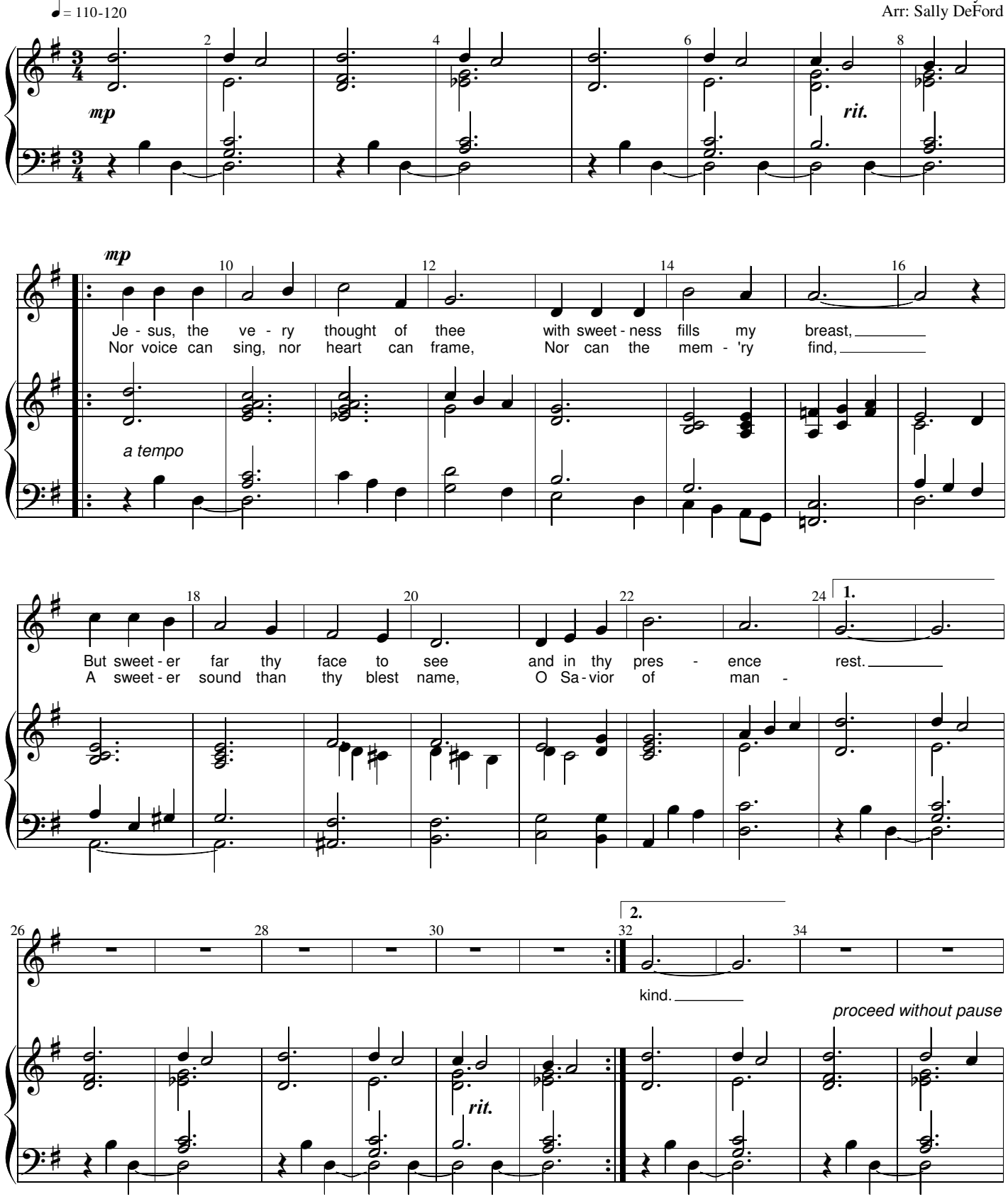
Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee (Introduction)

Medium-voice solo--Narrator 1

Words: Bernard of Clairvaux
Music: John B. Dykes
Arr: Sally DeFord



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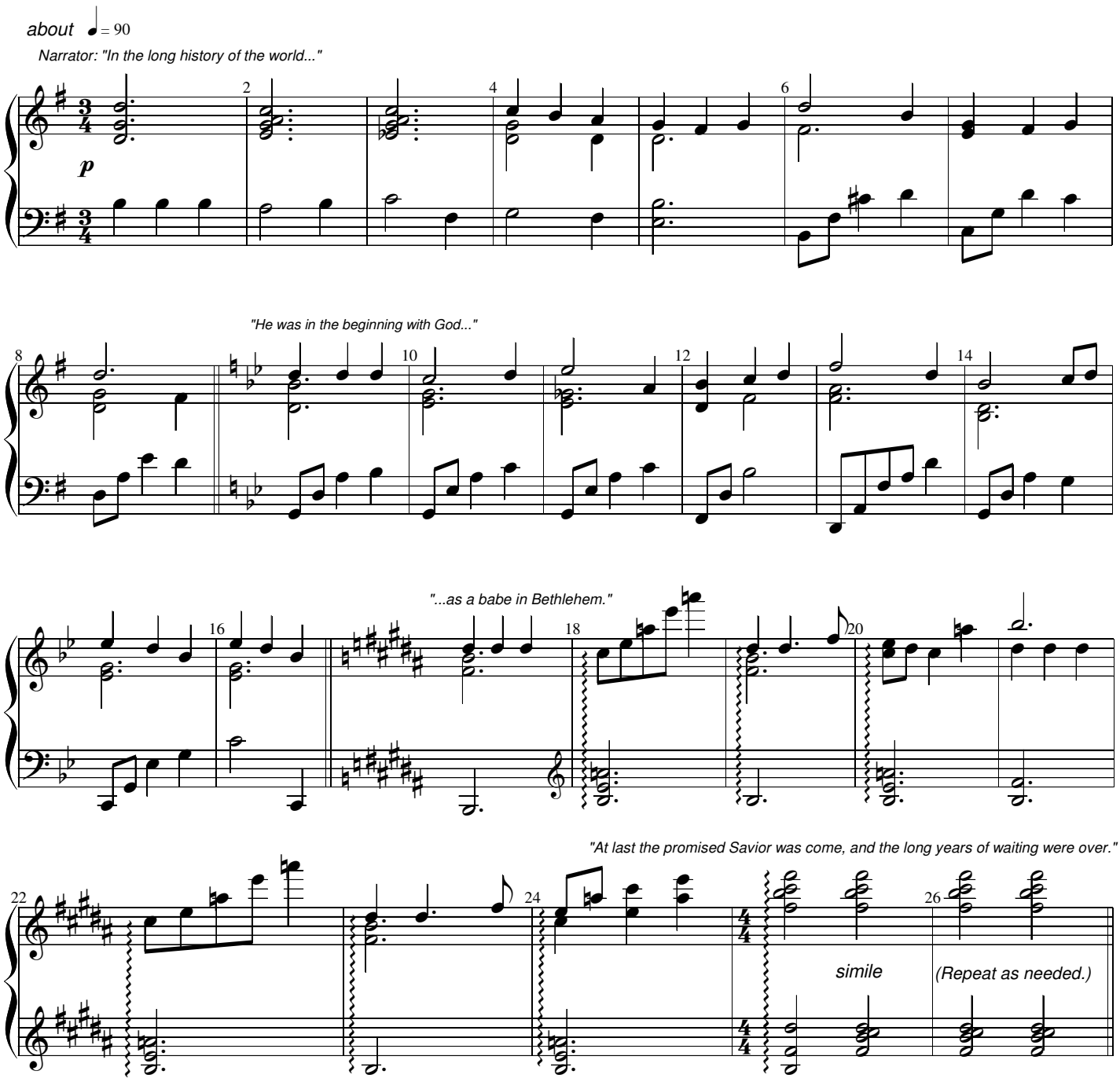
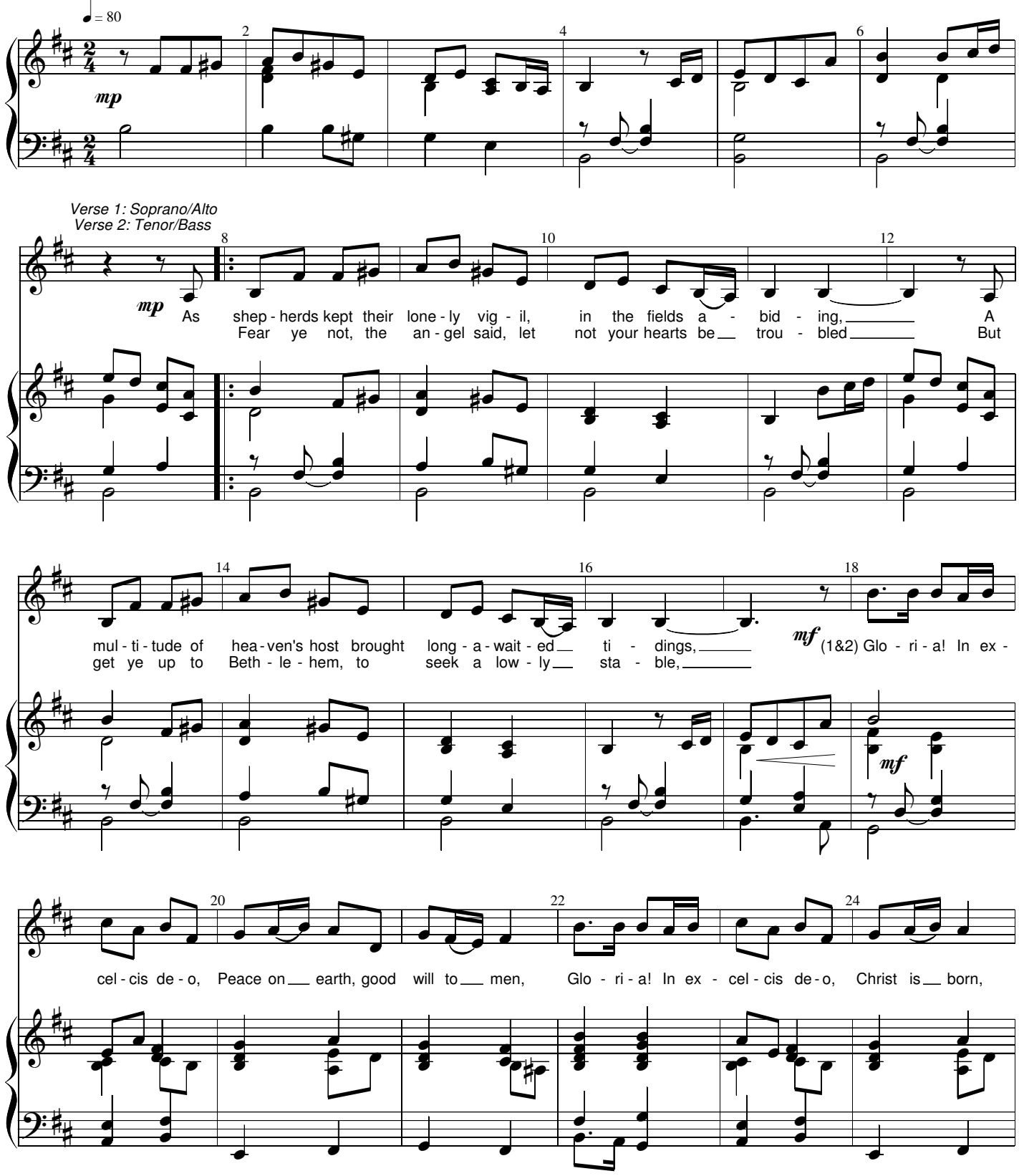
Narrator 1: (Music continues) In the long history of the world, no event has meant more to us than the coming of Jesus Christ our Savior, to teach us, to redeem us, and to bring us the hope of eternal life with our Heavenly Father. He was in the beginning with God; He was the Creator, the great Jehovah, the Messiah foretold by the prophets. And yet, when He came to earth it was not as a king of men, but simply and humbly, as a babe in Bethlehem. How I would love to have been there to look on His face; to see the heavens alight with the glow of a new star; and to hear the tidings the shepherds spread abroad. At last the promised Savior was come, and the long years of waiting were over.



As Shepherds Kept Their LonelyVigil

SATB

Sally DeFord



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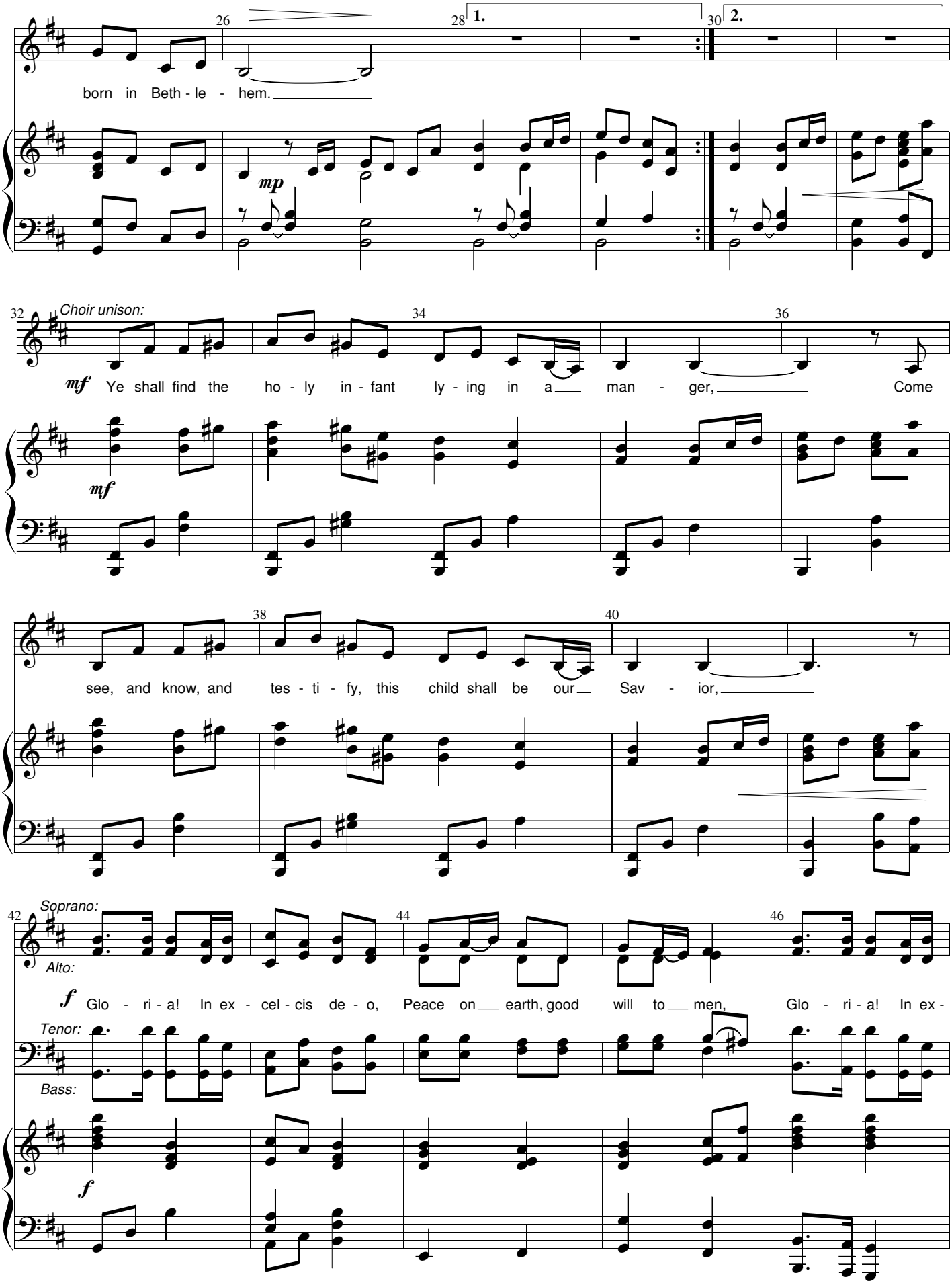
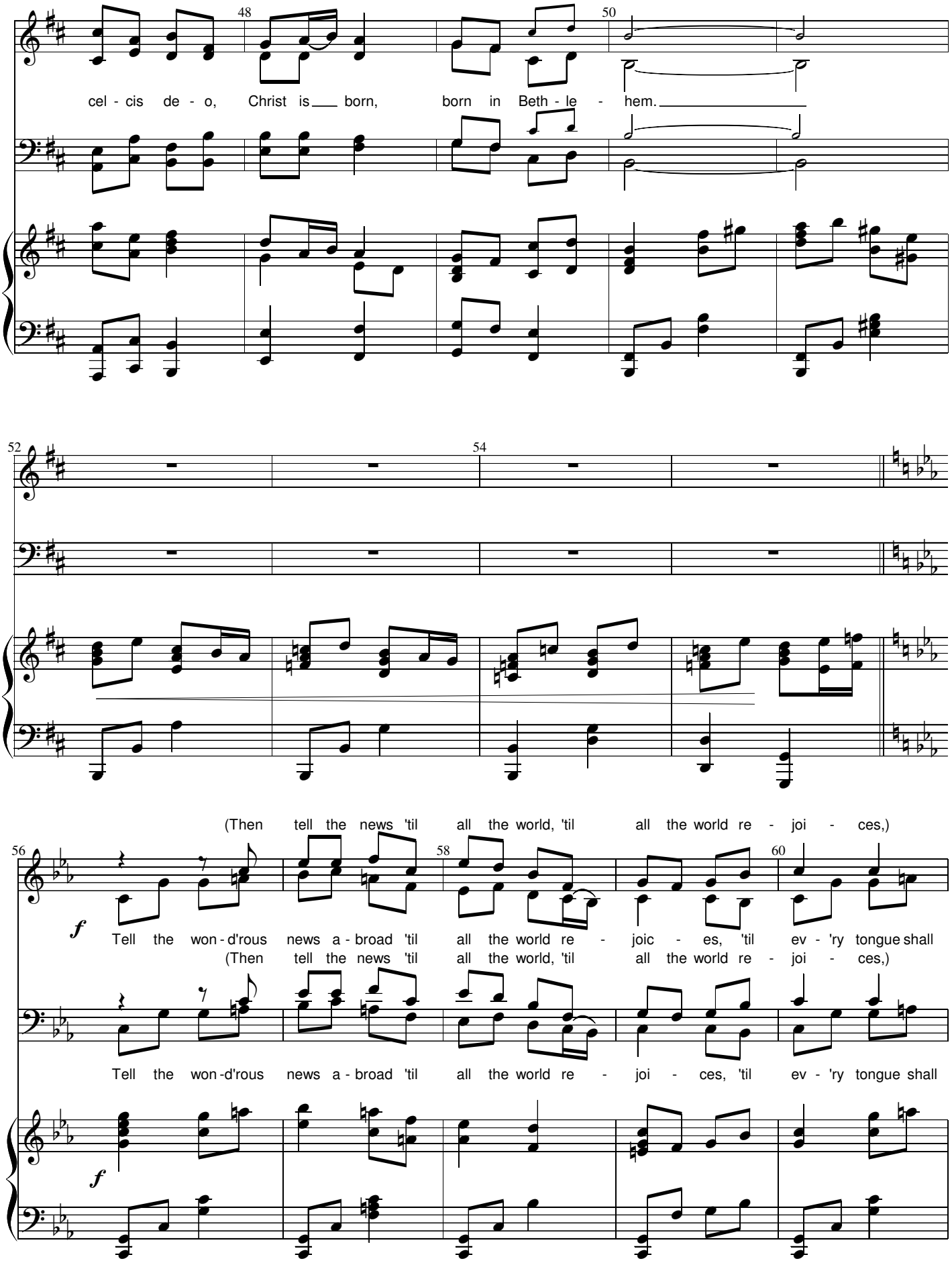
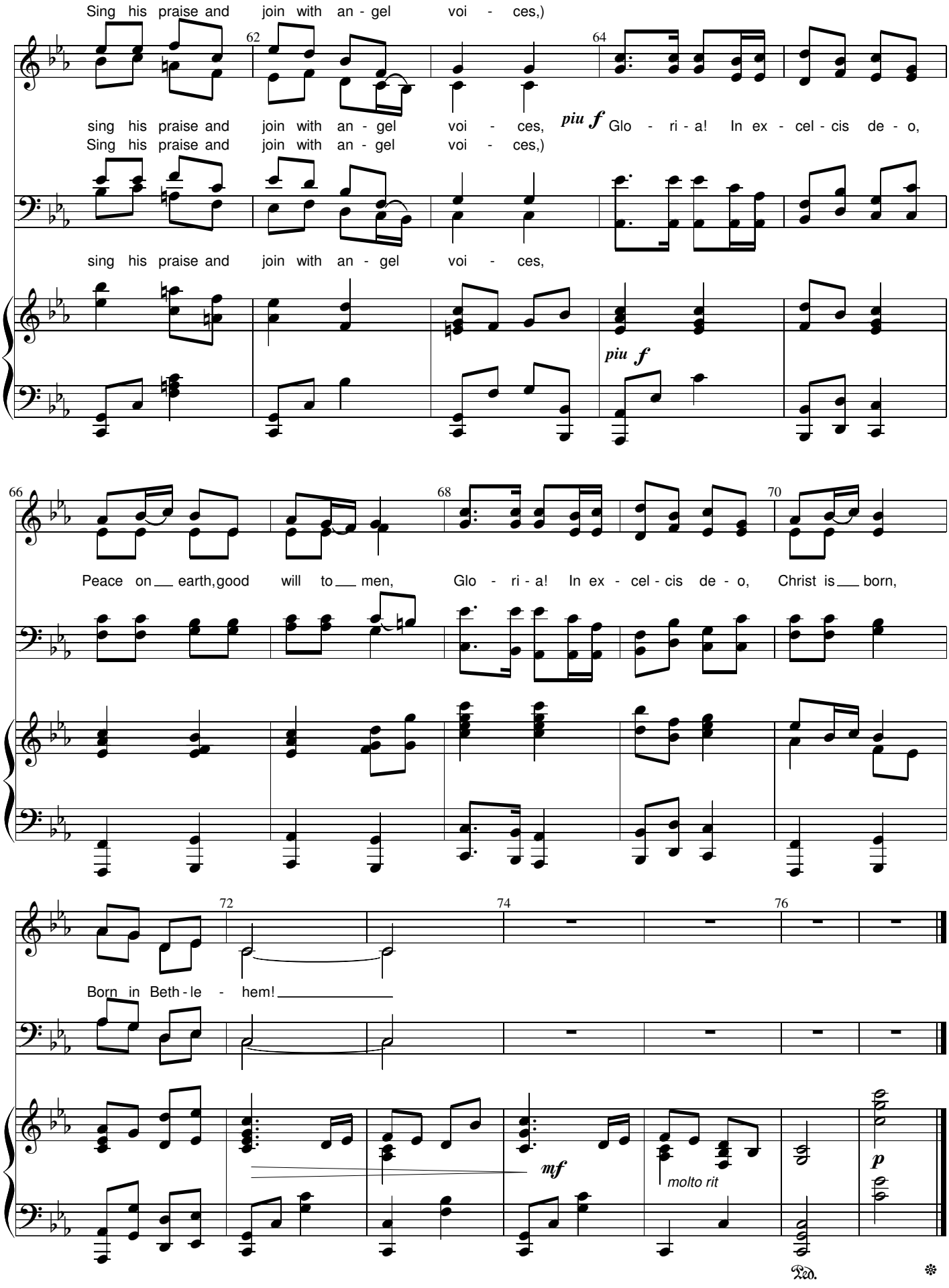

26
28
1.
30
2.
born in Beth - le - hem.
mp
32
Choir unison:
34
36
mf
Ye shall find the ho - ly in - fant ly - ing in a man - ger, Come
mf
38
40
see, and know, and tes - ti - fy, this child shall be our Sav - ior,
42
Soprano:
44
46
Alto:
f
Glo - ri - a! In ex - cel - cis de - o, Peace on earth, good will to men, Glo - ri - a! In ex -
Tenor:
Bass:
f


48
50
cel - cis de - o, Christ is born, born in Beth - le - hem.
52
54
(Then tell the news 'til all the world, 'til all the world re - joi - ces,)
56
58
60
f
Tell the won - d'rous news a - broad 'til all the world re - joic - es, 'til ev - 'ry tongue shall
(Then tell the news 'til all the world, 'til all the world re - joi - ces,)
Tell the won - d'rous news a - broad 'til all the world re - joi - ces, 'til ev - 'ry tongue shall
f


Sing his praise and join with an - gel voi - ces,)
62
64
sing his praise and join with an - gel voi - ces,
piu f
Glo - ri - a! In ex - cel - cis de - o,
Sing his praise and join with an - gel voi - ces,)
sing his praise and join with an - gel voi - ces,
piu f
66
68
70
Peace on earth, good will to men,
Glo - ri - a! In ex - cel - cis de - o,
Christ is born,
72
74
76
Born in Beth - le - hem!
mf
molto rit
p
Ped.

Promised Savior, Promised King

Sally DeFord

Narrator 2, SATB

about ♩ = 128

mp

rit.

a tempo

Narrator 2:

mp

1. Pro - mised Sa - vior, pro - mised King, Come down to earth from
2. Shep - herds watch - ing in the fields, Now hast - en to the

(For verse 1 play both hands one octave higher through measure 40.)

hea - ven, Child of whom the an - gels sing their
sta - ble, There to hon - or Him, there to kneel and

song of a - dor - a - tion, Be - hold the star a -
wor - ship at His cra - dle, While in the east the

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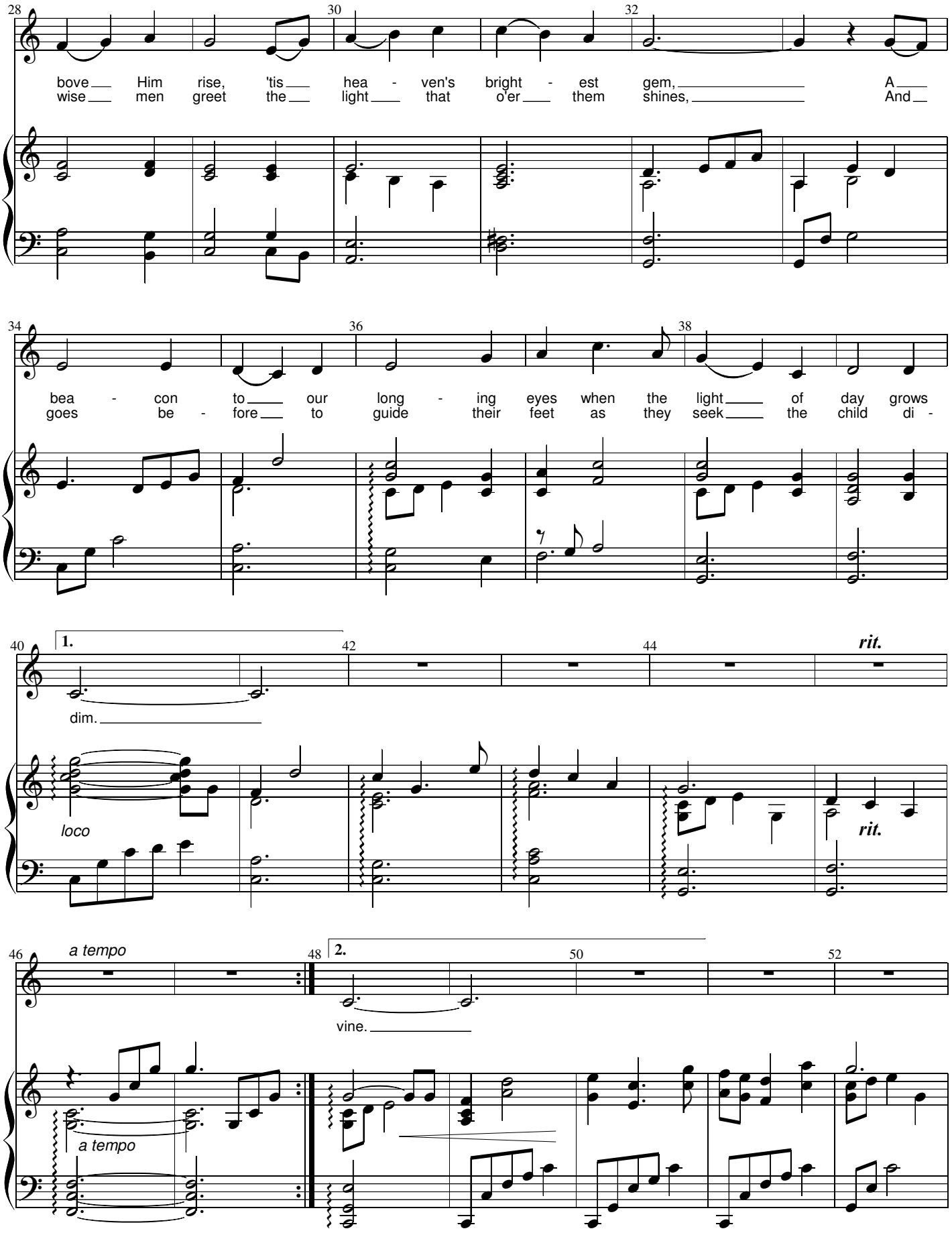
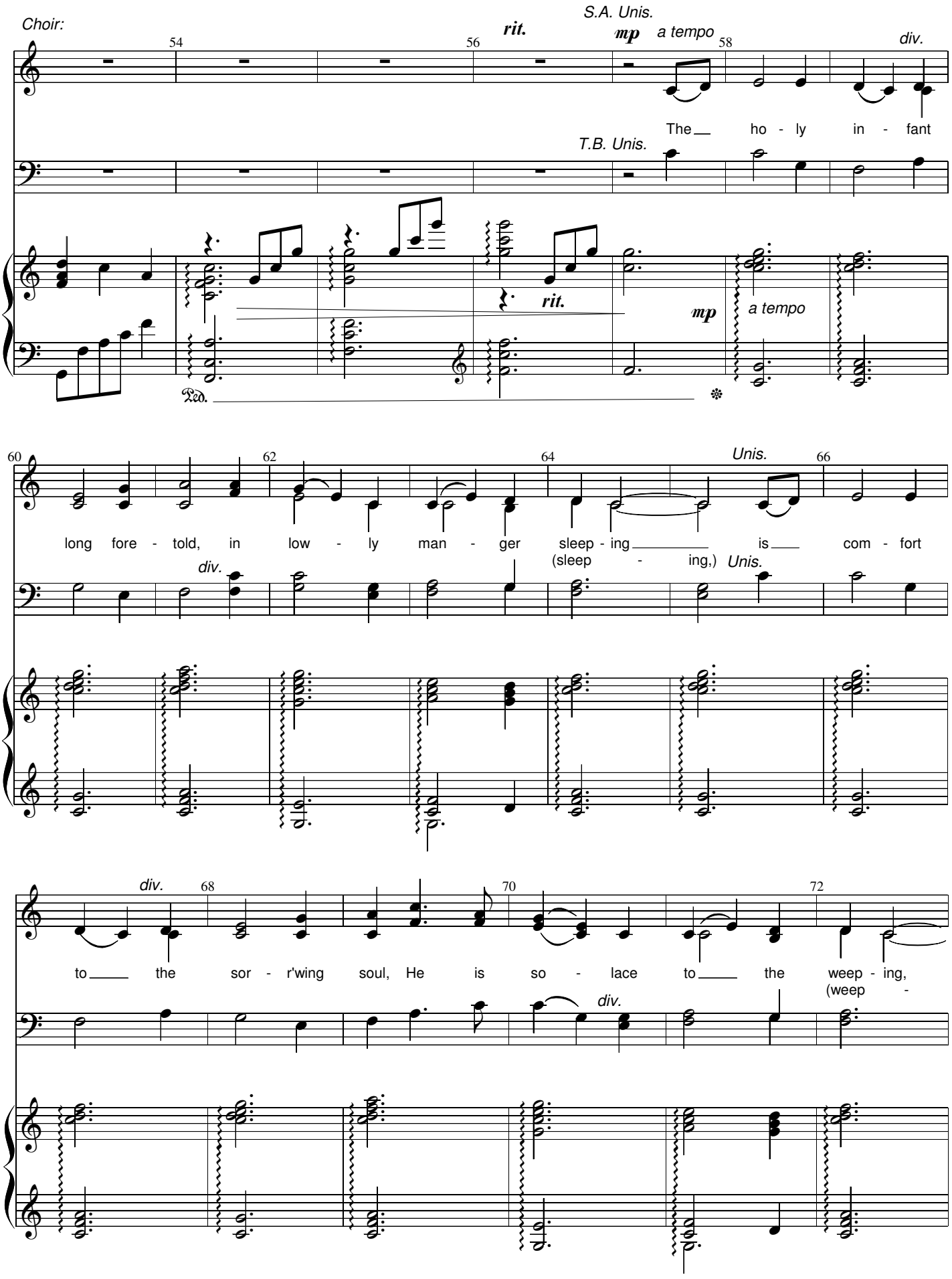
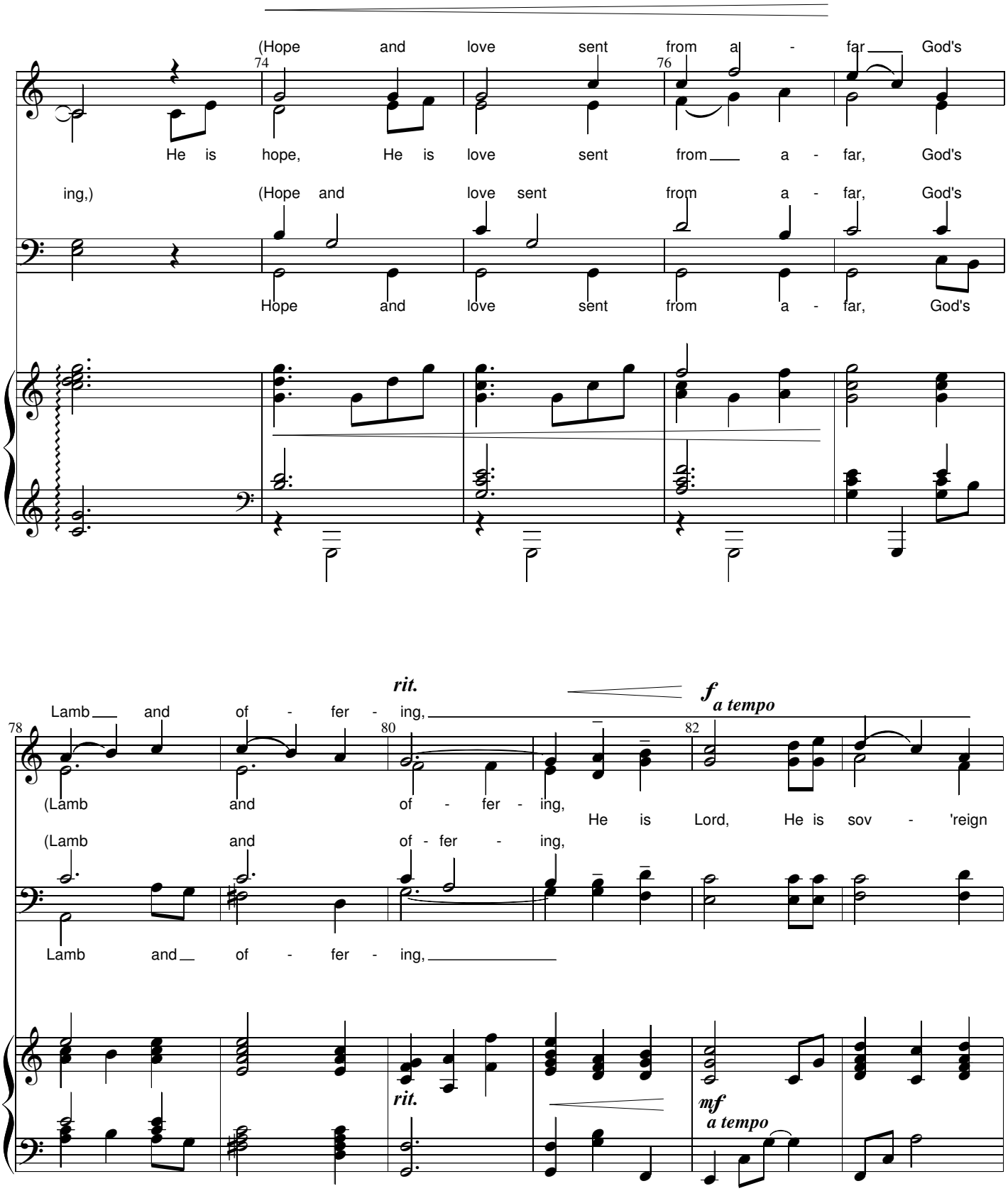
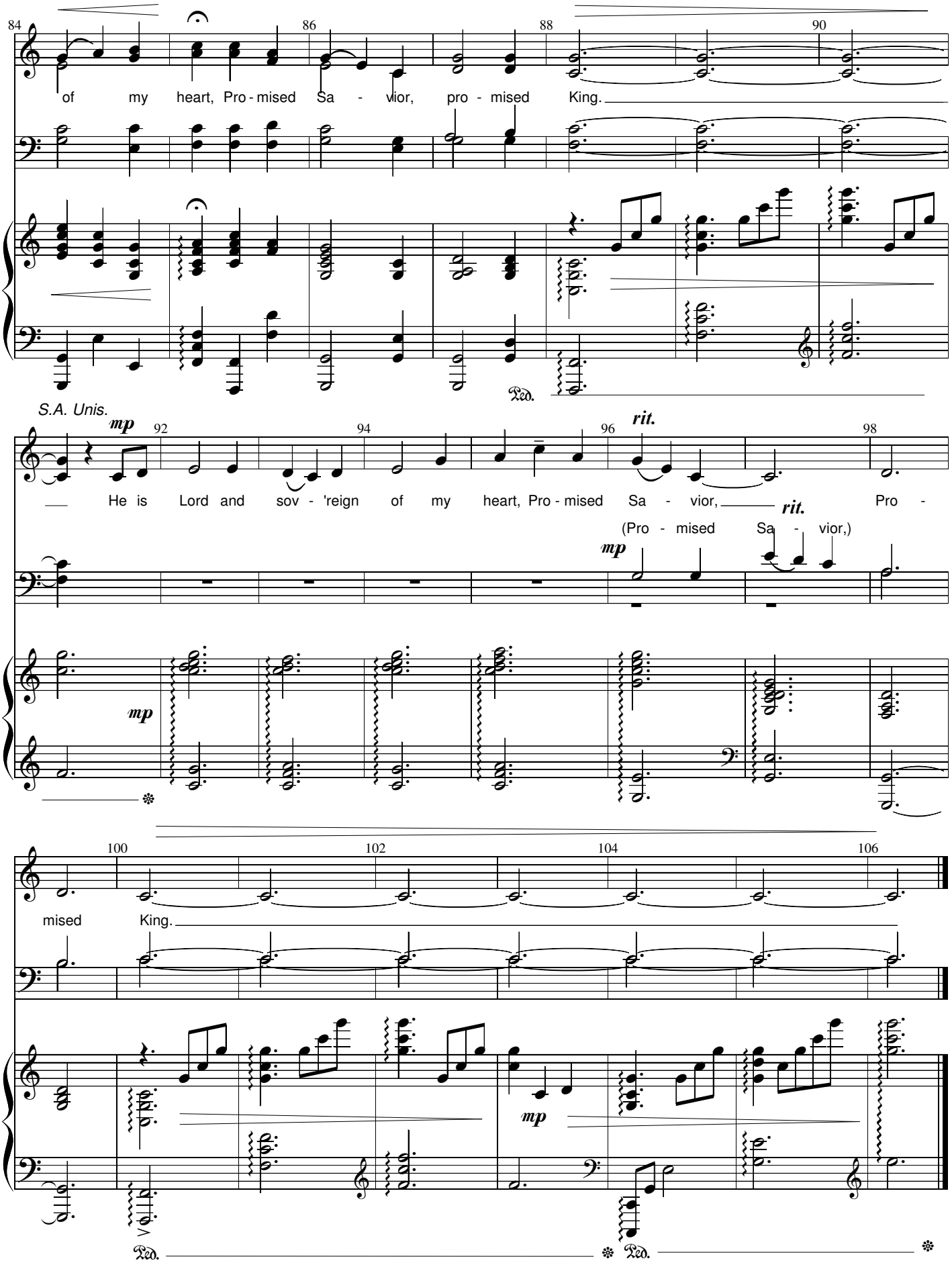

28
30
32
bove Him rise, 'tis hea - ven's bright - est gem, A
wise men greet the light that o'er them shines, And
34
36
38
bea - con to our long - ing eyes when the light of day grows
goes be - fore to guide their feet as they seek the child di -
40
1.
42
44
rit.
dim.
loco
rit.
46
a tempo
48
2.
50
52
vine.
a tempo


Choir:
S.A. Unis.
rit.
mp
a tempo
div.
The holy infant
T.B. Unis.
rit.
mp
a tempo
Ped.
Unis.
long fore - told, in low - ly man - ger sleep - ing is com - fort
(sleep - ing,)
Unis.
div.
to the sor - r'wing soul, He is so - lace to the weep - ing,
(weep -
div.

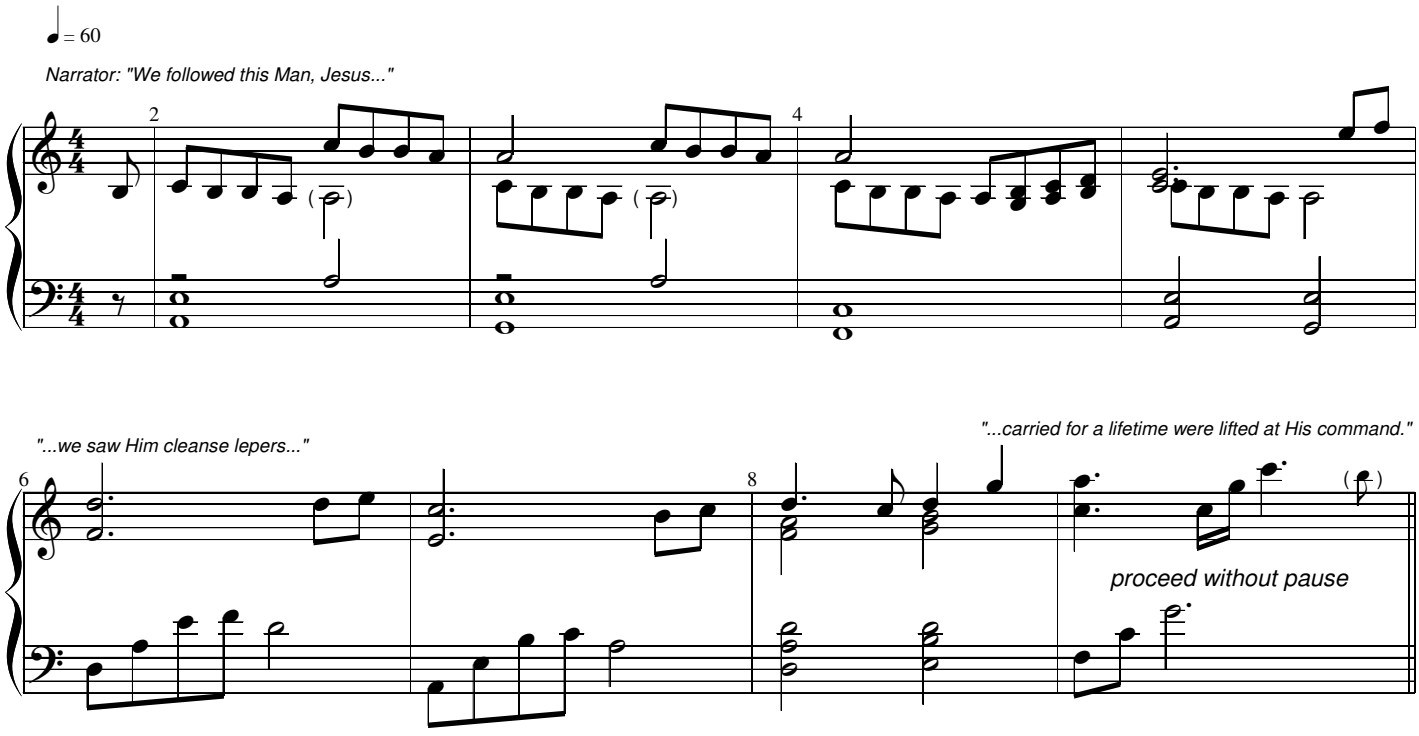

(Hope and love sent from a - far God's
74
76
He is hope, He is love sent from a - far, God's
ing,) (Hope and love sent from a - far, God's
Hope and love sent from a - far, God's
rit.
f
a tempo
Lamb and of - fer - ing,
78
80
82
(Lamb and of - fer - ing,
He is Lord, He is sov - 'reign
(Lamb and of - fer - ing,
Lamb and of - fer - ing,
rit.
mf
a tempo


84
86
88
90
of my heart, Pro - mised Sa - vior, pro - mised King.
Ped.
S.A. Unis.
mp
92
94
96
rit.
98
He is Lord and sov - 'reign of my heart, Pro - mised Sa - vior,
rit.
Pro -
(Pro - mised Sa - vior,)
mp
mp
100
102
104
106
mised King.
mp
Ped.
Ped.

Narrator 2: The shepherds spread the tidings among our people, and we rejoiced to hear the news. The promised Messiah was come at last. But soon the shepherds returned to their flocks, the skies that had known such wonders were still, and again we waited. We kept the Law; we raised our children; we saw our grandchildren come into the world. And then at last, a new teacher came among us--one who taught with authority; who healed all manner of afflictions; who suffered even our little children to come to Him and be blessed. Could this be the one who was born on that miraculous night so long ago?

(Music begins)

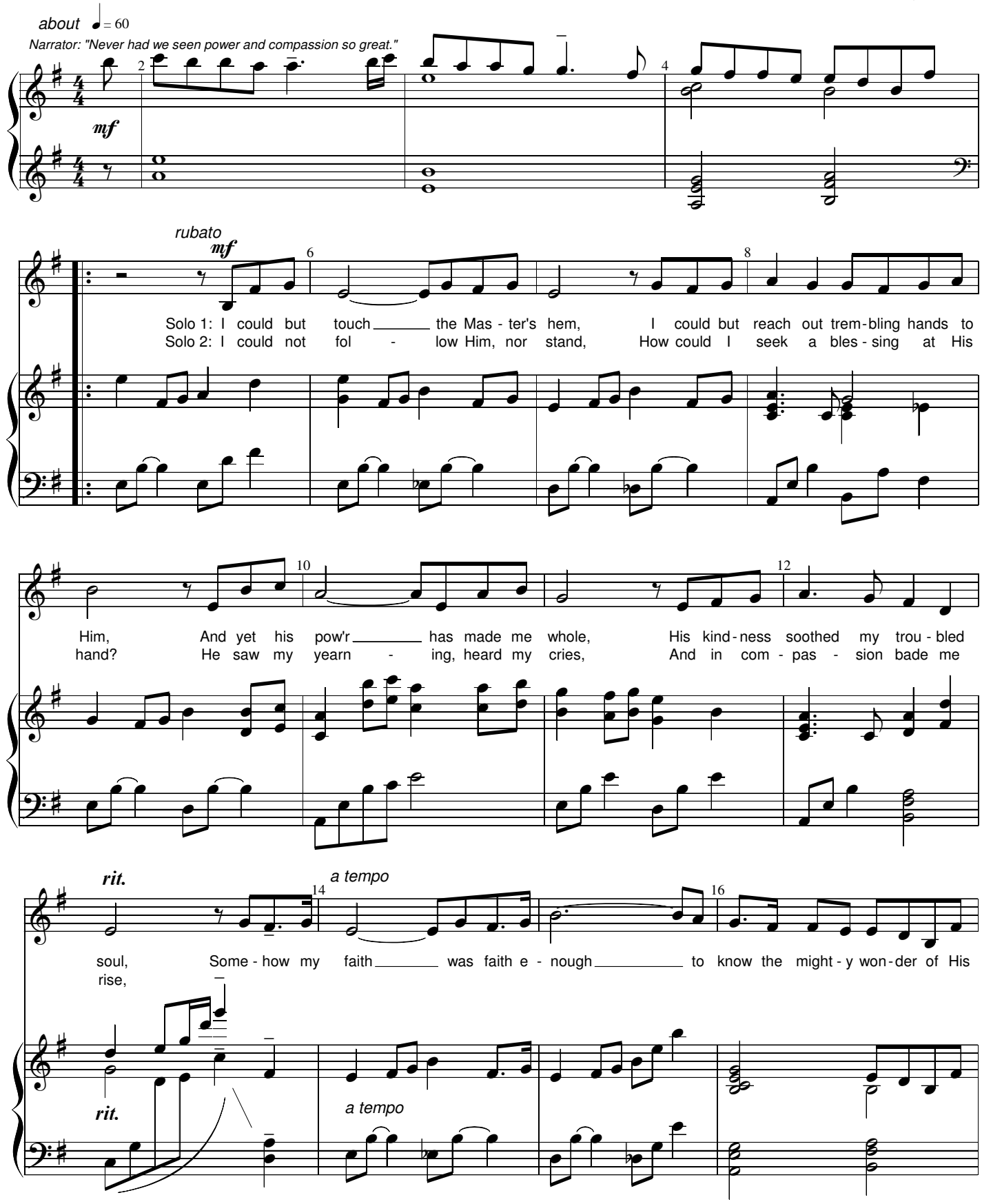
We followed this Man, Jesus; we heard Him speak; and we felt the power of heaven testify to our hearts that this was indeed the Messiah. We saw Him heal the sick; we watched as He gave sight to the blind; we saw Him cleanse lepers and we rejoiced with them as they returned at last to loved-ones long missed; we marveled as the burdens that many had carried for a lifetime were lifted at His command. Never had we seen power and compassion so great.



The Mighty Wonder of His Love

SATB w/soloists

Sally DeFord



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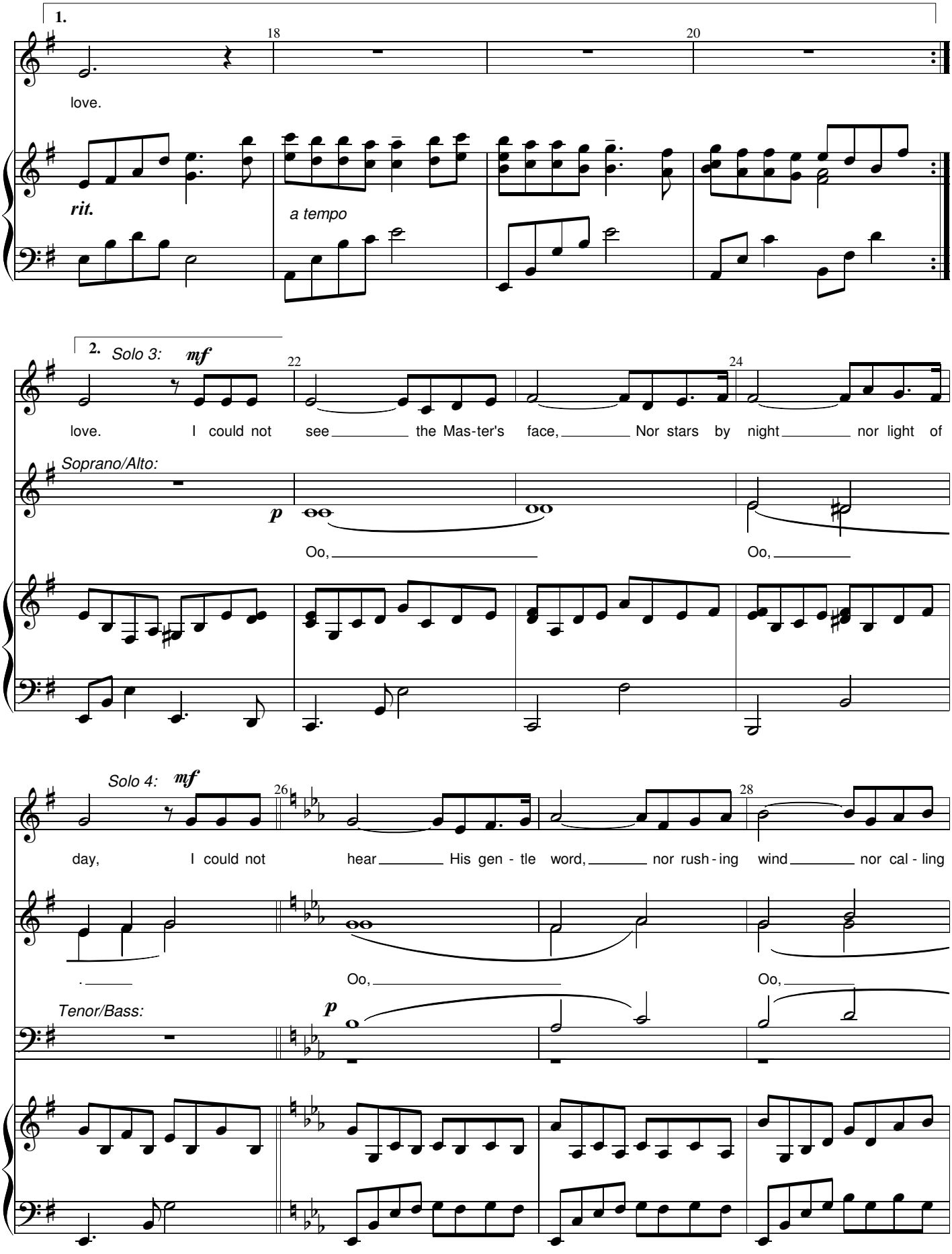
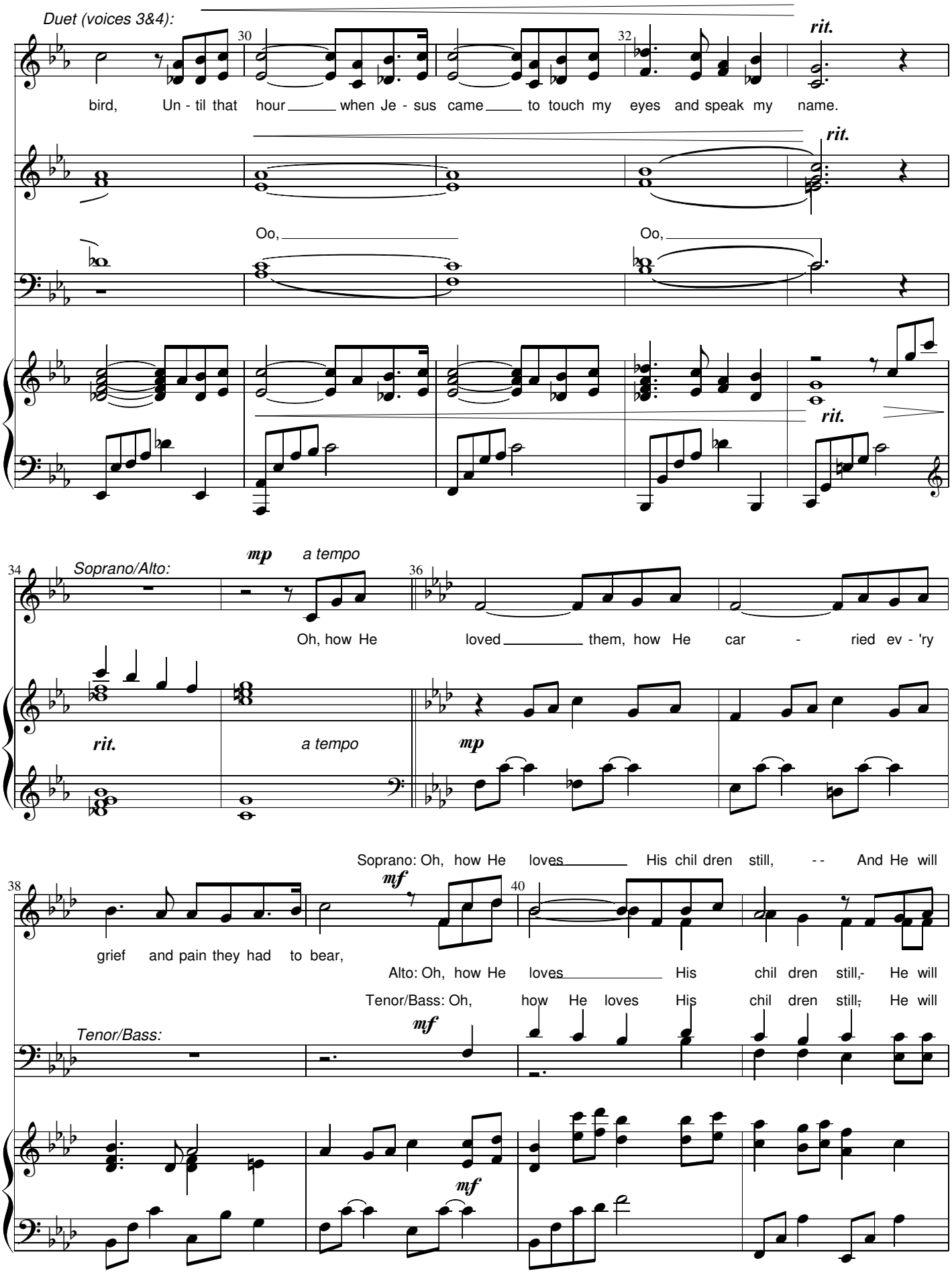
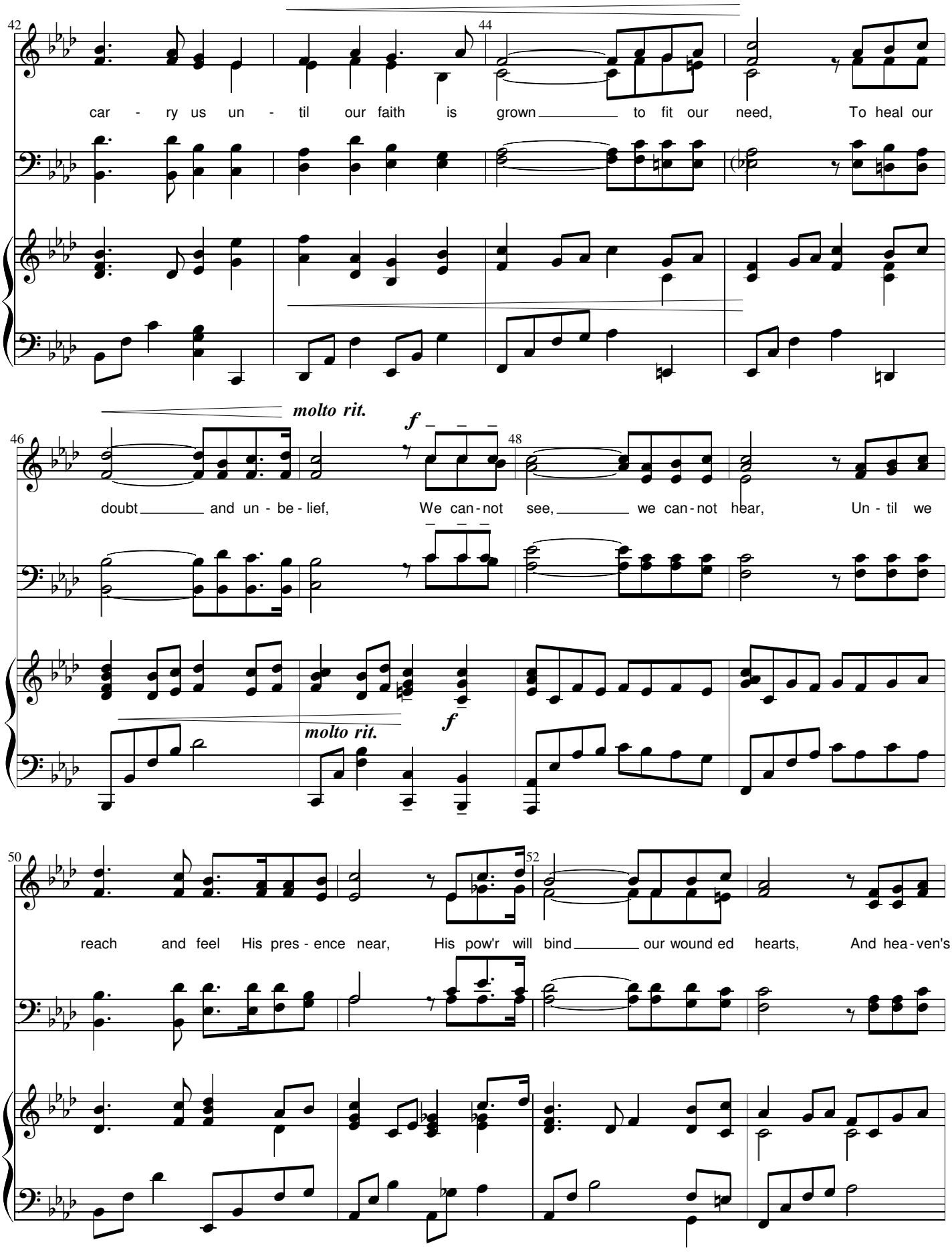
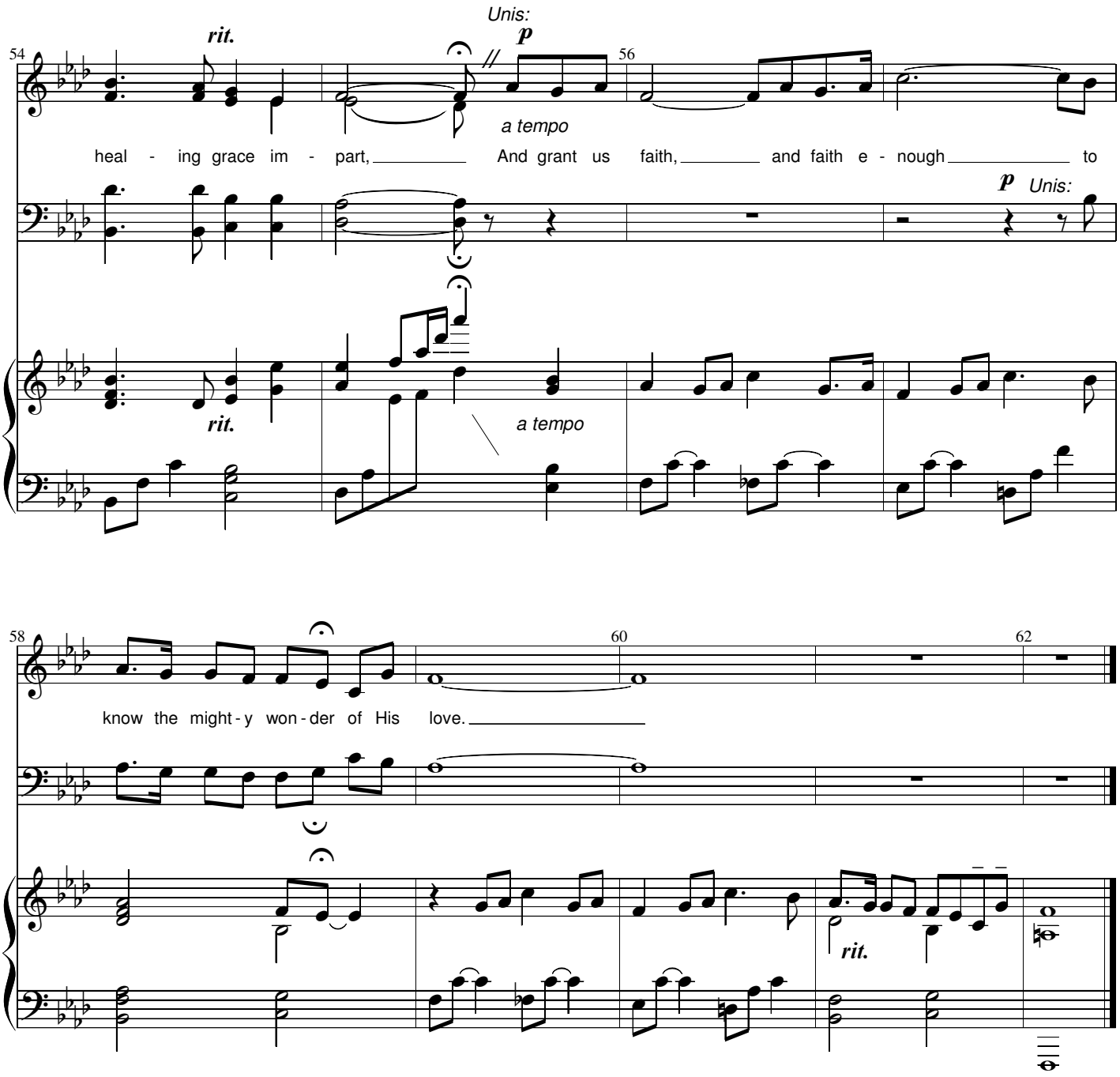

1.
18
20
love.
rit.
a tempo
2.
Solo 3:
mf
22
24
love. I could not see the Mas-ter's face, Nor stars by night nor light of
Soprano/Alto:
p
Oo,
Oo,
Solo 4:
mf
26
28
day, I could not hear His gen - tle word, nor rush - ing wind nor cal - ling
Oo,
Oo,
Tenor/Bass:
p


Duet (voices 3&4):
30
32
rit.
bird, Un - til that hour when Je - sus came to touch my eyes and speak my name.
rit.
Oo,
Oo,
rit.
34
Soprano/Alto:
mp
a tempo
36
Oh, how He loved them, how He car - ried ev - 'ry
rit.
a tempo
mp
Soprano: Oh, how He loves His chil dren still, -- And He will
38
mf
40
grief and pain they had to bear,
Alto: Oh, how He loves His chil dren still,- He will
Tenor/Bass: Oh, how He loves His chil dren still, He will
Tenor/Bass:
mf
mf


42
car - ry us un - til our faith is grown to fit our need, To heal our
44
molto rit.
f
46
doubt and un - be - lief, We can - not see, we can - not hear, Un - til we
48
molto rit.
f
50
reach and feel His pres - ence near, His pow'r will bind our wound ed hearts, And hea - ven's
52

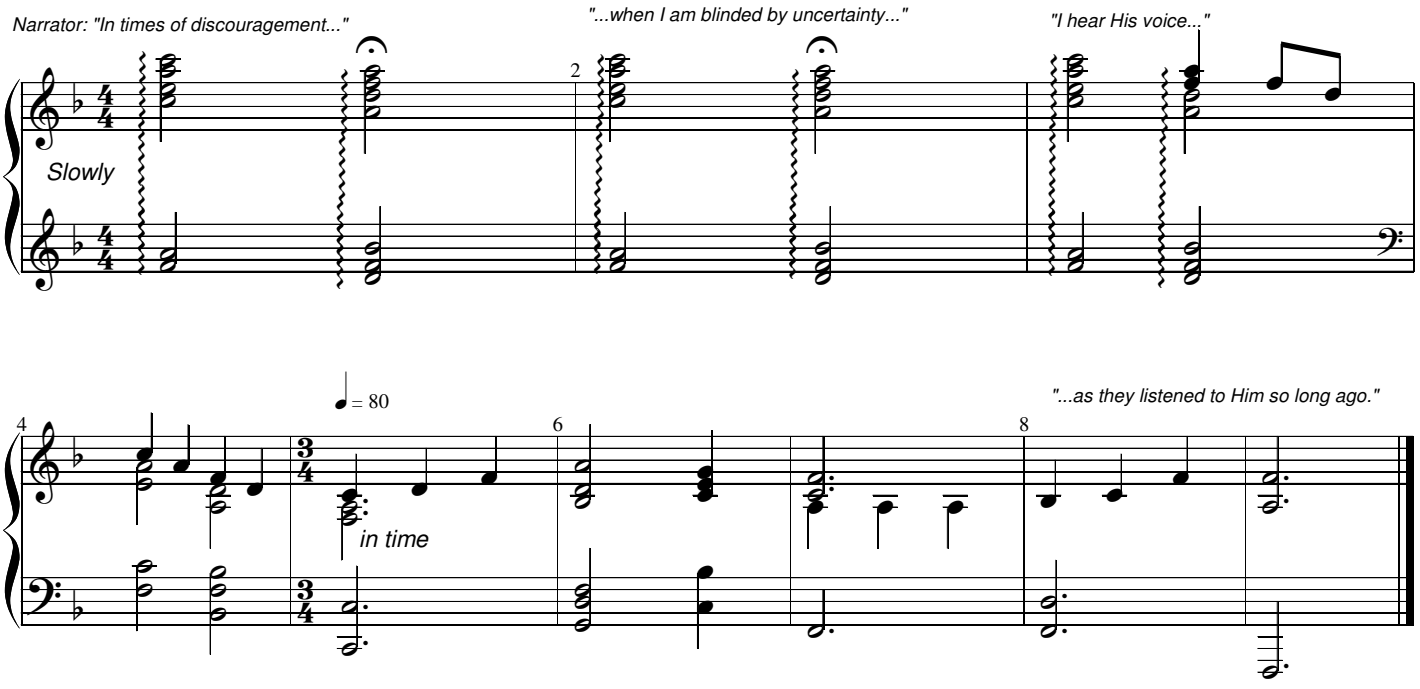

54
rit.
Unis:
p
56
a tempo
heal - ing grace im - part, And grant us faith, and faith e - nough to
p
Unis:
rit.
a tempo
58
60
62
know the might - y won - der of His love.
rit.

Narrator 1: (Reads) "And whithersoever he entered, into villages, or cities, or country, they laid the sick in the streets, and besought him that they might touch if it were but the border of his garment: and as many as touched him were made whole."

I too reach out in faith to this same Jesus for healing and comfort.

(Music begins)

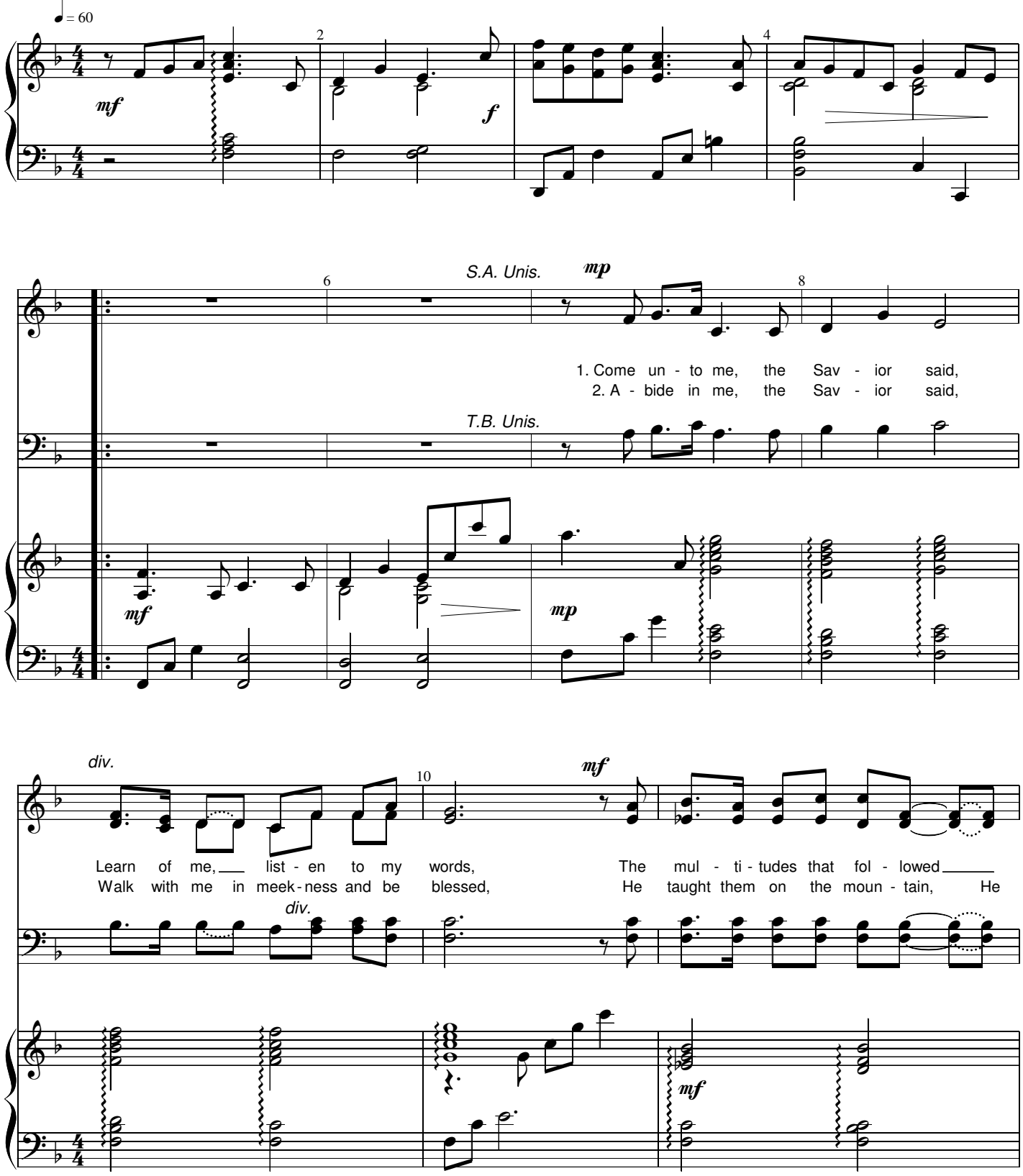
In times of discouragement or heartache, I turn to His promises for hope; when I am blinded by uncertainty and doubt, I turn to His teachings for counsel. I hear His voice as I read the scriptures and as I listen to the prophets, and in His words I hear the power, the peace and the love His disciples heard as they listened to Him so long ago.



The Master's Voice

SATB

Sally DeFord



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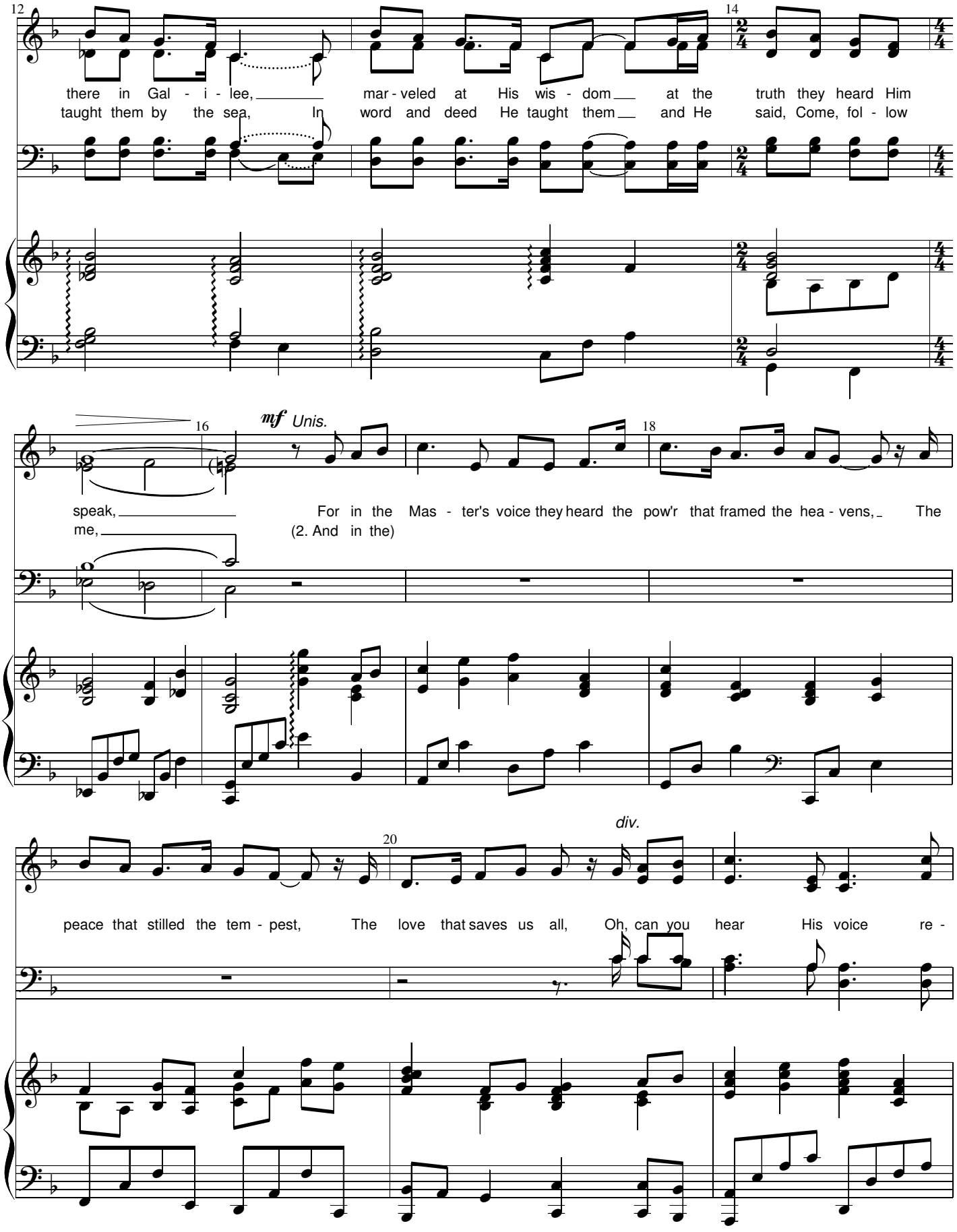
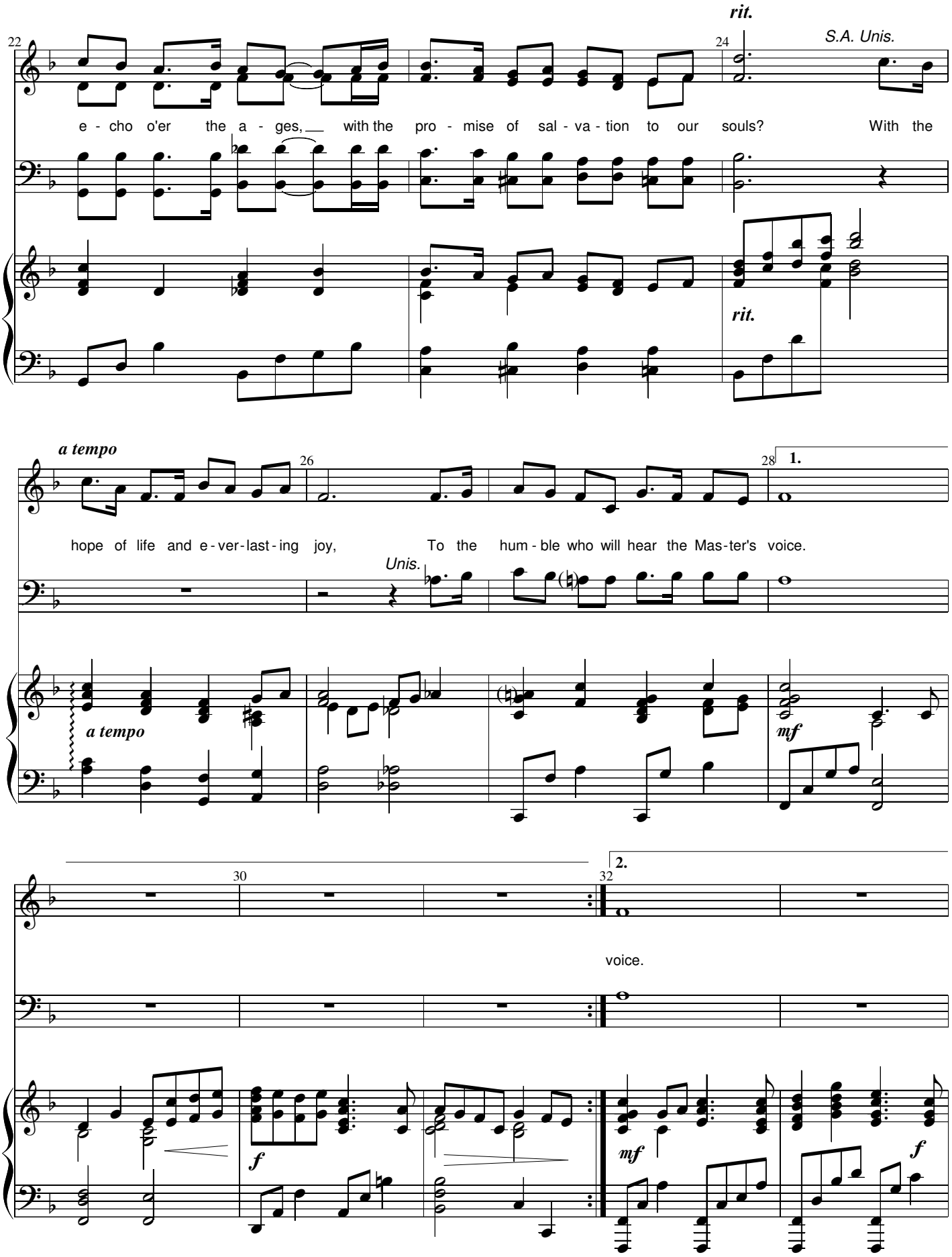
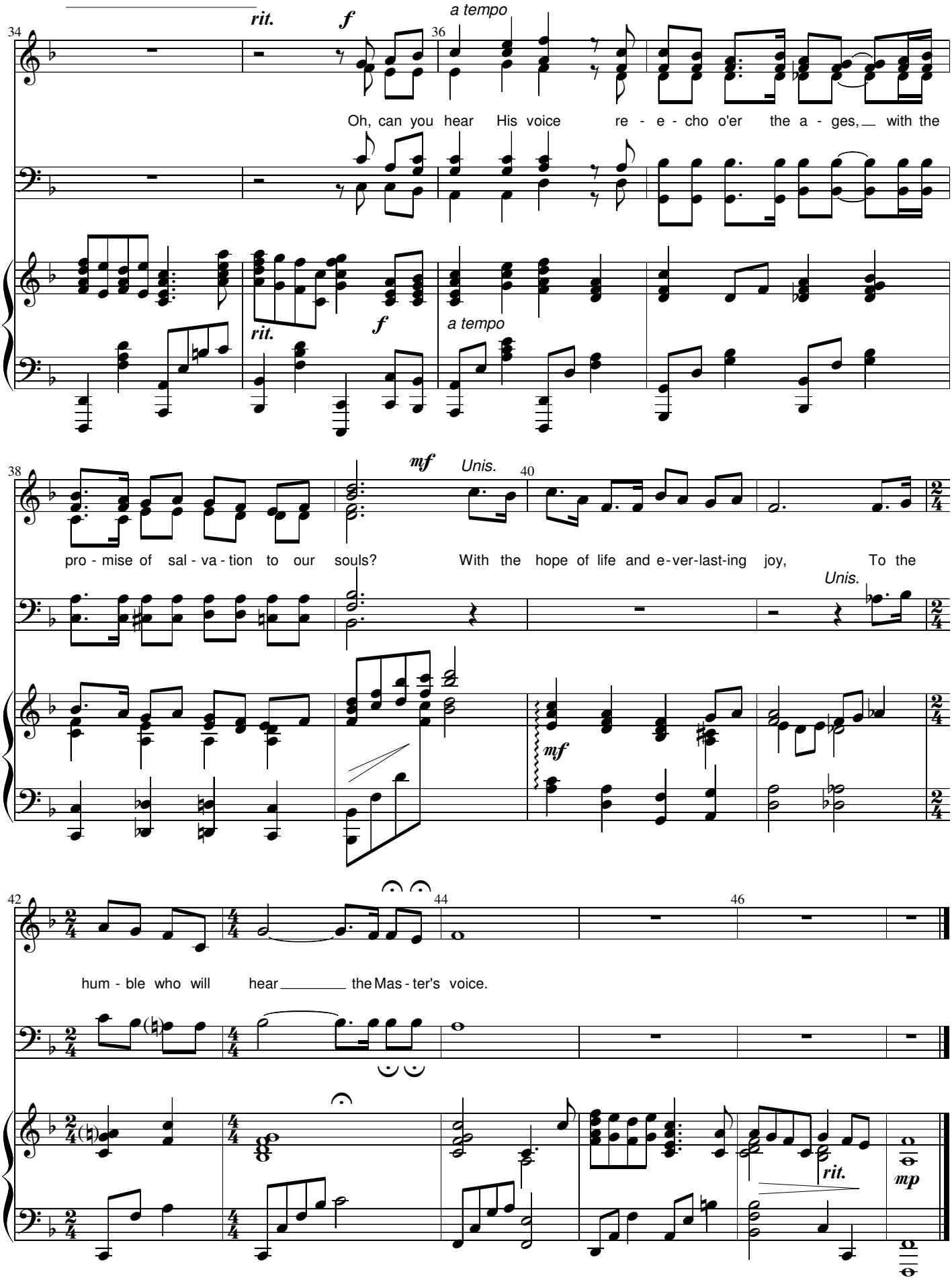

12
there in Gal - i - lee,
taught them by the sea,
mar - veled at His wis - dom
In word and deed He taught them
at the truth they heard Him
and He said, Come, fol - low
14
16
mf Unis.
18
speak,
me,
For in the Mas - ter's voice they heard the pow'r that framed the hea - vens,
The
(2. And in the)
20
div.
peace that stilled the tem - pest,
The love that saves us all,
Oh, can you hear His voice re -


22
rit.
24
S.A. Unis.
e - cho o'er the a - ges, with the pro - mise of sal - va - tion to our souls? With the
rit.
a tempo
26
28
1.
hope of life and e - ver - last - ing joy, To the hum - ble who will hear the Mas - ter's voice.
Unis.
a tempo
mf
30
32
2.
voice.
f
mf
f


34
rit.
f
36
a tempo
Oh, can you hear His voice re - e - cho o'er the a - ges, with the
rit.
f
a tempo
38
mf
Unis.
40
pro - mise of sal - va - tion to our souls? With the hope of life and e - ver-last-ing joy, To the
Unis.
mf
42
44
46
hum - ble who will hear the Mas - ter's voice.
rit.
mp

Narrator 1: Jesus spent only three years ministering to His people, yet in that short time He reshaped the hearts of men and the thinking of the world. Then during the last days of His mortality, He performed for us a mighty work that only He could do.

(Music begins)

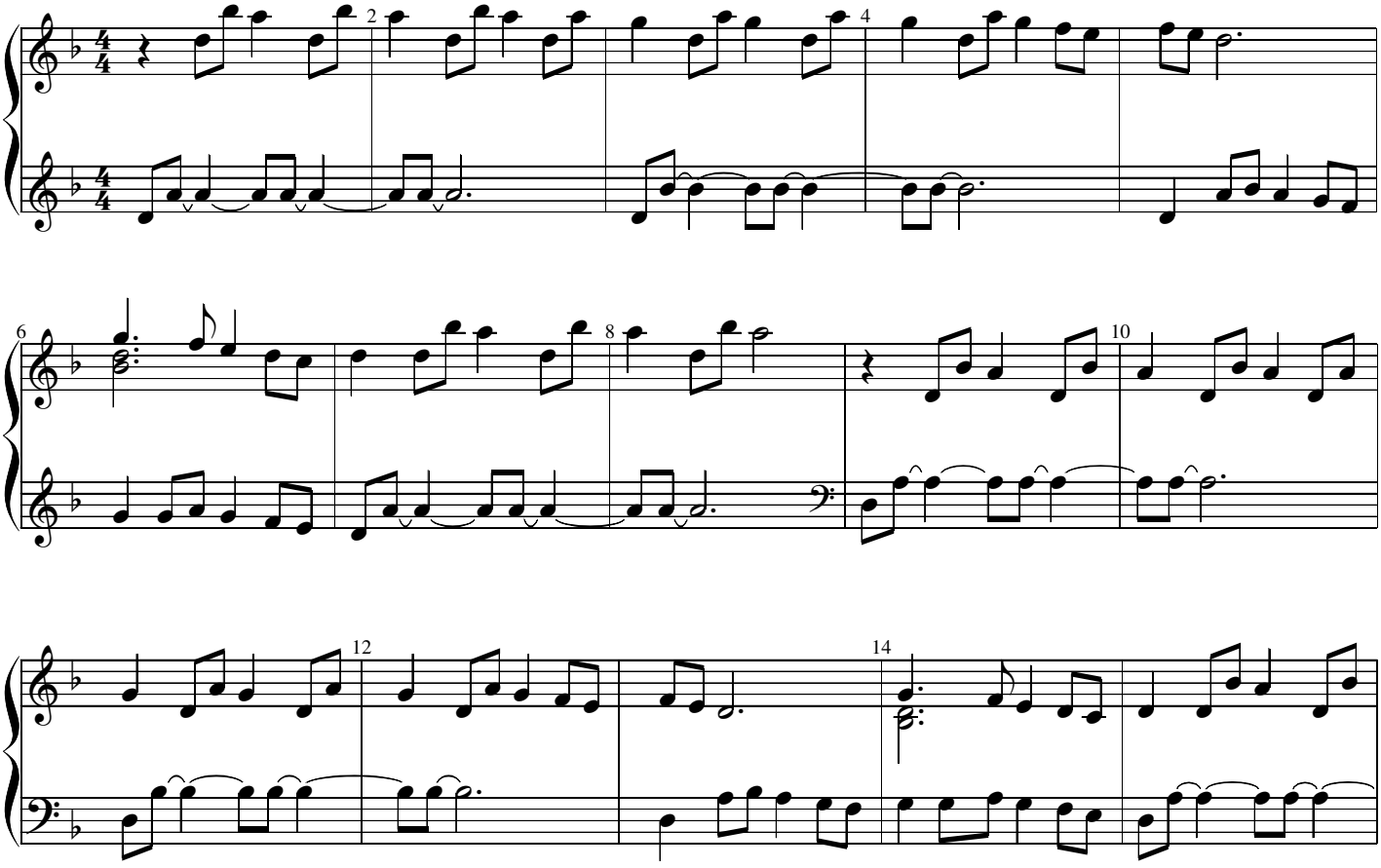
It began in Gethsemane. He knelt before His Father, and in submission to His Father's will, took upon Himself the consequences of our sin, of every errant thought, every moment of weakness, pain or sorrow. Jesus, sinless and perfect, in some incomprehensible way, suffered for every imperfect soul that ever had or ever would walk the earth; a suffering so intense that it caused even the Son of God, the greatest of all, to tremble because of pain and to bleed at every pore. No other could have endured it; and still there was more to come.

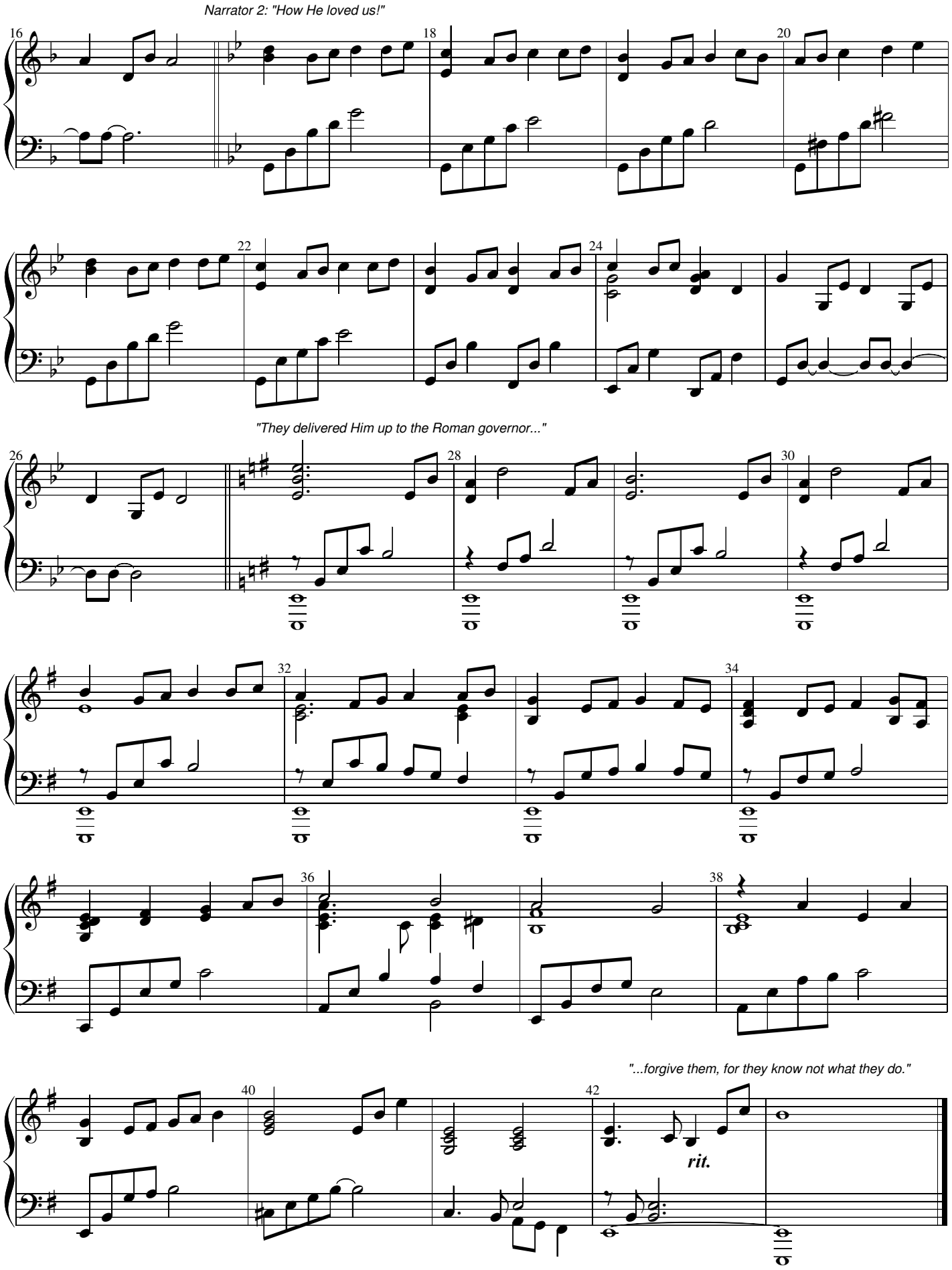
Narrator 2: How He loved us! And how we loved Him. But there were some who feared and envied Him; who craved power more than truth; whose hearts were of stone, not of flesh. All through His ministry they had sought to trap Him in words, to find something with which they could accuse Him, to turn the people against Him. At last, seeing they could avail nothing, they took Him by night to be tried before the chief priest.

They delivered Him up to the Roman governor, who, in defiance of all reason and justice, consigned Him to death. It was unthinkable. It was beyond belief. He had done nothing but good; He taught nothing but truth. For this, they mocked him; they scourged Him; and they led Him out to Golgotha where they nailed His hands and feet to a cross, and lifted Him up to die as a common criminal. But so great was His love for all His Father's children, that even in that dark hour His heart was filled with compassion for His tormentors, and He pled with His Father, "...forgive them, for they know not what they do."

about ♩ = 80

Narrator 1: "It began in Gethsemane..."

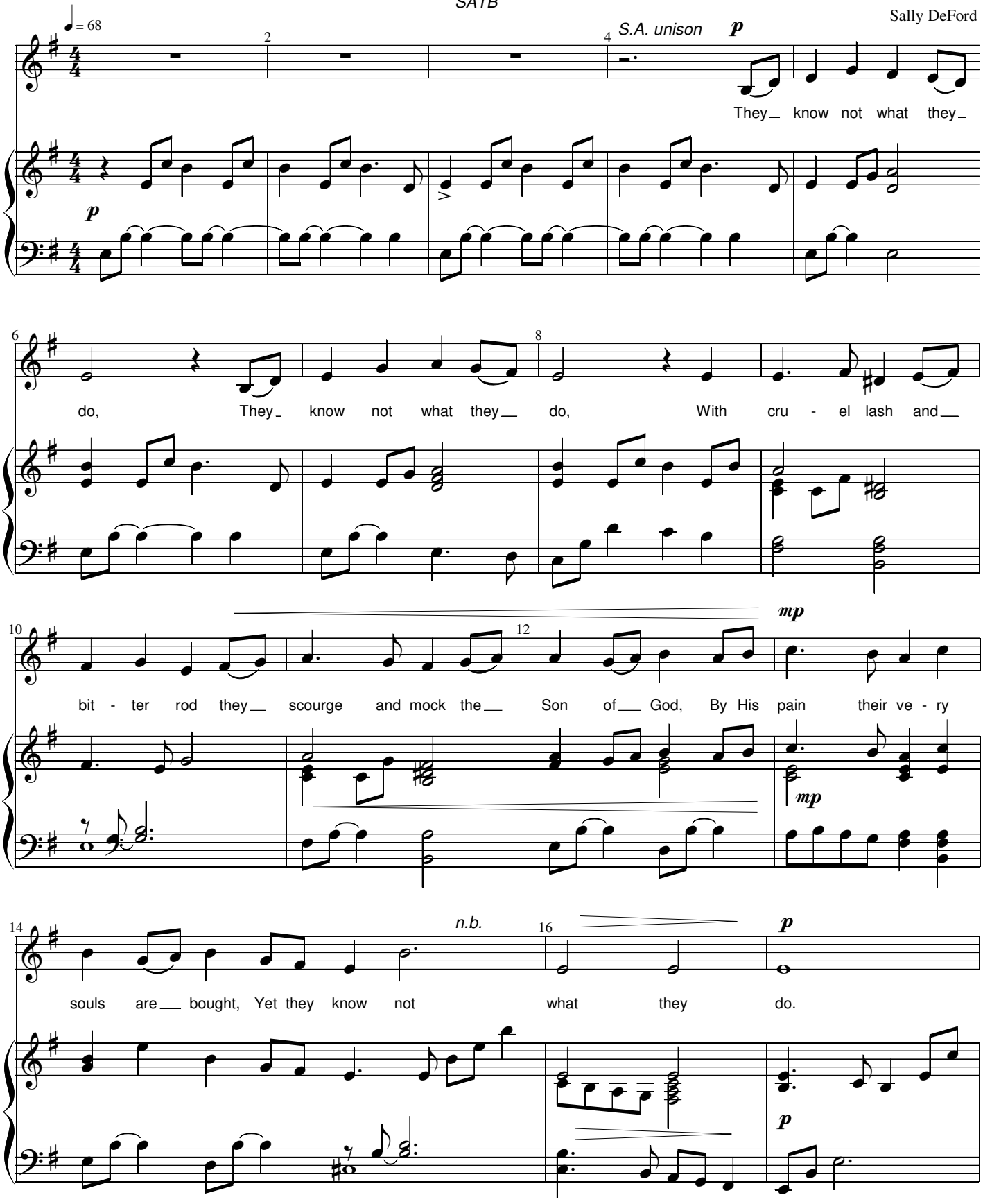



Narrator 2: "How He loved us!"
16
18
20
22
24
"They delivered Him up to the Roman governor..."
26
28
30
32
34
36
38
"...forgive them, for they know not what they do."
40
42
rit.

They Know Not What They Do

SATB

Sally DeFord



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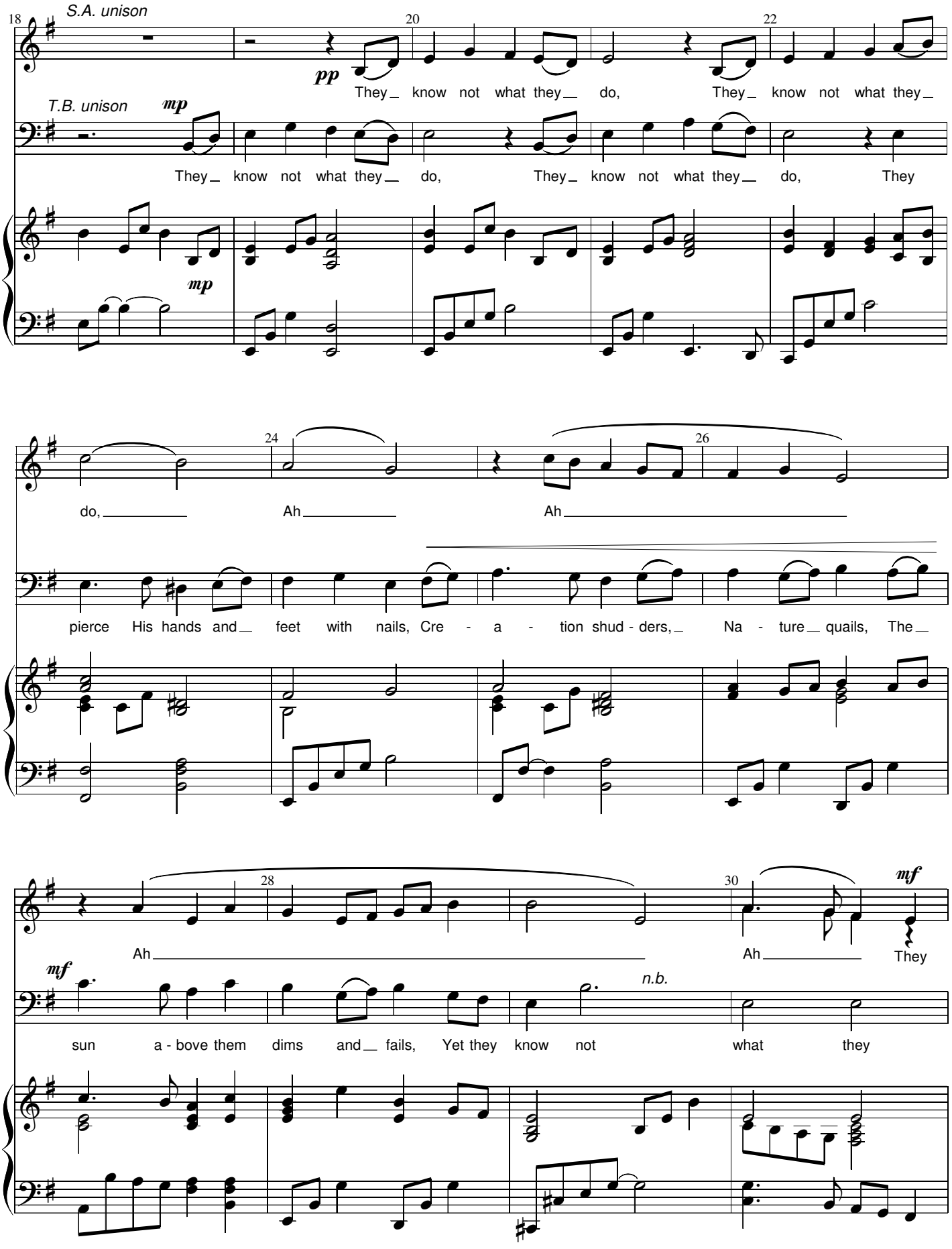
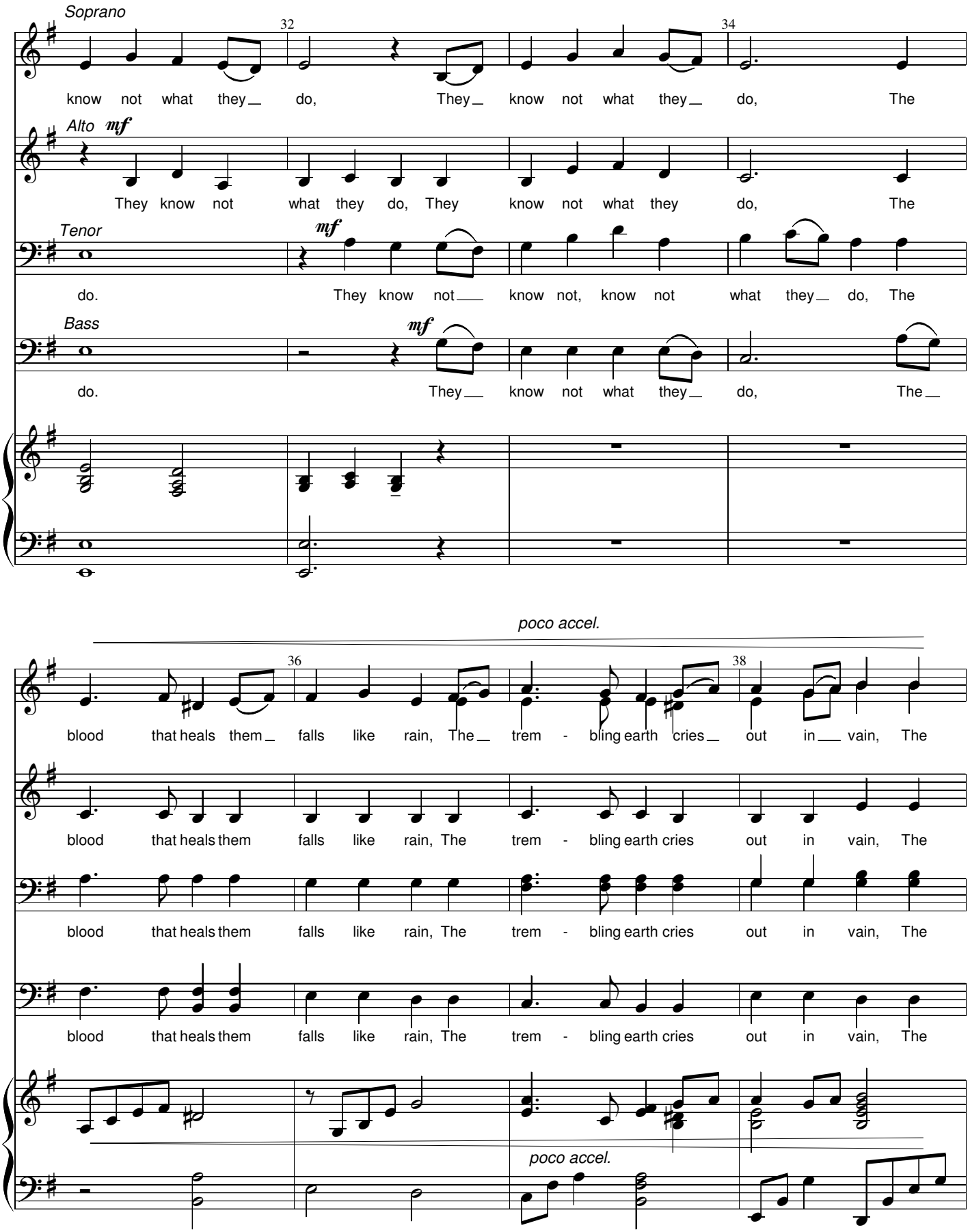
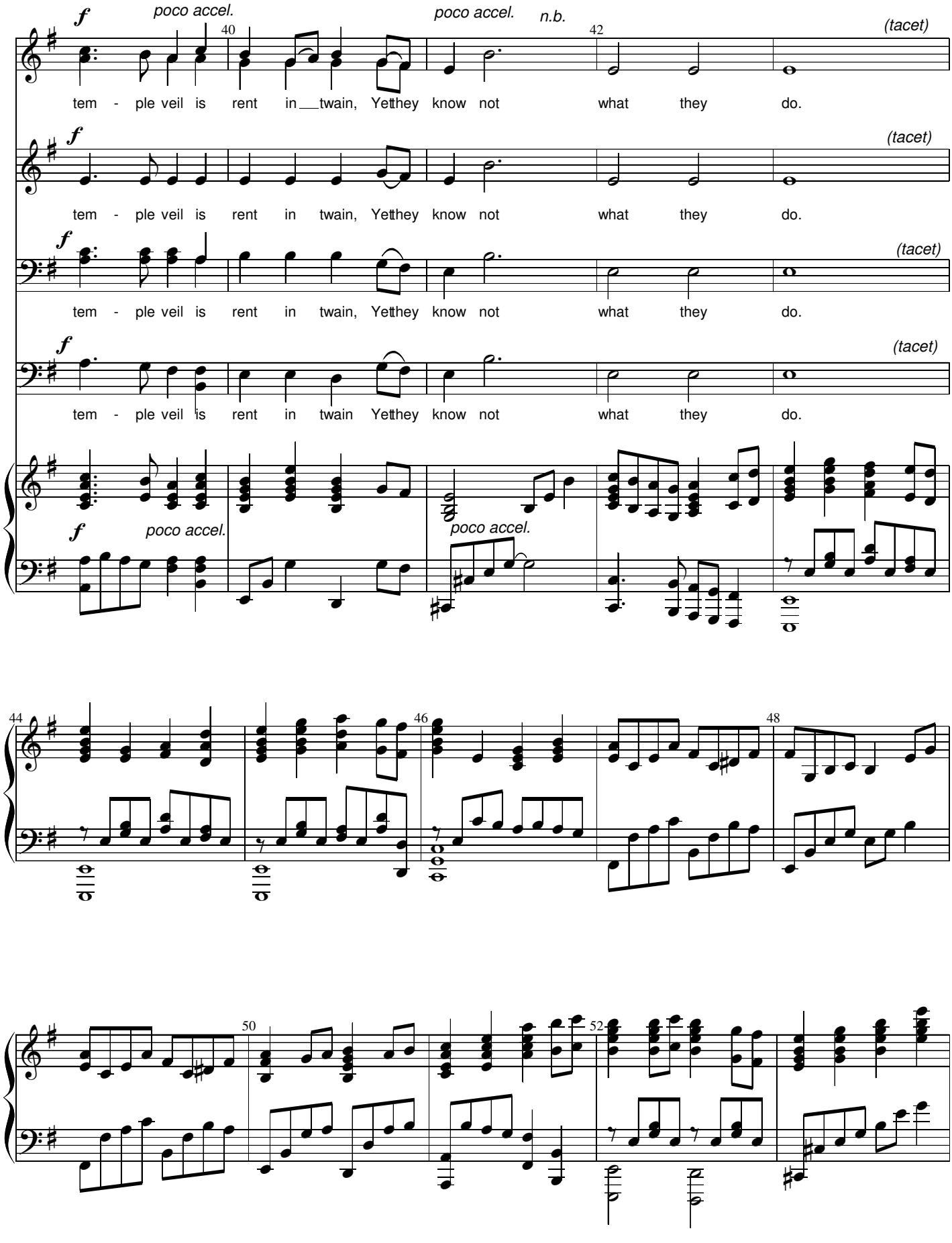
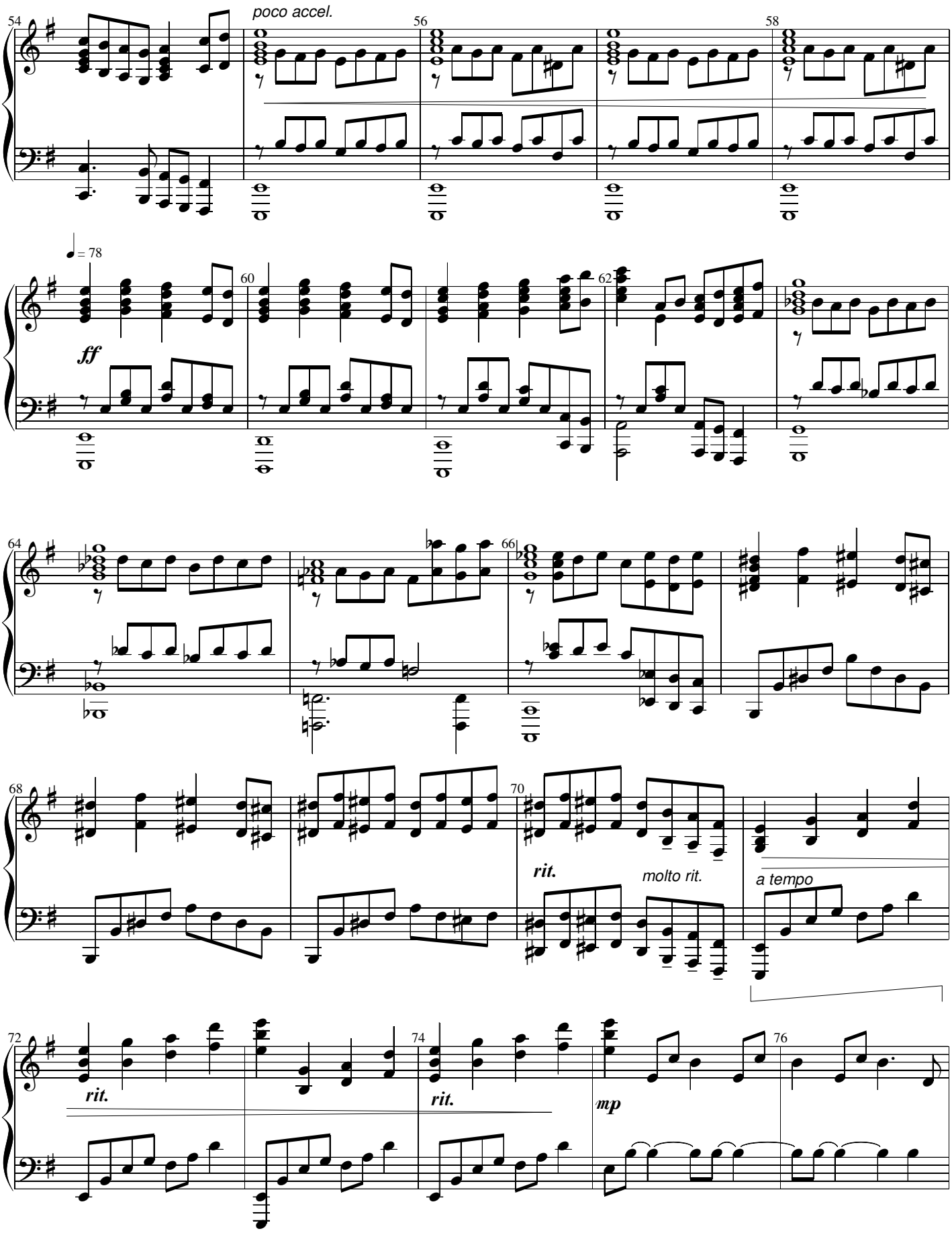
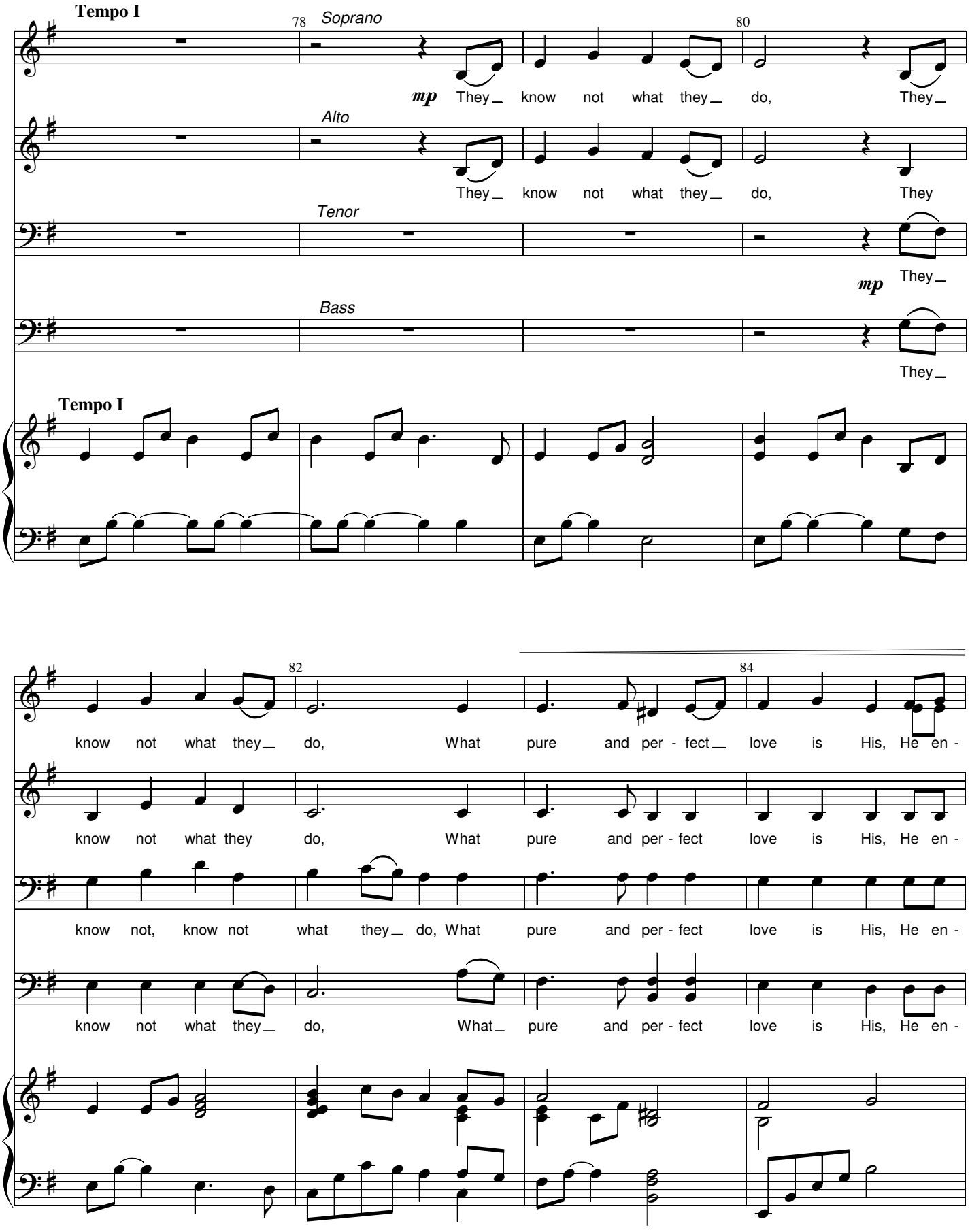
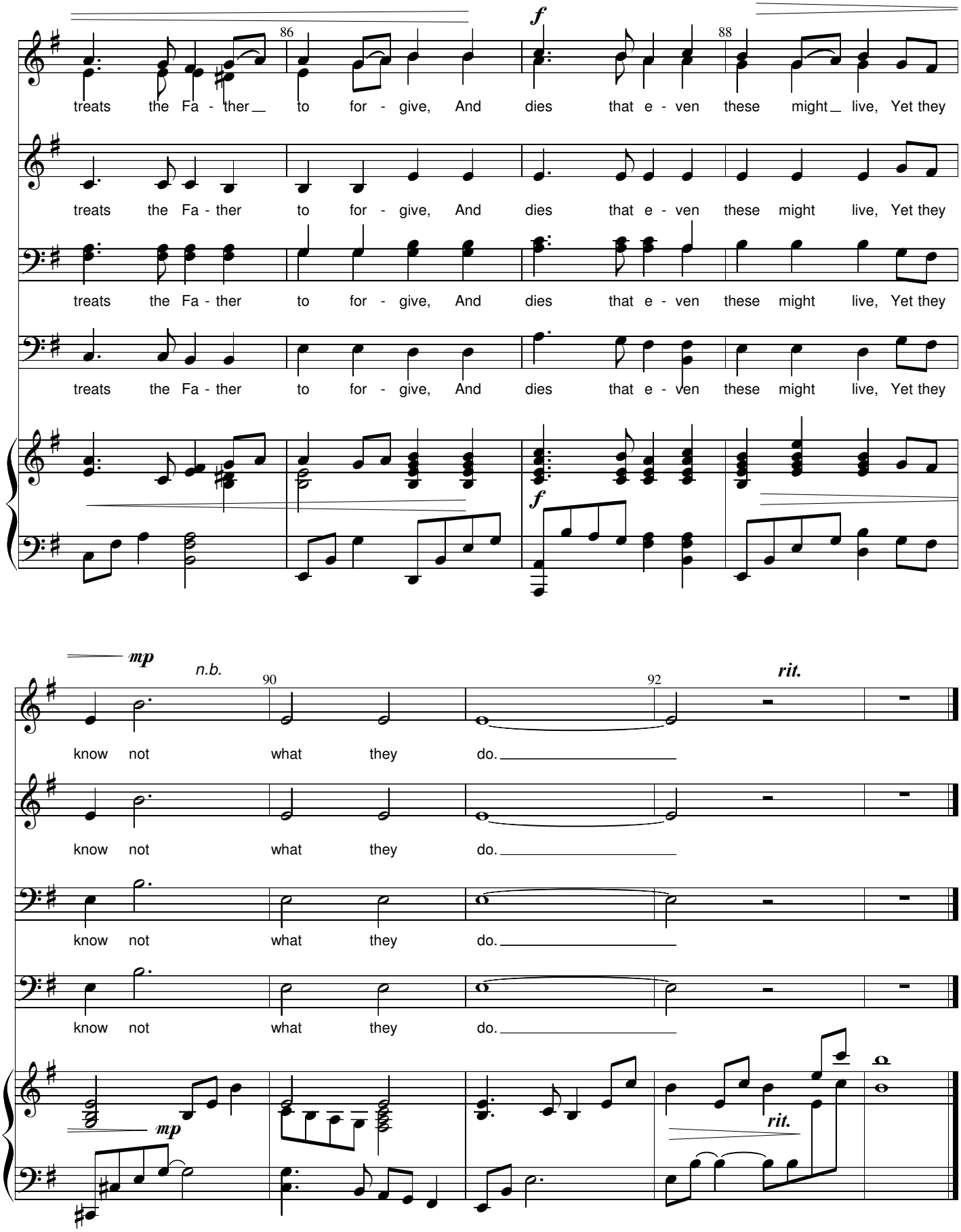

18
S.A. unison
20
22
pp
They know not what they do, They know not what they
T.B. unison
mp
They know not what they do, They know not what they do, They
mp
24
26
do, Ah Ah
pierce His hands and feet with nails, Cre - a - tion shud - ders, Na - ture quails, The
28
30
mf
Ah Ah They
mf
n.b.
sun a - bove them dims and fails, Yet they know not what they


Soprano
32
34
know not what they do, They know not what they do, The
Alto mf
They know not what they do, They know not what they do, The
Tenor mf
do. They know not know not, know not what they do, The
Bass mf
do. They know not what they do, The
poco accel.
36
38
blood that heals them falls like rain, The trem - bling earth cries out in vain, The
blood that heals them falls like rain, The trem - bling earth cries out in vain, The
blood that heals them falls like rain, The trem - bling earth cries out in vain, The
blood that heals them falls like rain, The trem - bling earth cries out in vain, The
poco accel.


f
poco accel.
40
poco accel.
n.b.
42
(tacet)
tem - ple veil is rent in__twain, Yetthey know not what they do.
f
(tacet)
tem - ple veil is rent in twain, Yetthey know not what they do.
f
(tacet)
tem - ple veil is rent in twain, Yetthey know not what they do.
f
(tacet)
tem - ple veil is rent in twain Yetthey know not what they do.
f
poco accel.
poco accel.
44
46
48
50
52


54
poco accel.
56
58
♩= 78
60
62
ff
64
66
68
70
rit.
molto rit.
a tempo
72
rit.
74
rit.
76
mp

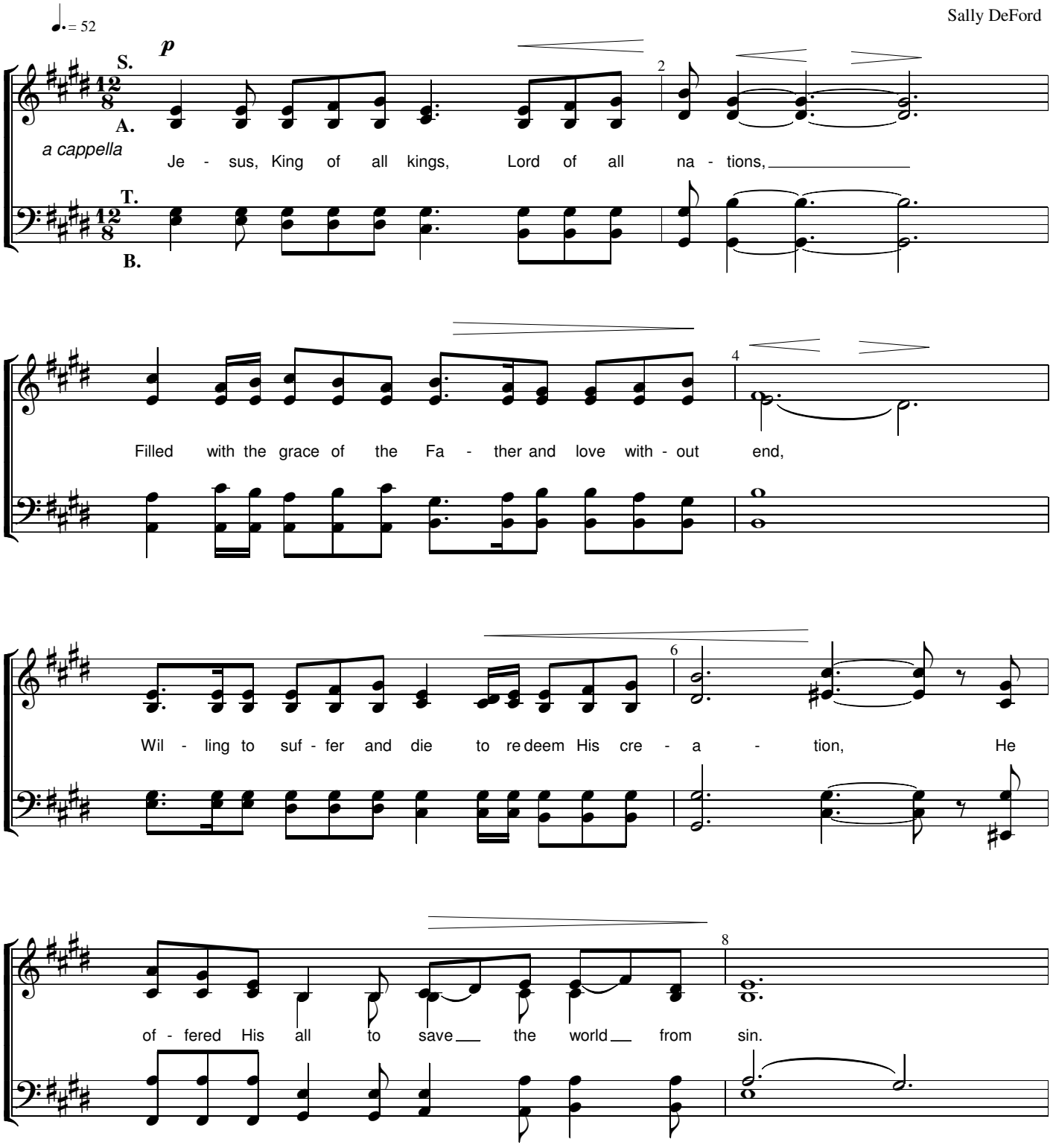

Tempo I
78
Soprano
80
mp They_ know not what they_ do, They_
Alto
They_ know not what they_ do, They
Tenor
mp They_
Bass
They_
Tempo I
82
84
know not what they_ do, What pure and per - fect_ love is His, He en -
know not what they do, What pure and per - fect love is His, He en -
know not, know not what they_ do, What pure and per - fect love is His, He en -
know not what they_ do, What_ pure and per - fect love is His, He en -


f
86
88
treats the Fa - ther to for - give, And dies that e - ven these might live, Yet they
treats the Fa - ther to for - give, And dies that e - ven these might live, Yet they
treats the Fa - ther to for - give, And dies that e - ven these might live, Yet they
treats the Fa - ther to for - give, And dies that e - ven these might live, Yet they
f
mp
n.b.
90
92
rit.
know not what they do.
know not what they do.
know not what they do.
know not what they do.
mp
rit.

To Save the World From Sin

SATB

Sally DeFord



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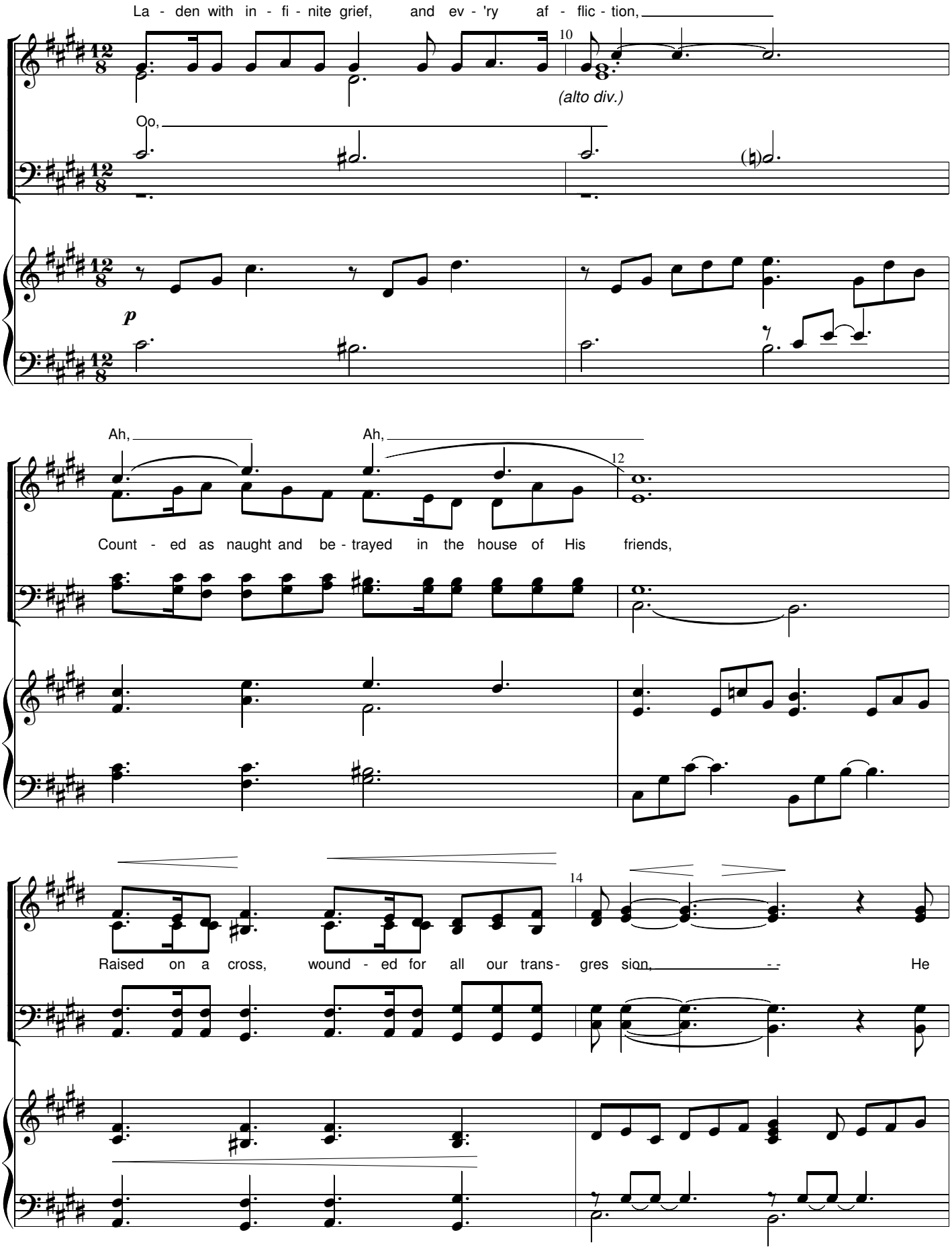
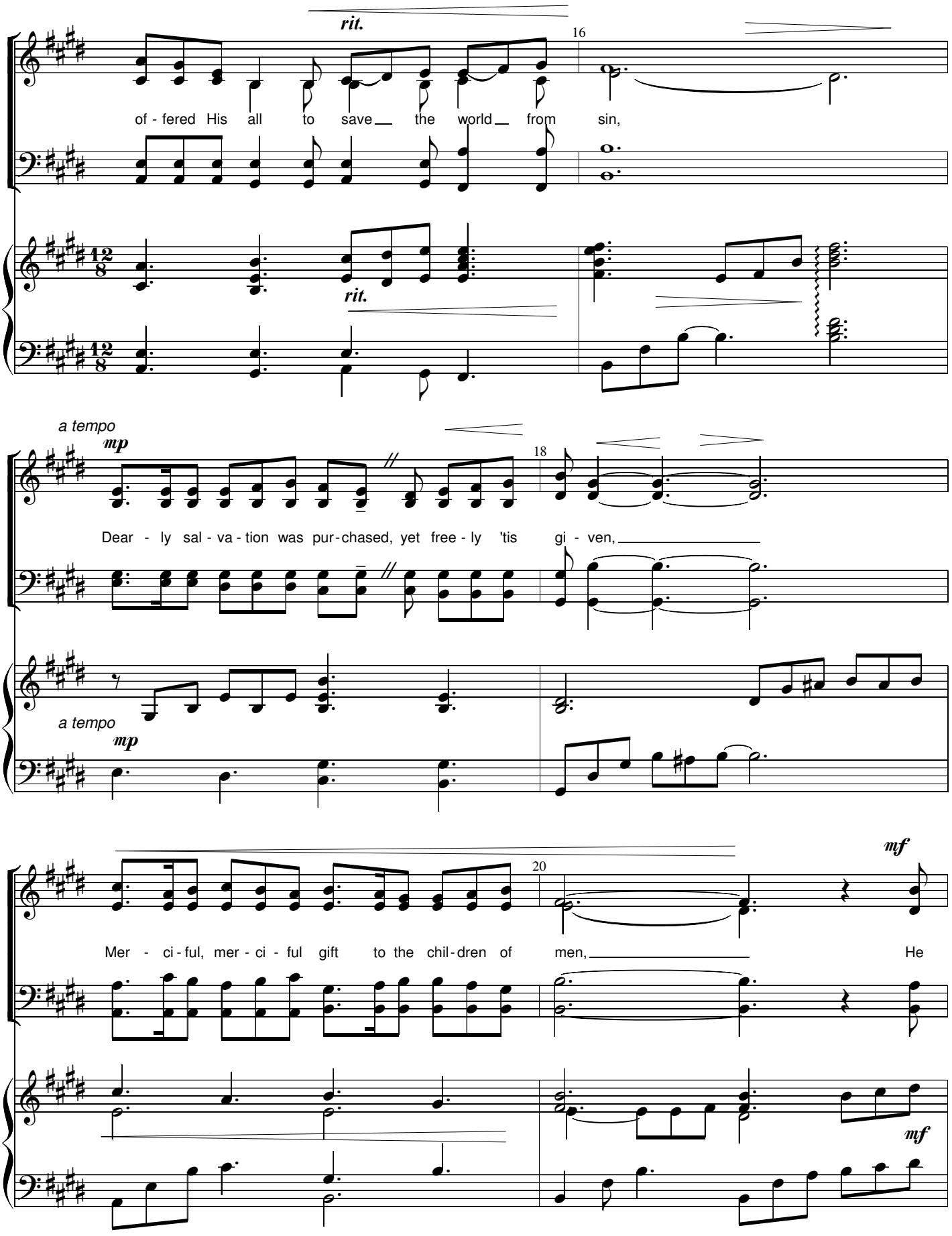
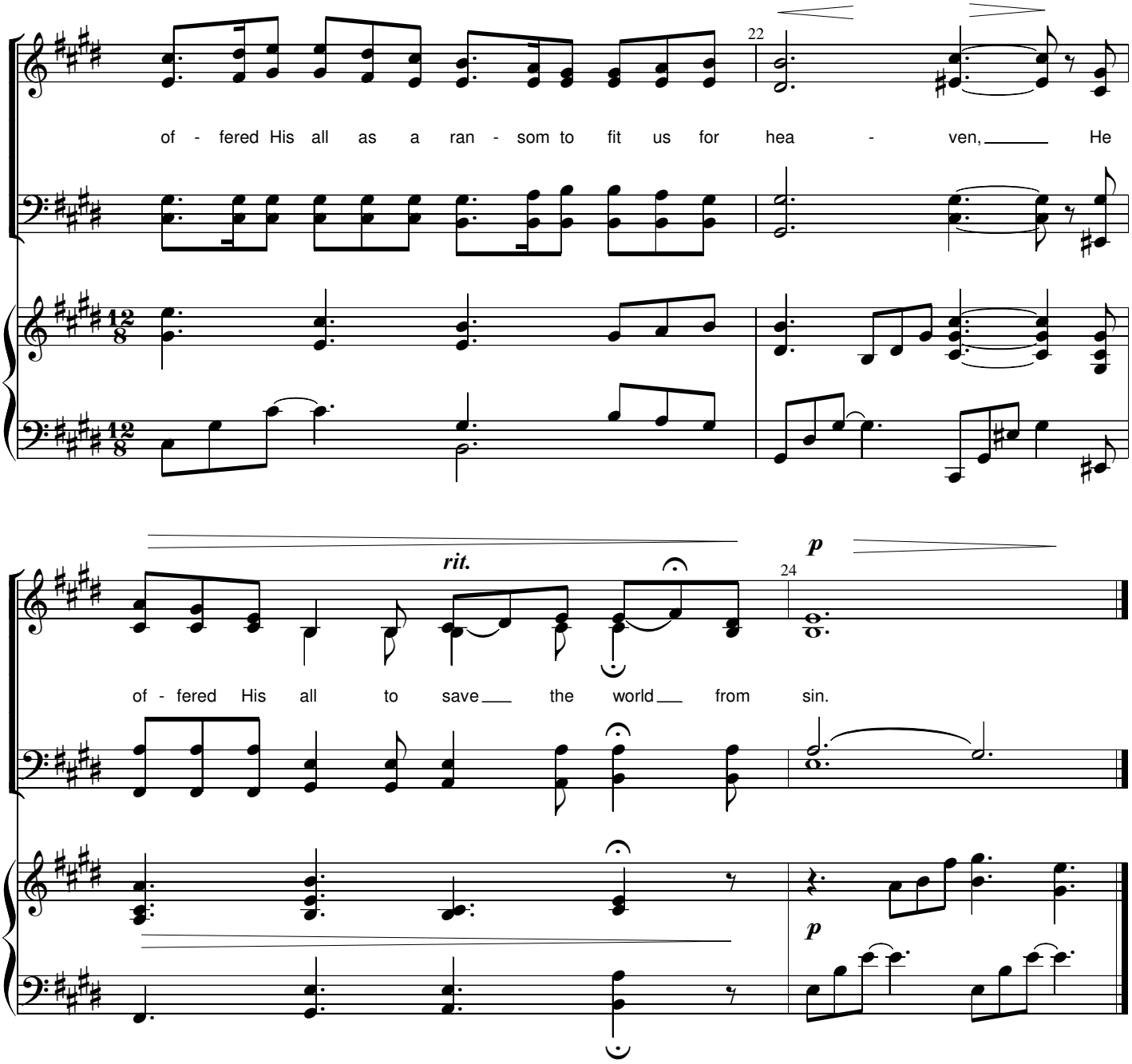

La - den with in - fi - nite grief, and ev - 'ry af - flic - tion,
10
(alto div.)
Oo,
p
Ah,
Ah,
12
Count - ed as naught and be - trayed in the house of His friends,
14
Raised on a cross, wound - ed for all our trans - gres sion, He


rit.
16
of - fered His all to save the world from sin,
rit.
a tempo
mp
18
Dear - ly sal - va - tion was pur - chased, yet free - ly 'tis gi - ven,
a tempo
mp
mf
20
Mer - ci - ful, mer - ci - ful gift to the chil - dren of men, He
mf


22
of - fered His all as a ran - som to fit us for hea - ven, He
rit.
p
24
of - fered His all to save the world from sin.
p

To Save the World From Sin-- ***Interlude*** *--For Me Alone*

Narrator 1: The sacrifice He made to redeem us from death cost Him more than we can ever understand, and yet, He offers this as a gift to each one of us. I know that Jesus bore the sins of all the world; that He died to save all of His Father's children. But I also know that He died to save me, personally.

(Music begins if using organ)

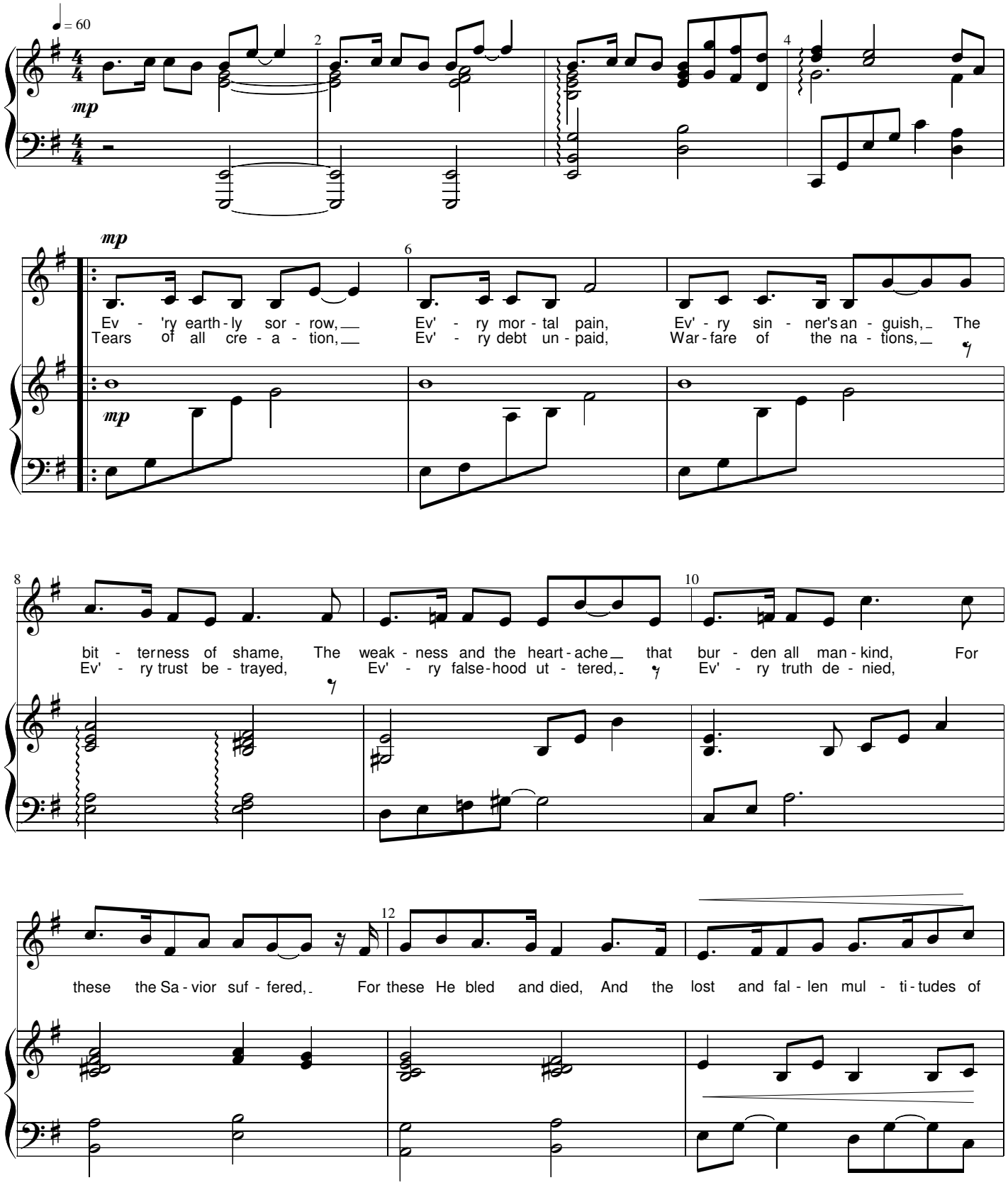
As I try to comprehend this great love, I consider how much I love my own children. There is no sacrifice I would not make to save them from any danger that threatened them, but I would do no less for one of them than I would do for all of them. How much greater is my Savior's love for me!

(Optional music for this section is included on the "For Me Alone" organ score.)

For Me Alone

(Medium-voice solo)

Sally DeFord



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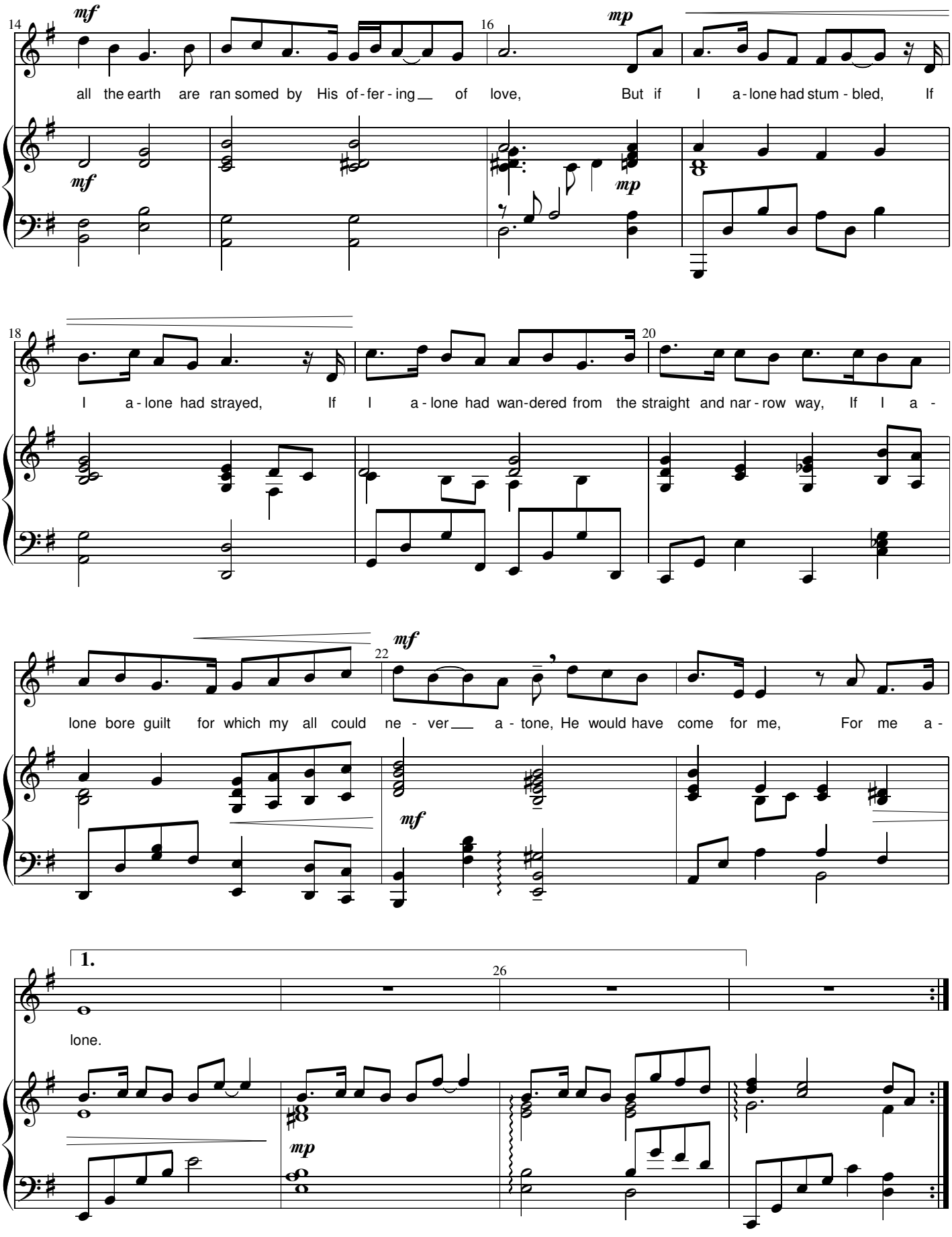
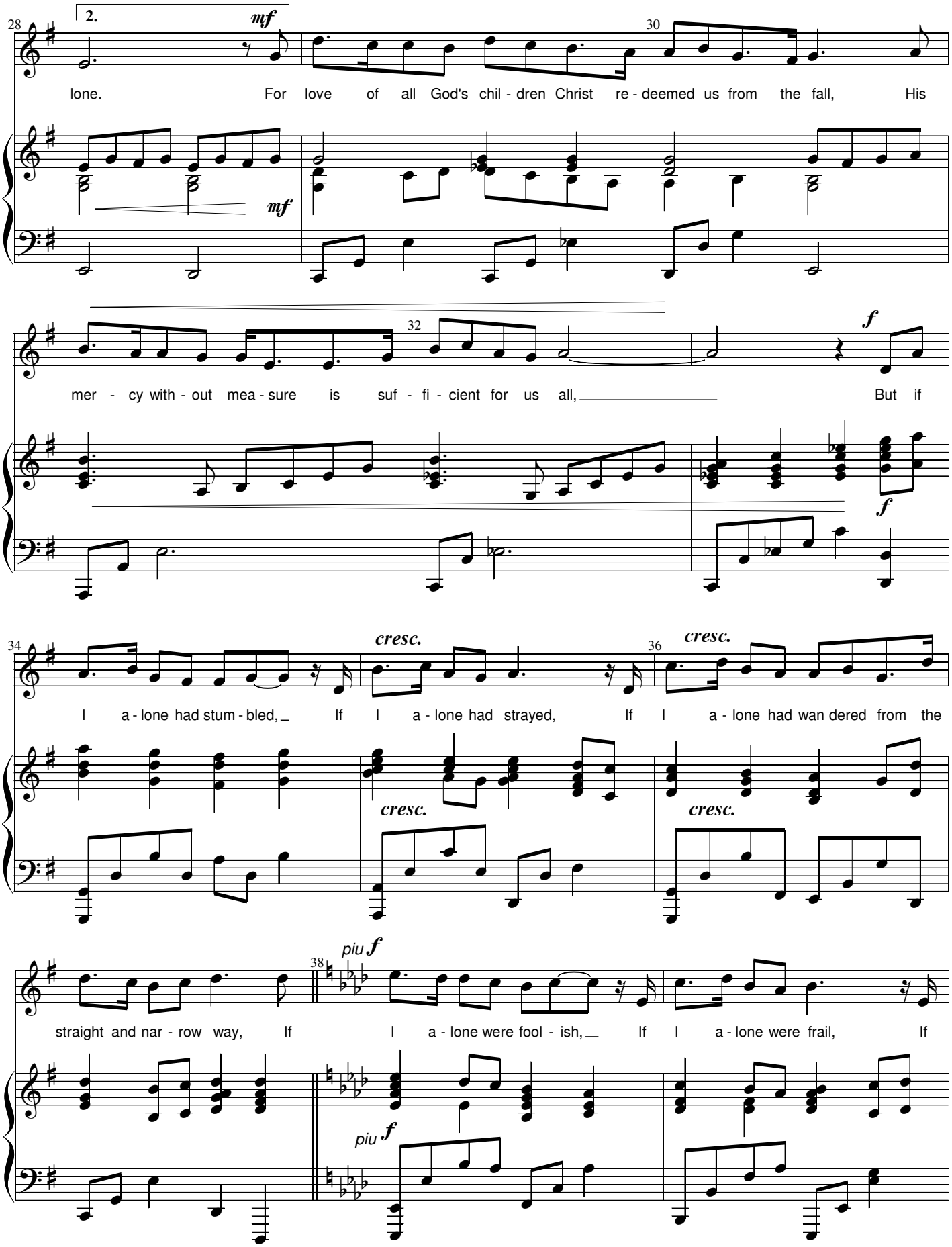
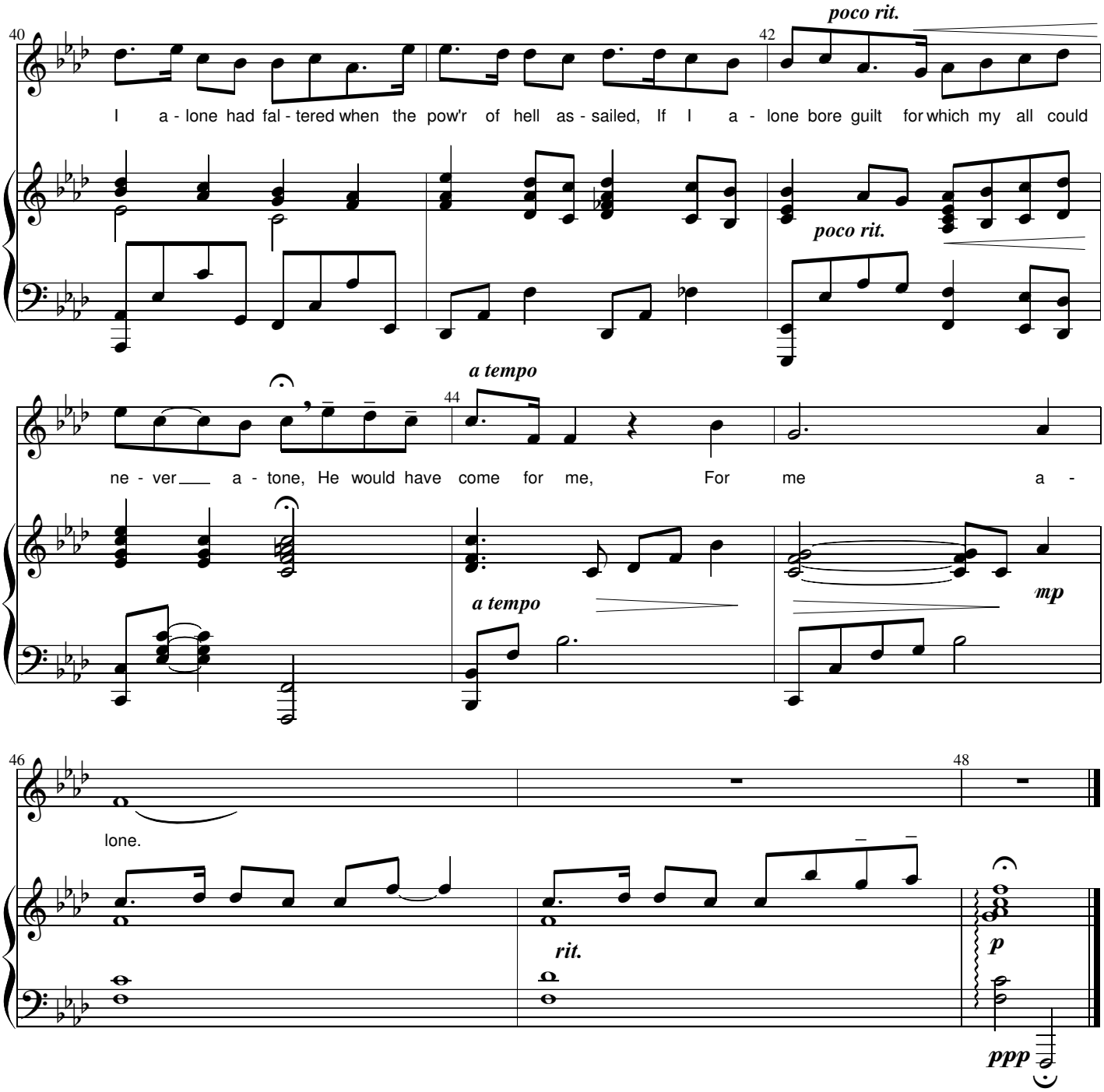

14
mf
all the earth are ran somed by His of - fer - ing of love,
16
mp
But if I a - lone had stum - bled, If
mf
mp
18
I a - lone had strayed, If I a - lone had wan-dered from the straight and nar - row way, If I a -
20
22
mf
lone bore guilt for which my all could ne - ver a - tone, He would have come for me, For me a -
mf
1.
26
lone.
mp

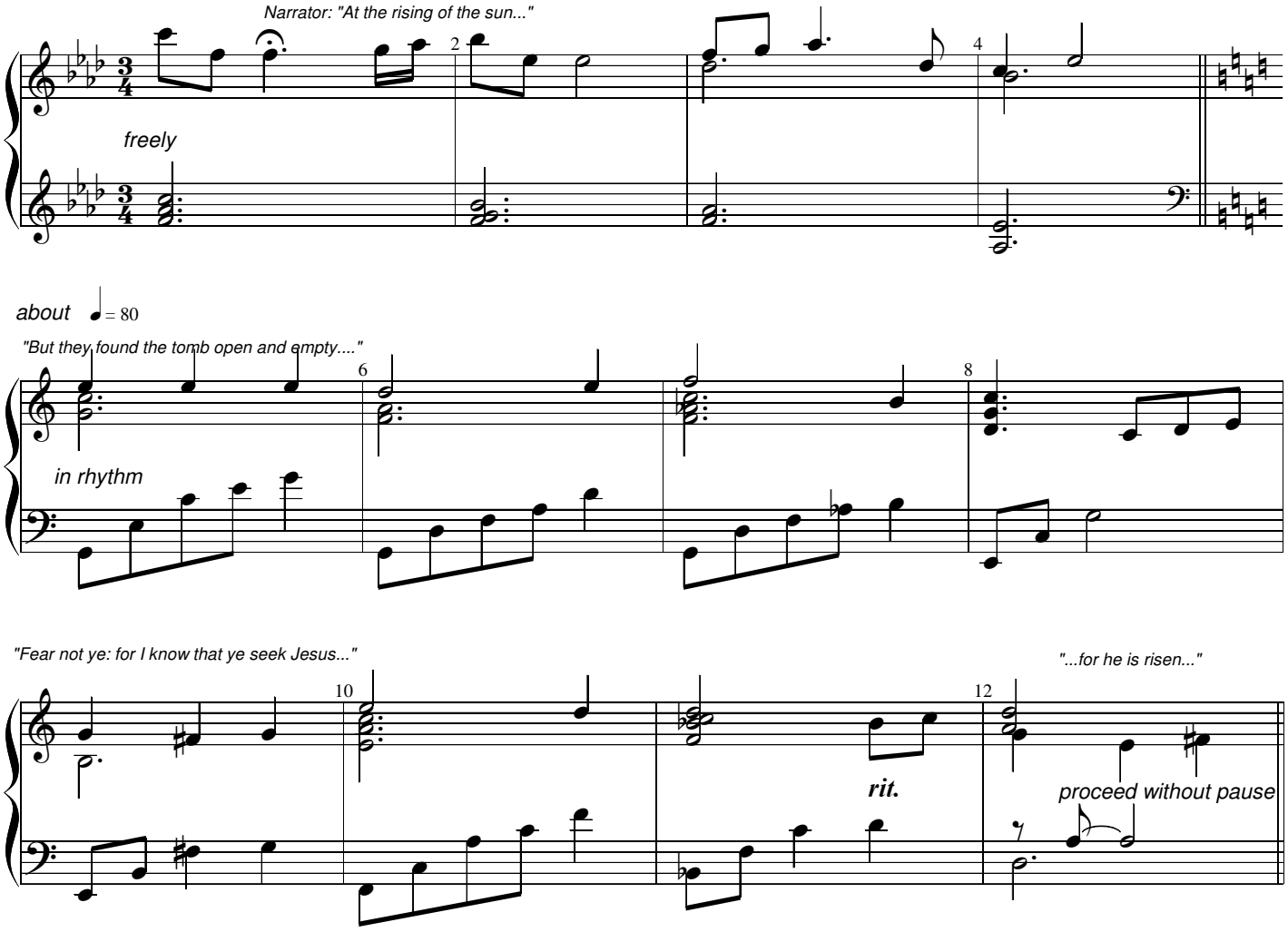

2.
mf
28
lone. For love of all God's chil - dren Christ re - deemed us from the fall, His
30
mf
mer - cy with - out mea - sure is suf - fi - cient for us all, But if
32
f
f
I a - lone had stum - bled, If I a - lone had strayed, If I a - lone had wan dered from the
34
cresc.
36
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
straight and nar - row way, If I a - lone were fool - ish, If I a - lone were frail, If
38
piu f
piu f


40
I a - lone had fal - tered when the pow'r of hell as - sailed, If I a - lone bore guilt for which my all could
42
poco rit.
poco rit.
a tempo
44
ne - ver___ a - tone, He would have come for me, For me a -
a tempo
mp
46
lone.
48
rit.
p
ppp

Narrator 2: The sun was darkened; the earth shook. Jesus cried out to His Father, "Into thy hands I commend my spirit," and gave up His life for our sake. His body was taken from the cross, and placed in a borrowed tomb. It had to be done in haste, for the Sabbath approached, and much remained for us to do after it had passed. We grieved and we wept; we were without understanding. Our hope was in ruins, and our hearts were heavy, for we had placed all our trust in Him, and we did not yet know that His power and love were stronger than even the bands of death.

(Music begins)

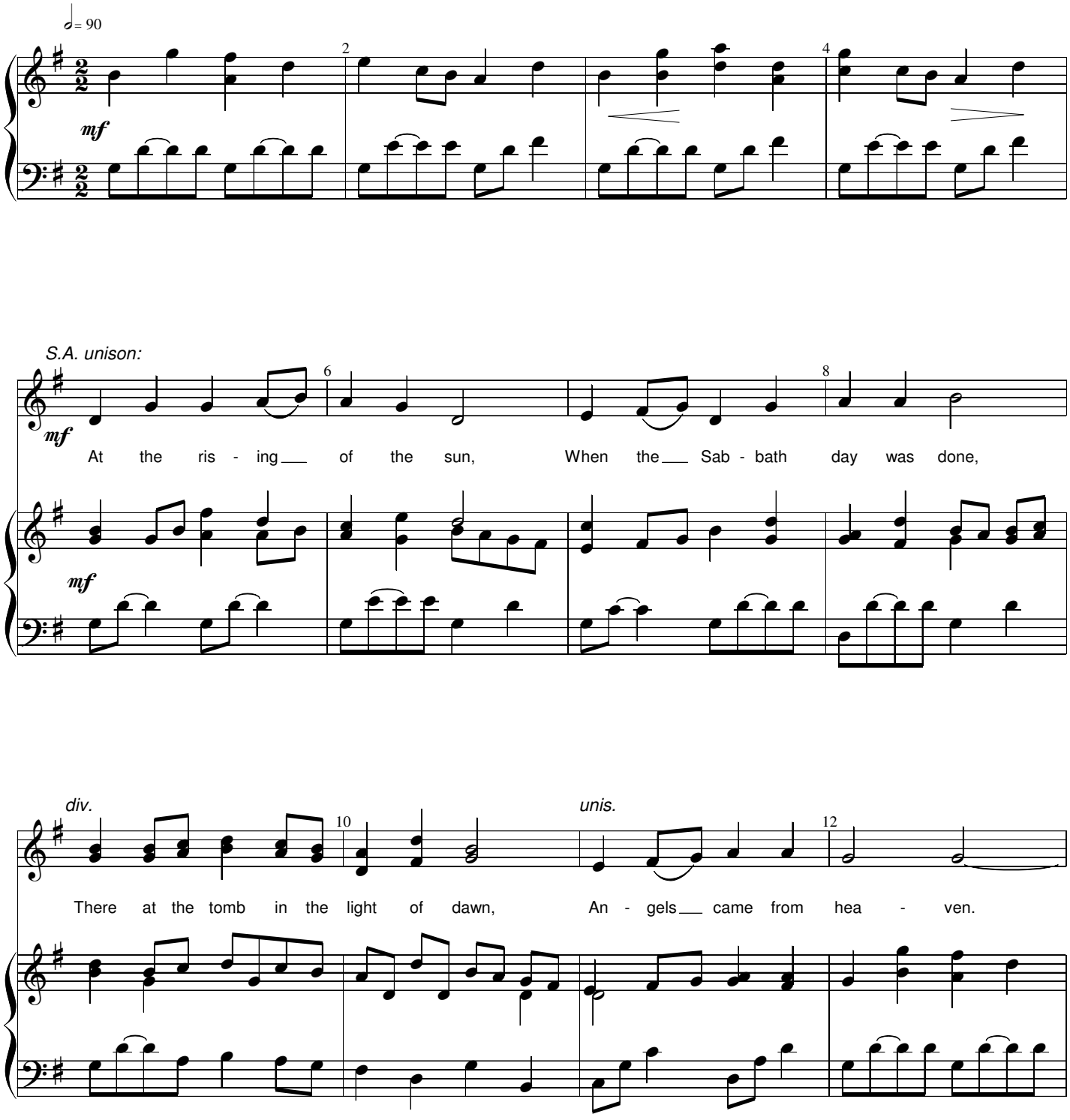
At the rising of the sun on the first day of the week, three of our faithful women visited the tomb, bringing spices and oils to properly finish the burial. But they found the tomb open and empty, and they saw there angels sent from God, who said to them, "Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen..."



At the Rising of the Sun

SATB

Sally DeFord



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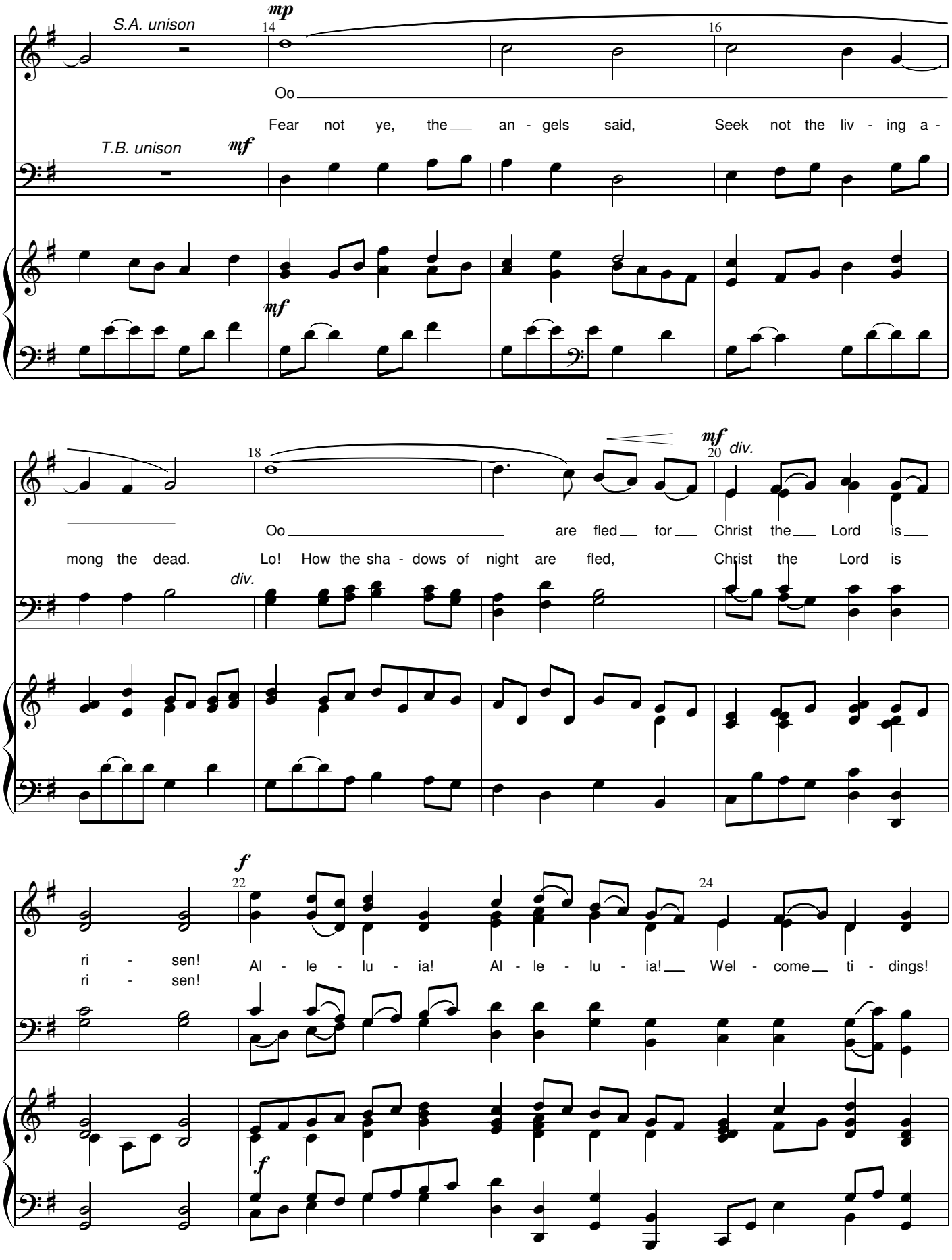
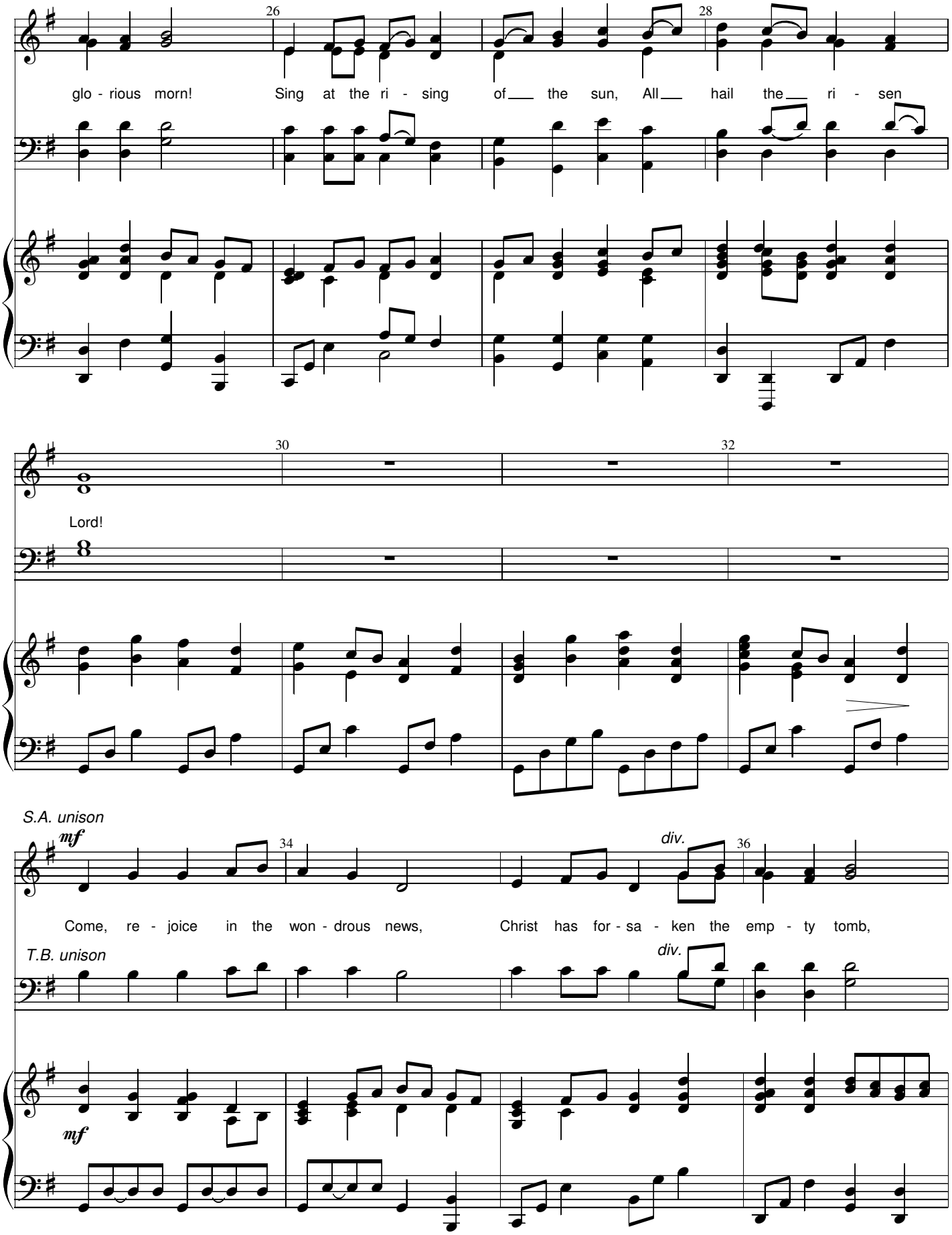
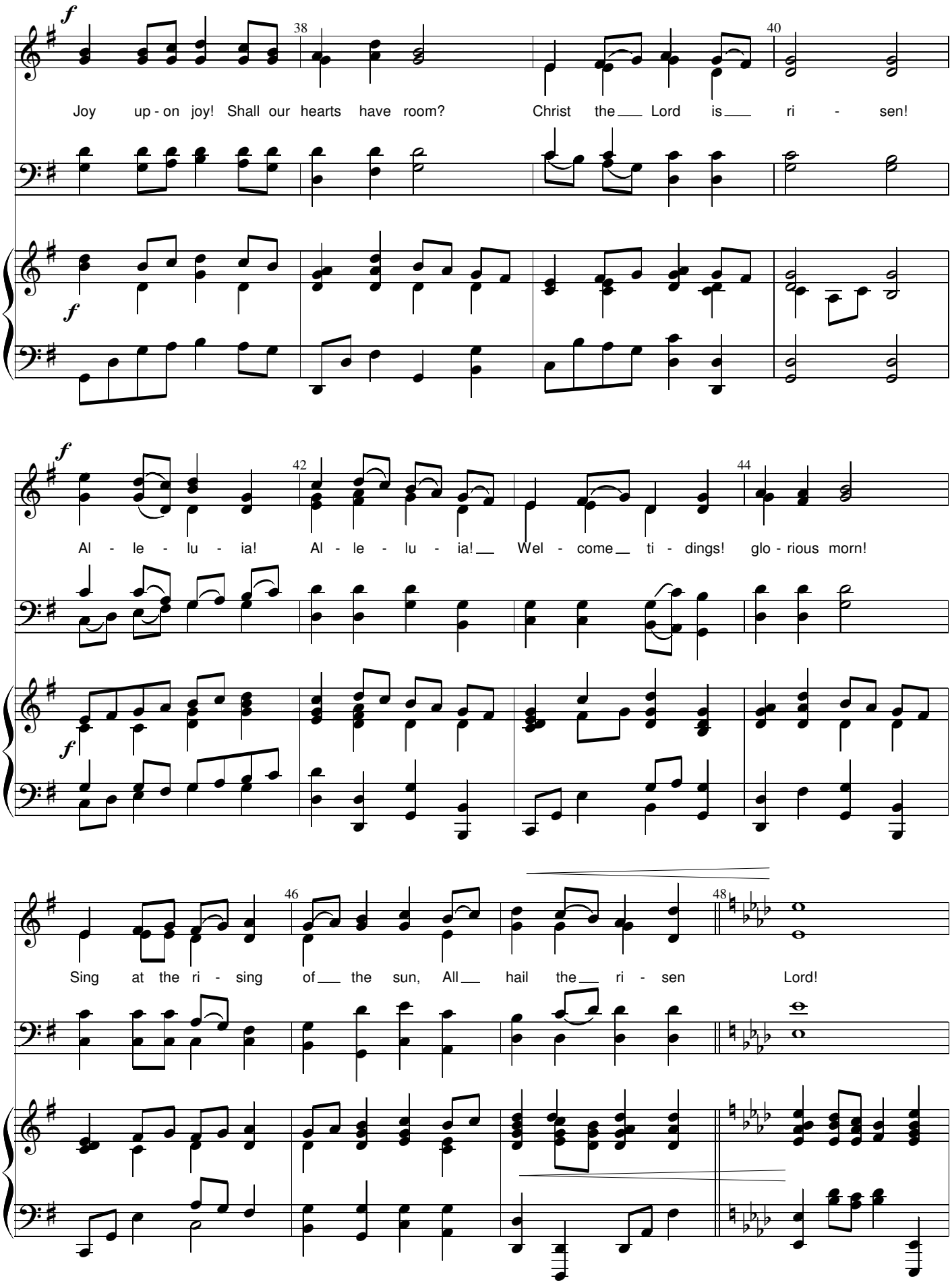
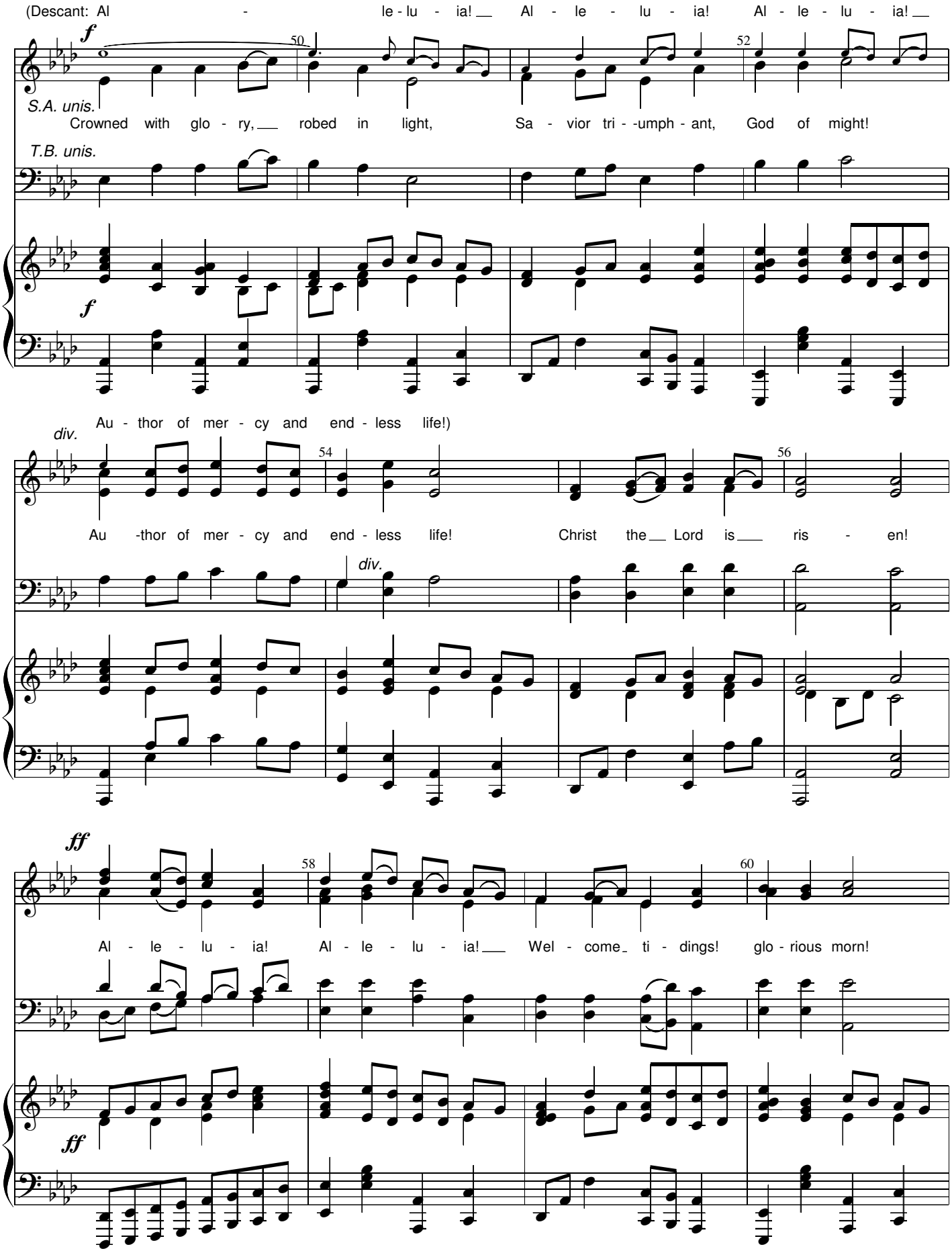
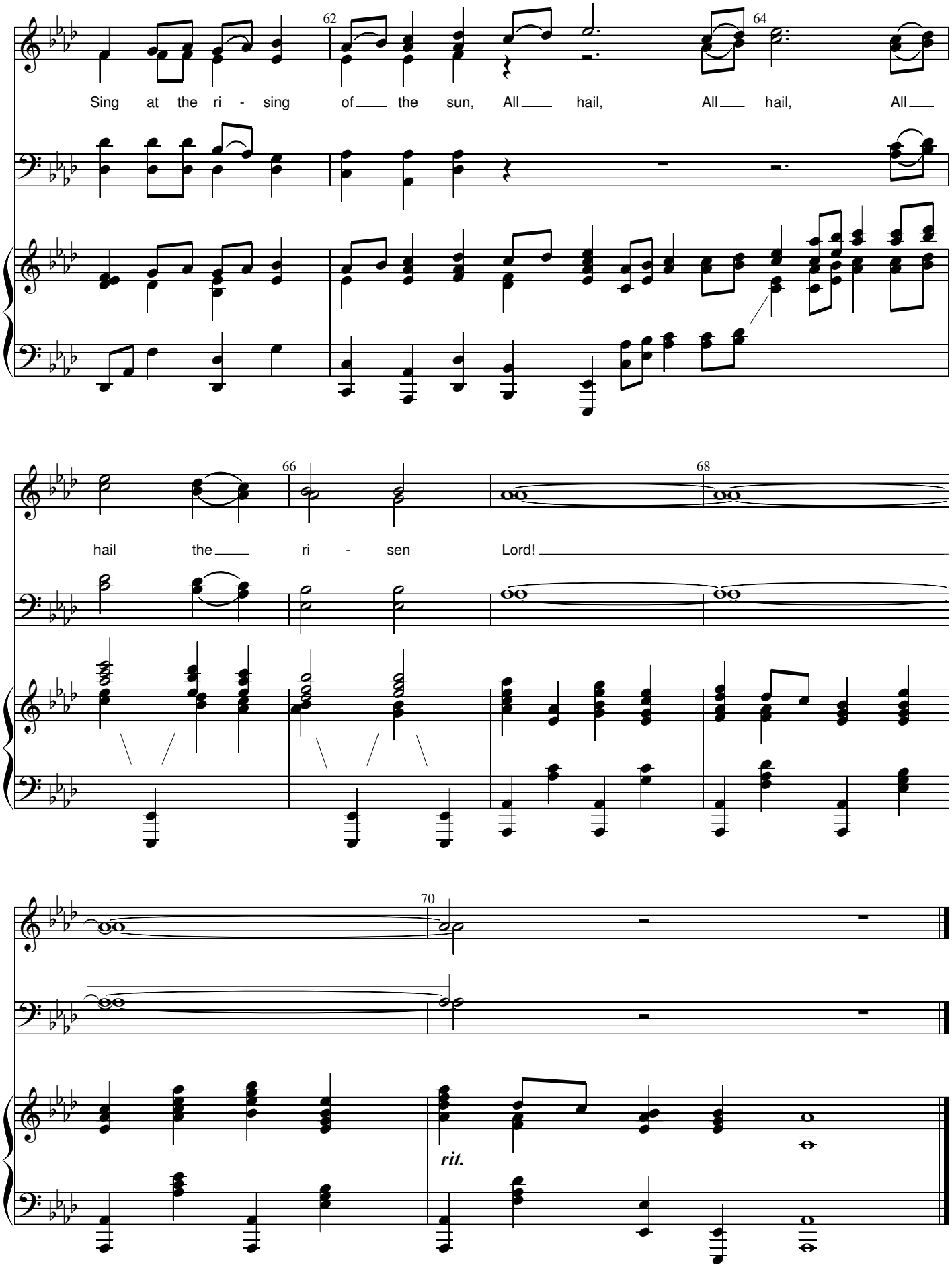

S.A. unison
mp
14
16
Oo
Fear not ye, the an - gels said, Seek not the liv - ing a -
T.B. unison
mf
mf
18
mf
20
div.
Oo are fled for Christ the Lord is
mong the dead. Lo! How the sha - dows of night are fled, Christ the Lord is
div.
f
22
24
ri - sen! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Wel - come ti - dings!
ri - sen!
f


26
28
glo - rious morn!
Sing at the ri - sing
of the sun,
All hail the ri - sen
30
32
Lord!
S.A. unison
mf
34
div.
36
Come, re - joice in the won - drous news,
Christ has for - sa - ken the emp - ty tomb,
T.B. unison
div.
mf


f
38
40
Joy up - on joy! Shall our hearts have room? Christ the Lord is ri - sen!
f
f
42
44
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Wel - come ti - dings! glo - rious morn!
f
46
48
Sing at the ri - sing of the sun, All hail the ri - sen Lord!


(Descant: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
f
50
52
S.A. unis.
Crowned with glo - ry, robed in light, Sa - vior tri - umph - ant, God of might!
T.B. unis.
f
div.
Au - thor of mer - cy and end - less life!)
54
56
Au - thor of mer - cy and end - less life! Christ the Lord is ris - en!
div.
ff
58
60
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Wel - come ti - dings! glo - rious morn!
ff


62
64
Sing at the ri - sing of the sun, All hail, All hail, All
66
68
hail the ri - sen Lord!
70
rit.

Narrator 1: Never, not even at His birth, had such joyful tidings been told. The great atonement was complete; Jesus had triumphed over death and brought about the resurrection of all mankind.

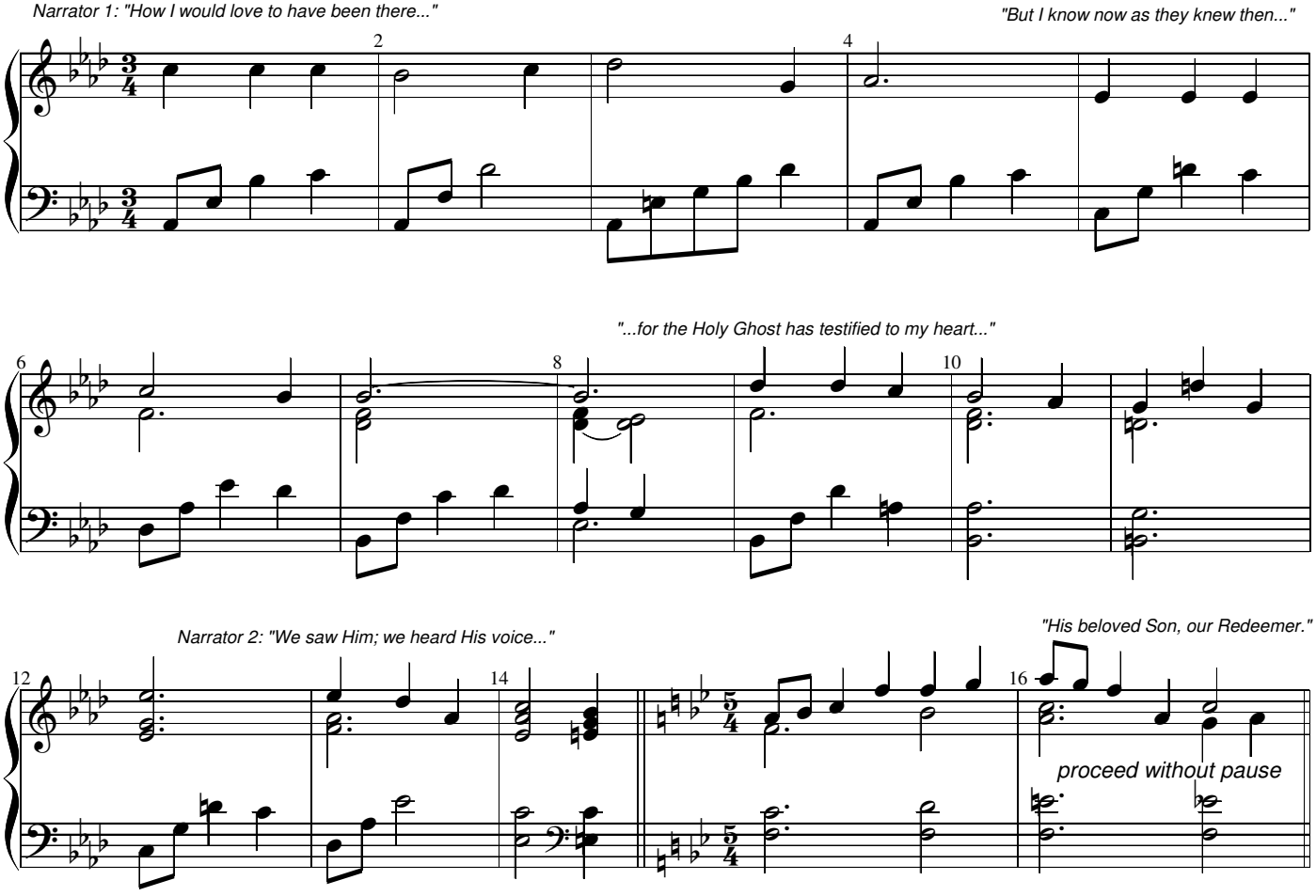
Narrator 2: Jesus was risen. He appeared to many who left their witness for all the world, and for every generation that follows, that He lives. How blessed we were to see the risen Lord, to feel the prints of the nails in His hands and feet; to know that He had conquered the grave and brought salvation to us all.

(Music begins)

Narrator 1: How I would love to have been there, to see what they saw and to hear what they heard. But I know now as they knew then that He Lives; that His atonement is my hope and my salvation, for the Holy Ghost has testified to my heart that these things are true.

Narrator 2: We saw Him; we heard His voice; and we felt in our hearts a witness sent from God that Jesus is His beloved Son, our Redeemer. What greater witness could we know?

about ♩ = 90



This is How I Know

(Duet)

Sally DeFord

♩ = 78

Narrator 2: "What greater witness could we know?"

2 *rit.* ***mf*** *a tempo*

Narrator 2: I have seen the le - per
Narrator 1: Had I heard His voice and

mf *Play both hands 8va for verse 1.*

rit. *a tempo*

4 6

healed at His com - mand, I have wit - nessed won - ders wrought by Je - sus' hand,
fol - lowed where He led, Had I been a - mong the mul - ti - tudes He fed,

8

I have heard Him teach - ing by the peace - ful sea, And could not know more sure - ly
Had I knelt be - fore Him, learn - ing at His feet, I could not know more sure - ly

10 **1.** *rit.* **2.** *rit.* *a tempo* 12

of His love for me. of His love for me. Duet: For I have come be - fore the

rit. *loco* *rit.* *a tempo*

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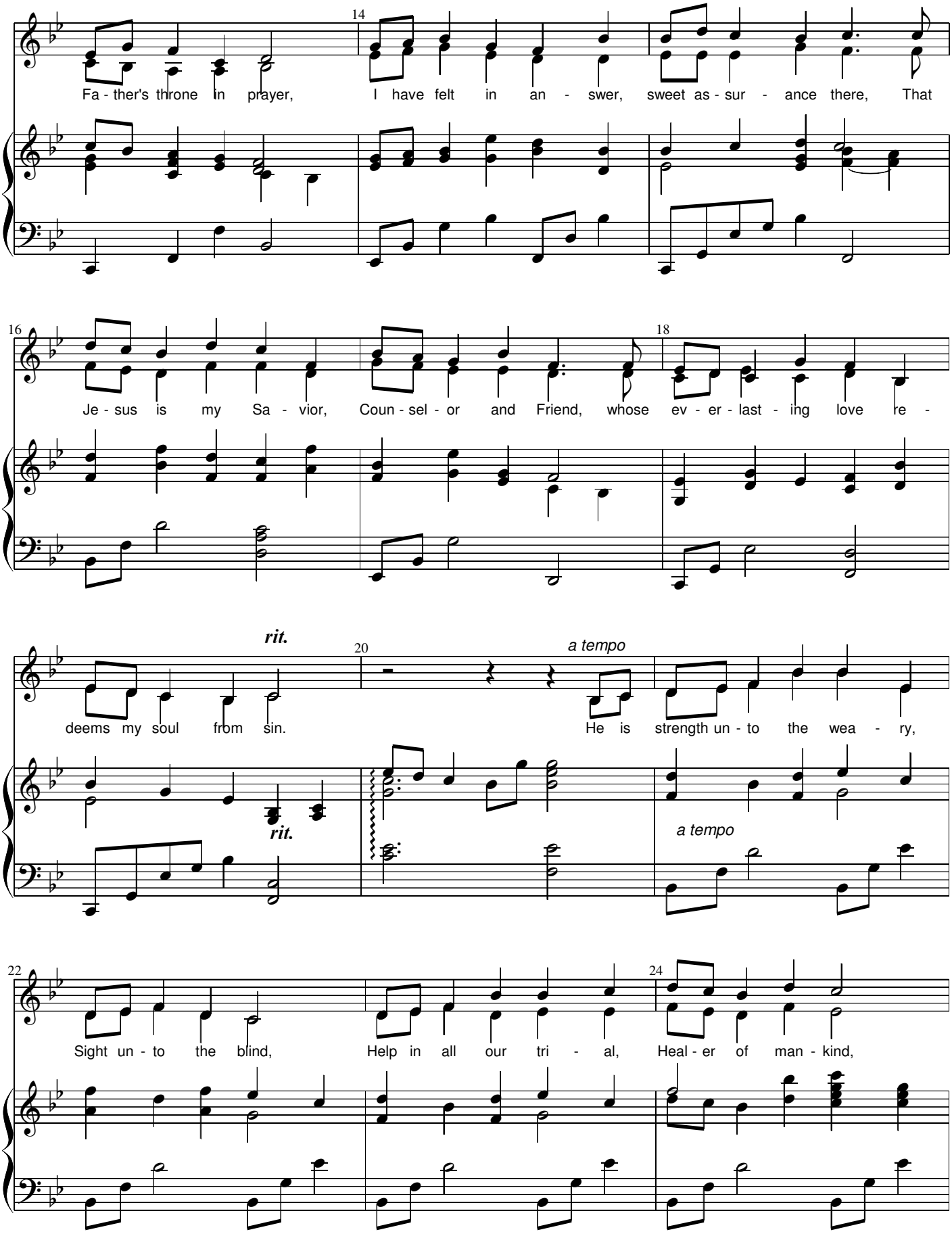
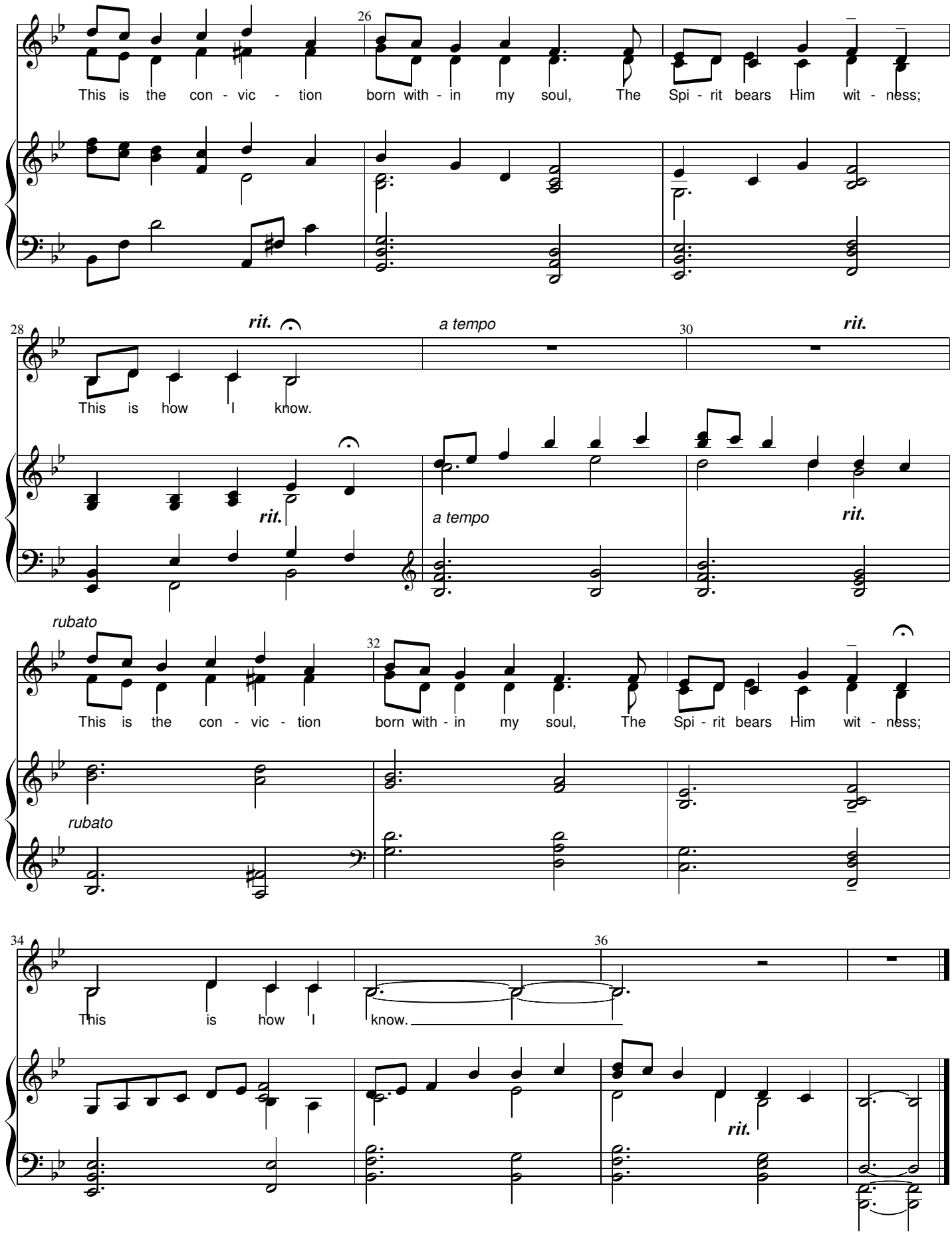

14
Fa - ther's throne in prayer, I have felt in an - swer, sweet as - sur - ance there, That
16
Je - sus is my Sa - vior, Coun - sel - or and Friend, whose ev - er - last - ing love re -
18
rit.
deems my soul from sin.
20
a tempo
He is strength un - to the wea - ry,
rit.
a tempo
22
Sight un - to the blind, Help in all our tri - al,
24
Heal - er of man - kind,


26
This is the con - vic - tion born with - in my soul, The Spi - rit bears Him wit - ness;
28
rit.
This is how I know.
a tempo
30
rit.
rit.
a tempo
rit.
rubato
32
This is the con - vic - tion born with - in my soul, The Spi - rit bears Him wit - ness;
rubato
34
This is how I know.
36
rit.

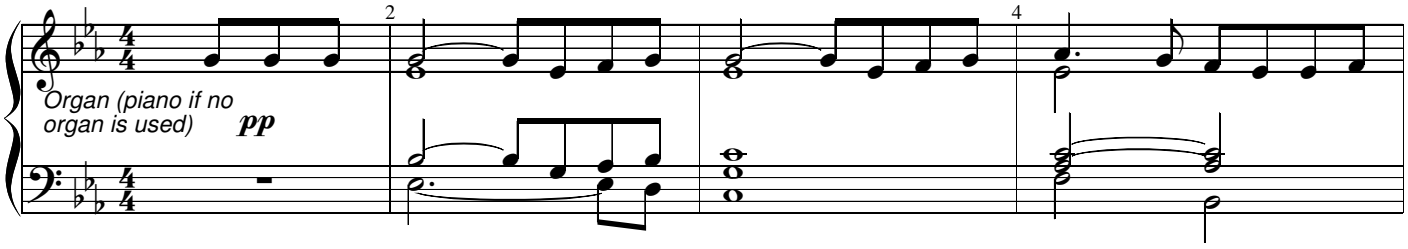
Narrator 1: He loved them then and He loves us now.

(Music begins)

As they watched, He was taken up into heaven, but He left them with the promise that He would always be with them. That promise is also ours today. He invites us all to come to Him; to bring Him our every affliction, and every burden we have to bear, that He may heal us. When I am faced with difficulties I can't overcome alone, or sorrows that would break my heart, I can rely on the atonement of Jesus Christ, on His power and His compassion, to sustain me.

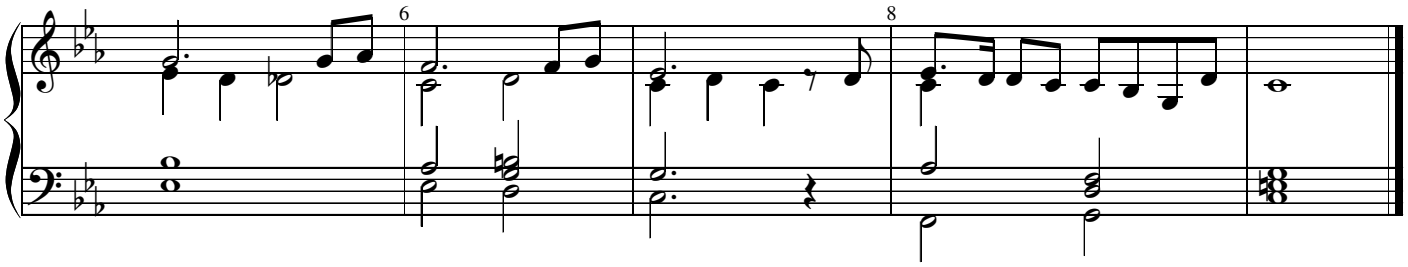
about ♩ = 68

Narrator: "As they watched, He was taken up..."



"...to bring Him our every affliction..."

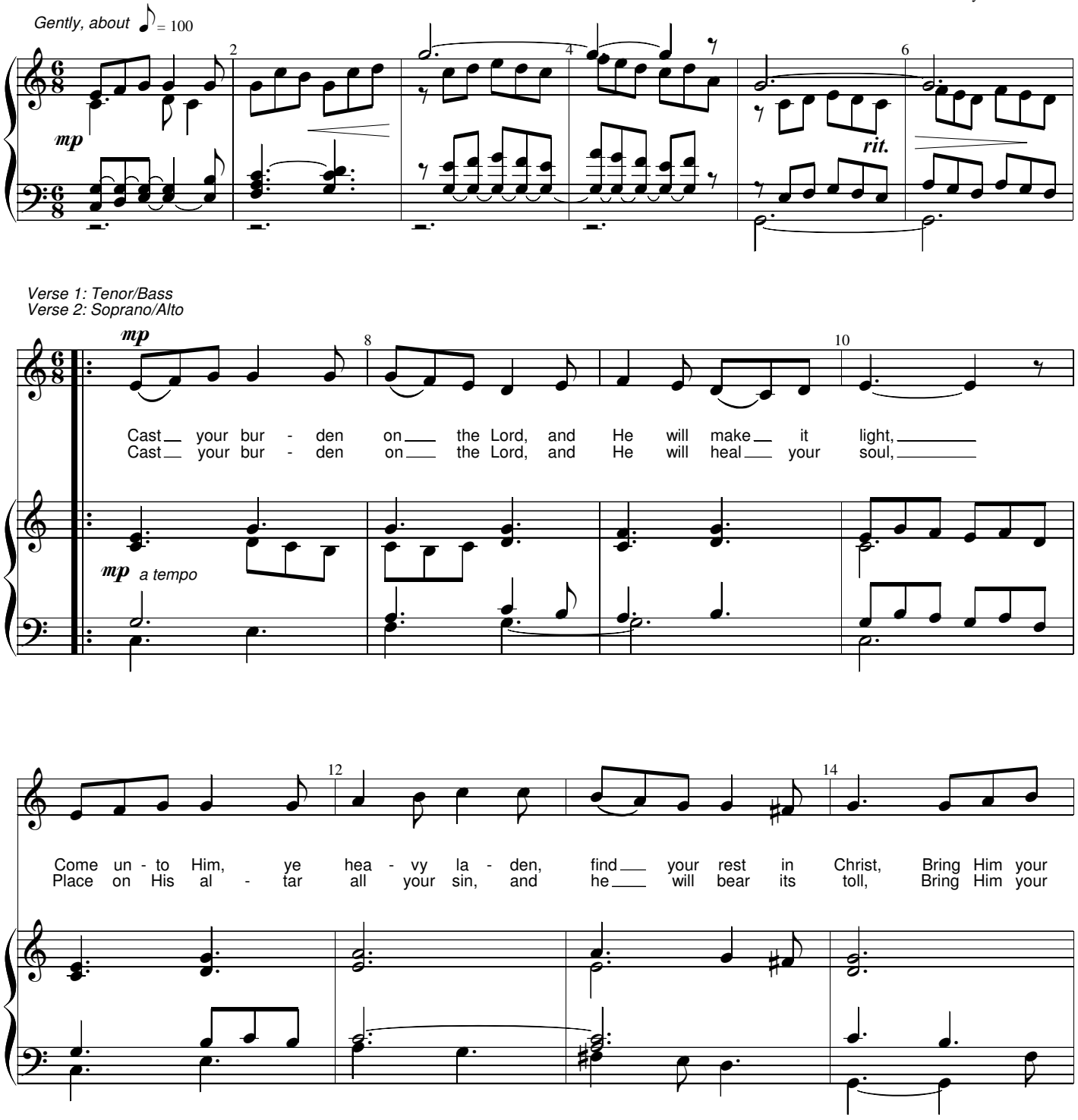
"...His compassion, to sustain me."



Cast Your Burden on the Lord

SATB , Organ

Sally DeFord



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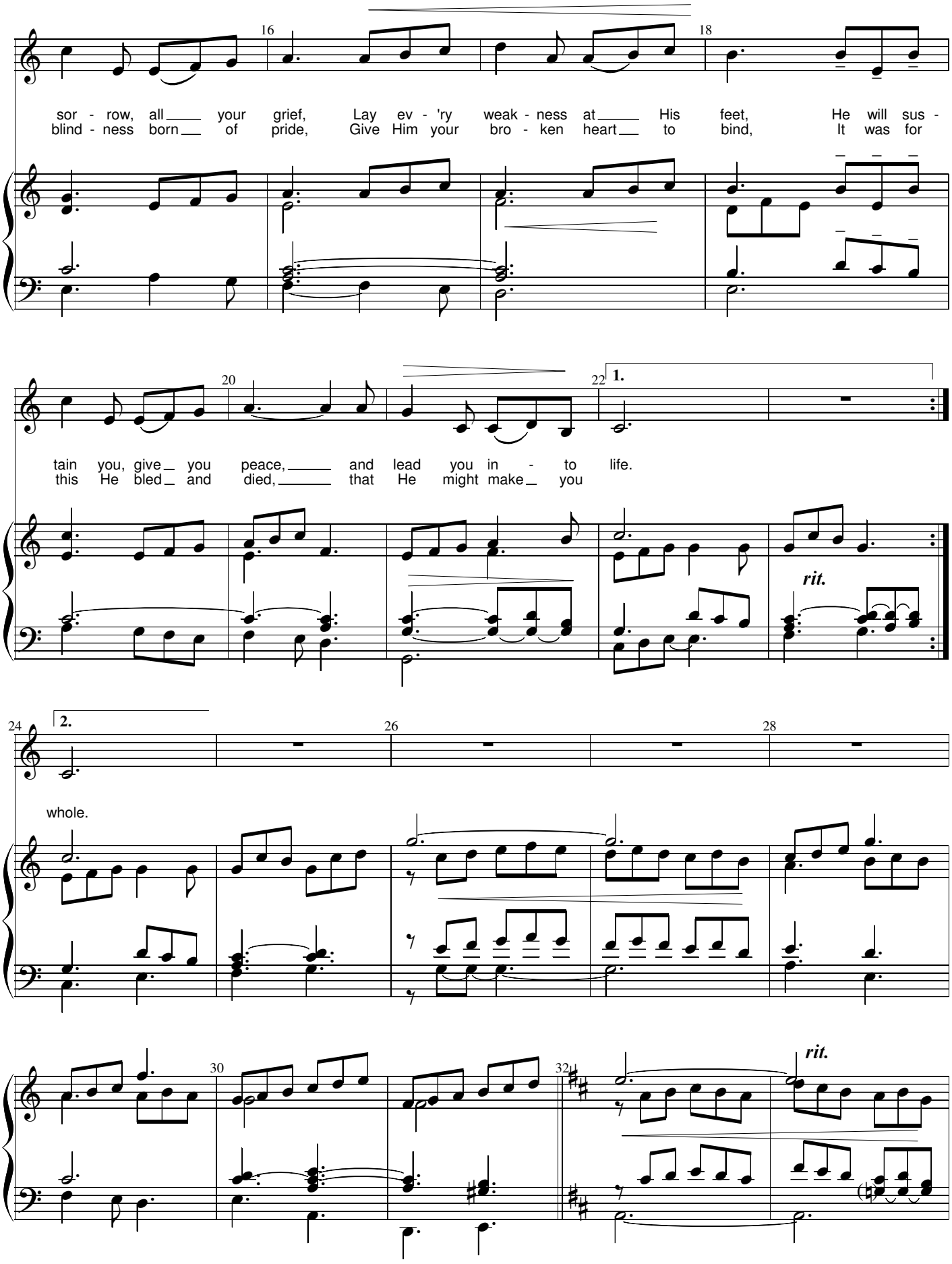
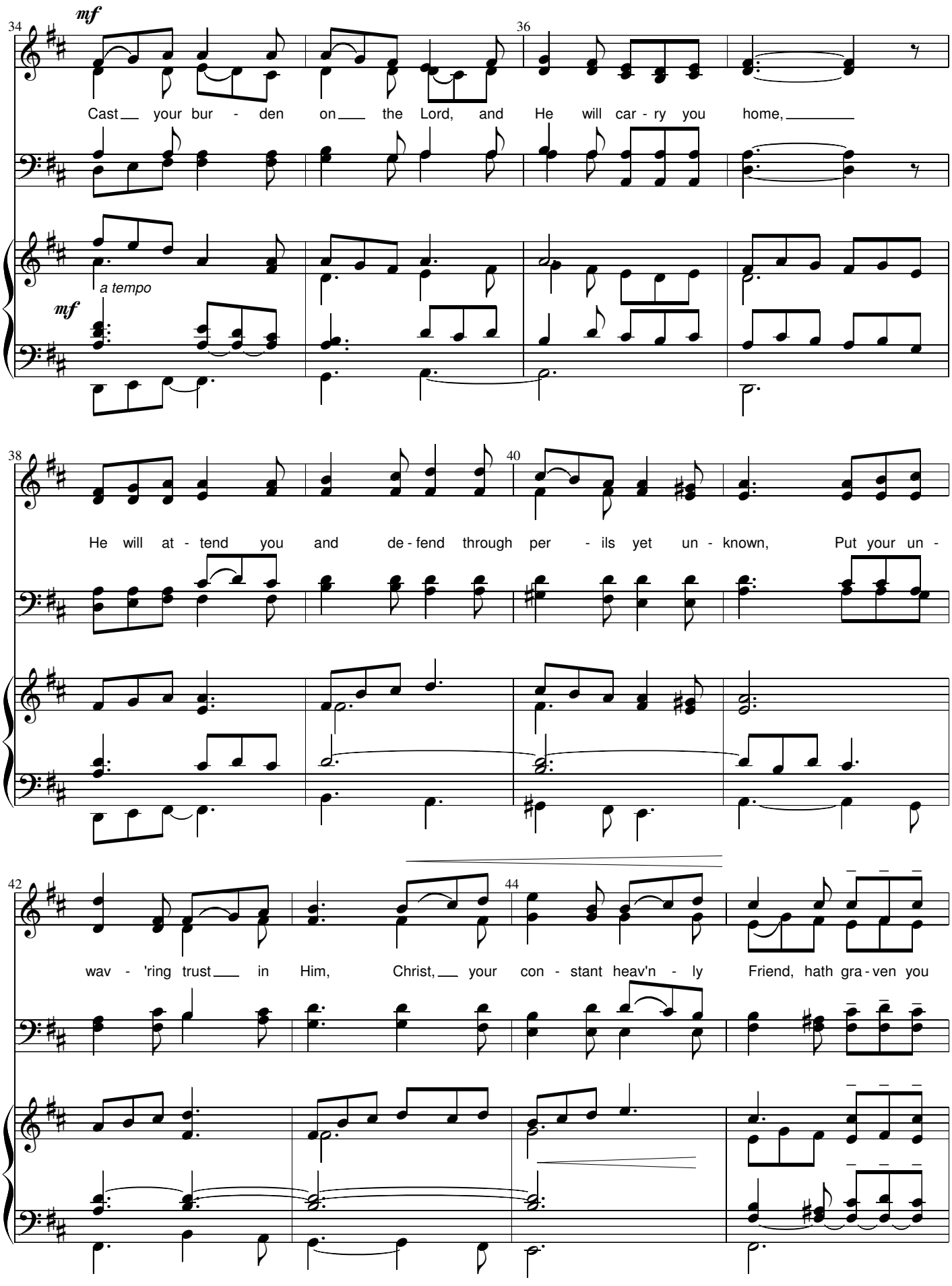
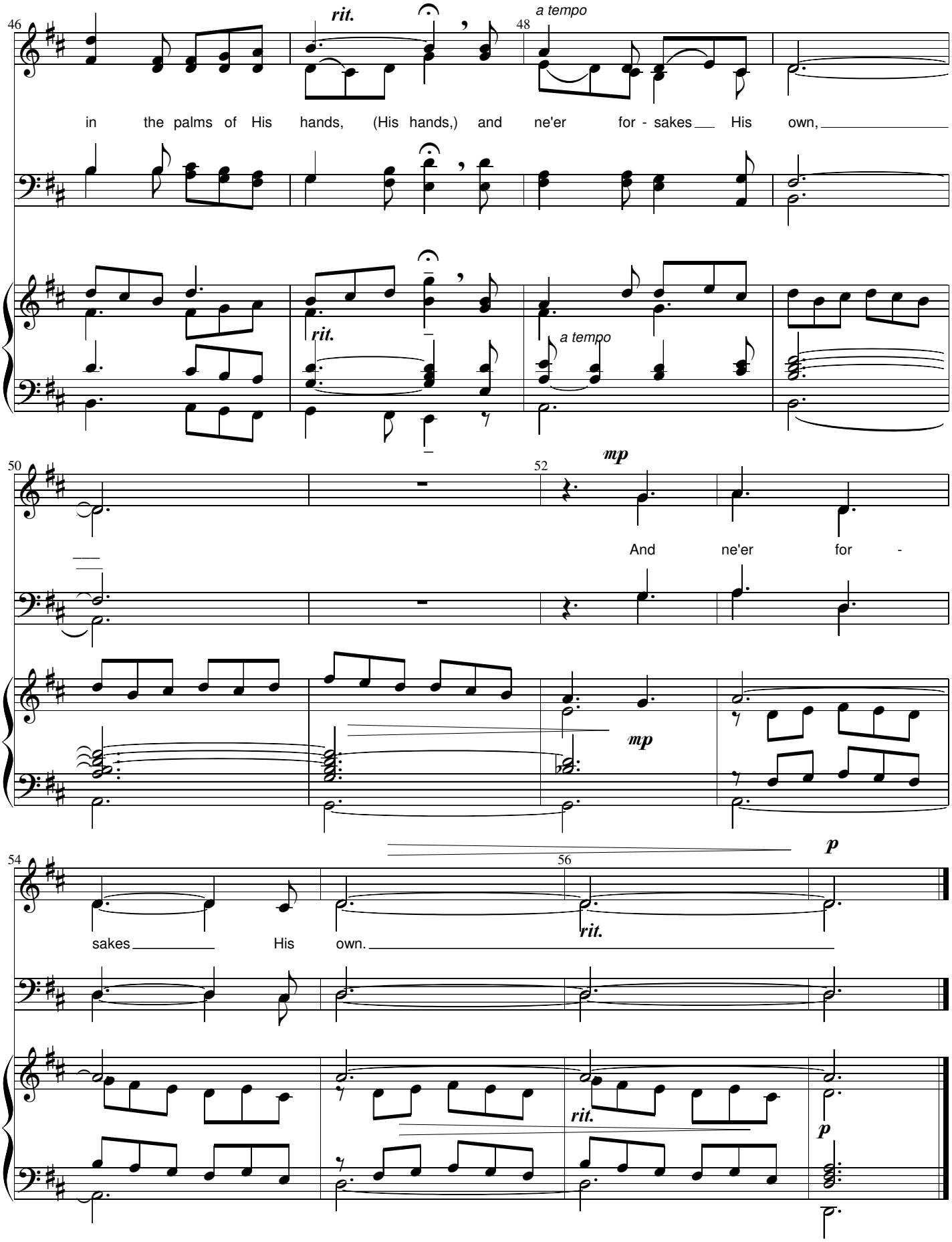

16
18
sor - row, all your grief, Lay ev - 'ry weak - ness at His feet, He will sus -
blind - ness born of pride, Give Him your bro - ken heart to bind, It was for
20
22
1.
tain you, give you peace, and lead you in - to life.
this He bled and died, that He might make you
rit.
24
2.
26
28
whole.
30
32
rit.


34
mf
Cast your bur - den on the Lord, and
36
He will car - ry you home,
a tempo
mf
38
He will at - tend you and de - fend through per - ils yet un - known,
40
Put your un -
42
wav - 'ring trust in Him, Christ, your con - stant heav'n - ly
44
Friend, hath gra - ven you


46
rit.
48
a tempo
in the palms of His hands, (His hands,) and ne'er for - sakes His own,
rit.
a tempo
50
52
mp
And ne'er for -
mp
54
56
p
sakes His own.
rit.
rit.
p

Cast Your Burden on the Lord-- ***Interlude*** *--Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*

Narrator 1: In the long history of the world, no event has meant more to us than the coming of Jesus Christ our Savior. I know by the power of the Spirit that He lives and loves each one of us dearly. One day soon this same Jesus will return to us in glory to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords. In that day I will see Him as they saw Him long ago--face to face, and I will know Him then, for I know Him now; my Redeemer and the Savior of mankind.

(There is no music with this narration.)

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

SATB

Words: Bernard of Clairvaux
Music: John B. Dykes
Arr: Sally DeFord

♩ = 110 -120

mp

rit.

V. 1: Narrator 1
V. 2: Soprano/Alto

mp

Je - sus, the ve - ry thought of thee with sweet - ness fills my breast,
Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame, Nor can the mem - 'ry find,

a tempo

But sweet - er far thy face to see and in thy pres - ence
A sweet - er sound than thy blest name, O Sa - vior of man -

1.

rest.

rit.

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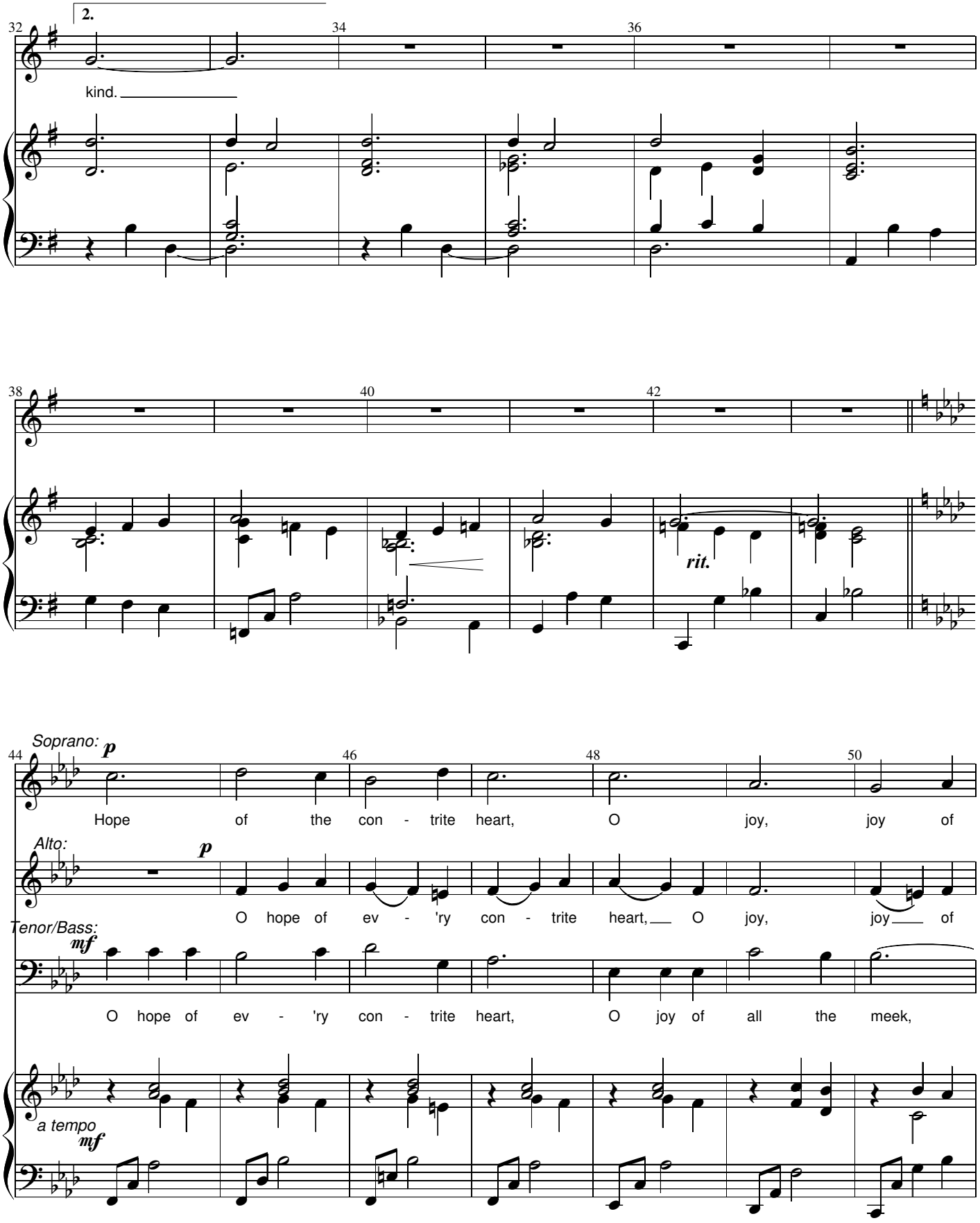
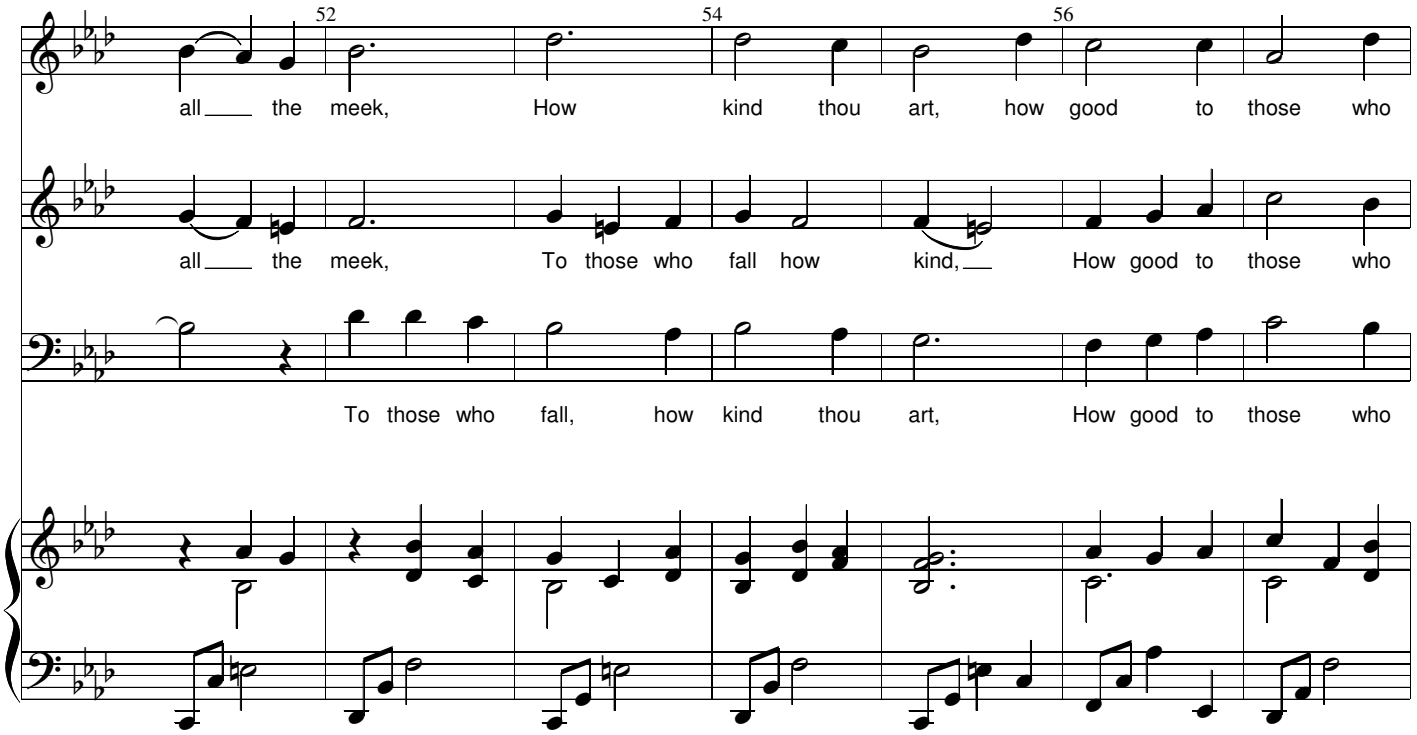
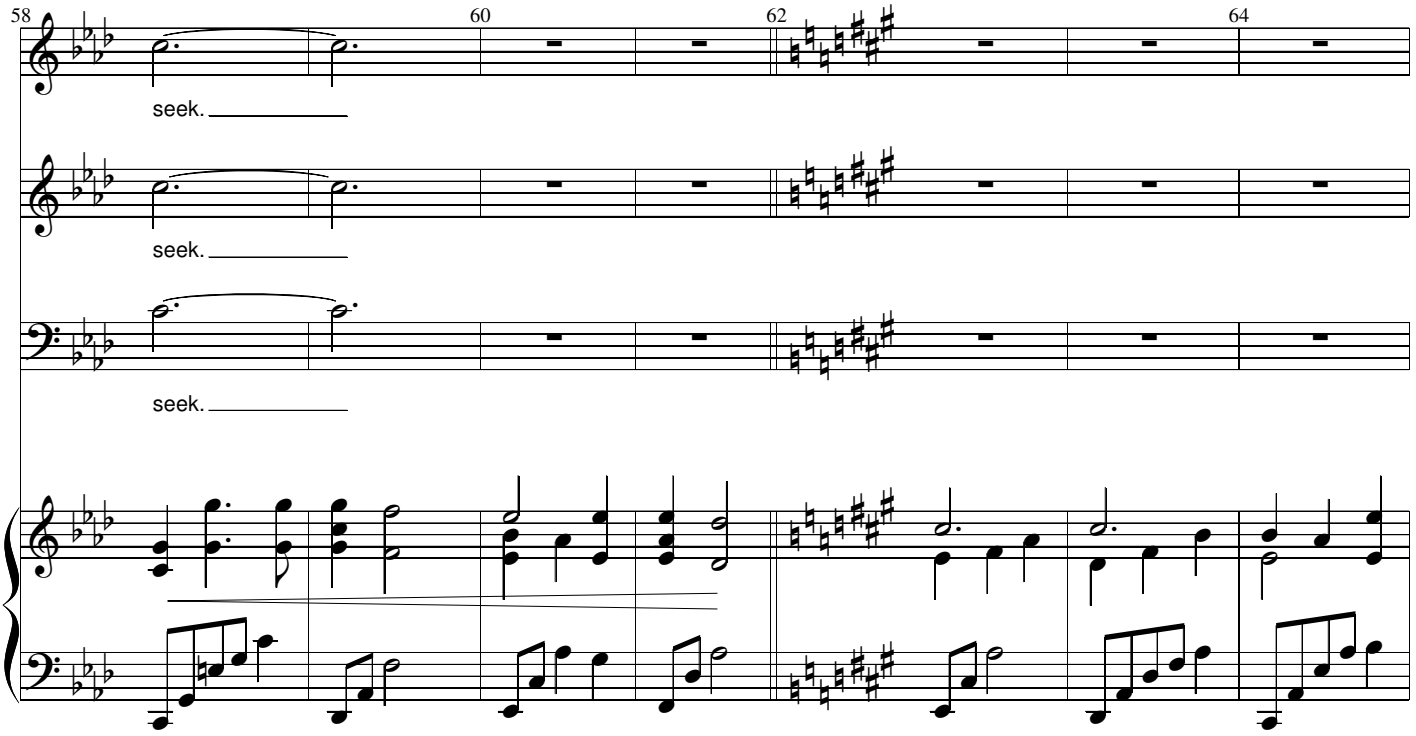
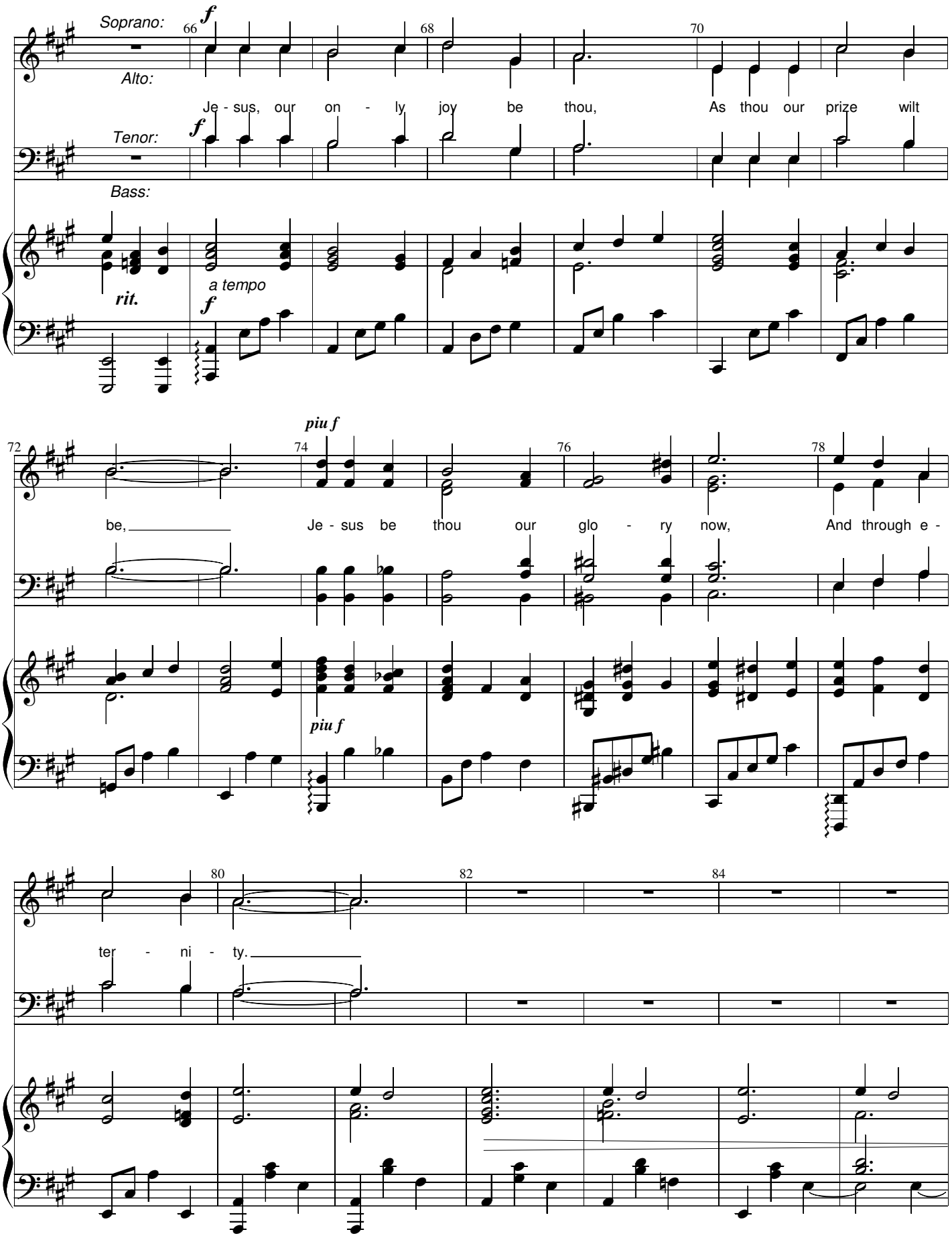
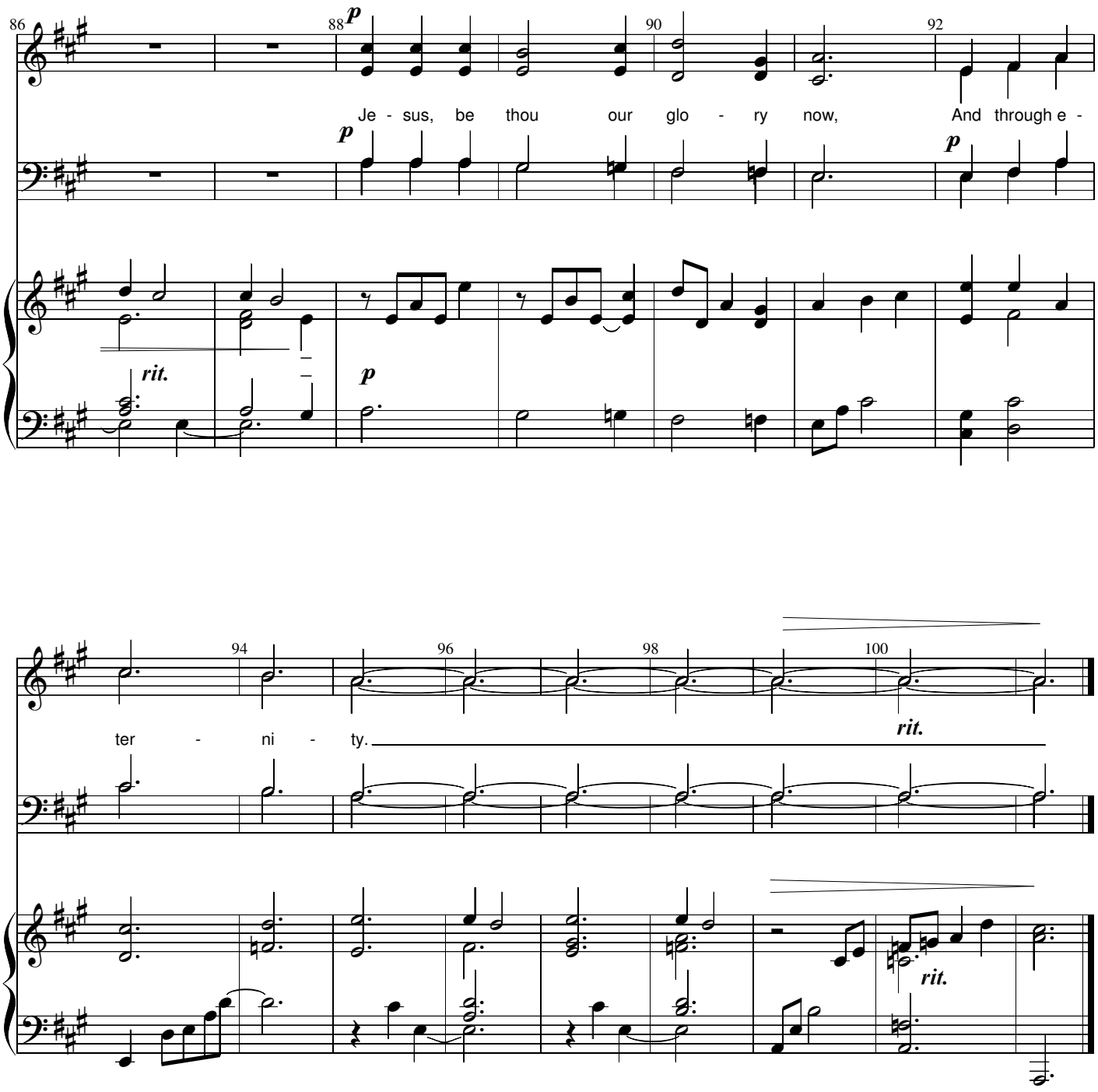

2.
kind.
rit.
Soprano:
p
Hope of the con - trite heart, O joy, joy of
Alto:
p
O hope of ev - 'ry con - trite heart, O joy, joy of
Tenor/Bass:
mf
O hope of ev - 'ry con - trite heart, O joy of all the meek,
a tempo
mf


52
54
56
all the meek, How kind thou art, how good to those who
all the meek, To those who fall how kind, How good to those who
To those who fall, how kind thou art, How good to those who


58
60
62
64
seek.
seek.
seek.


Soprano:
Alto:
Tenor:
Bass:
66
68
70
f
Je - sus, our on - ly joy be thou, As thou our prize wilt
rit.
a tempo
f
72
74
76
78
piu f
be, Je - sus be thou our glo - ry now, And through e -
piu f
80
82
84
ter - ni - ty.


86
88
90
92
p
Je - sus, be thou our glo - ry now, And through e -
p
p
rit.
94
96
98
100
ter - ni - ty.
rit.
rit.