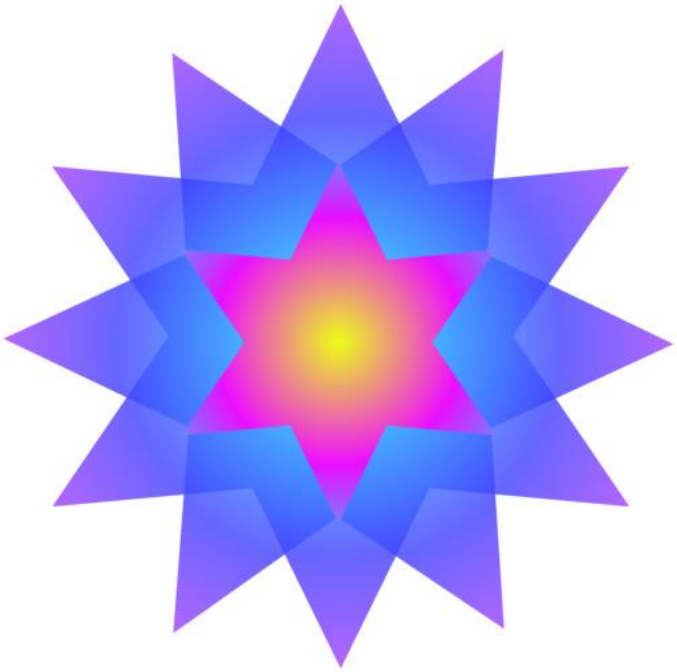
Seven Songs of Spring



For SATB Chorus
and Piano

Composed by

Charles O. Beck

Swan-Cross, Ltd.

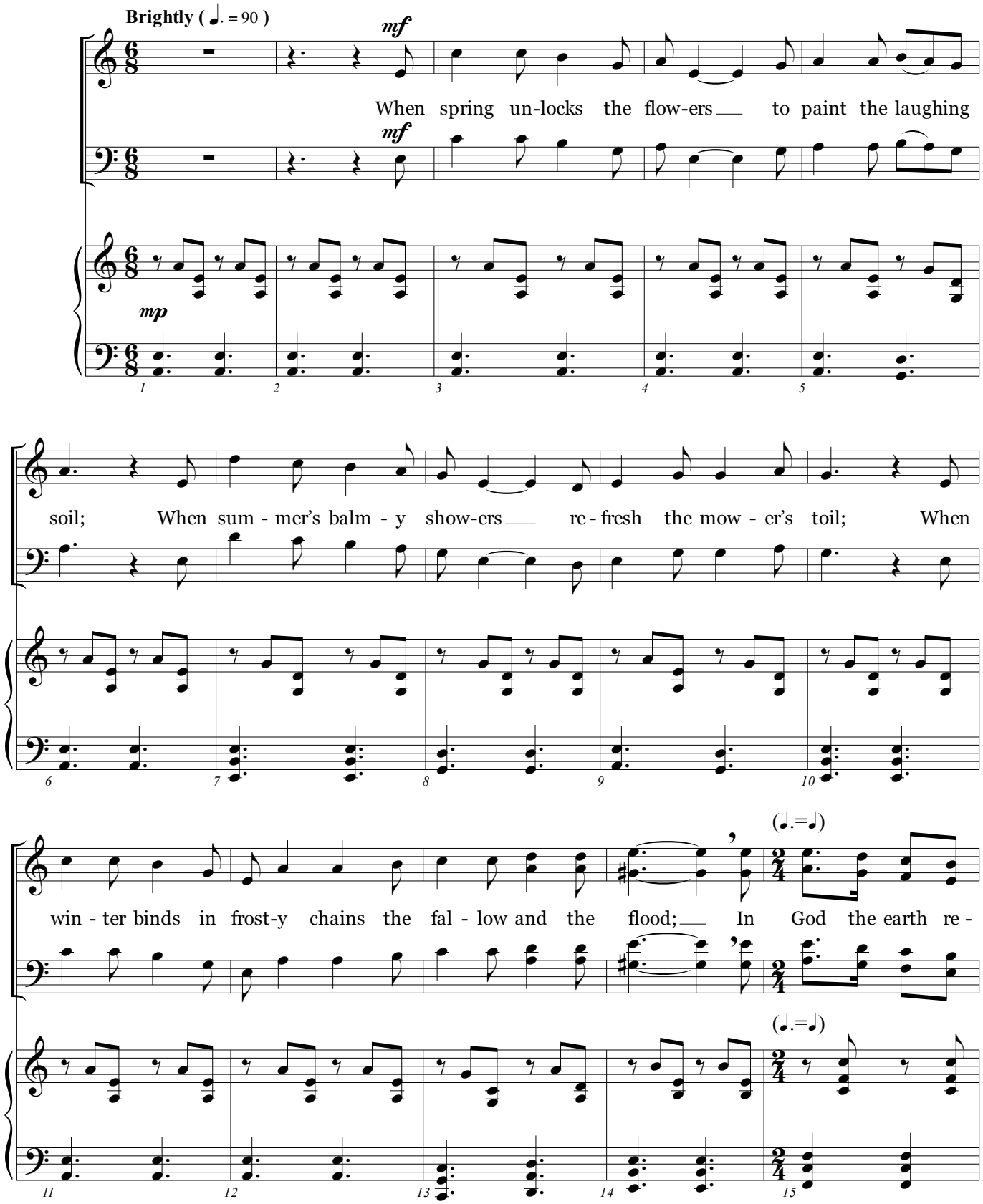
Soli Deo Gloria!

When Spring Unlocks the Flowers

Text by
REGINALD HEBER

I. Aeolian

Music by
CHARLES O. BECK



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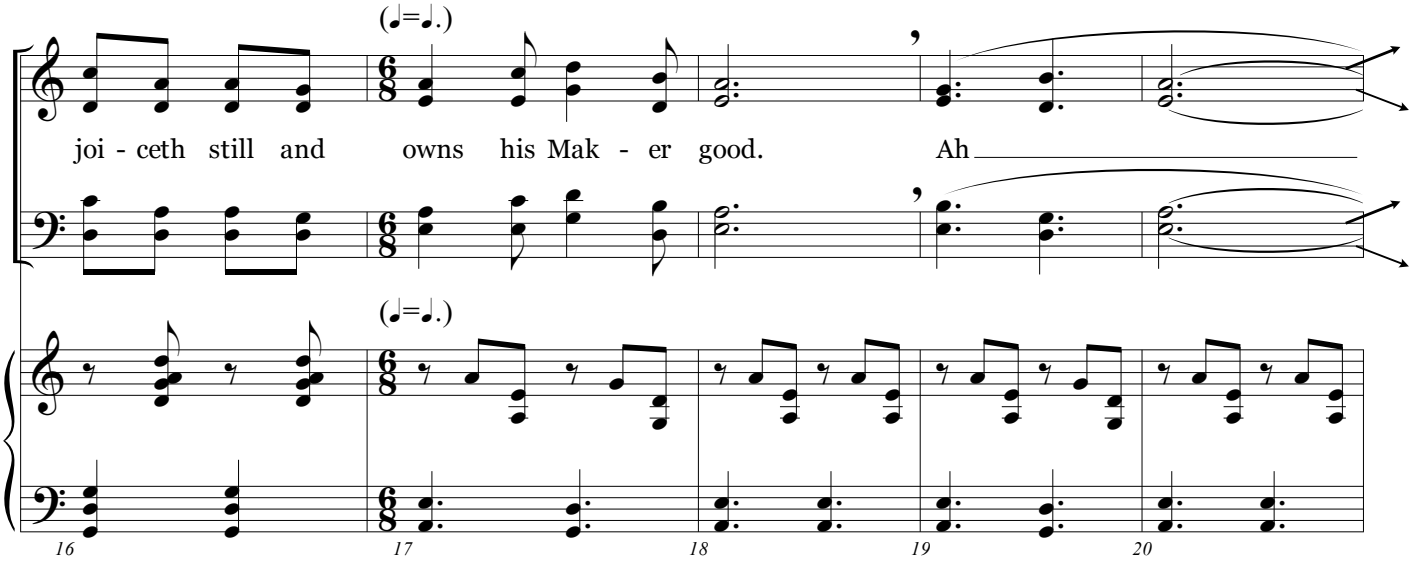
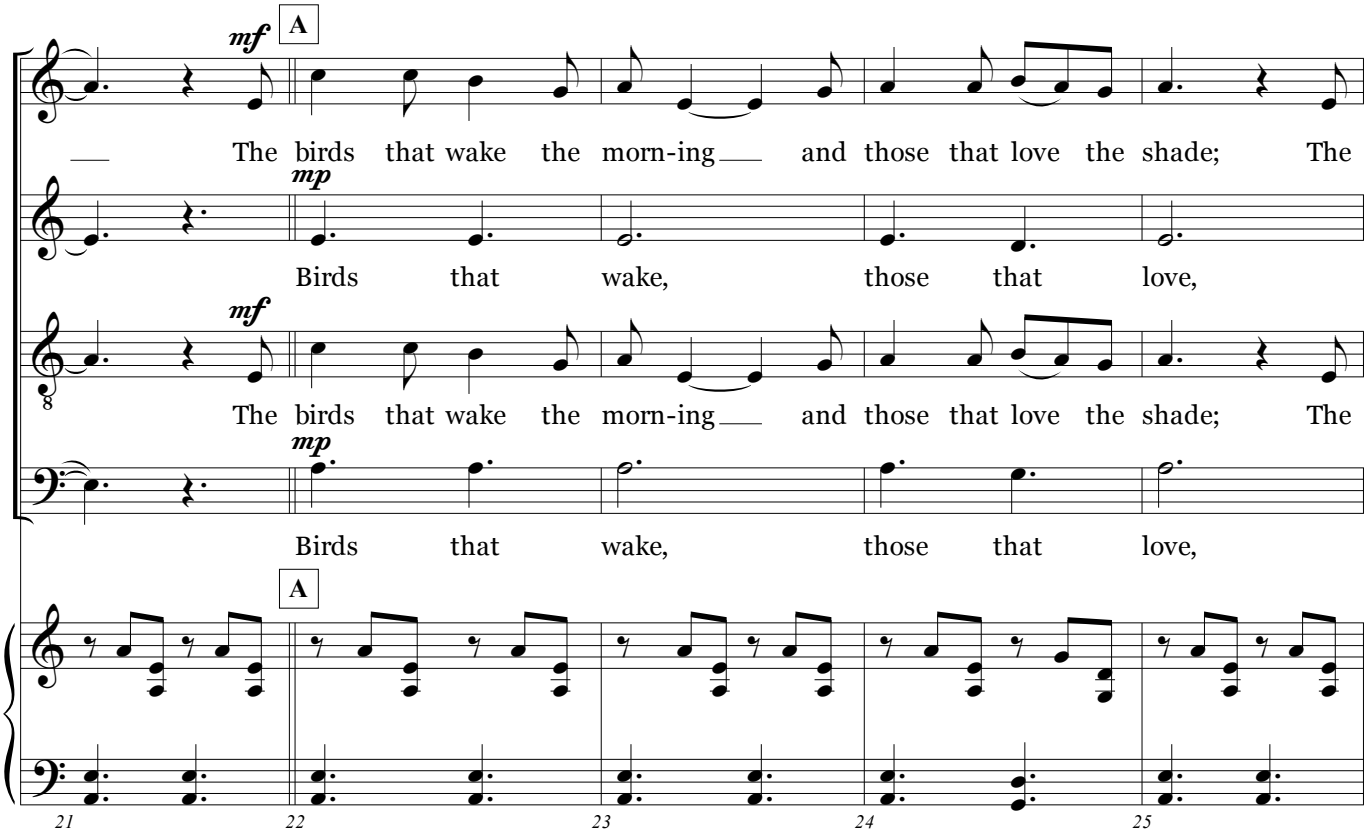
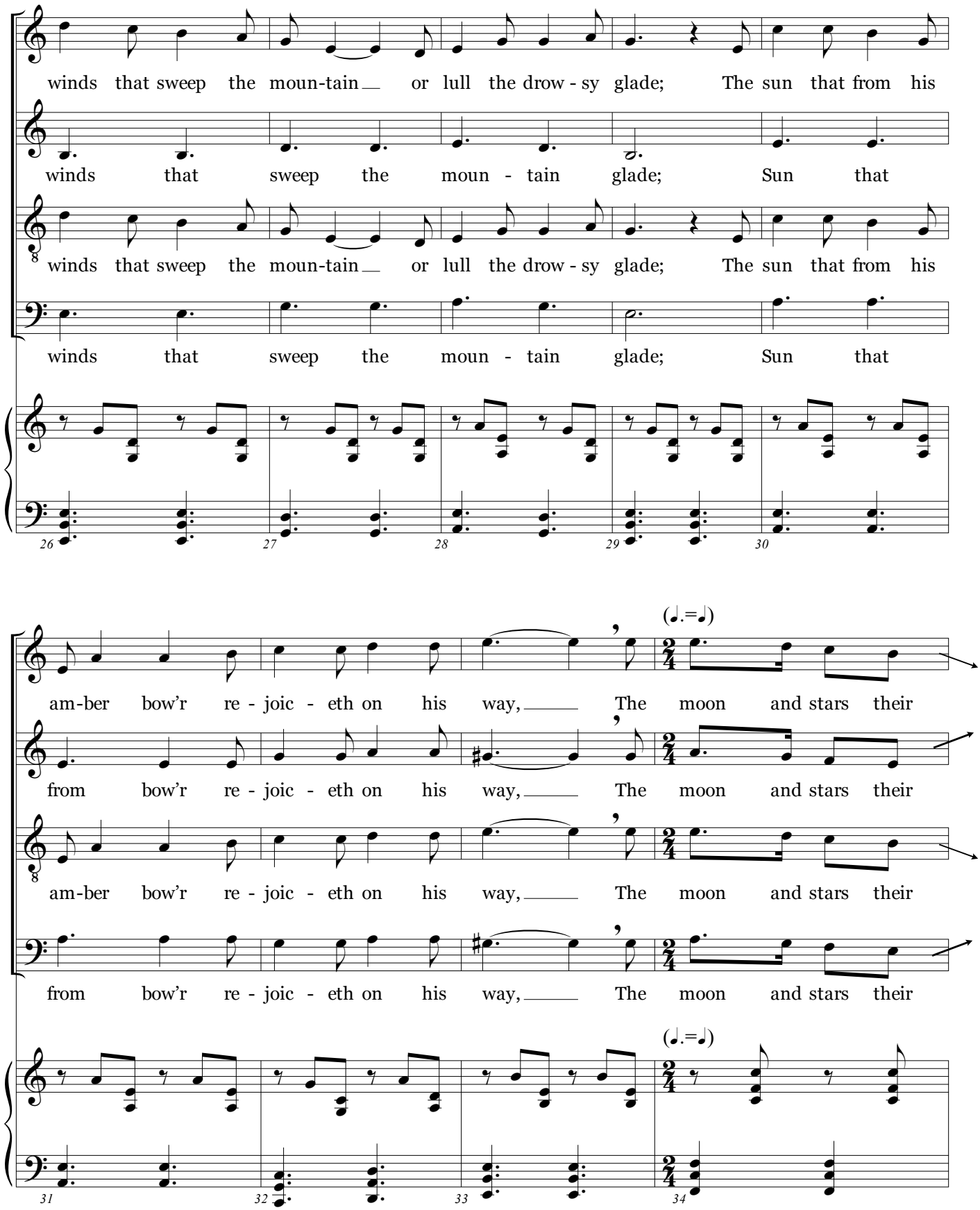
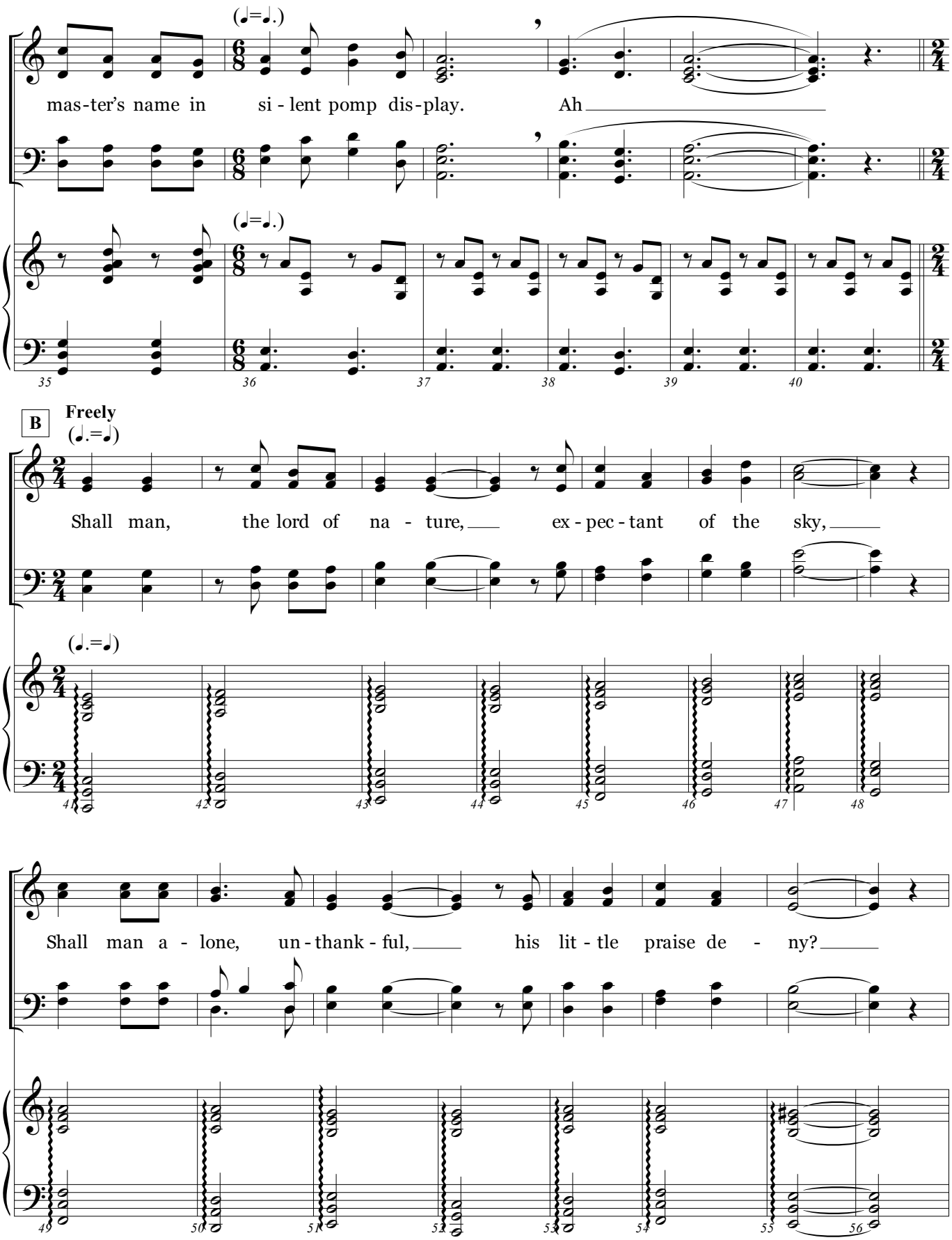
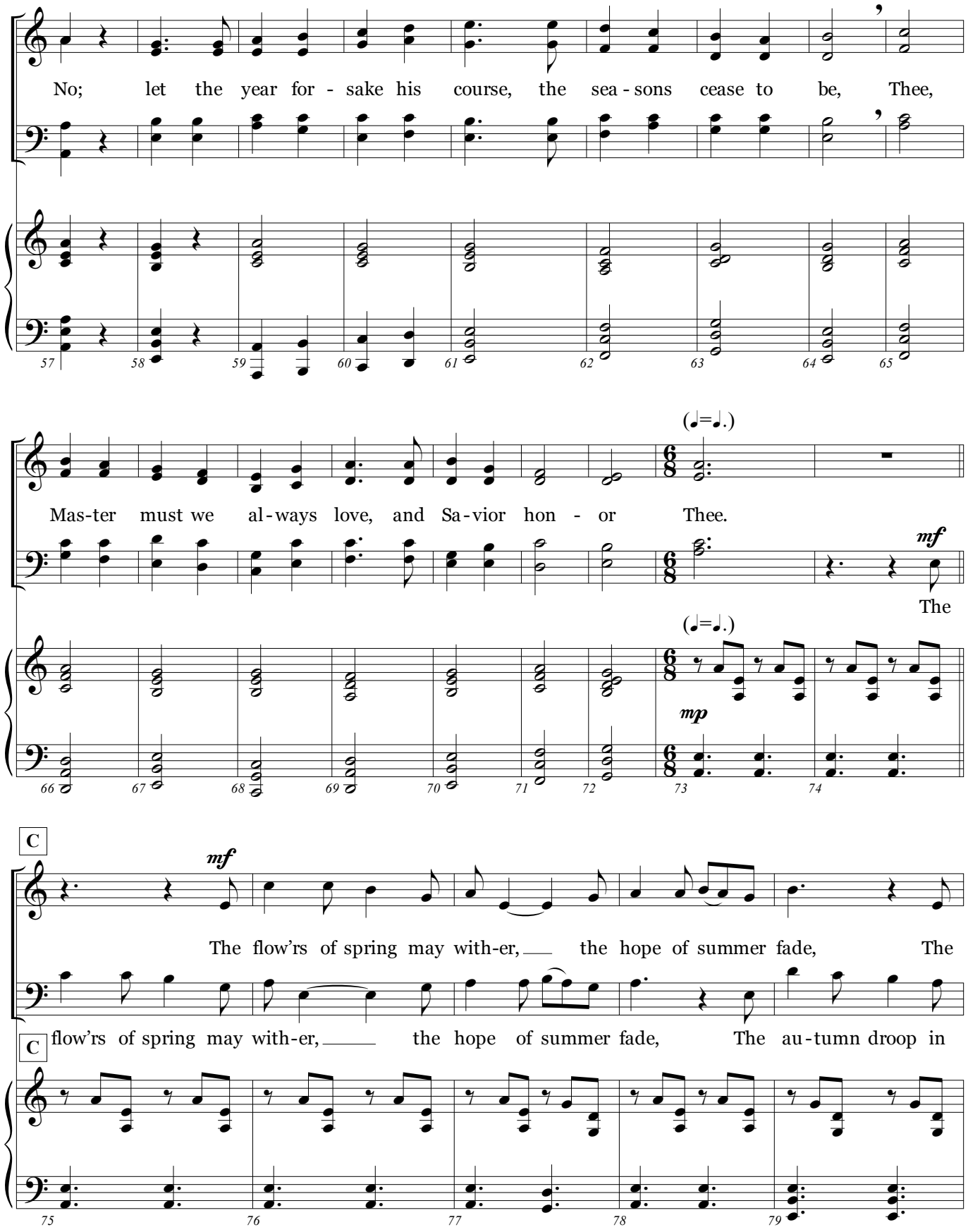
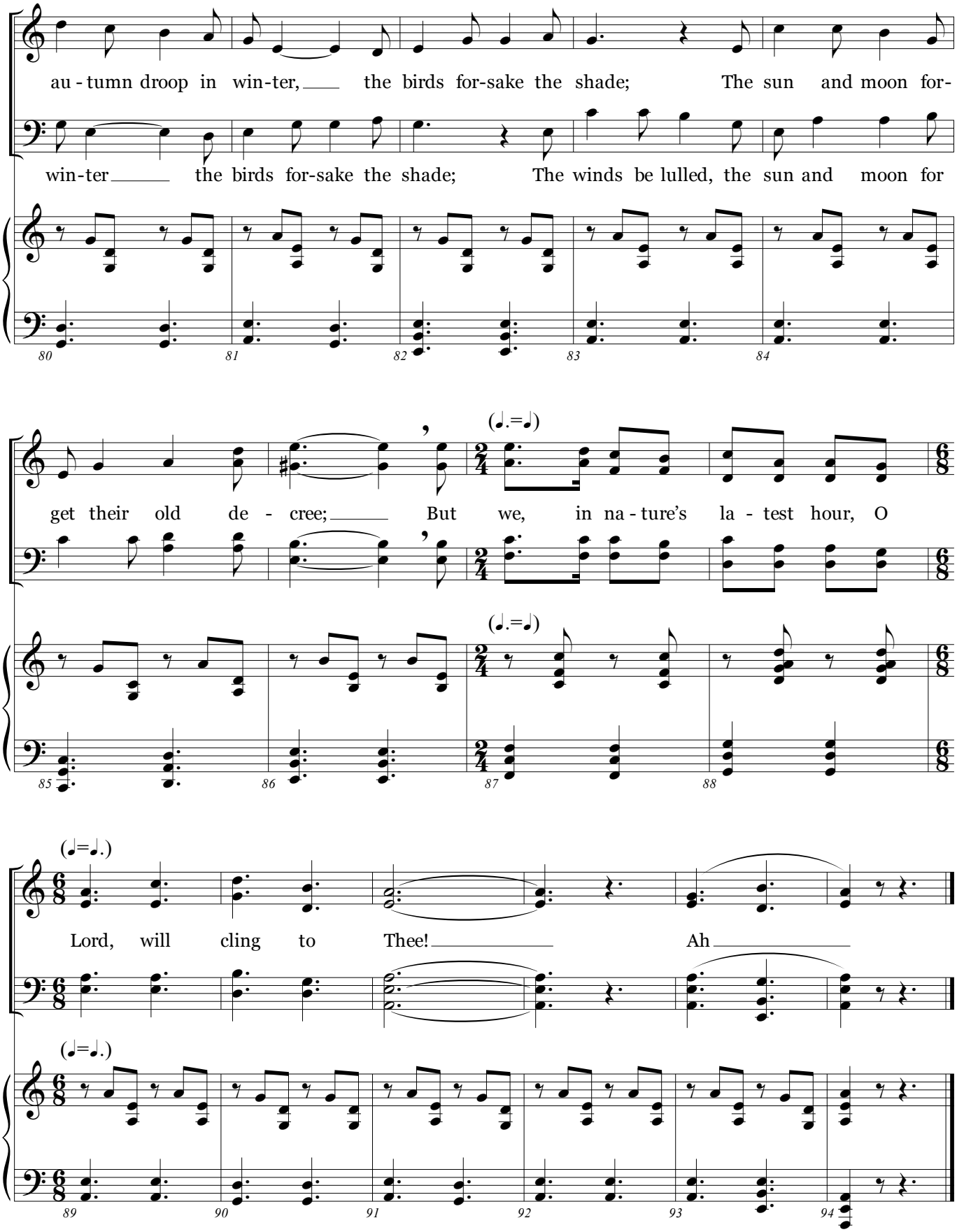

(♩=♩.)
joi - ceth still and owns his Mak - er good. Ah
(♩=♩.)
16
17
18
19
20


mf
A
The birds that wake the morn-ing and those that love the shade; The
mp
Birds that wake, those that love,
mf
The birds that wake the morn-ing and those that love the shade; The
mp
Birds that wake, those that love,
A
21
22
23
24
25


winds that sweep the moun-tain or lull the drow - sy glade; The sun that from his
winds that sweep the moun - tain glade; Sun that
winds that sweep the moun-tain or lull the drow - sy glade; The sun that from his
winds that sweep the moun - tain glade; Sun that
26
27
28
29
30
(♩.=♩)
am-ber bow'r re - joic - eth on his way, The moon and stars their
from bow'r re - joic - eth on his way, The moon and stars their
am-ber bow'r re - joic - eth on his way, The moon and stars their
from bow'r re - joic - eth on his way, The moon and stars their
(♩.=♩)
31
32
33
34


(♩=♩.)
mas-ter's name in si - lent pomp dis-play. Ah
(♩=♩.)
35 36 37 38 39 40
B
Freely
(♩.=♩)
Shall man, the lord of na - ture, ex - pec - tant of the sky,
(♩.=♩)
41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48
Shall man a - lone, un - thank - ful, his lit - tle praise de - ny?
49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56


No; let the year for - sake his course, the sea - sons cease to be, Thee,
Mas-ter must we al-ways love, and Sa-vior hon - or Thee.
(♩=♩.)
mf
The
mp
C
The flow'rs of spring may with-er, the hope of summer fade, The
flow'rs of spring may with-er, the hope of summer fade, The au-tumn droop in

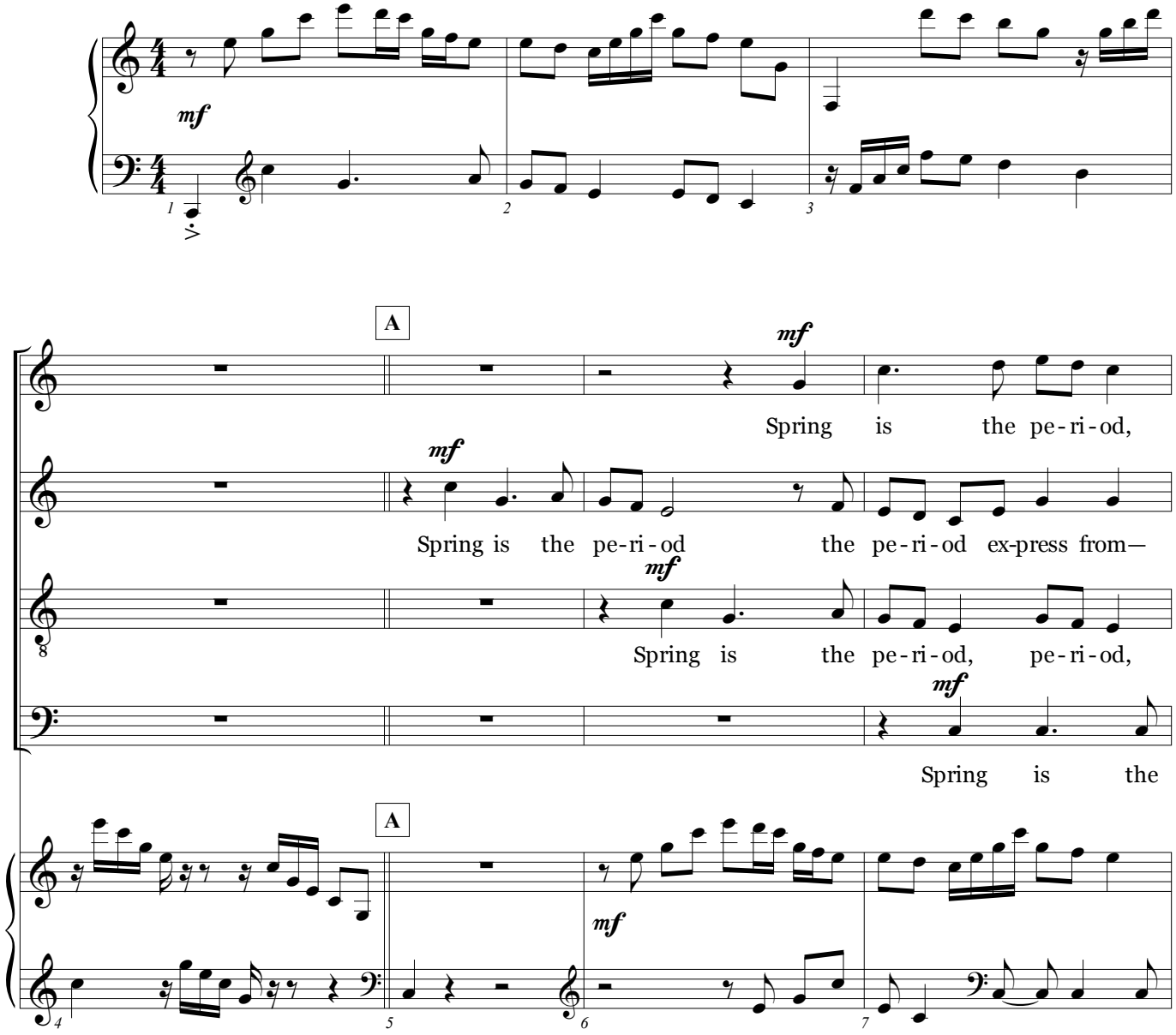

au - tumn droop in win-ter, the birds for-sake the shade; The sun and moon for-
win-ter the birds for-sake the shade; The winds be lulled, the sun and moon for
80
81
82
83
84
(♩.=♩)
get their old de - cree; But we, in na - ture's la - test hour, O
85
86
87
88
(♩=♩.)
Lord, will cling to Thee! Ah
(♩=♩.)
89
90
91
92
93
94

Spring Is the Period

II. Ionian

Text by
EMILY DICKINSON

Music by
CHARLES O. BECK



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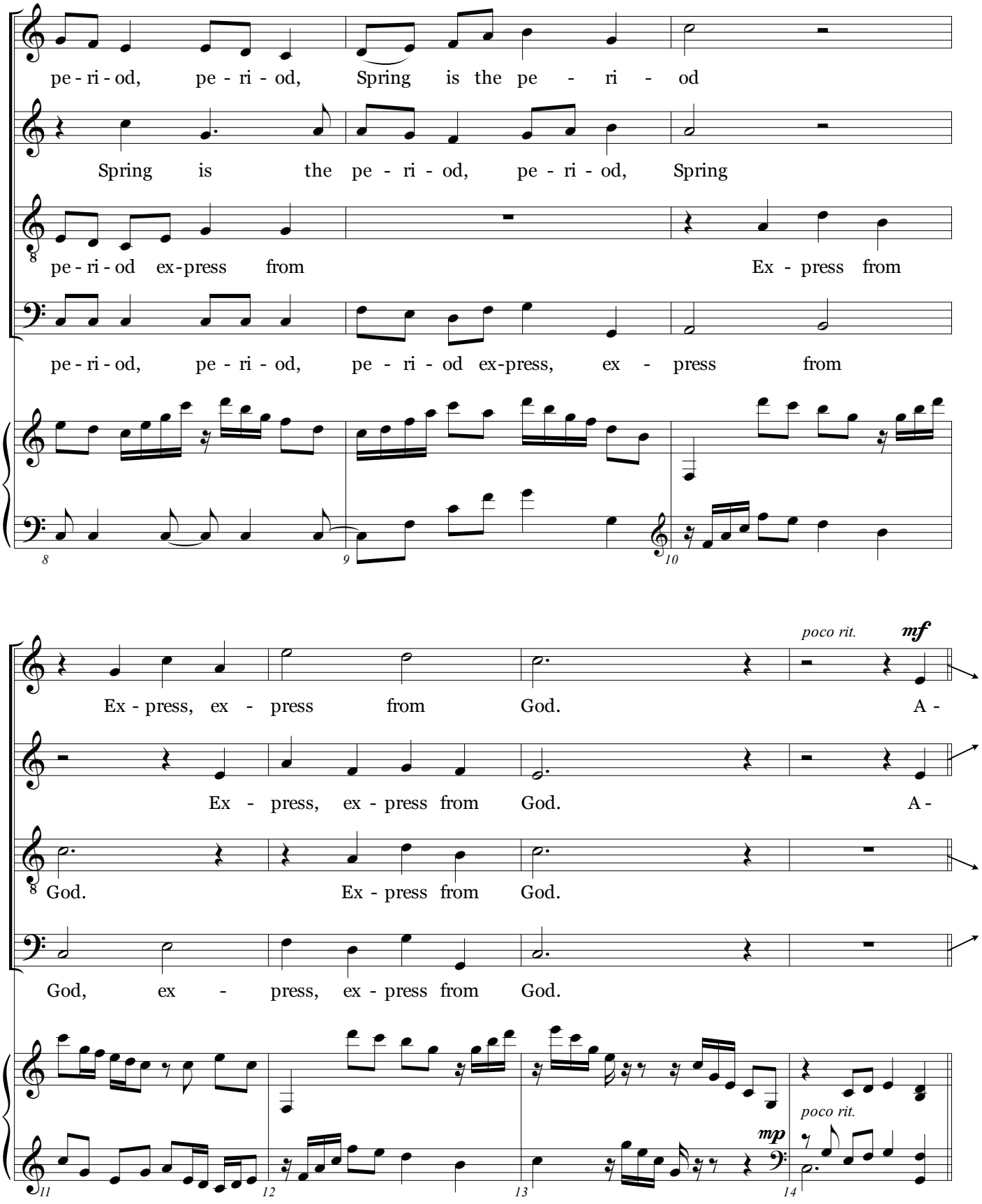
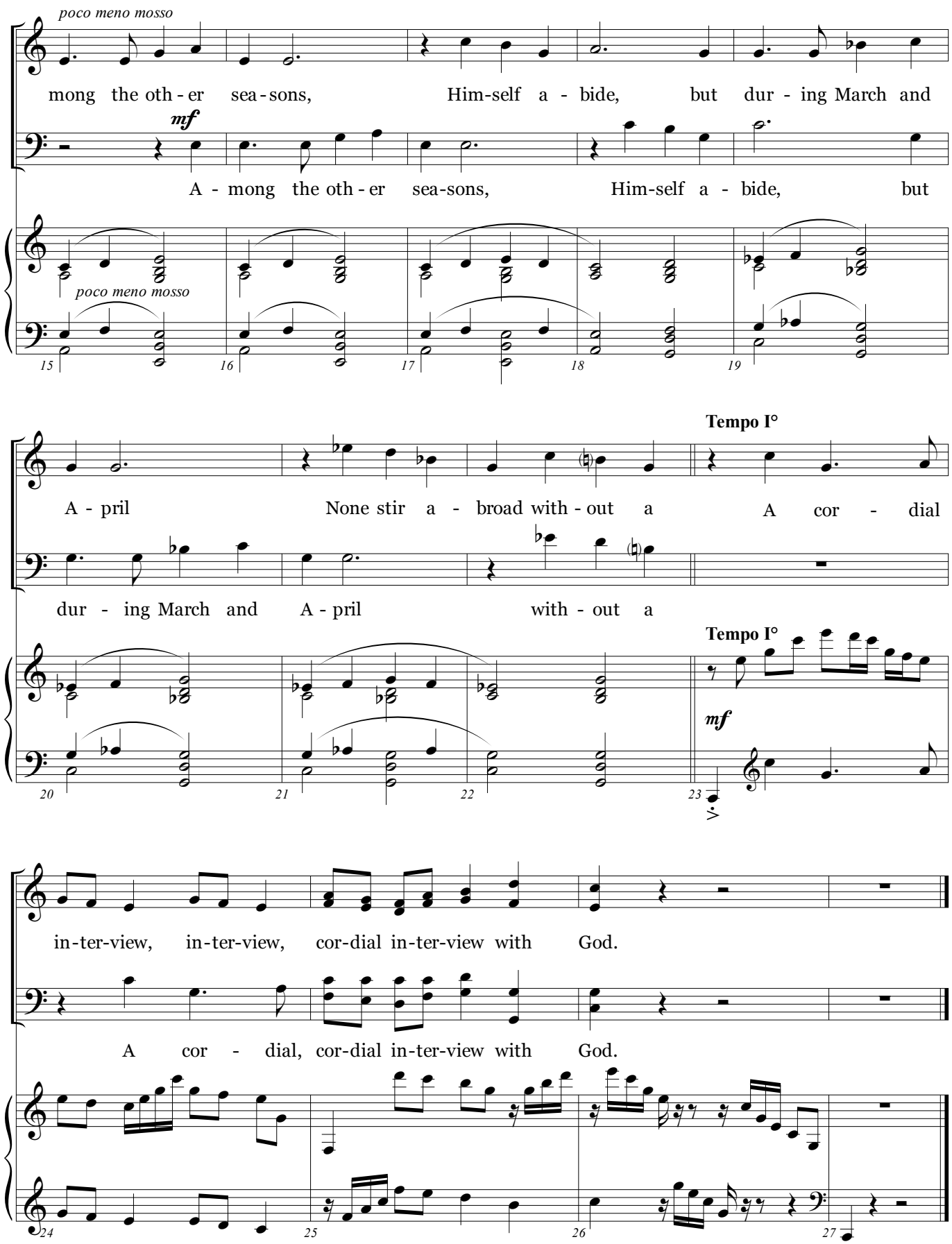

pe - ri - od, pe - ri - od, Spring is the pe - ri - od
Spring is the pe - ri - od, pe - ri - od, Spring
pe - ri - od ex-press from
Ex - press from
pe - ri - od, pe - ri - od, pe - ri - od ex-press, ex - press from
8
9
10
poco rit.
mf
Ex - press, ex - press from God. A -
Ex - press, ex - press from God. A -
God. Ex - press from God.
God, ex - press, ex - press from God.
poco rit.
mp
11
12
13
14

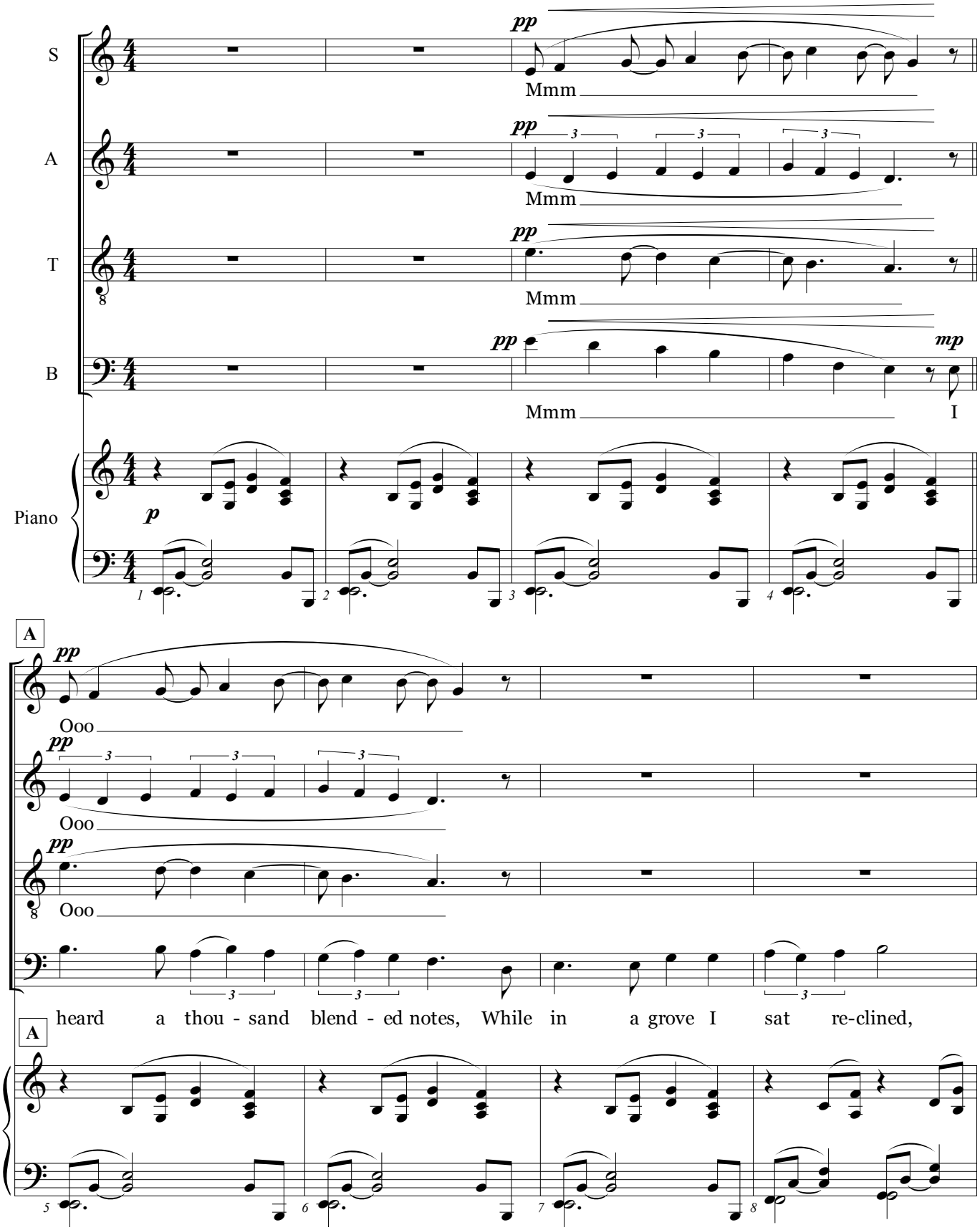

poco meno mosso
mong the oth - er sea - sons, Him-self a - bide, but dur - ing March and
mf
A - mong the oth - er sea-sons, Him-self a - bide, but
poco meno mosso
15
16
17
18
19
Tempo I°
A - pril None stir a - broad with - out a A cor - dial
dur - ing March and A - pril with - out a
Tempo I°
mf
20
21
22
23
in-ter-view, in-ter-view, cor-dial in-ter-view with God.
A cor - dial, cor-dial in-ter-view with God.
24
25
26
27

Lines Written in Early Spring

Text by
WILLIAM WORDSWORTH

III. Phrygian

Music by
CHARLES O. BECK



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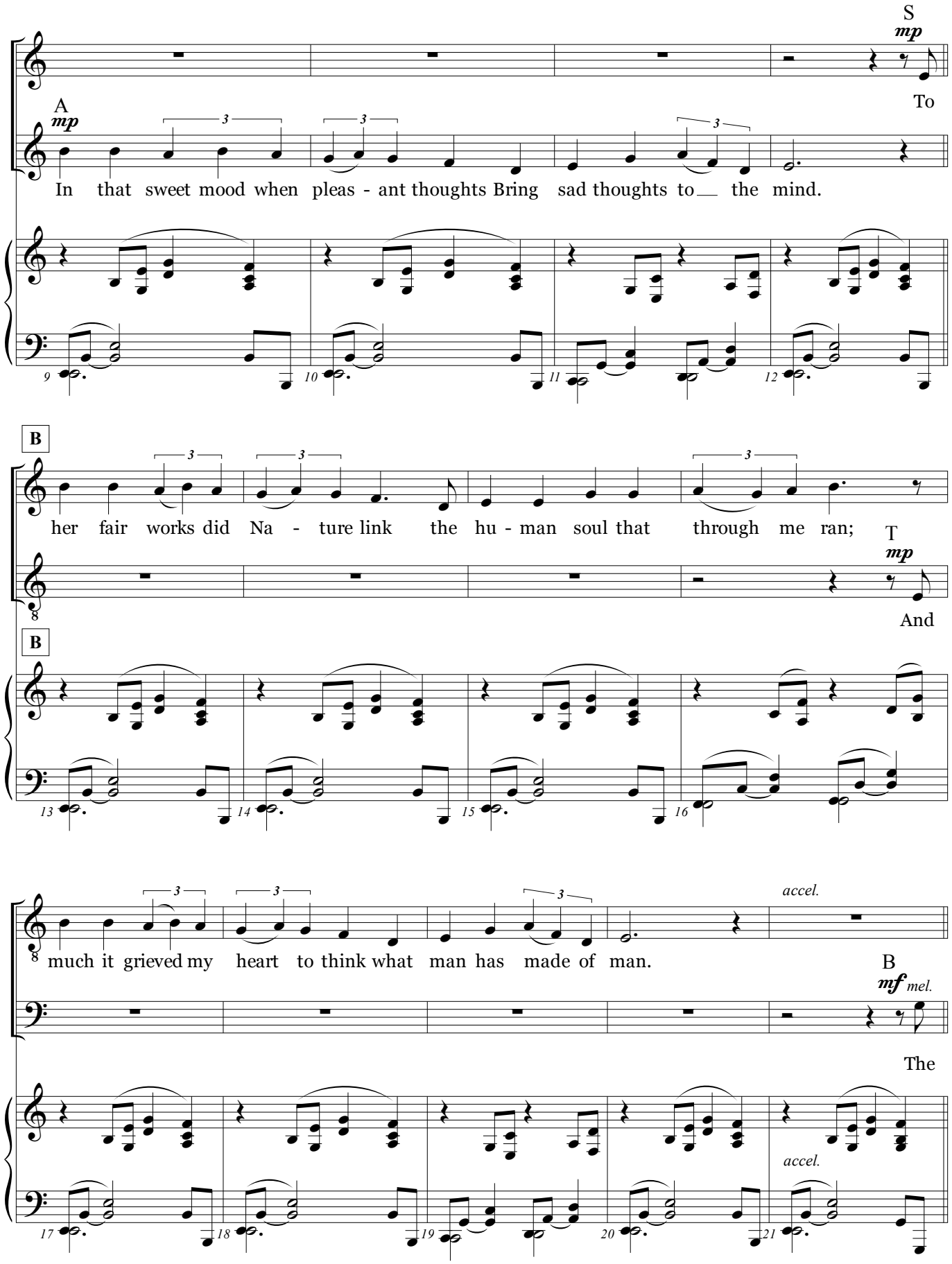
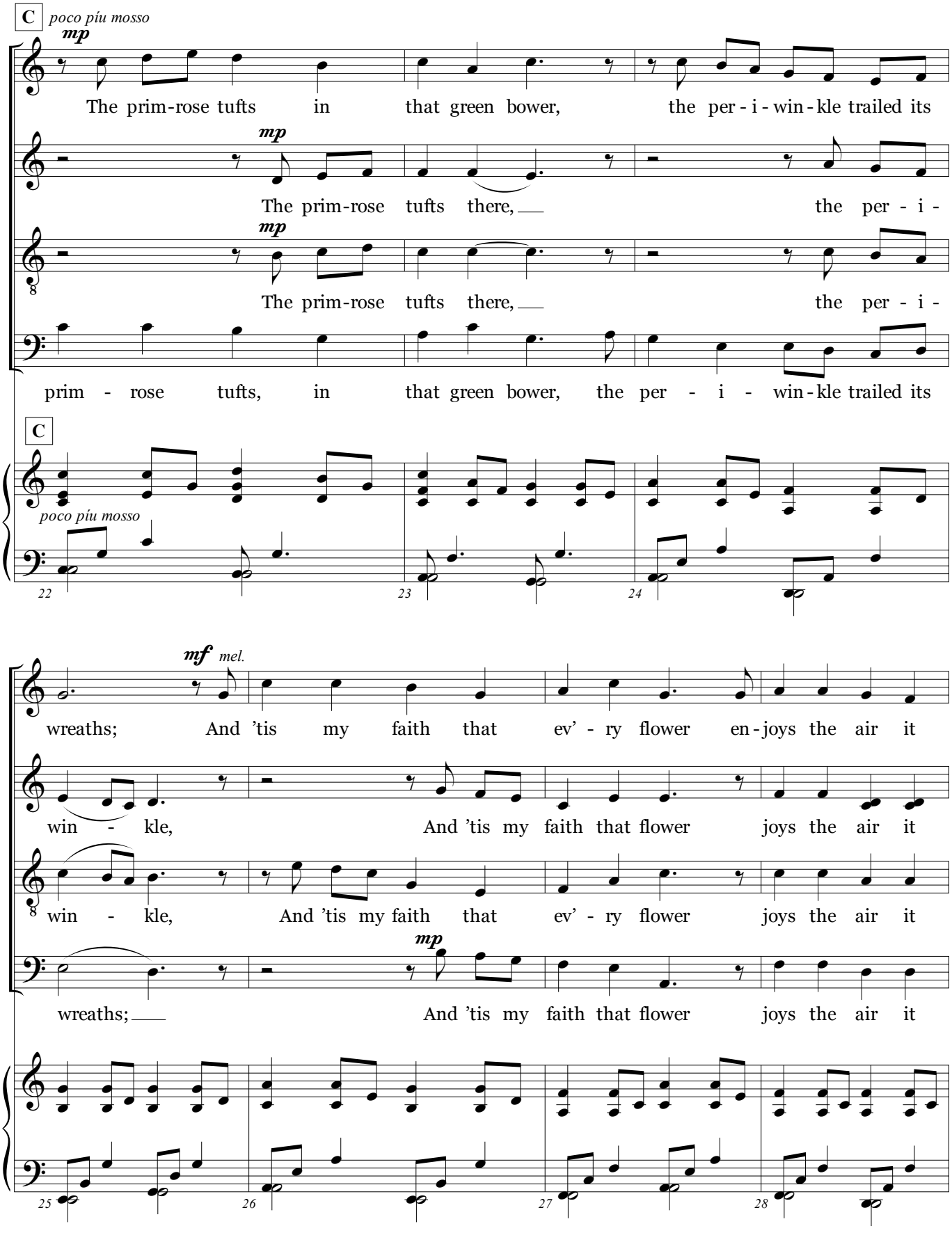
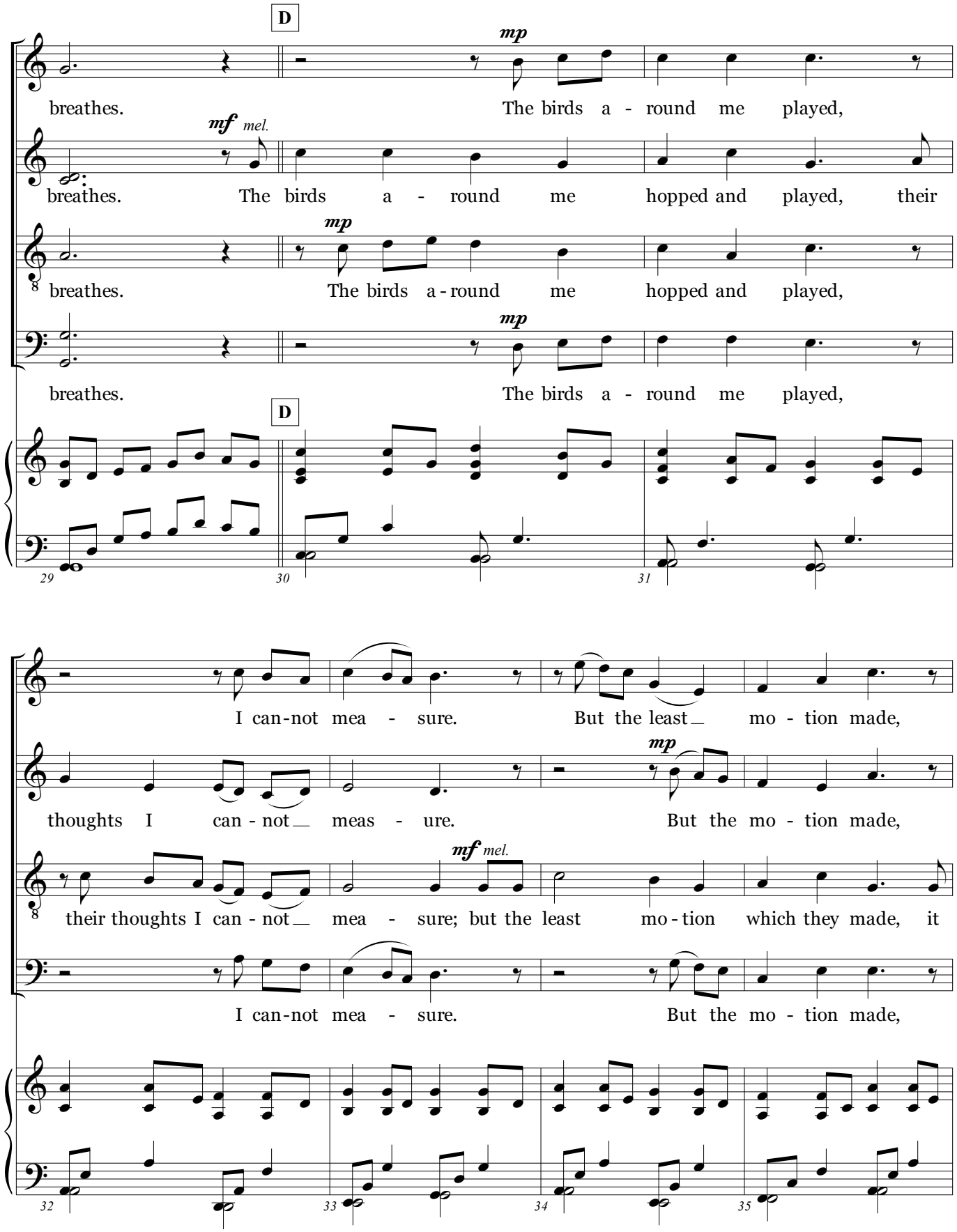
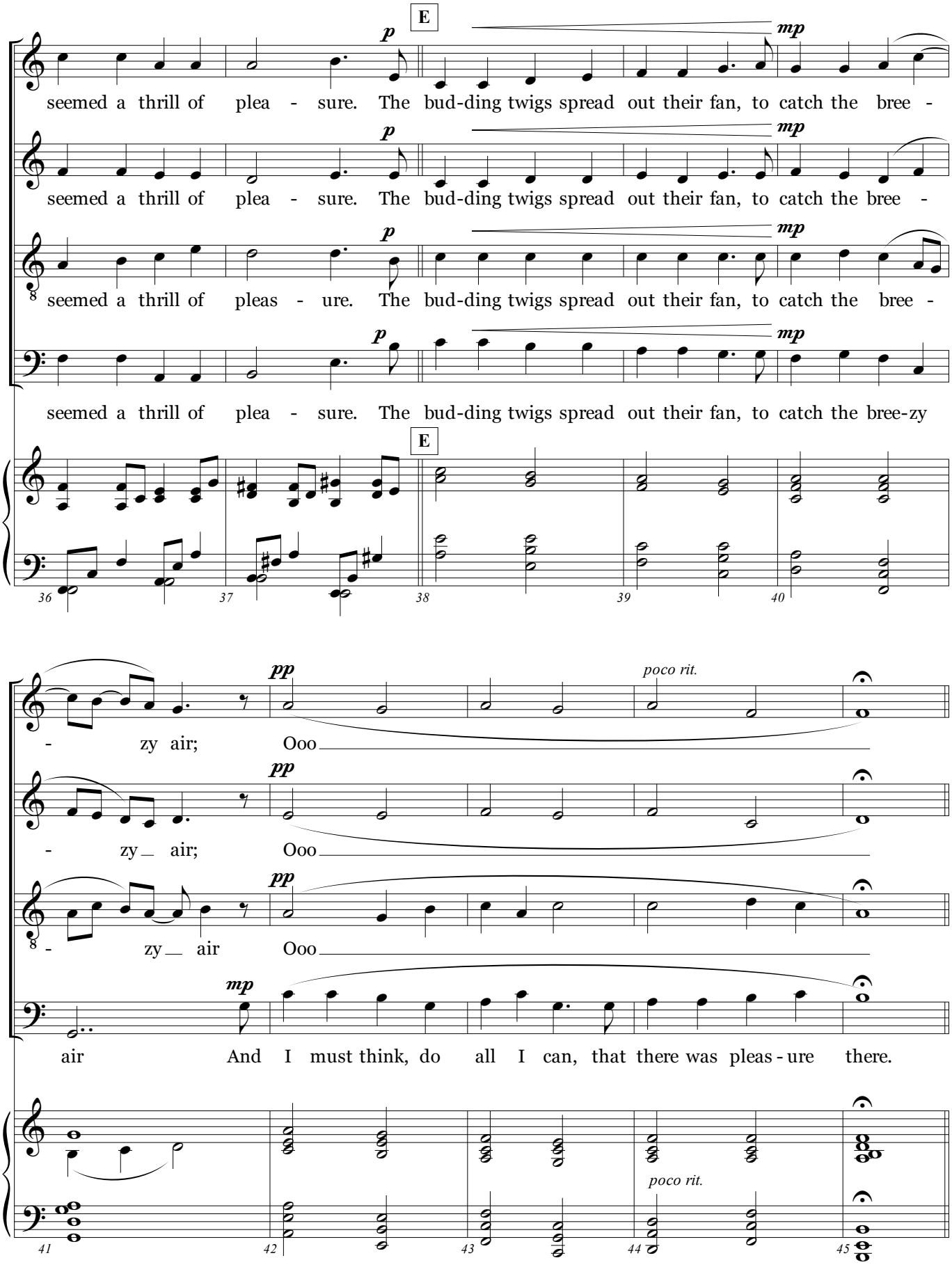
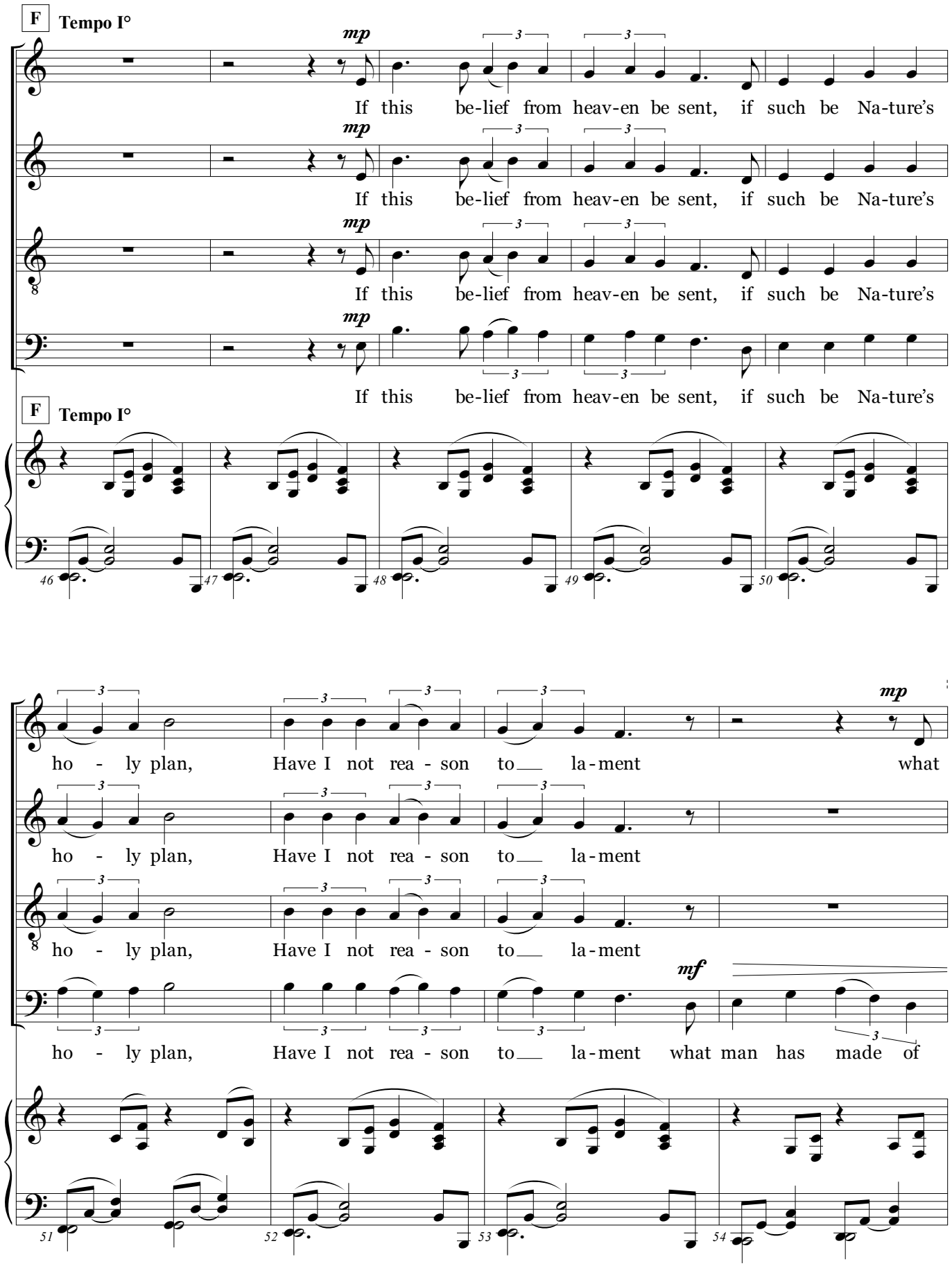
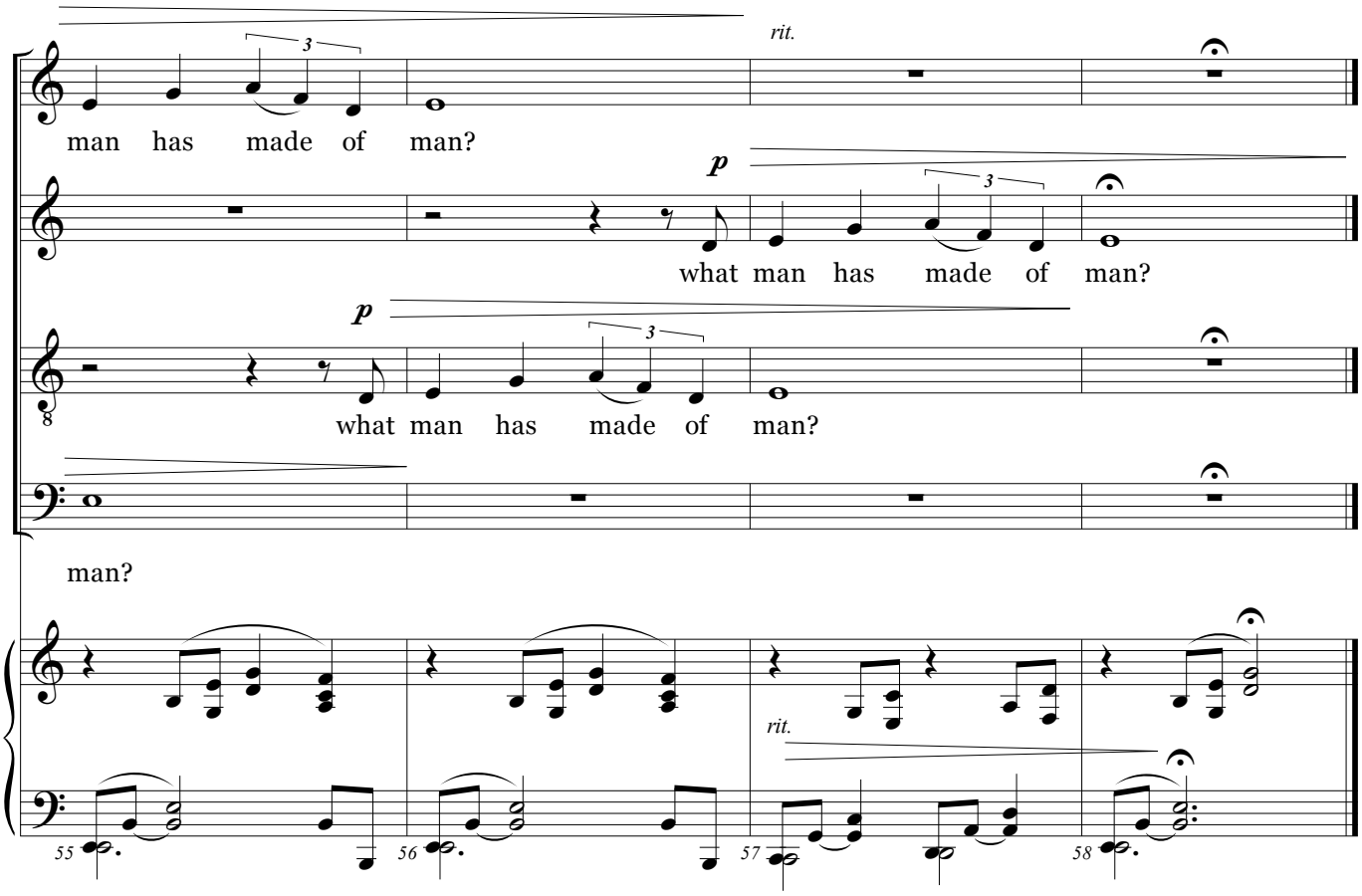

S
mp
A
mp
To
In that sweet mood when pleas - ant thoughts Bring sad thoughts to the mind.
B
her fair works did Na - ture link the hu - man soul that through me ran;
T
mp
And
B
much it grieved my heart to think what man has made of man.
accel.
B
mf mel.
The
accel.


C
poco piu mosso
mp
The prim-rose tufts in that green bower, the per - i - win - kle trailed its
mp
The prim-rose tufts there, the per - i -
mp
The prim-rose tufts there, the per - i -
prim - rose tufts, in that green bower, the per - i - win - kle trailed its
C
poco piu mosso
22
23
24
mf mel.
wreaths; And 'tis my faith that ev' - ry flower en - joys the air it
win - kle, And 'tis my faith that flower joys the air it
win - kle, And 'tis my faith that ev' - ry flower joys the air it
mp
wreaths; And 'tis my faith that flower joys the air it
25
26
27
28


D
mp
breathes.
The birds a - round me played,
mf mel.
breathes.
The birds a - round me hopped and played, their
mp
breathes.
The birds a - round me hopped and played,
mp
breathes.
The birds a - round me played,
D
29
30
31
I can-not mea - sure.
But the least mo - tion made,
thoughts I can - not meas - ure.
mp
But the mo - tion made,
mf mel.
their thoughts I can - not mea - sure; but the least mo - tion which they made, it
I can-not mea - sure.
But the mo - tion made,
32
33
34
35


E
p
mp
seemed a thrill of plea - sure. The bud-ding twigs spread out their fan, to catch the bree -
seemed a thrill of plea - sure. The bud-ding twigs spread out their fan, to catch the bree -
seemed a thrill of pleas - ure. The bud-ding twigs spread out their fan, to catch the bree -
seemed a thrill of plea - sure. The bud-ding twigs spread out their fan, to catch the bree-zy
E
36
37
38
39
40
pp
poco rit.
- zy air; Ooo
- zy air; Ooo
- zy air Ooo
mp
air And I must think, do all I can, that there was pleas - ure there.
poco rit.
41
42
43
44
45


F
Tempo I°
mp
If this be-lief from heav-en be sent, if such be Na-ture's
If this be-lief from heav-en be sent, if such be Na-ture's
If this be-lief from heav-en be sent, if such be Na-ture's
If this be-lief from heav-en be sent, if such be Na-ture's
F
Tempo I°
46
47
48
49
50
ho - ly plan, Have I not rea - son to la-ment what
ho - ly plan, Have I not rea - son to la-ment
ho - ly plan, Have I not rea - son to la-ment
mp
mf
ho - ly plan, Have I not rea - son to la-ment what man has made of
51
52
53
54

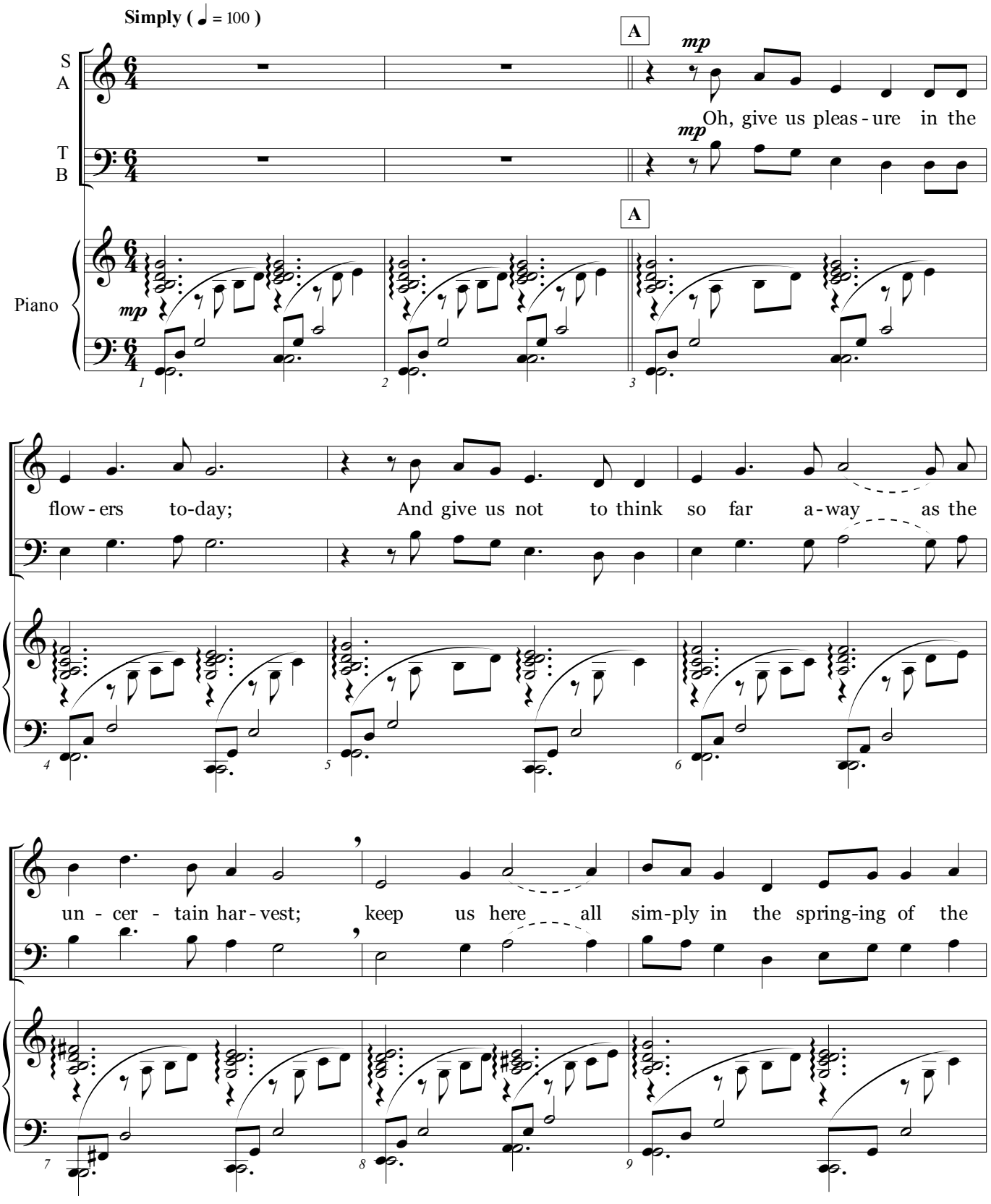

rit.
man has made of man?
p
what man has made of man?
p
what man has made of man?
man?
rit.
55
56
57
58

A Prayer in Spring

IV. Mixolydian

Text by
ROBERT FROST

Music by
CHARLES O. BECK



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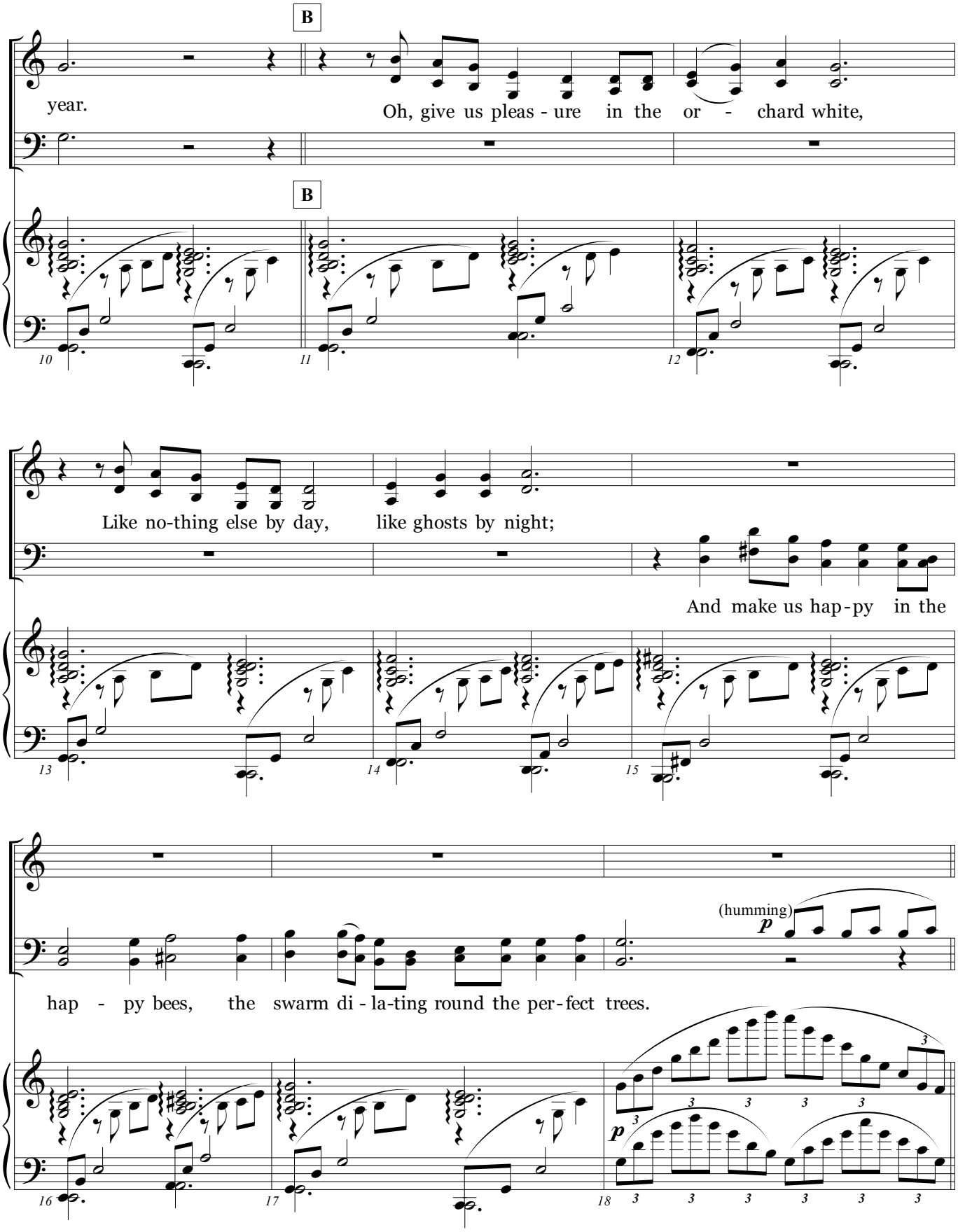
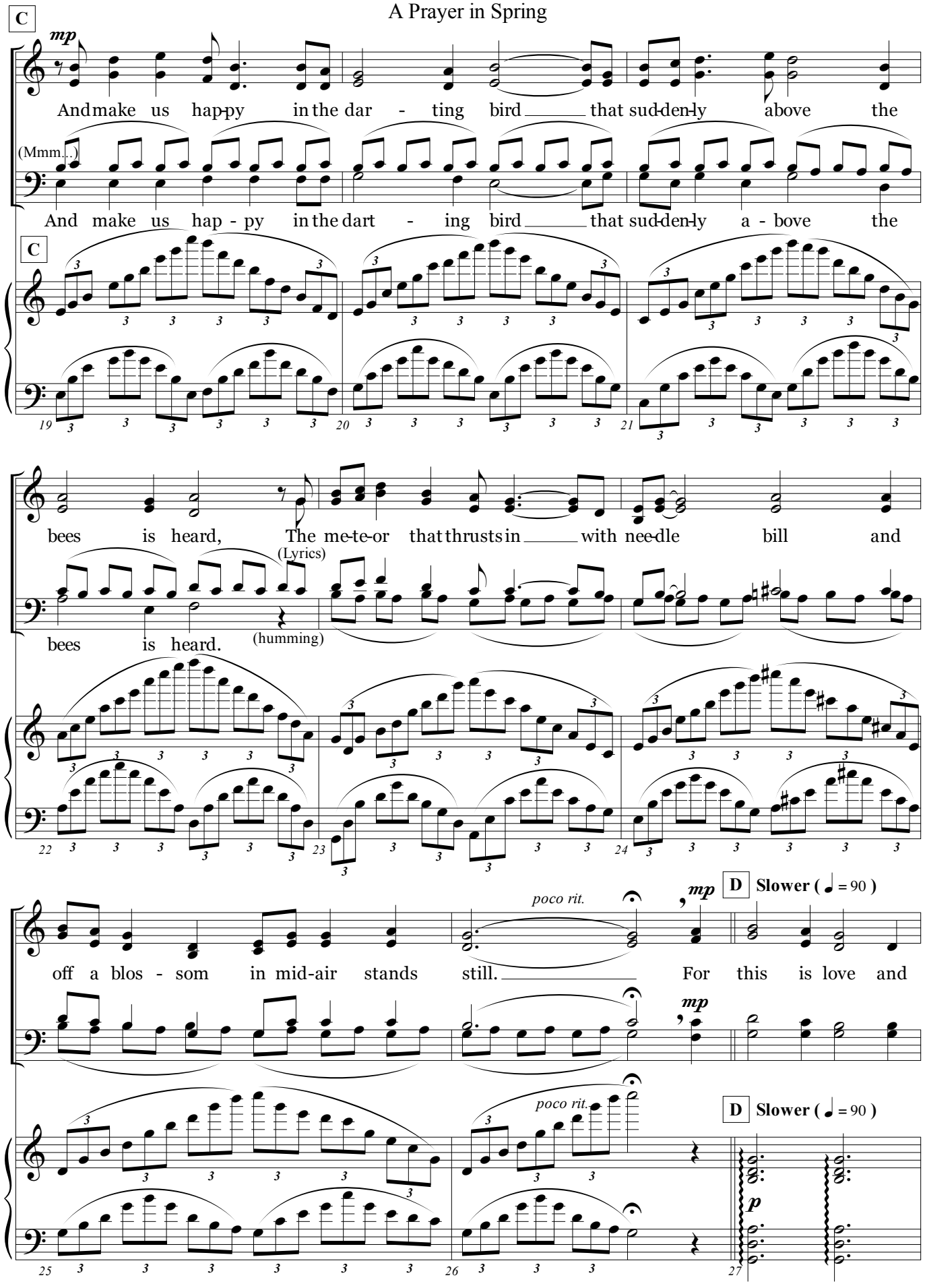
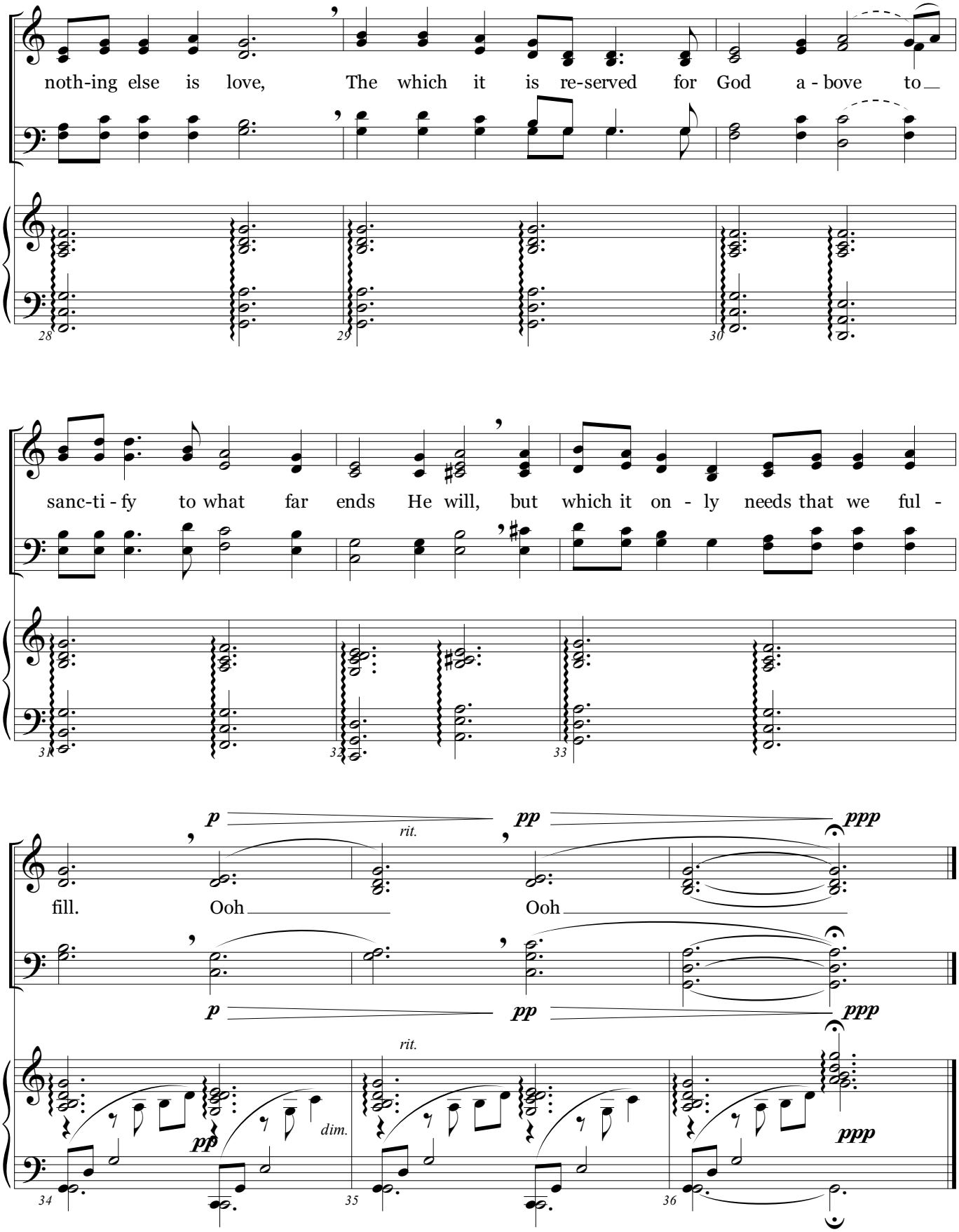

B
year.
Oh, give us pleas - ure in the or - chard white,
B
10
11
12
Like no-thing else by day, like ghosts by night;
And make us hap-py in the
13
14
15
(humming)
p
hap - py bees, the swarm di - la-ting round the per-fect trees.
p
16
17
18


C
mp
And make us hap-py in the dar - ting bird that sud-den-ly above the
(Mmm...)
And make us hap - py in the dart - ing bird that sud-den-ly a - bove the
C
19
20
21
bees is heard, The me-te-or that thrusts in with nee-dle bill and
(Lyrics)
bees is heard.
(humming)
22
23
24
poco rit.
mp
D
Slower (= 90)
off a blos - som in mid-air stands still. For this is love and
mp
poco rit.
D
Slower (= 90)
p
25
26
27

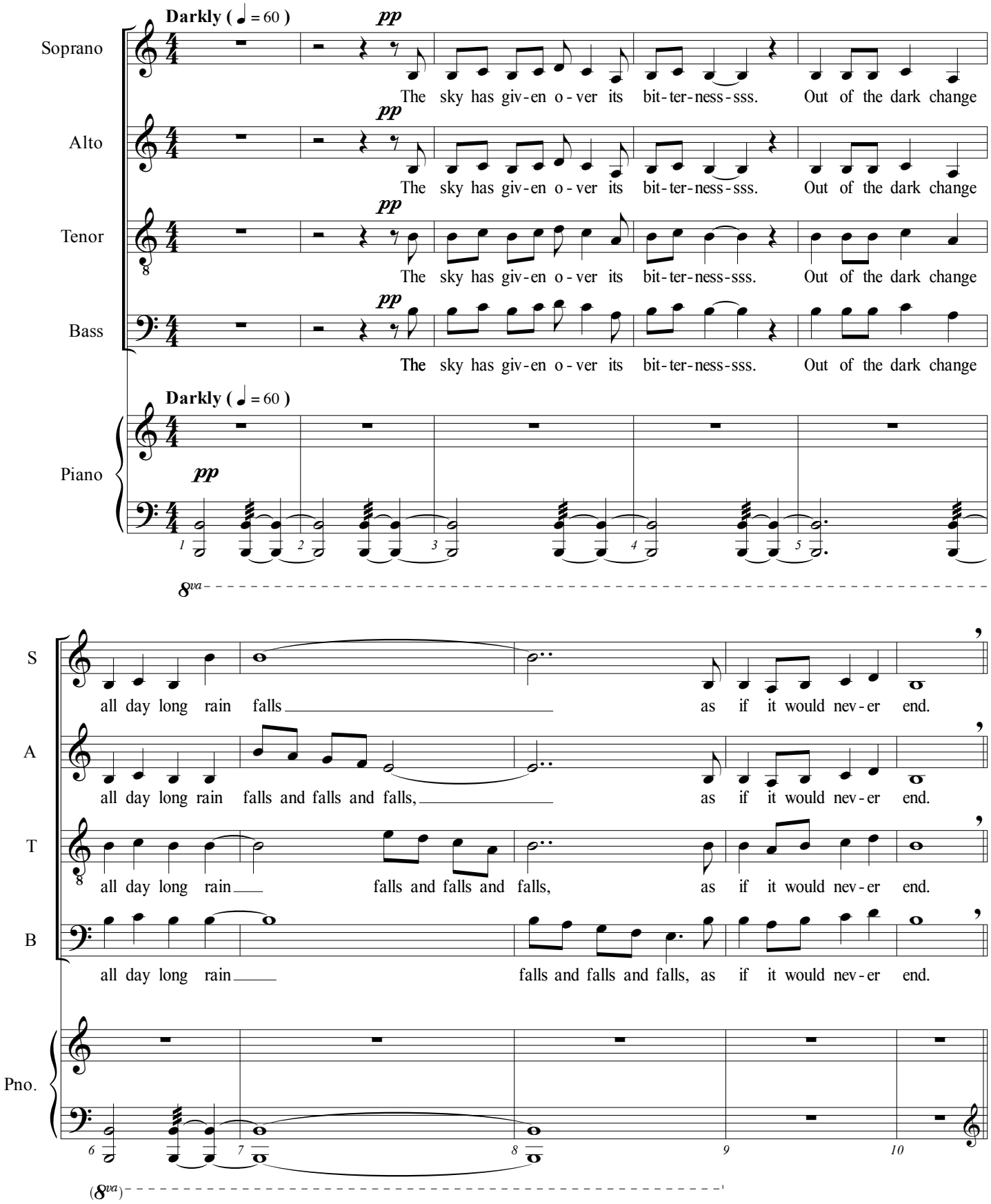

noth-ing else is love, The which it is re-served for God a - bove to
28
29
30
sanc-ti - fy to what far ends He will, but which it on - ly needs that we ful -
31
32
33
p
rit.
pp
ppp
fill. Ooh Ooh
p
pp
ppp
rit.
pp
dim.
ppp
34
35
36

The Spring Storm

V. Locrian

Text by
WILLIAM CARLOS WILLIAMS

Music by
CHARLES O. BECK



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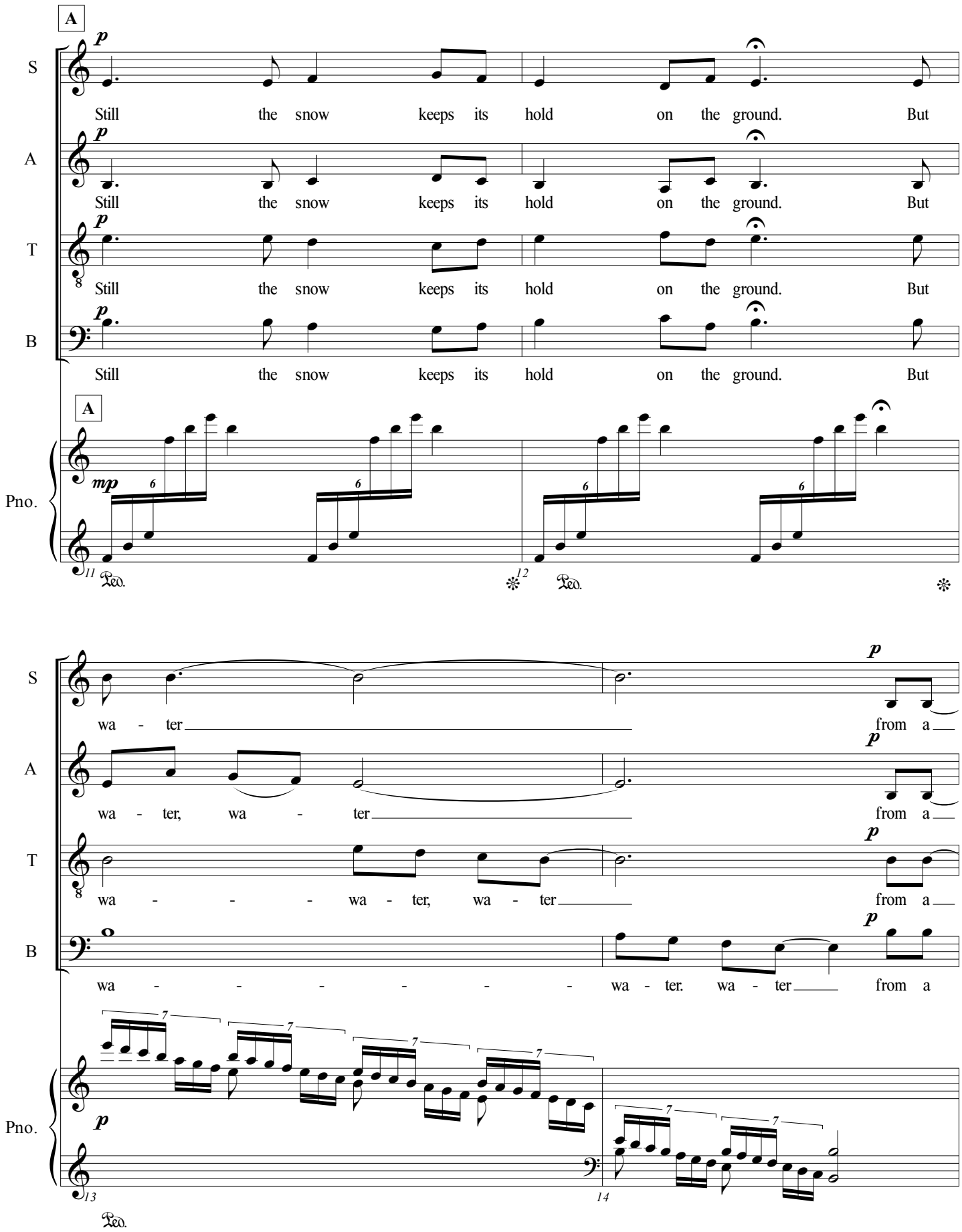
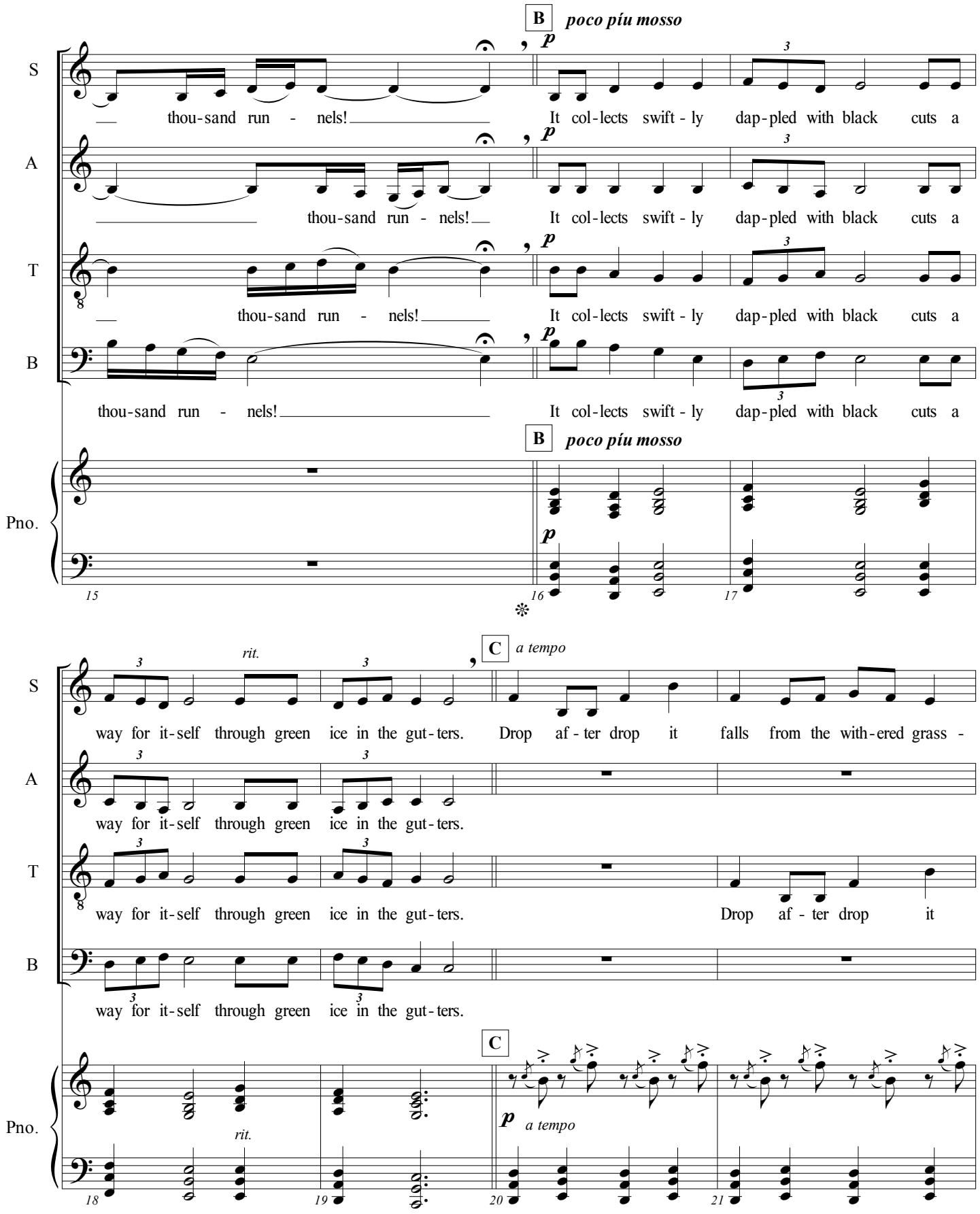
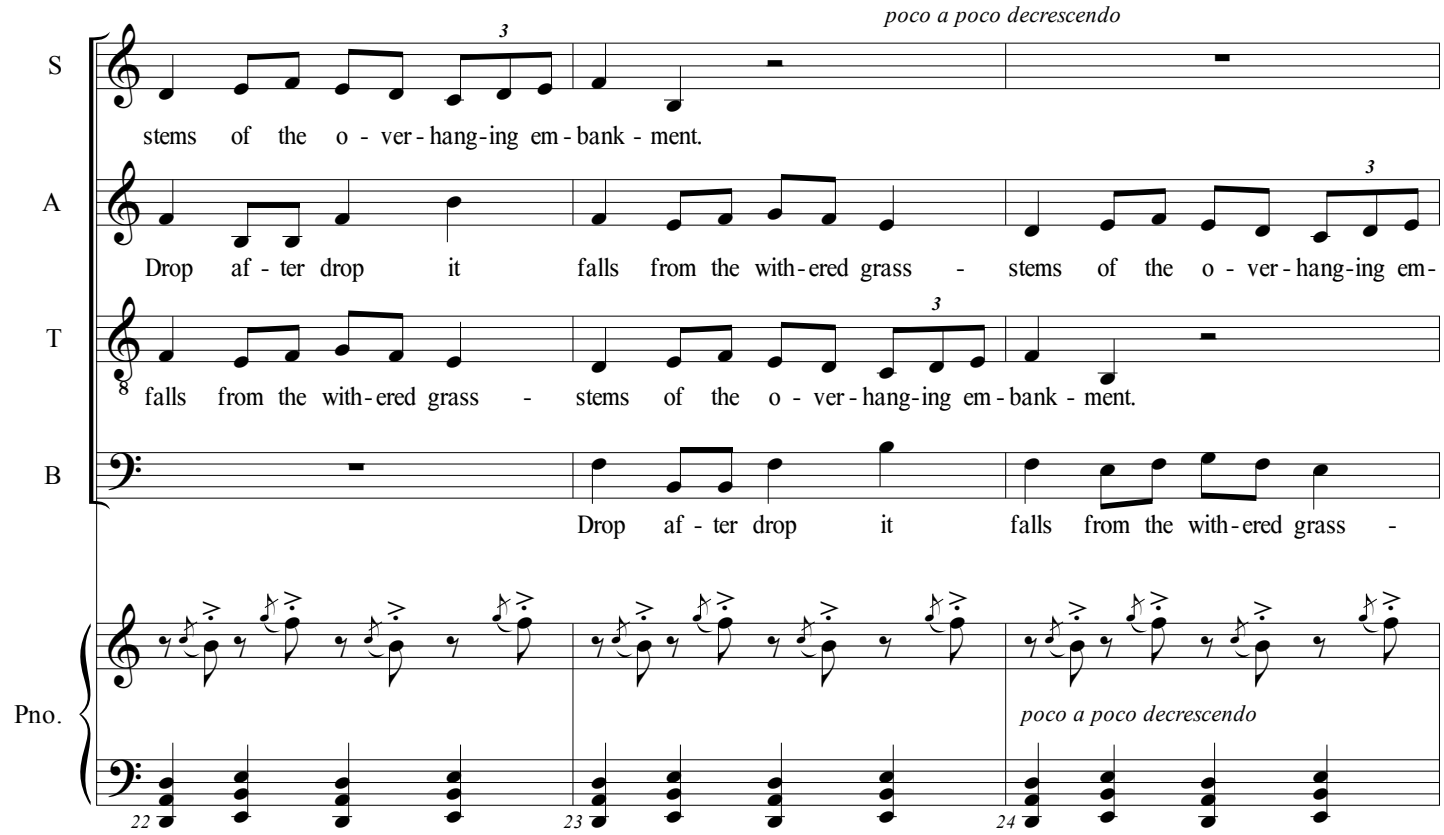
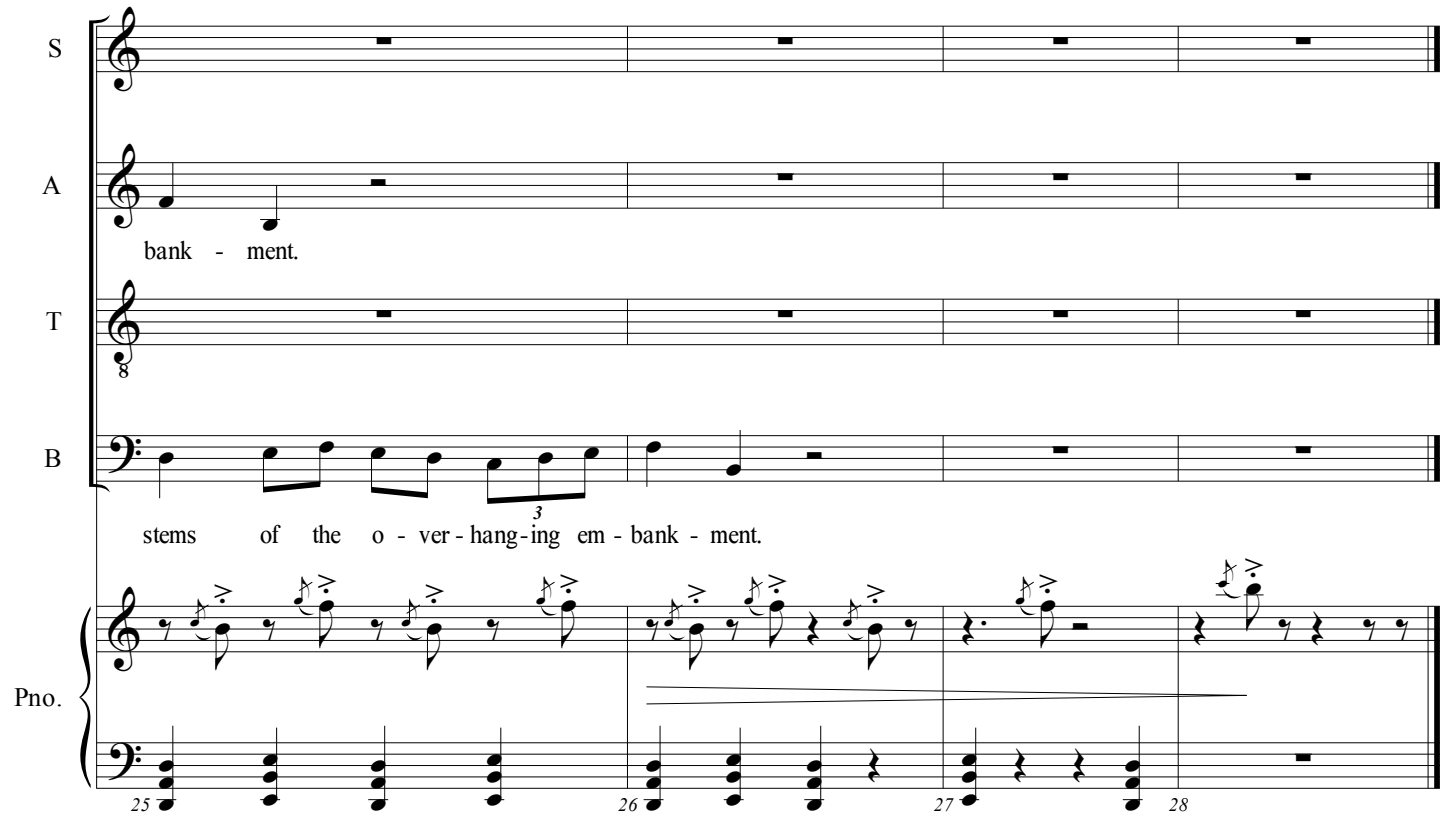

A
S
Still the snow keeps its hold on the ground. But
A
Still the snow keeps its hold on the ground. But
T
Still the snow keeps its hold on the ground. But
B
Still the snow keeps its hold on the ground. But
A
Pno.
11
12
wa - ter from a
wa - ter, wa - ter from a
wa - - - wa - ter, wa - ter from a
wa - - - - - - wa - ter. wa - ter from a
13
14


B
poco piu mosso
S
A
T
B
Pno.
thou-sand run - nels!
It col-lects swift - ly dap-pled with black cuts a
15
16
17
rit.
C
a tempo
way for it-self through green ice in the gut-ters.
Drop af - ter drop it falls from the with-ered grass -
Drop af - ter drop it
18
19
20
21


poco a poco decrescendo
S
stems of the o - ver - hang-ing em - bank - ment.
A
Drop af - ter drop it falls from the with-ered grass - stems of the o - ver - hang-ing em-
T
falls from the with-ered grass - stems of the o - ver - hang-ing em - bank - ment.
B
Drop af - ter drop it falls from the with-ered grass -
Pno.
poco a poco decrescendo
22
23
24

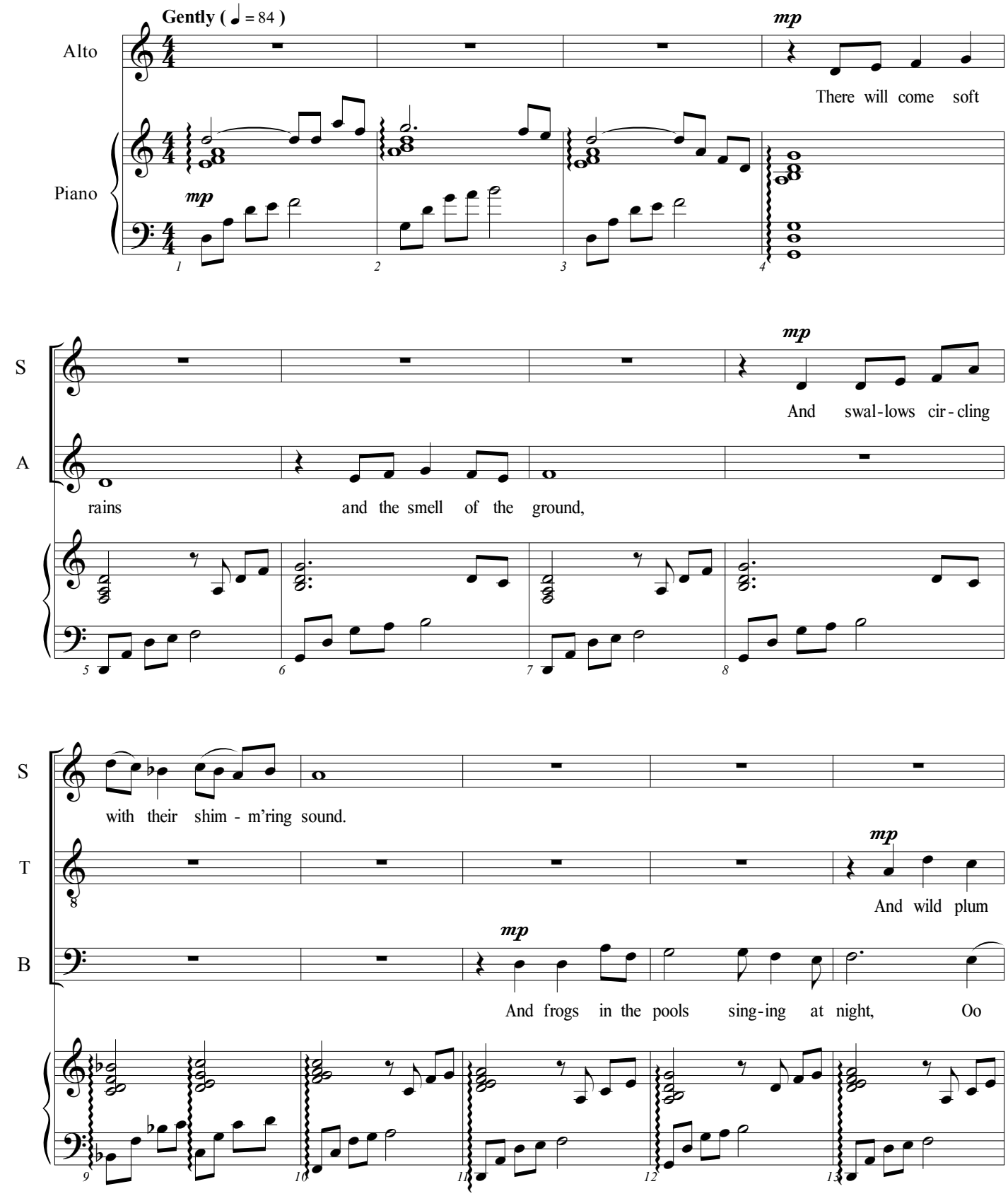

S
A
bank - ment.
T
B
stems of the o - ver - hang-ing em - bank - ment.
Pno.
25
26
27
28

There Will Come Soft Rains

Text by
SARA TEASDALE

VI. Dorian

Music by
CHARLES O. BECK



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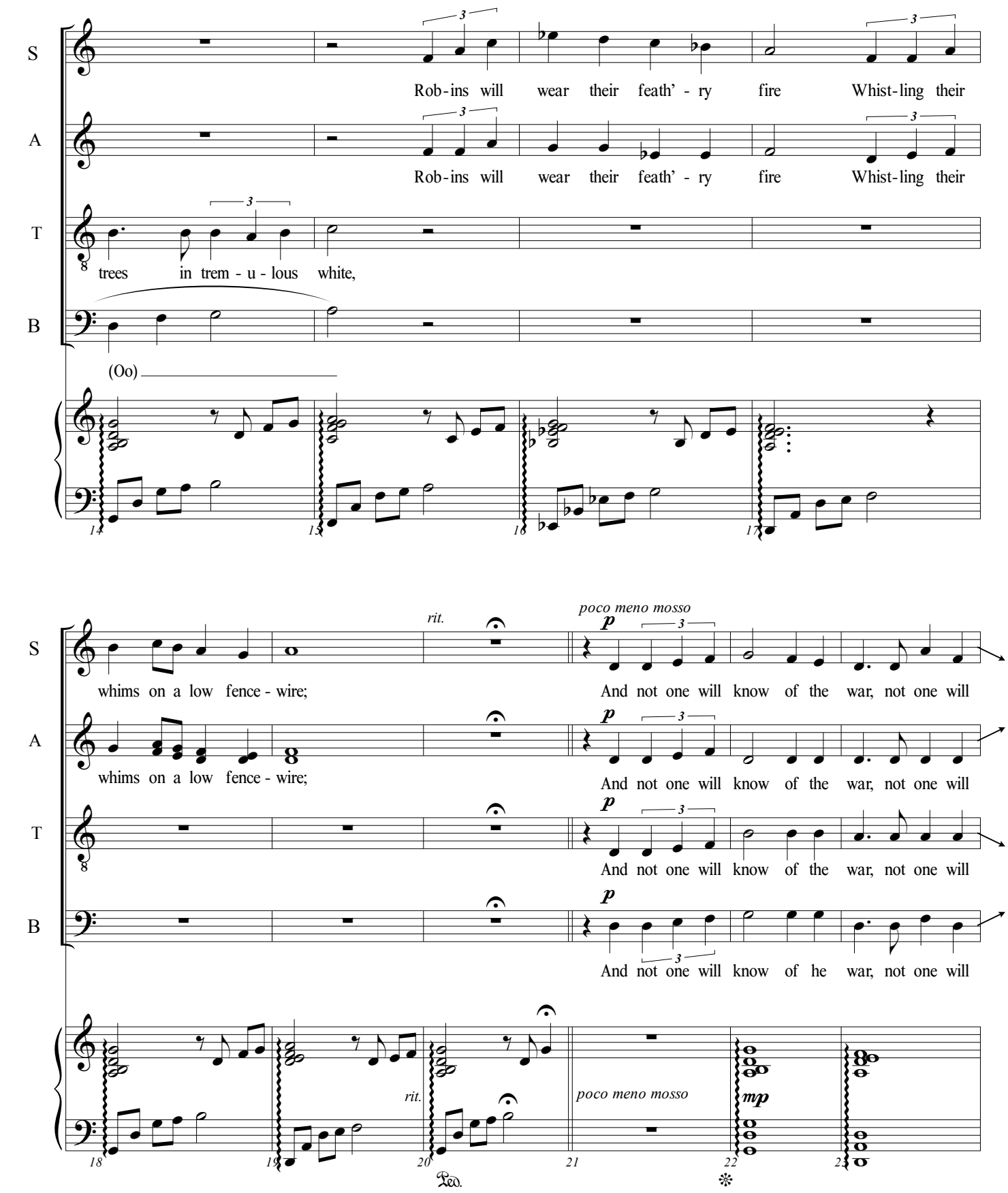
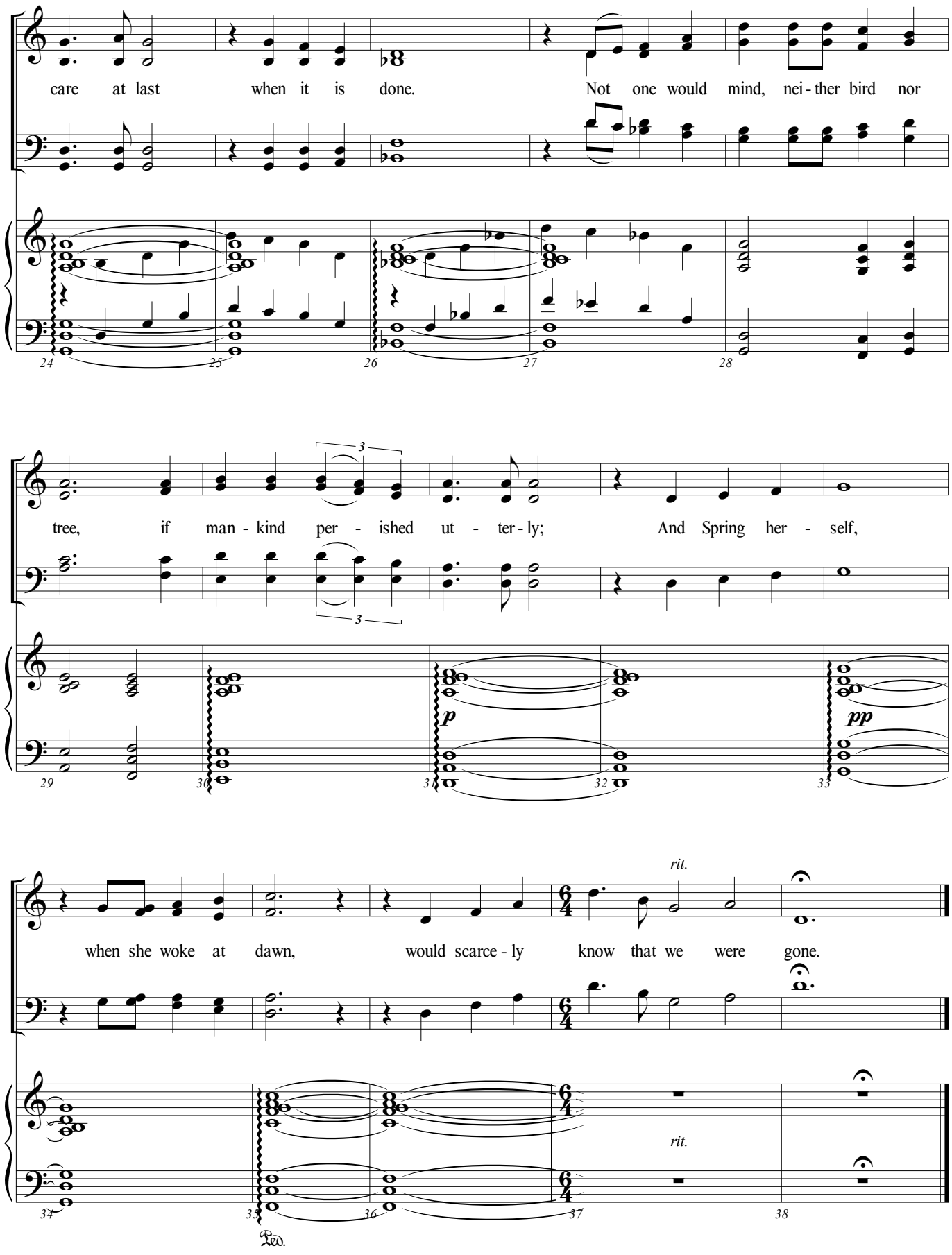

S
A
T
B
Rob-ins will wear their feath' - ry fire Whist-ling their
Rob-ins will wear their feath' - ry fire Whist-ling their
trees in trem - u - lous white,
(Oo)
14
15
16
17
rit.
poco meno mosso
whims on a low fence - wire;
whims on a low fence - wire;
And not one will know of the war, not one will
And not one will know of the war, not one will
And not one will know of the war, not one will
And not one will know of he war, not one will
rit.
poco meno mosso
mp
18
19
20
21
22
23
Ped.
*

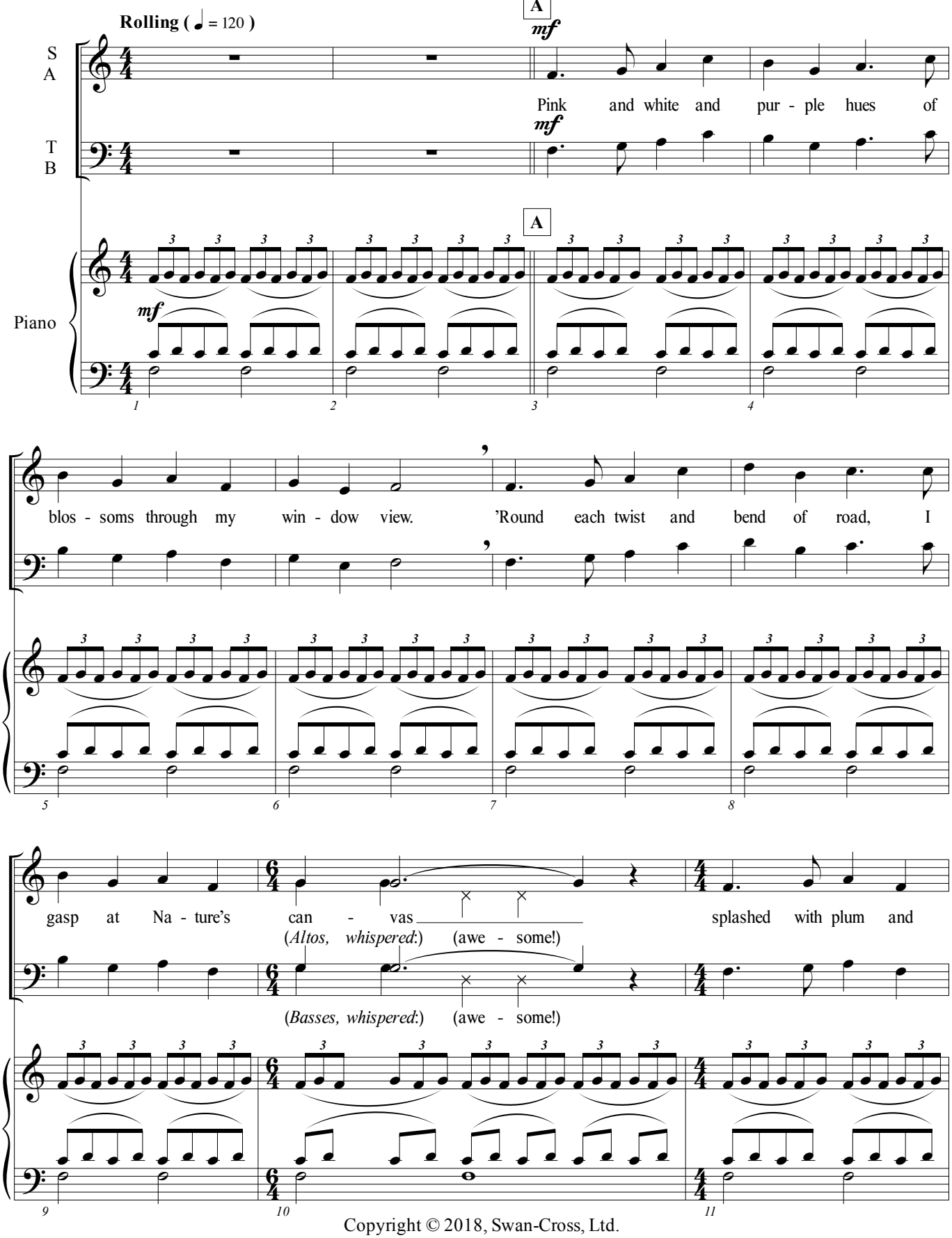

care at last when it is done. Not one would mind, nei - ther bird nor
24
25
26
27
28
tree, if man - kind per - ished ut - ter - ly; And Spring her - self,
3
3
29
30
31
32
33
p
pp
when she woke at dawn, would scarce - ly know that we were gone.
rit.
rit.
34
35
36
37
38
Ped.

Blossom Time

VII. Lydian

Text by
JAMES P. LUKENS

Music by
CHARLES O. BECK



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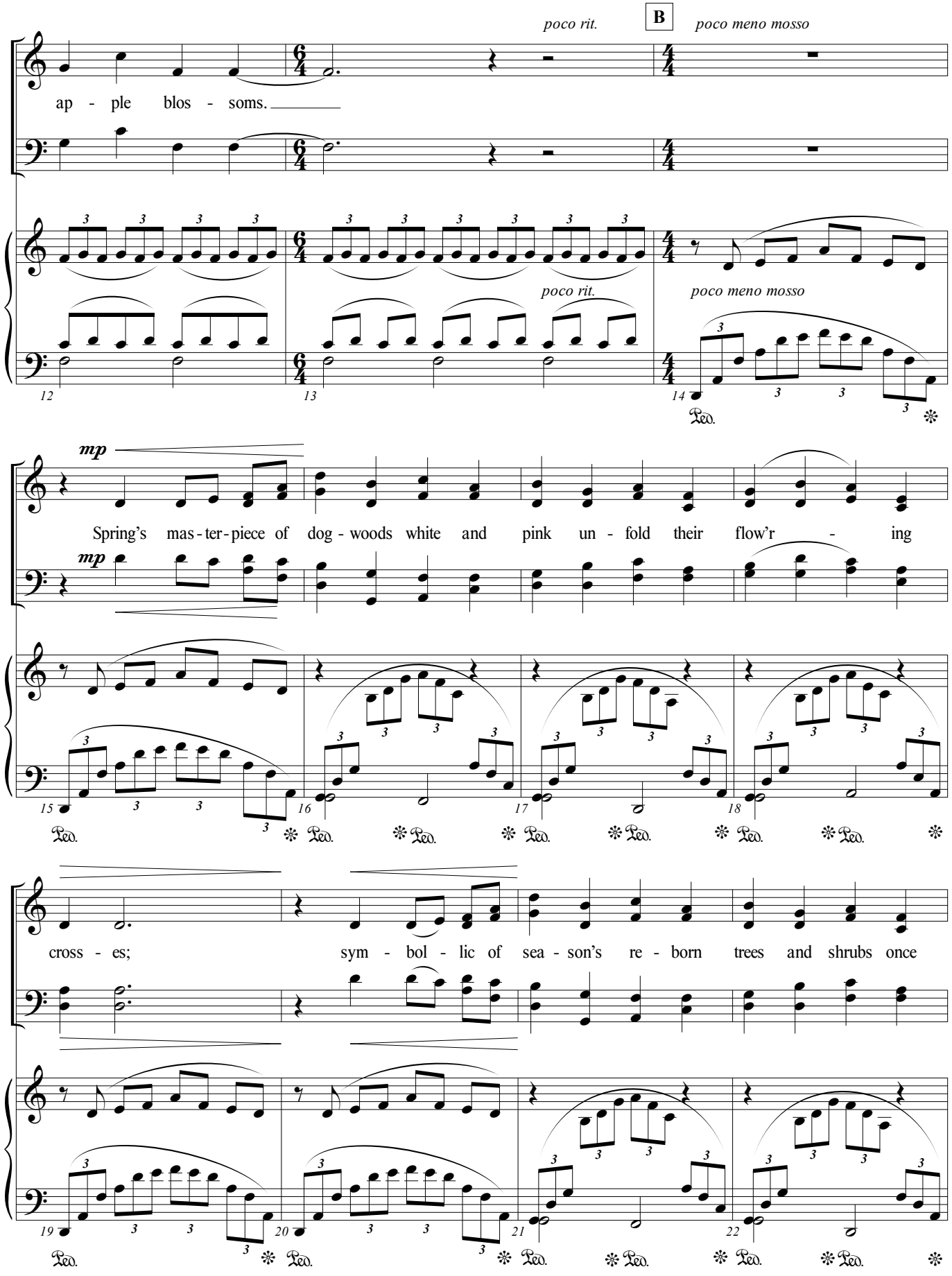
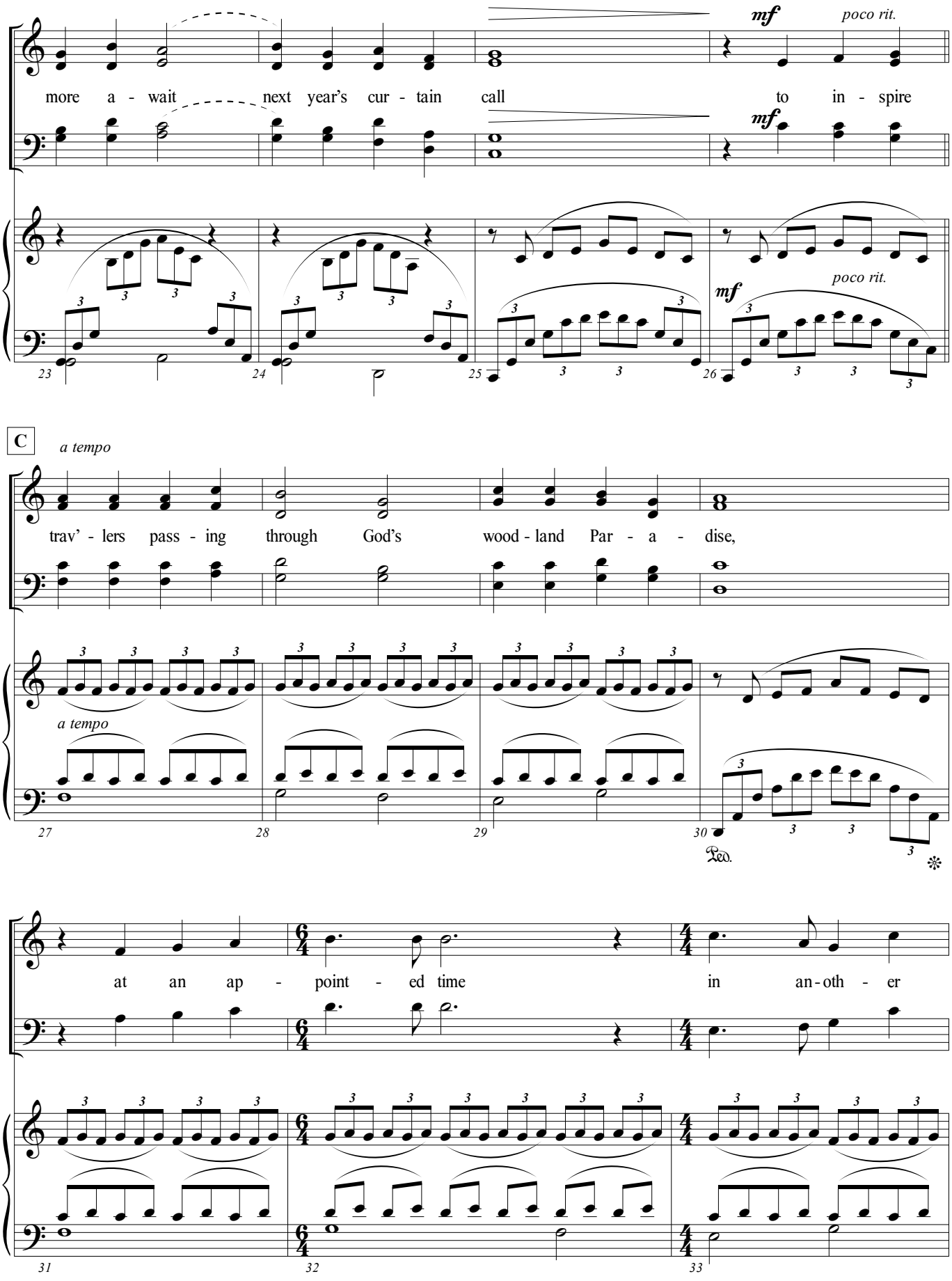
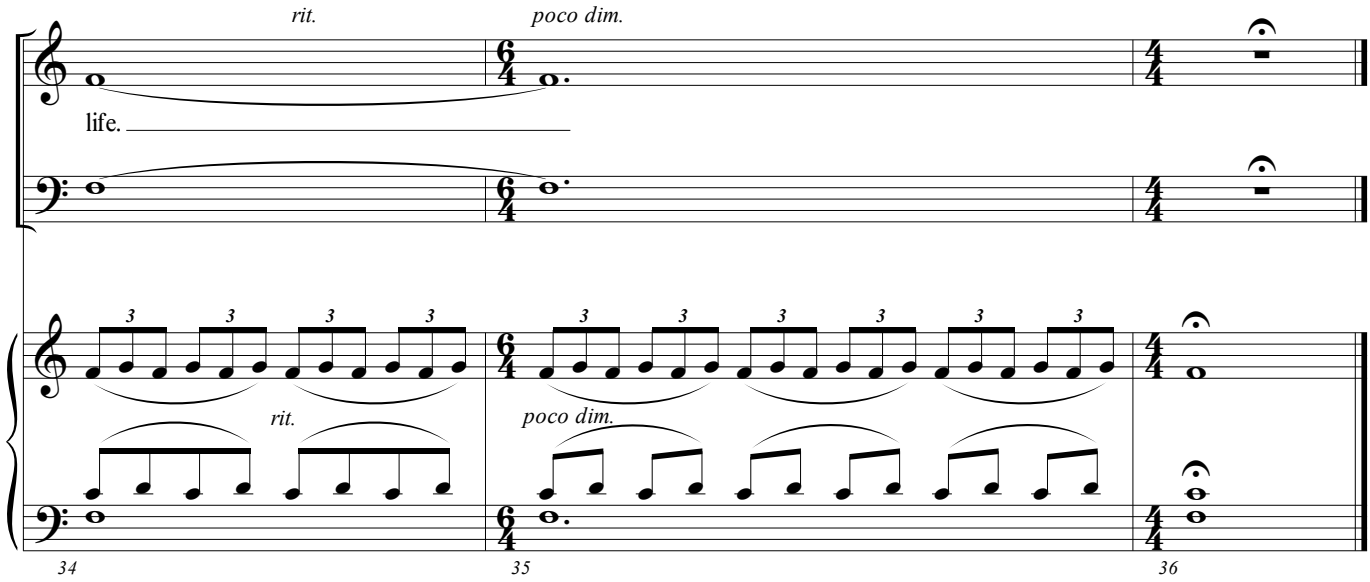

poco rit.
B
poco meno mosso
ap - ple blos - soms.
poco rit.
poco meno mosso
mp
Spring's mas-ter-piece of dog-woods white and pink un - fold their flow'r - ing
cross - es; sym - bol - lic of sea - son's re - born trees and shrubs once


mf
poco rit.
more a - wait next year's cur - tain call to in - spire
mf
poco rit.
23
24
25
26
C
a tempo
trav' - lers pass - ing through God's wood - land Par - a - dise,
a tempo
27
28
29
30
Ped.
*
at an ap - point - ed time in an - oth - er
31
32
33


rit.
poco dim.
life.
rit.
poco dim.
34
35
36

A few performance notes:

In “A Prayer in Spring,” the tenor-bass humming part,
don’t be too concerned about maintaining accurate pitches.
Muddy is good here; the point is to simulate, to a certain extent,
the buzzing of bees.

In “The Spring Storm,” the word “blessedness”
in the first line (if there were any question):
The second quarter note should be only an “sss.”

In “Blossom Time,” the word “awesome”,
given to the altos and basses,
should be not so much *whispered*,
as “stage-whispered” or uttered “sotto voce”.

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