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With This Child

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MICHAEL MAULDIN

WITH THIS CHILD

Christmas Cantata for Women's Voices and Harp

Commissioned by the Santa Fe Women's Ensemble
for its tenth anniversary

Commissioned by the Santa Fe Women's Ensemble
for its tenth anniversary

WITH THIS CHILD:

Christmas Cantata for Women's Voices and Harp

by Michael Mauldin

While working on piano accompaniments for a string method, I cherished every moment I spent working on this piece. I knew Linda Raney, the director of the SFWE, and Rosalind Simpson, the harp accompanist. I had heard and enjoyed their concerts in the beautiful and resonant Loretto Chapel in Santa Fe. As a boychoir director, I had a fondness for treble voices, and for harp.

There was a competition of sorts for who would supply the text. I fell in love with the poems of Lara Hill, herself a member of the women's ensemble. Her words were earthy yet reverent, full of imagery and color. She was agreeable to small changes motivated by musical issues and formal structure. The composing process was a joy.

So was the performance. My wife and sons and I attended the premiere in December, 1990 on a snowy night in Santa Fe. Loretto Chapel was filled with people, candlelight, song – and magic. Thanks Linda, Rosalind, Lara and all the ensemble members for the memory of a lifetime. A recording of the premiere is included in the group's CD, "Glad Tidings." The NEW MEXICAN said the piece was "intriguingly new and overwhelmingly beautiful."

Michael Mauldin
http://www.mmauldin.com

Duration: 16:35

Published by
Michael Mauldin
12713 Summer Ave. NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87112
USA

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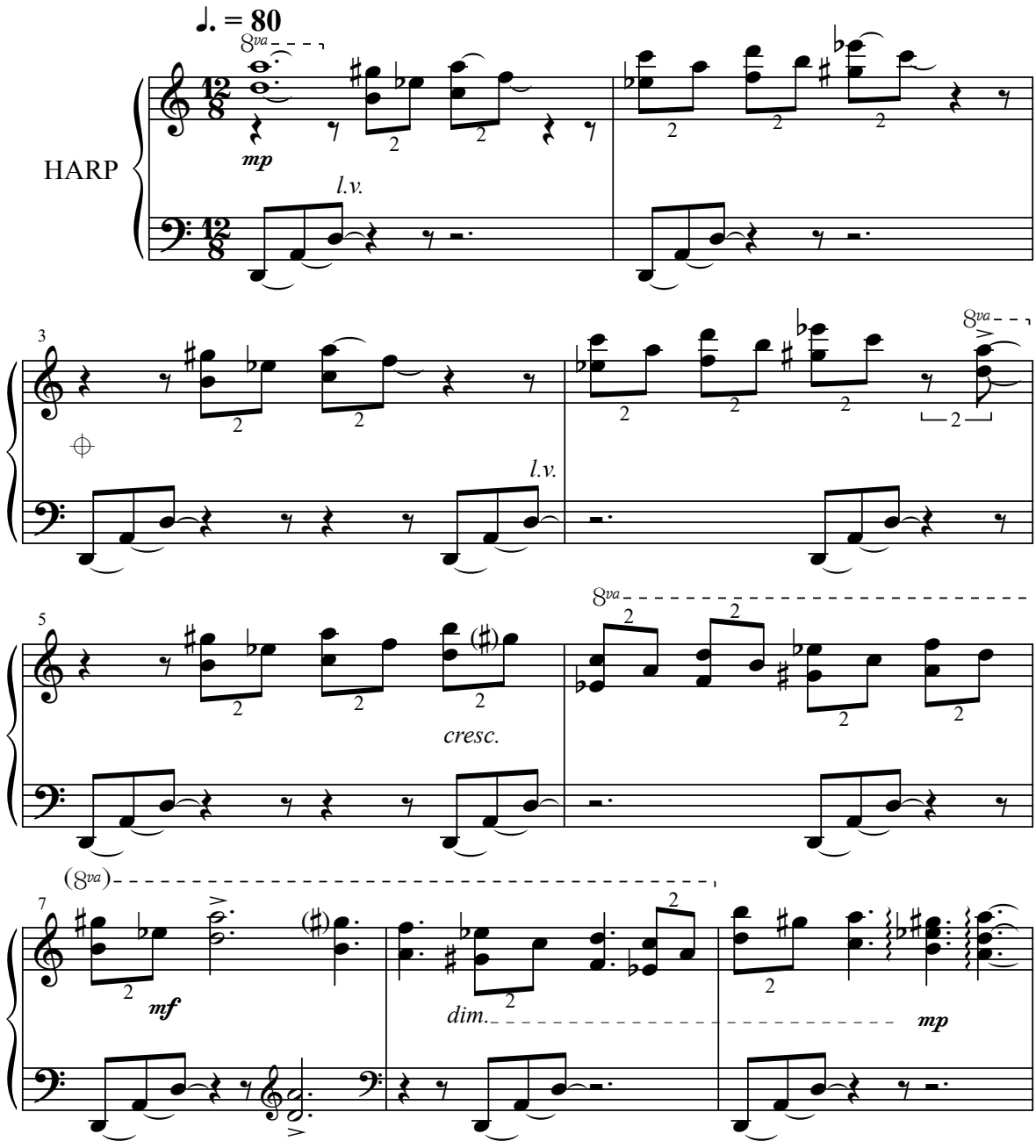
Commissioned by the Santa Fe Women's Ensemble
for its tenth anniversary

WITH THIS CHILD:

Christmas Cantata for Women's Voices and Harp

I. Holy Mother

Text: LARA HILL, 1990 *MICHAEL MAULDIN, 1990*



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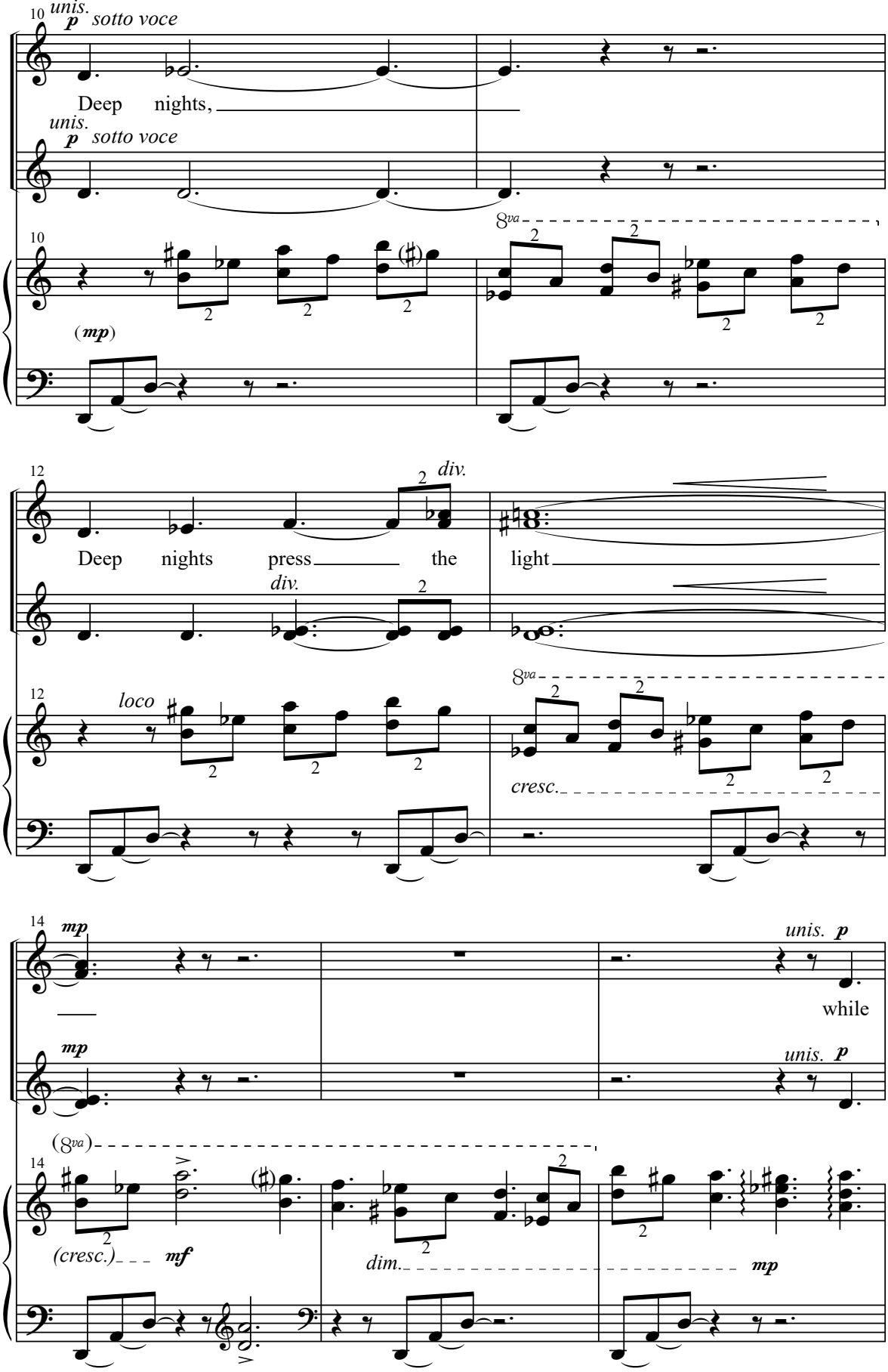
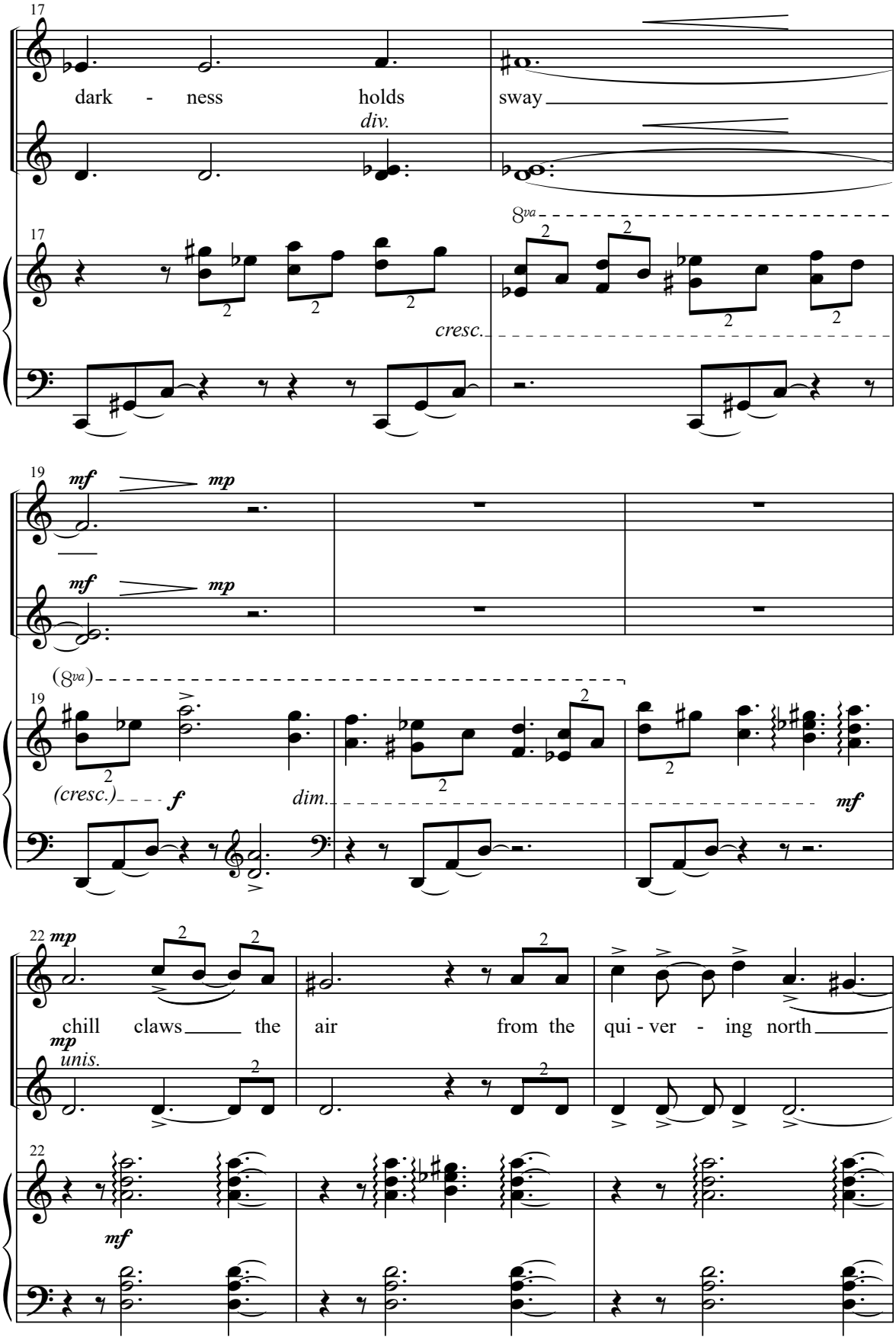
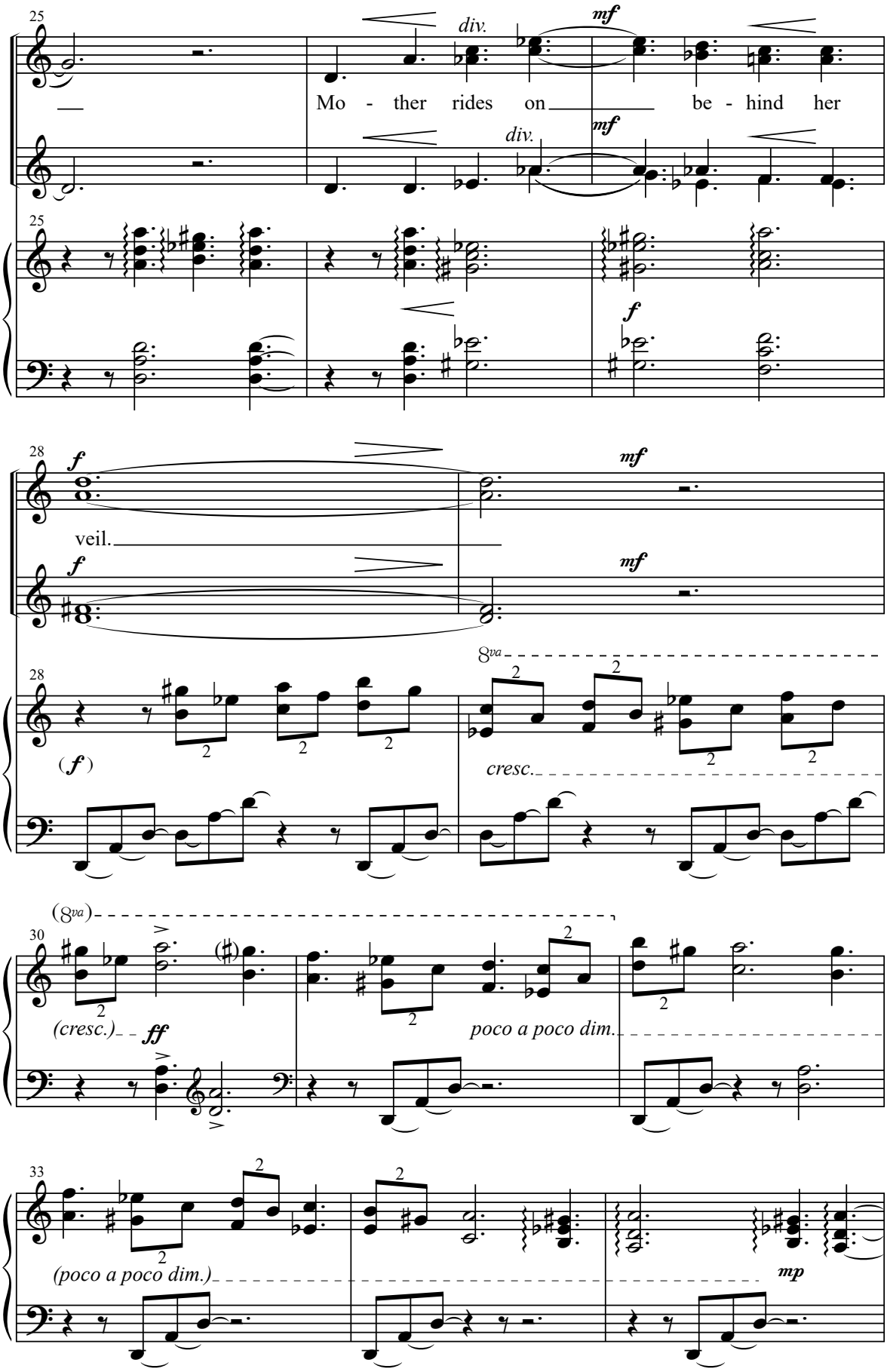
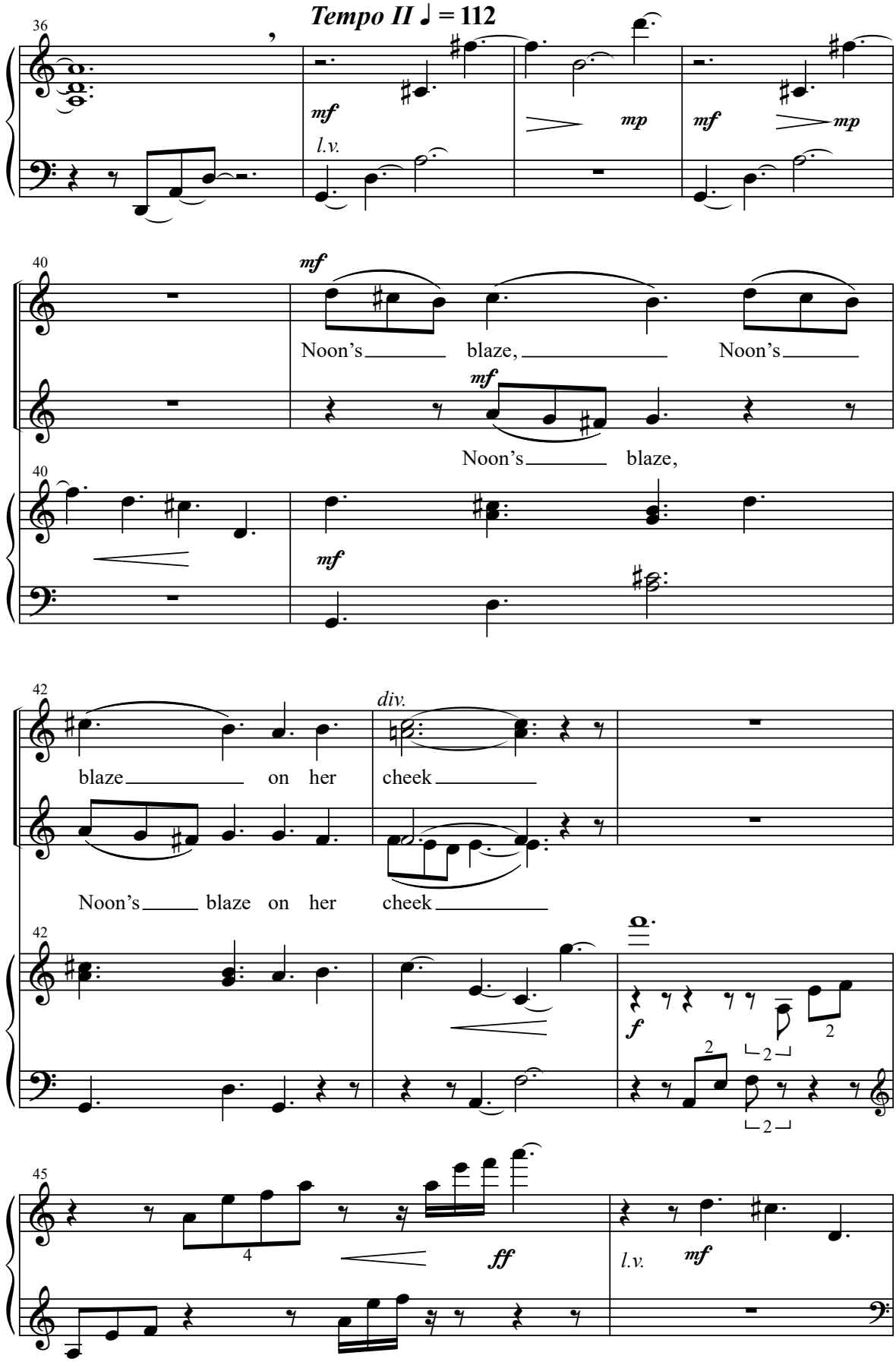
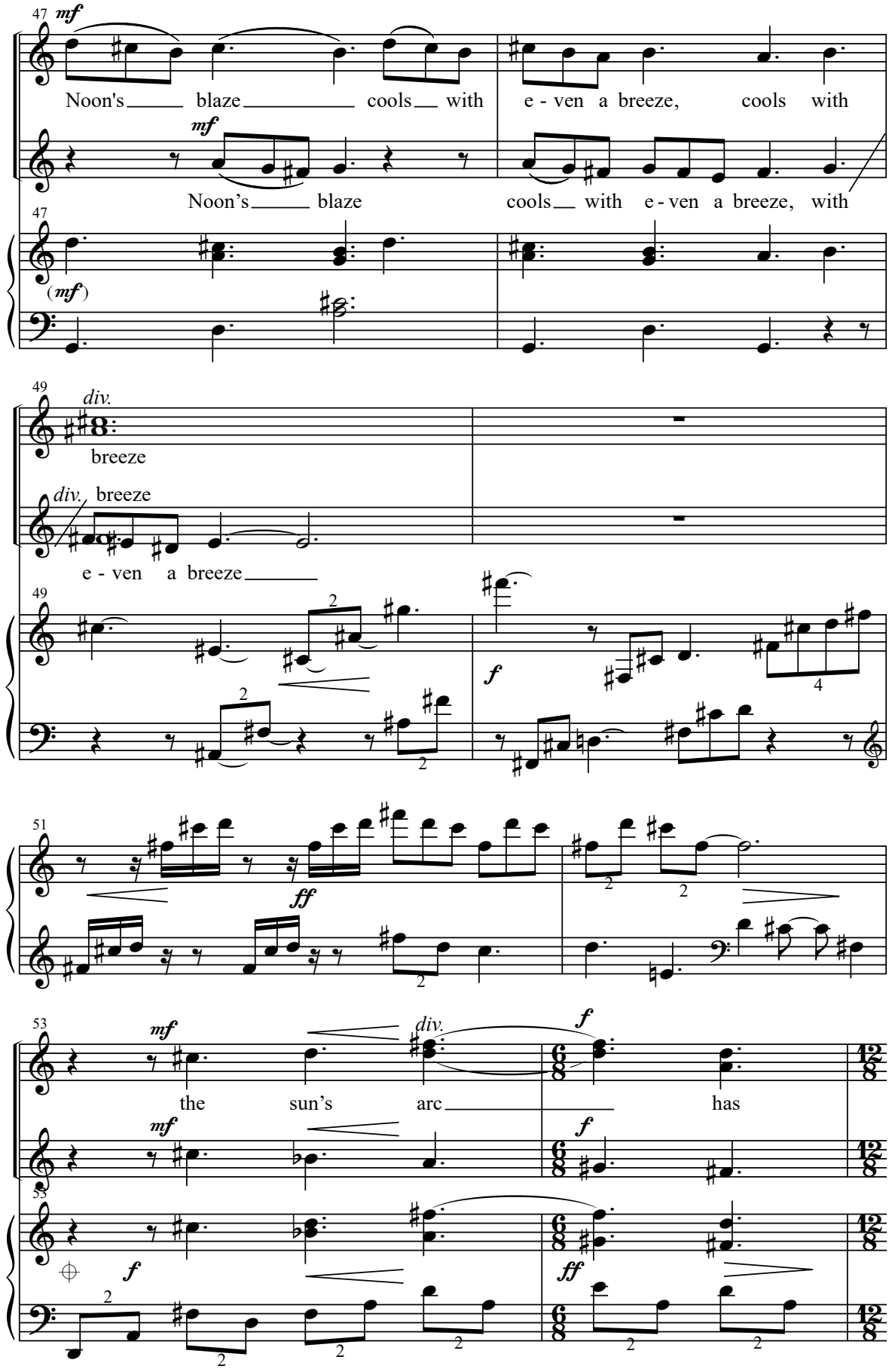
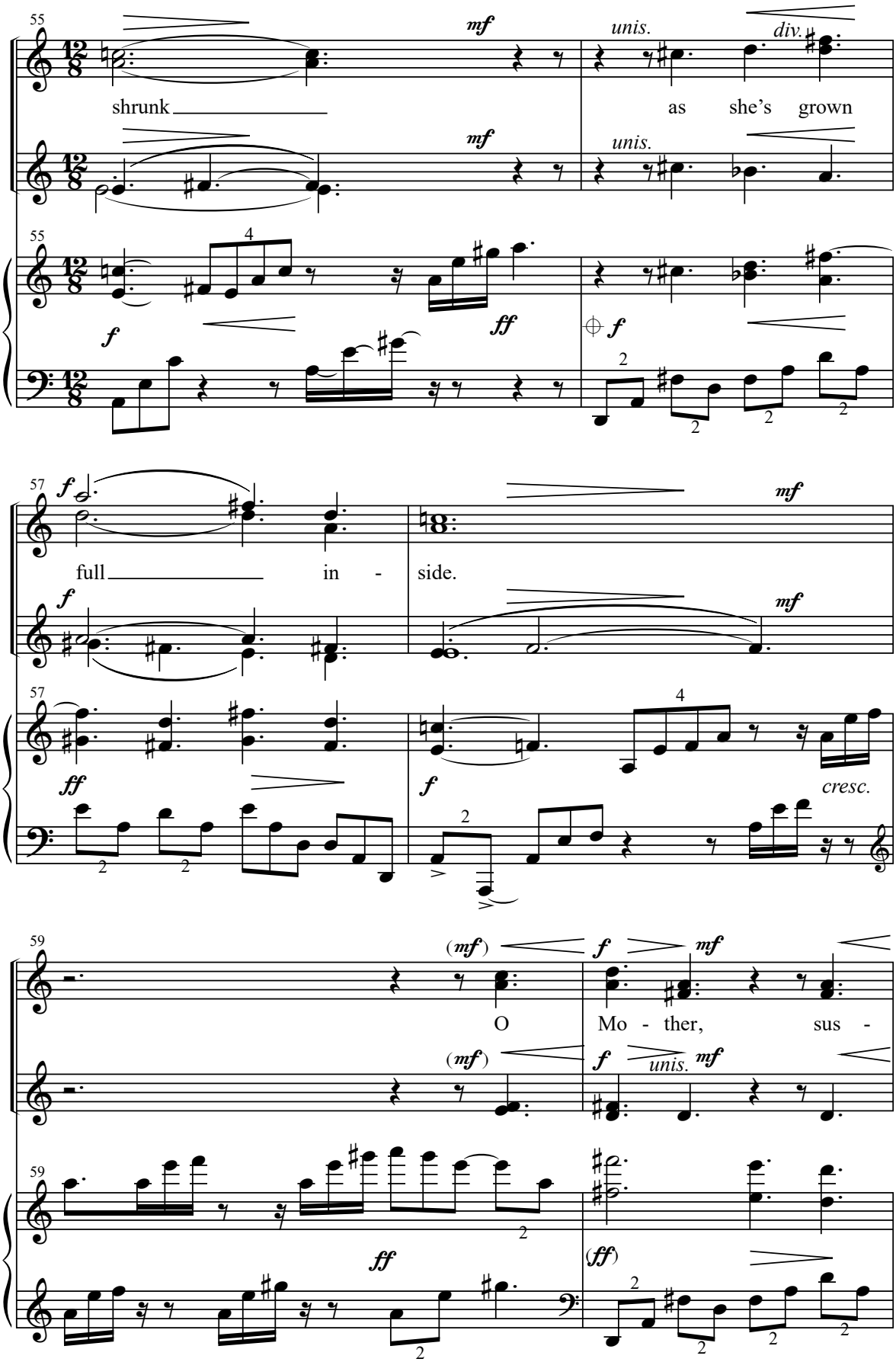

10
unis.
p sotto voce
Deep nights,
unis.
p sotto voce
8va
(mp)
12
div.
Deep nights press the light
div.
loco
8va
cresc.
14
mp
unis. p
while
mp
unis. p
(8va)
(cresc.)
mf
dim.
mp

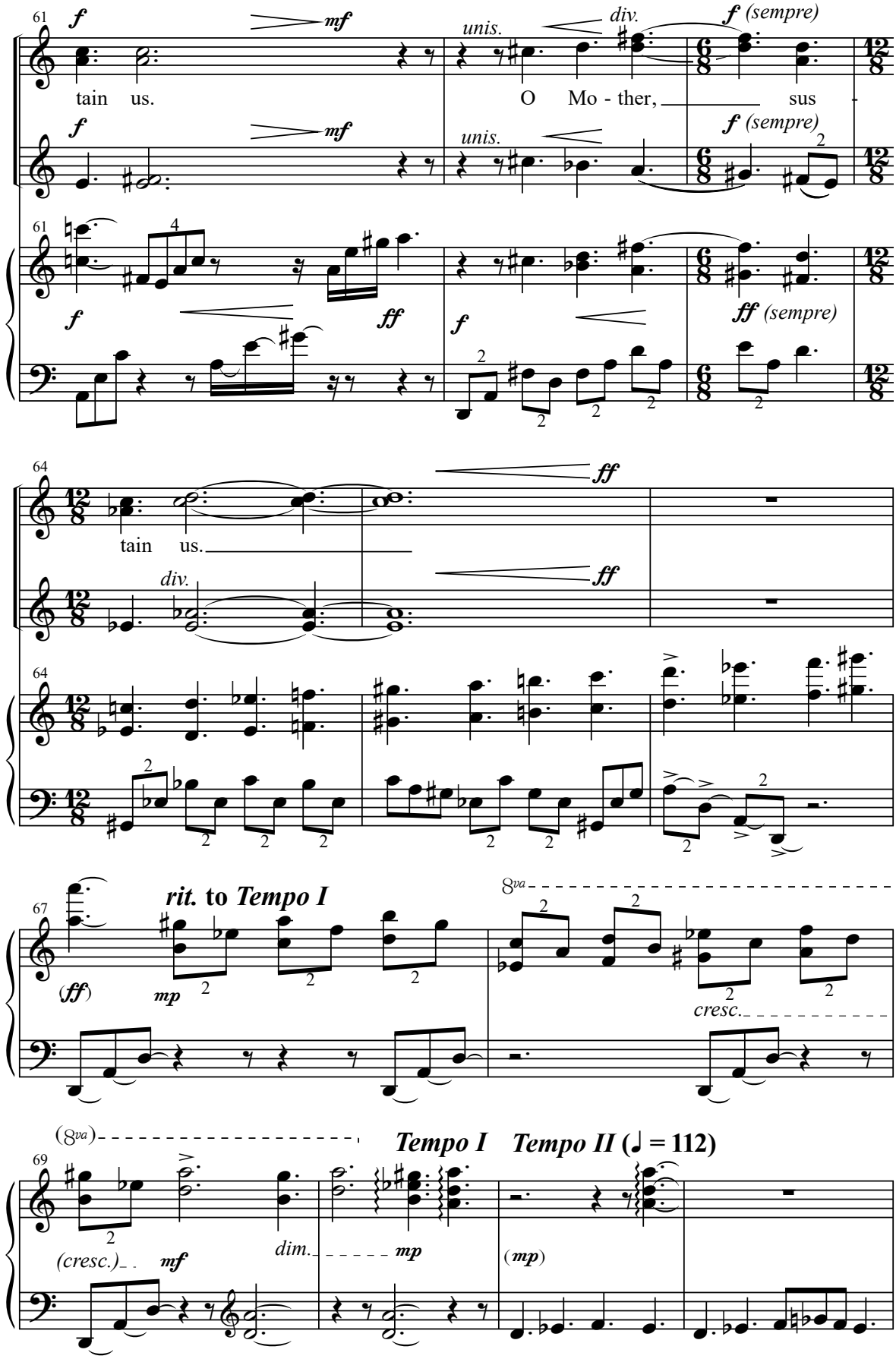

17
dark - ness holds
div.
sway
8va
cresc.
19
mf
mp
(8va)
(cresc.)
f
dim.
mf
22
mp
chill claws the air from the qui - ver - ing north
unis.
mf

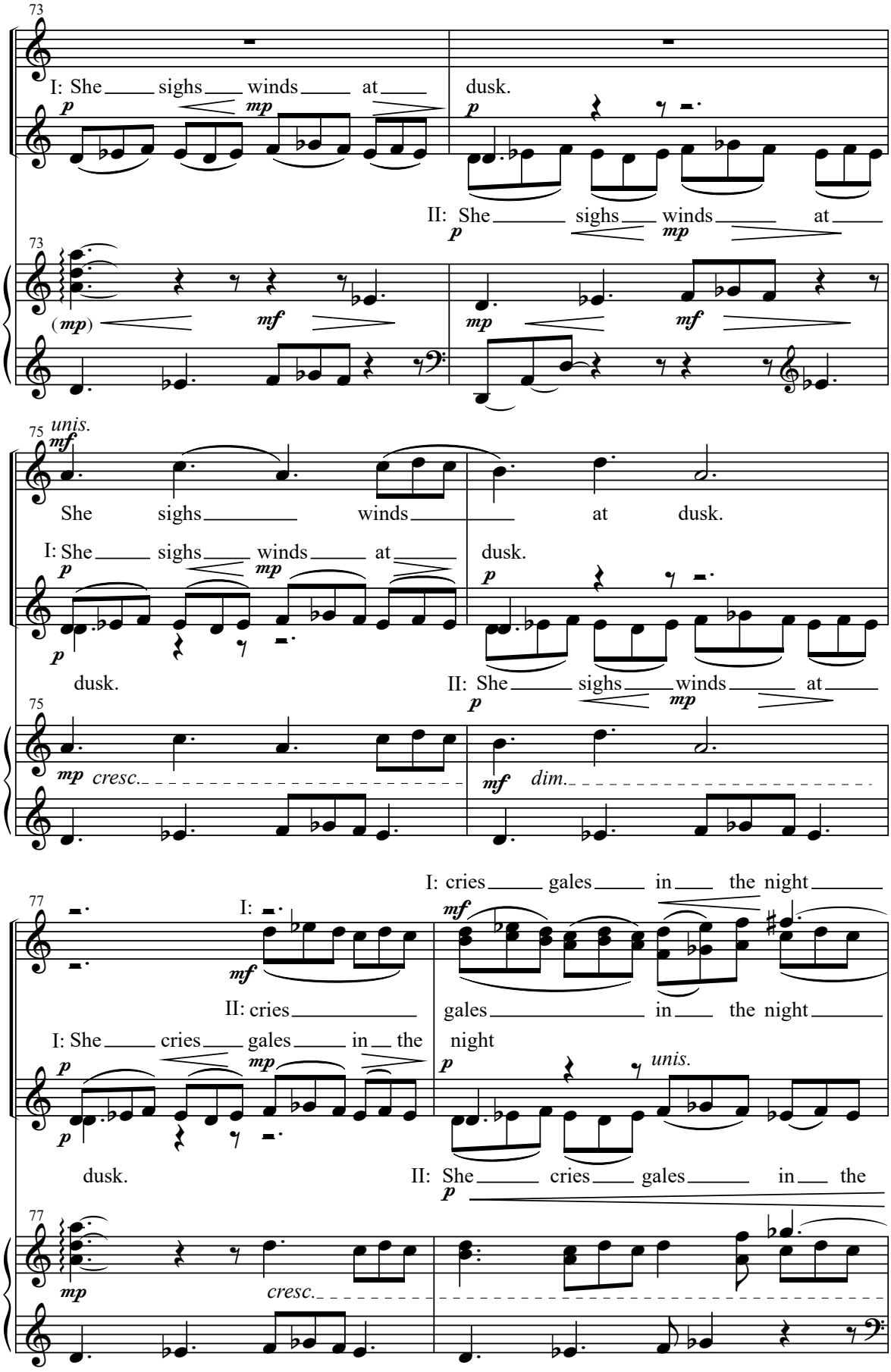

25
div.
mf
Mo - ther rides on be - hind her
div.
mf
25
f
28
f
mf
veil.
f
mf
28
8va
(f)
cresc.
(8va)
30
(cresc.)
ff
poco a poco dim.
33
(poco a poco dim.)
mp

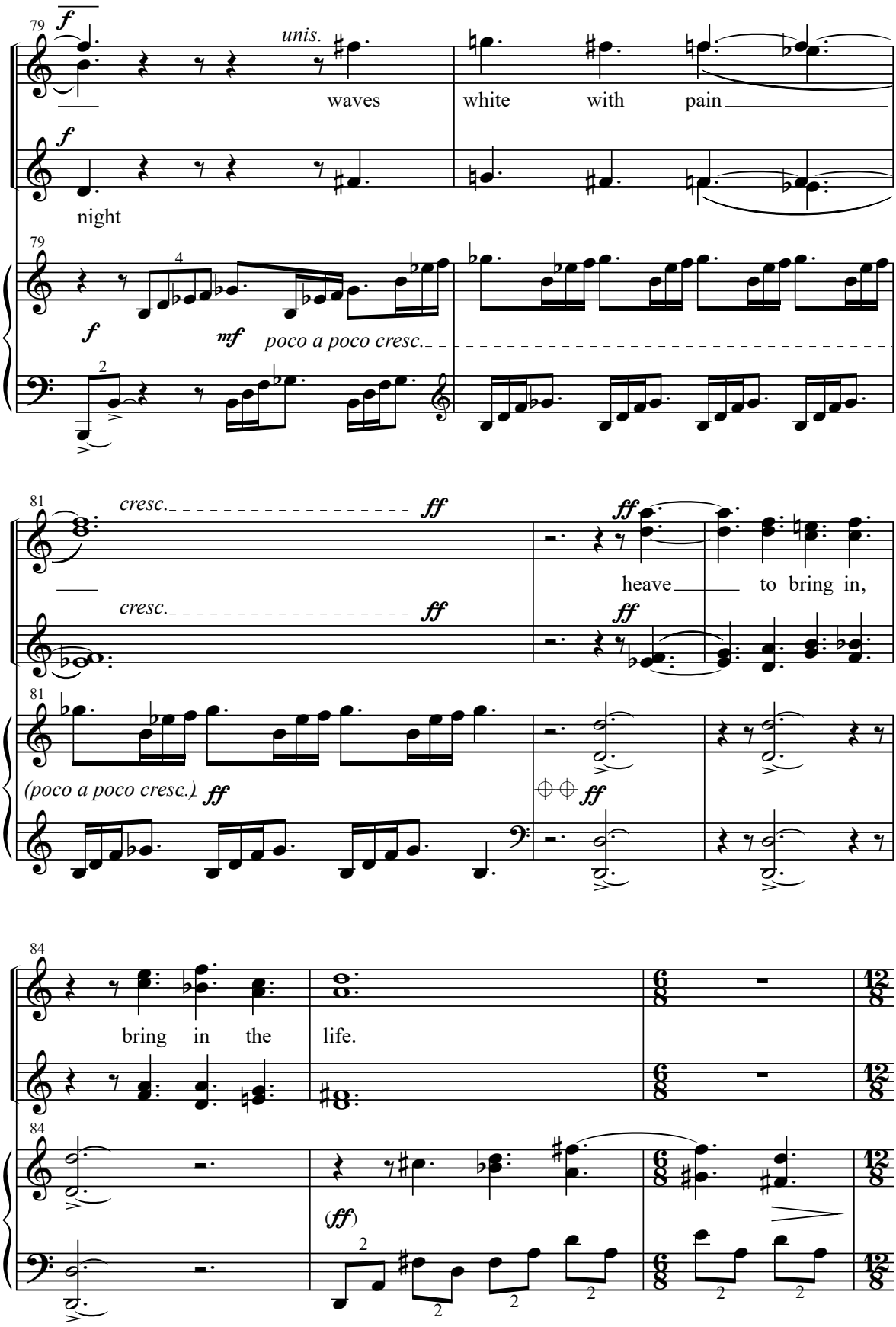

Tempo II ♩ = 112
36
mf
l.v.
mp
mf
mp
40
mf
Noon's blaze, Noon's
mf
Noon's blaze,
40
mf
42
blaze on her
div.
cheek
Noon's blaze on her
cheek
42
f
45
4
ff
l.v.
mf

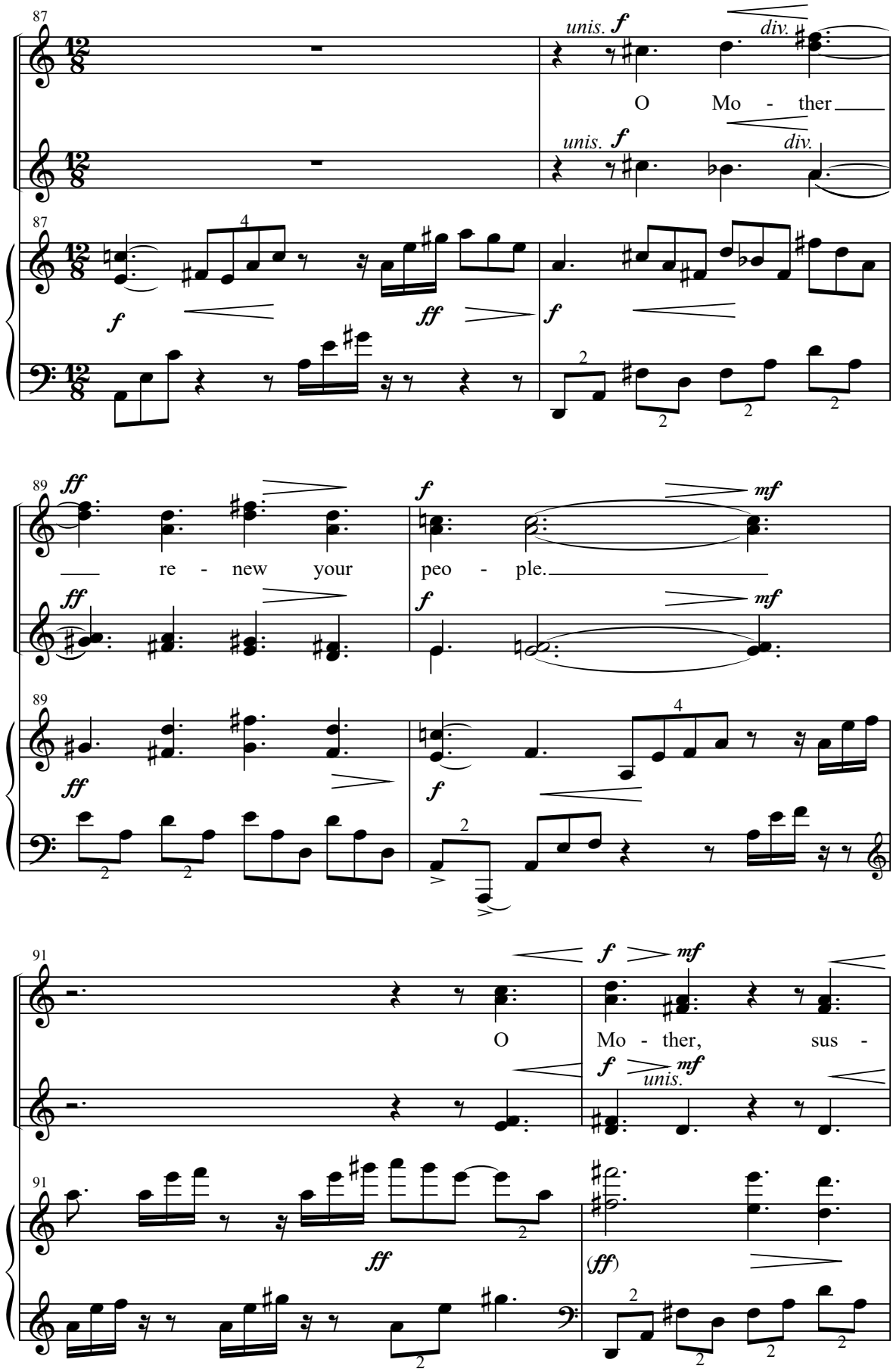

47
mf
Noon's blaze cools with e - ven a breeze, cools with
mf
Noon's blaze cools with e - ven a breeze, with
47
(mf)
49
div.
breeze
div. breeze
e - ven a breeze
49
f
51
ff
53
mf
div.
f
the sun's arc has
mf
f
53
f
ff

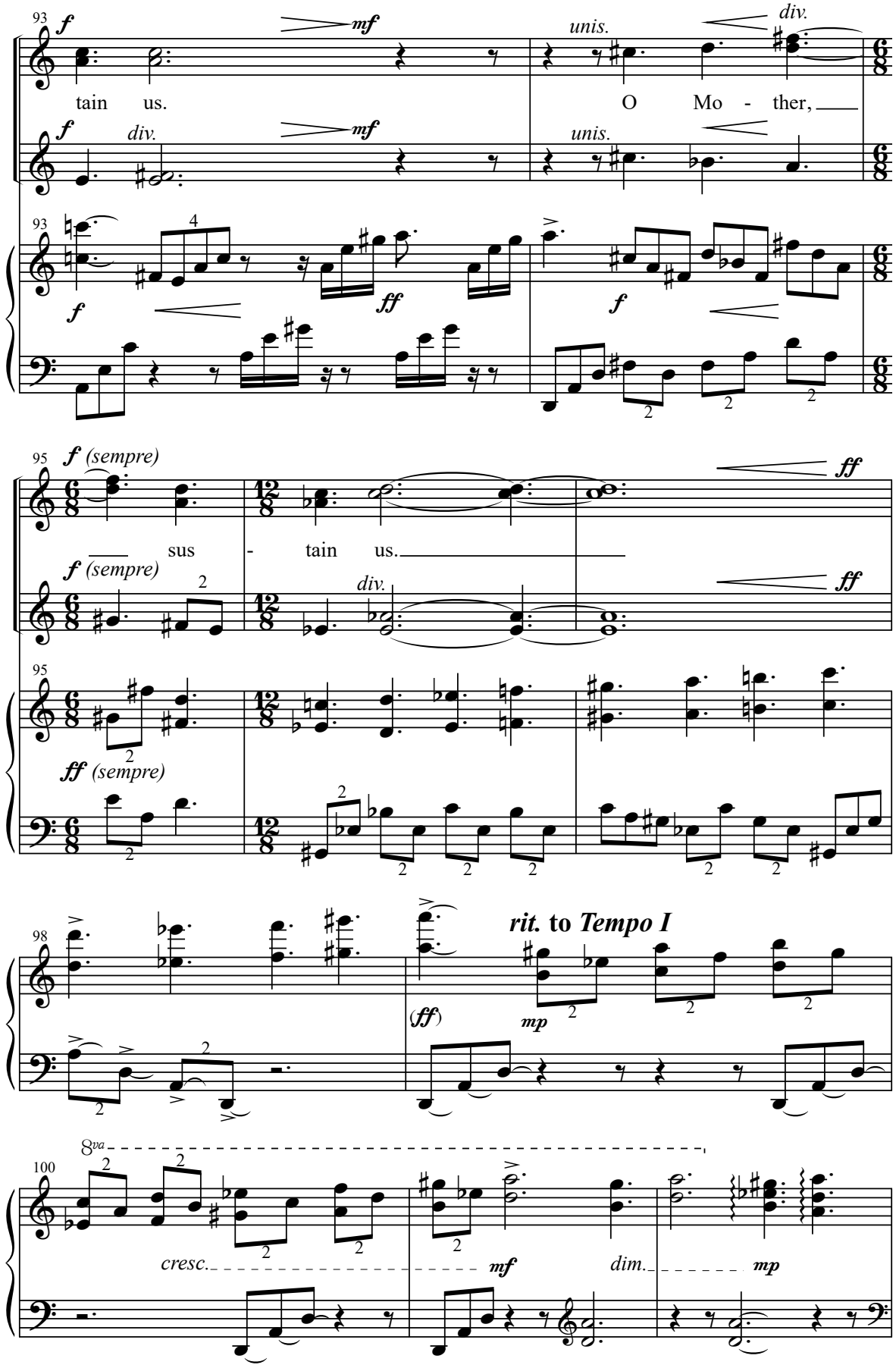

55
mf
unis.
div.
shrunk
as she's grown
mf
unis.
55
f
ff
f
57
f
mf
full in -
side.
f
mf
57
ff
f
cresc.
59
(mf)
f
mf
O
Mo - ther,
sus -
(mf)
f
unis.
mf
59
ff
(ff)

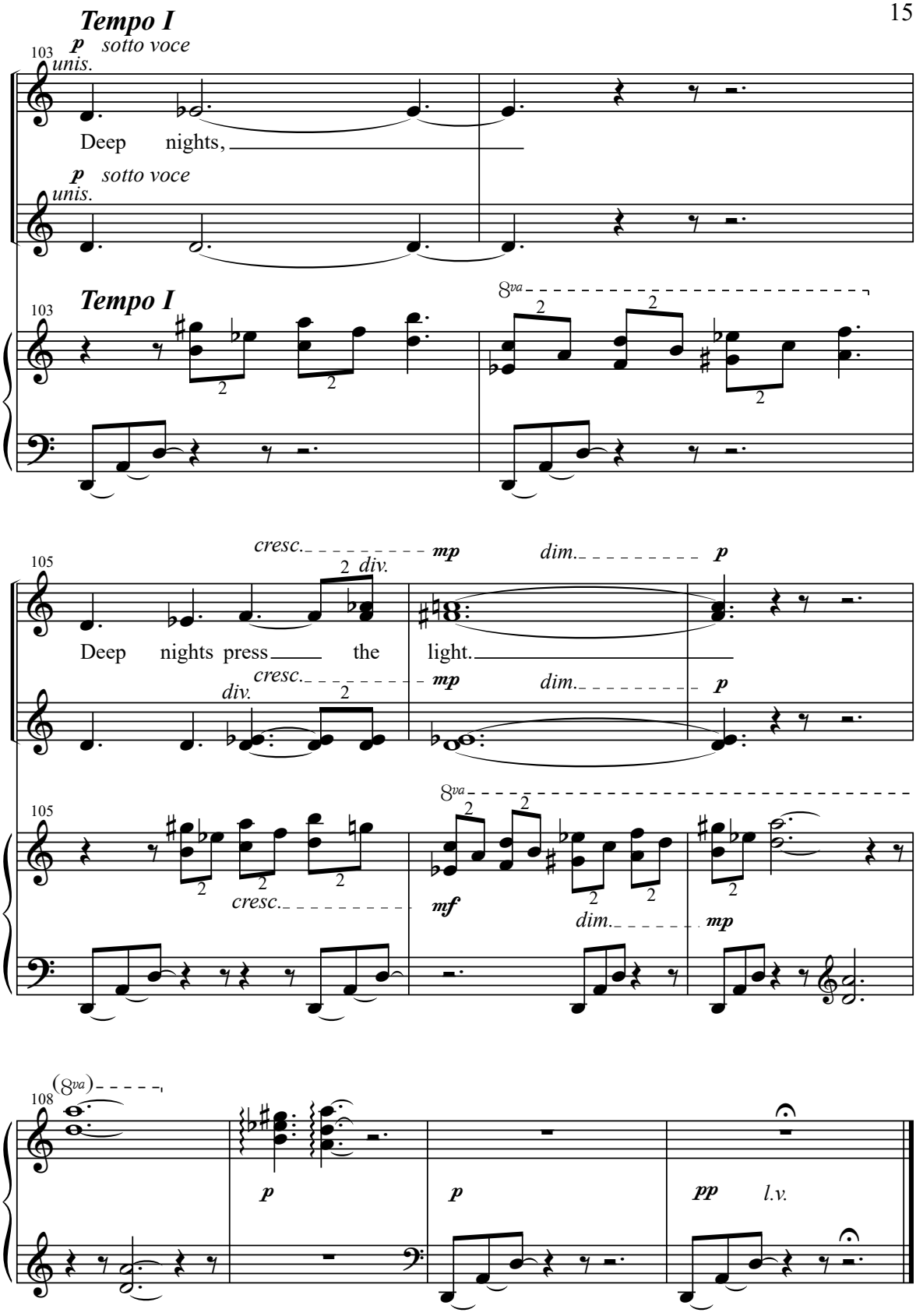

61
f
mf
unis.
div.
f (sempre)
tain us.
O Mo - ther,
sus
ff
ff (sempre)
64
tain us.
rit. to Tempo I
(ff)
mp
8va
cresc.
(8va)
Tempo I
Tempo II (♩ = 112)
69
(cresc.)
mf
dim.
mp
(mp)


73
I: She sighs winds at dusk.
p mp p
II: She sighs winds at
p mp
73
(mp) mf mp mf
75 unis.
mf
She sighs winds at dusk.
I: She sighs winds at dusk.
p mp p
p
dusk.
II: She sighs winds at
p mp
75
mp cresc. mf dim.
I: cries gales in the night
77
I:
mf mf
II: cries gales in the night
I: She cries gales in the night
p mp p unis.
p
dusk.
II: She cries gales in the
p
77
mp cresc.

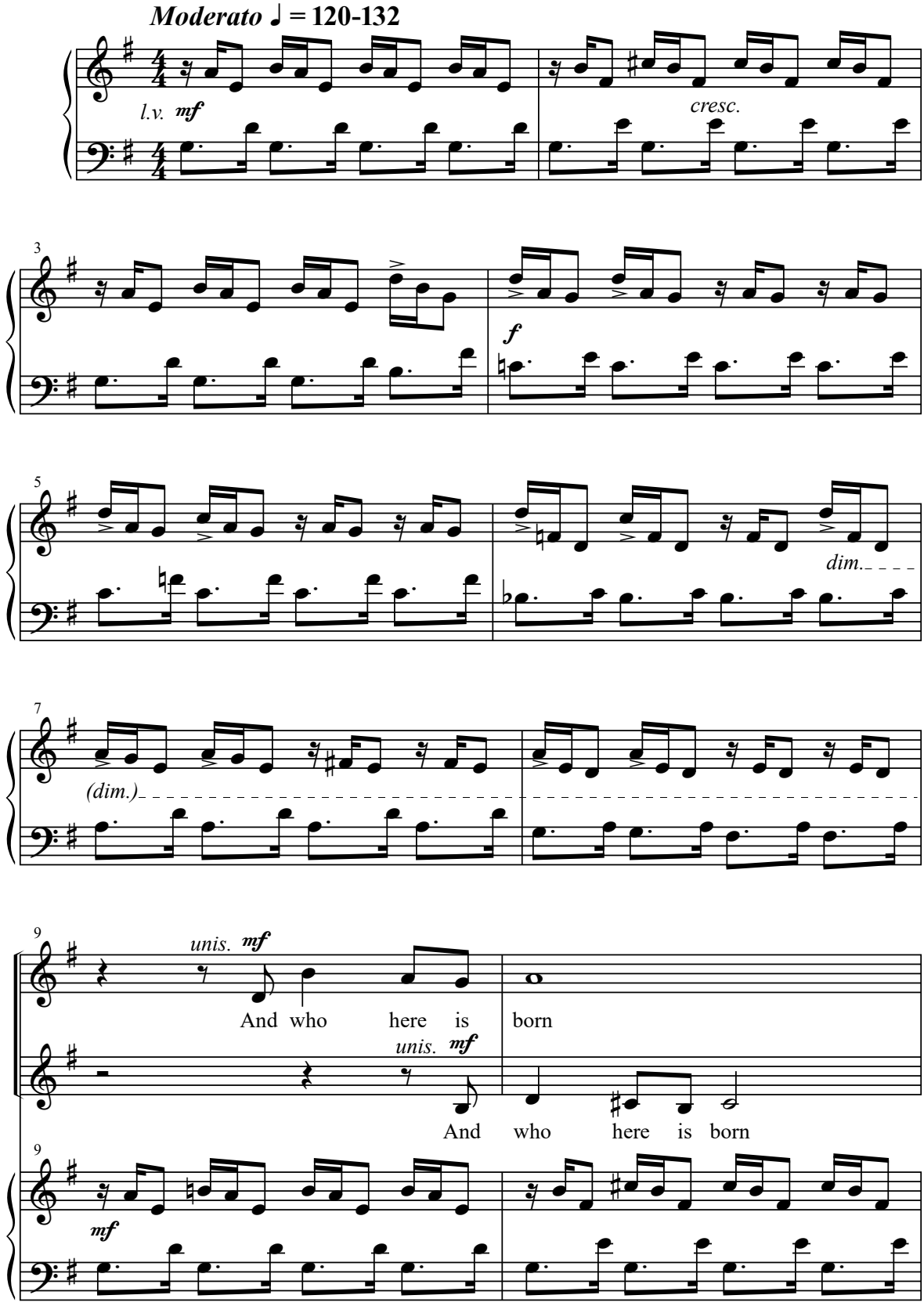

79
f
unis.
waves
white
with
pain
f
night
79
f
mf
poco a poco cresc.
81
cresc.
ff
heave
to bring in,
(poco a poco cresc.)
ff
84
bring in the
life.
(ff)

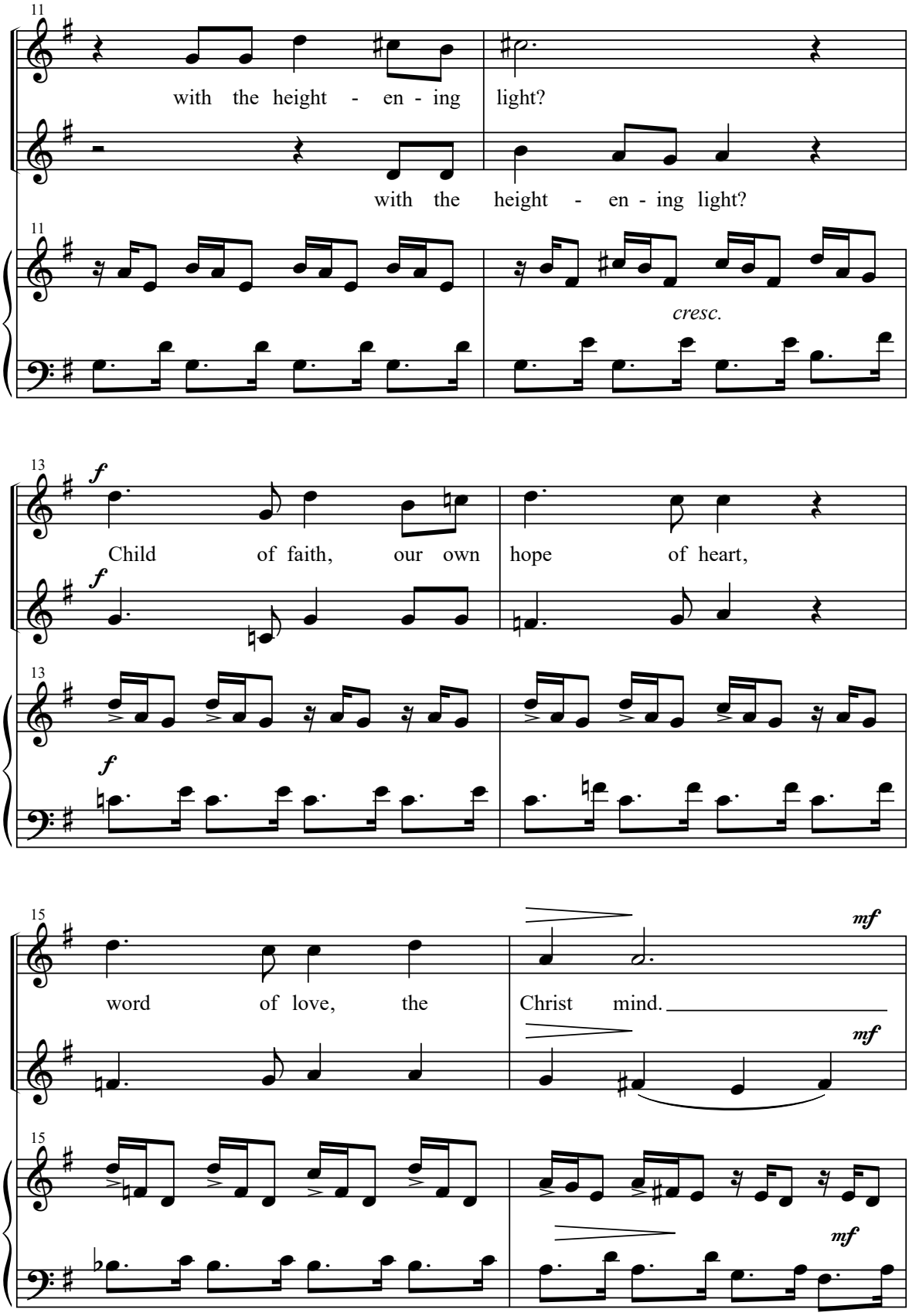

87
unis. f
div.
O Mo - ther
unis. f
div.
87
f
ff
f
89
ff
re - new your
f
peo - ple.
mf
ff
f
mf
89
ff
f
91
f
mf
O
Mo - ther, sus -
f
unis.
mf
91
ff
(ff)

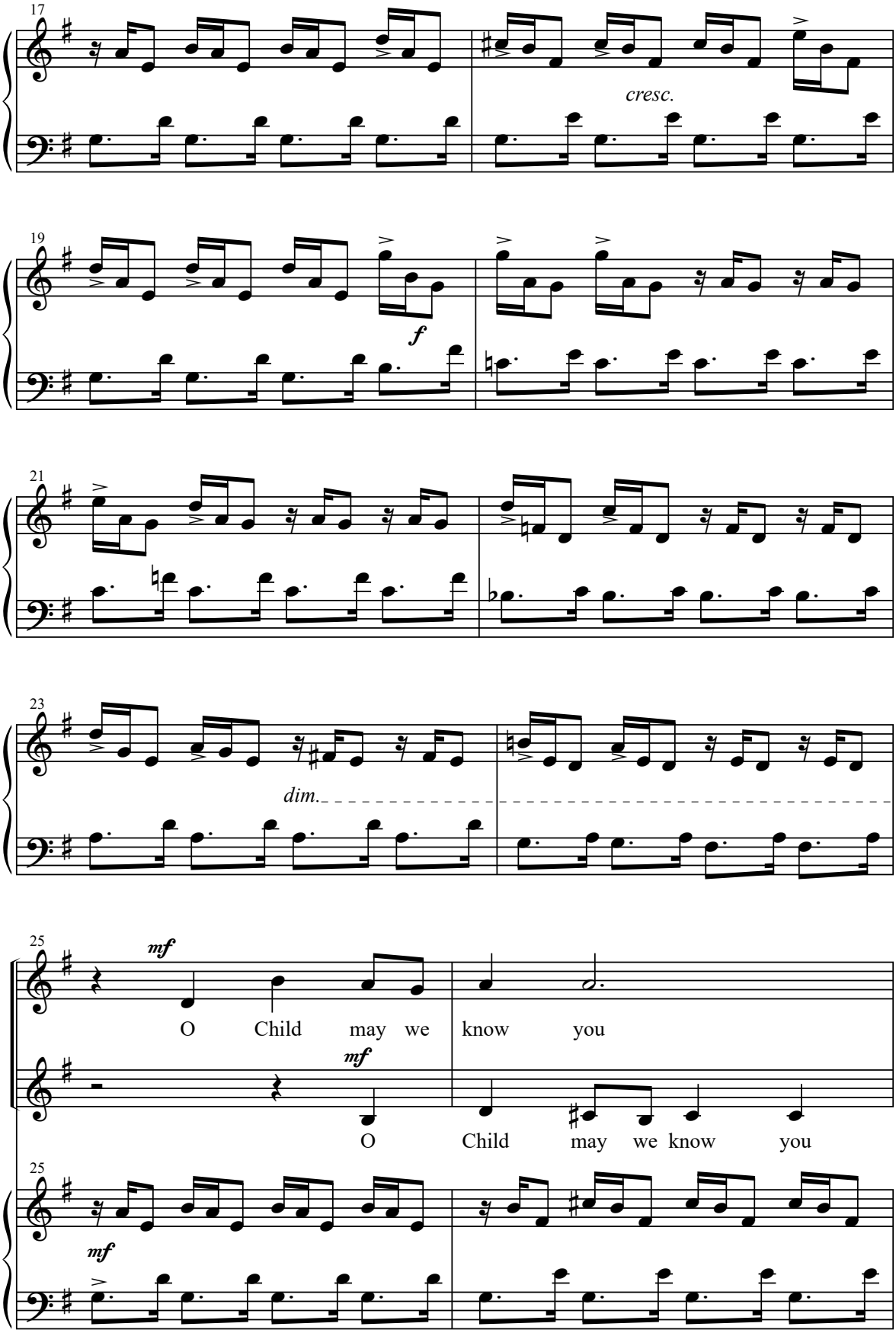

93
f
mf
unis.
div.
tain us.
O Mo - ther,
ff
95
f (sempre)
sus - tain us.
ff (sempre)
98
rit. to Tempo I
(ff)
mp
100
8va
cresc.
mf
dim.
mp

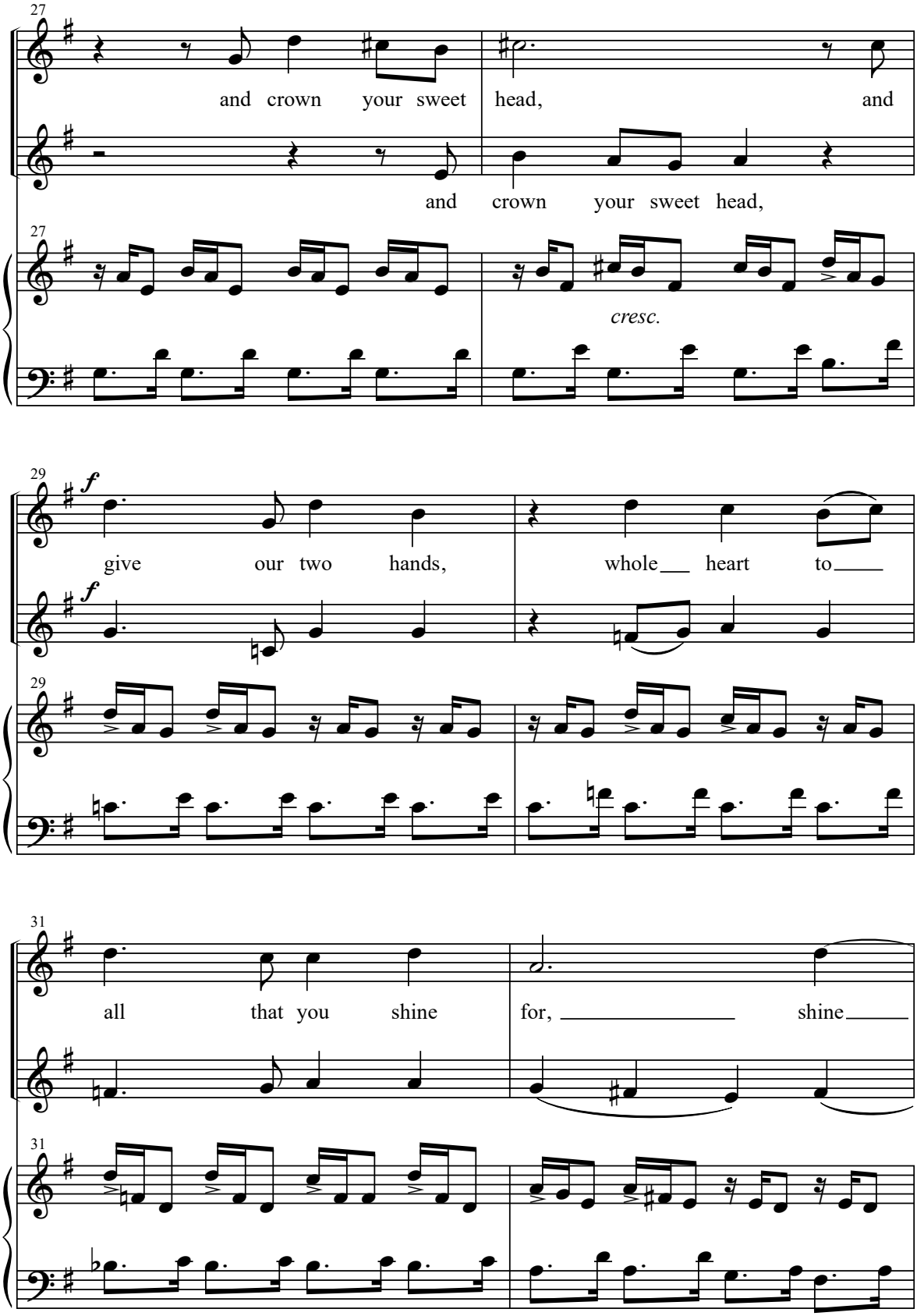

Tempo I
p sotto voce
unis.
103
Deep nights,
p sotto voce
unis.
Tempo I
103
8va
cresc.
mp
dim.
p
105
Deep nights press the light.
div.
cresc.
mp
dim.
p
105
8va
cresc.
mf
dim.
mp
(8va)
108
p
p
pp
l.v.

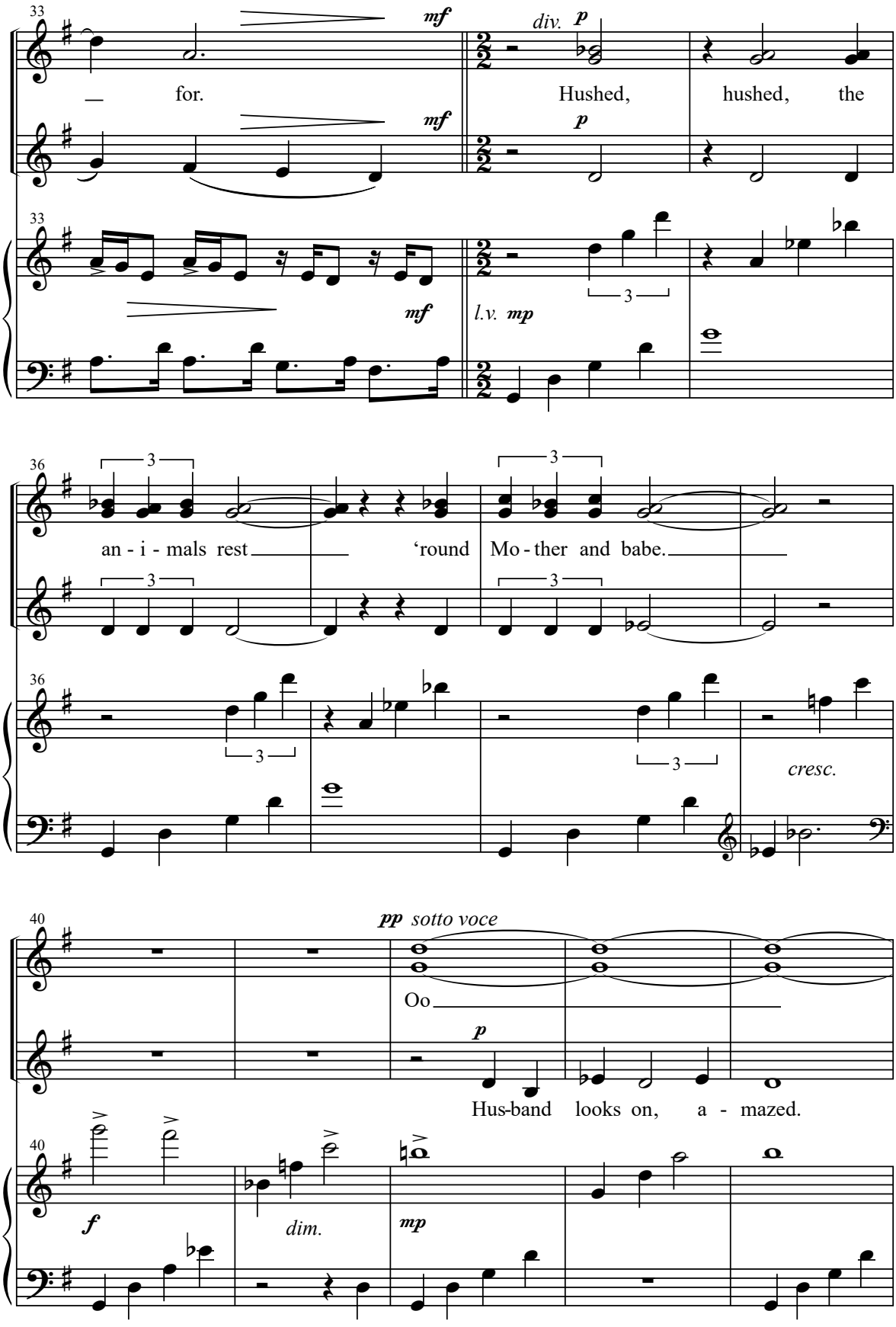
II. O Child, May We Know You

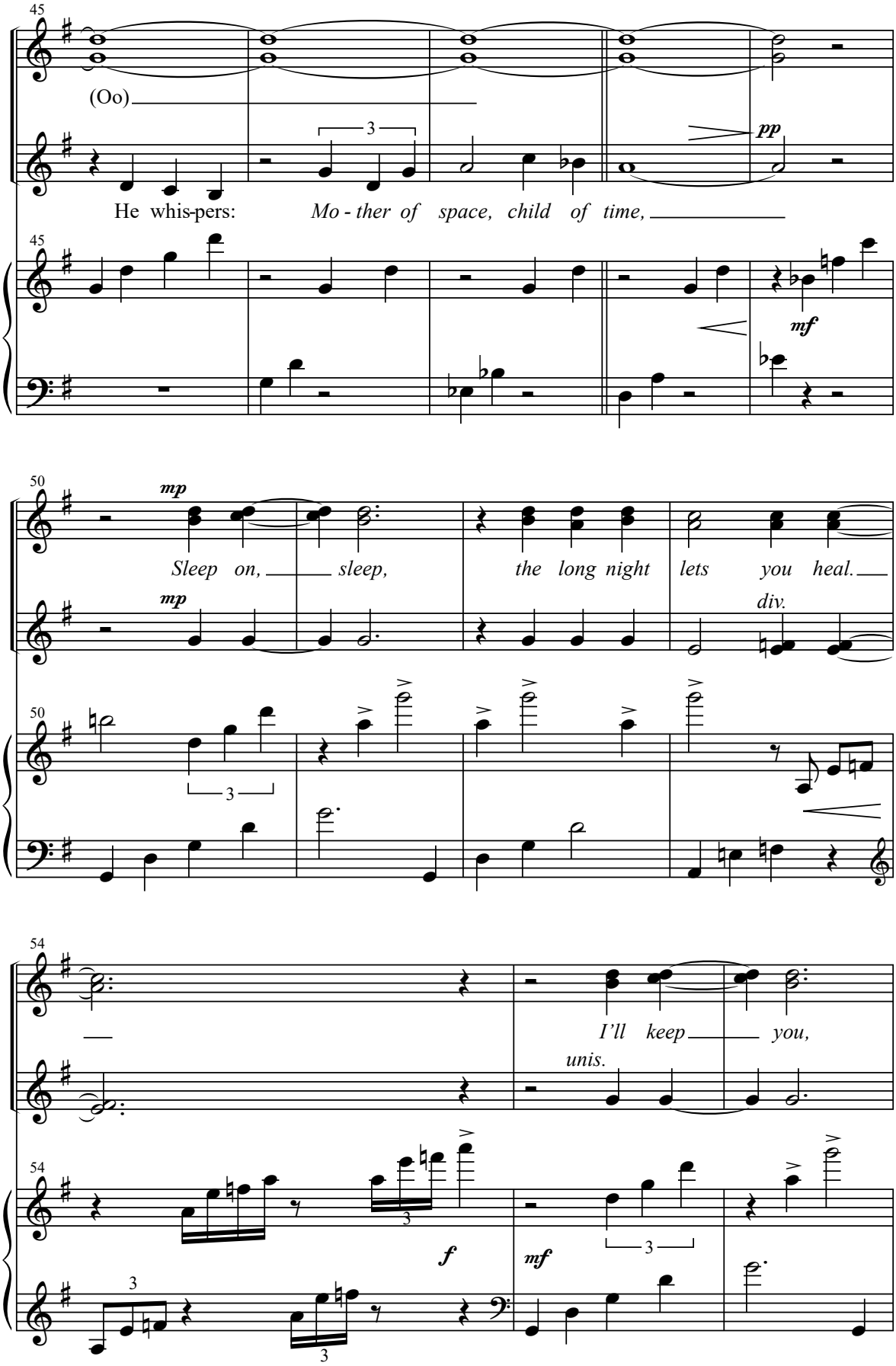


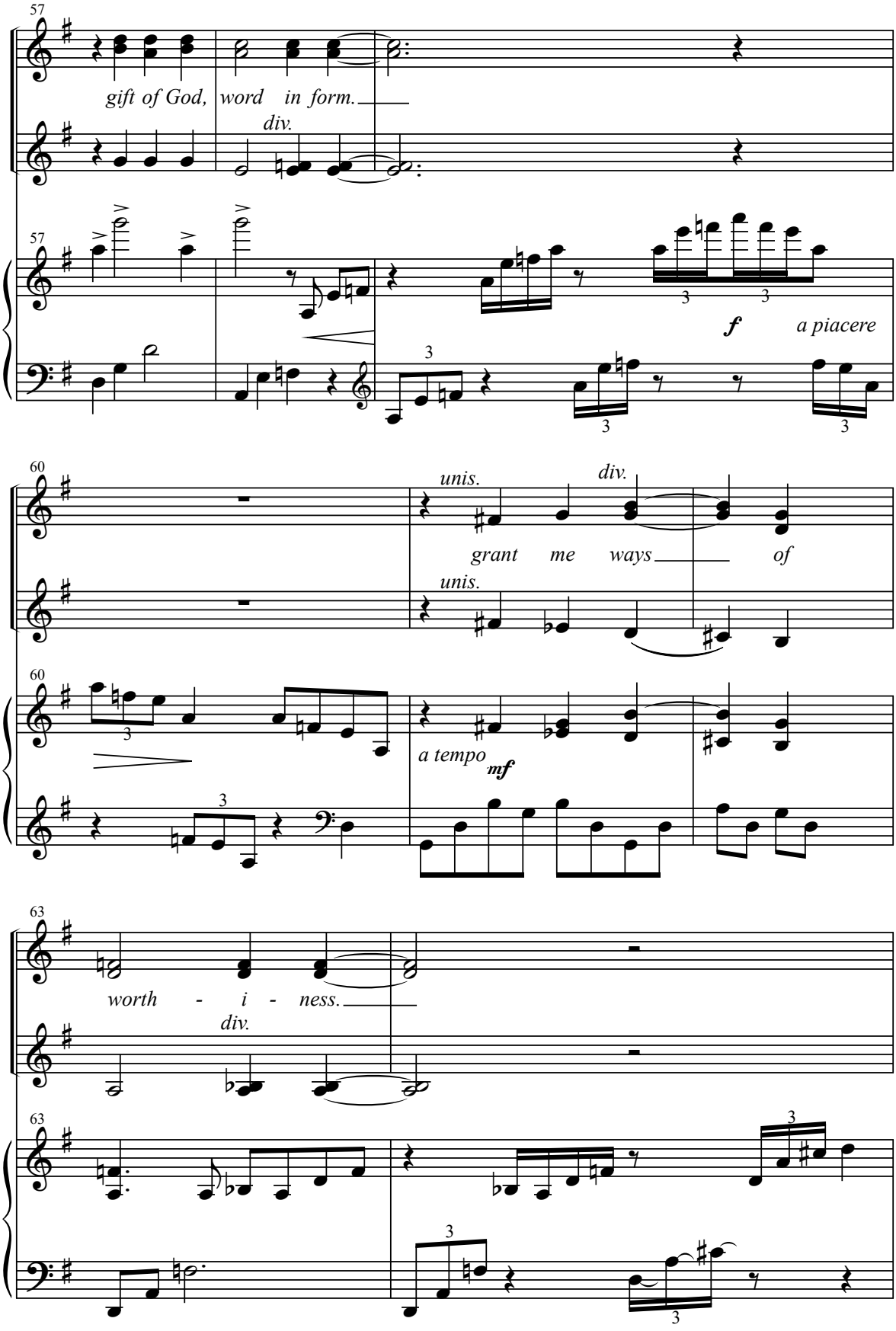

11
with the height - en - ing light?
with the height - en - ing light?
cresc.
13
f
Child of faith, our own hope of heart,
15
word of love, the
Christ mind.
mf

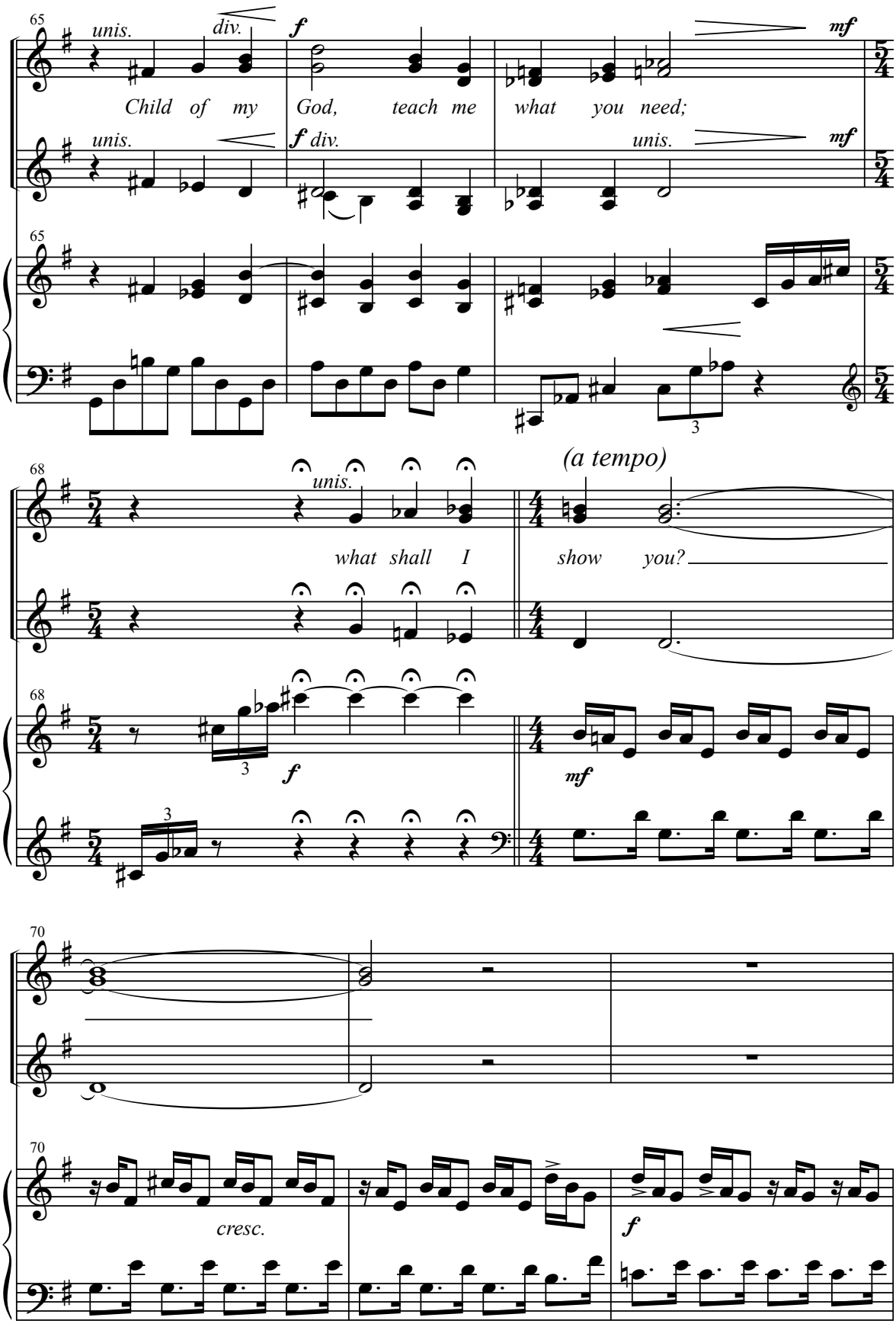

17
cresc.
19
f
21
23
dim.
25
mf
O Child may we know you
mf
O Child may we know you
25
mf

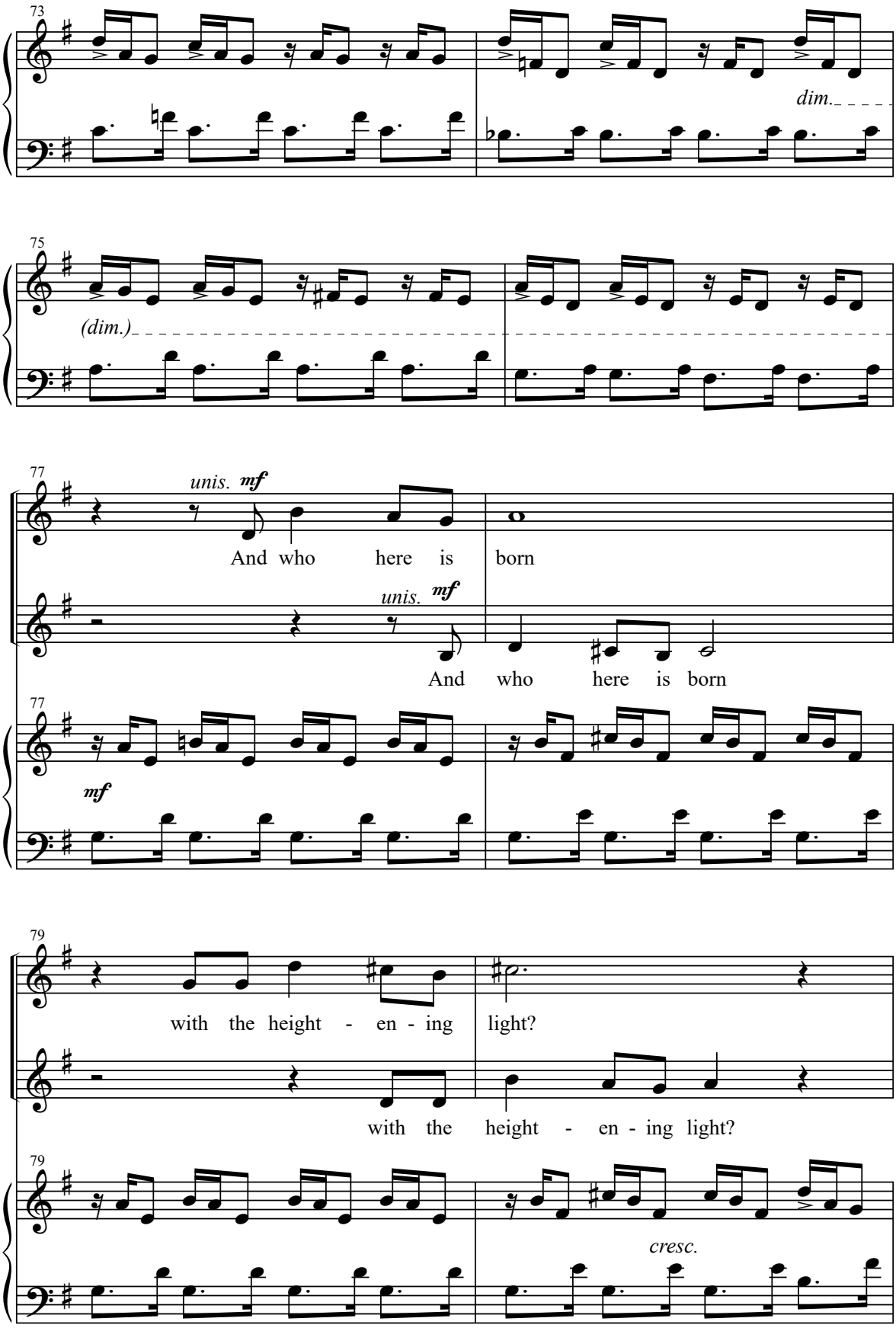

27
and crown your sweet head, and
and crown your sweet head,
cresc.
29
f
give our two hands, whole heart to
31
all that you shine for, shine

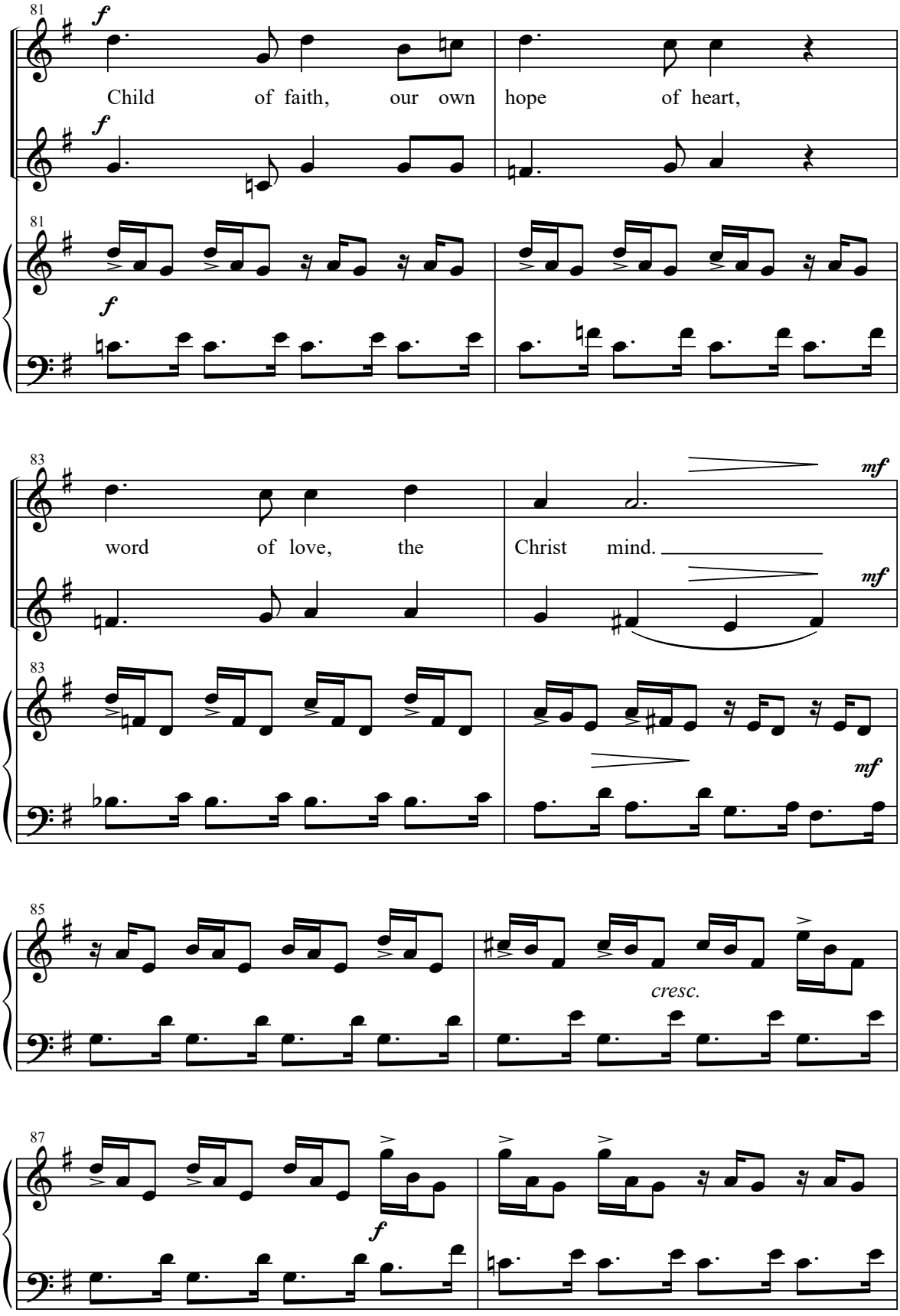

33
mf
div.
p
— for.
Hushed, hushed, the
mf
p
33
mf
l.v. mp
3
36
3
3
an - i - mals rest
'round
Mo - ther and babe.
3
3
36
3
3
cresc.
40
pp sotto voce
Oo
p
Hus-band looks on, a - mazed.
40
f
dim.
mp

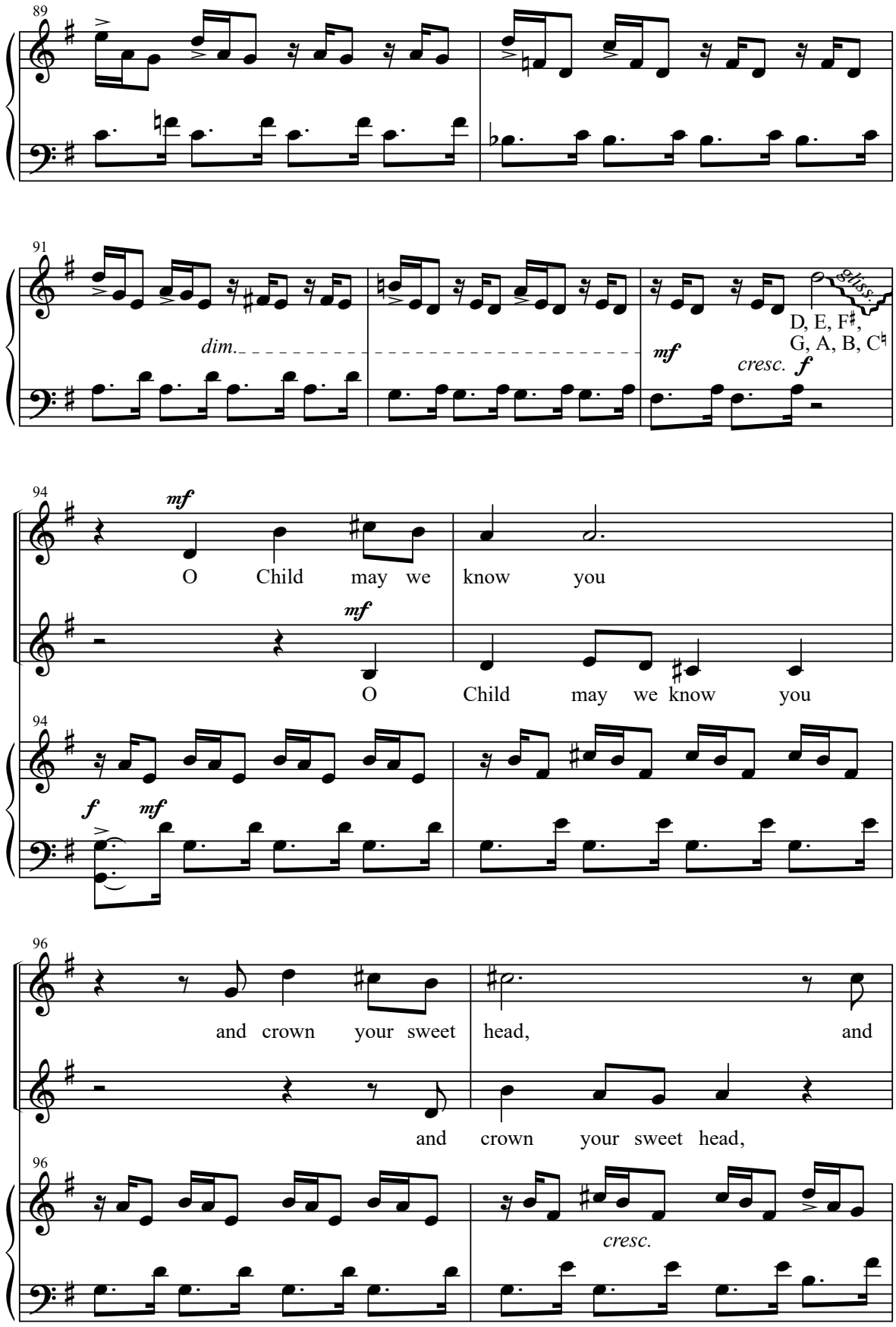

45
(Oo)
3
pp
He whis-pers: Mo - ther of space, child of time,
45
mf
50
mp
Sleep on, sleep, the long night lets you heal.
mp
div.
50
3
54
I'll keep you,
unis.
54
f
mf
3
3
3
3

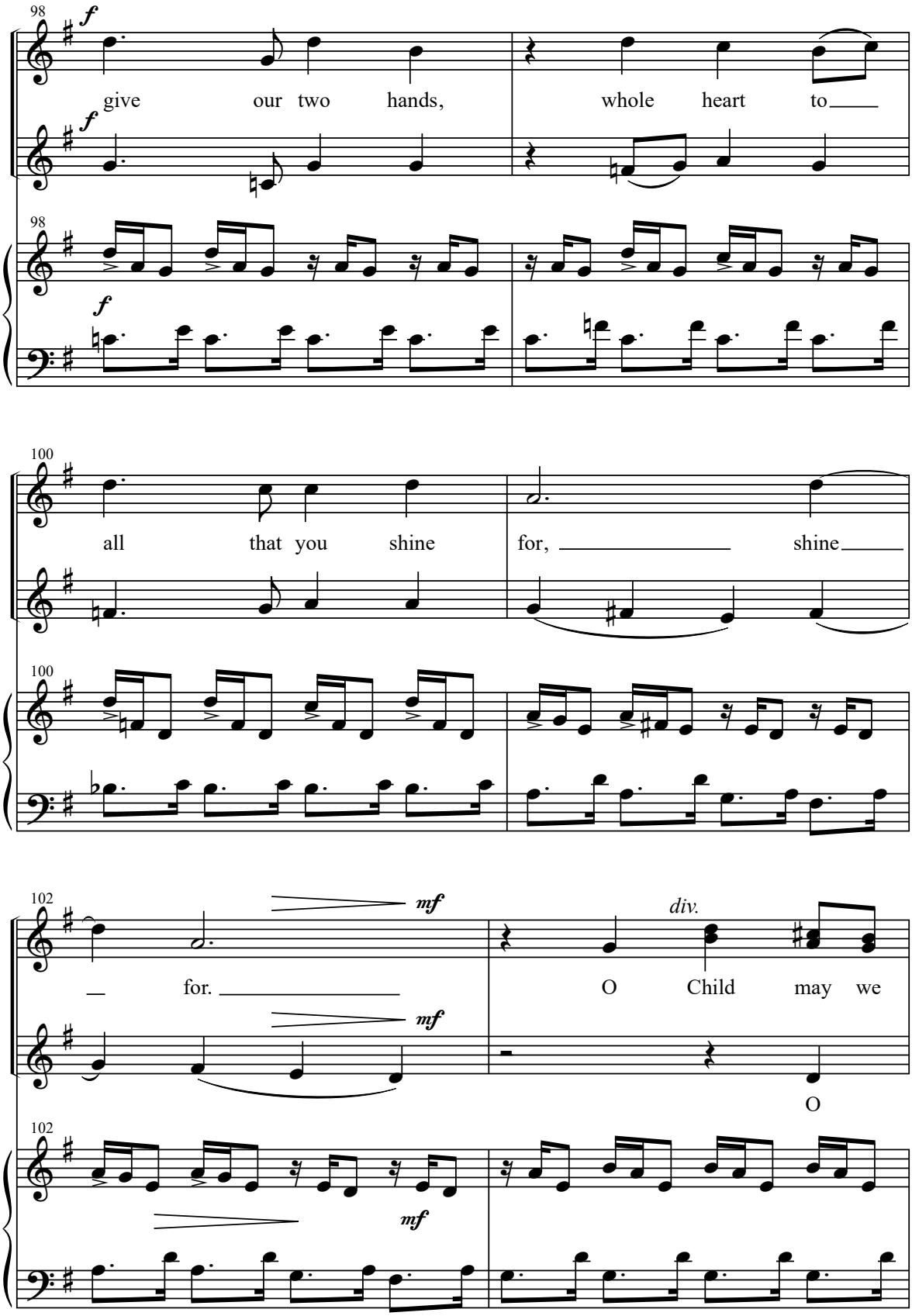

57
gift of God, word in form.
div.
57
f
a piacere
60
unis.
div.
grant me ways of
unis.
60
a tempo
mf
63
worth - i - ness.
div.
63

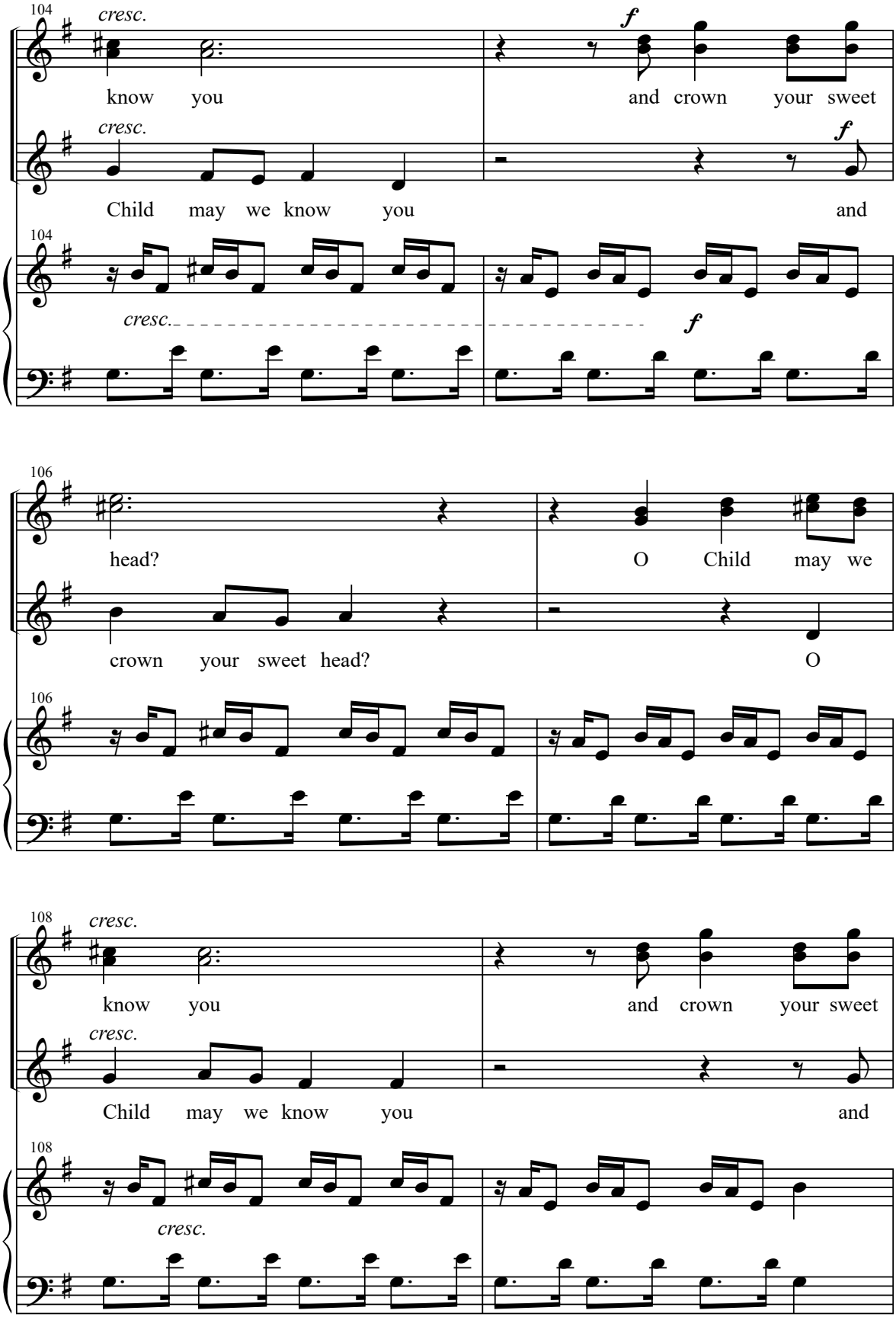

65
unis.
div.
f
mf
Child of my God, teach me what you need;
unis.
f div.
unis.
mf
65
68
unis.
(a tempo)
what shall I show you?
68
f
mf
70
70
cresc.
f

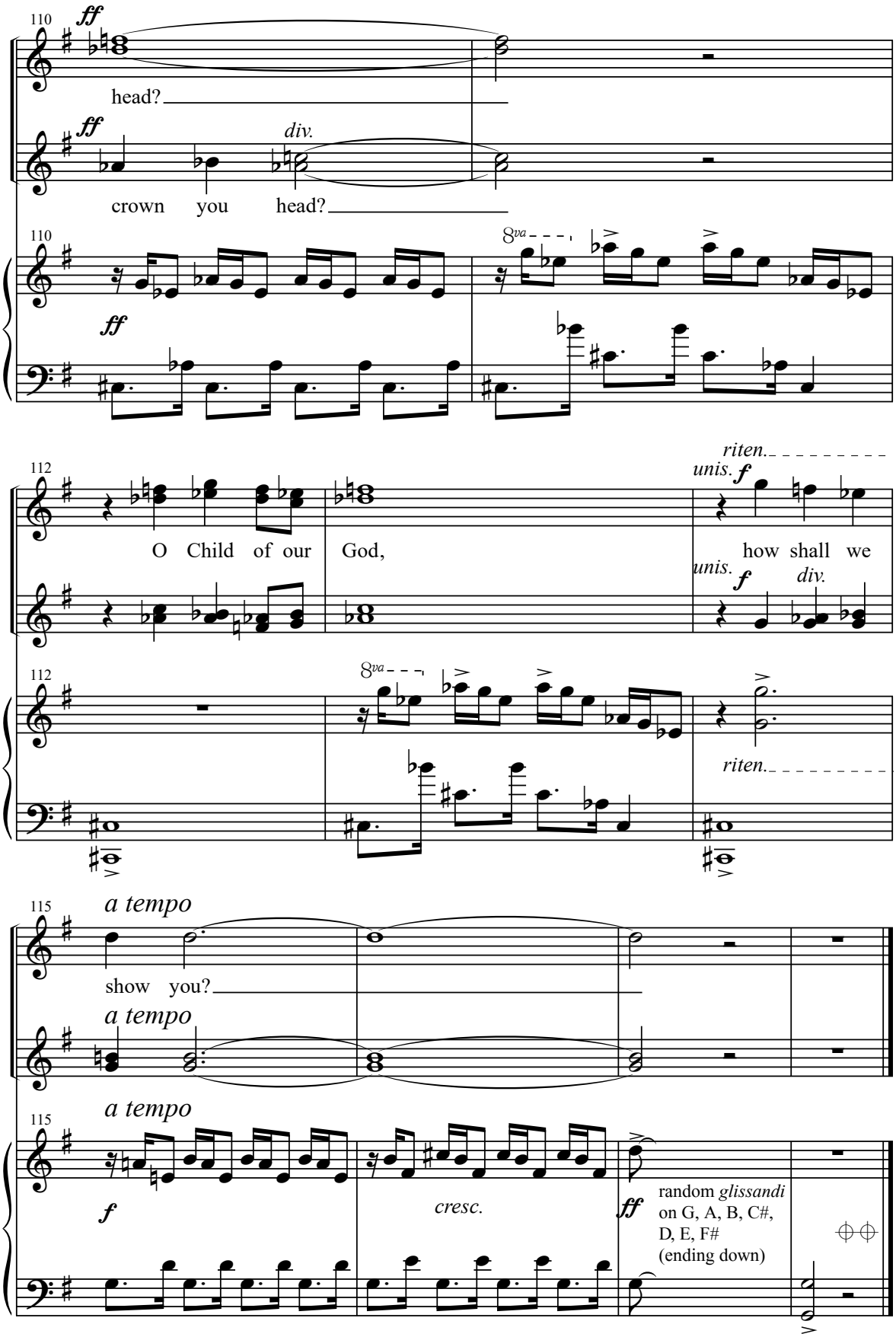

73
dim.
75
(dim.)
77
unis.
mf
And who here is born
unis.
mf
And who here is born
77
mf
79
with the height - en - ing light?
with the height - en - ing light?
79
cresc.


81
f
Child of faith, our own hope of heart,
f
81
f
83
word of love, the
Christ mind.
mf
mf
83
mf
85
cresc.
87
f

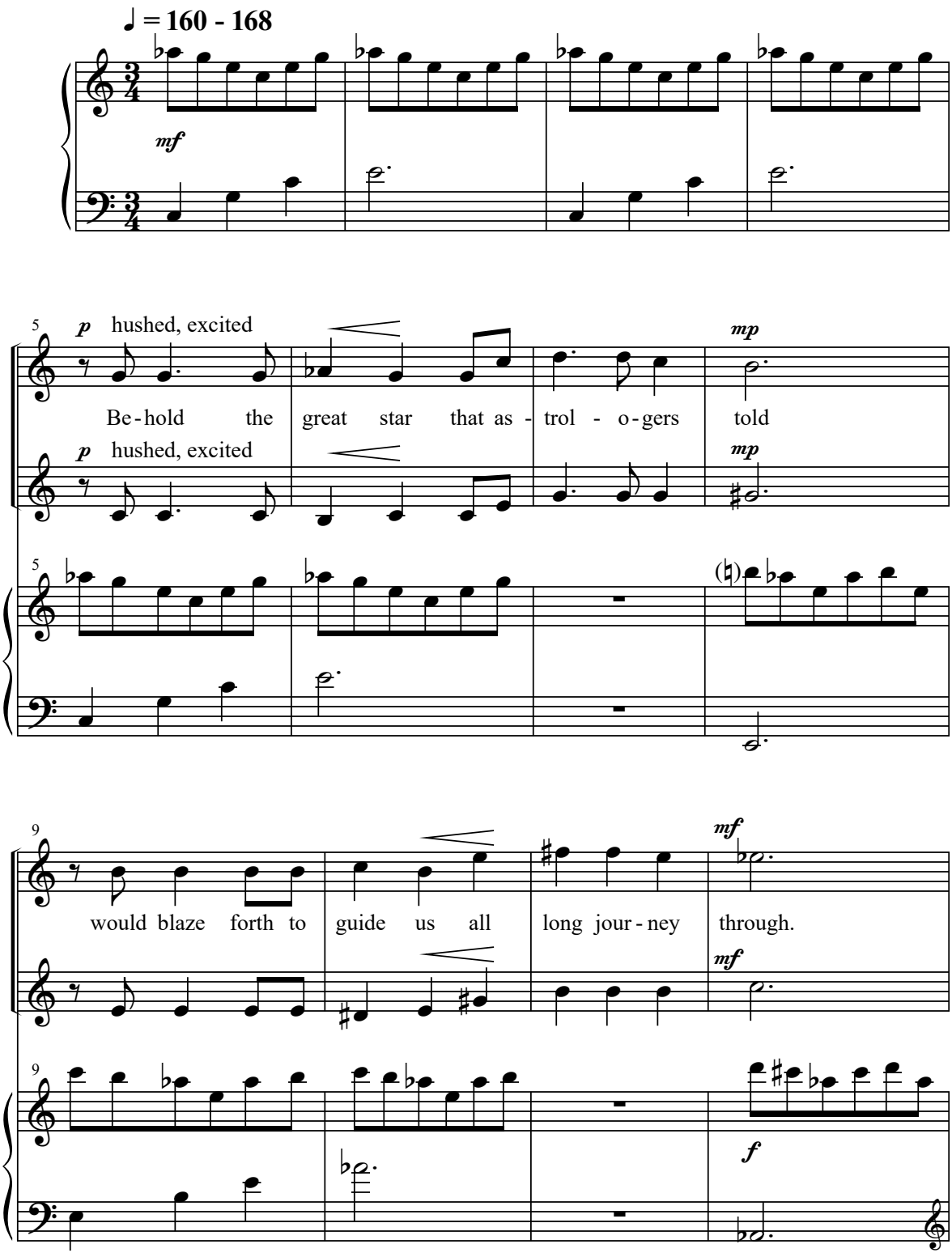

89
91
dim.
mf
cresc.
f
D, E, F♯,
G, A, B, C♮
94
mf
O Child may we know you
mf
O Child may we know you
94
f
mf
96
and crown your sweet head, and
and crown your sweet head,
96
cresc.

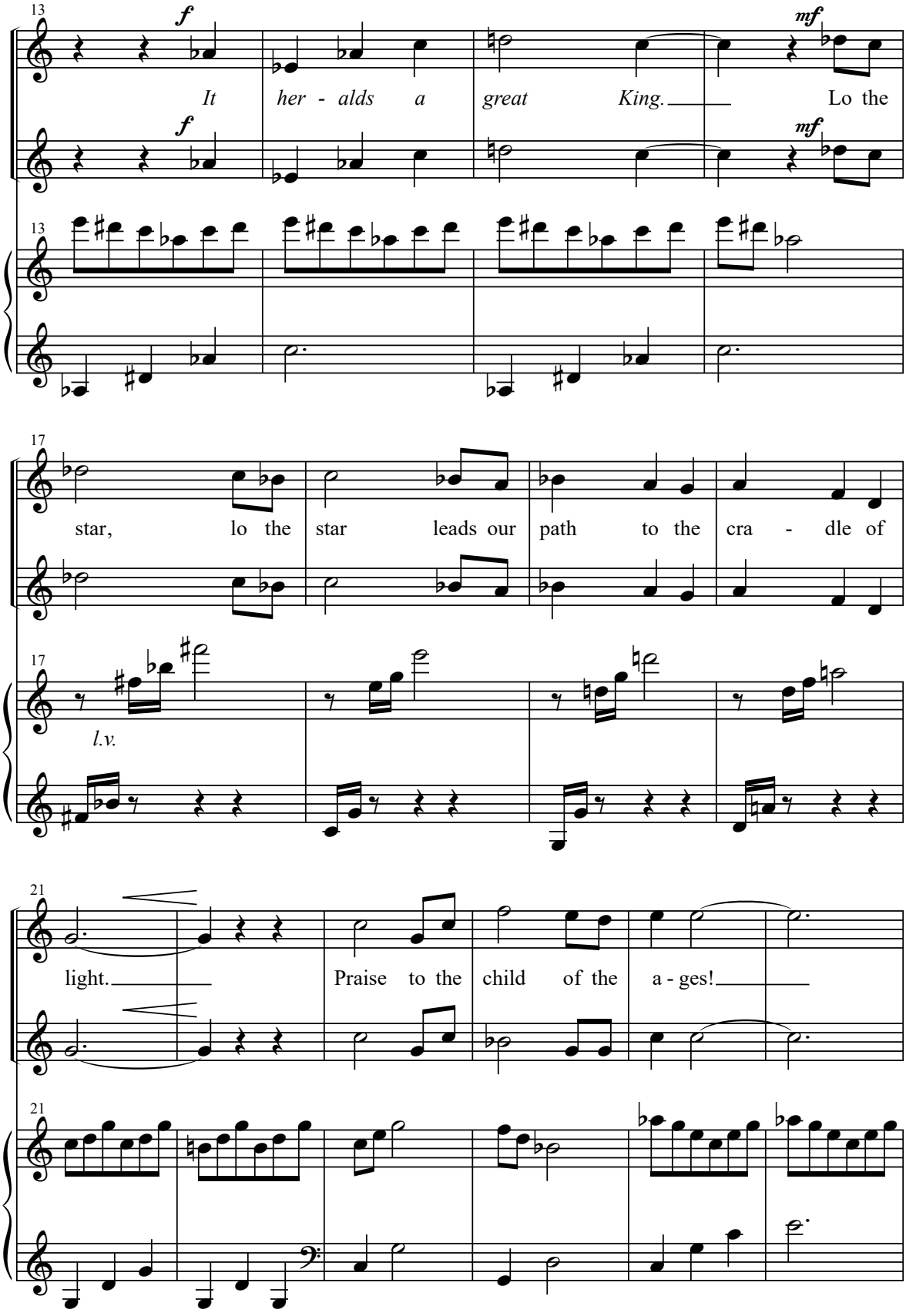

98
f
give our two hands,
whole heart to
f
98
f
100
all that you shine
for,
shine
100
102
mf
— for.
div.
O Child may we
mf
O
102
mf

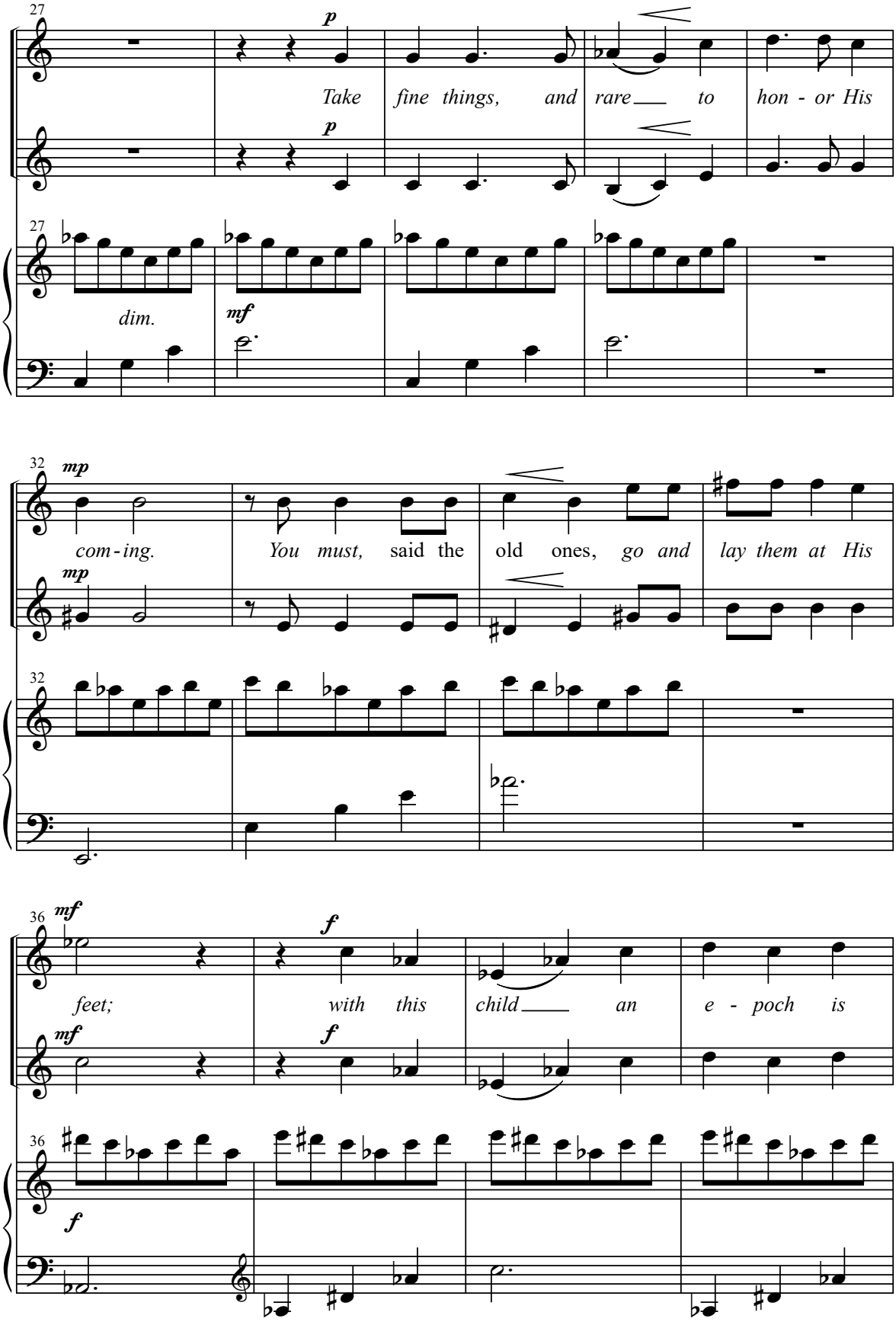

104
cresc.
know you
cresc.
Child may we know you
f
and crown your sweet
f
and
cresc.
f
106
head?
crown your sweet head?
O Child may we
O
108
cresc.
know you
cresc.
Child may we know you
and crown your sweet
and
cresc.

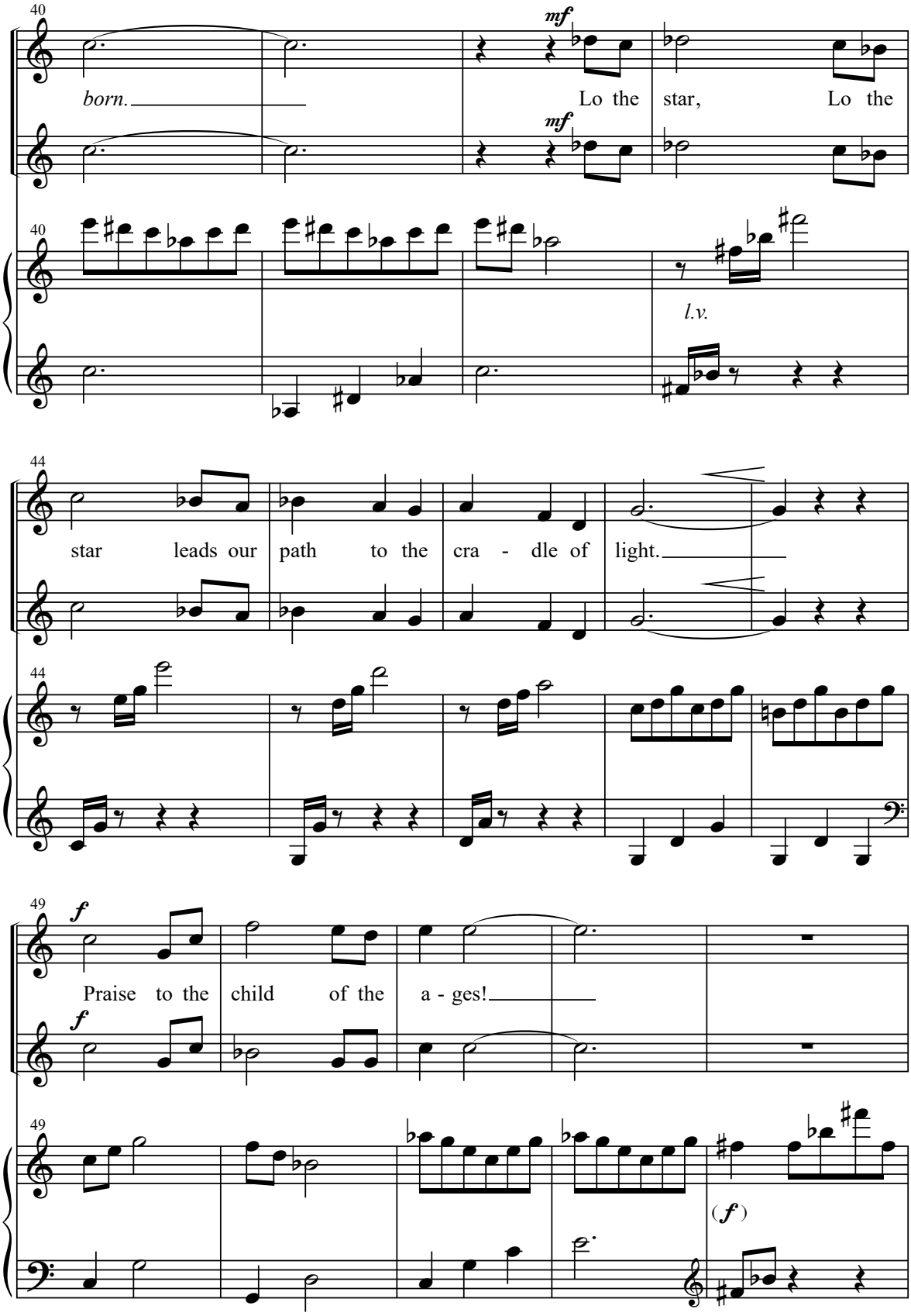

110
ff
head?
ff
div.
crown you head?
110
8va
ff
112
O Child of our God,
unis.
riten.
f
how shall we
unis.
f
div.
112
8va
riten.
115
a tempo
show you?
a tempo
115
a tempo
f
cresc.
ff
random glissandi
on G, A, B, C#,
D, E, F#
(ending down)

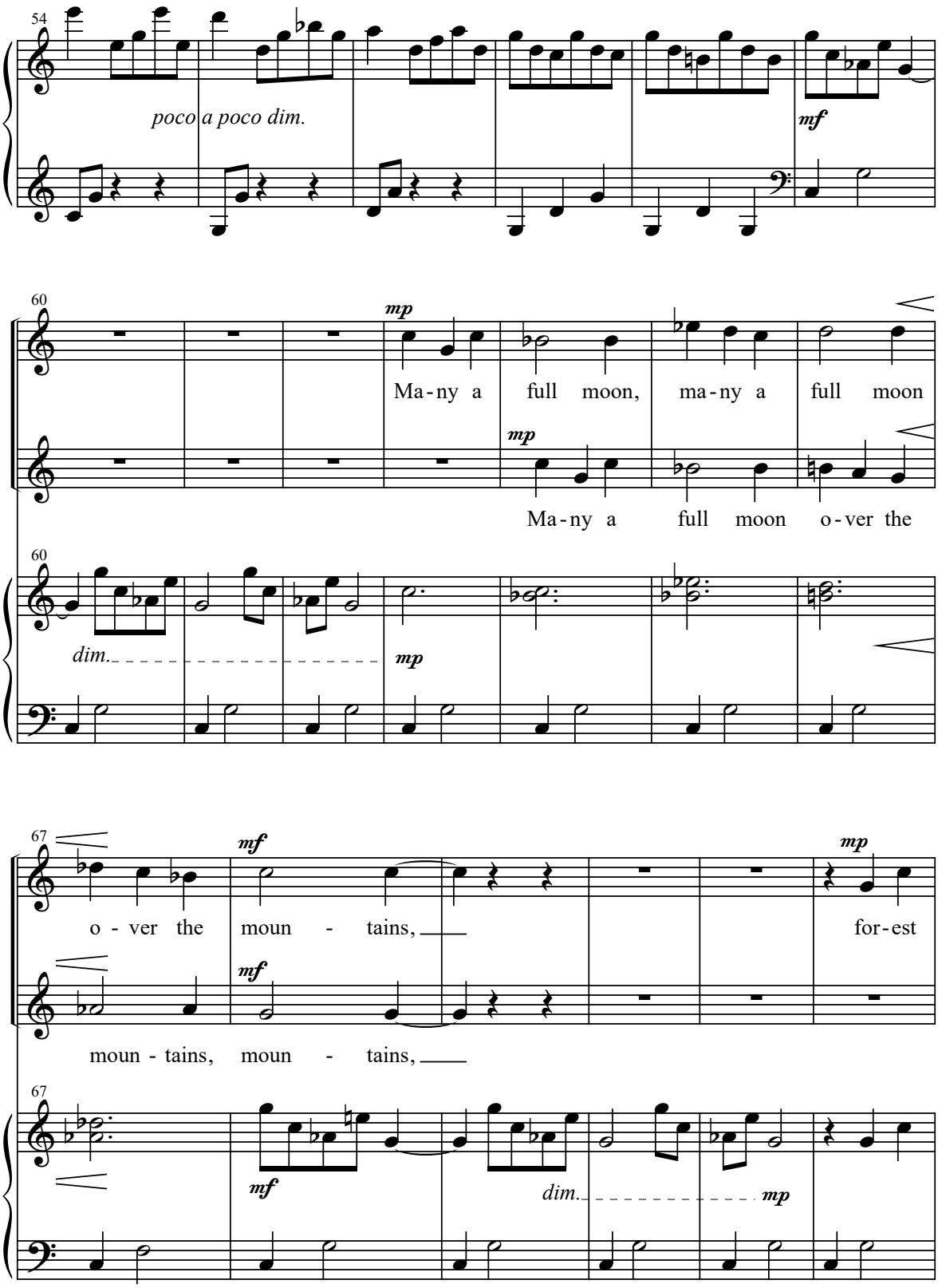
III. Now the Star

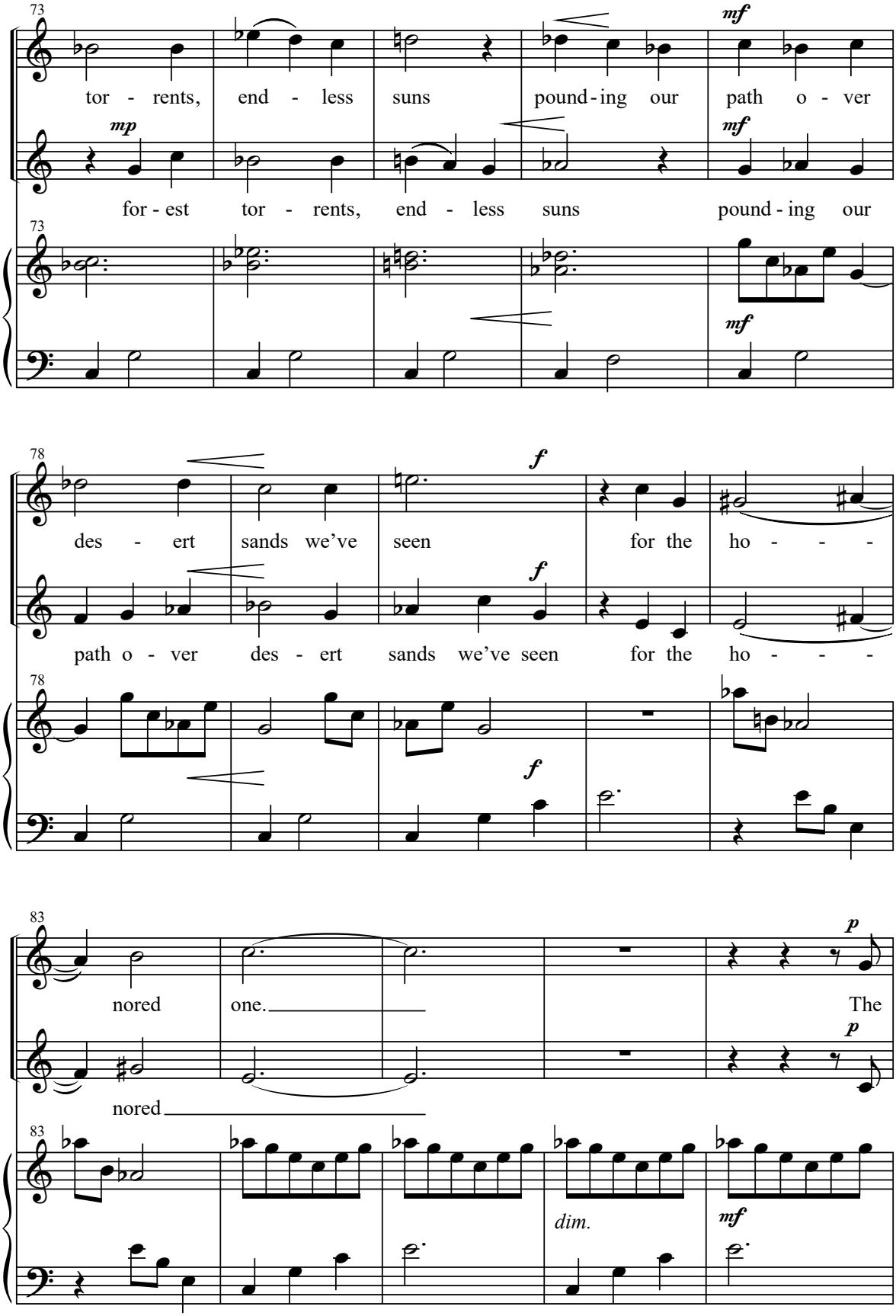


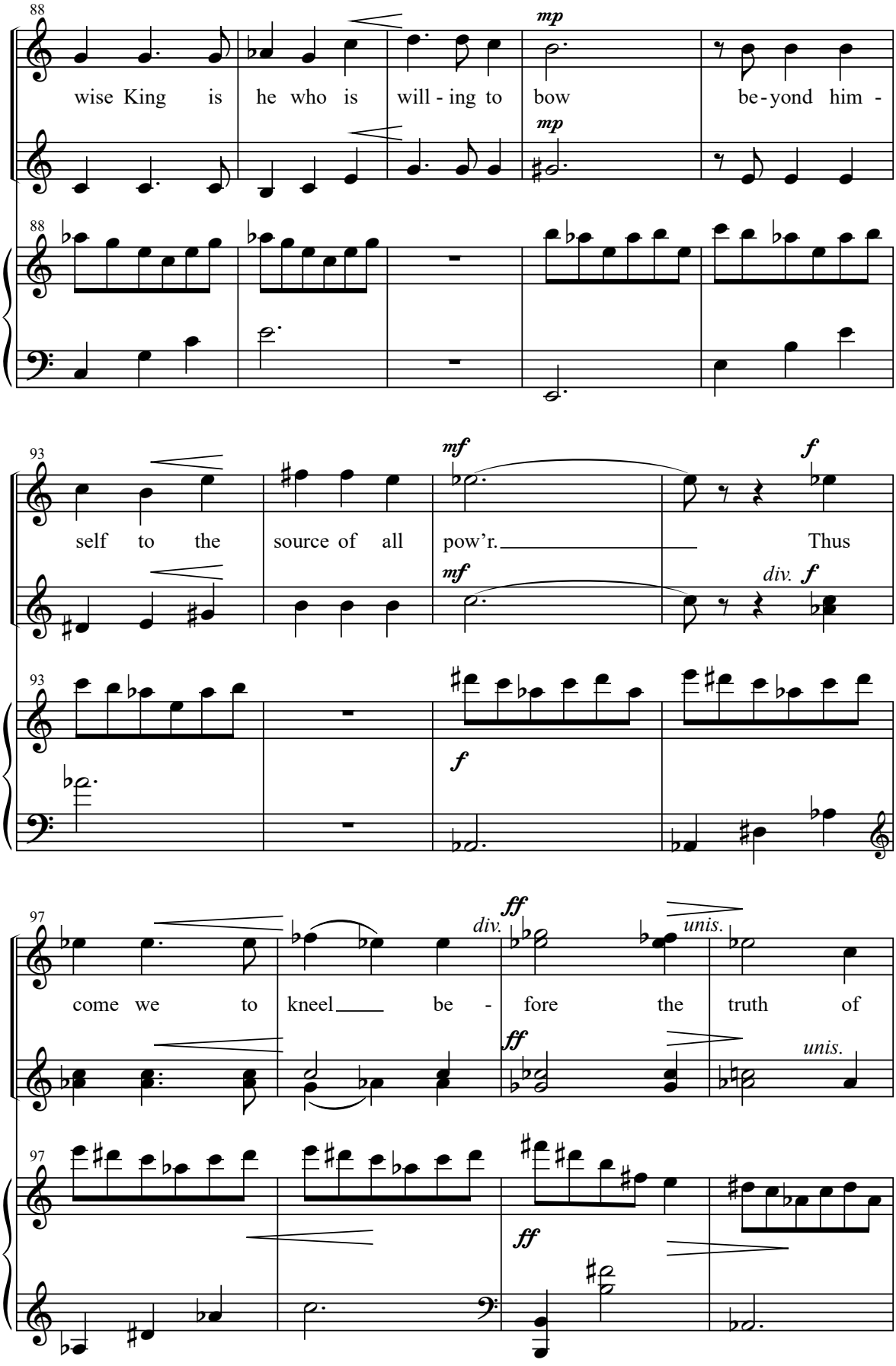

13
f
mf
It her - alds a great King. Lo the
13
17
star, lo the star leads our path to the cra - dle of
17
l.v.
21
light. Praise to the child of the a - ges!
21

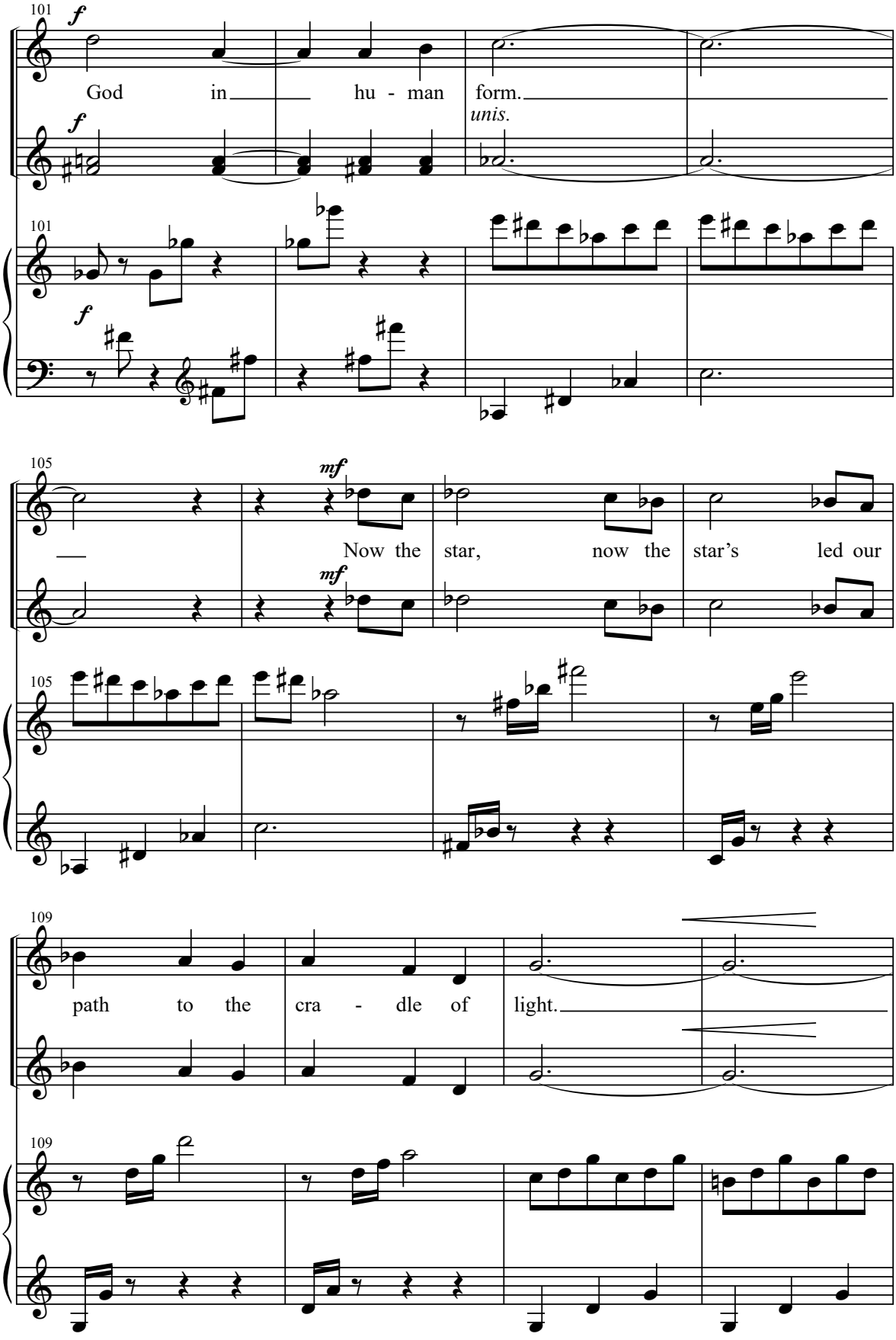

27
p
Take fine things, and rare to hon - or His
p
27
dim.
mf
32
mp
com - ing. You must, said the old ones, go and lay them at His
mp
32
36
mf
feet; with this child an e - poch is
f
mf
f
36
f

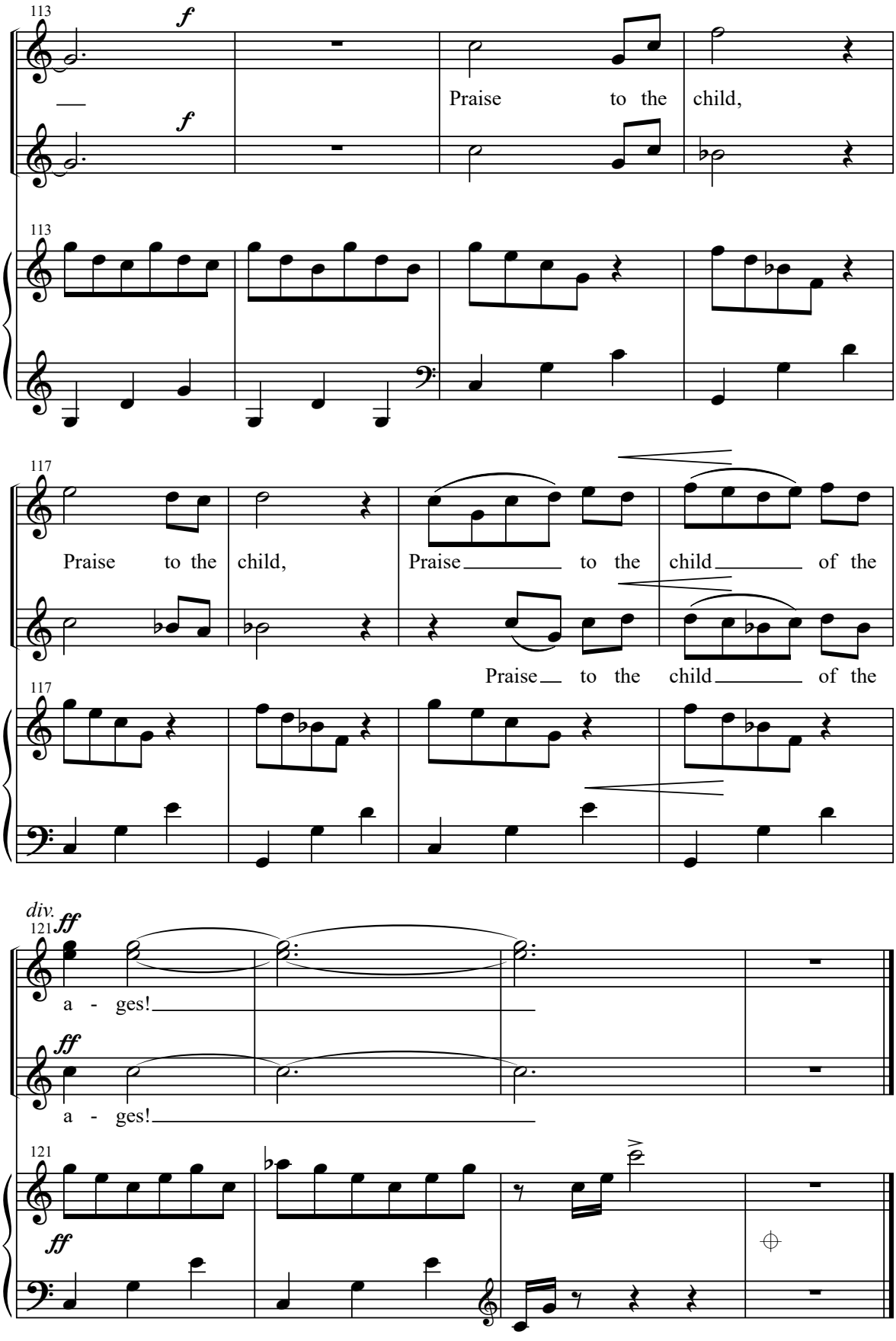

40
mf
born.
Lo the star, Lo the
mf
40
l.v.
44
star leads our path to the cra - dle of light.
44
49
f
Praise to the child of the a - ges!
f
49
(f)

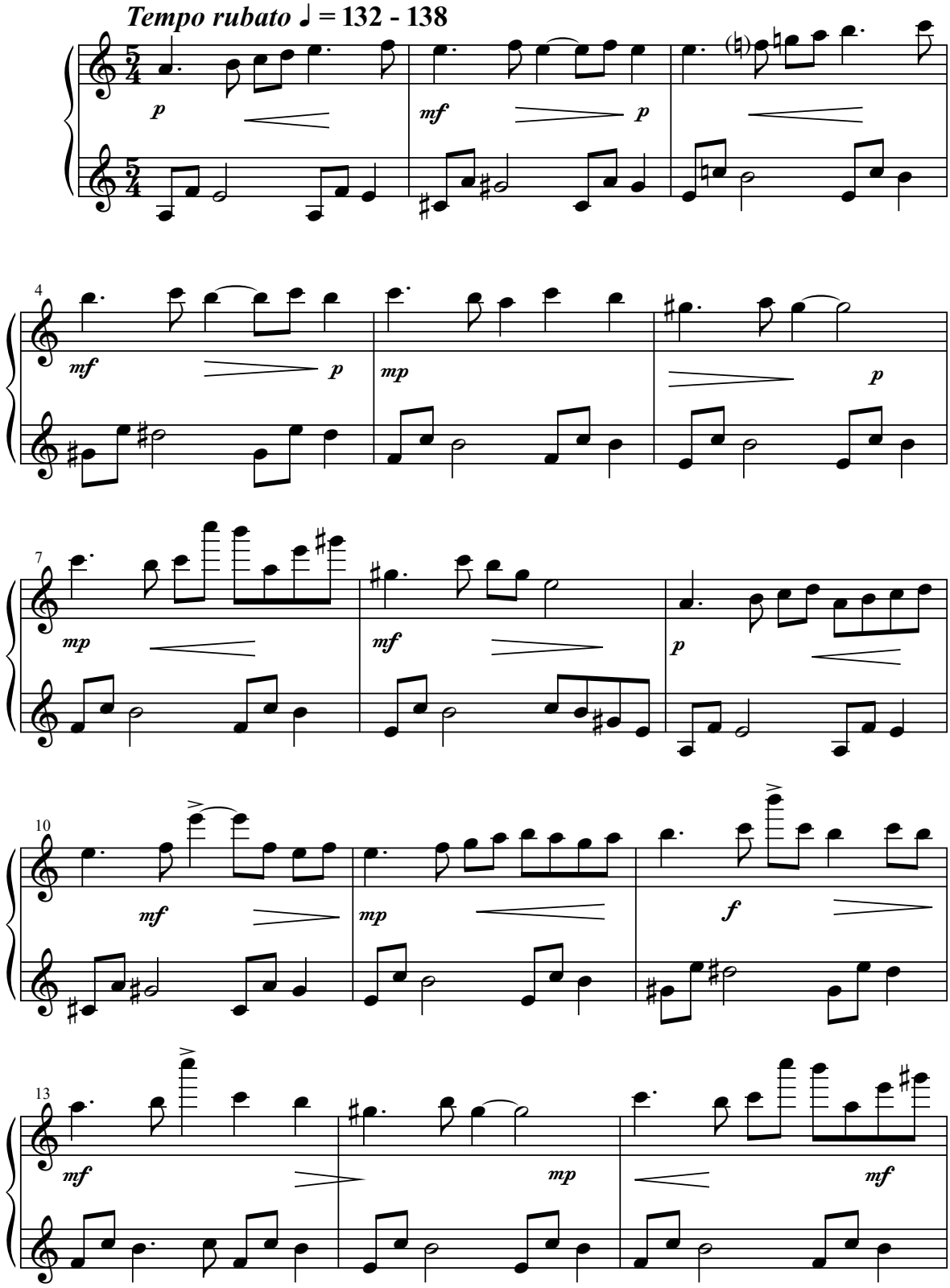

54
poco a poco dim.
mf
60
mp
Ma-ny a full moon, ma-ny a full moon
mp
Ma-ny a full moon o-ver the
60
dim.
mp
67
mf
o-ver the moun-tains,
mp
for-est
mf
moun-tains, moun-tains,
67
mf
dim.
mp

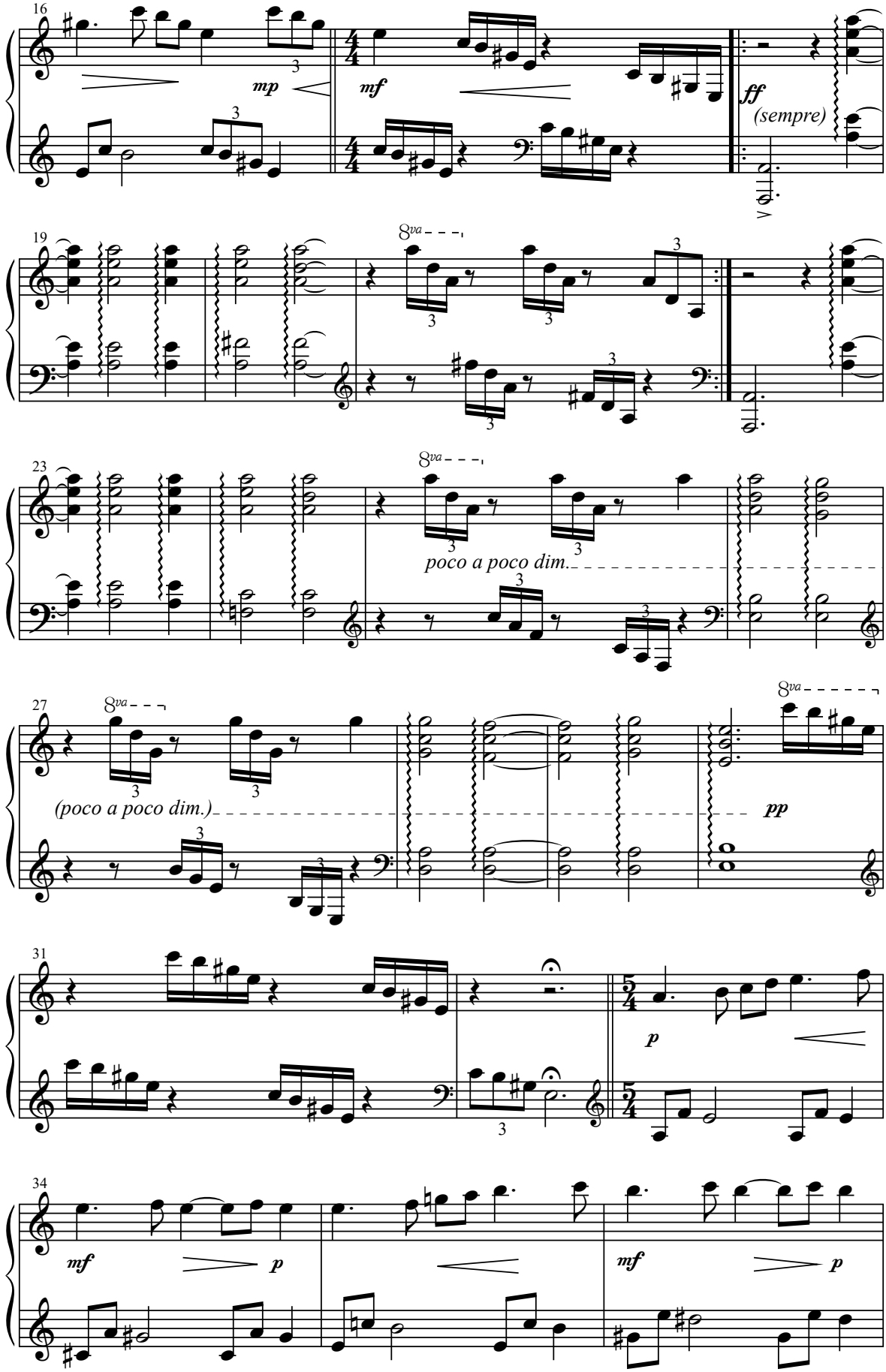

73
tor - rents, end - less suns pound - ing our path o - ver
mp
mf
for - est tor - rents, end - less suns pound - ing our
mf
78
des - ert sands we've seen for the ho - - -
f
f
path o - ver des - ert sands we've seen for the ho - - -
f
83
nored one. The
p
p
nored
dim.
mf

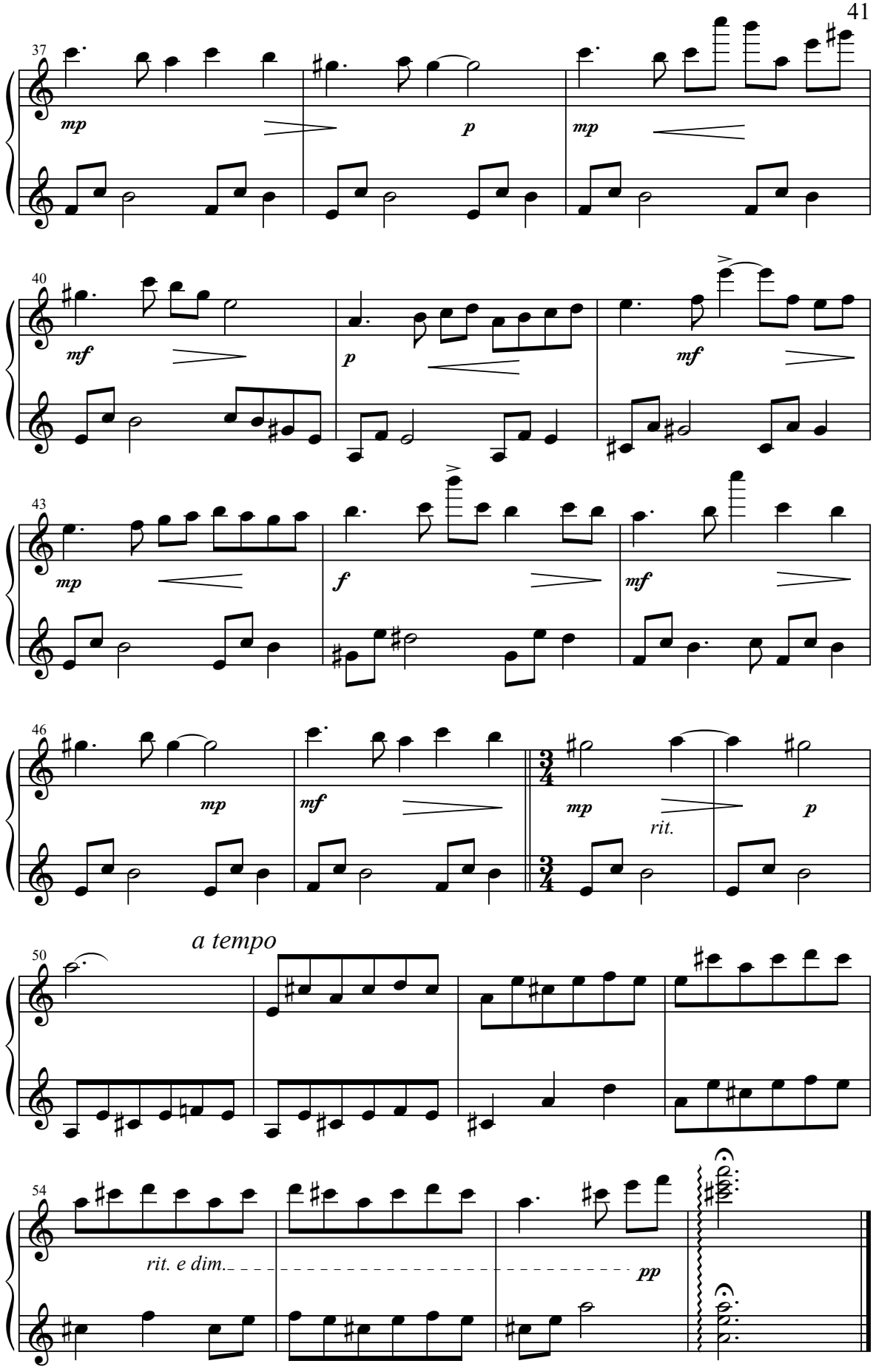

88
wise King is he who is will - ing to bow be - yond him -
mp
mp
88
93
self to the source of all pow'r. Thus
mf
mf
f
div.
f
93
f
97
come we to kneel be - fore the truth of
ff
div.
unis.
ff
unis.
97
ff


101
f
God in hu - man form.
unis.
101
f
105
mf
Now the star, now the star's led our
105
109
path to the cra - dle of light.
109

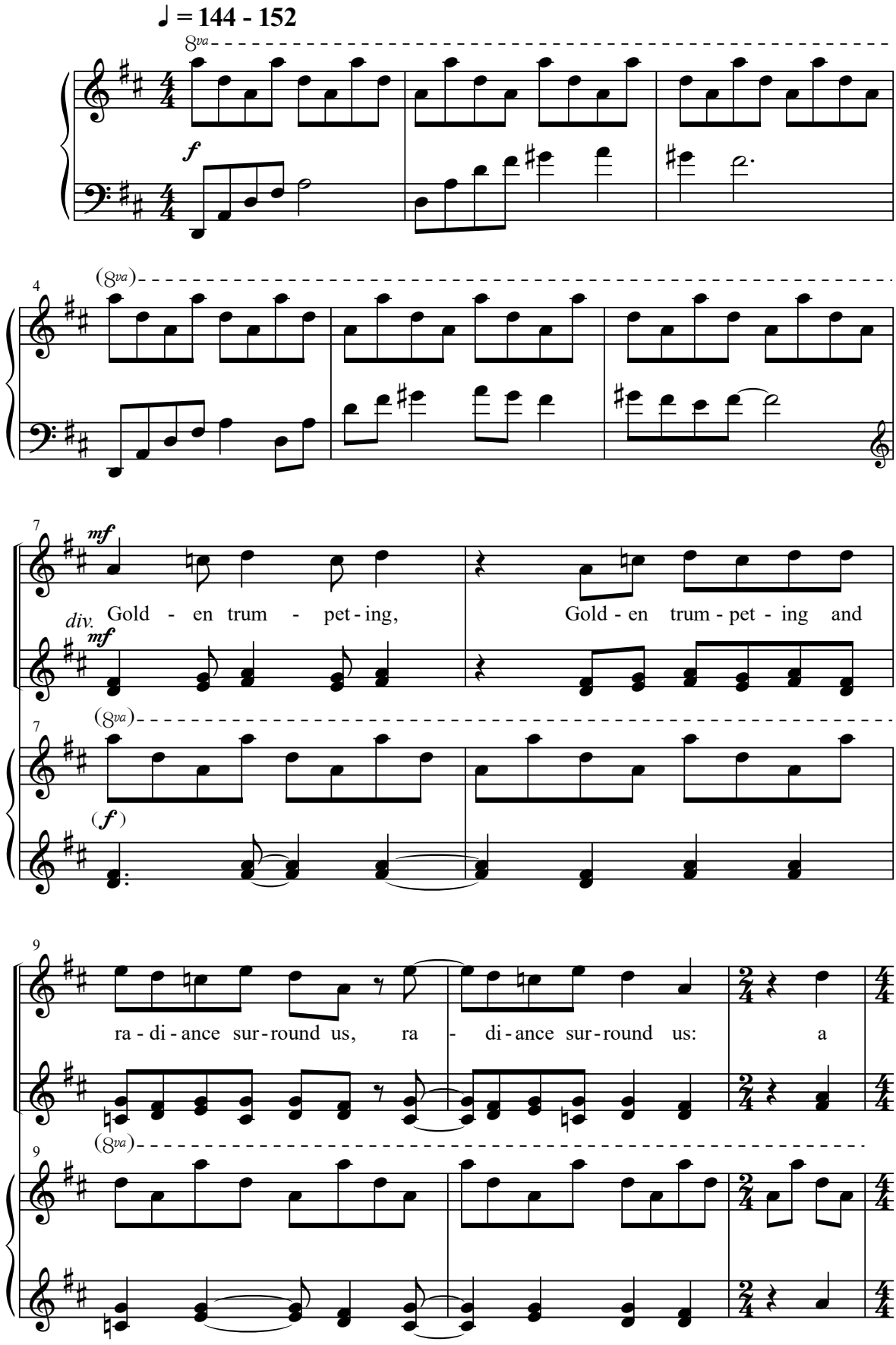

113
f
Praise to the child,
f
113
117
Praise to the child, Praise to the child of the
Praise to the child of the
117
div.
121
ff
a - ges!
ff
a - ges!
121
ff

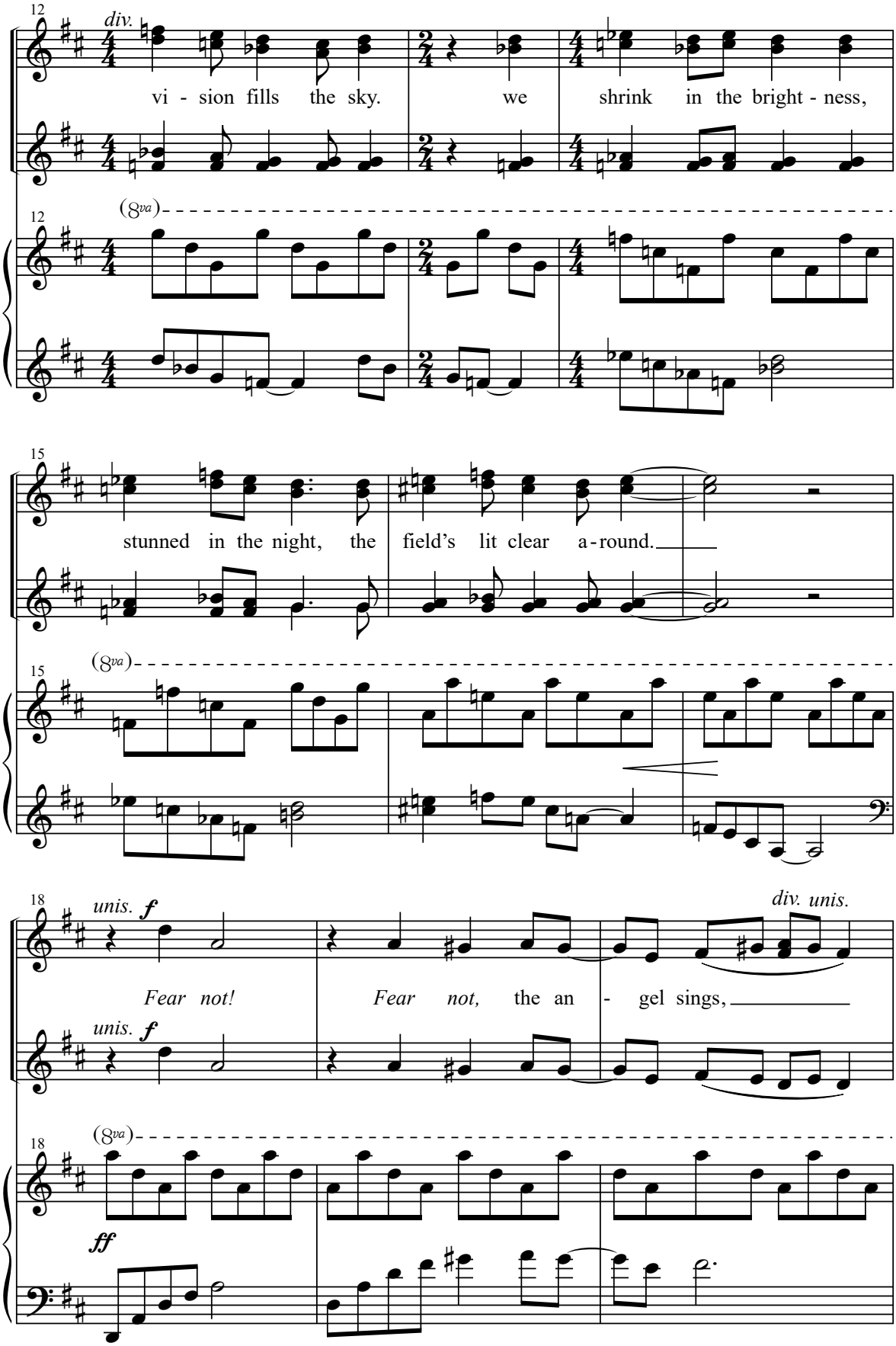

Tempo rubato ♩ = 132 - 138
p
mf
p
4
mf
p
mp
p
7
mp
mf
p
10
mf
mp
f
13
mf
mp
mf

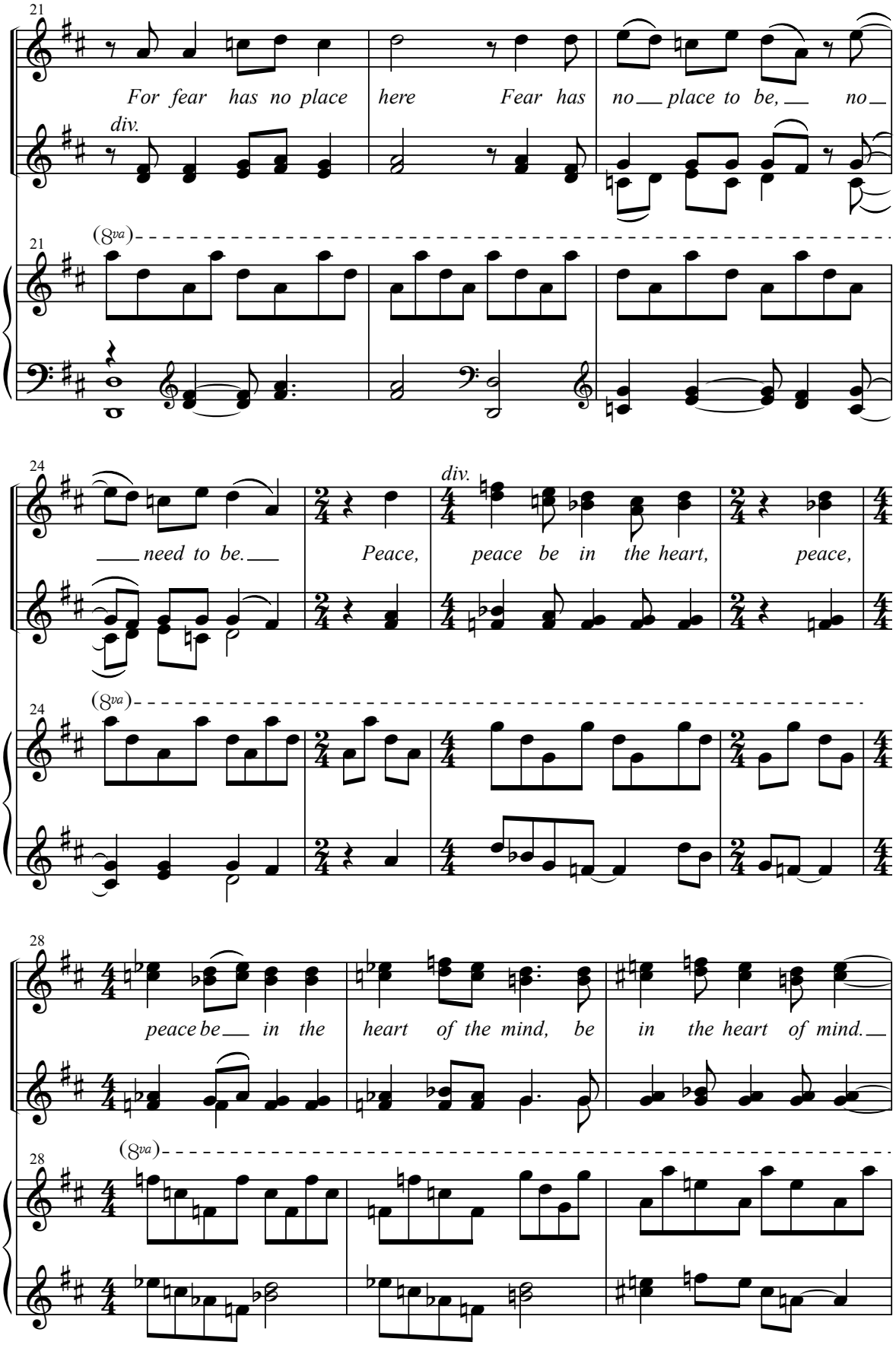

16
mp
mf
ff
(sempre)
19
8va
23
8va
poco a poco dim.
27
8va
(poco a poco dim.)
8va
pp
31
p
34
mf
p
mf
p

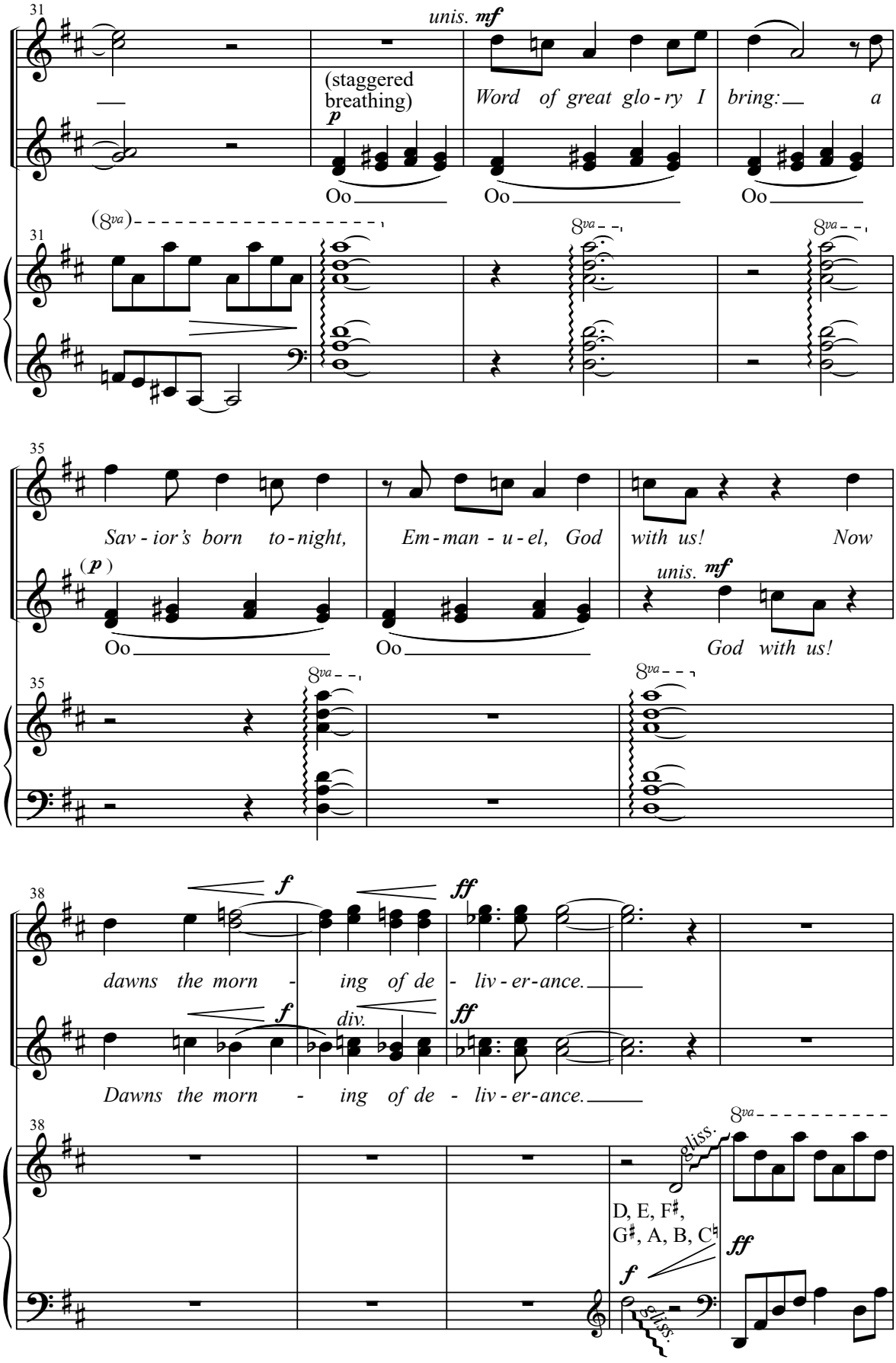

37
mp
p
mp
40
mf
p
mf
43
mp
f
mf
46
mp
mf
3/4
mp
rit.
p
a tempo
50
54
rit. e dim.
pp

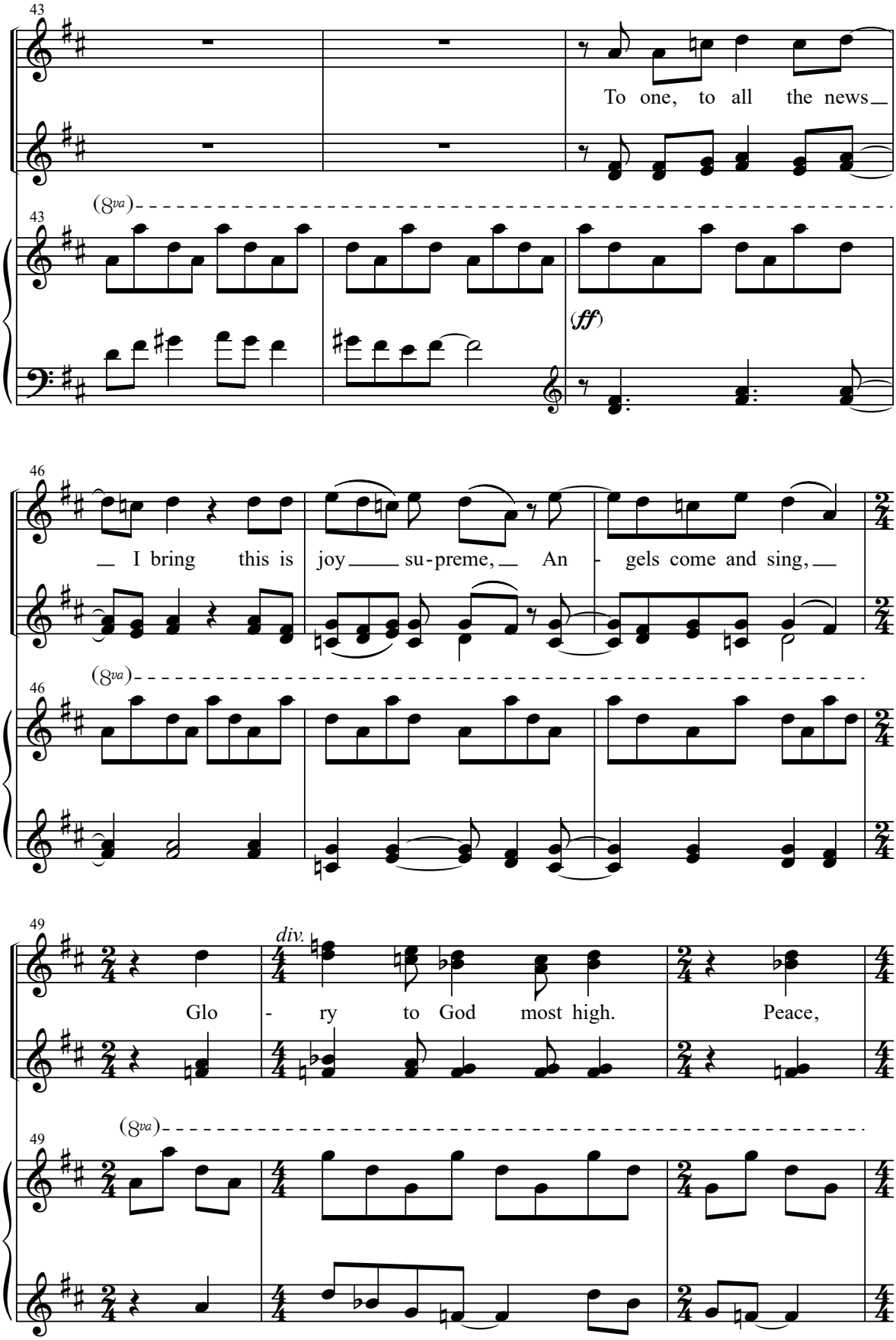
V. Song of Light

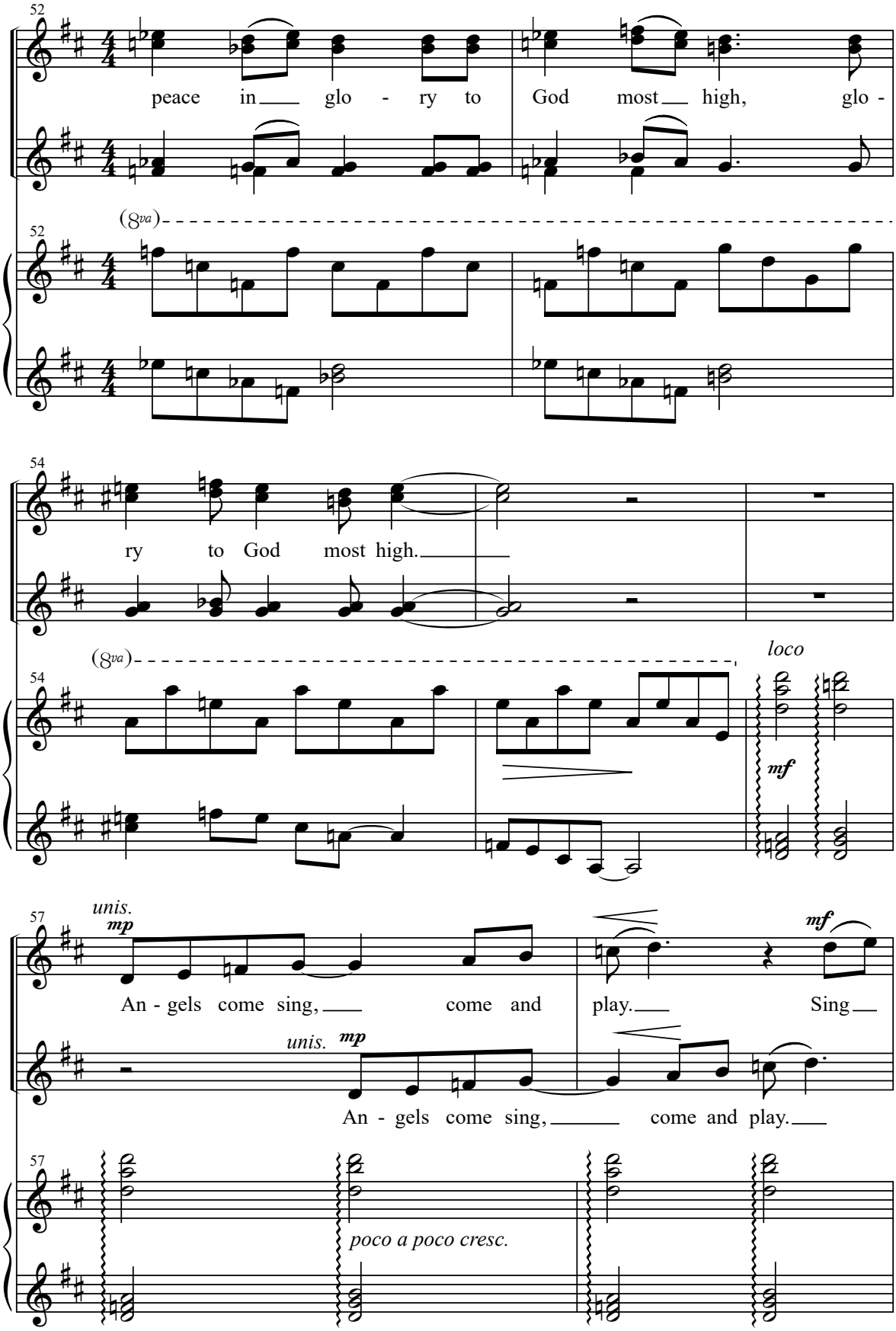


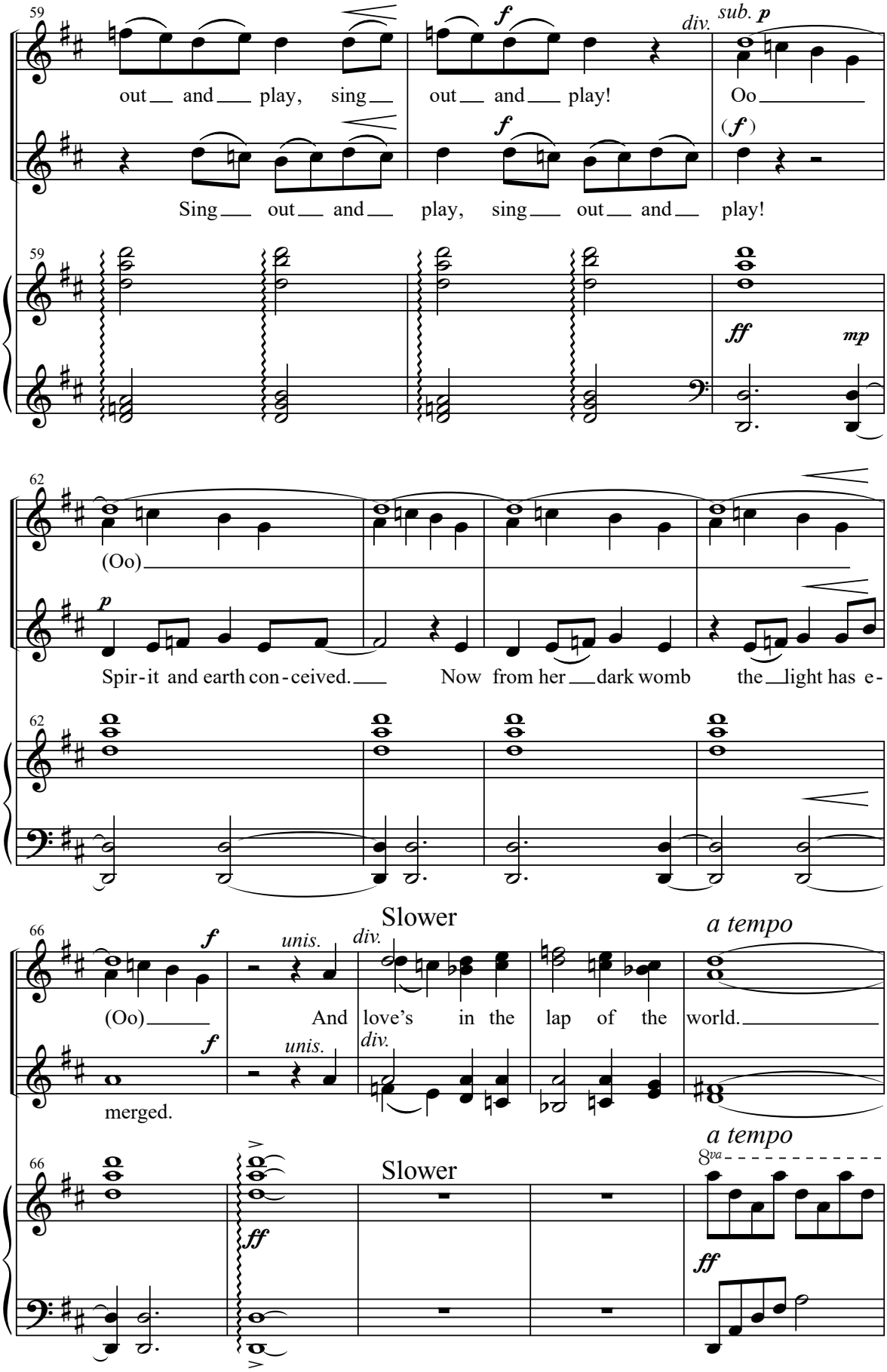

12
div.
vi - sion fills the sky. we shrink in the bright - ness,
(8va)
15
stunned in the night, the field's lit clear a - round.
(8va)
18
unis. f
div. unis.
Fear not! Fear not, the an - gel sings,
unis. f
(8va)
ff

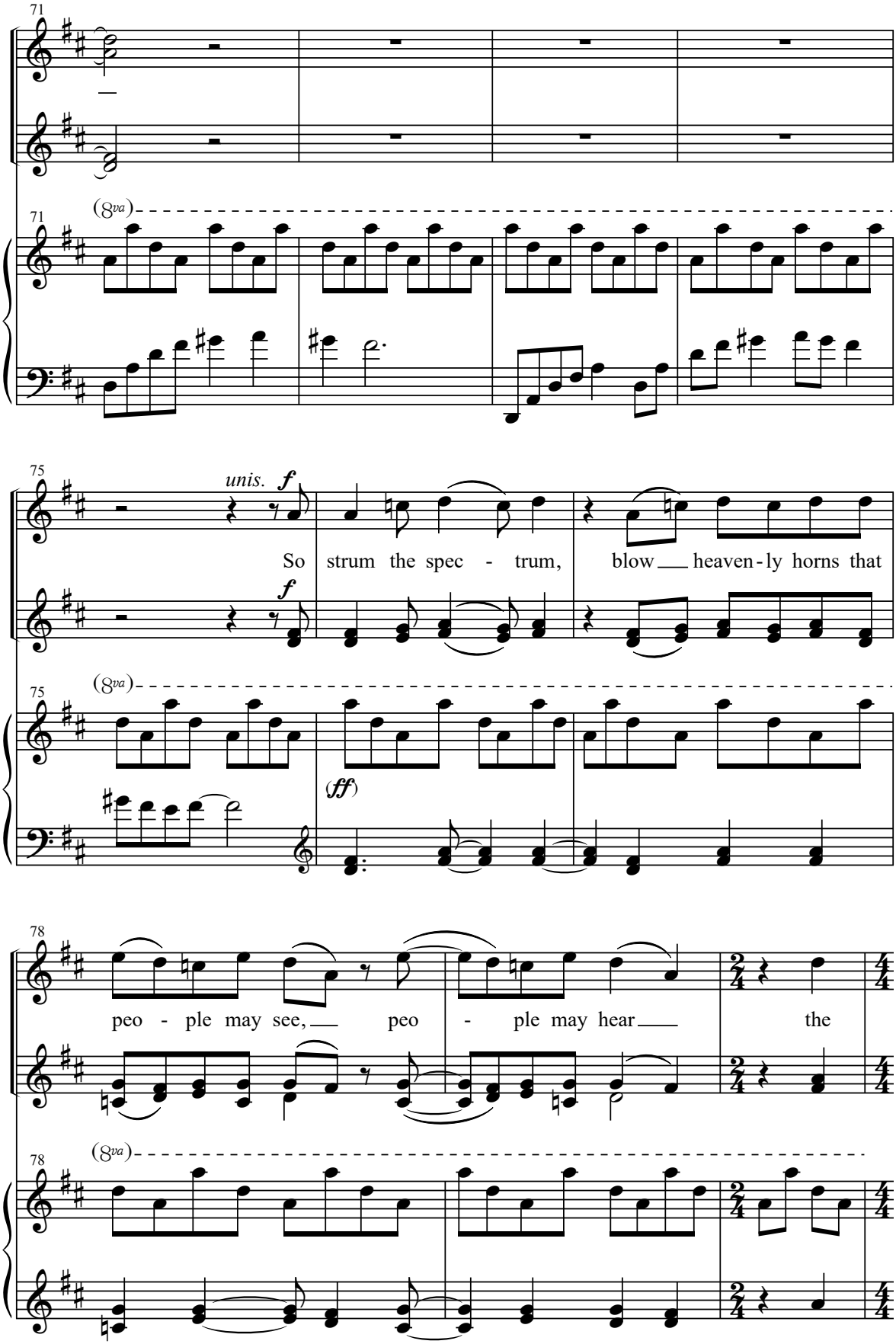

21
For fear has no place here Fear has no place to be, no
div.
(8va)
21
24
need to be. Peace, peace be in the heart, peace,
div.
(8va)
24
28
peace be in the heart of the mind, be in the heart of mind.
(8va)
28

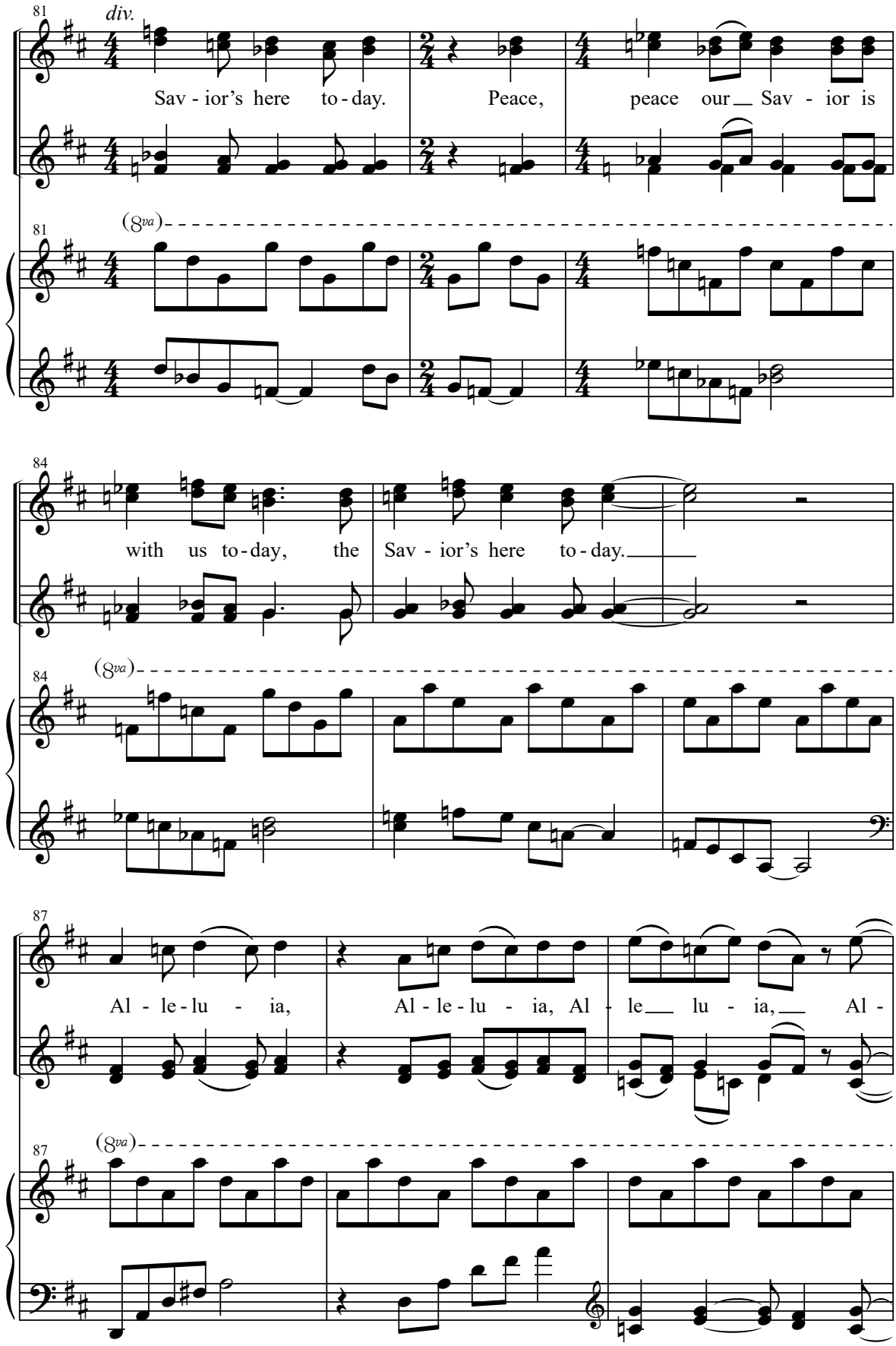

31
unis. mf
(staggered breathing)
p
Word of great glo - ry I bring: a
Oo
Oo
Oo
(8va)
8va
8va
35
Sav - ior's born to - night,
Em - man - u - el, God with us!
Now
(p)
unis. mf
Oo
Oo
God with us!
8va
8va
38
f
ff
dawns the morn - ing of de - liv - er - ance.
f
div.
ff
Dawns the morn - ing of de - liv - er - ance.
8va
gliss.
D, E, F♯, G♯, A, B, C♮
ff
f
gliss.

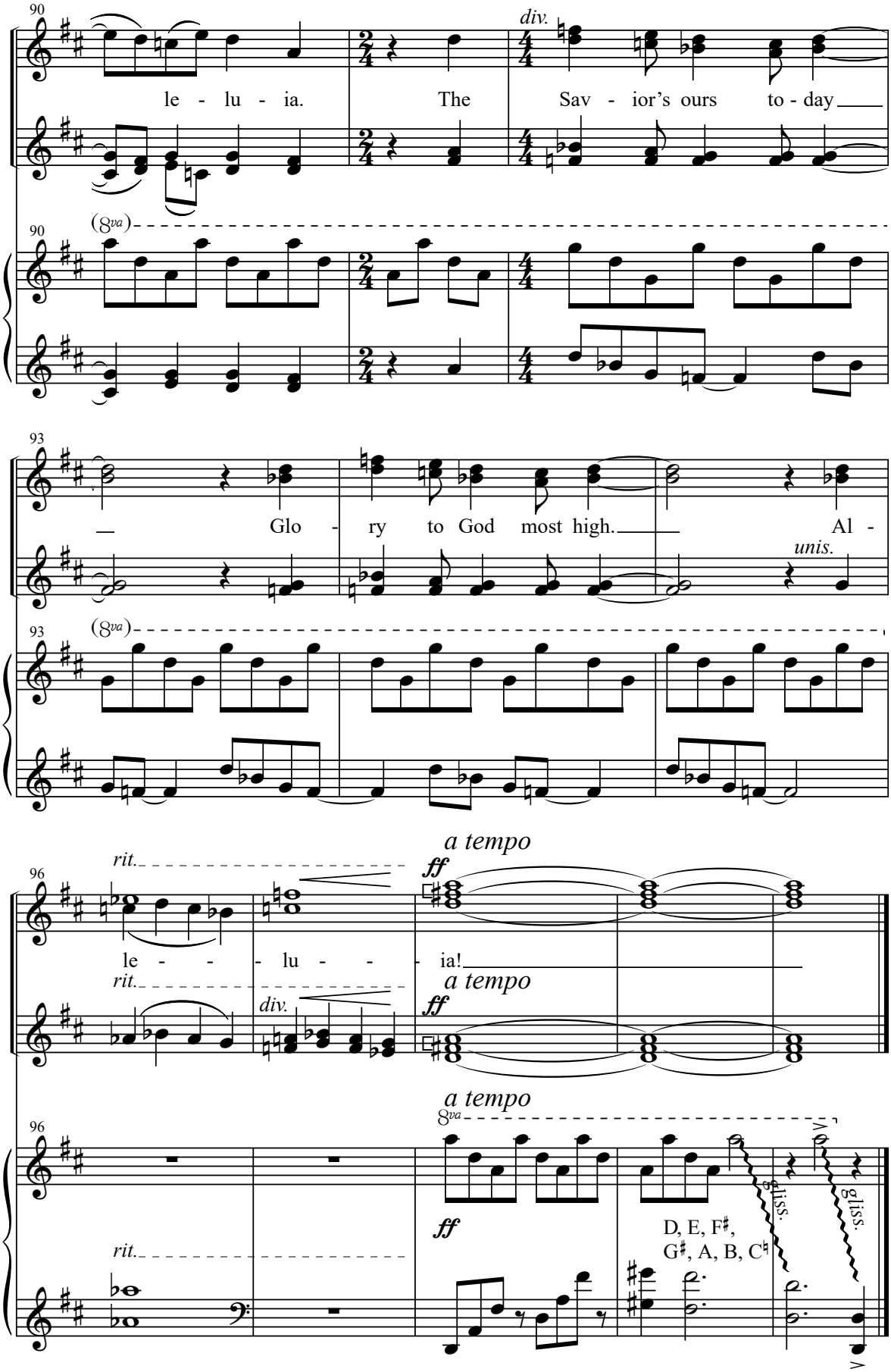

43
To one, to all the news
(8va)
43
(ff)
46
I bring this is joy su-preme, An - gels come and sing,
(8va)
46
49
div.
Glo - ry to God most high. Peace,
(8va)
49


52
peace in glo - ry to God most high, glo -
(8va)
52
54
ry to God most high.
(8va)
loco
mf
54
57
unis.
mp
An - gels come sing, come and play. Sing
mf
unis.
mp
An - gels come sing, come and play.
57
poco a poco cresc.


59
out and play, sing out and play!
div.
sub. p
Oo
f
(f)
Sing out and play, sing out and play!
ff
mp
62
(Oo)
p
Spir-it and earth con-ceived. Now from her dark womb the light has e-
66
f
unis.
div.
Slower
a tempo
(Oo) And love's in the lap of the world.
merged.
8va


71
(8va)
71
75
unis.
f
So strum the spec - trum, blow heaven-ly horns that
f
75
(8va)
(ff)
78
peo - ple may see, peo - ple may hear the
78
(8va)


81
div.
Sav - ior's here to - day. Peace, peace our Sav - ior is
(8va)
81
84
with us to - day, the Sav - ior's here to - day.
(8va)
84
87
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le lu - ia, Al -
(8va)
87


90
le - lu - ia.
The
div.
Sav - ior's ours to - day
(8va)
93
Glo - ry to God most high.
Al -
unis.
rit.
a tempo
ff
le - - - lu - - - ia!
div.
D, E, F♯,
G♯, A, B, C♮
gliss.