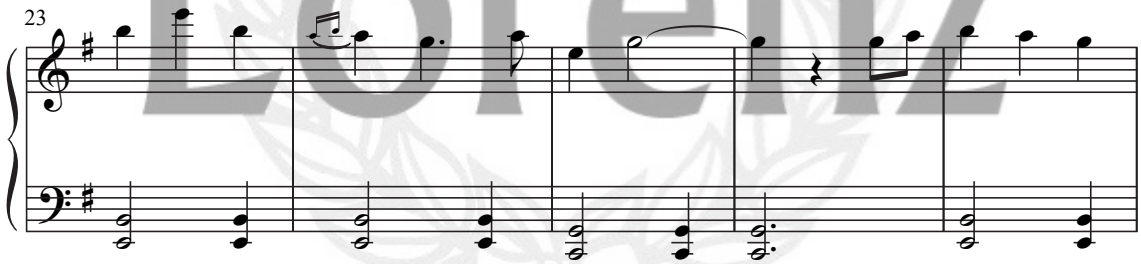
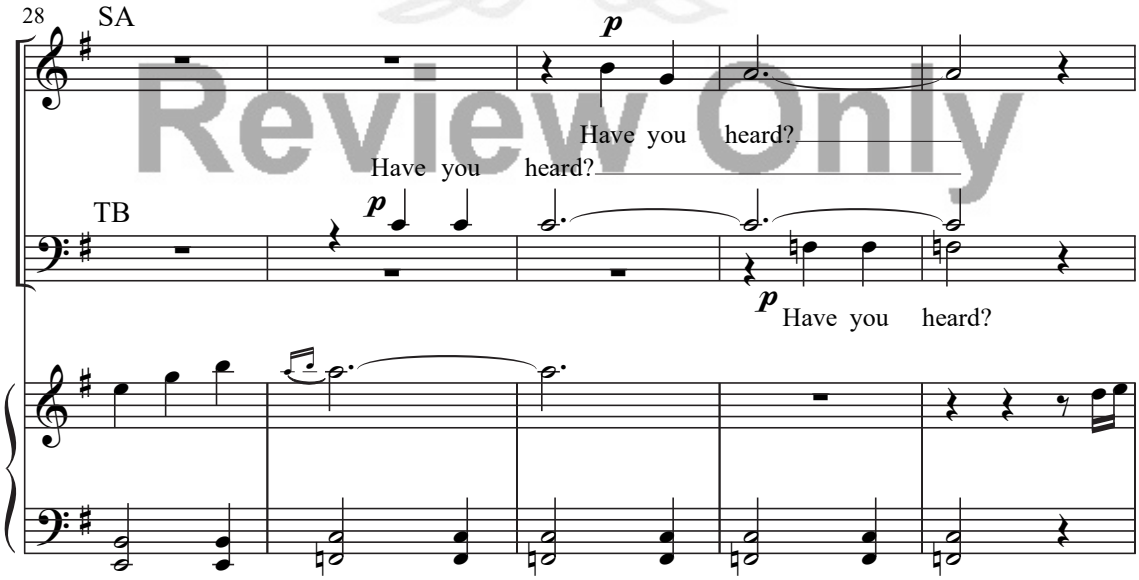


(19) **Narrator:** Just before Mary was due to deliver her child, she and Joseph learned that they had to take a long journey required by the Roman tax census.





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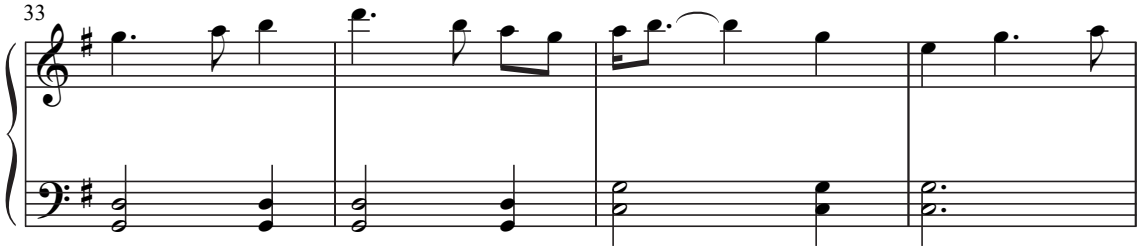
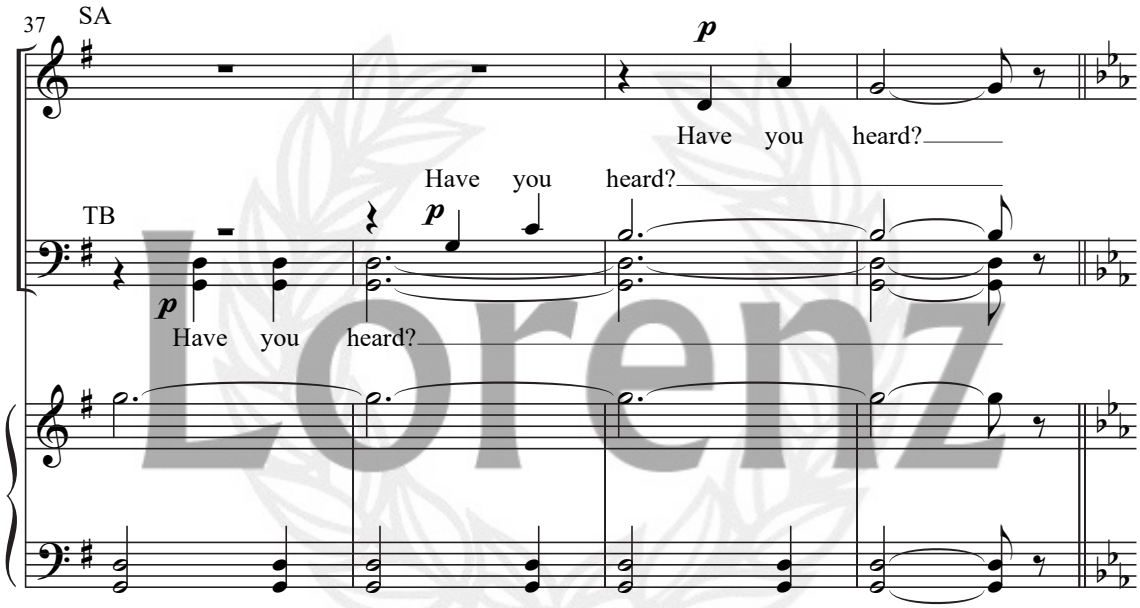
Narrator: When they arrived in Bethlehem, there were no rooms left – only a stable.





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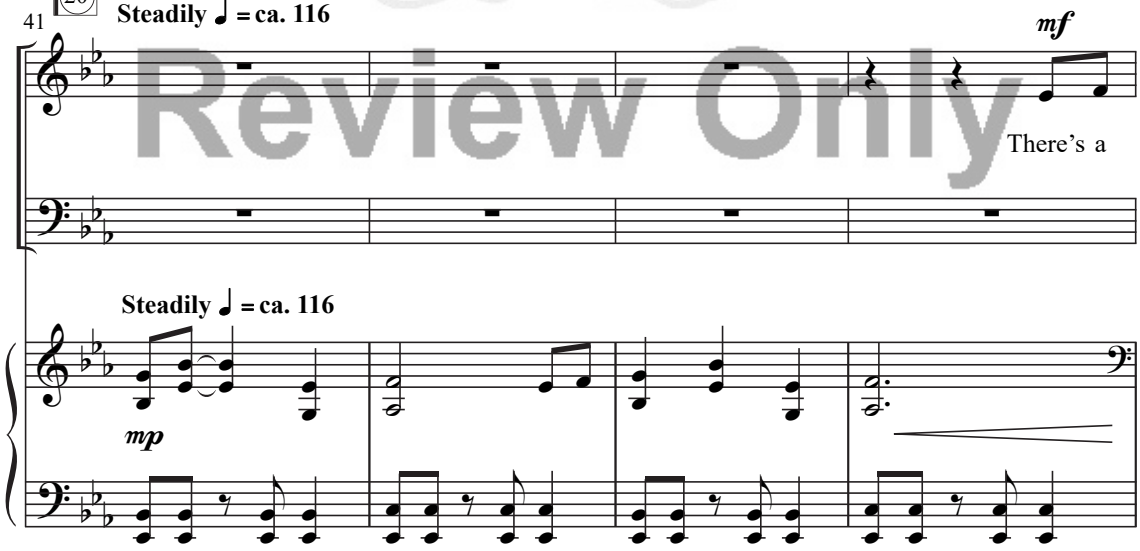
(20) **Narrator:** It was that night, in that stable, the miracle birth took place.



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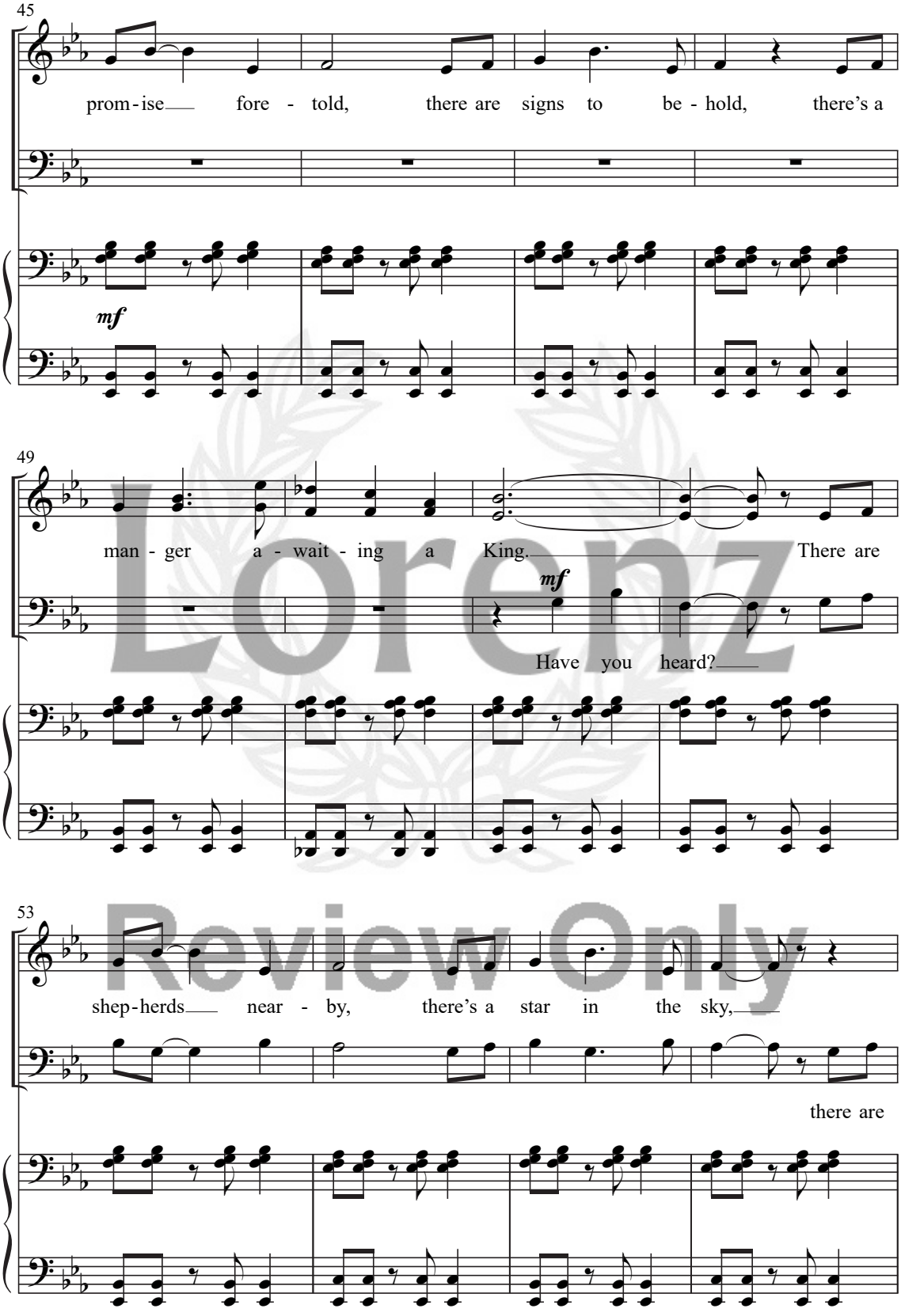

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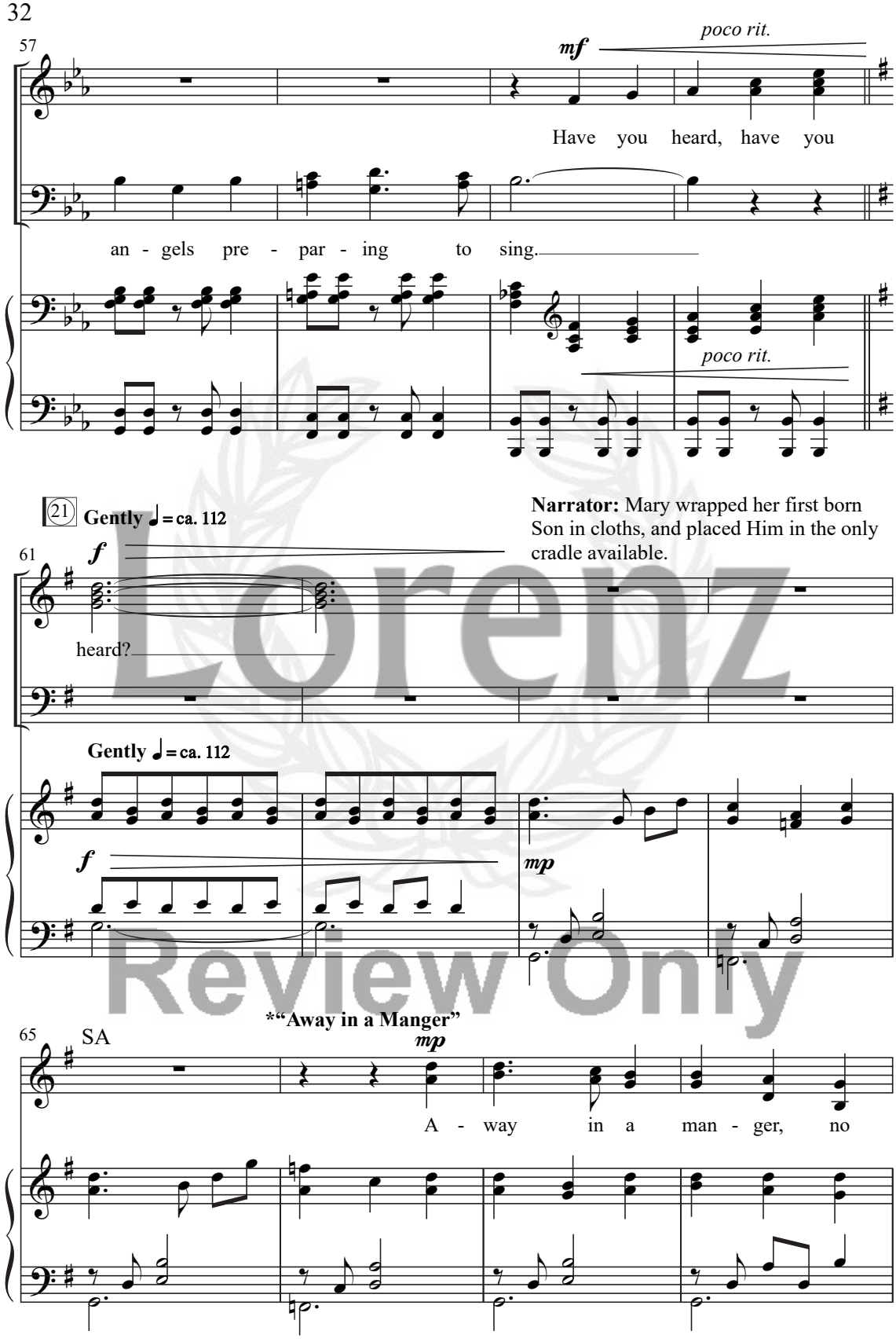

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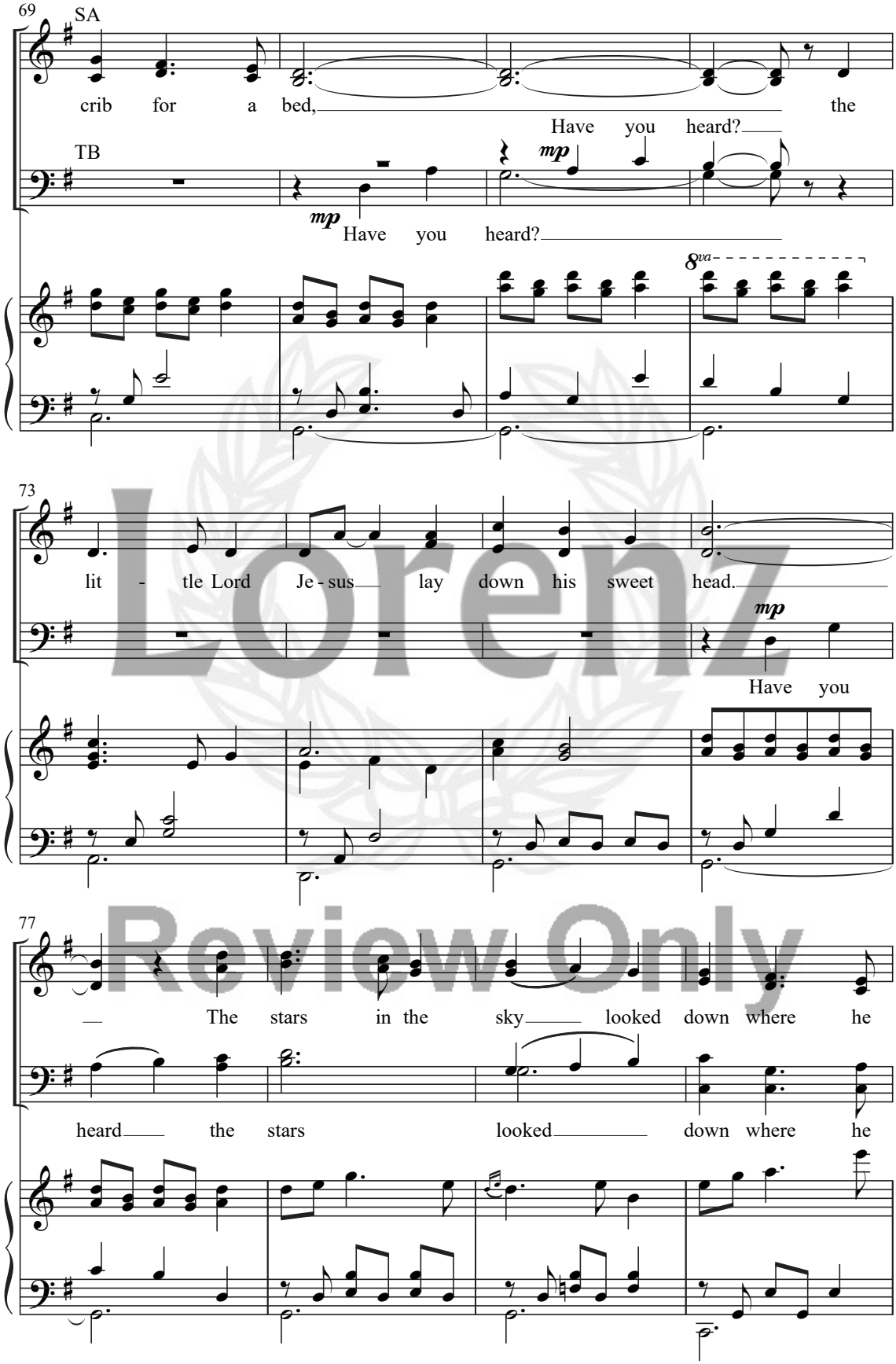
*Words: Anonymous, 1885; Tune: **AWAY IN A MANGER**, attr. **James R. Murray**, 1887



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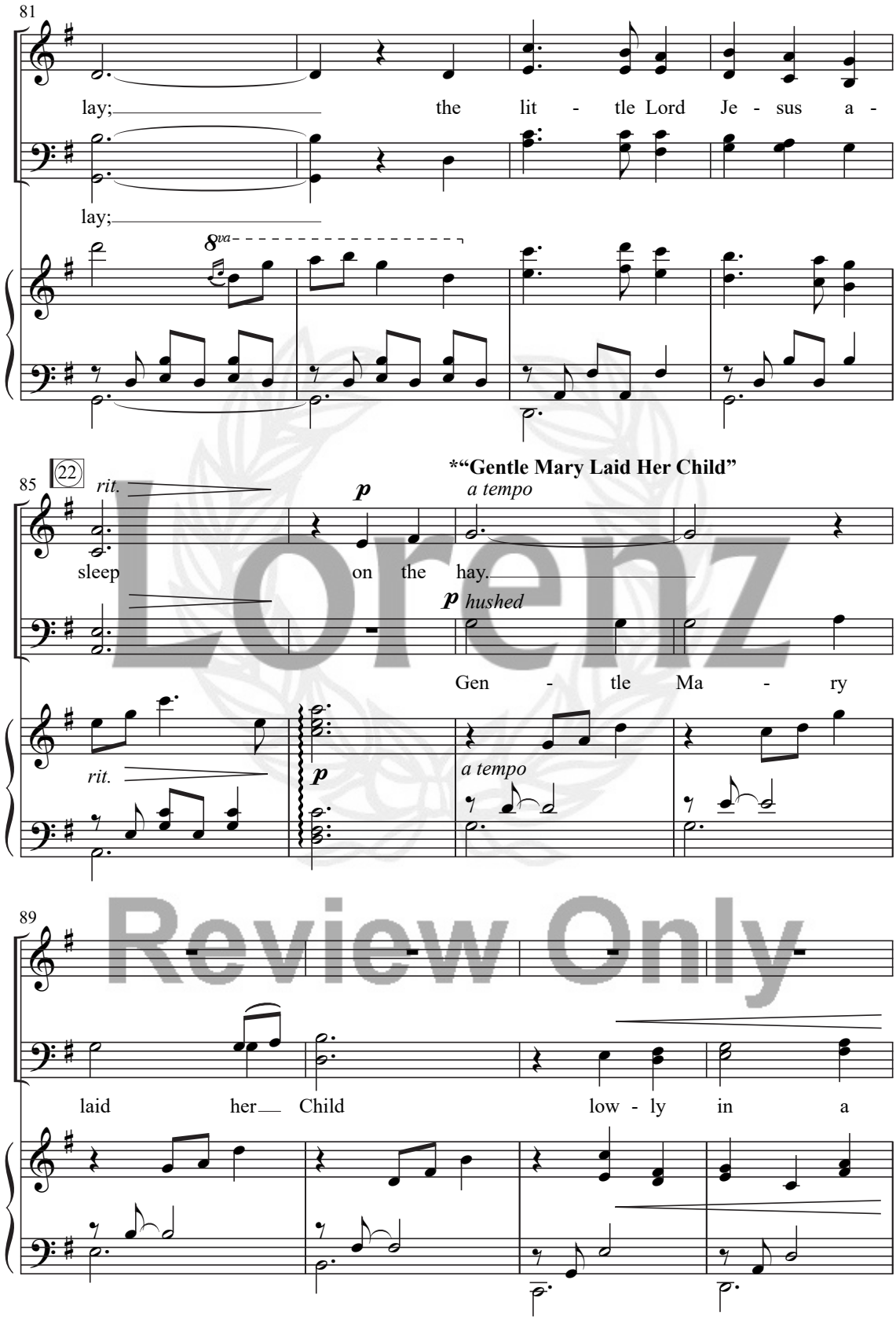

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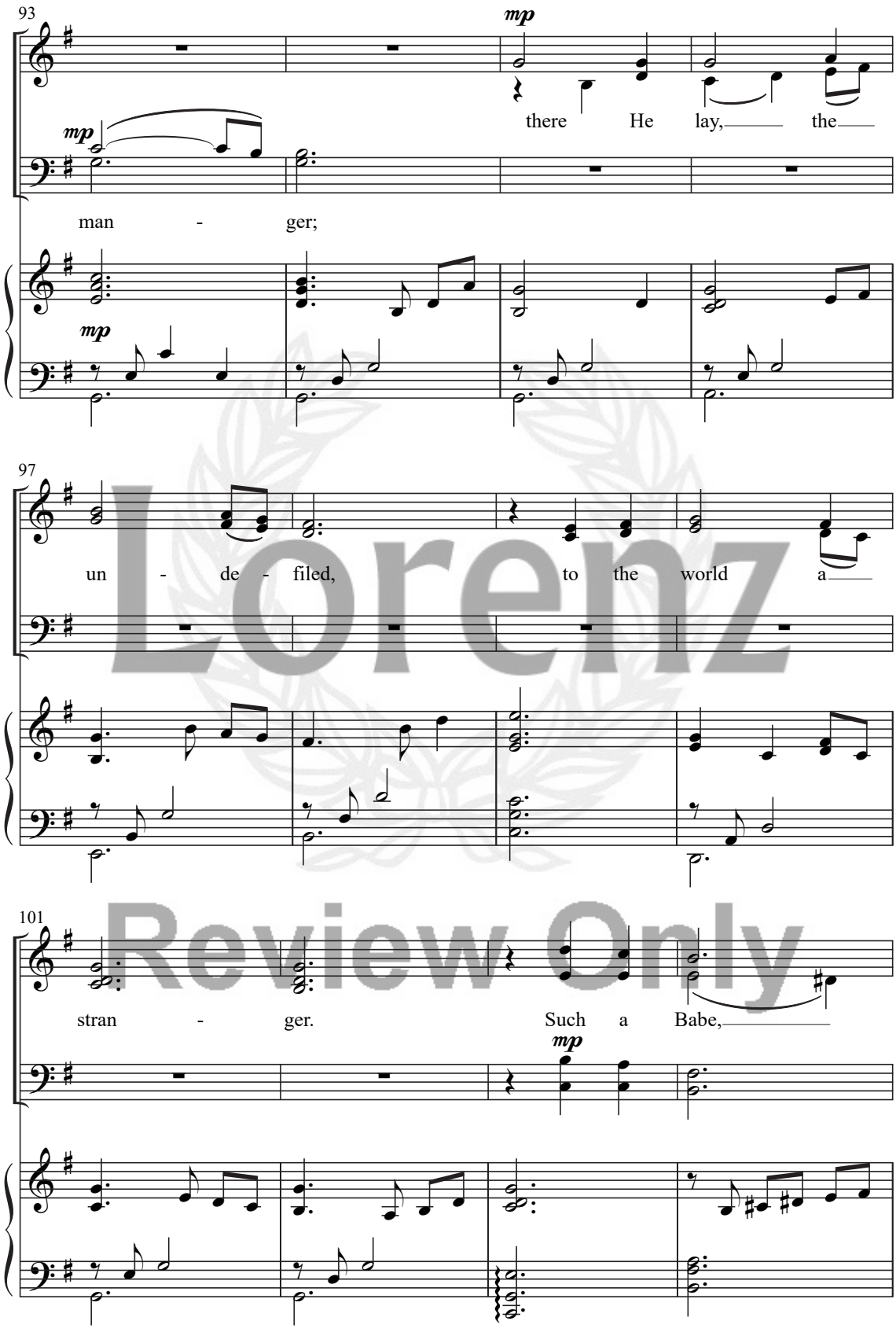
*Words by **Joseph S. Cook**, 1919; Tune: **TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM** from *Piae Cantiones*, 1582



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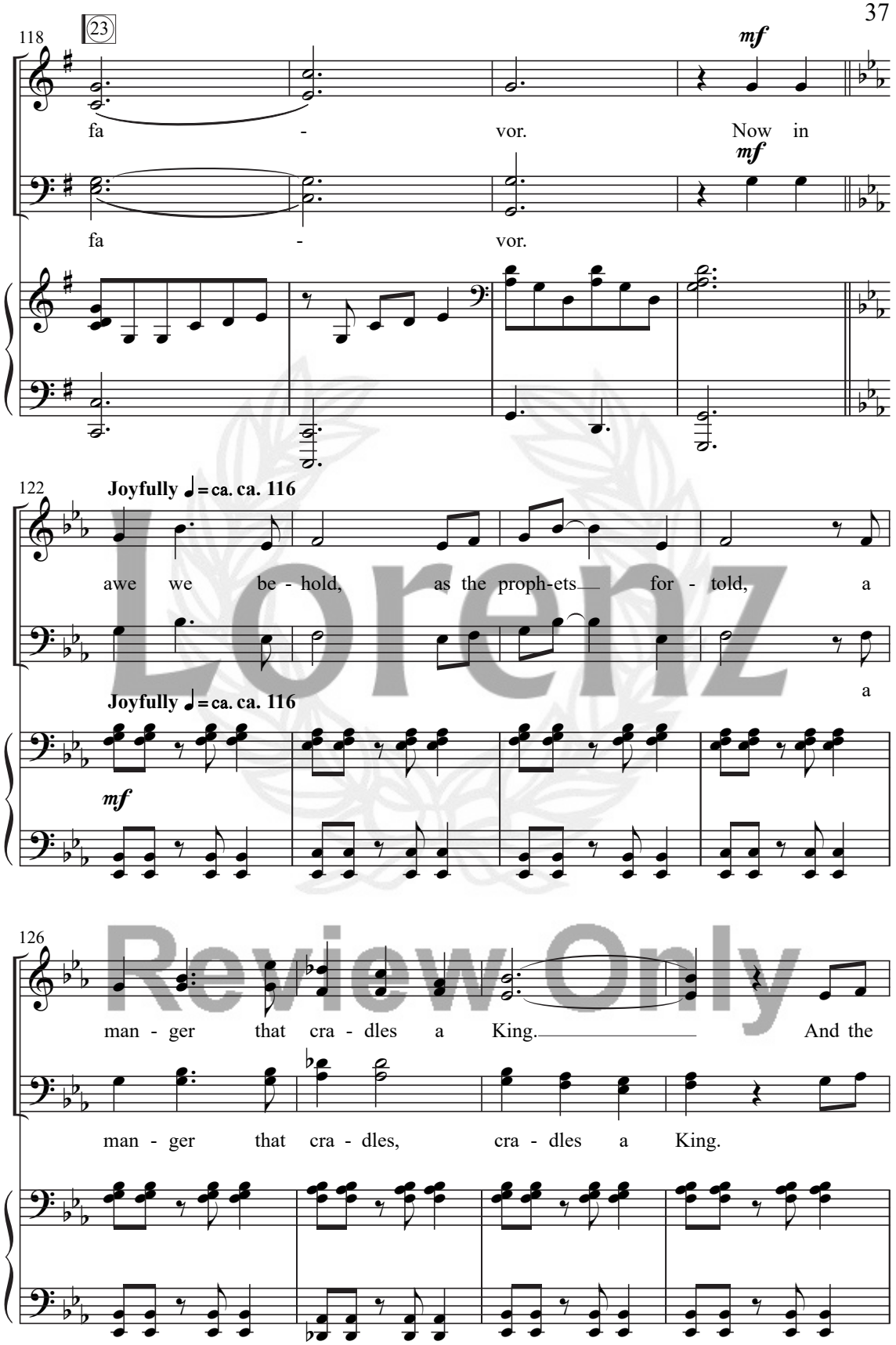

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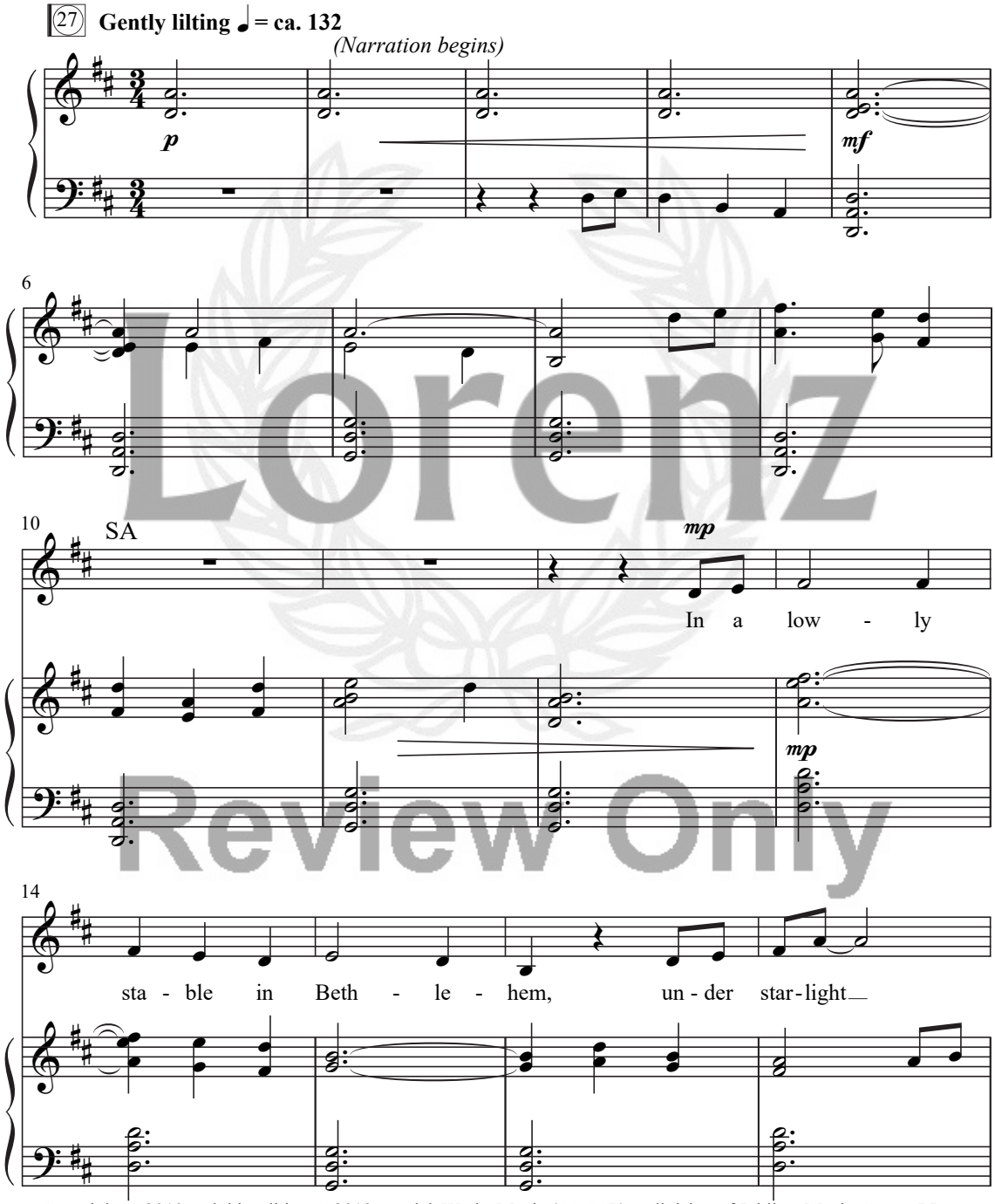
Celtic Christmas Lullaby

Words and Music
by **Joel Raney**

Narrator: He came to earth from heaven,
our God and Lord of all;
His shelter was a stable,
His cradle was a stall.
For the poor and meek and lowly,
He came to earth, our Savior holy.



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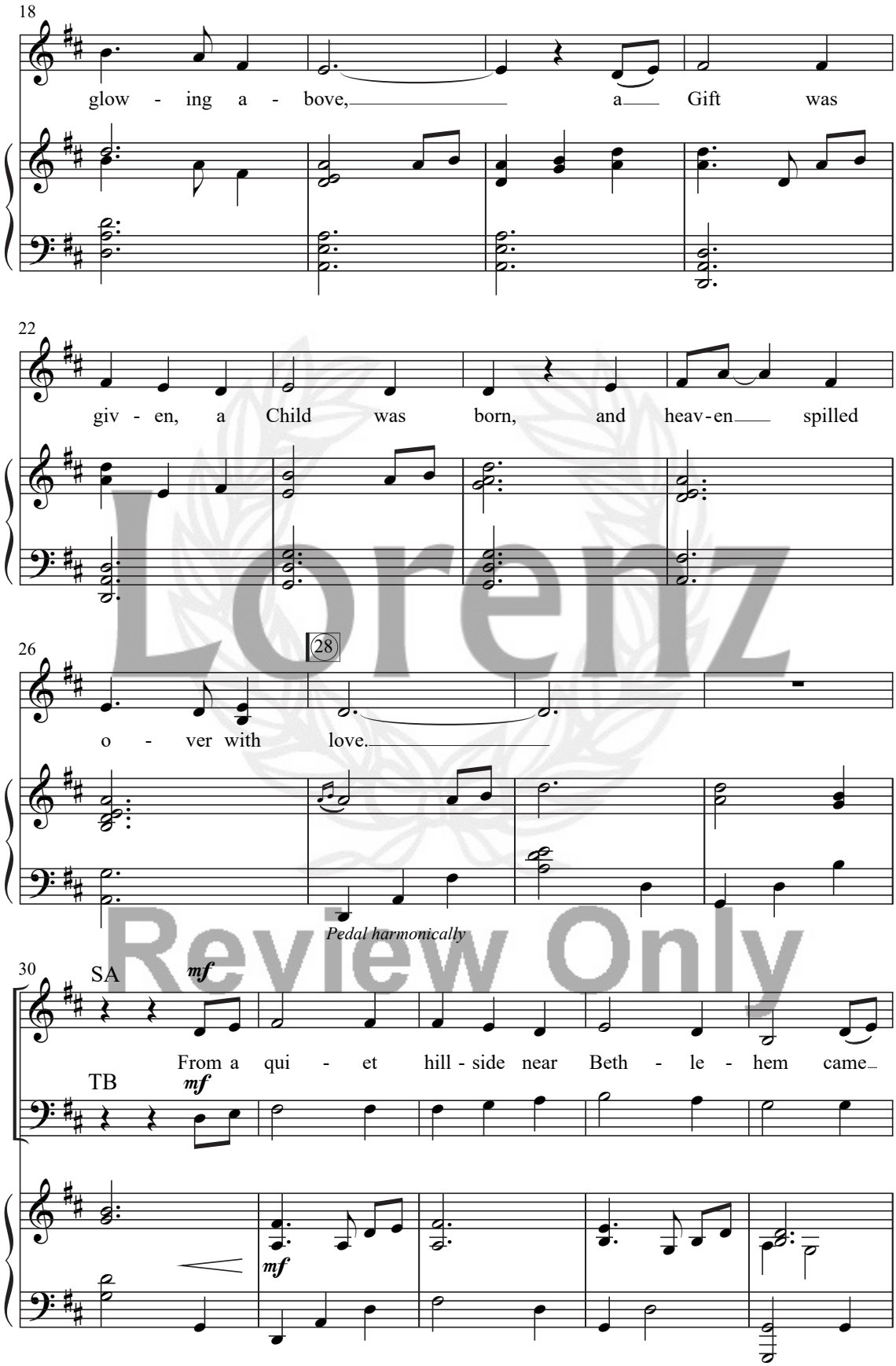

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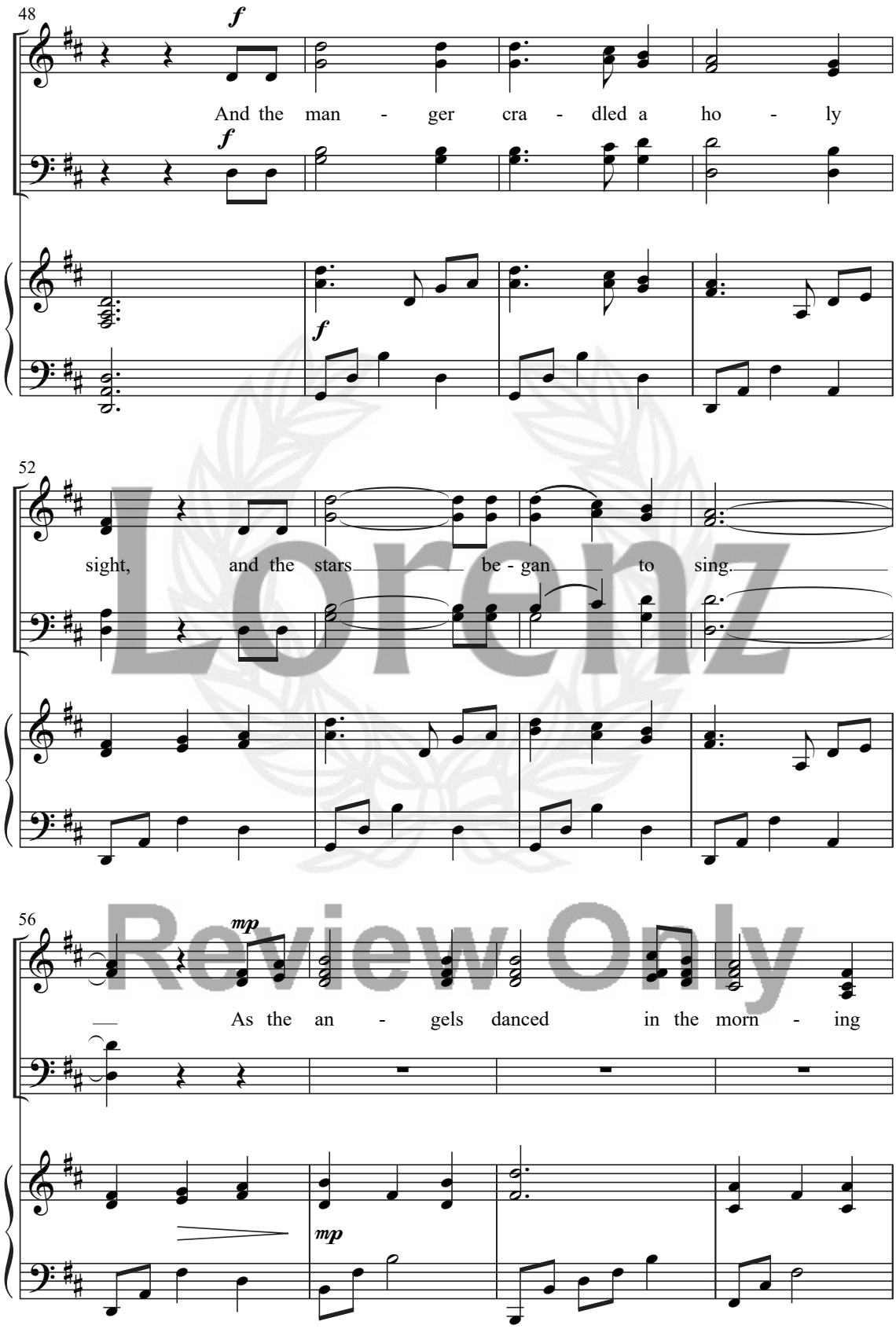

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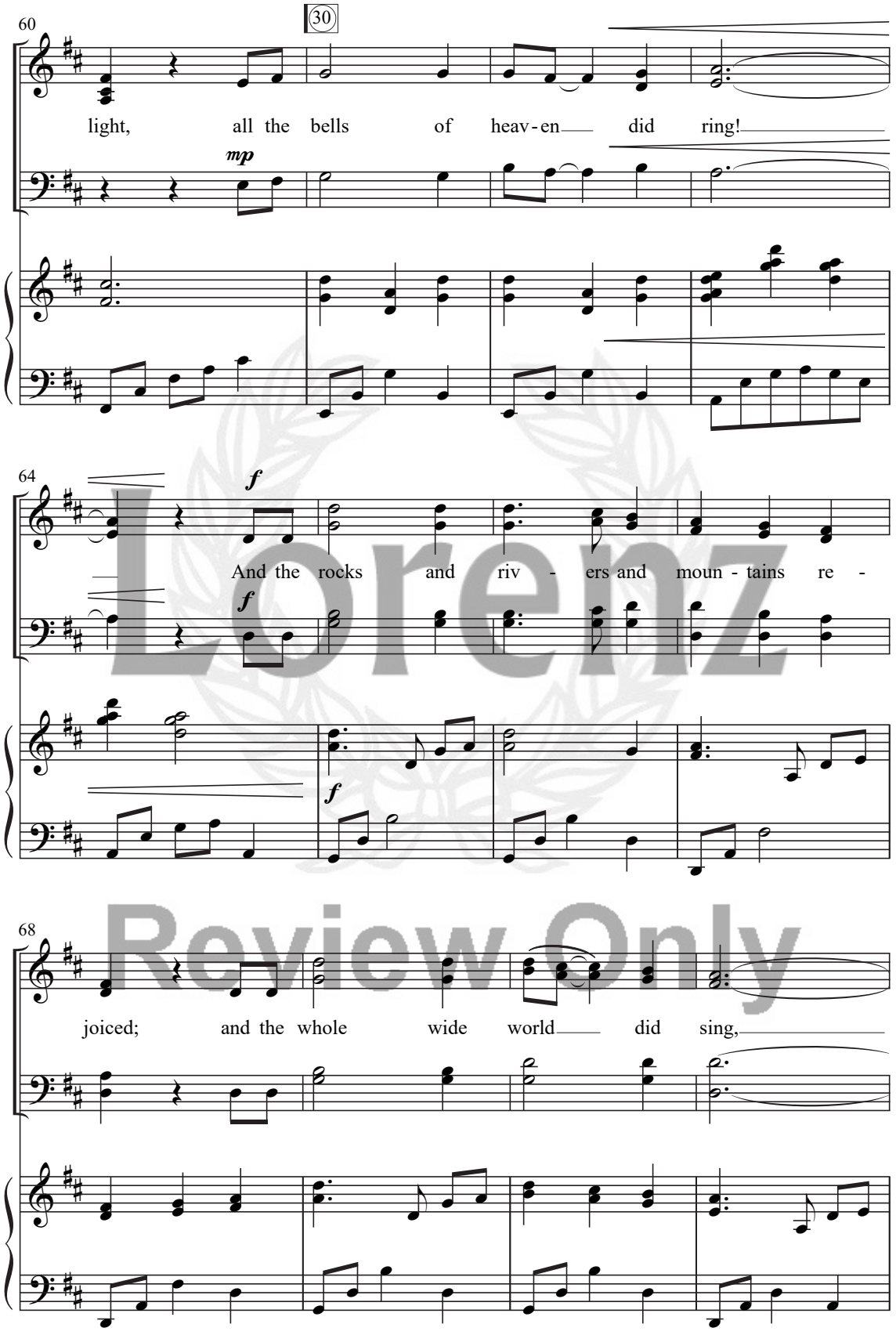

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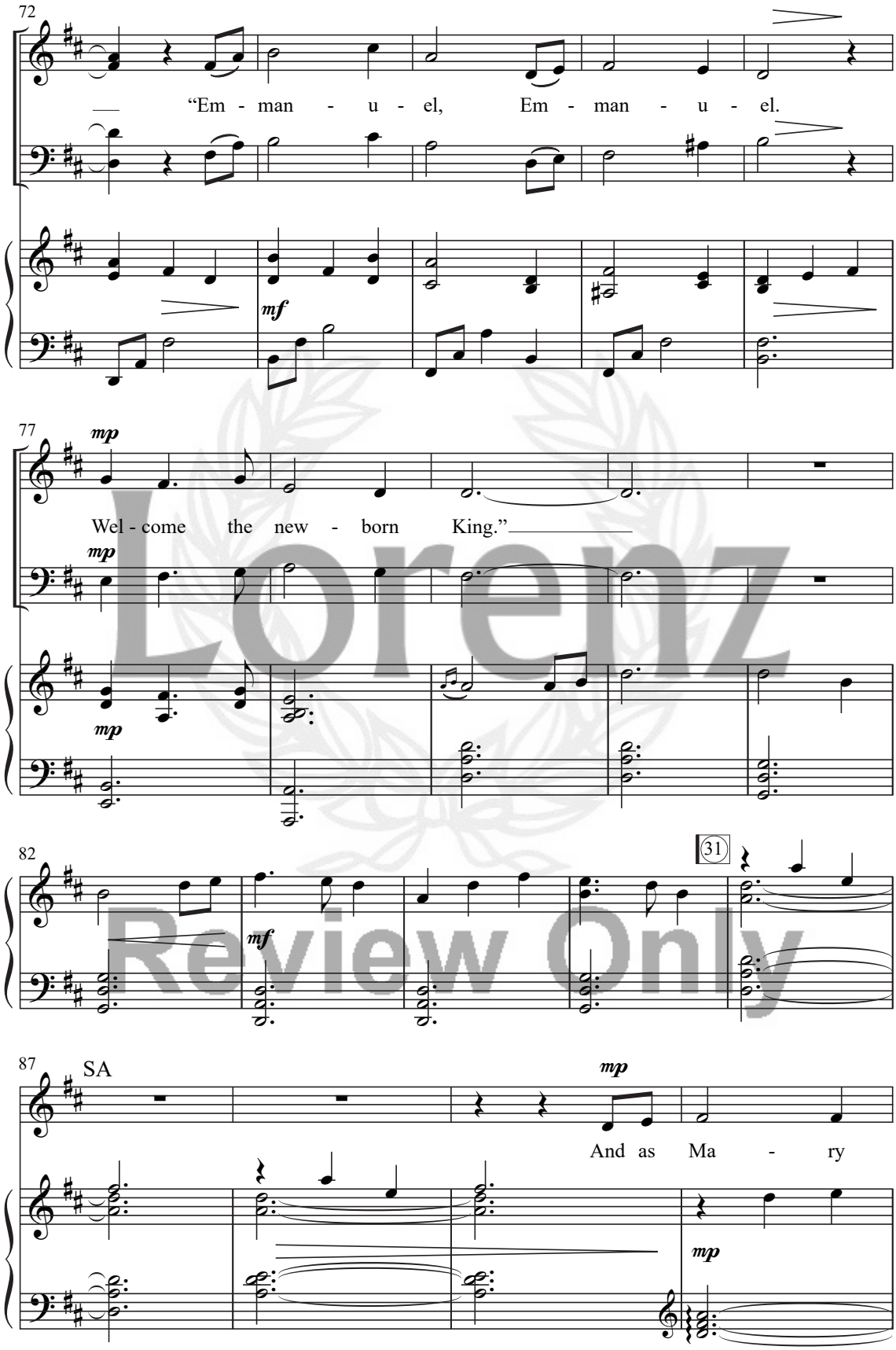

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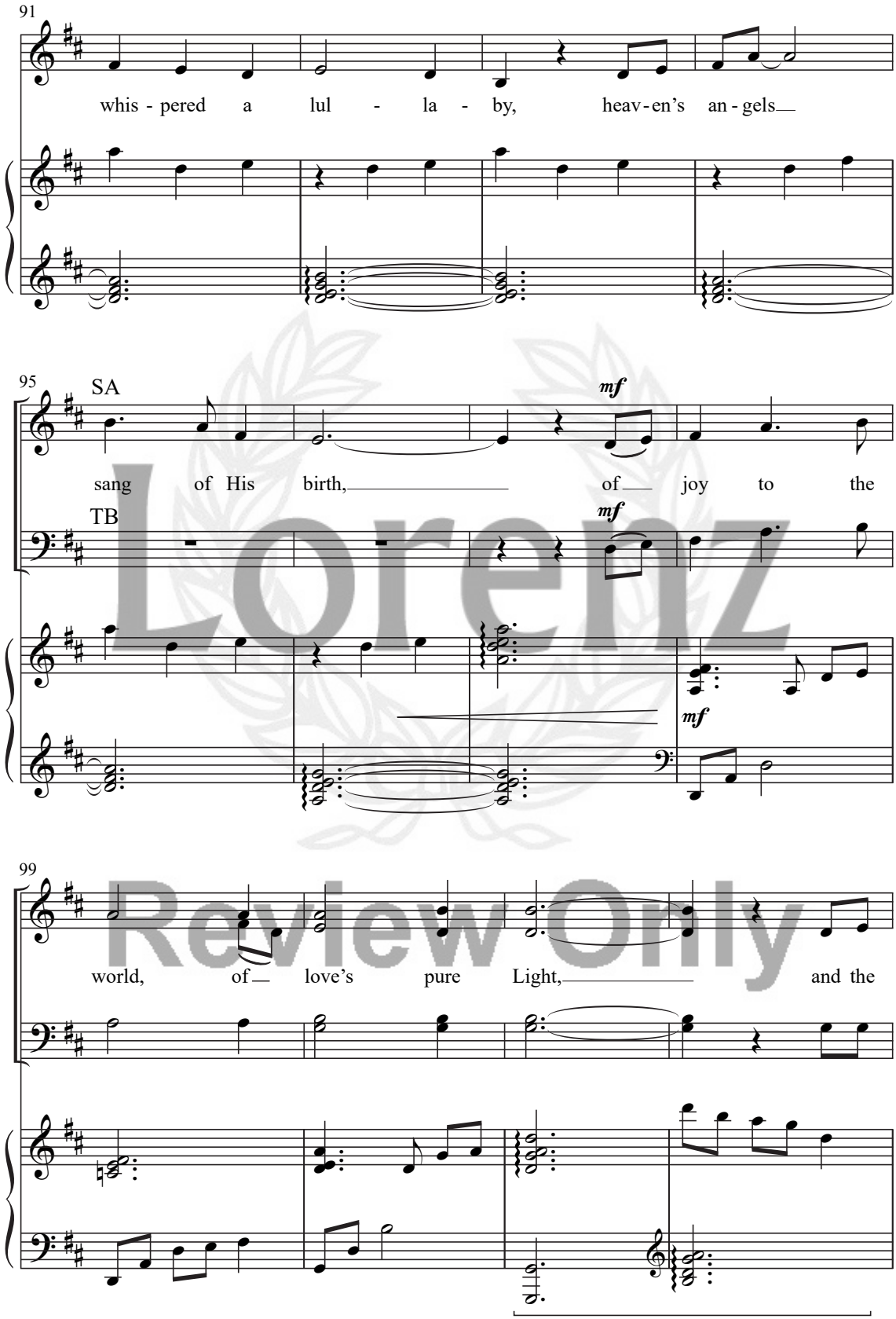

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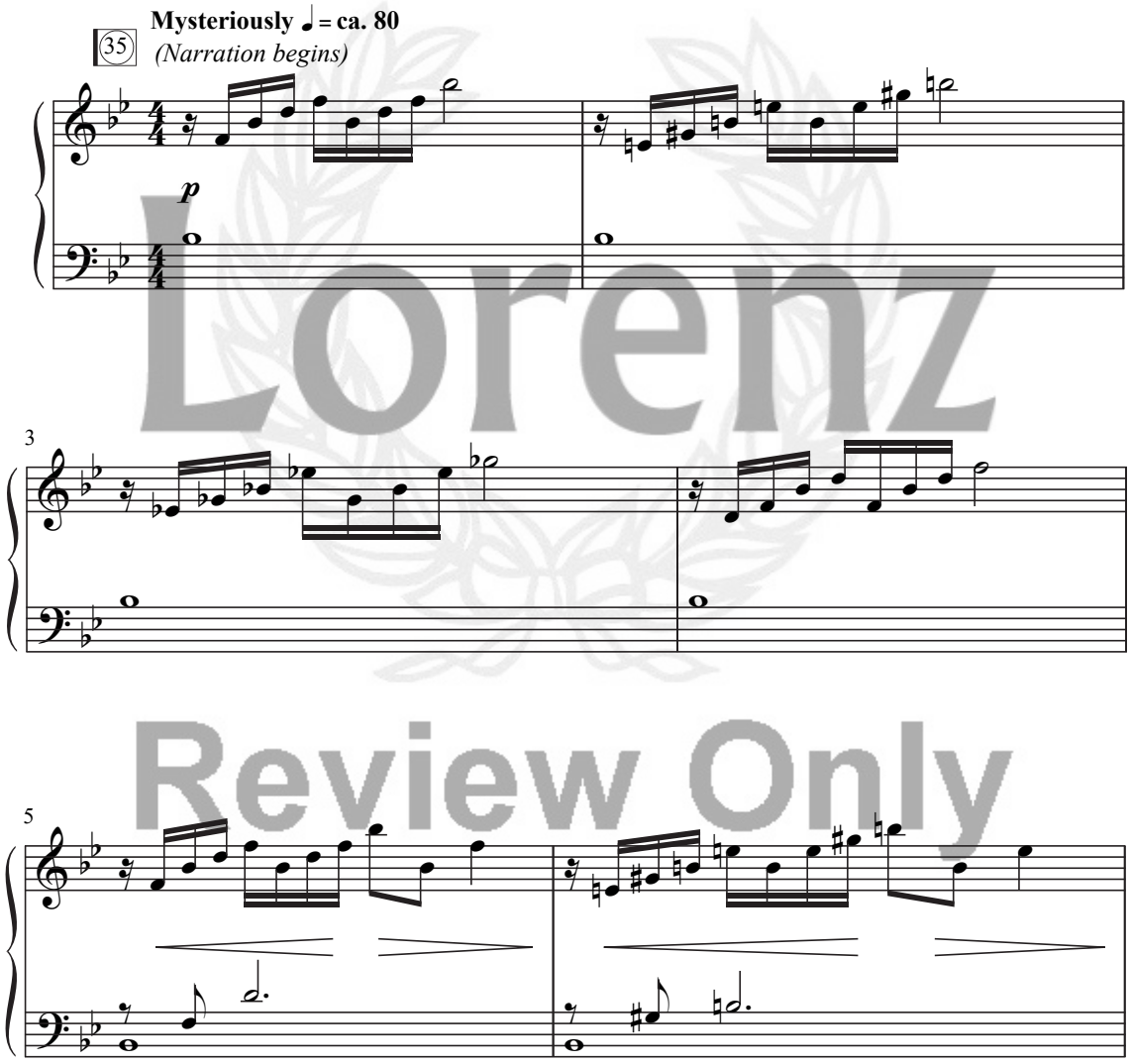
O Little Town of Bethlehem

Words by **Phillips Brooks**, 1868 Music by **Joel Raney**

Narrator: As the newborn King lay there in the manger, the world around Him began to change. The Bible tells of a strange light in the heavens, of an angel appearing to shepherds leaving their sheep and hurrying away to see the Child. On that holiest of nights, in the tiny town of Bethlehem, the course of history was forever altered.



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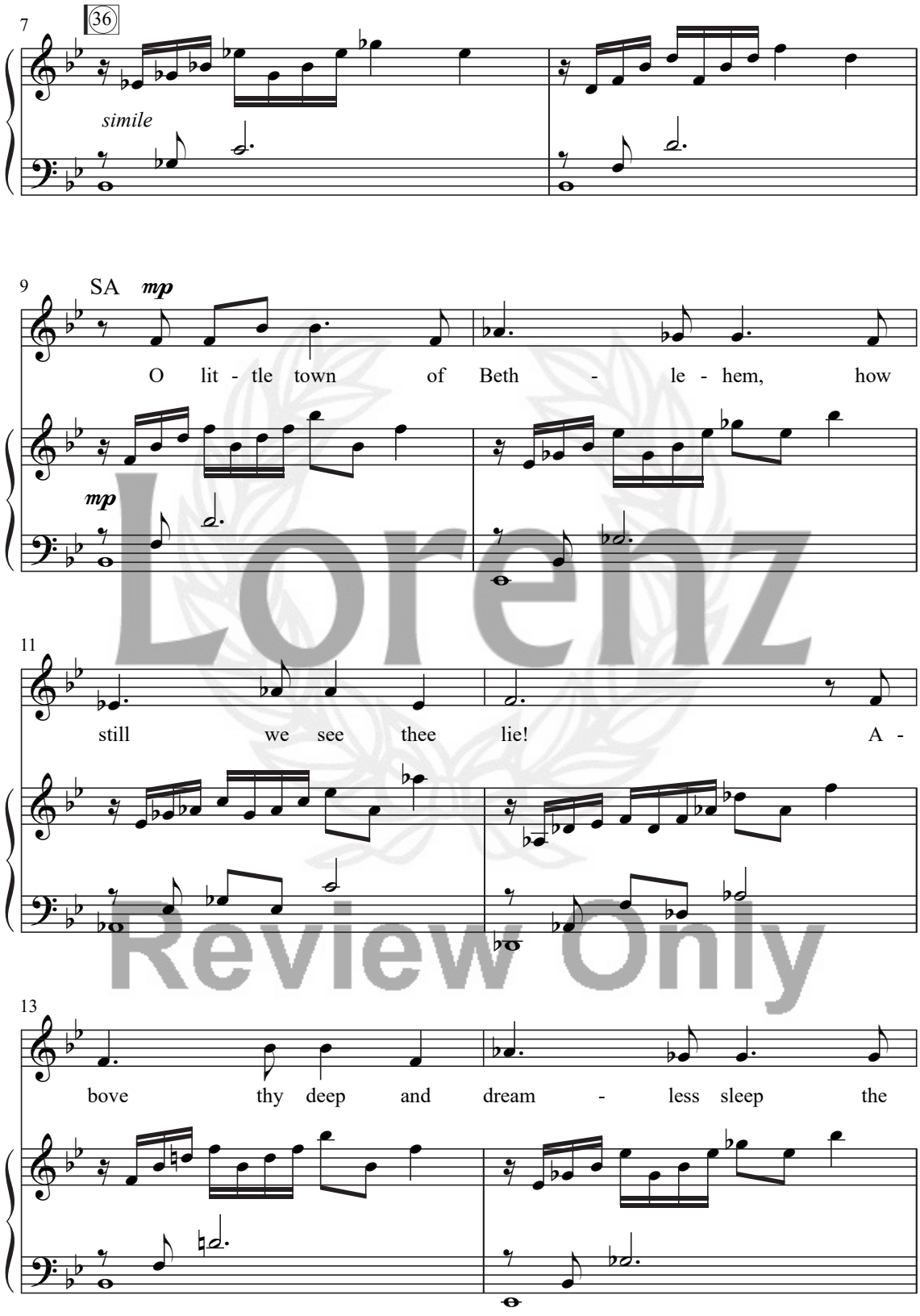

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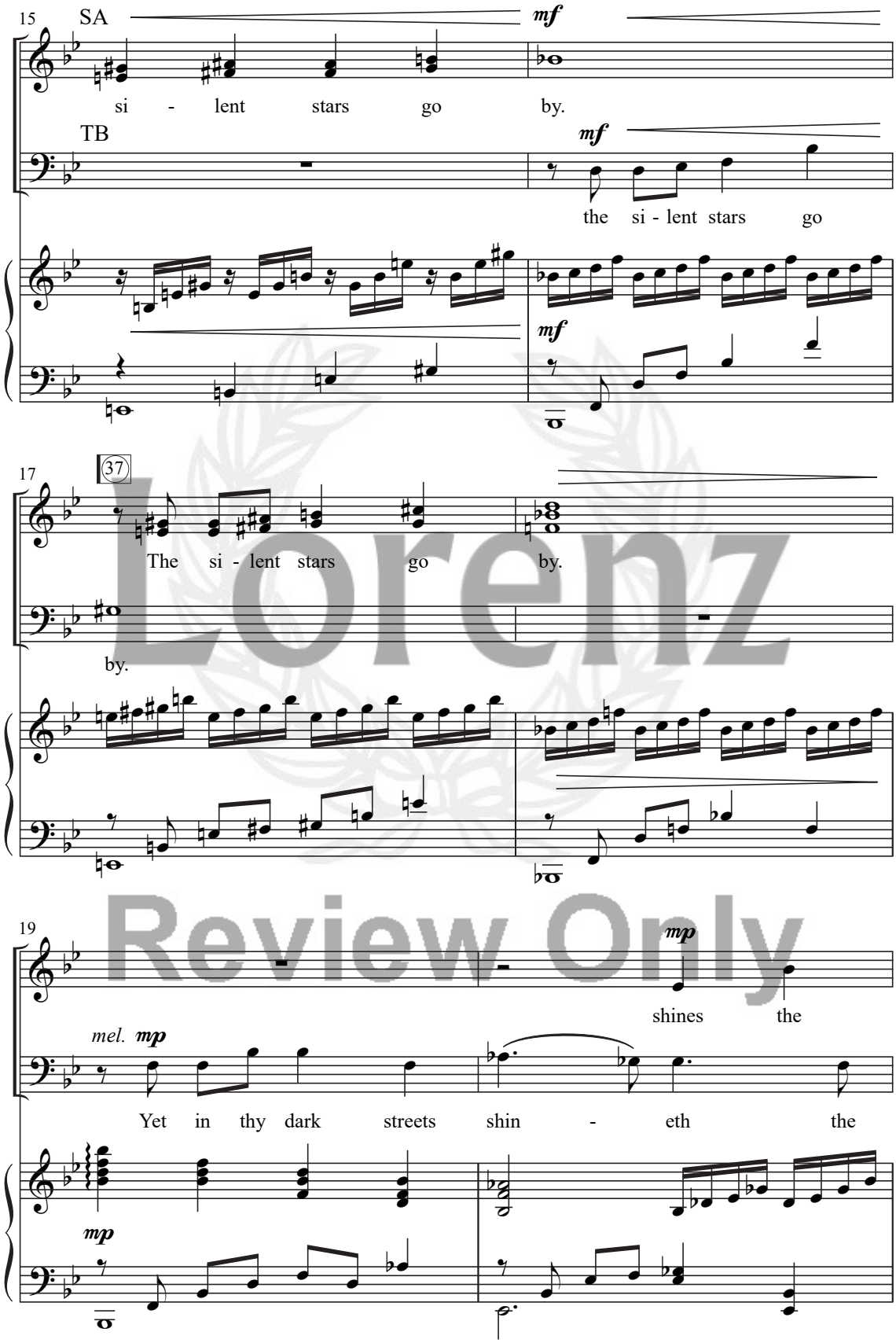

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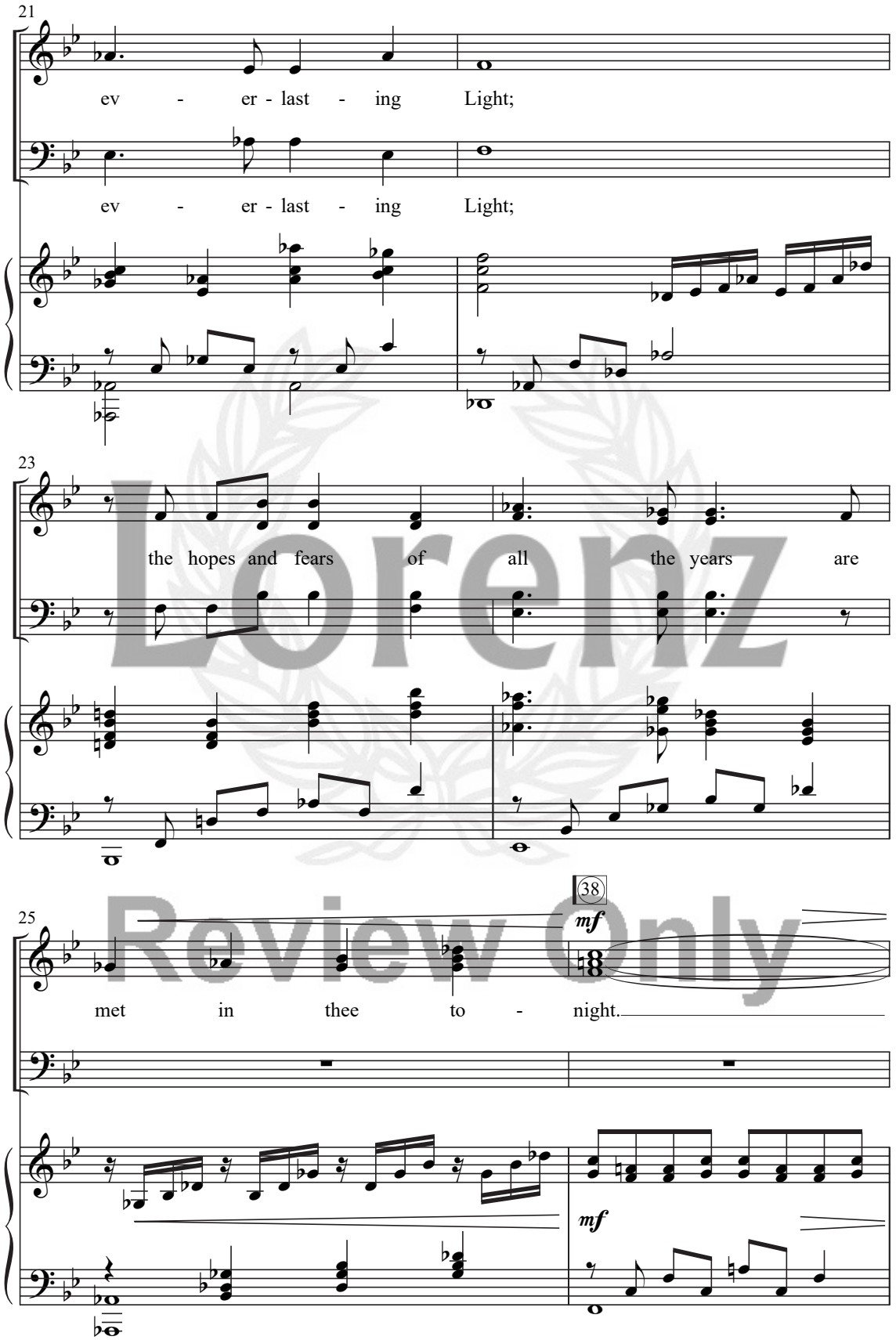

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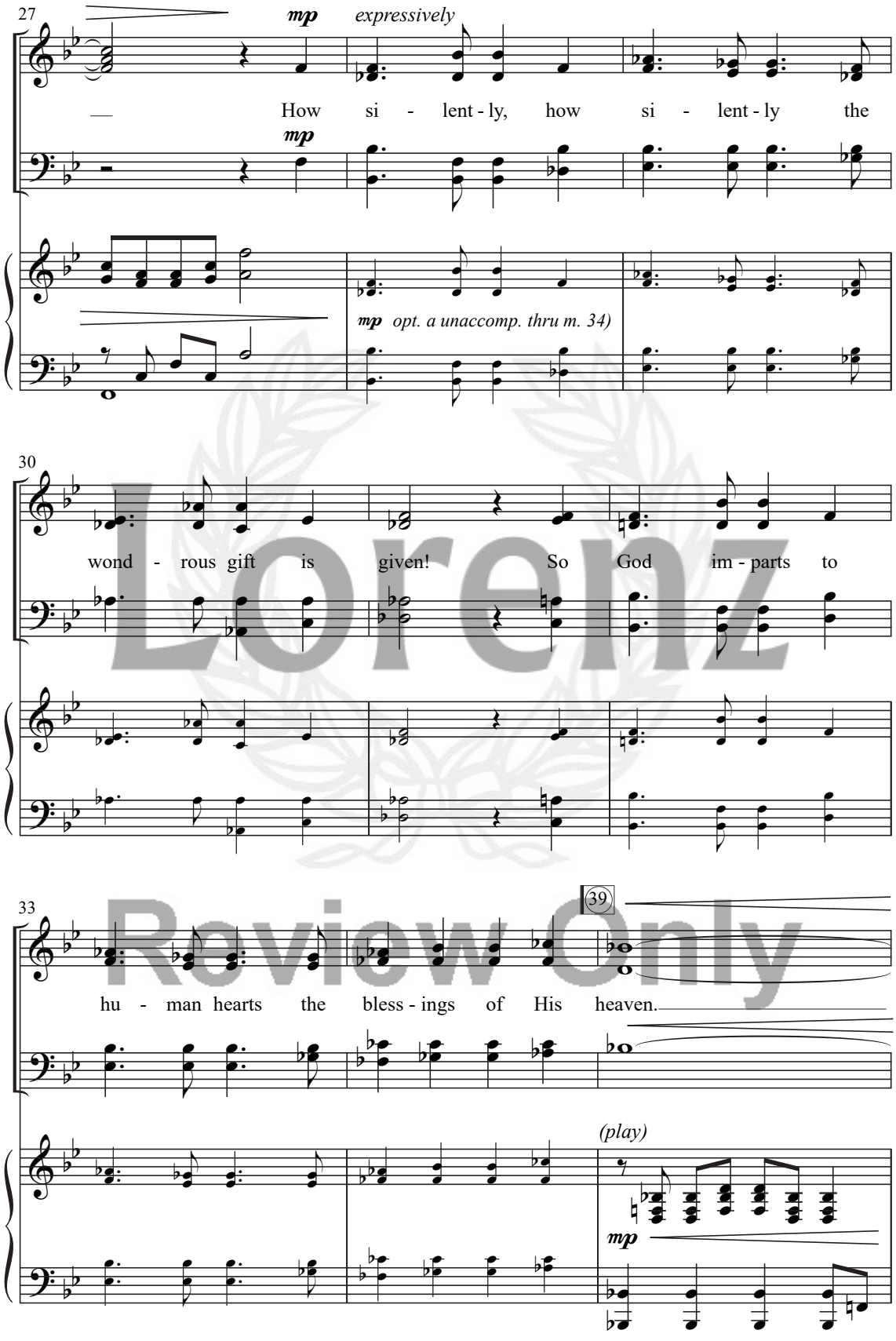

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O Holy Night

Words by
John S. Dwight, 19th. c

Arranged by **Joel Raney**
Tune: **LONDONDERRY AIR**,
Traditional Irish Melody

41 **Moderately ♩= ca. 88**

mp

Solo (opt. TB)

4

mp *poco rit.* *a tempo*

O ho - ly night, the stars are bright - ly

poco rit. *a tempo*

7

shin - ing, it is the night of

10

our dear Sav - ior's birth; long lay the

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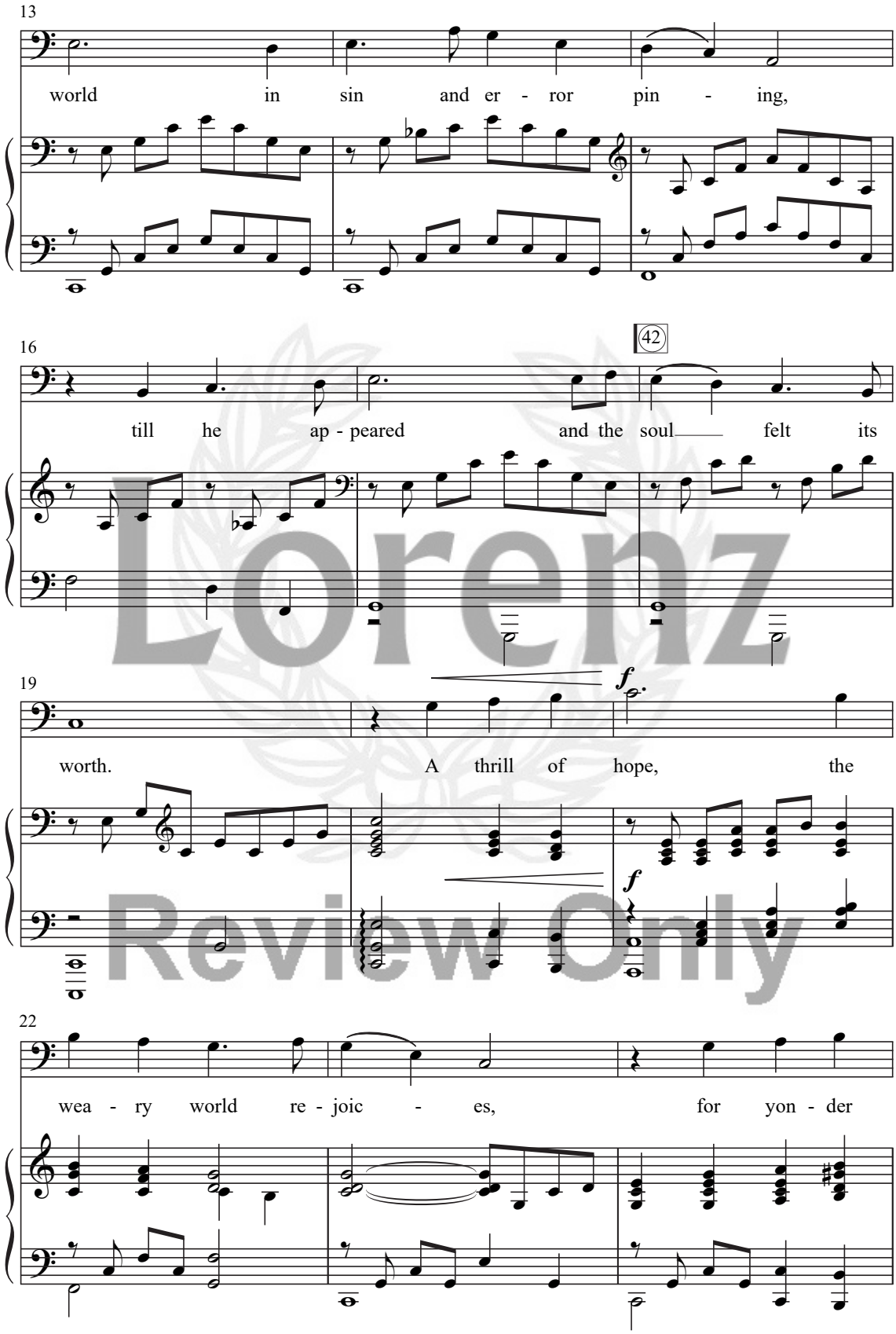

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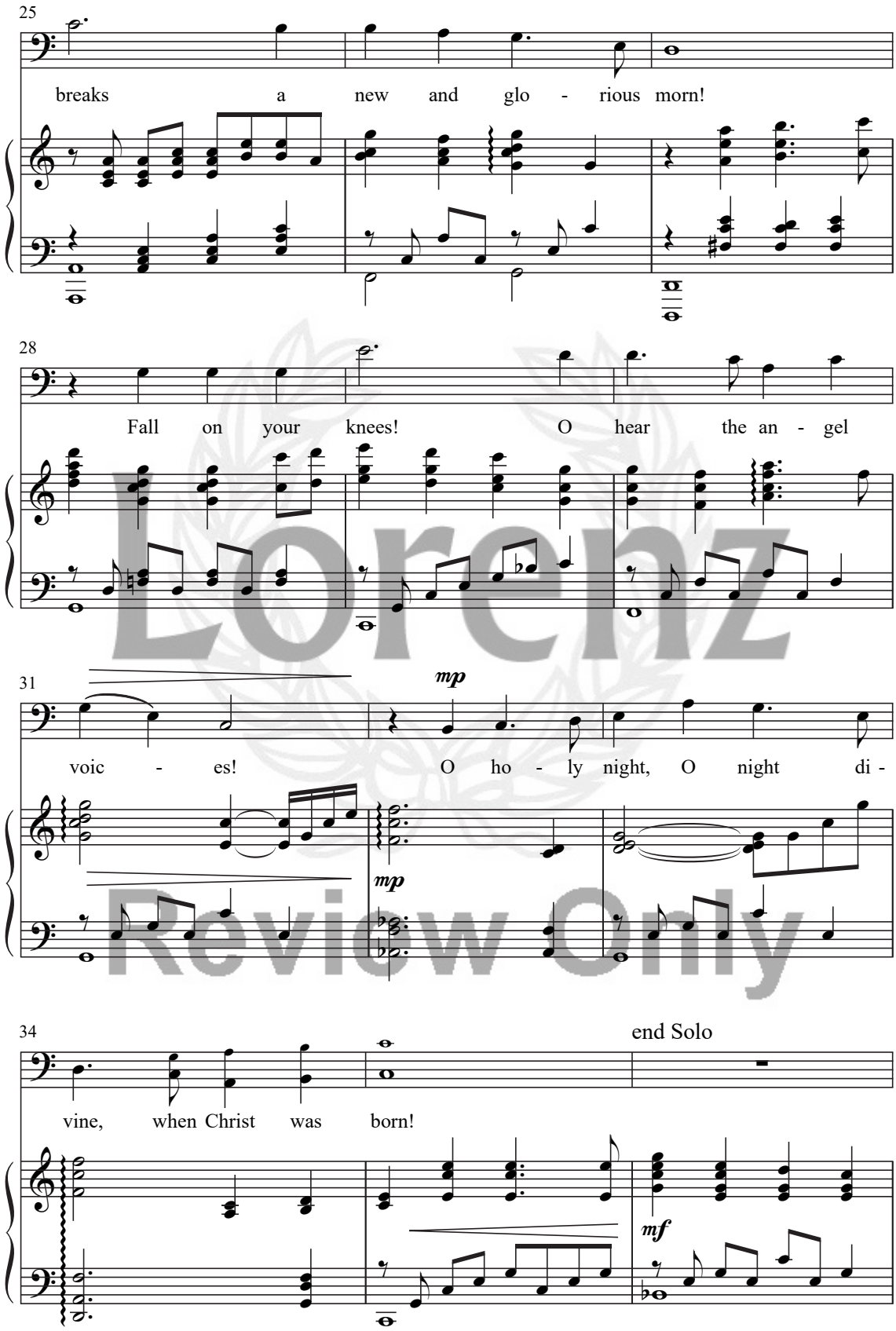

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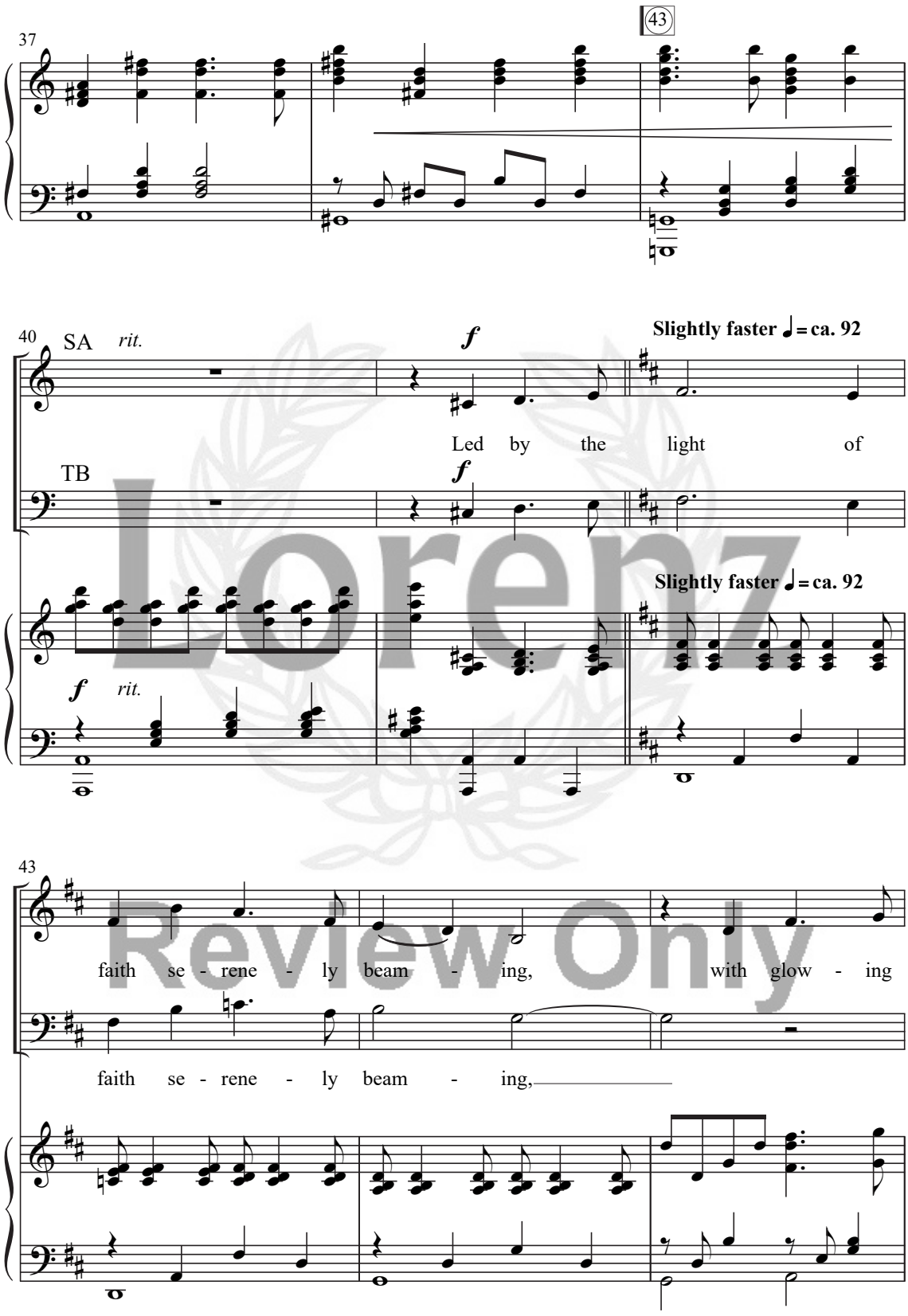

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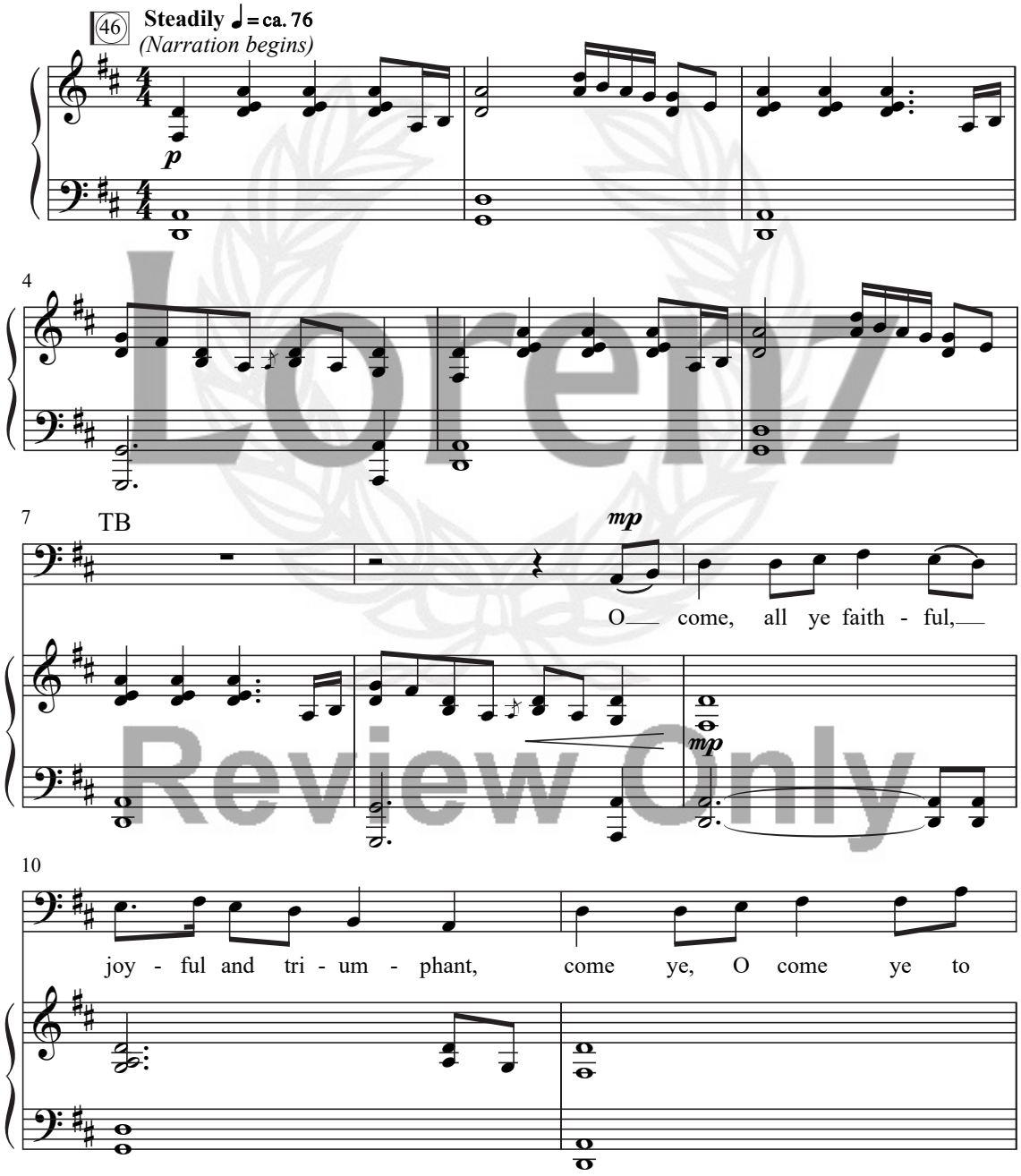
Come and Adore Him

Words attr. to
John F. Wade, 1751,
tr. **Frederick Oakeley,** 1841

Arranged by **Joel Raney**
Tune: **LOCH LOMOND,**
Traditional Scottish Melody
Incorporating: **ADESTE FIDELES,**
from **John F. Wade's** *Cantus Diversi,* 1751

Narrator: When they arrived in Bethlehem, the shepherds found Mary and Joseph and the Baby lying in the manger. When they had seen Him, they began spreading the word, and everyone was amazed by what they were saying. The shepherds returned to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had seen and heard, which was just as they had been told.



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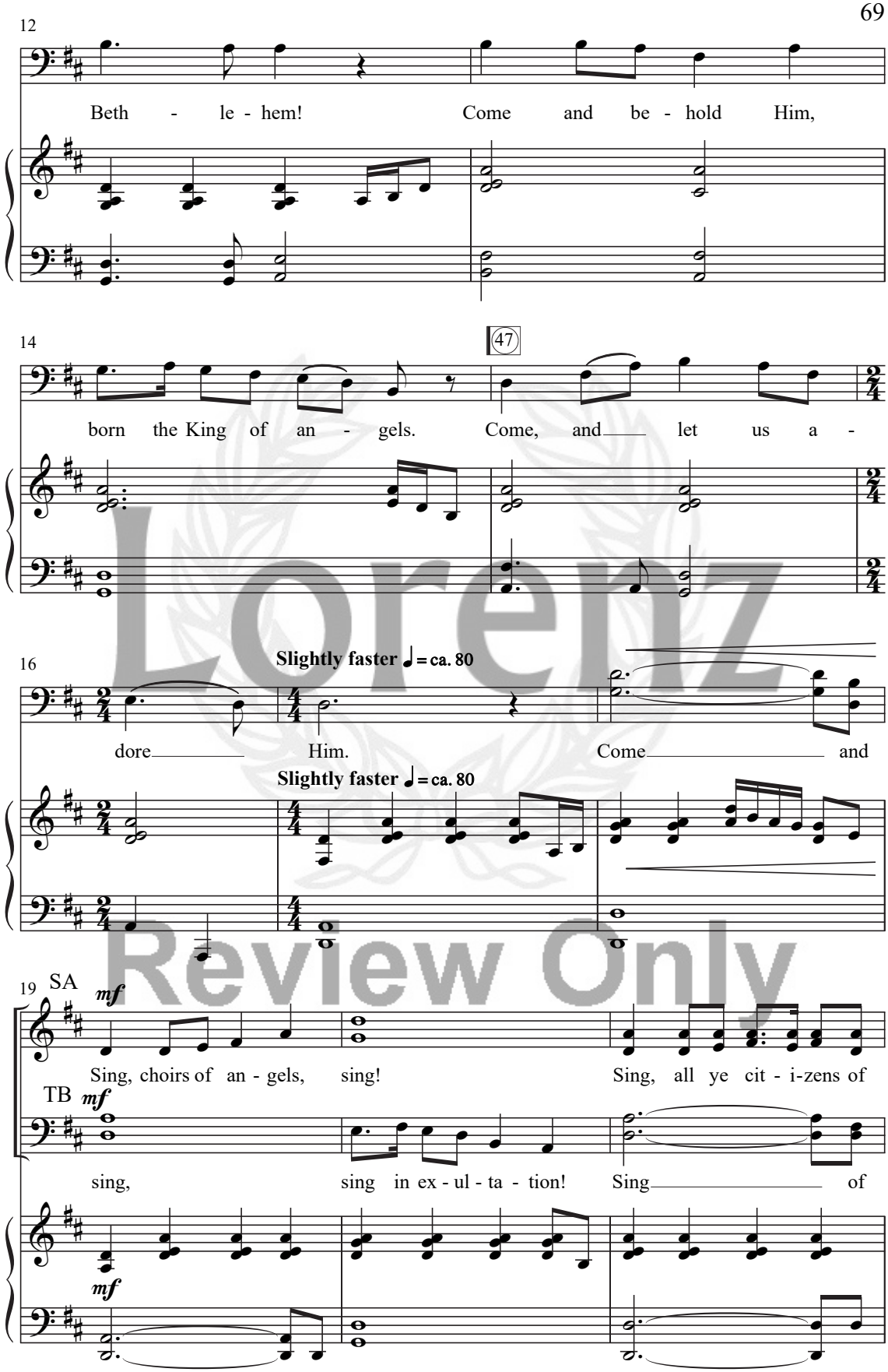

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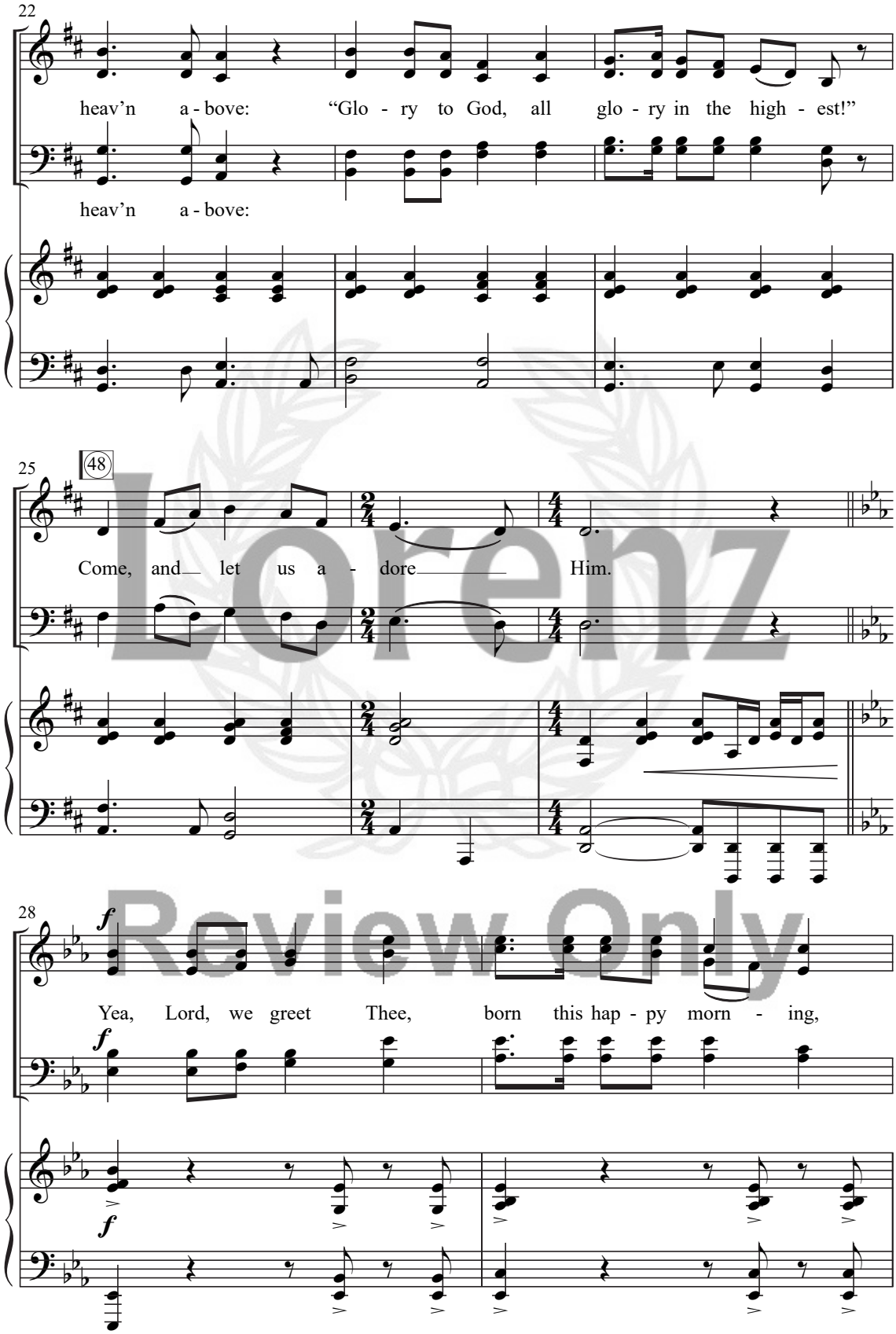

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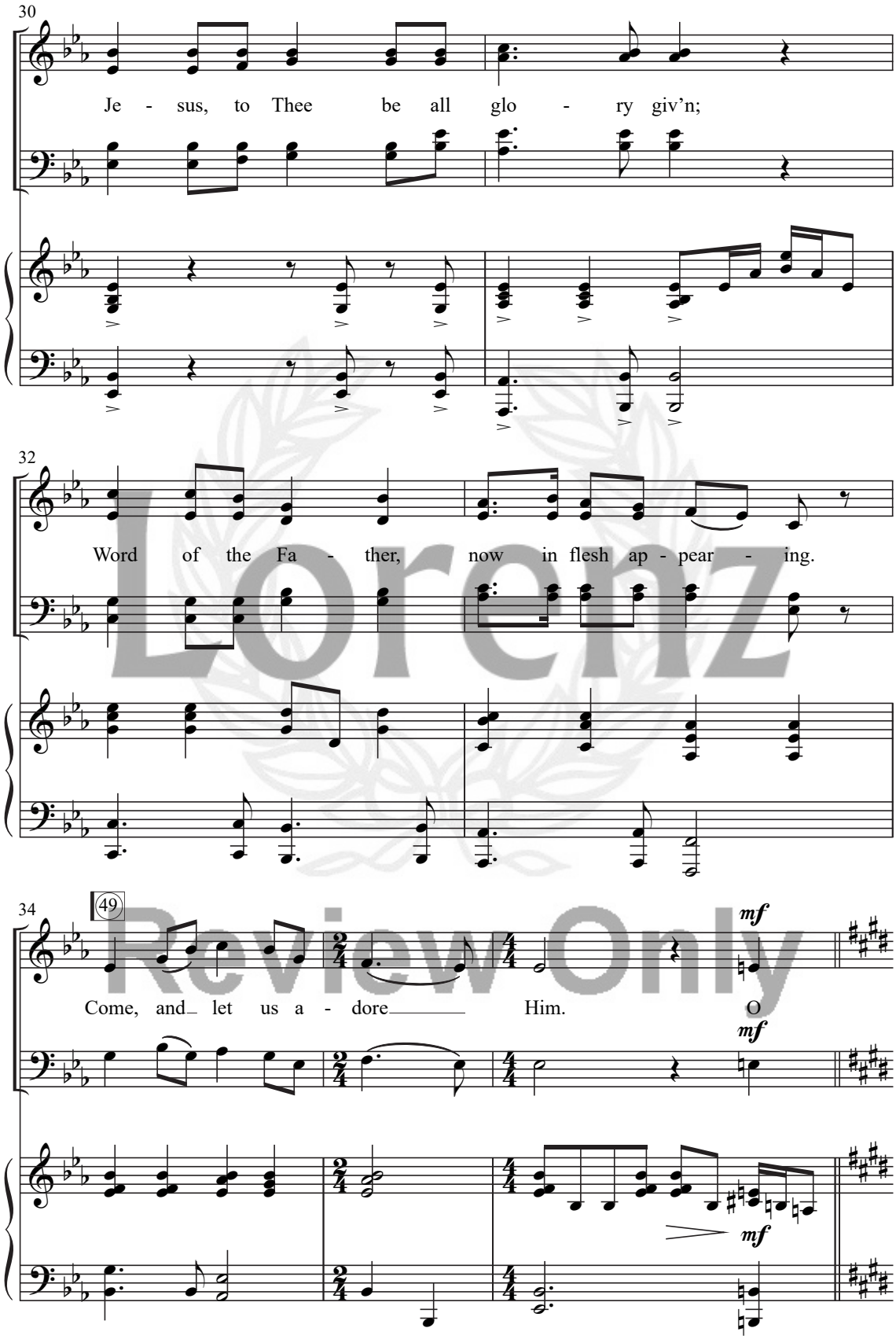

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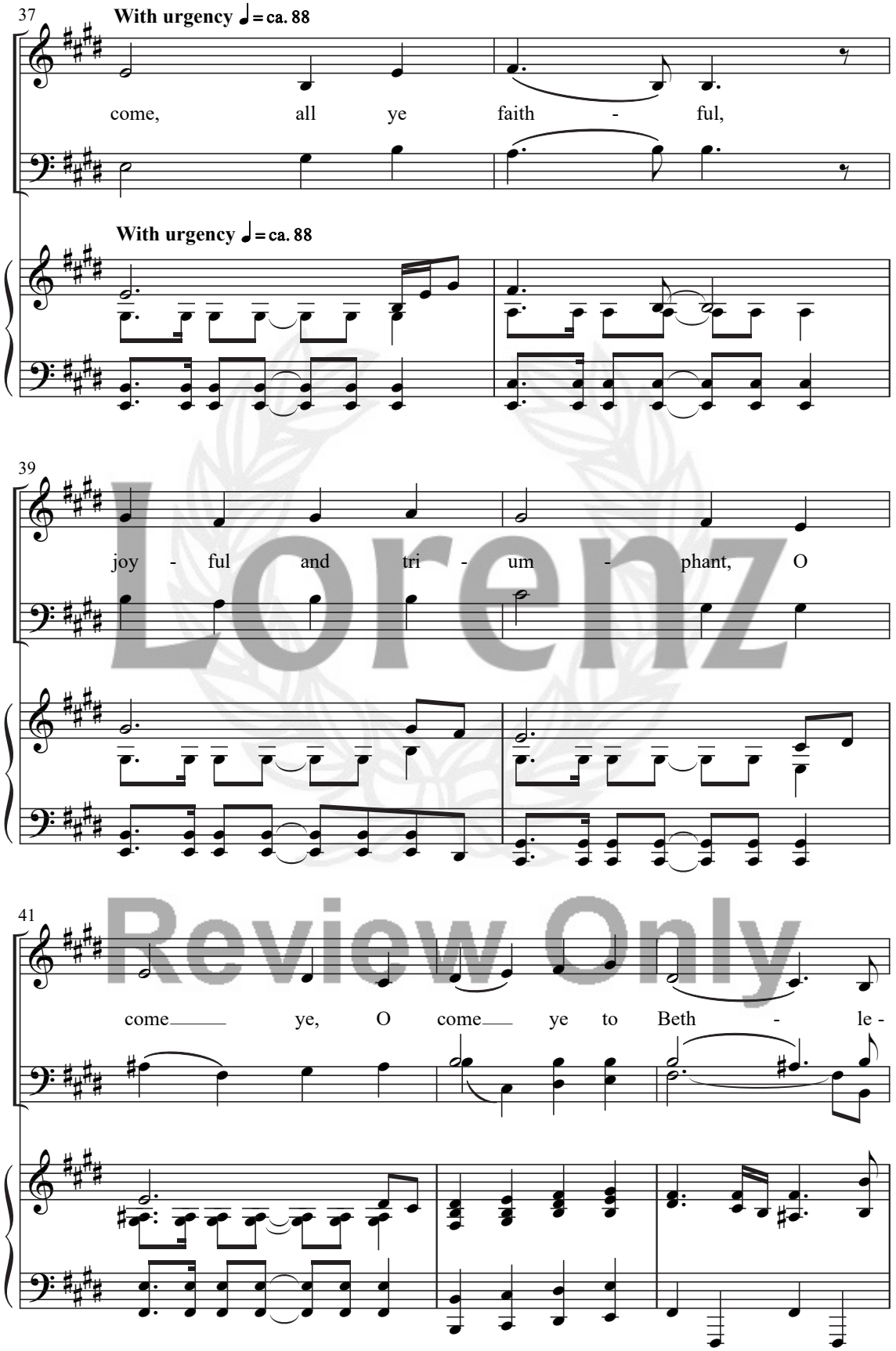

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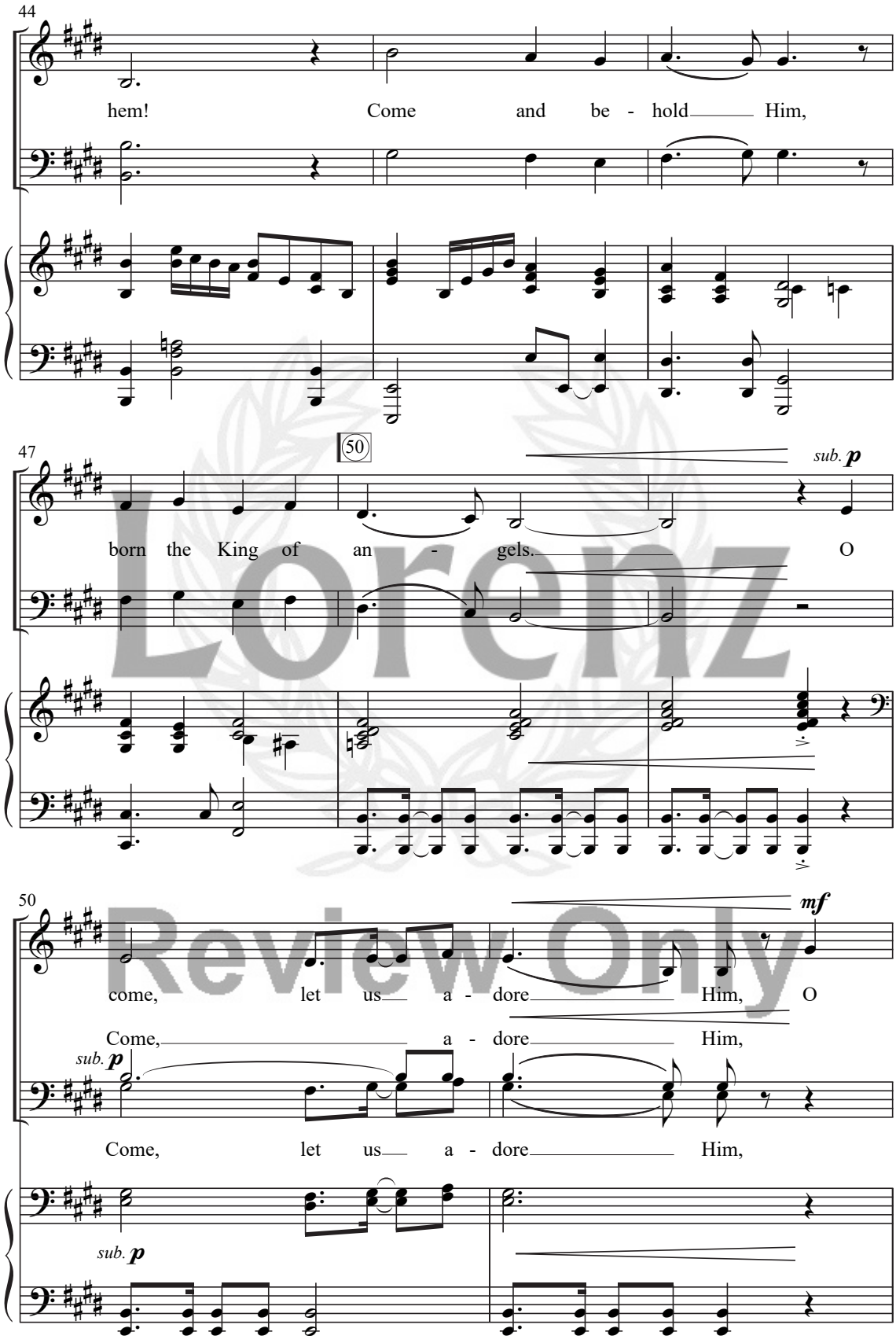

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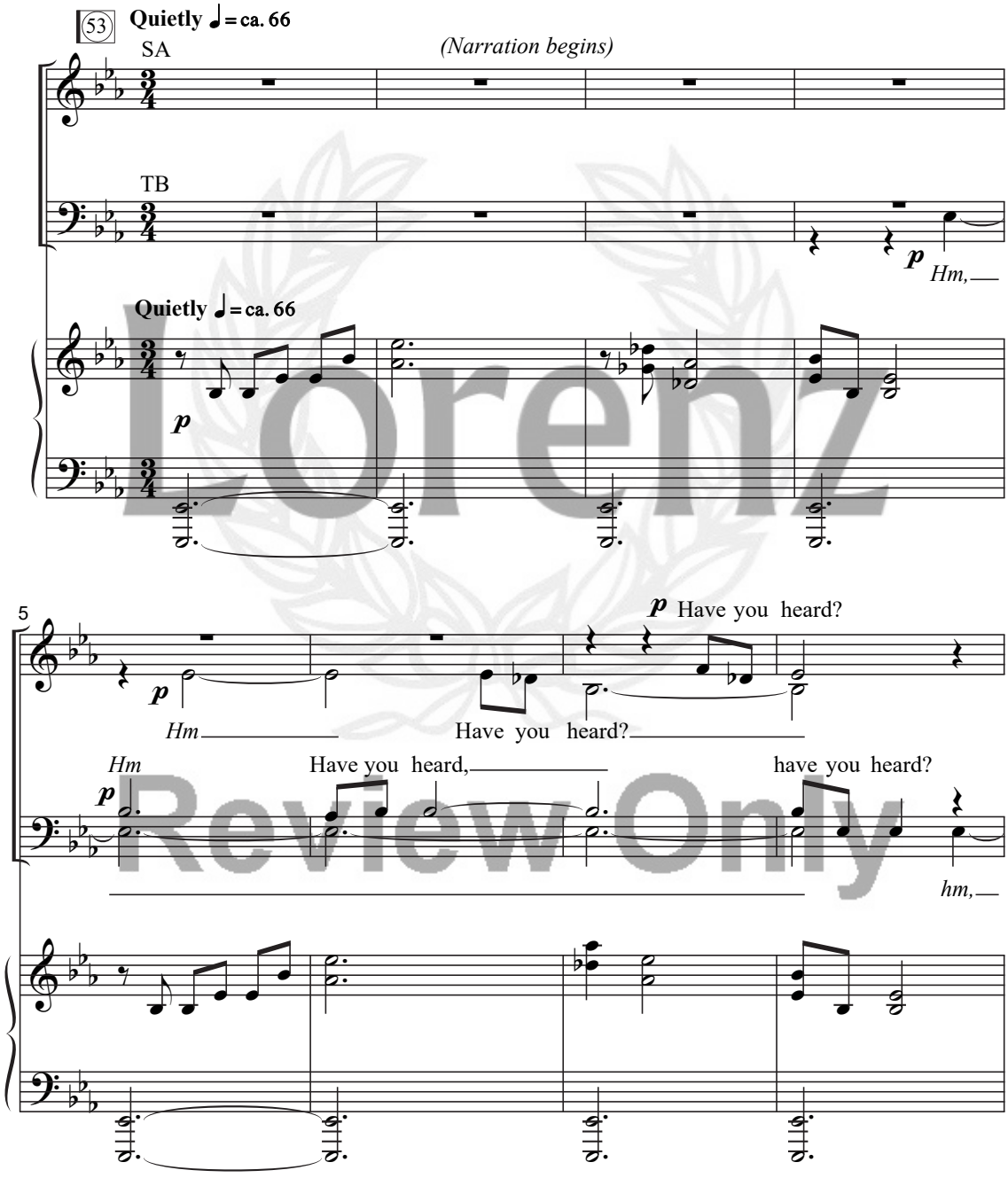
Wexford Carol/Finale

Arranged by **Joel Raney**
Traditional Irish Carol

Narrator: Born Thy people to deliver, born a Child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious Kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by Thine all-sufficient merit raise us to Thy glorious throne.



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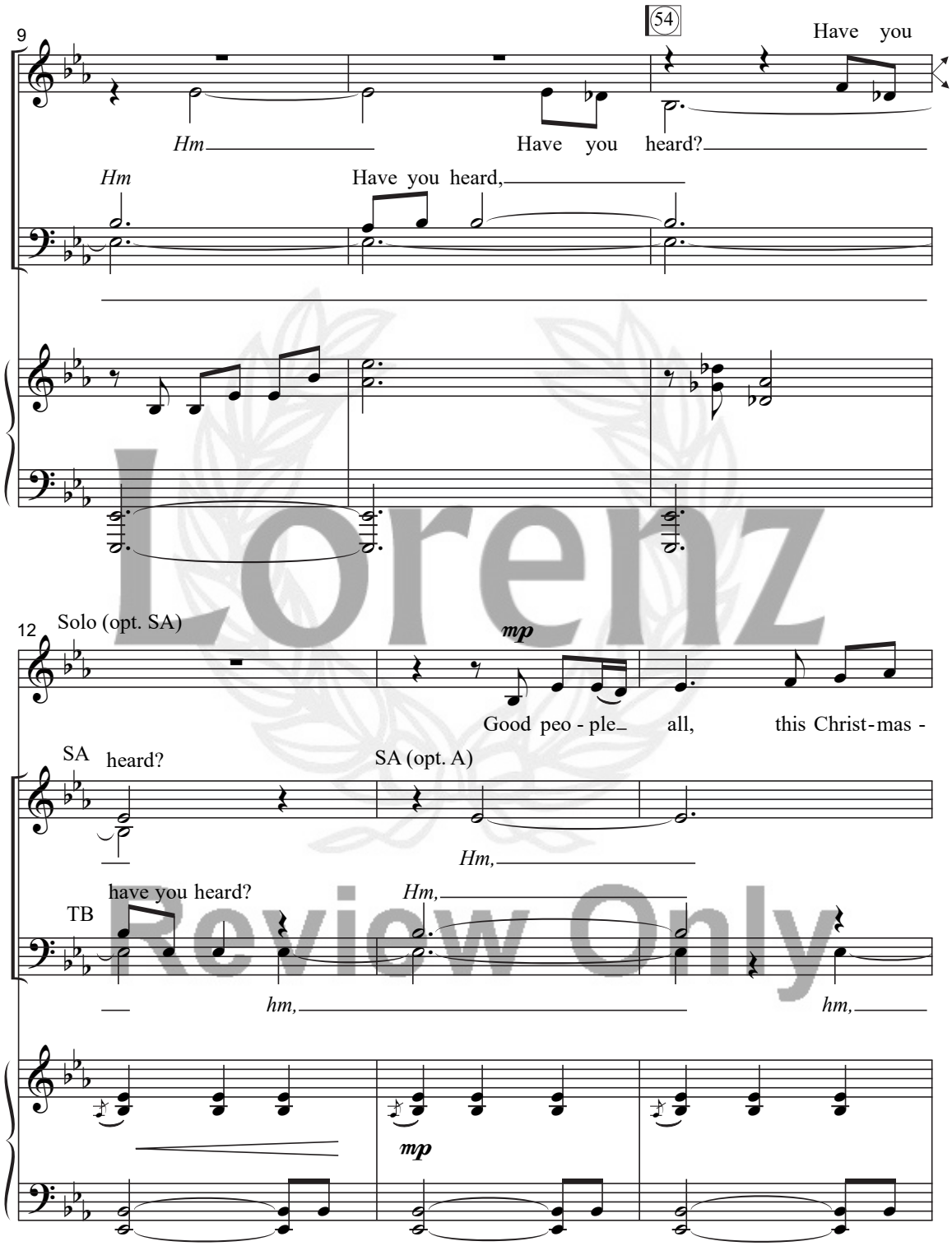

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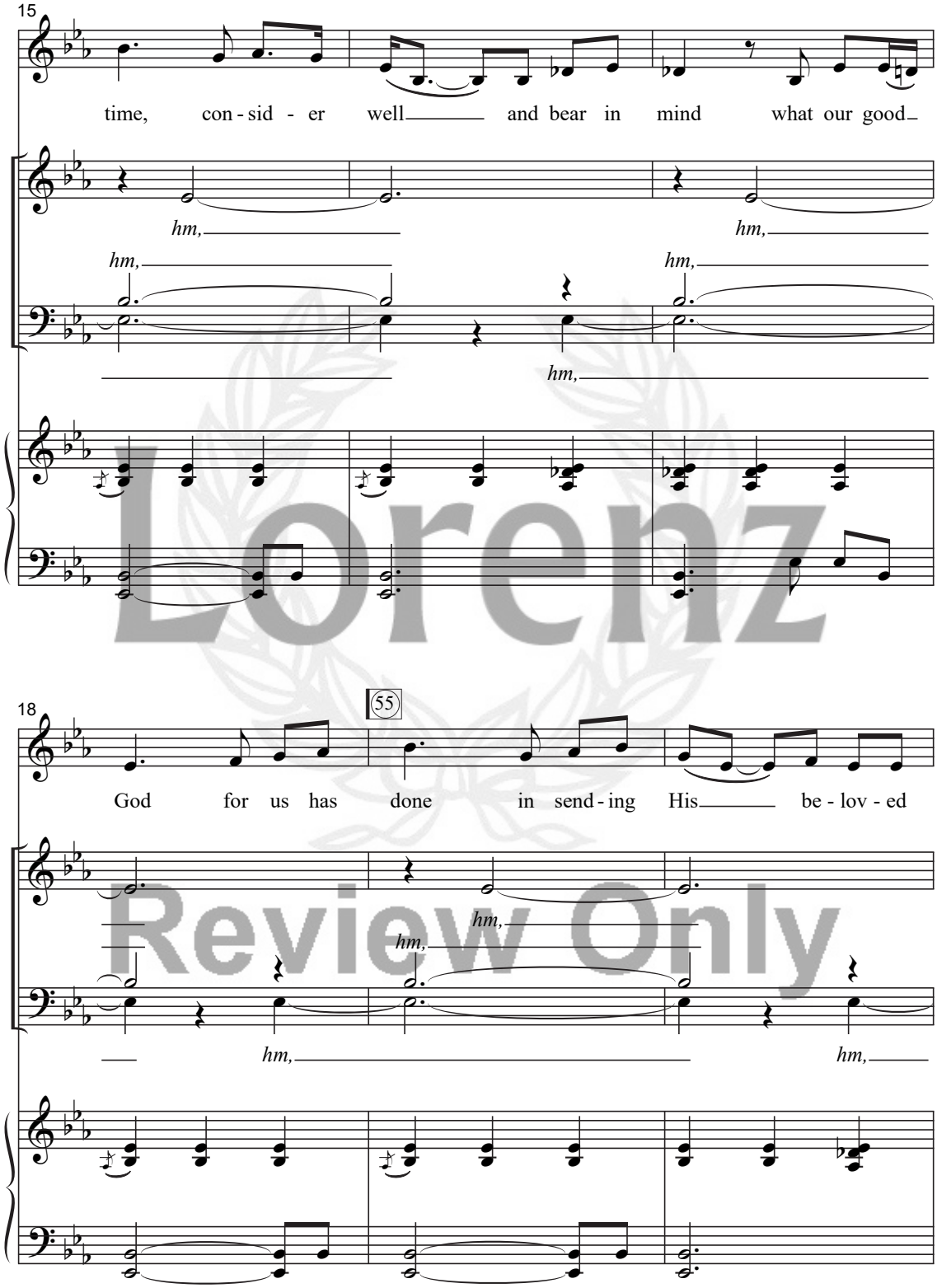

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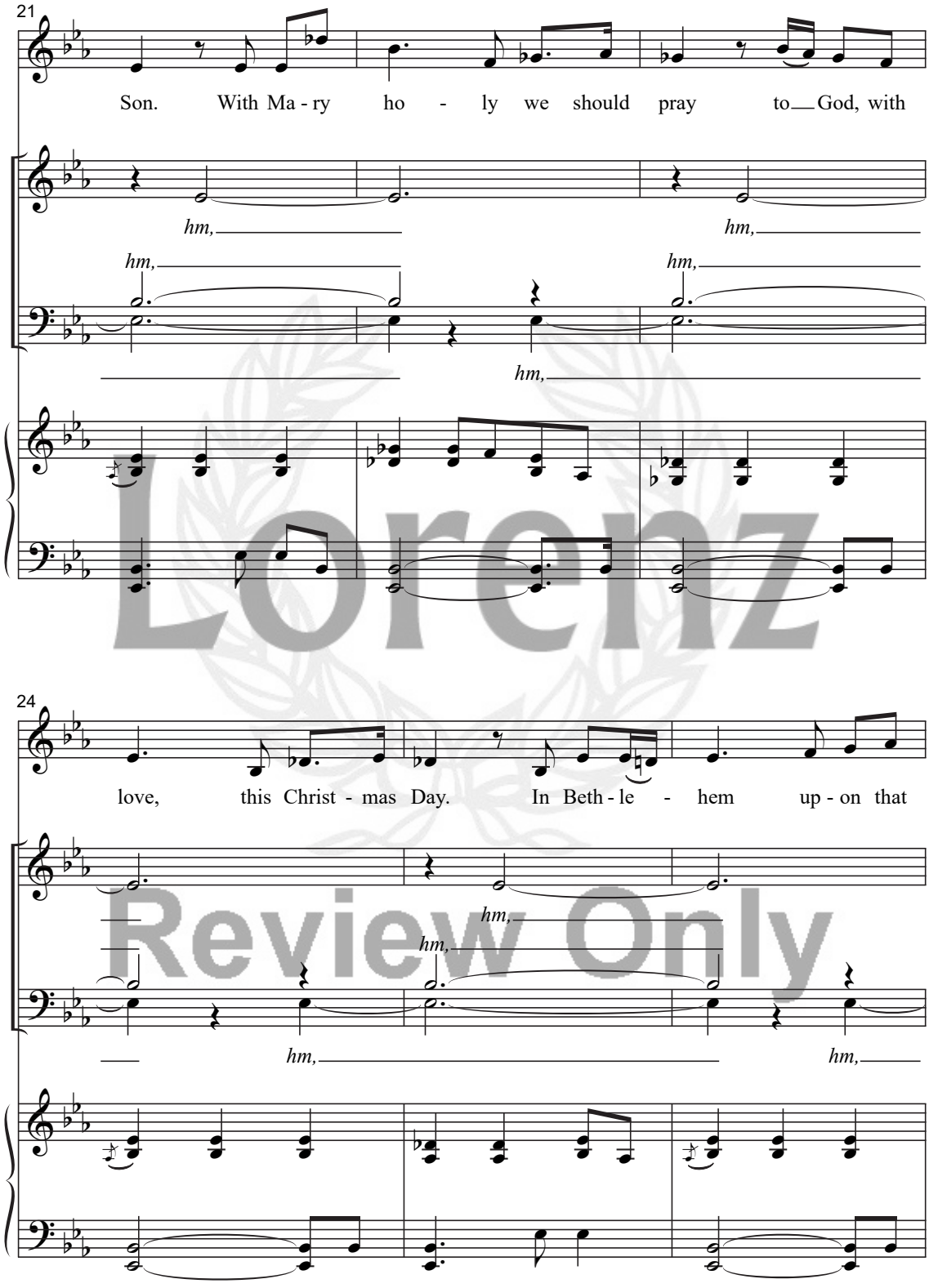

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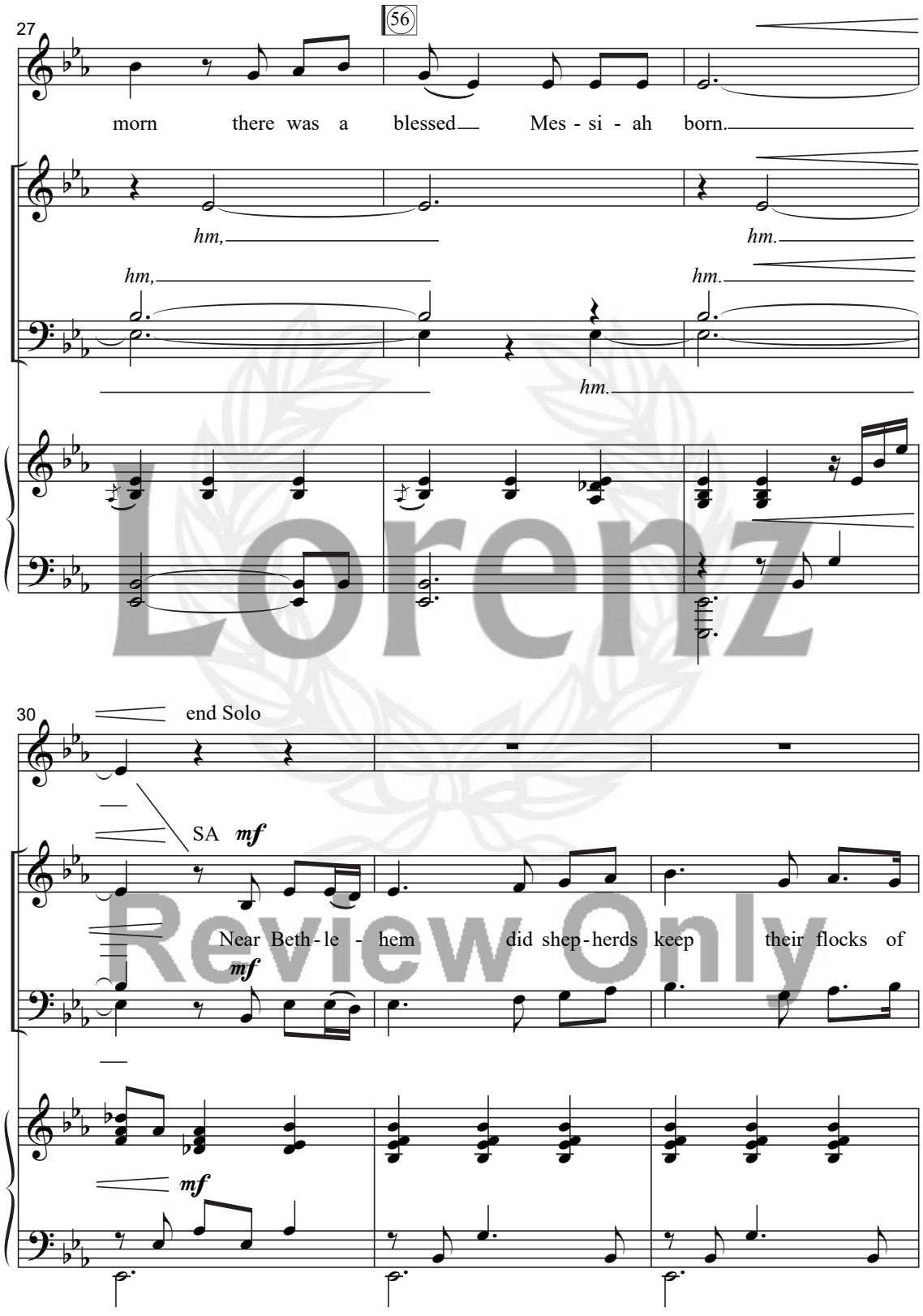

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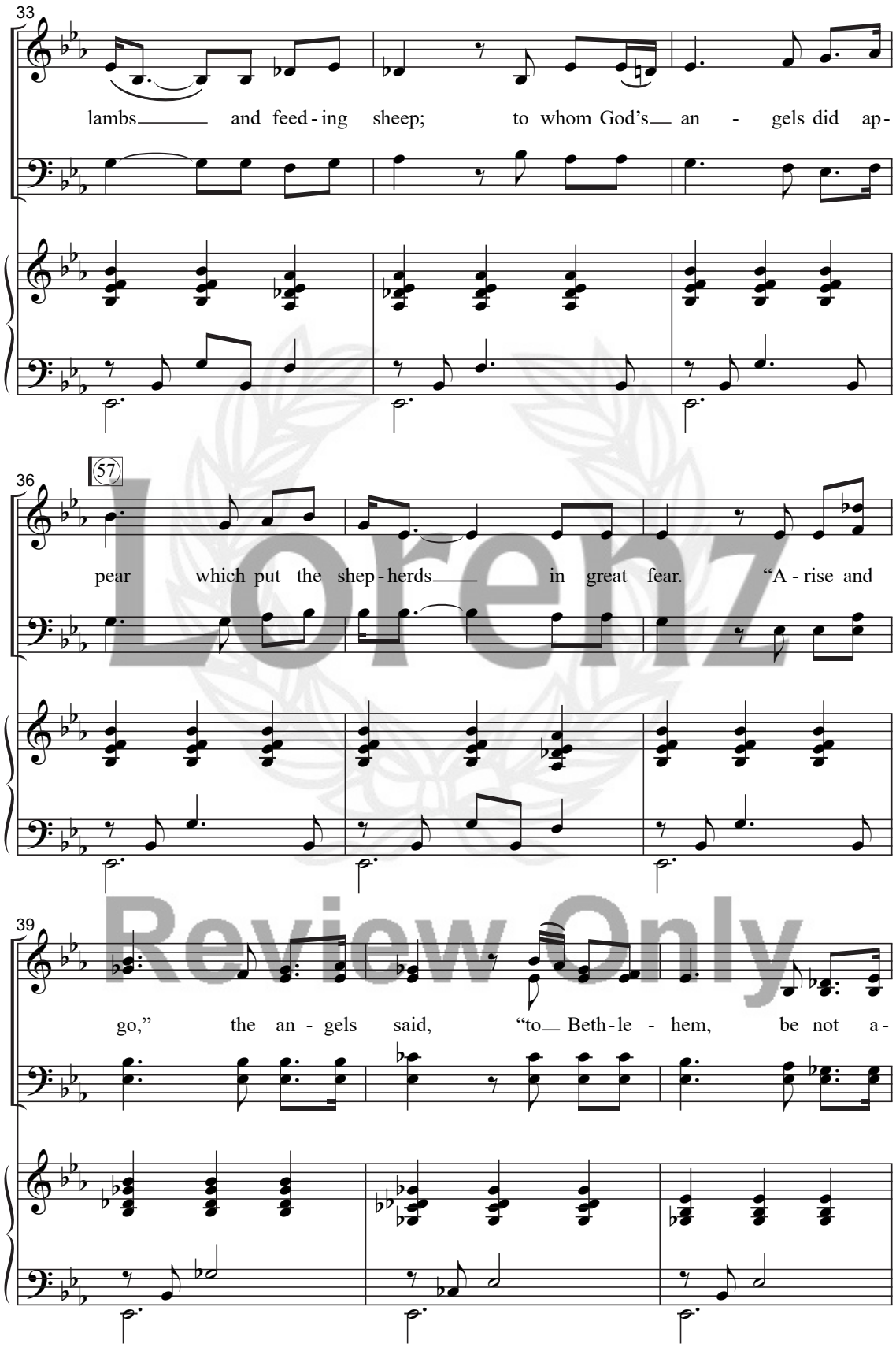

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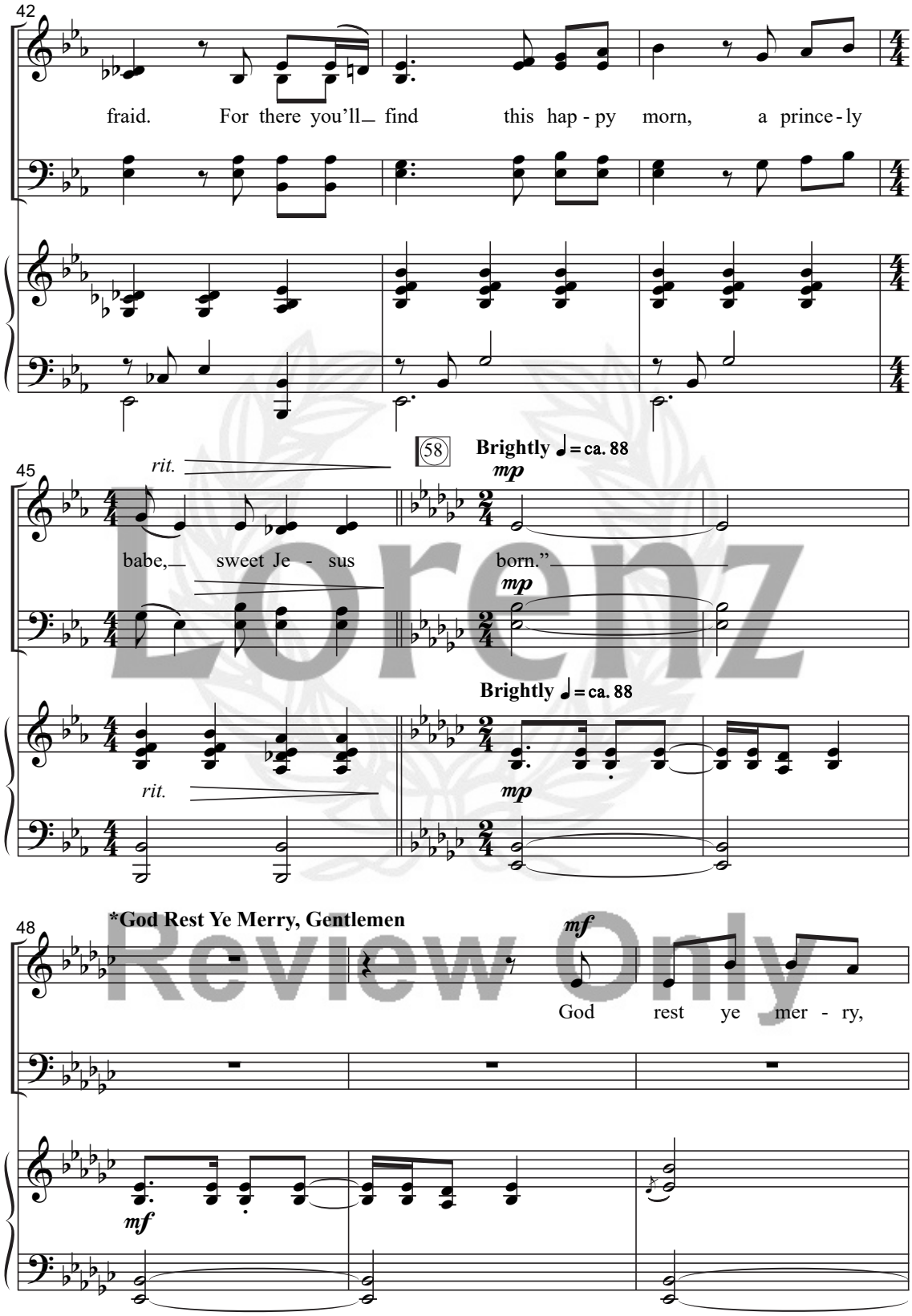

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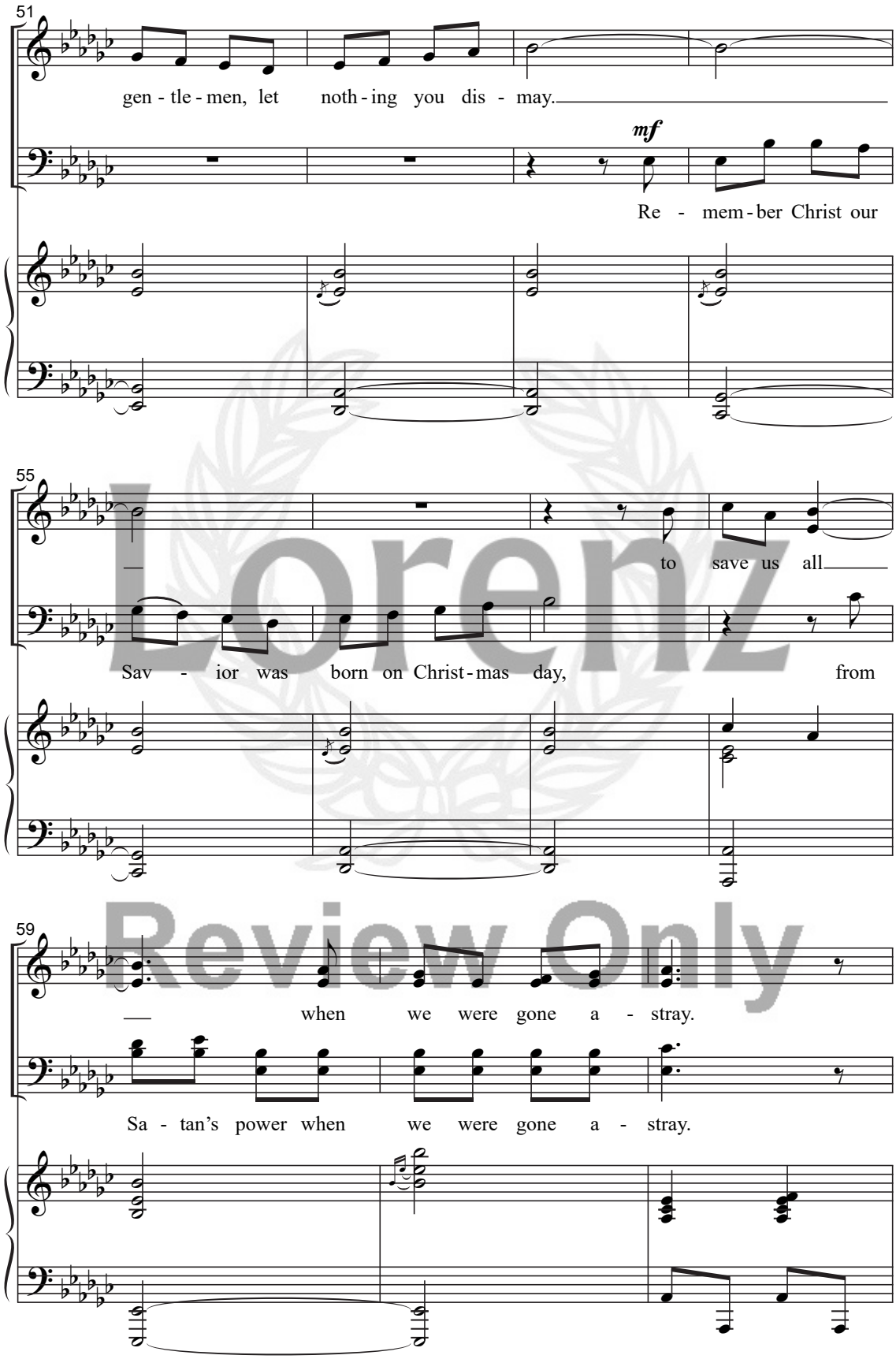
*Tune: **GOD REST YE MERRY,** Traditional English Carol



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