SAB

A Noel Celebration

Sounds and Stories *of* Christmas

Created by Lloyd Larson

Music by Lloyd Larson, Marty Parks, and Jay Rouse

Orchestration by Ed Hogan

Narration by Kylee Larson

Lorenz

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Editor: Lloyd Larson
Music Engraving: Jeanette Dotson
Cover Design: Patti Jeffers

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Foreword

Christmas is a season of joyous sounds. Familiar strains of timeless melodies fill the air in our places of worship, our homes and concert halls, and in the places we shop. It is also a season of stories as we recall meaningful traditions, memorable experiences, and joyous family moments. Most importantly, Christmas is the season to revisit and celebrate Christ's story: the prophecies which pointed to His coming, His birth, and His life. It is the incarnation story which is front and center: God coming to earth to live among us.

There are also other stories within the bigger story: the stories of Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, the Shepherds, aged Simeon, and the Wise Men. Each of these people played significant roles in the context of the larger story of Christ's birth. ***A Noel Celebration***, in part, tells their stories as we see them reflect on their own place in the unfolding narrative of God's miraculous plan.

But Christmas is also about our story. It is a time to recall the impact of Christ's arrival into your world, my life. It is an opportunity for us to rejoice in the news that God has shattered our own night of darkness with good news: *"Today in the city of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord."* It is an opportunity to celebrate anew with music, scripture, meaningful traditions, and the story of *"….the Word becoming flesh and dwelling among us…."*

Not all sounds and stories are created equal. The sounds and stories of Christmas endure because they are centered around the life-changing, yet changeless message of God's love. And that is something to celebrate! As you join others in the presentation of this cantata, may you rejoice in the good news of God's great Gift as you sing carols – both old and new – and as you recite the stories of Christmas. *O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

—Lloyd Larson

Production Notes

A Noel Celebration is flexibly conceived so that the monologues may be presented by actors in costume with memorized scripts. It can be equally effective with a single narrator or multiple narrators in "street clothes" reading the optional introduction that precedes each narrative followed by the character monologue itself.

In the final monologue designated for *Pastor, Choir Member, or Lay Person*, a scripted narration has been provided which works adequately as is. However, this is a place where a pastor could offer a brief meditation or a choir member or lay person may wish to share their own story about the meaning of Christmas. Being creative here within the context of each church's own worship style will enhance the meaning of the cantata.

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.

To access these files, please visit www.lorenz.com/downloads and navigate to the desired folder. PC users should right click and choose "Save Target As…" and Macintosh users should click and hold the link, then choose "Save Target As…" We have provided standard file formats that should be usable in most page layout or word processing software.

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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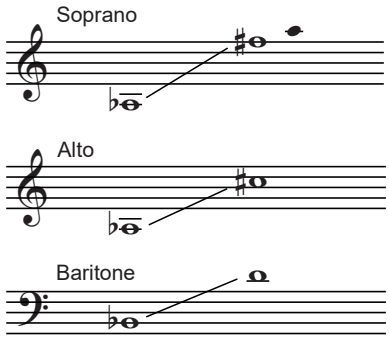


Companion Products

65/2069L	SATB Score
65/2080L	SAB Score
65/2070L	SATB Score with Performance CD
99/3546L	Bulk Performance CDs (10 pak)
99/3547L	Stereo Accompaniment CD
99/3548L	Split-track Accompaniment CD
99/3549L	SA/TB Part-dominant Rehearsal CDs (reproducible)

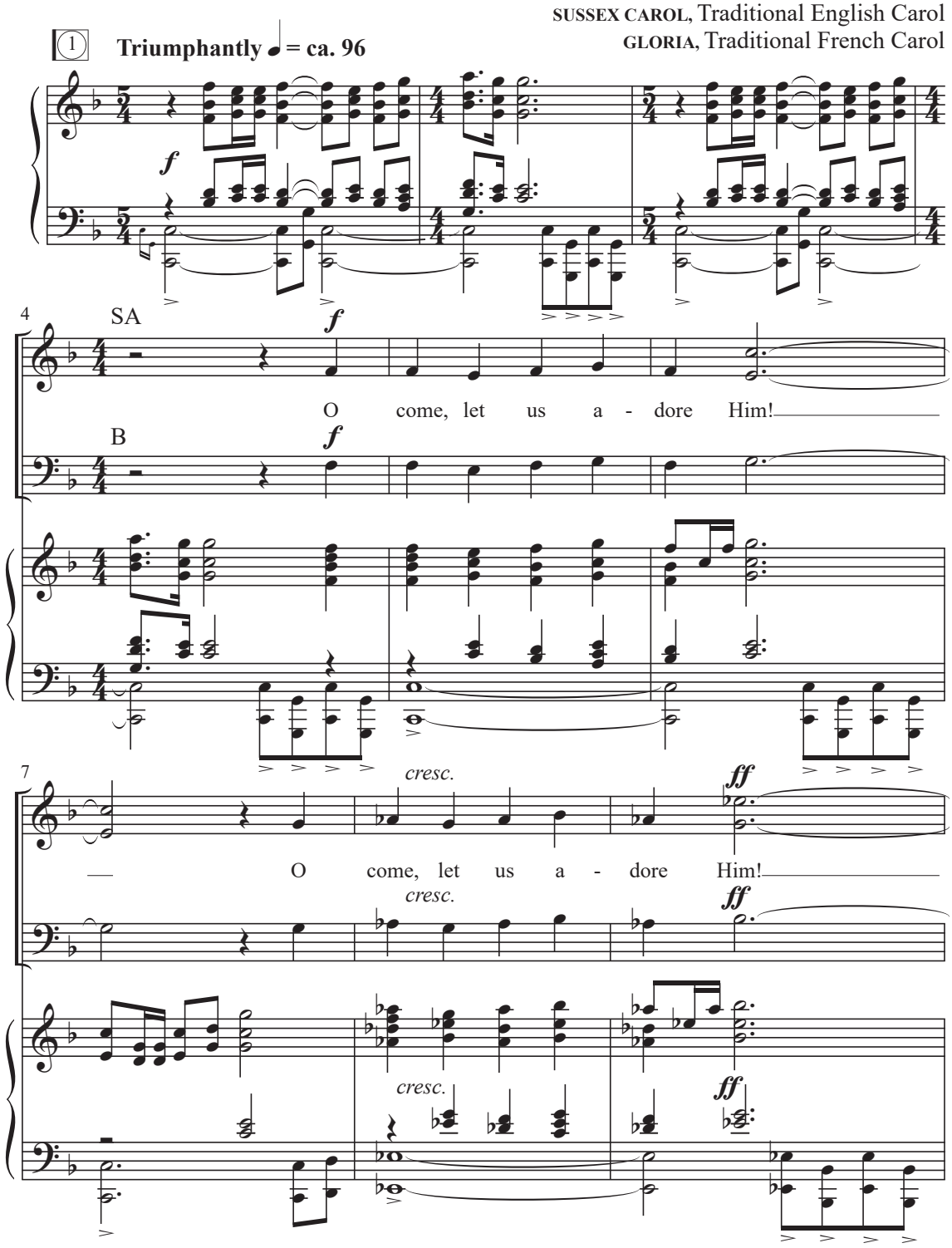
Orchestration by Ed Hogan for Fl 1-2, Ob (Sop Sax, Cl), Cl 1-2, Bsn (Bs. Cl), Hn 1-2 (Alto Sax, Cl), Tpt 1, Tpt 2-3 (Alto Sax), Tbn 1-2 (Bari T.C., Ten Sax), Tuba, Timp, Perc 1-2, Harp, Pno, Vln 1-2, Vla (Cl), Cello, Dbl Bass, Digital String Reduction

30/3238L	Full Score
30/3239L	Set of Parts
30/3240L	CD with Printable Parts
30/3241L	Full Score and Parts plus CD with Printable Parts

Sing Noel!

Words:
Latin Hymn, attr. **John F. Wade**, 1751
Traditional English Carol,
Traditional French Carol

Arranged with New Music
by **Lloyd Larson**
Tunes: **ADESTE FIDELES**,
John F. Wade's *Cantus Diversi*, 1751,
SUSSEX CAROL, Traditional English Carol
GLORIA, Traditional French Carol



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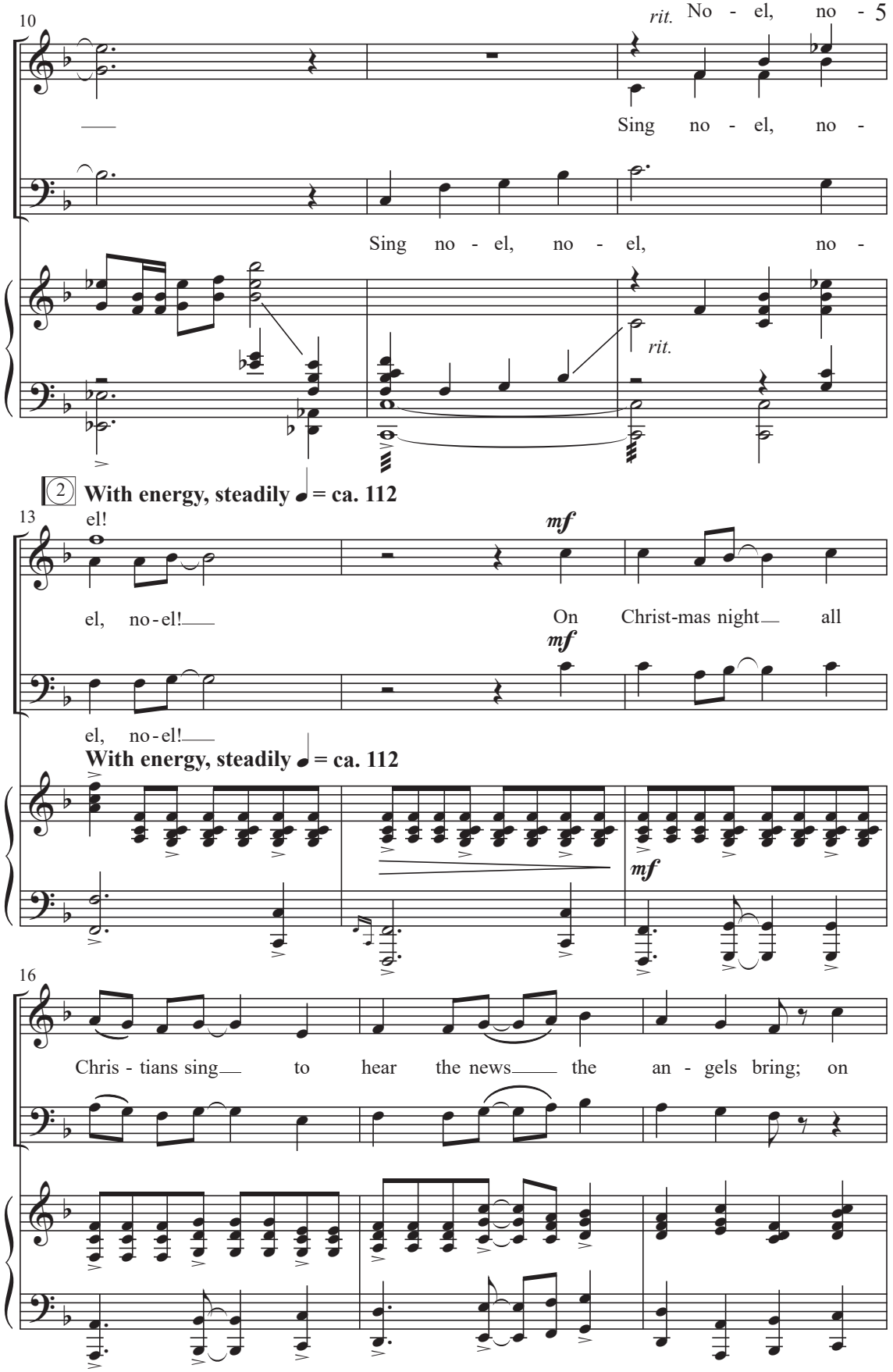
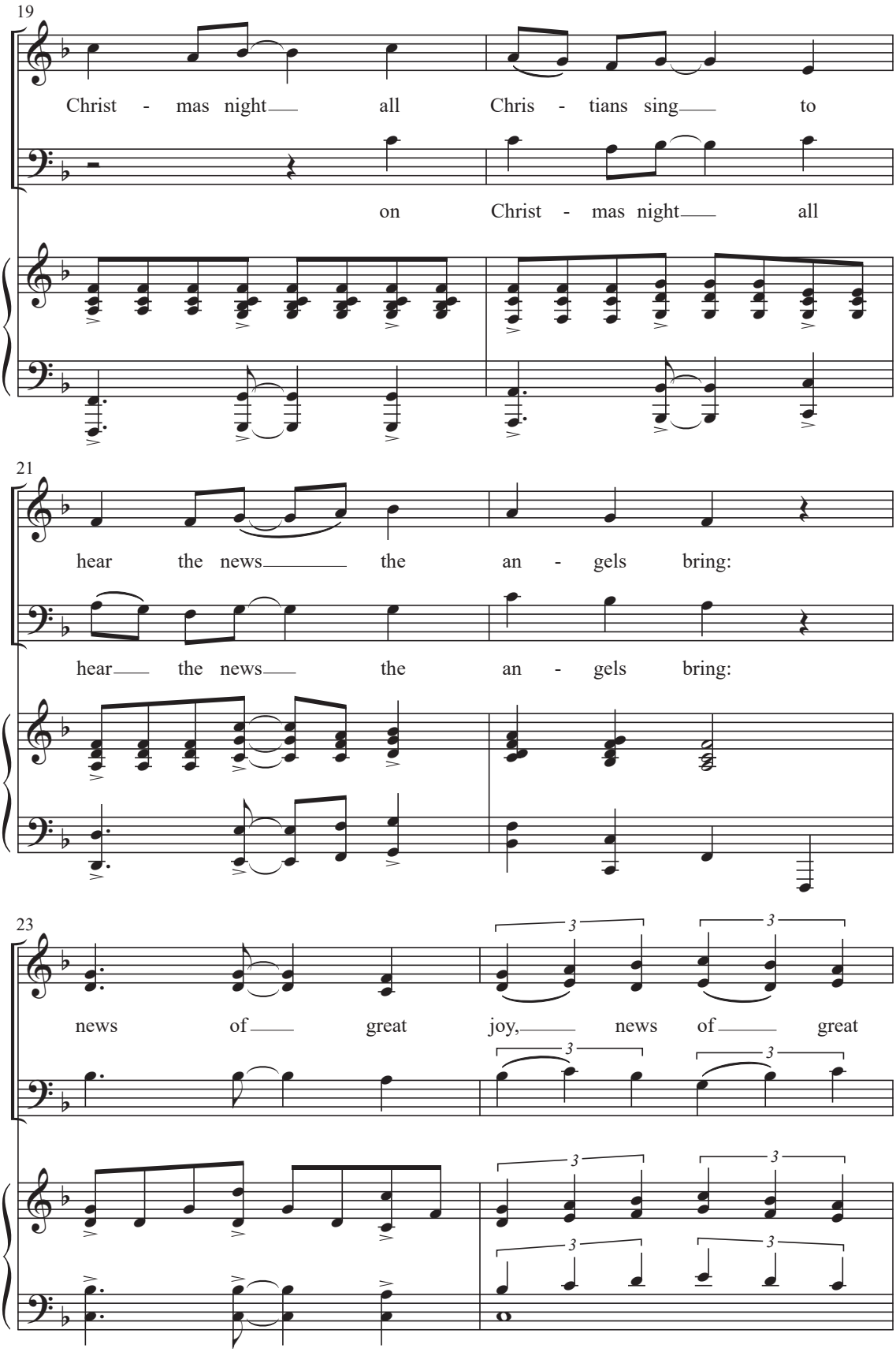
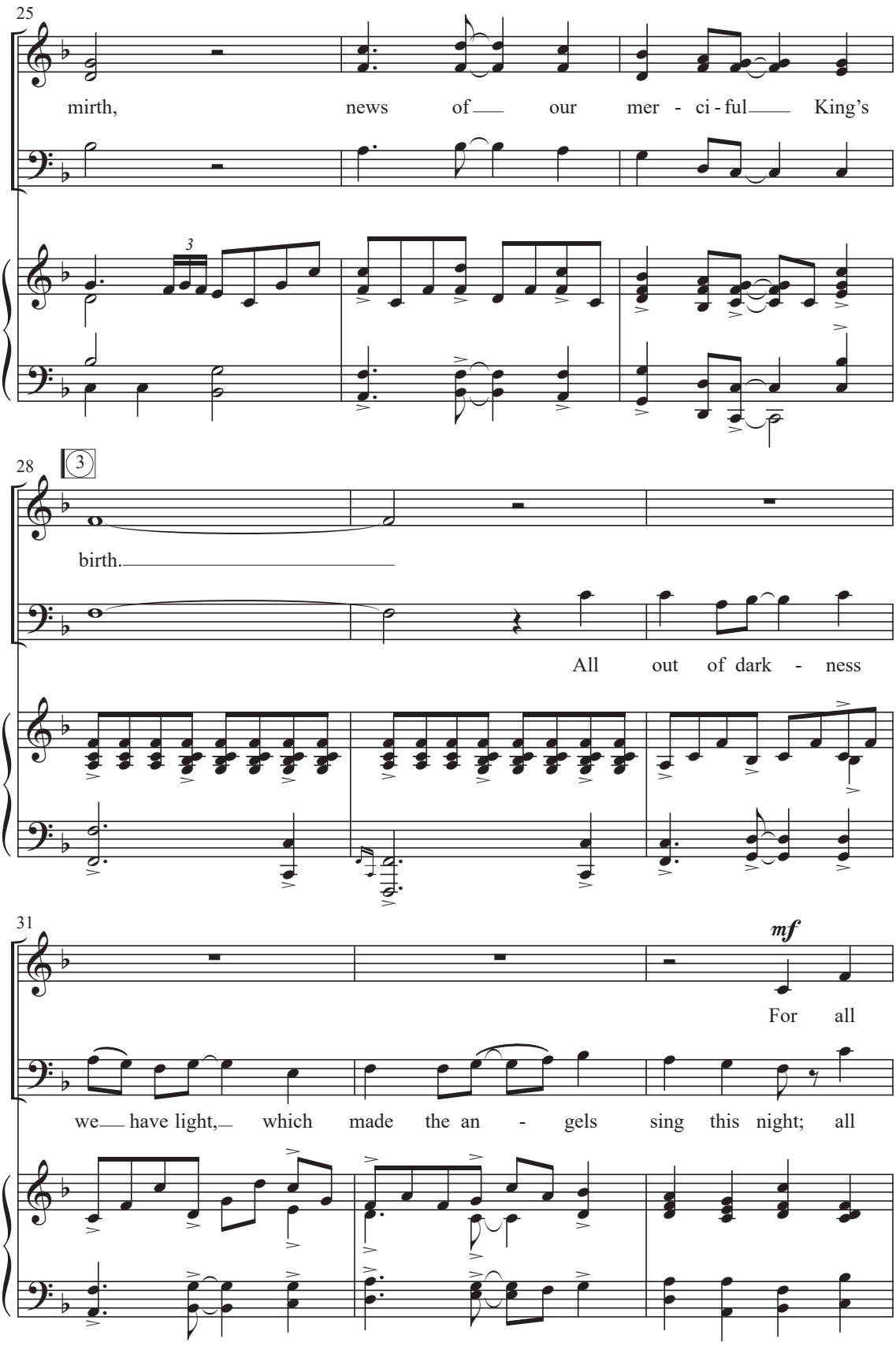
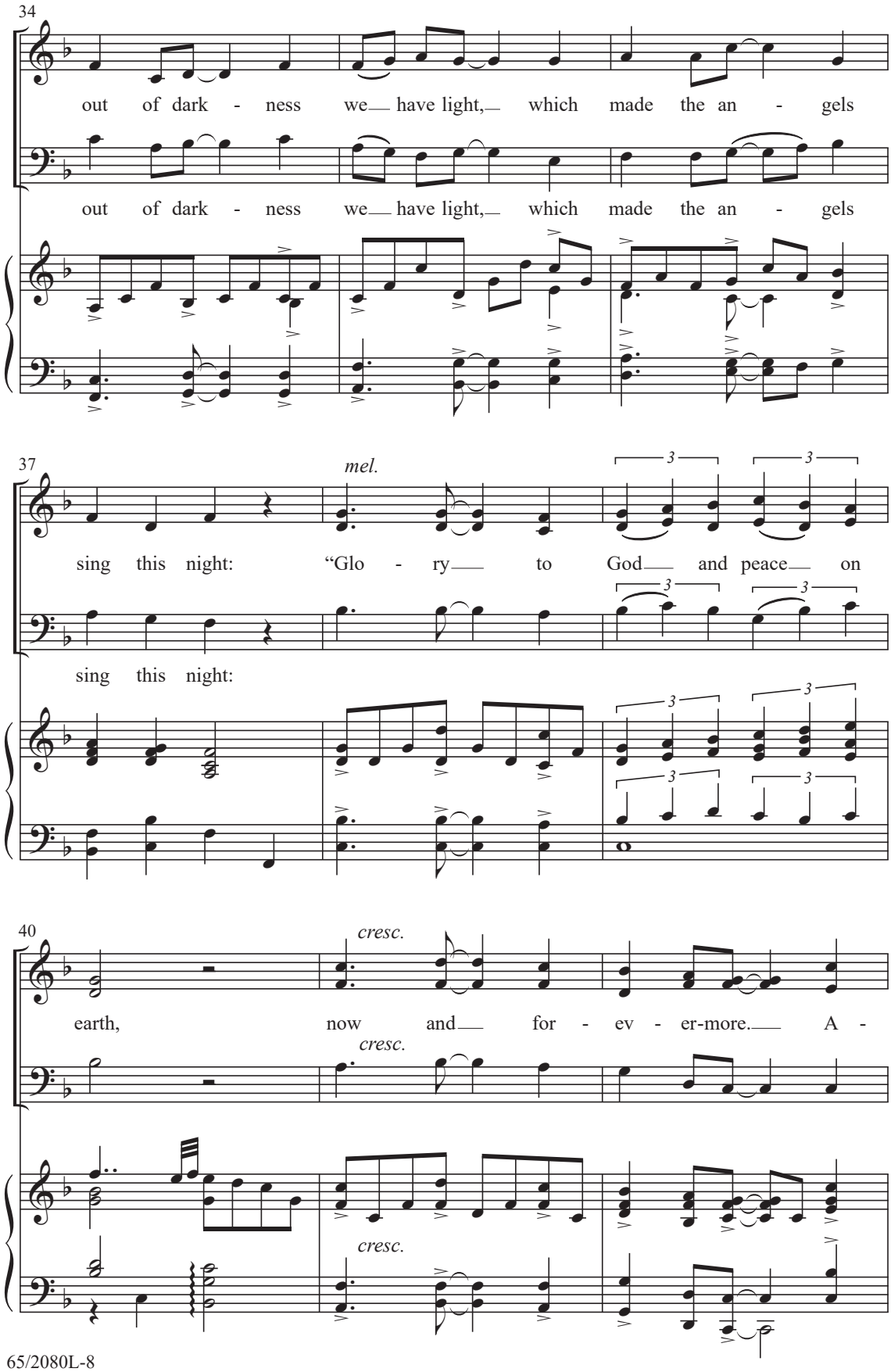

10
rit.
No - el, no -
Sing no - el, no -
Sing no - el, no - el, no -
rit.
2
With energy, steadily ♩ = ca. 112
13
el!
mf
el, no - el!
On Christ-mas night all
mf
el, no - el!
With energy, steadily ♩ = ca. 112
mf
16
Chris - tians sing to hear the news the an - gels bring; on


19
Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing to
on Christ - mas night all
21
hear the news the an - gels bring:
hear the news the an - gels bring:
23
news of great joy, news of great

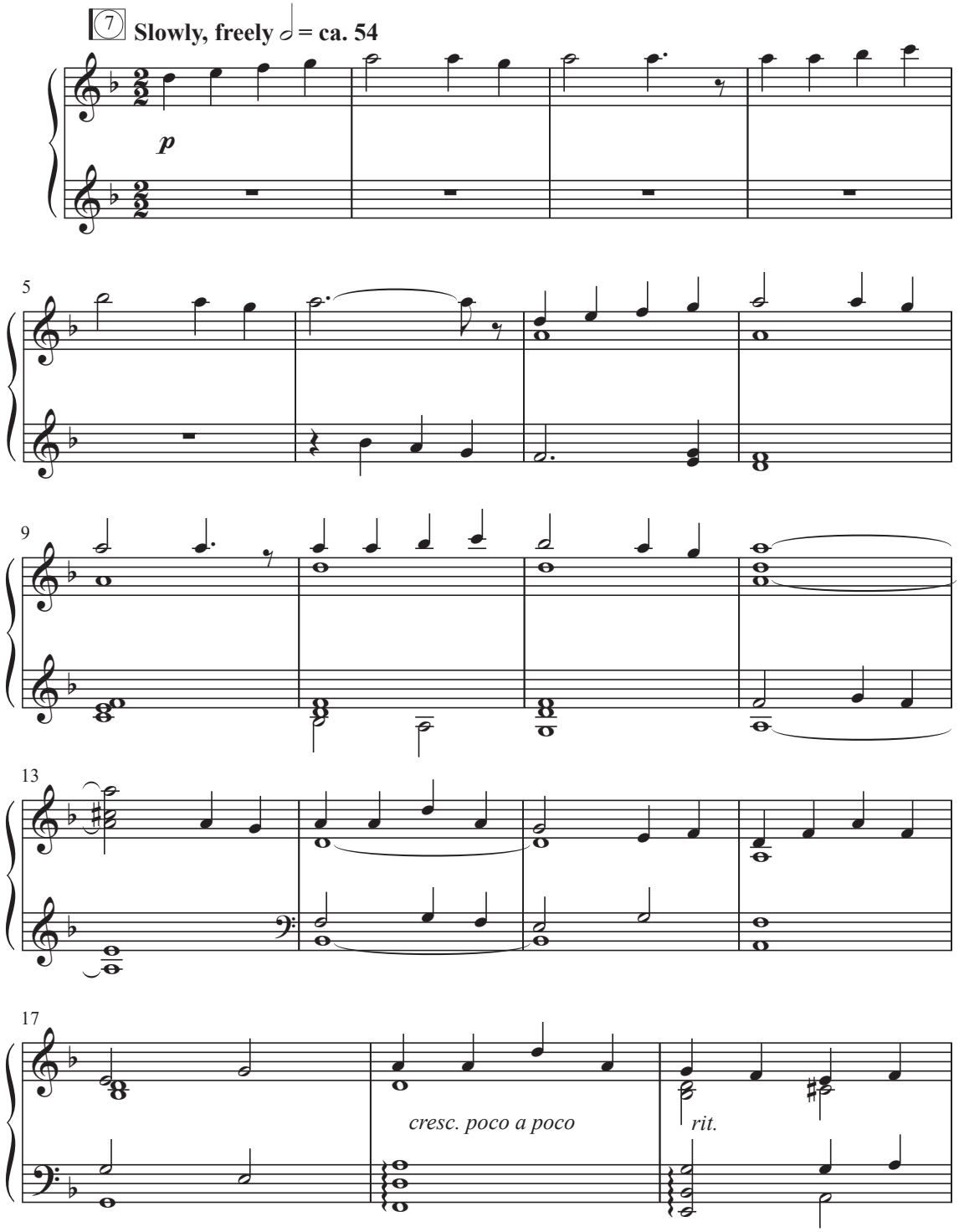

25
mirth, news of our mer - ci - ful King's
3
28
3
birth.
All out of dark - ness
31
mf
For all
we have light, which made the an - gels sing this night; all


34
out of dark - ness we have light, which made the an - gels
out of dark - ness we have light, which made the an - gels
37
mel.
sing this night: "Glo - ry to God and peace on
sing this night:
40
cresc.
earth, now and for - ev - er-more. A -
cresc.
cresc.

Prepare the Way

Words by **Lloyd Larson**
Based on **Isaiah 40:1-5**

Music by **Lloyd Larson**
Incorporating **PICARDY**
by Traditional French Melody, 17th c.



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8 **Quicker, steadily** 𝅗𝅥 **= ca. 63**

20

mp

23

26

SA

mp

"Pre - pare the way of the

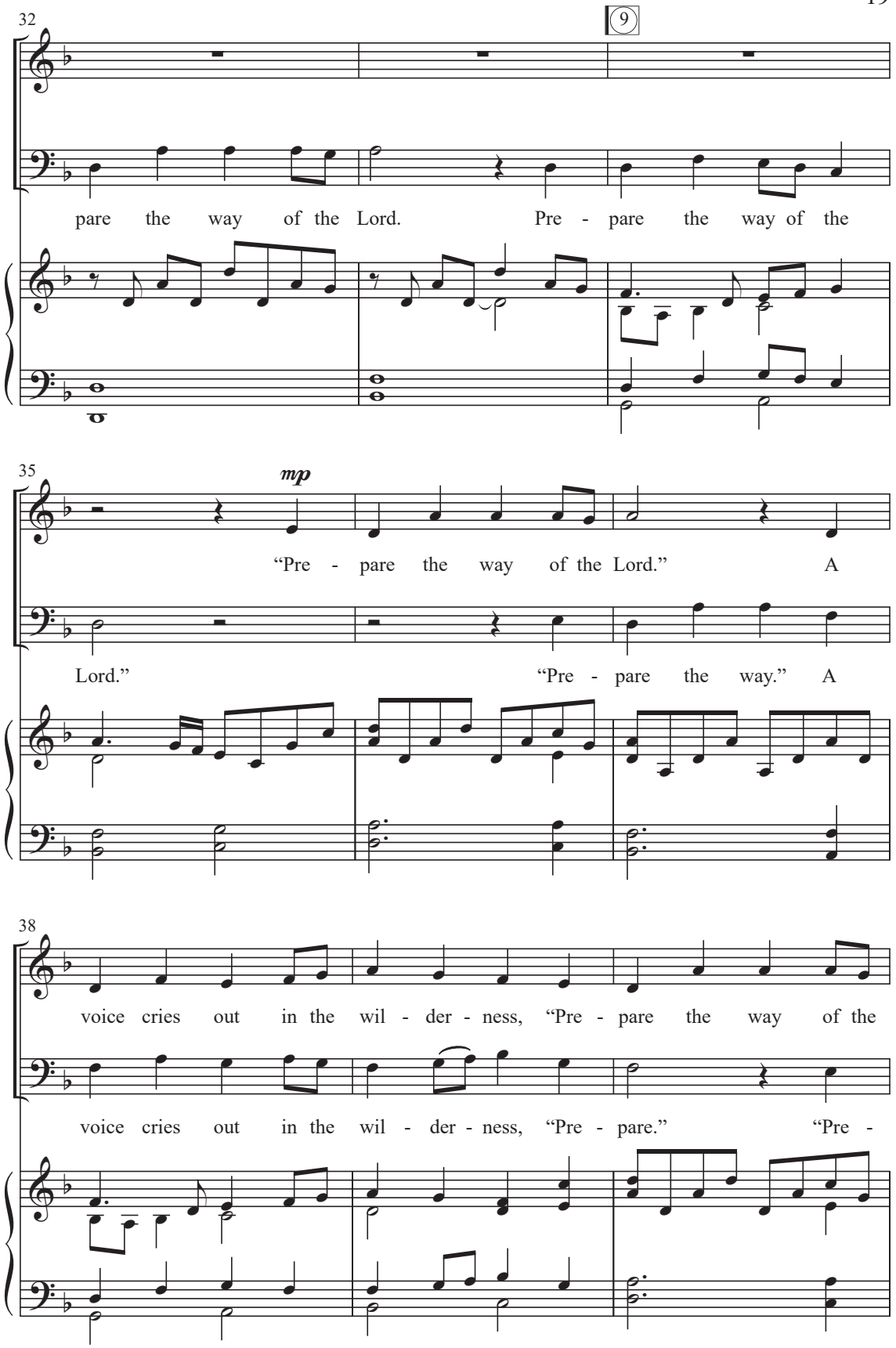
B

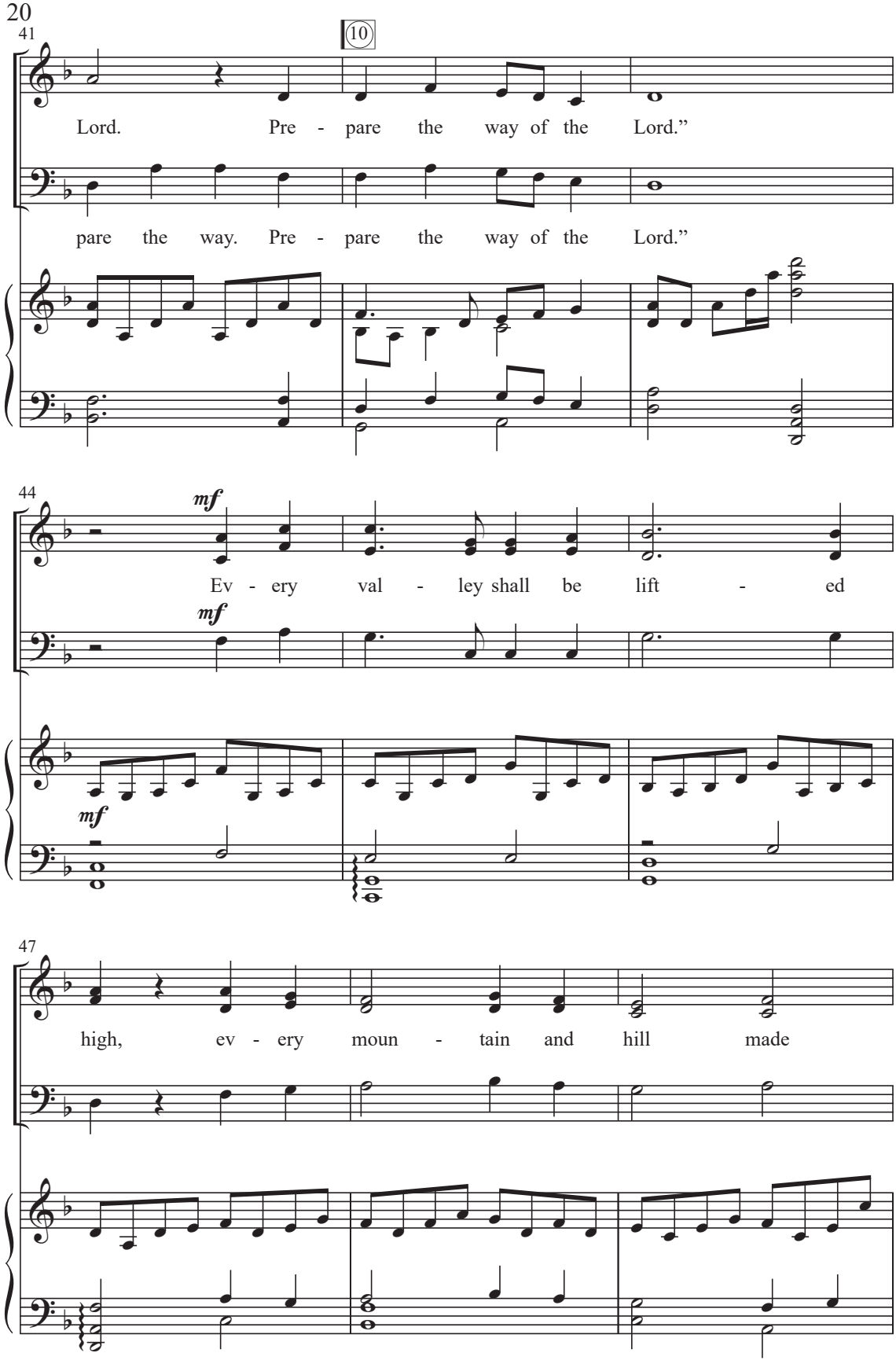
29

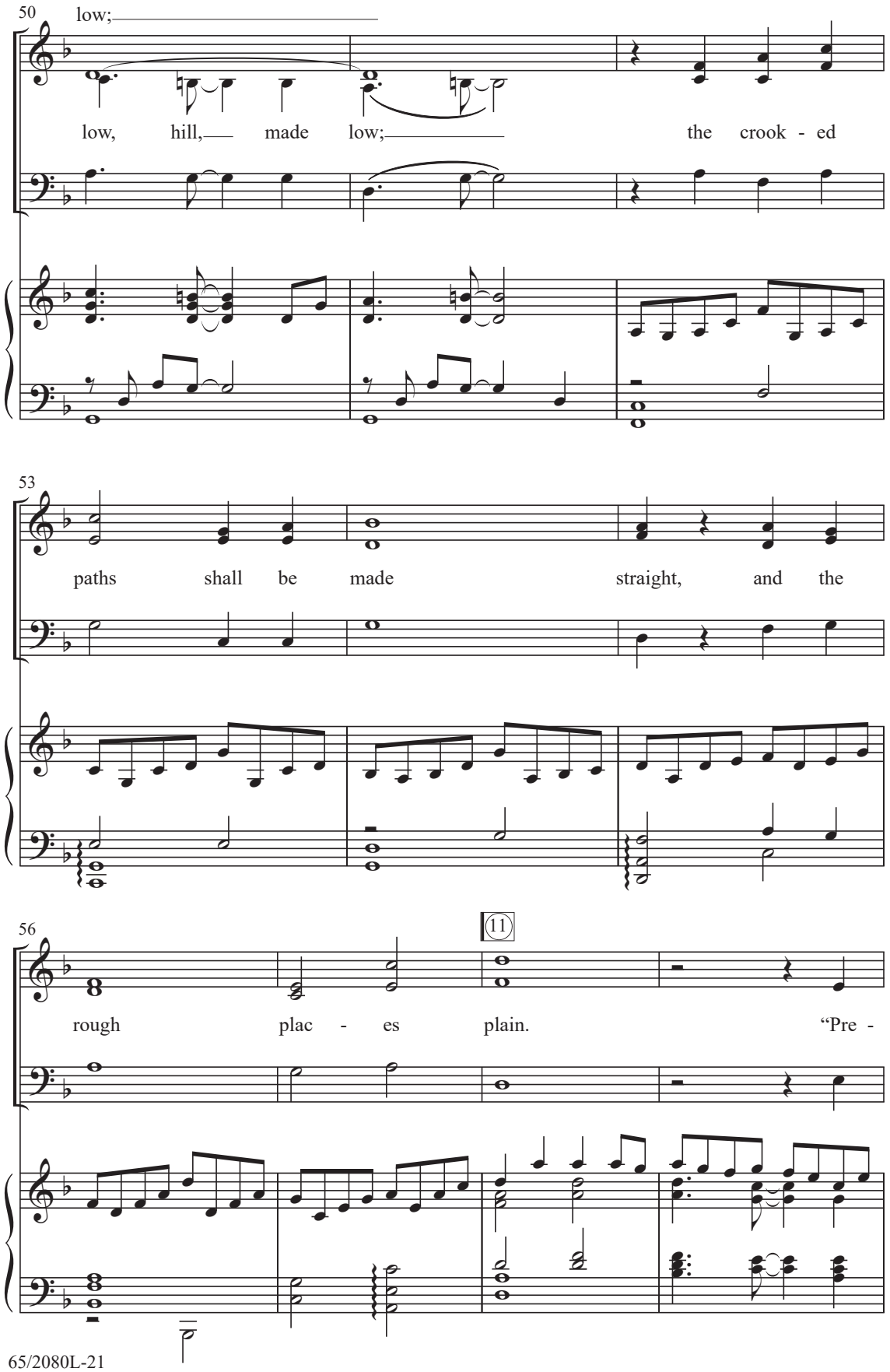
Lord." A voice cries out in the wil - der - ness,

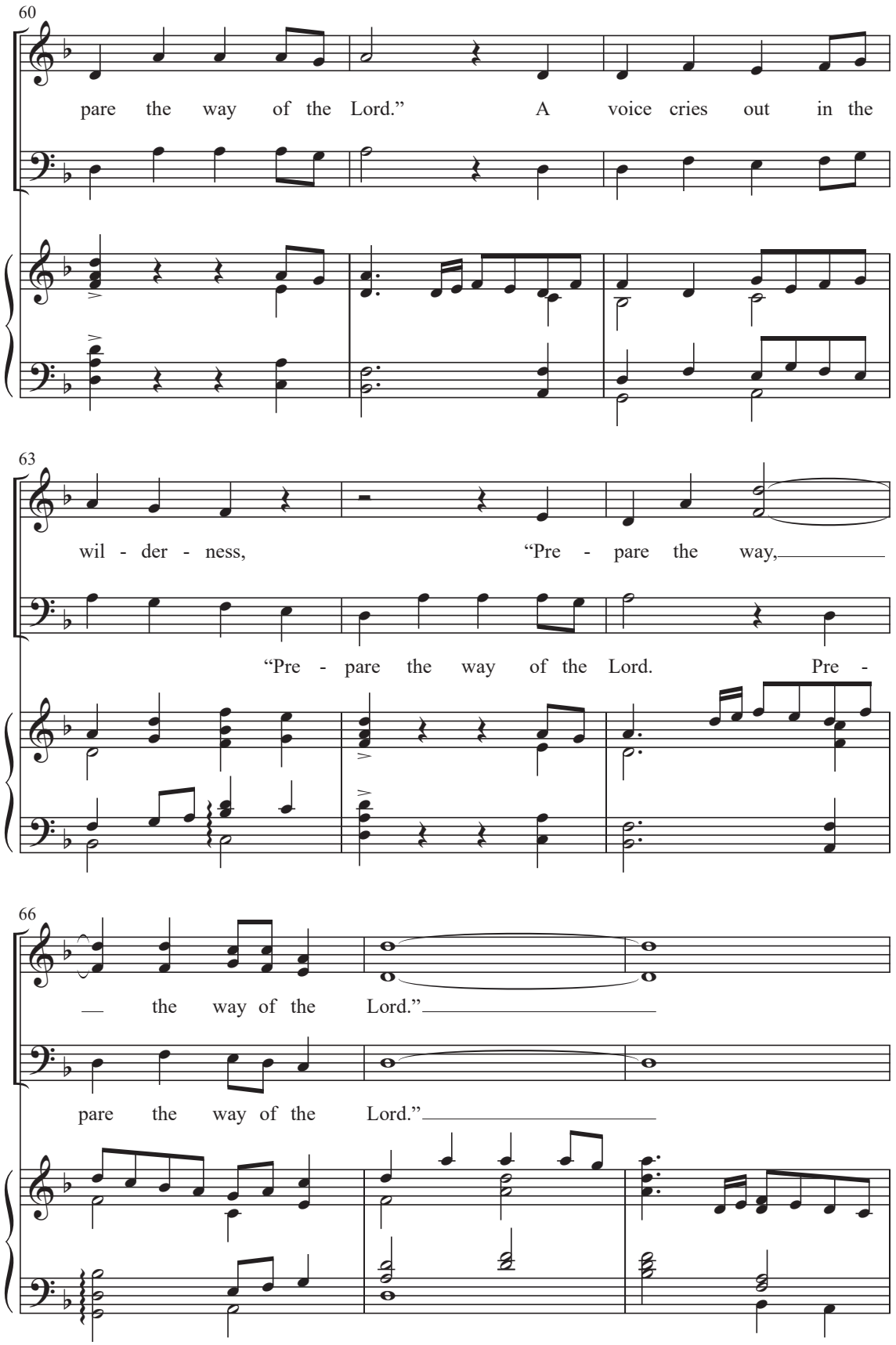
mp

"Pre -


32
9
pare the way of the Lord. Pre - pare the way of the
35
mp
"Pre - pare the way of the Lord." A
Lord." "Pre - pare the way." A
38
voice cries out in the wil - der - ness, "Pre - pare the way of the
voice cries out in the wil - der - ness, "Pre - pare." "Pre -

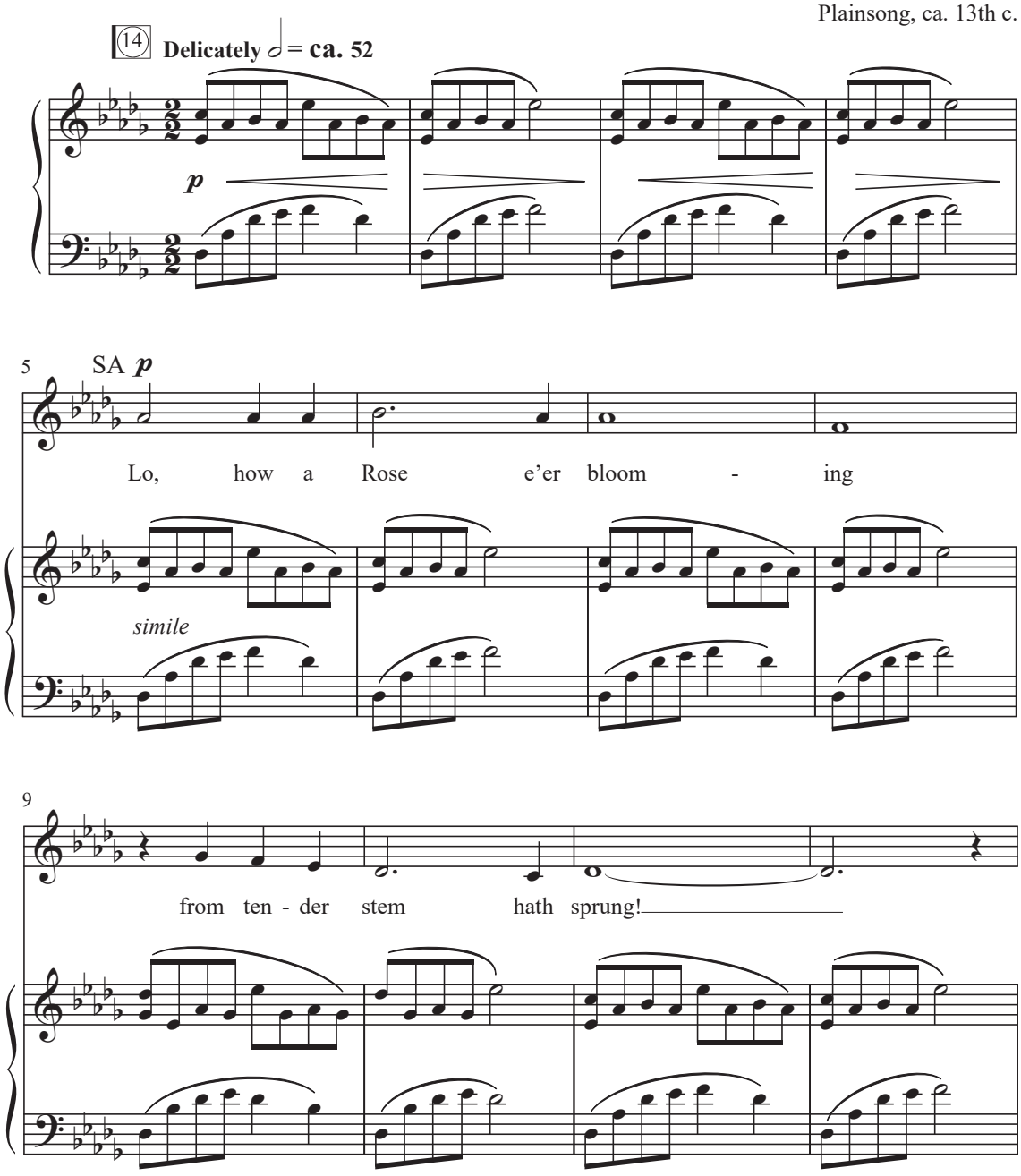

41
10
Lord. Pre - pare the way of the Lord."
pare the way. Pre - pare the way of the Lord."
44
mf
Ev - ery val - ley shall be lift - ed
mf
mf
47
high, ev - ery moun - tain and hill made


50
low;
low, hill, made low; the crook - ed
53
paths shall be made straight, and the
56
11
rough plac - es plain. "Pre -


60
pare the way of the Lord." A voice cries out in the
63
wil - der - ness, "Pre - pare the way,
"Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre -
66
the way of the Lord."
pare the way of the Lord."

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
with Of the Father's Love Begotten

Arranged by **Jay Rouse**
Tunes: **ES IST EIN ROS'**,
Traditional German Carol, 15th c.,
DIVINUM MYSTERIUM,
Plainsong, ca. 13th c.



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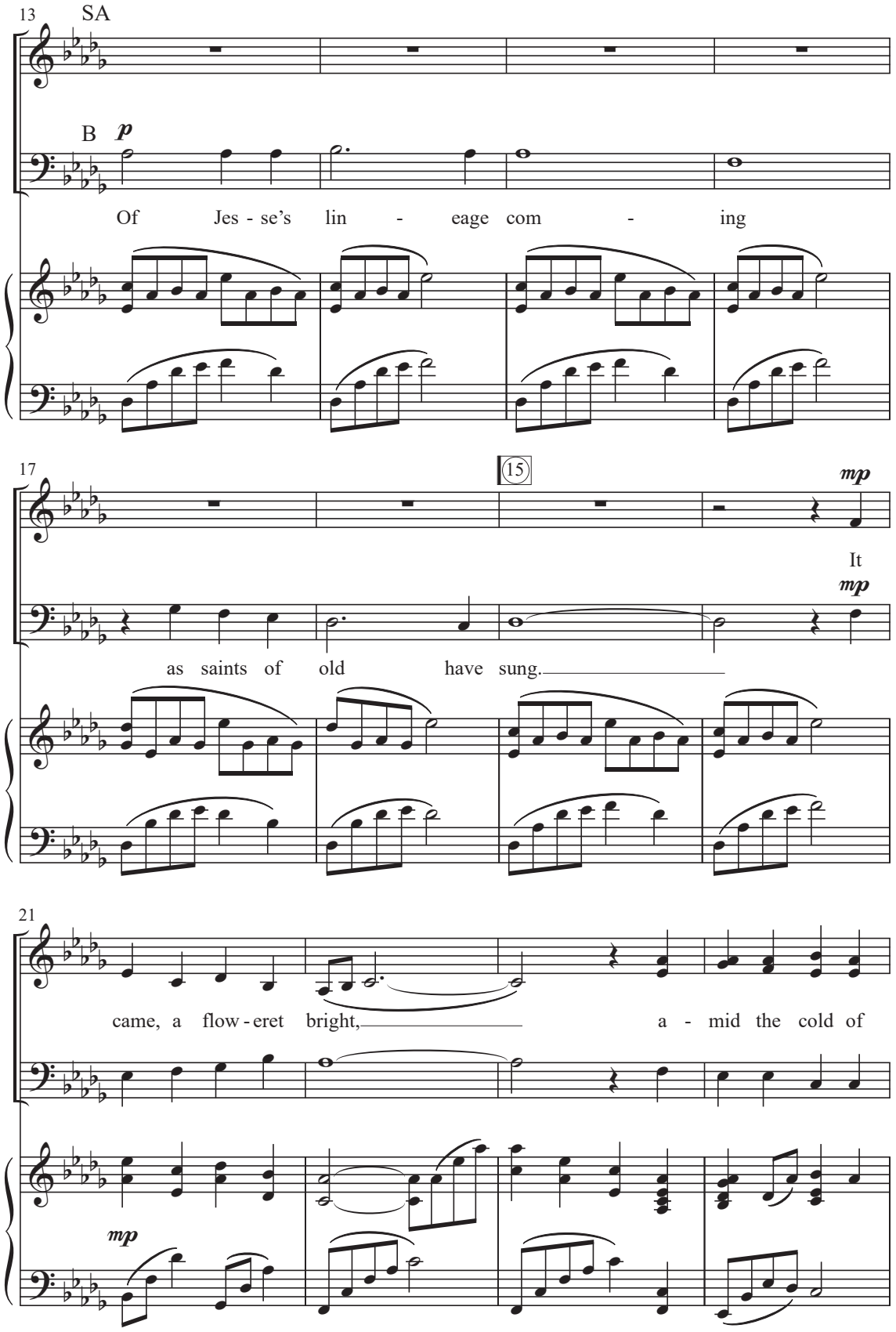
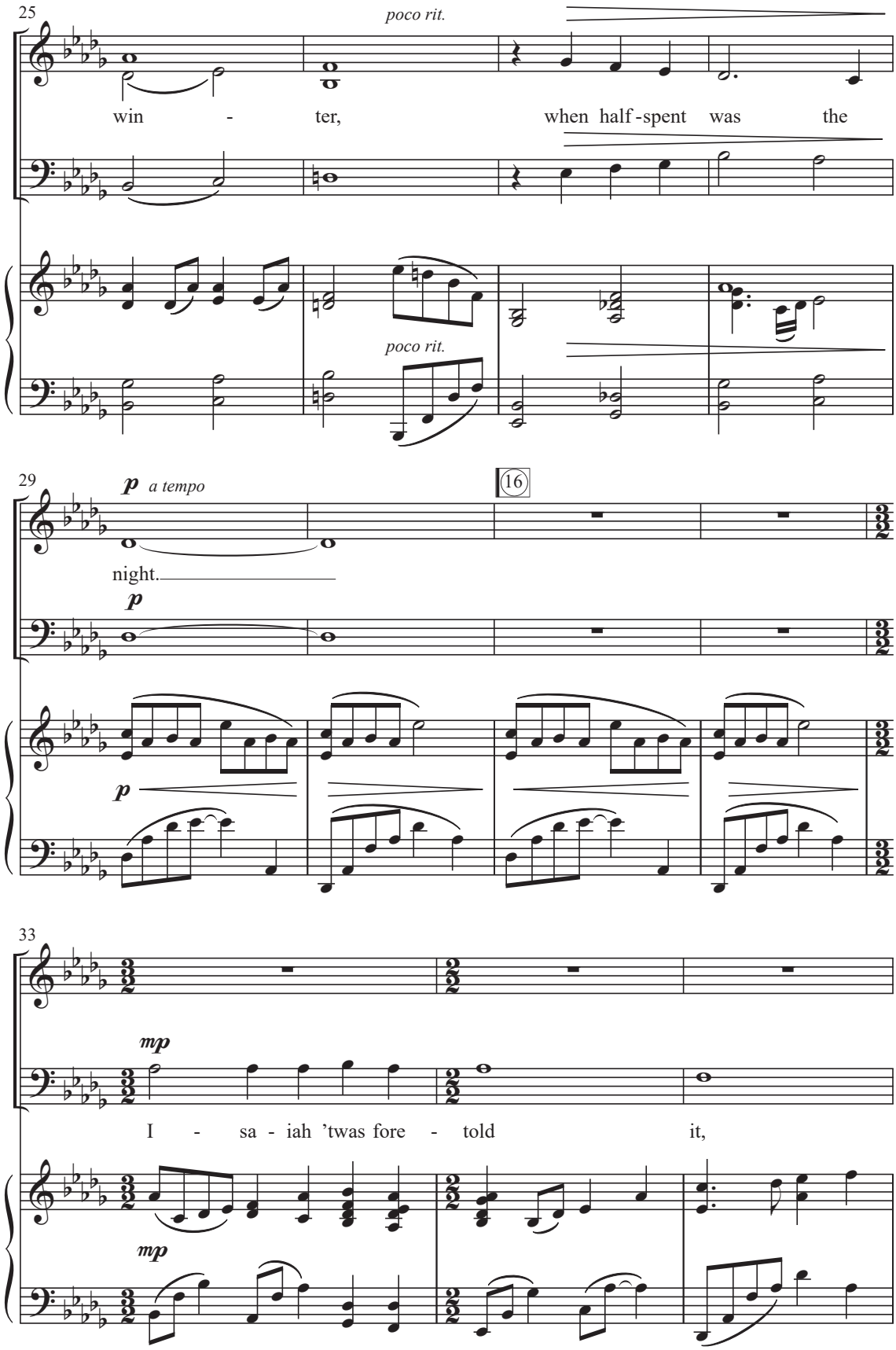
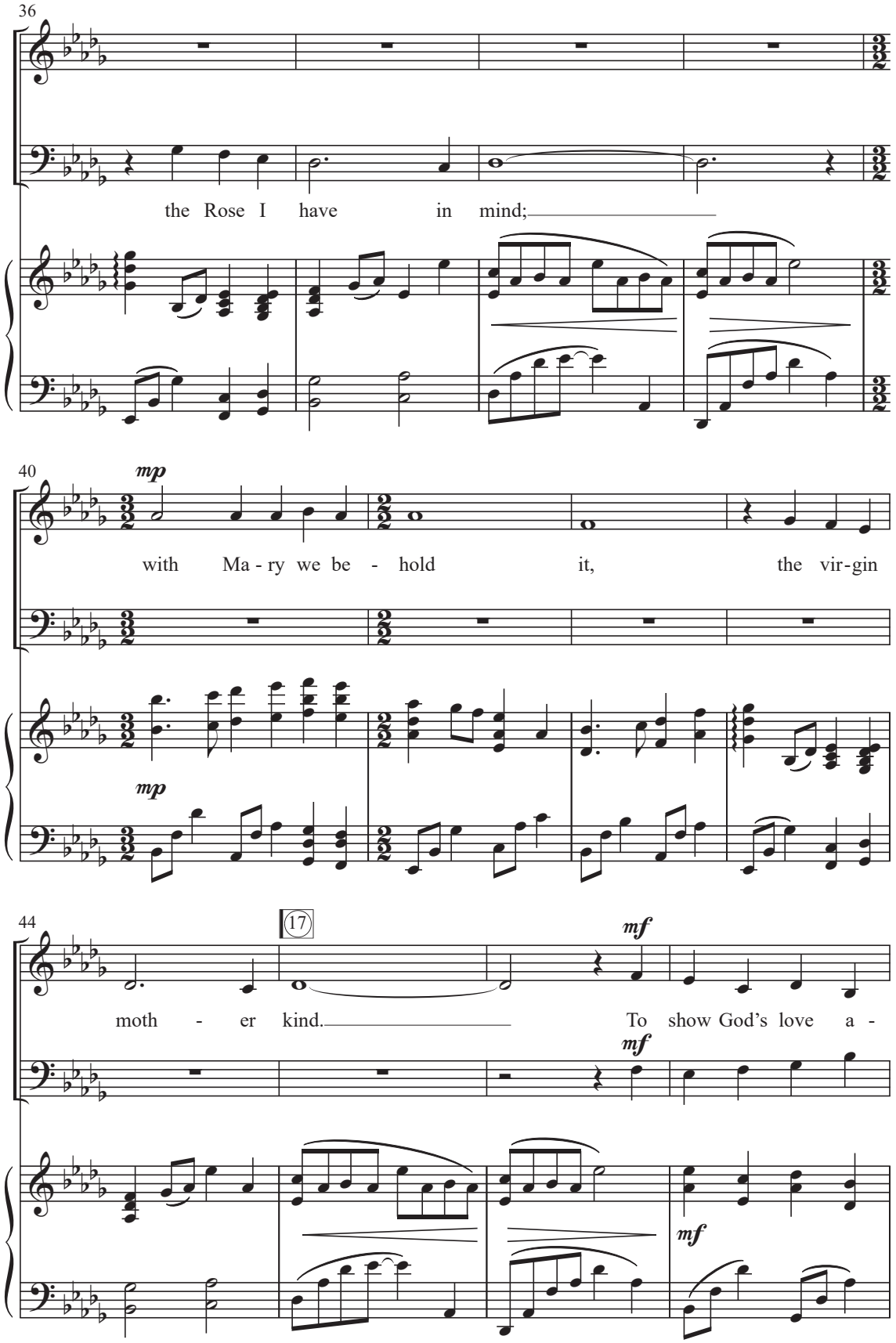
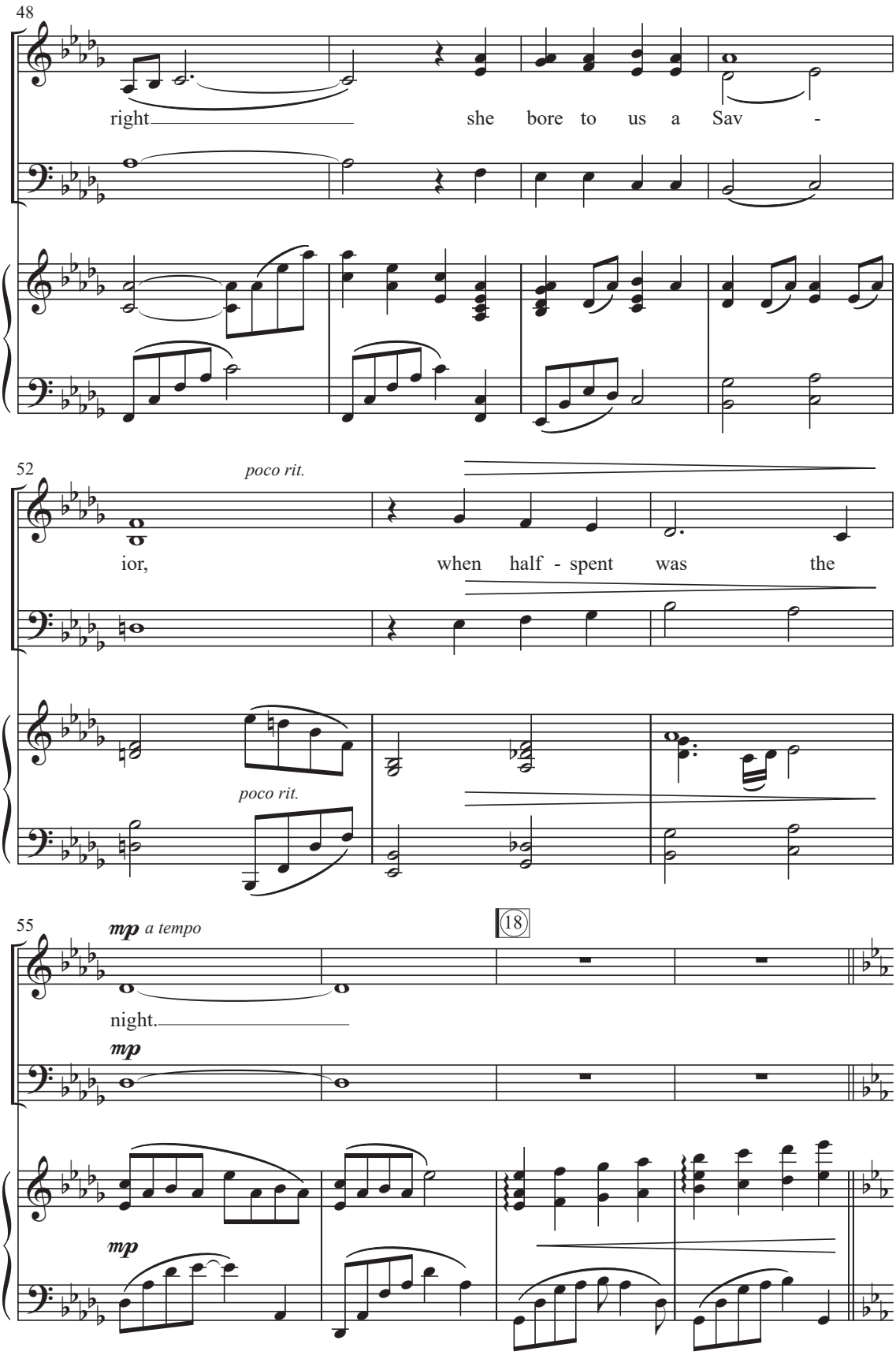
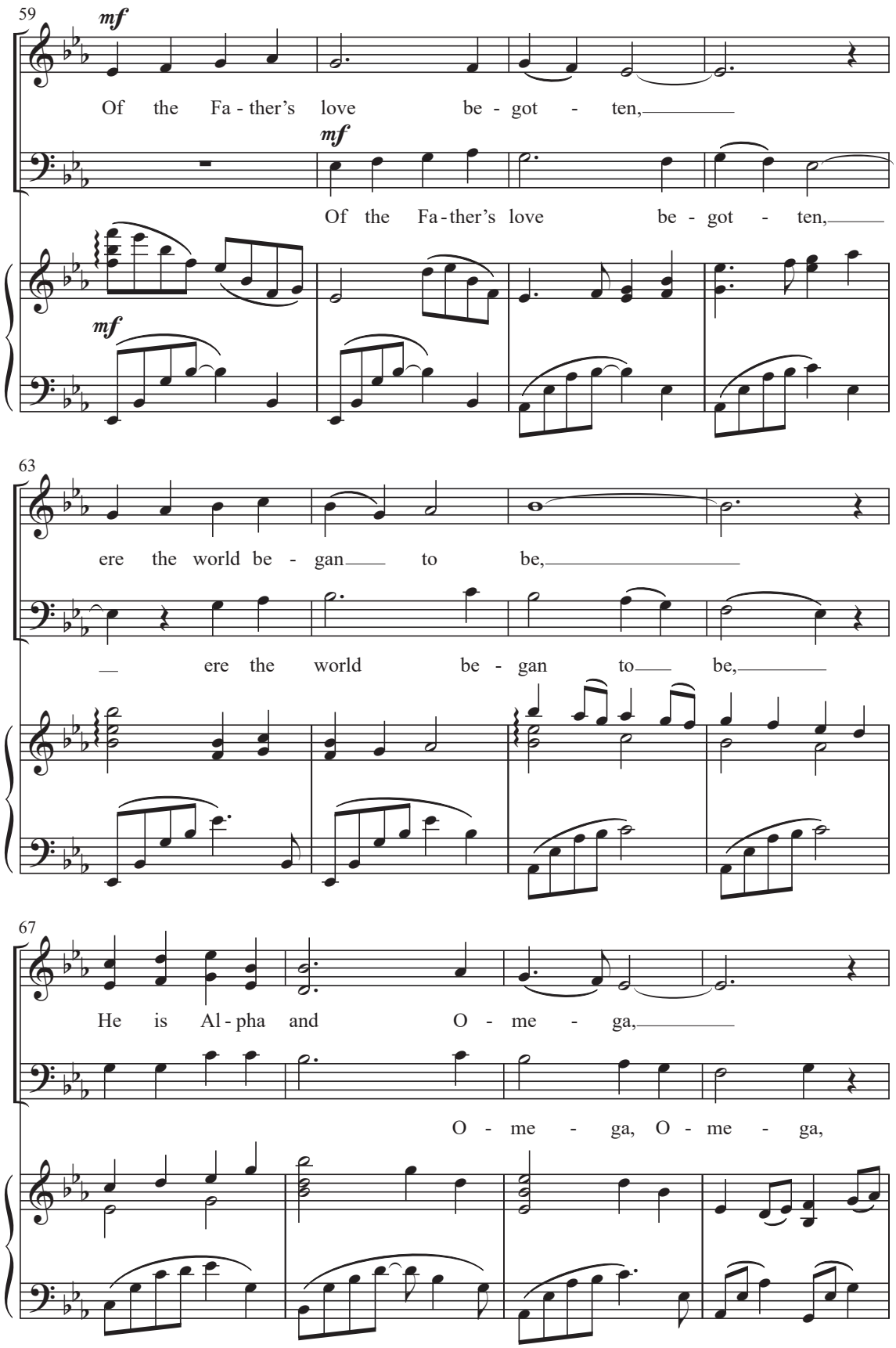

13
SA
B
p
Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing
17
15
mp
It
mp
as saints of old have sung.
21
came, a flow - eret bright, a - mid the cold of
mp


25
poco rit.
win - ter, when half-spent was the
poco rit.
29
p a tempo
16
night.
p
p
33
mp
I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it,
mp


36
the Rose I have in mind;
40
mp
with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the vir-gin
mp
44
17
mf
moth - er kind. To show God's love a -
mf
mf

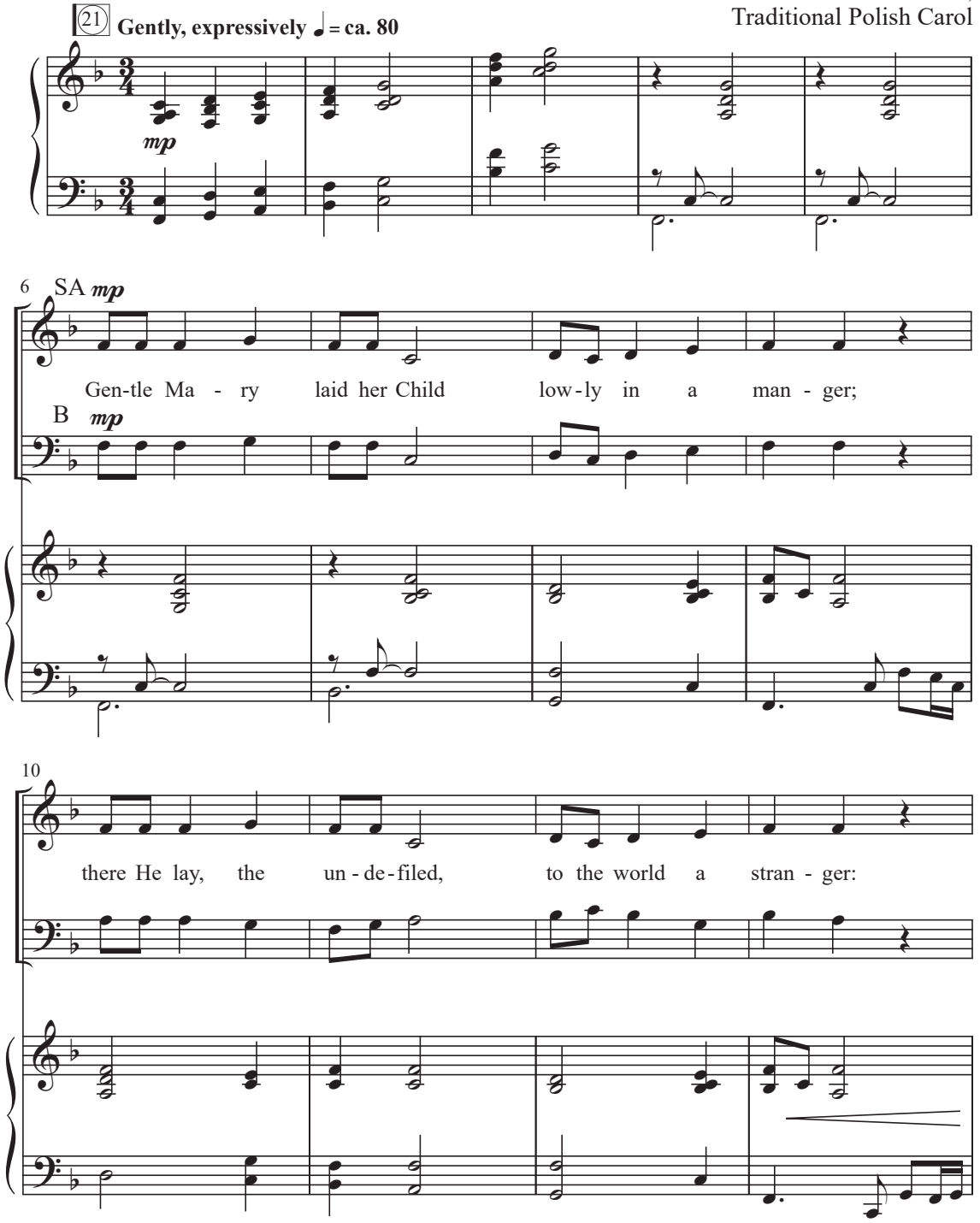

48
right she bore to us a Sav -
52
poco rit.
ior, when half - spent was the
poco rit.
55
mp a tempo
18
night.
mp
mp


59
mf
Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten,
mf
Of the Fa-ther's love be - got - ten,
mf
63
ere the world be - gan to be,
ere the world be - gan to be,
67
He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
O - me - ga, O - me - ga,

Manger Carol

Words by
Joseph S. Cook, 1919, and
Traditional Polish

Arranged by **Marty Parks**
Tunes: **TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM,**
Piae Cantiones, 1582,
W ZLOBIE LEZY,
Traditional Polish Carol



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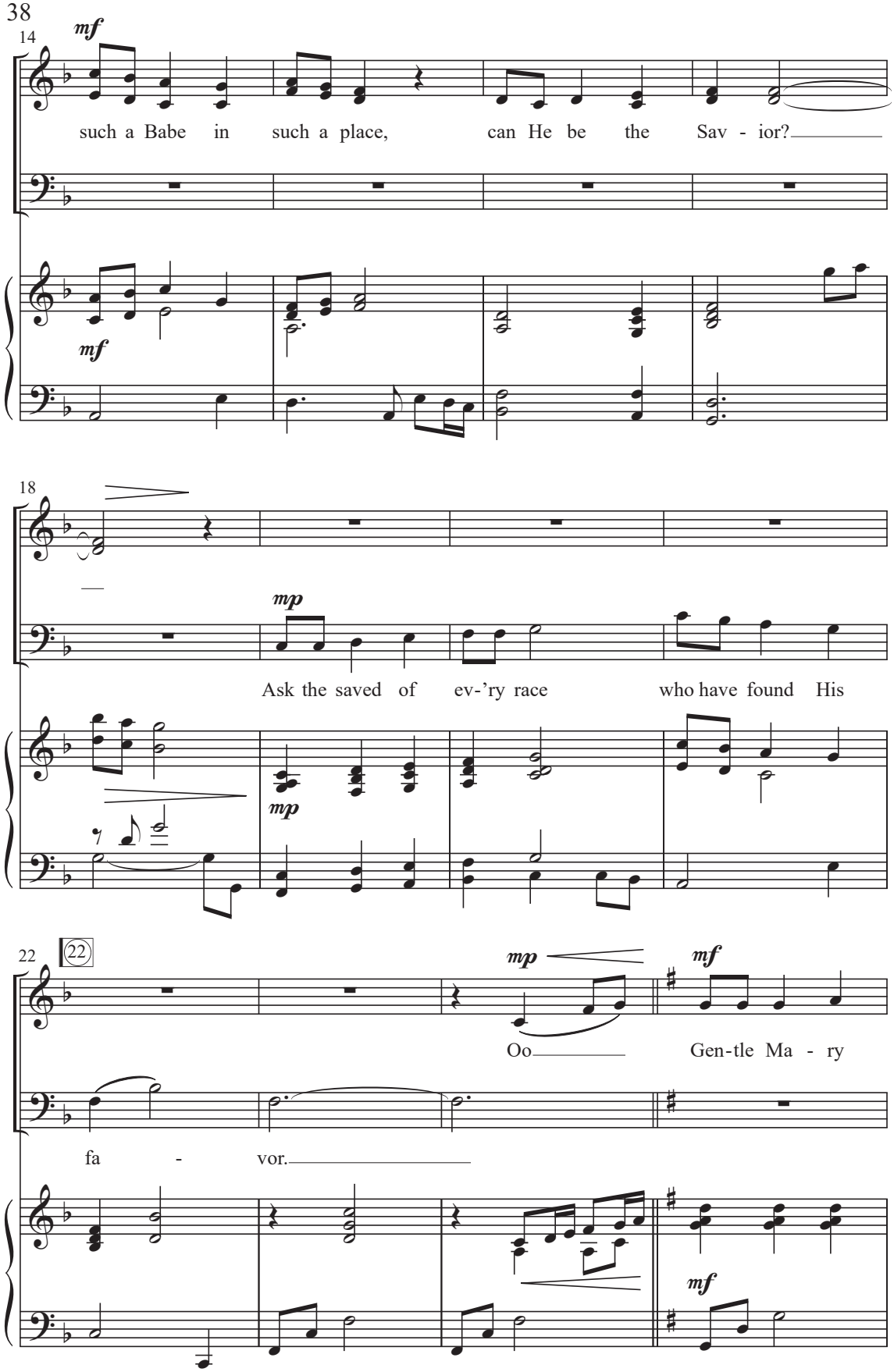
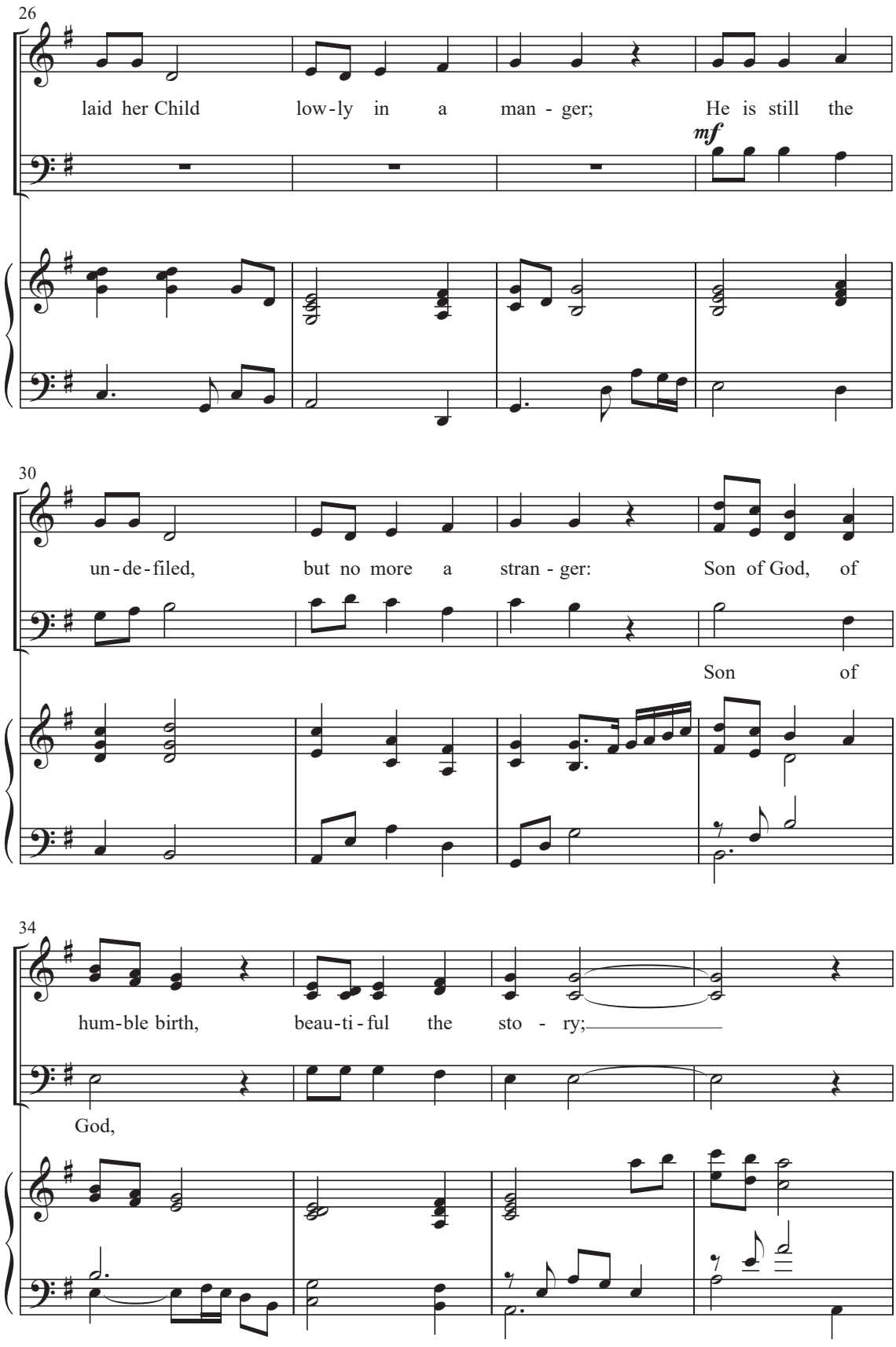
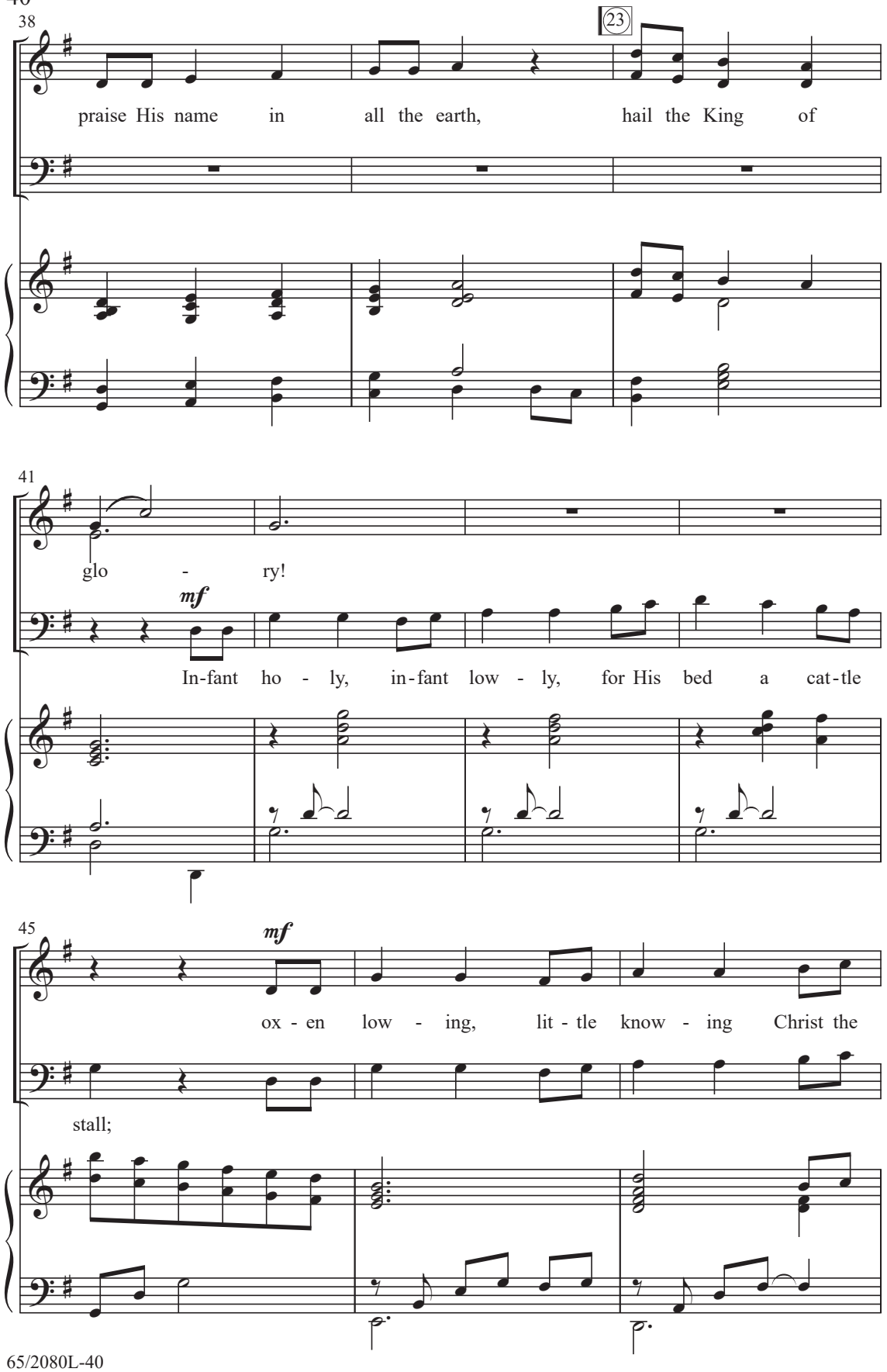
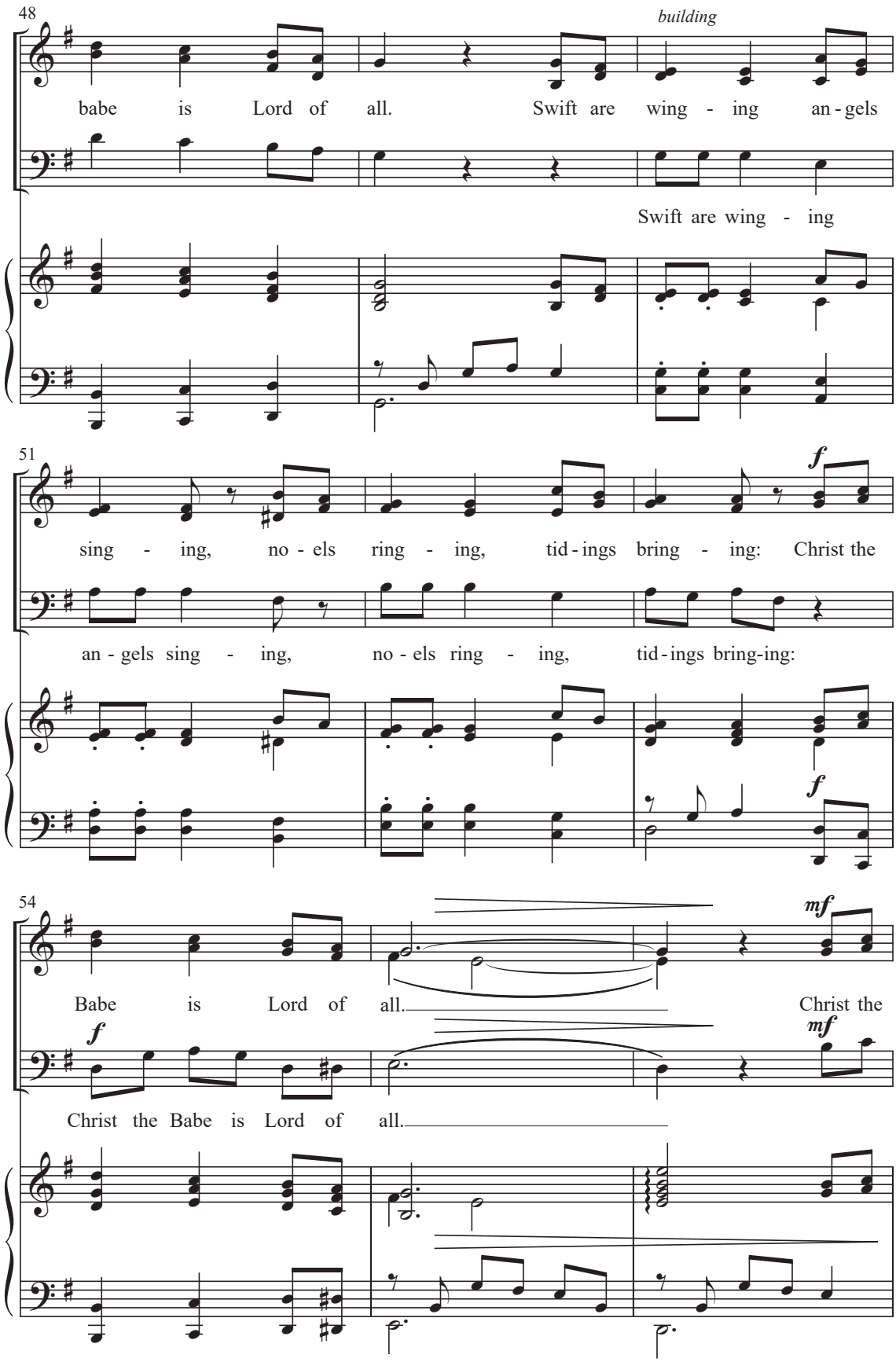

14
mf
such a Babe in such a place, can He be the Sav - ior?
mf
18
mp
Ask the saved of ev-'ry race who have found His
mp
22
22
mp
mf
Oo
Gen-tle Ma - ry
fa - vor.
mf


26
laid her Child low-ly in a man - ger; He is still the
mf
30
un-de-filed, but no more a stran - ger: Son of God, of
Son of
34
hum-ble birth, beau-ti-ful the sto - ry;
God,

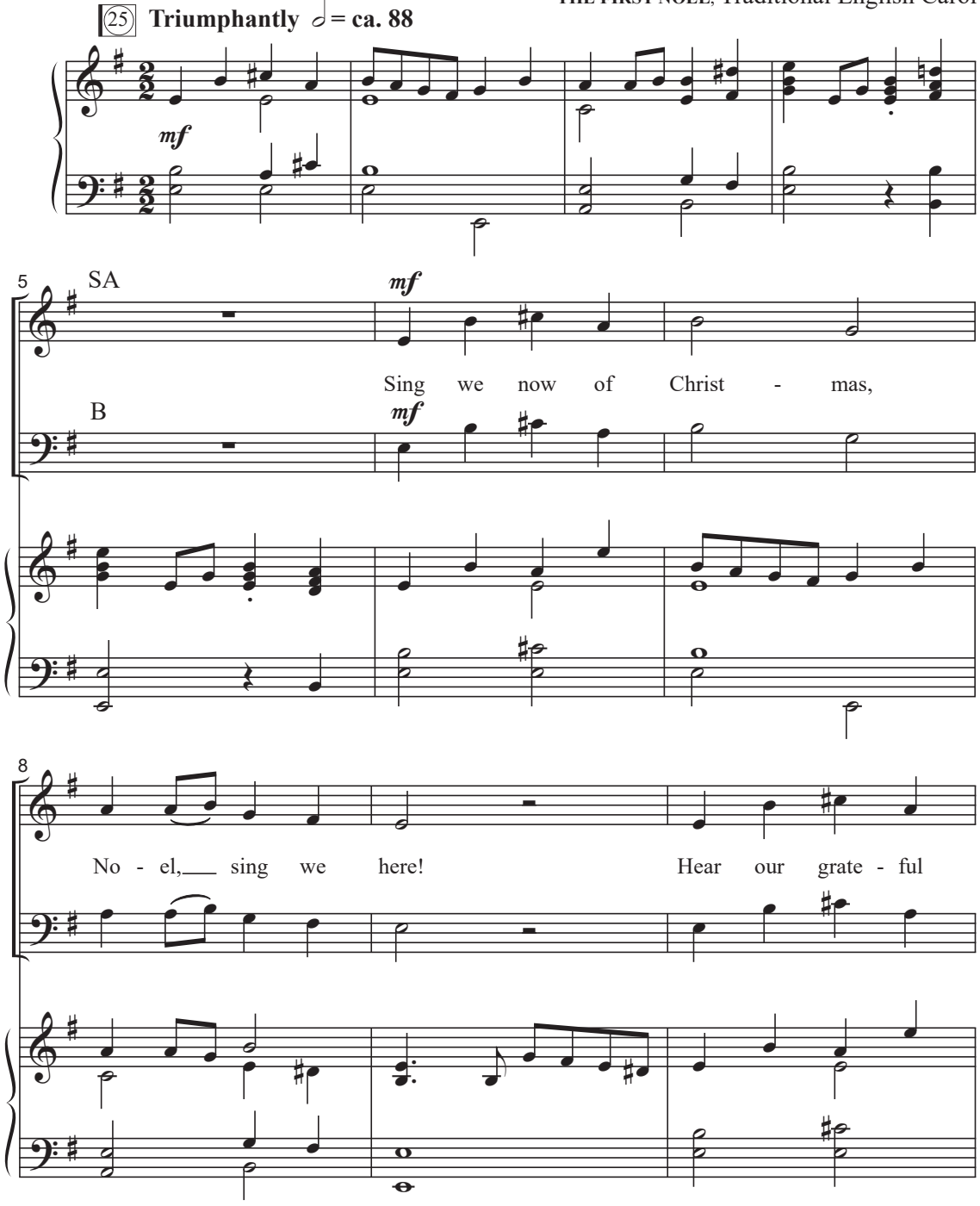

38
23
praise His name in all the earth, hail the King of
41
glo - ry!
mf
In-fant ho - ly, in-fant low - ly, for His bed a cat-tle
45
mf
ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the
stall;


48
building
babe is Lord of all. Swift are wing - ing an - gels
Swift are wing - ing
51
f
sing - ing, no - els ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing: Christ the
an - gels sing - ing, no - els ring - ing, tid - ings bring-ing:
f
54
mf
Babe is Lord of all. Christ the
f
mf
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.

Noel Festival

Arranged by
Lloyd Larson

Words and Music:
NOËL NOUVELET, Traditional French Carol
AFRICAN NOEL, Traditional African Folksong
THE FIRST NOEL, Traditional English Carol



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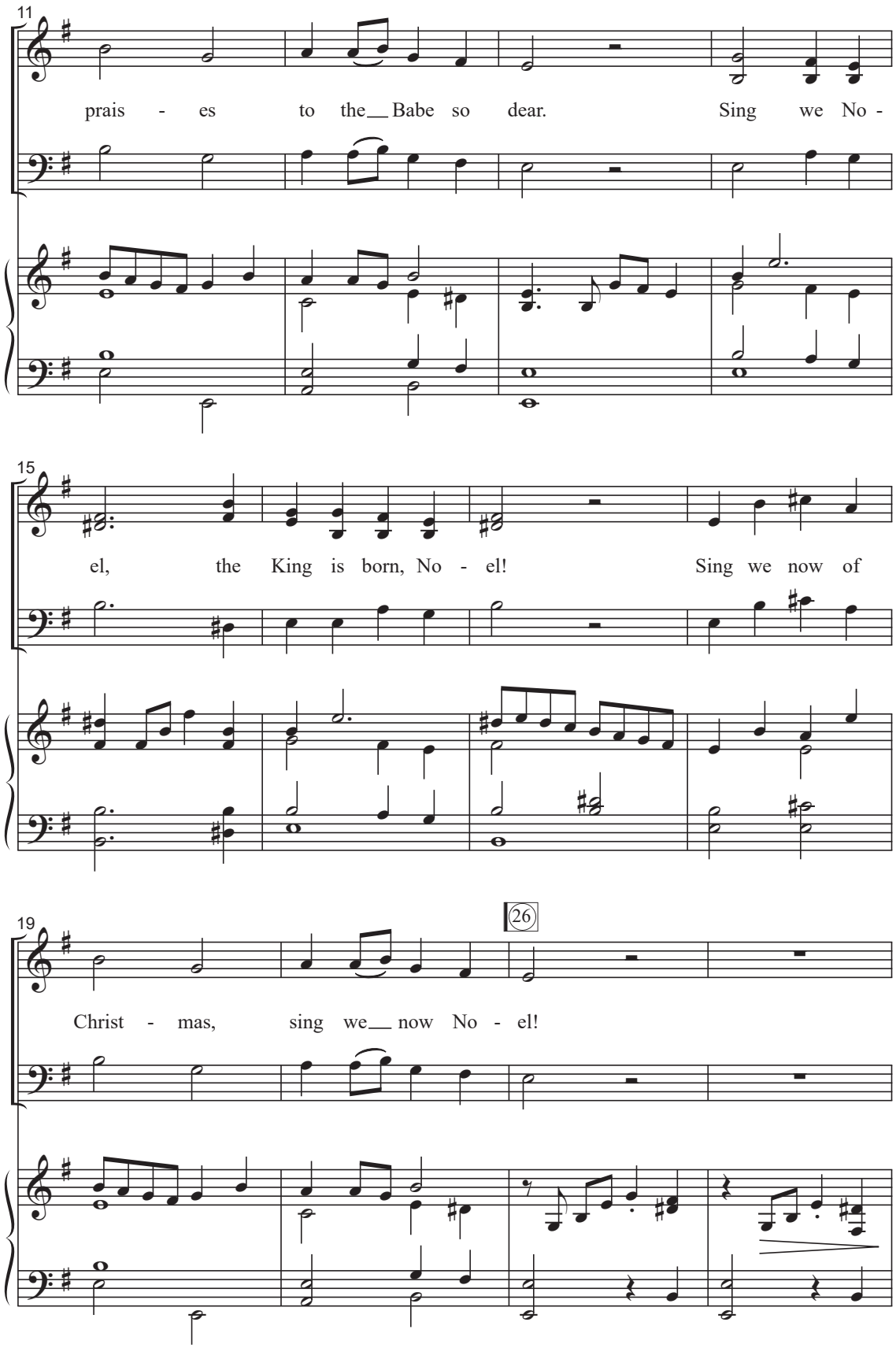
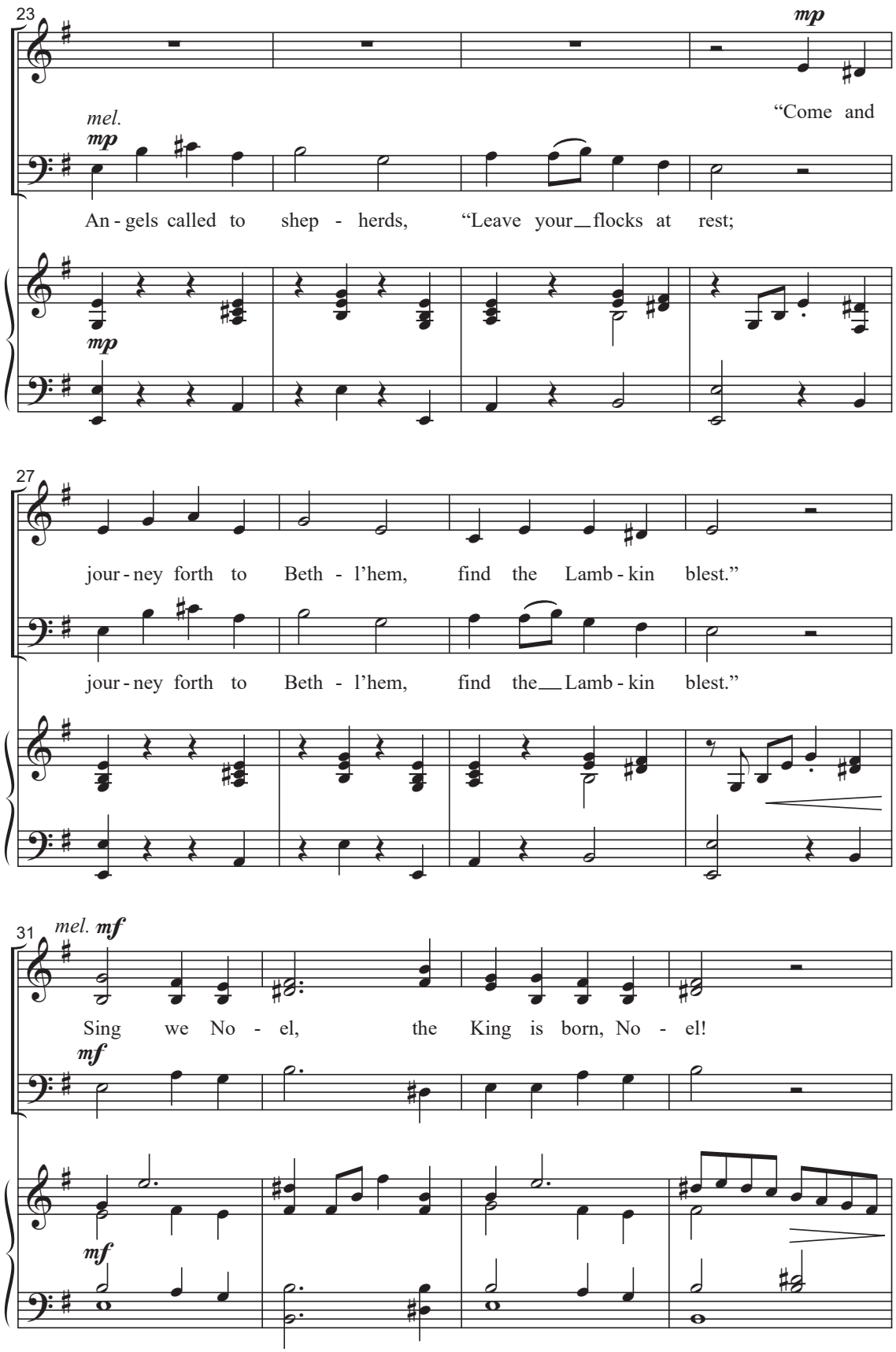
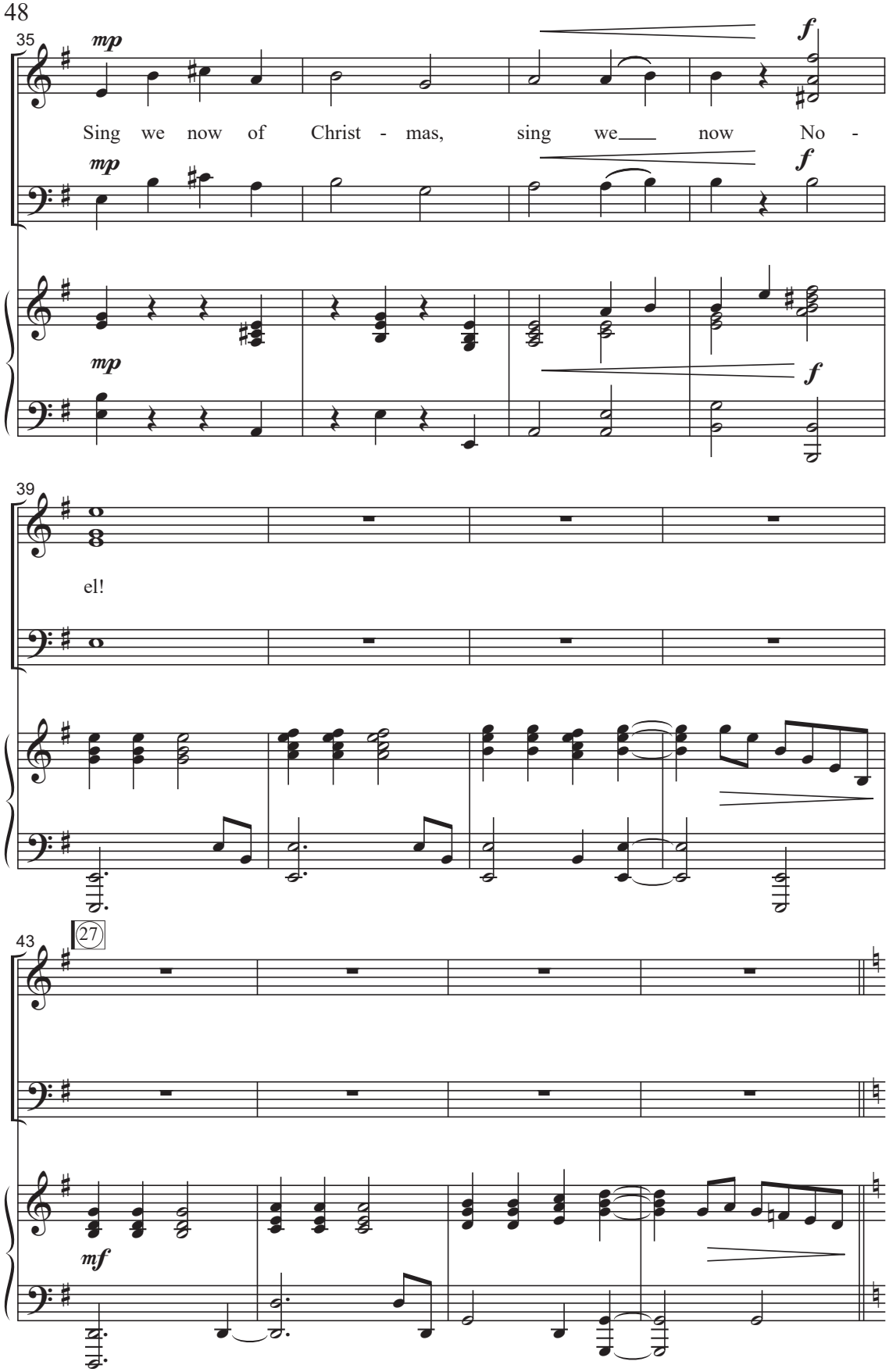
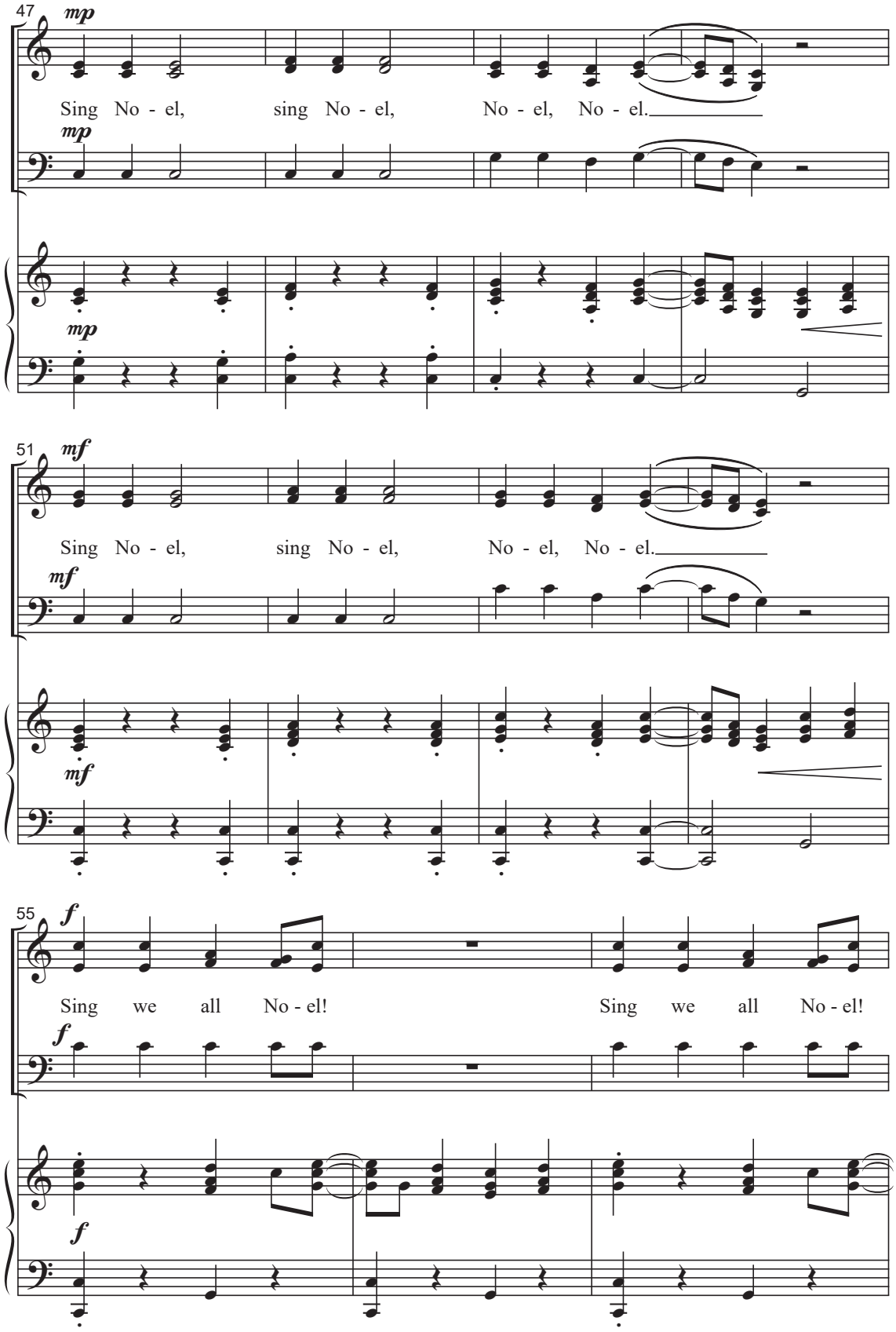

11
prais - es to the Babe so dear. Sing we No -
15
el, the King is born, No - el! Sing we now of
19
26
Christ - mas, sing we now No - el!

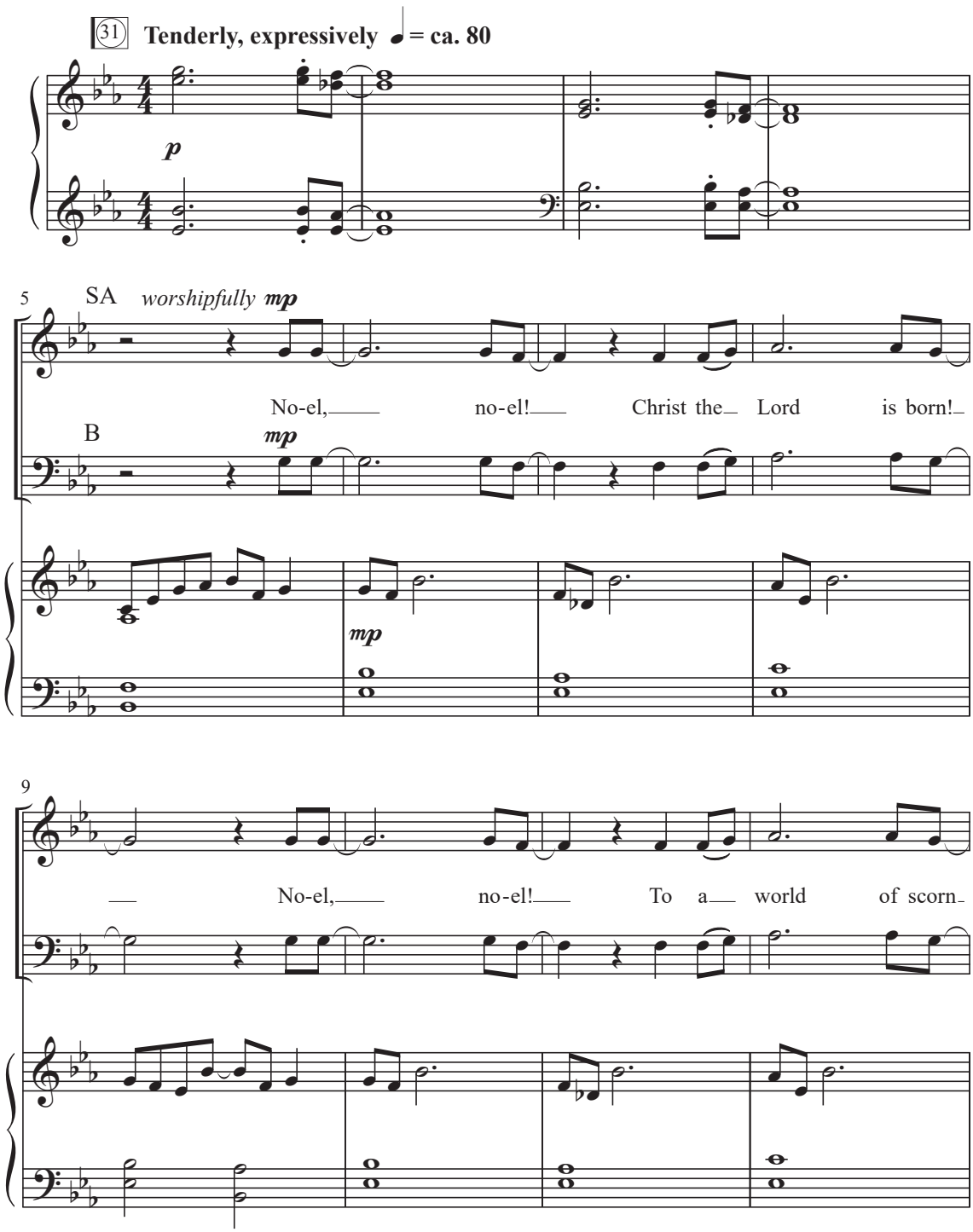

23
mp
"Come and
mel.
mp
An - gels called to shep - herds, "Leave your flocks at rest;
mp
27
jour - ney forth to Beth - l'hem, find the Lamb - kin blest."
jour - ney forth to Beth - l'hem, find the Lamb - kin blest."
31
mel. mf
Sing we No - el, the King is born, No - el!
mf
mf


35
mp
f
Sing we now of Christ - mas, sing we now No -
mp
f
mp
f
39
el!
43
27
mf


47
mp
Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el.
mp
mp
51
mf
Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el.
mf
mf
55
f
Sing we all No - el! Sing we all No - el!
f
f

Noel! Christ the Lord Is Born

Words and Music by
Marty Parks



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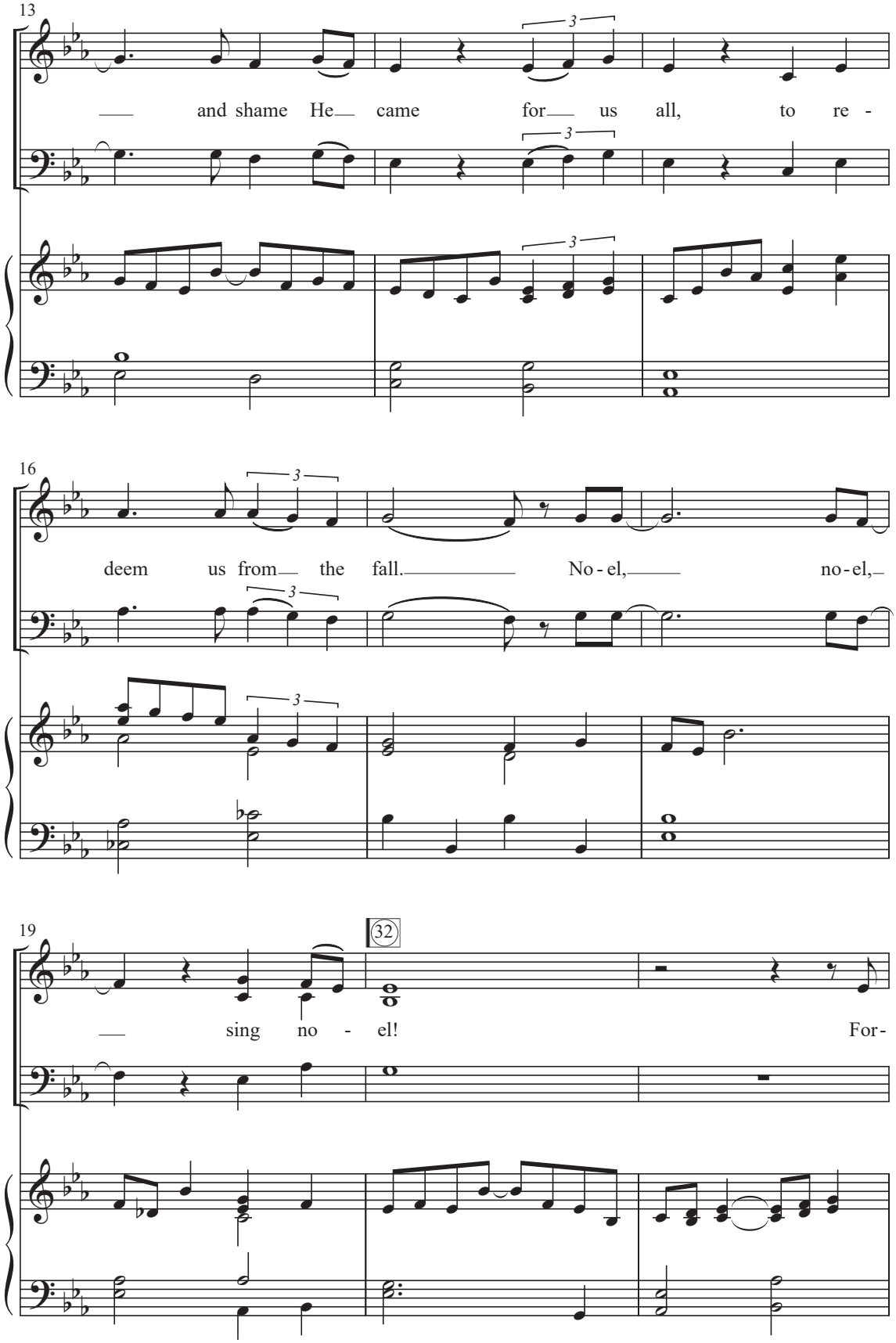
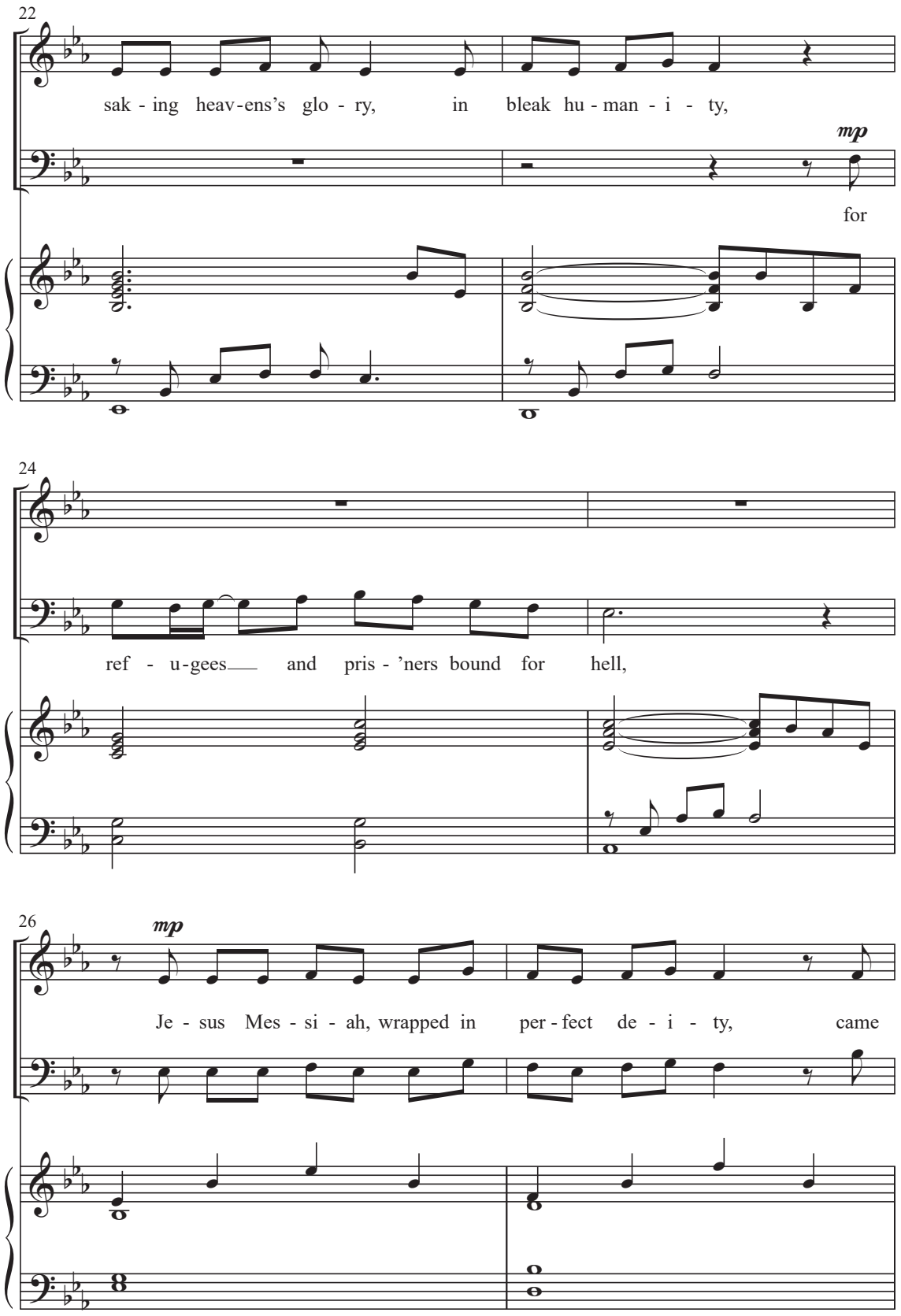
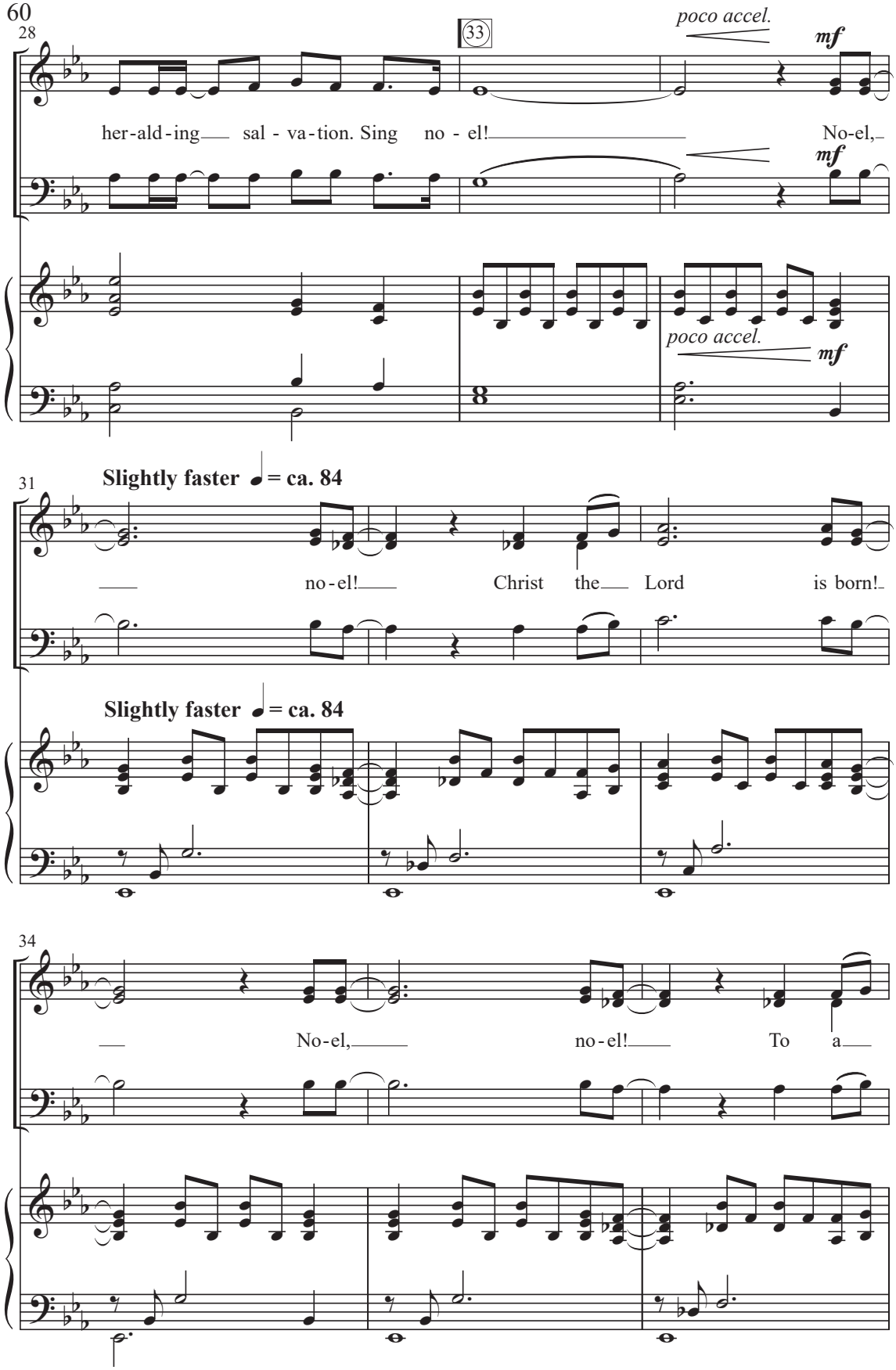
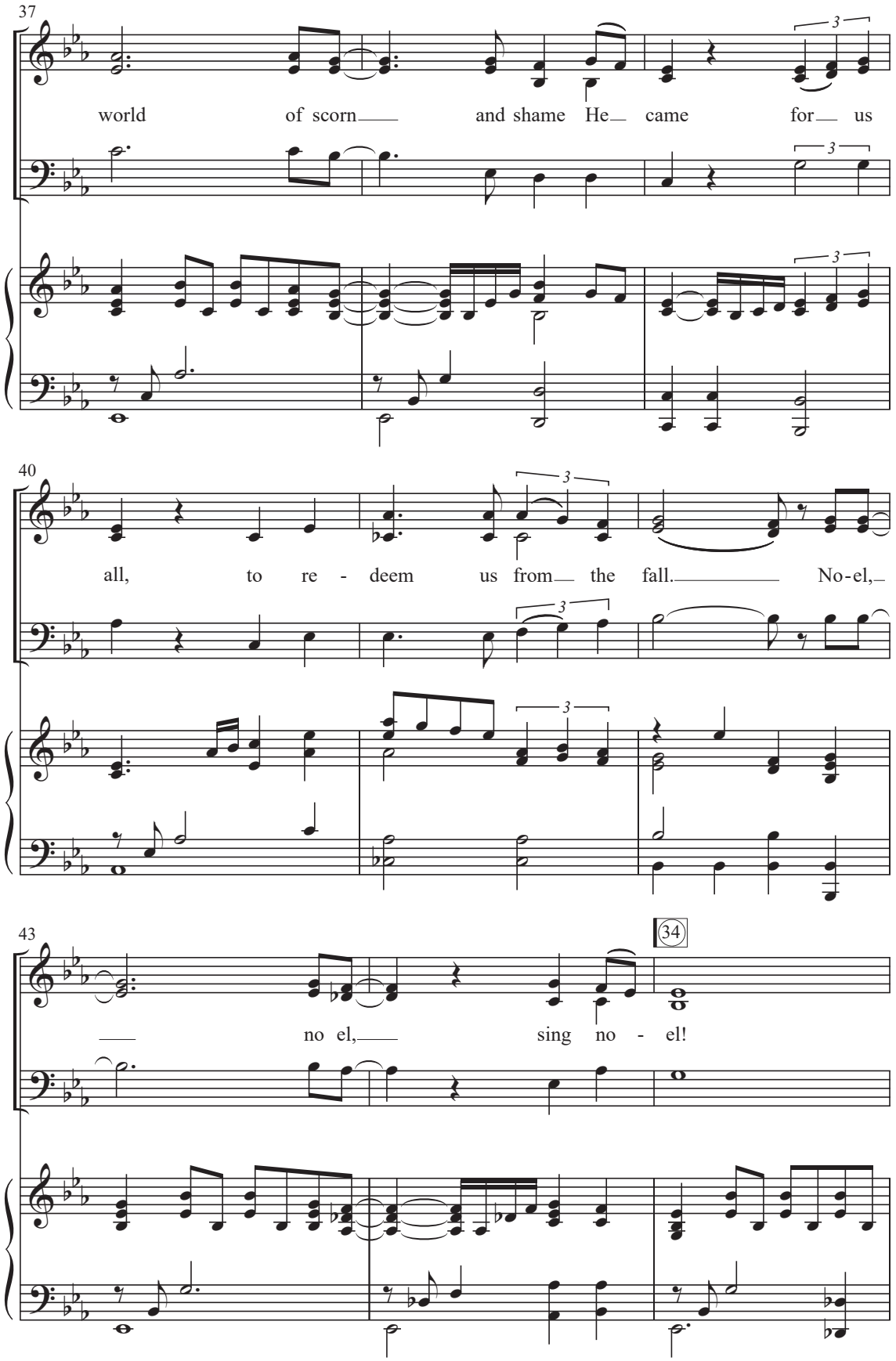

13
and shame He came for us all, to re -
16
deem us from the fall. No - el, no - el,
19
32
sing no - el! For -


22
sak - ing heav-ens's glo - ry, in bleak hu - man - i - ty,
mp
for
24
ref - u-gees and pris - 'ners bound for hell,
26
mp
Je - sus Mes - si - ah, wrapped in per - fect de - i - ty, came

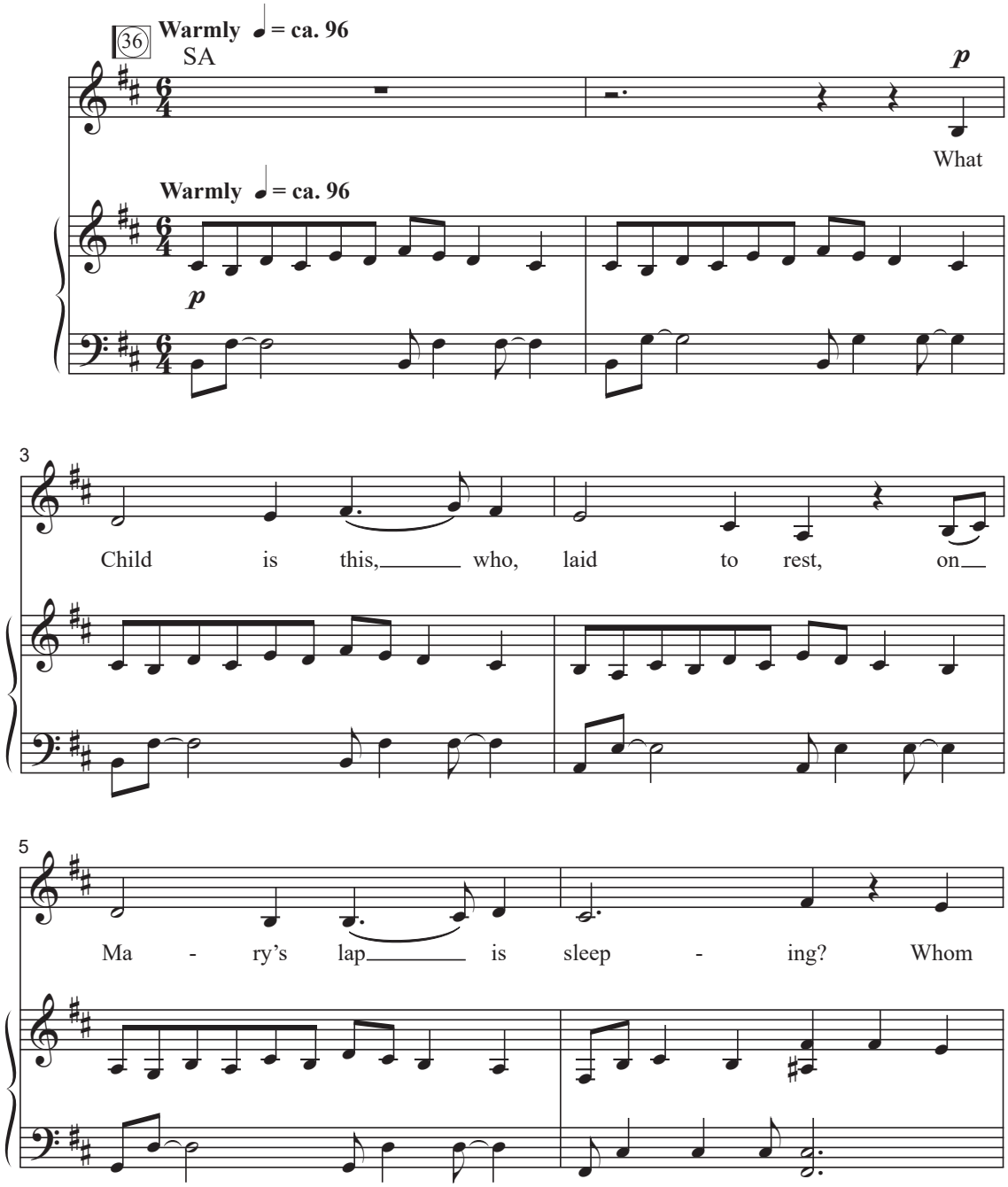

28
33
poco accel.
mf
her-ald-ing sal - va-tion. Sing no - el!
No-el,
mf
poco accel.
mf
31
Slightly faster ♩= ca. 84
no-el! Christ the Lord is born!
Slightly faster ♩= ca. 84
34
No-el, no-el! To a


37
world of scorn and shame He came for us
40
all, to re - deem us from the fall. No-el,
43
no el, sing no - el!
34

What Child Is This?

Words by
William C. Dix, 1865

Arranged by **Jay Rouse**
Tune: **GREENSLEEVES,**
Traditional English Melody, 16th c.



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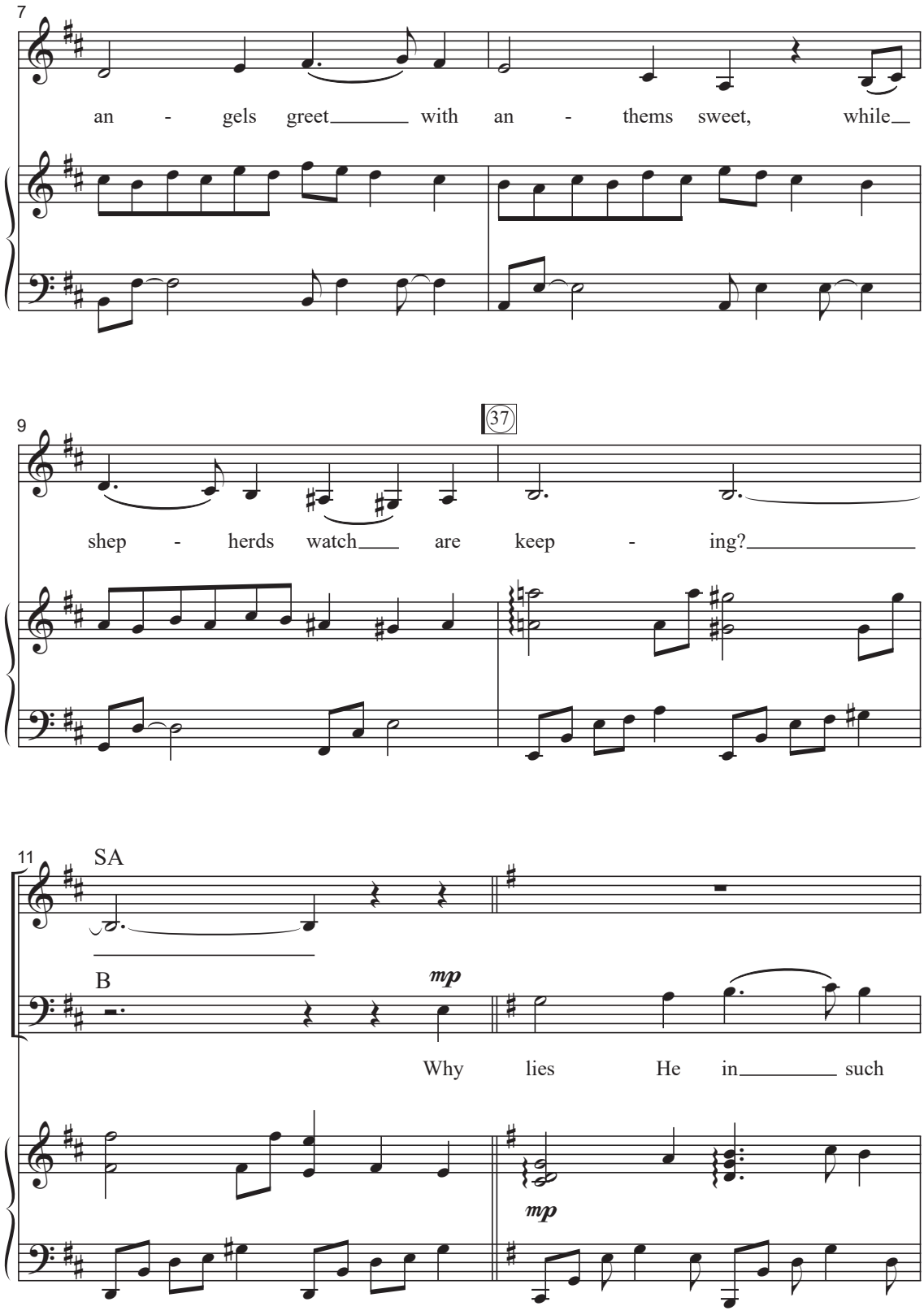
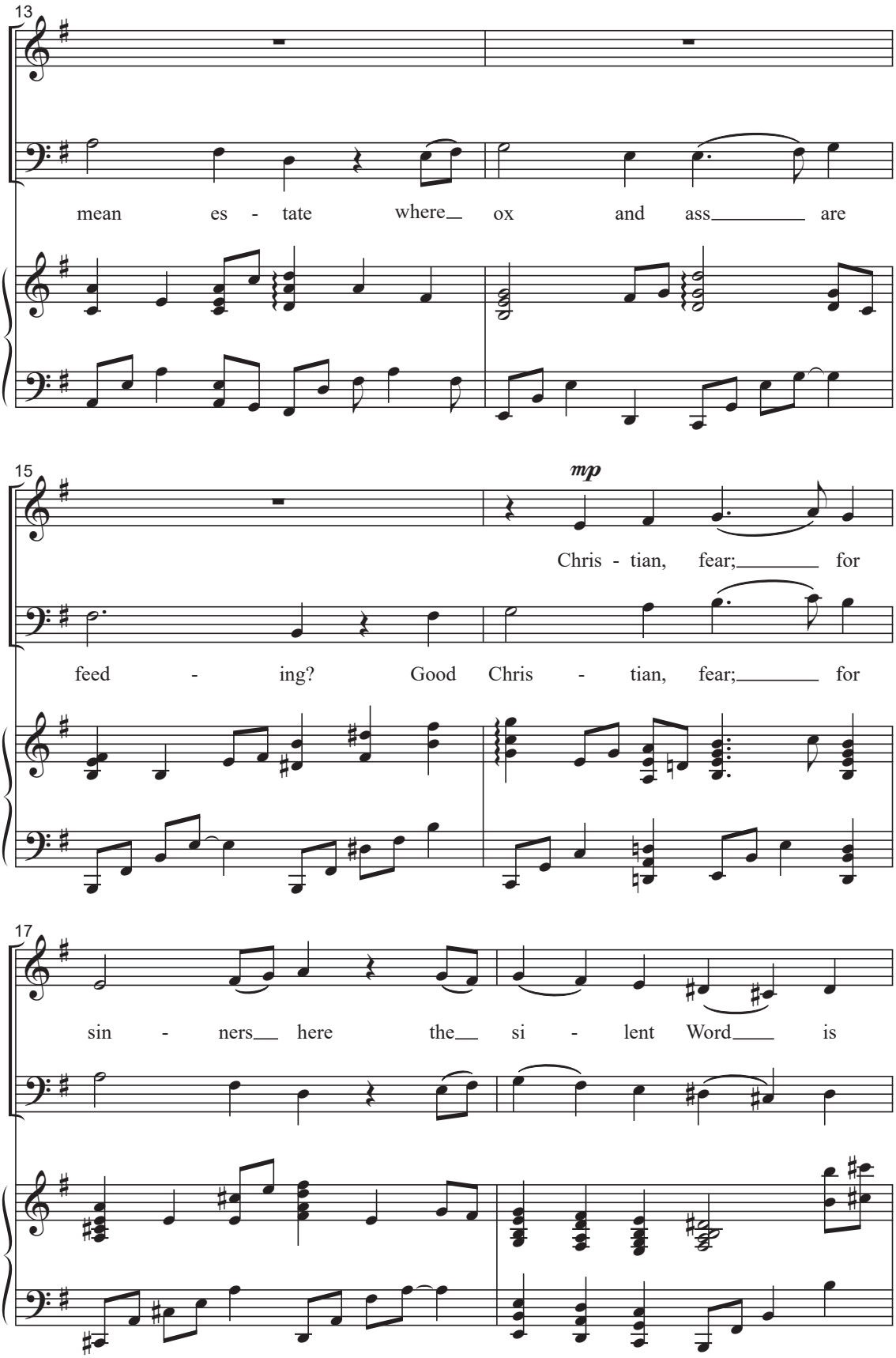
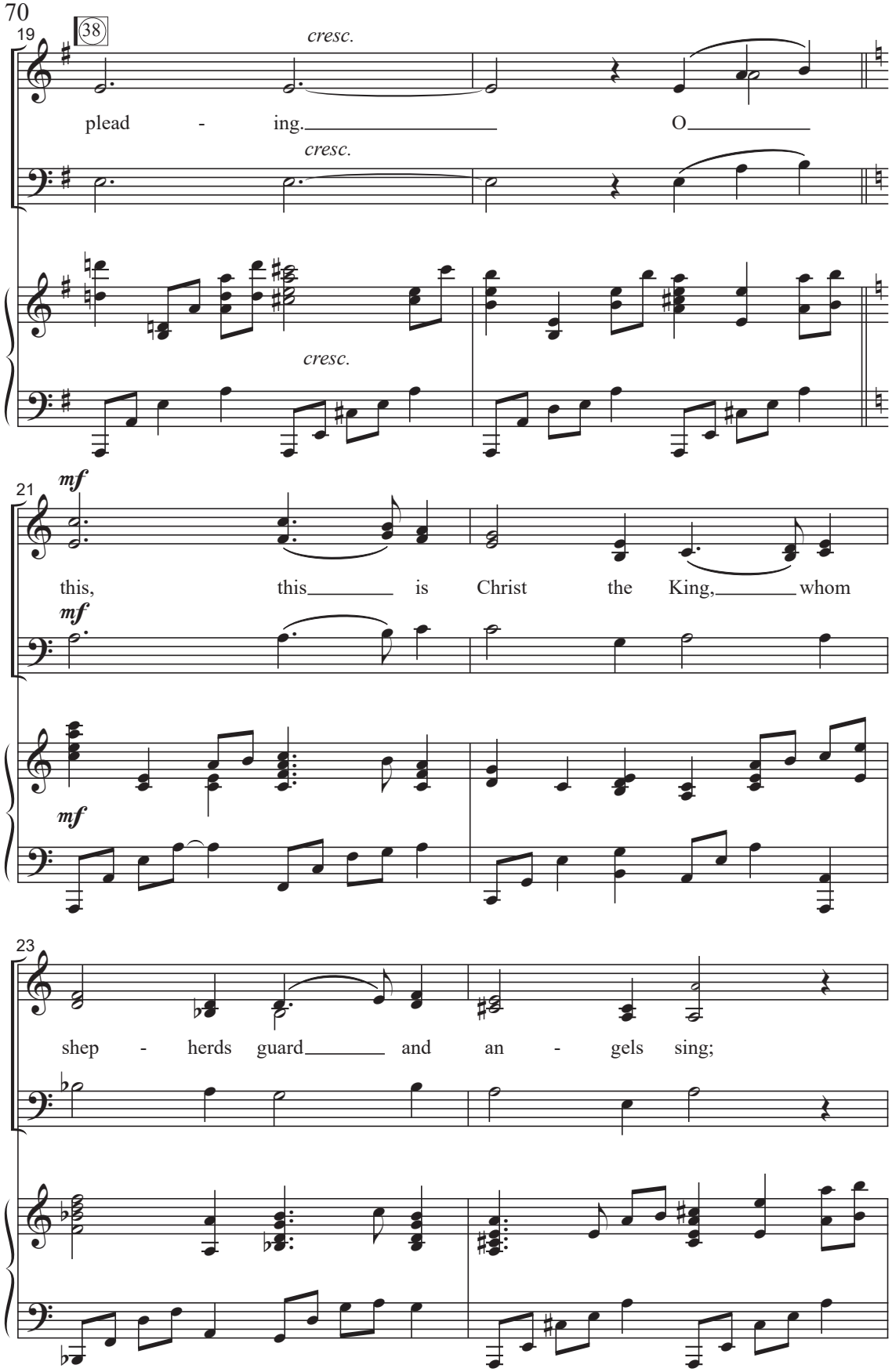
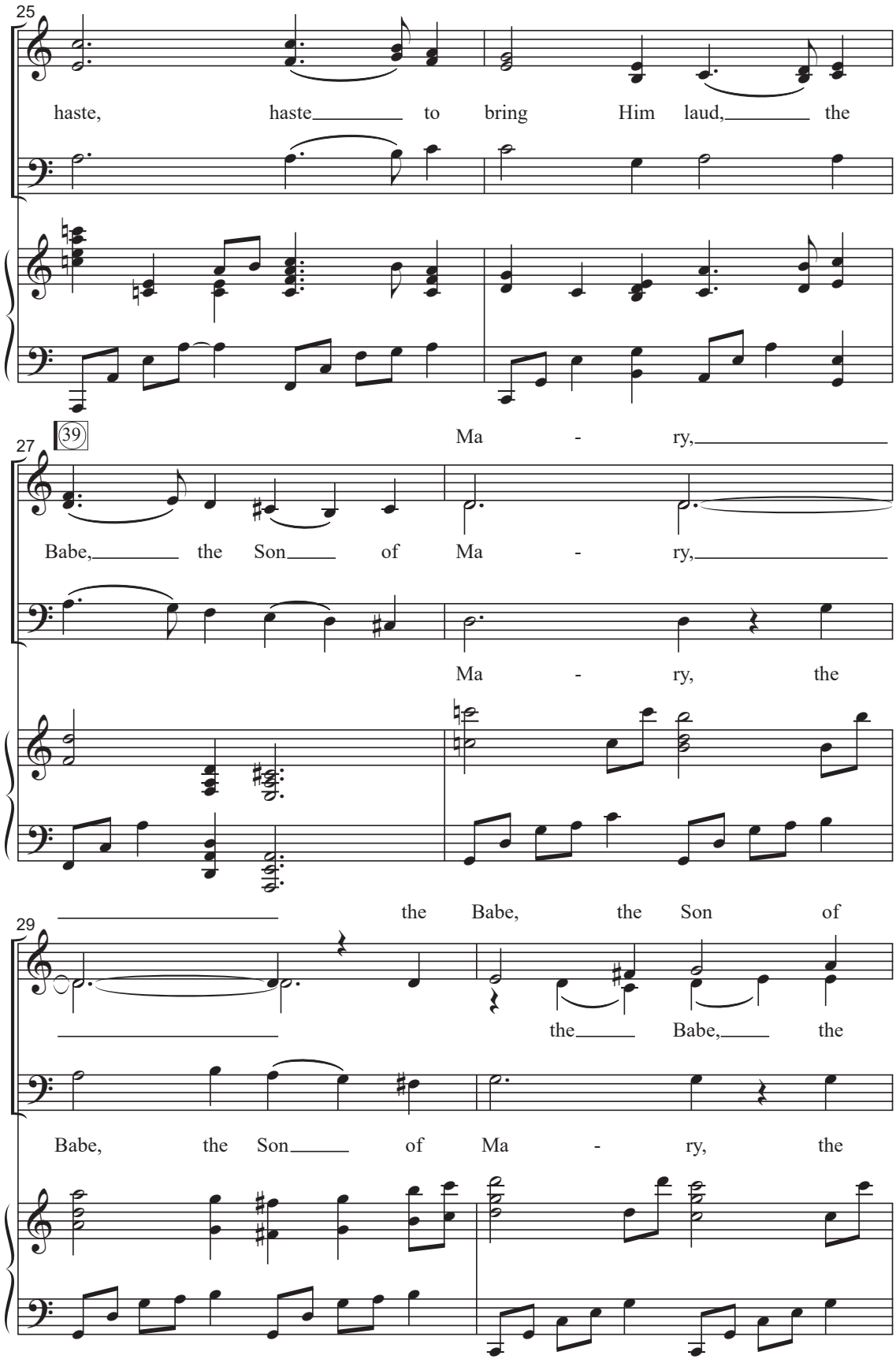

7
an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, while
9
37
shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
11
SA
B
mp
Why lies He in such
mp


13
mean es - tate where ox and ass are
15
mp
Chris - tian, fear; for
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for
17
sin - ners here the si - lent Word is

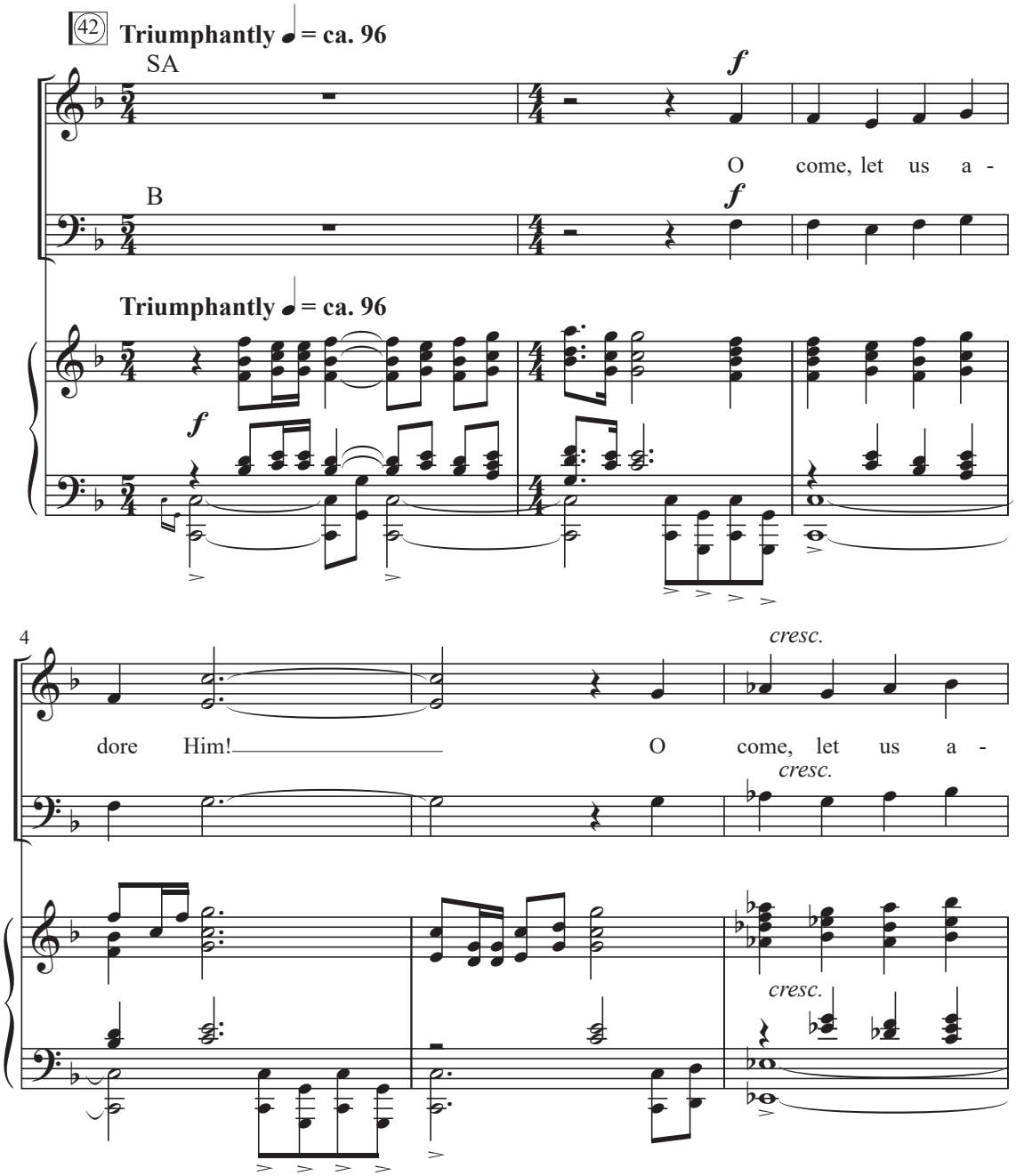

19
38
cresc.
plead - ing. O
cresc.
cresc.
21
mf
this, this is Christ the King, whom
mf
mf
23
shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;


25
haste, haste to bring Him laud, the
39
Ma - ry,
27
Babe, the Son of Ma - ry,
Ma - ry, the
the Babe, the Son of
29
the Babe, the
Babe, the Son of Ma - ry, the

A Noel Celebration (Finale)

Words:
Latin hymn, attr. **John F. Wade**, 1751
Marty Parks, 2015, and
Charles Wesley, 1840

Arranged with New Music
by **Lloyd Larson** and **Marty Parks**
Tunes: **ADESTE FIDELES,**
John F. Wade's *Cantus Diversi*, 1751,
MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1840



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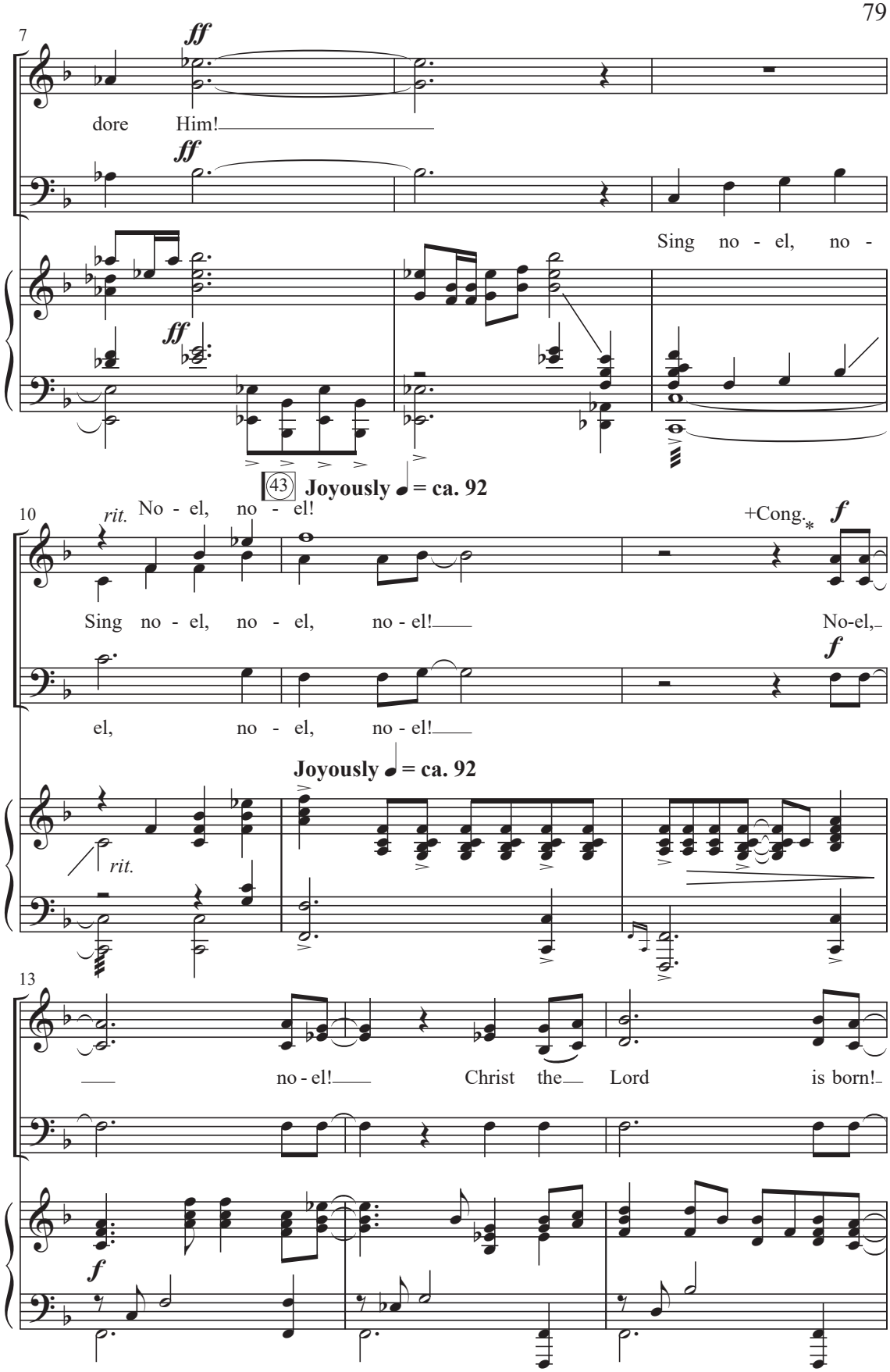
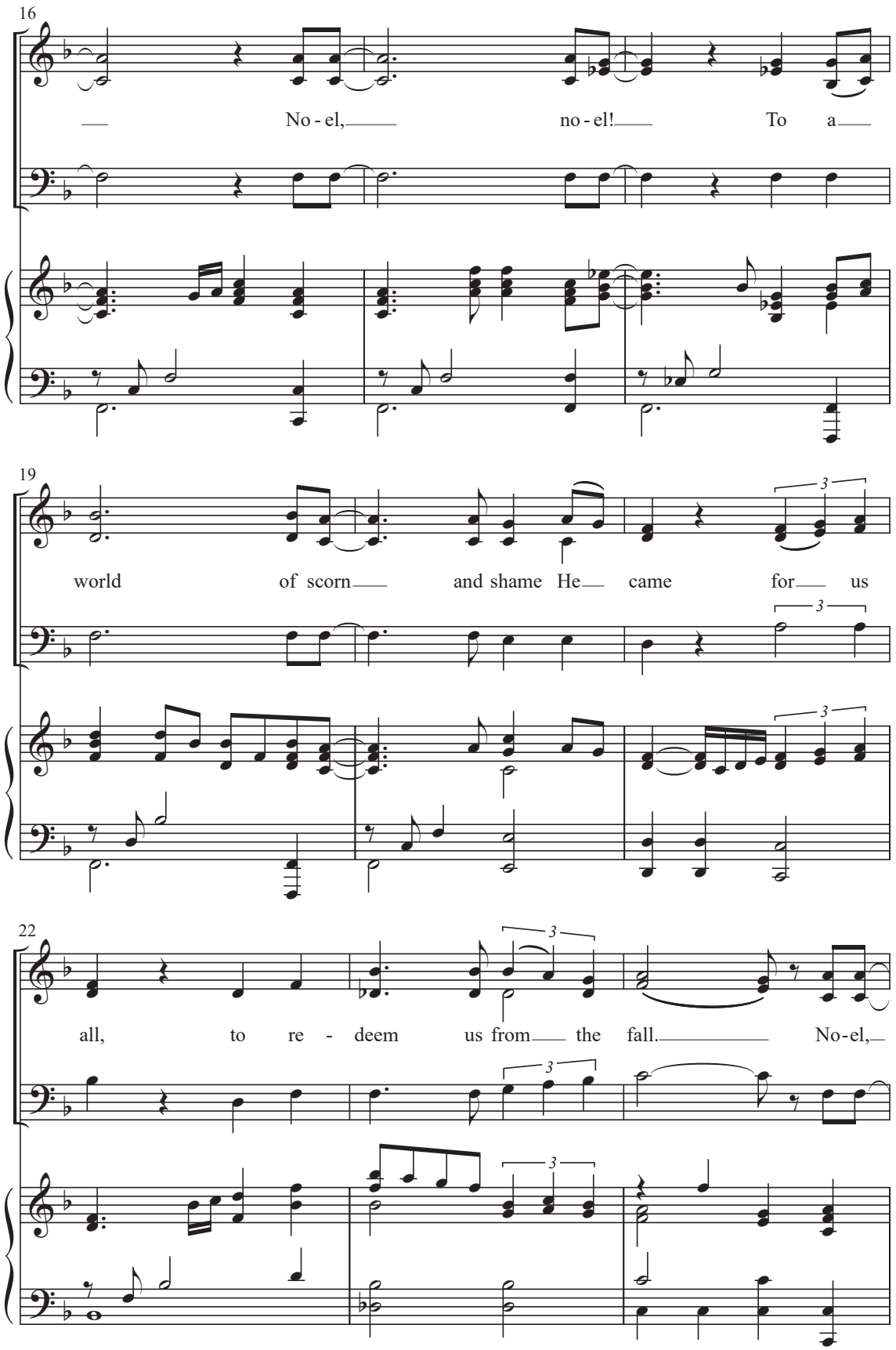
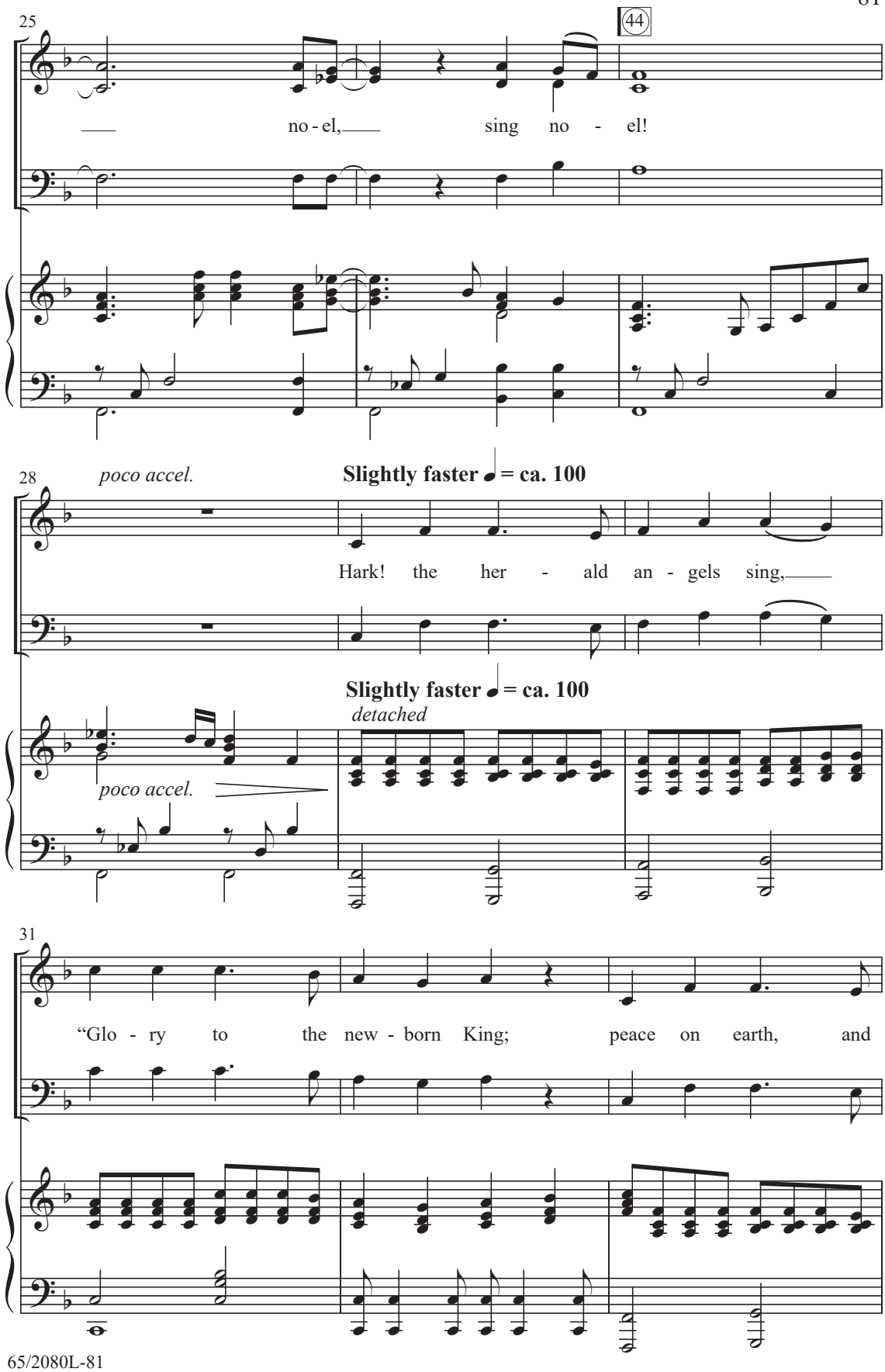
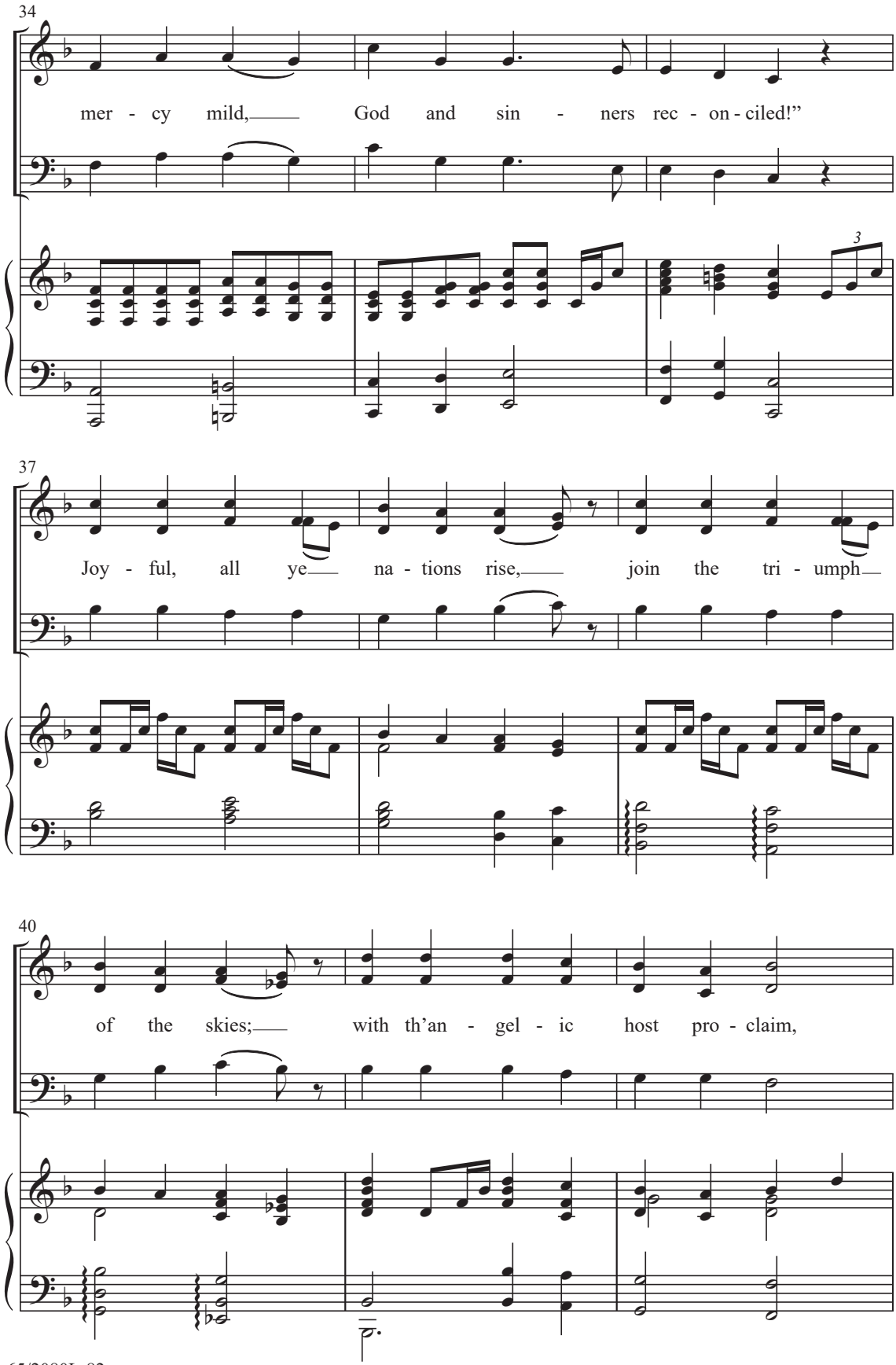
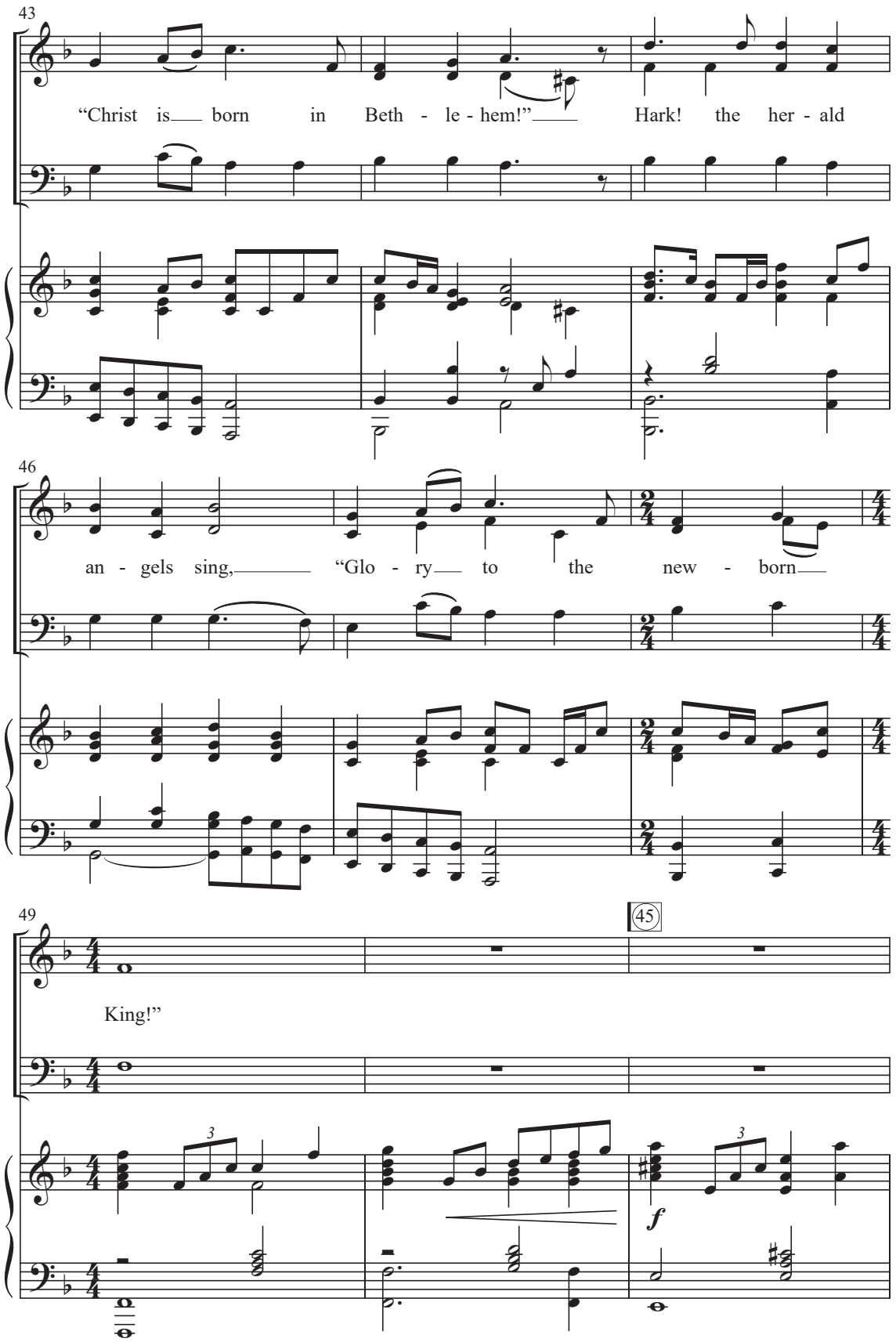


65/2080L-79 ***Noel! Christ the Lord Is Born** *(Words and Music by Marty Parks)*


16
No - el, no - el! To a
19
world of scorn and shame He came for us
22
all, to re - deem us from the fall. No-el,


25
44
no - el, sing no - el!
28
poco accel.
Slightly faster ♩ = ca. 100
Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing,
Slightly faster ♩ = ca. 100
detached
poco accel.
31
"Glo - ry to the new - born King; peace on earth, and


34
mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
3
37
Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, join the tri - umph
40
of the skies; with th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim,


43
"Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!" Hark! the her - ald
46
an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born
49
45
King!"
3
3
f