Fifty-Eight Spirituals For Choral Use

Edited by Hollis Dann

Harmonized by
Harvey Worthington Loomis



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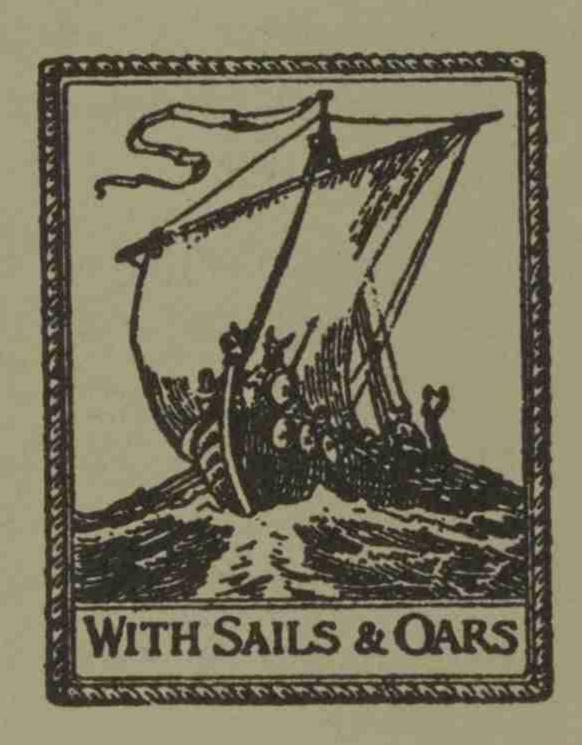
FIFTY-EIGHT SPIRITUALS FOR CHORAL USE

EDITED BY HAN HOLLIS DANN

HARMONIZED BY

HARVEY WORTHINGTON LOOMIS

The arrangements are for mixed voices, with the exception of fourteen numbers for male voices, and three for women's voices with optional bass



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Foreword

Folk songs have sprung from the soil, uncultivated, like wild flowers. The history of folk music leads us into the home of simplicity and primitive emotions that find an outlet in song that voices the singer's joy and sorrow, hope and despair. In no form or self-expression is a people's heritage more easily traced. It bears the indelible mark of a racial temperament evolved through a great variety of conditions in which history and climate are outstanding factors. It is claimed with some show of reason that our country has no folk song; that the essential conditions from which folk music is evolved, are not, never have been and never will be present in our land. That is probably true with respect to the native white race. Our songs have been made for us.

But for generations we have had a great Negro population whose early days were influenced by conditions that make folk music inevitable; and in the songs called "Spirituals" are to be found all the essentials of true folk music.

Its roots are in the soil of our land; it found its first expression among dwellers in our land, many of them native, and all destined to become an integral part of our citizenship. They are chiefly religious songs owing to the fact that religion was the Negro's sole refuge in troubled times, and he escaped despair by evoking the hopefulness that lay in the vivid picture of a new Kingdom to come. Seldom do we find the note of tragedy that sounds so persistently in the folk songs of the Slavic races. It may justly be said that almost every spiritual is an anodyne for sorrow; and, while one feels that sorrow is at the roots of it, there is an exaltation of faith and hope that overwhelms all lesser emotions, and it is not difficult to understand the comfort the early singers derived from these songs.

Originating as simple folk tunes, many of these spirituals have been developed into works of genuine art. There is so much mingled tenderness, pathos and power in the melodies that the impulse to enlarge them in form and expression has been felt by expert musicians, and wherever the songs have been treated with full comprehension of the spirit that brought them into being, the result has been to endow the literature of music with new treasure.

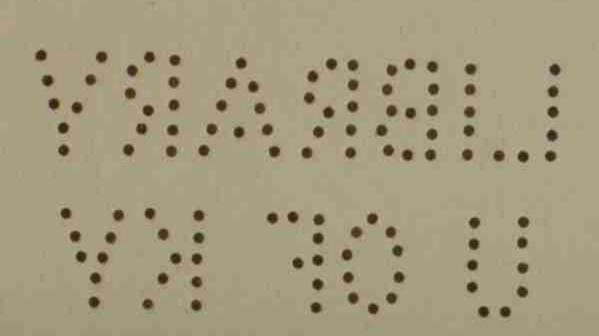
The Negroes themselves first recognized the possibilities for enlarging and embellishing their primitive songs and we have become familiar with many of them in the versions used by various groups of "Jubilee singers". The musical instinct of the Negro race has often produced extraordinary results in the singing of these songs, effects which white singers try in vain to achieve. But we need not, for that reason, forego the genuine pleasure to be found in singing and listening to these beautiful songs, or from studying their subtle charm and almost unlimited possibilities for development into art forms.

The examples in this book represent an attempt to emphasize racial characteristic: from the primitive melodies, rich in rhythmic and harmonic suggestion, Mr. Loomis has built his structure by careful and sympathetic study of the Negro's instinct and imagination, and his methods of expressing them. They contain nothing that is inconsistent with the origin and true development of this priceless store of melody, and at no time is the basic tune lost sight of or slighted for the sake of meretricious effect.

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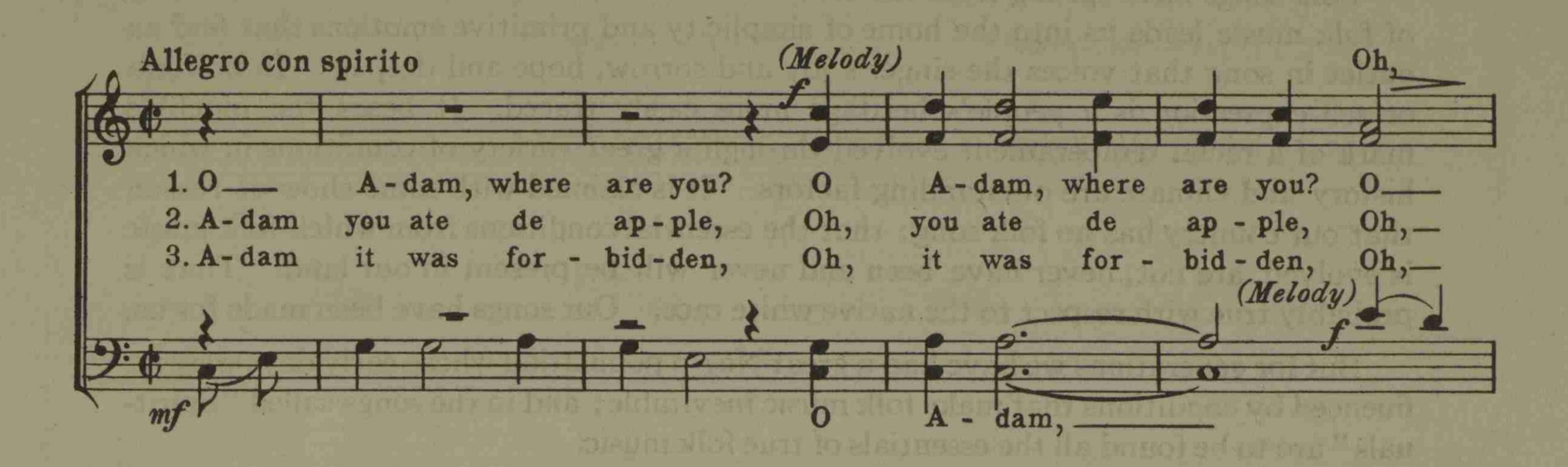
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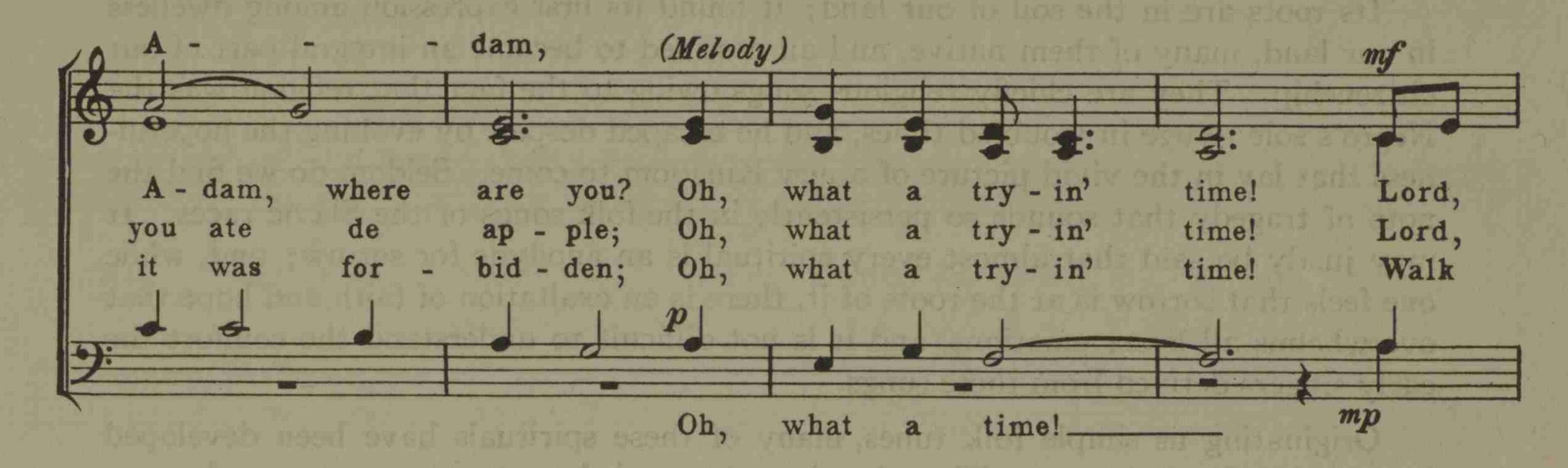


Fifty-Eight Spirituals

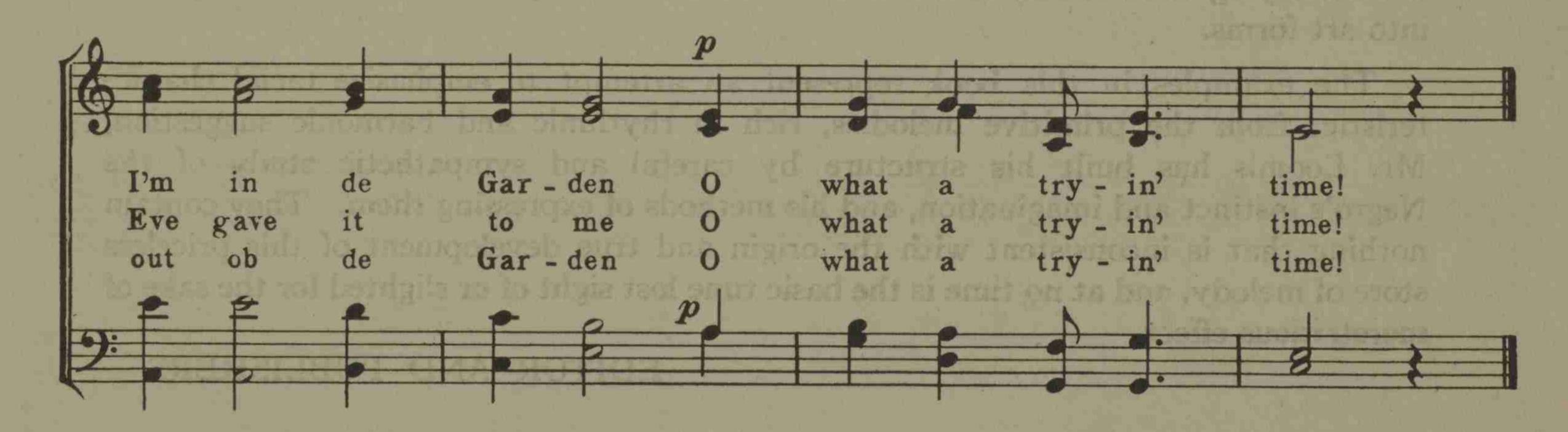
The Garden of Eden*

Mixed Voices





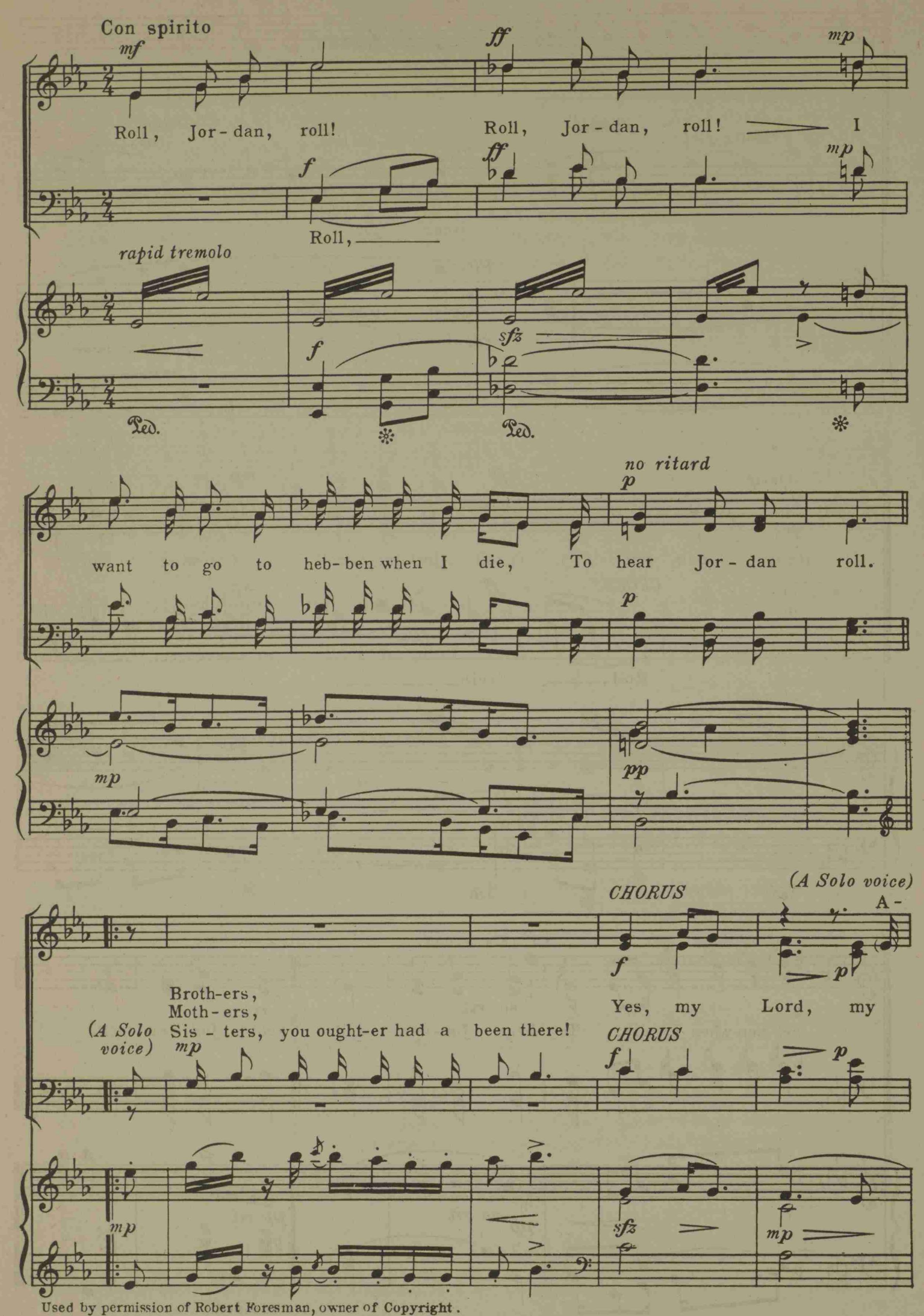




^{*}This Spiritual, in common with many others possesses a humorous element, yet these songs were never conceived in a spirit of irreverence, the Deity was regarded as a very human and loving father, always willing to sympathize with his children's moods, whether gay or sombre, thus a most intimate and everyday form of expression was inevitable.

Roll, Jordan, Roll!

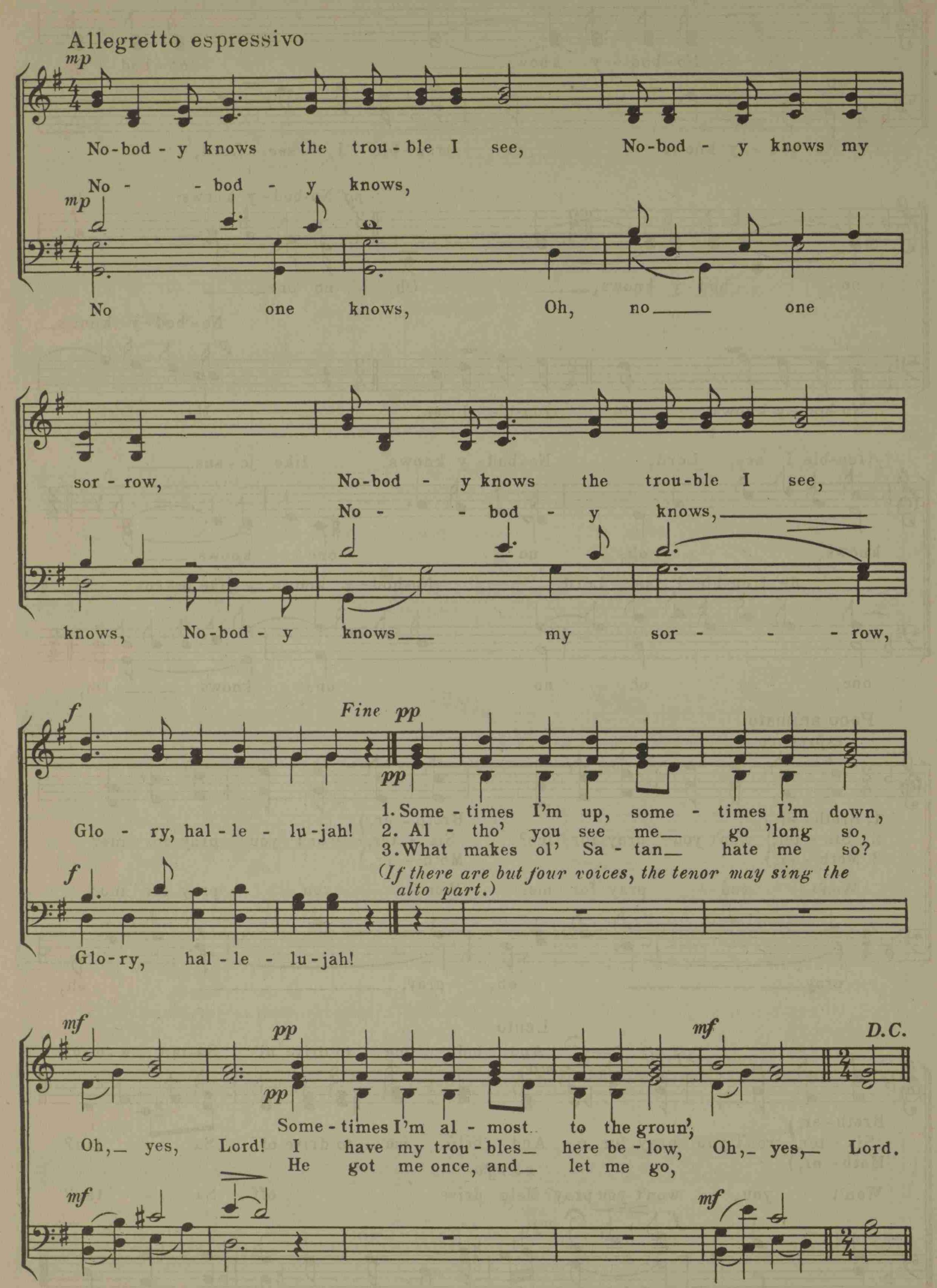
Mixed Voices with Solos*



* This number may be sung a capella.

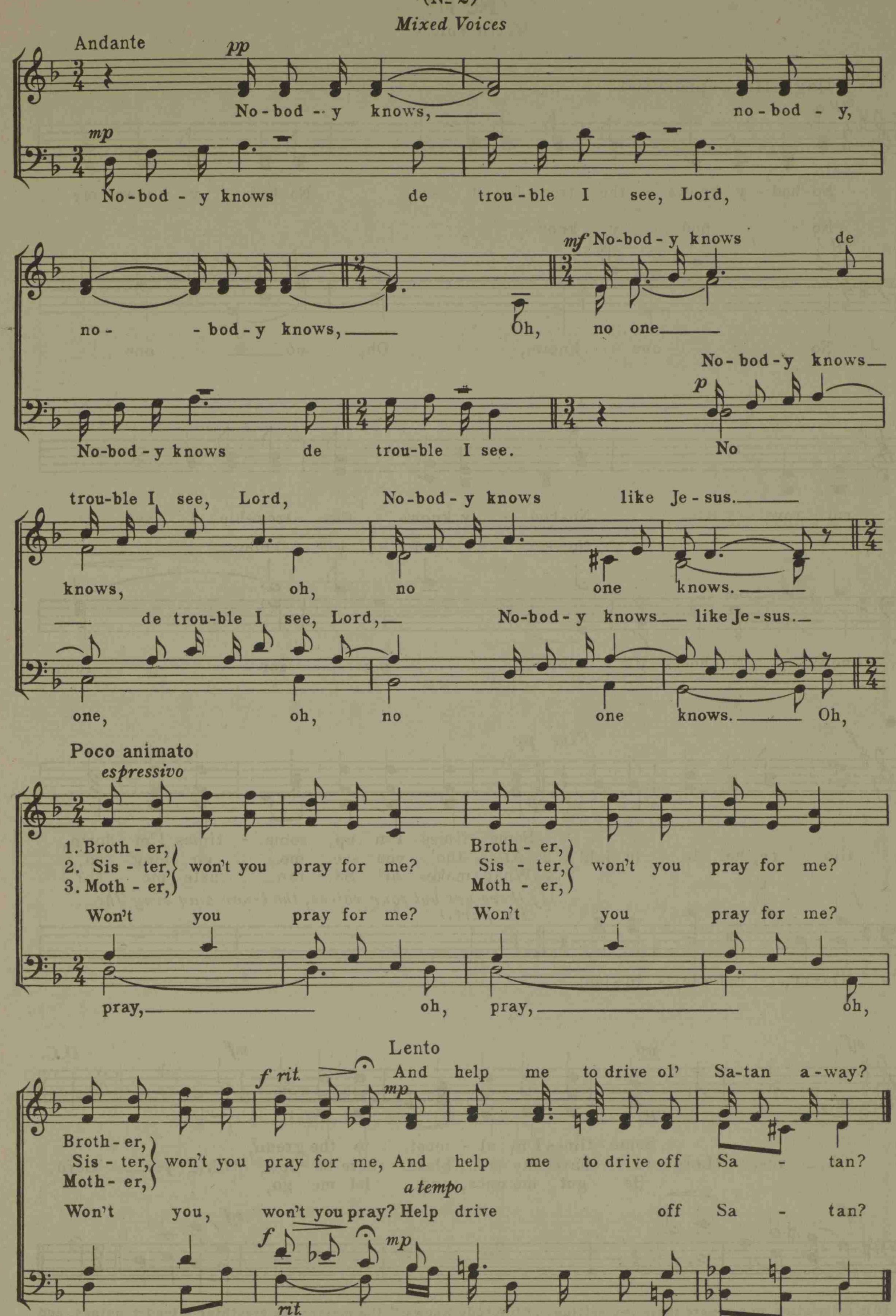


Nobody Knows the Trouble I See (Nº 1)* Mixed Voices



* It is interesting to compare these two settings of "Nobody Knows:" the major tune breathing a tender pathos, and the one in minor uttering an almost tragic gloom and despairing appeal.

Nobody Knows de Trouble I See (Nº 2)



to drive off

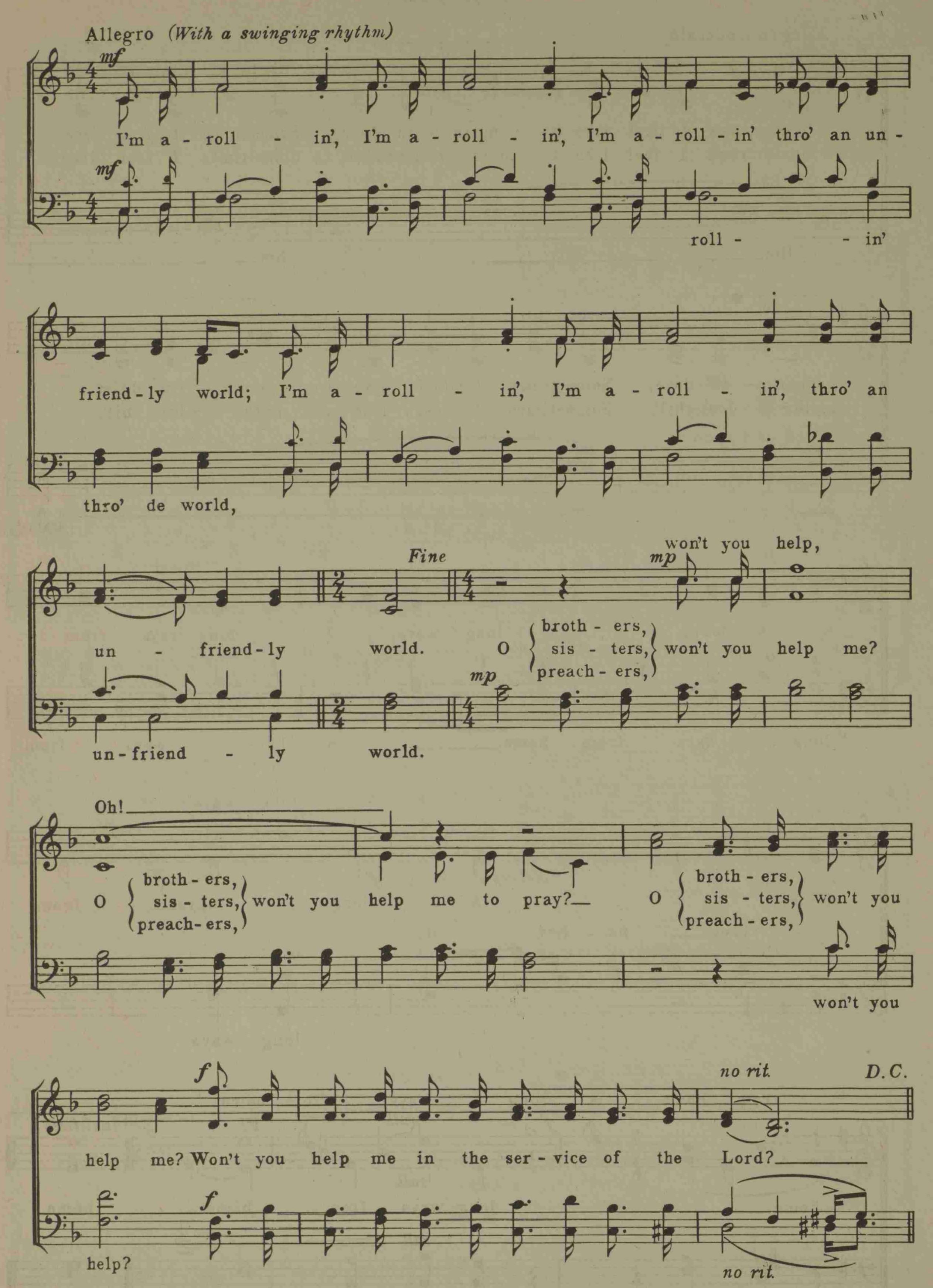
Sa

And help me

won't

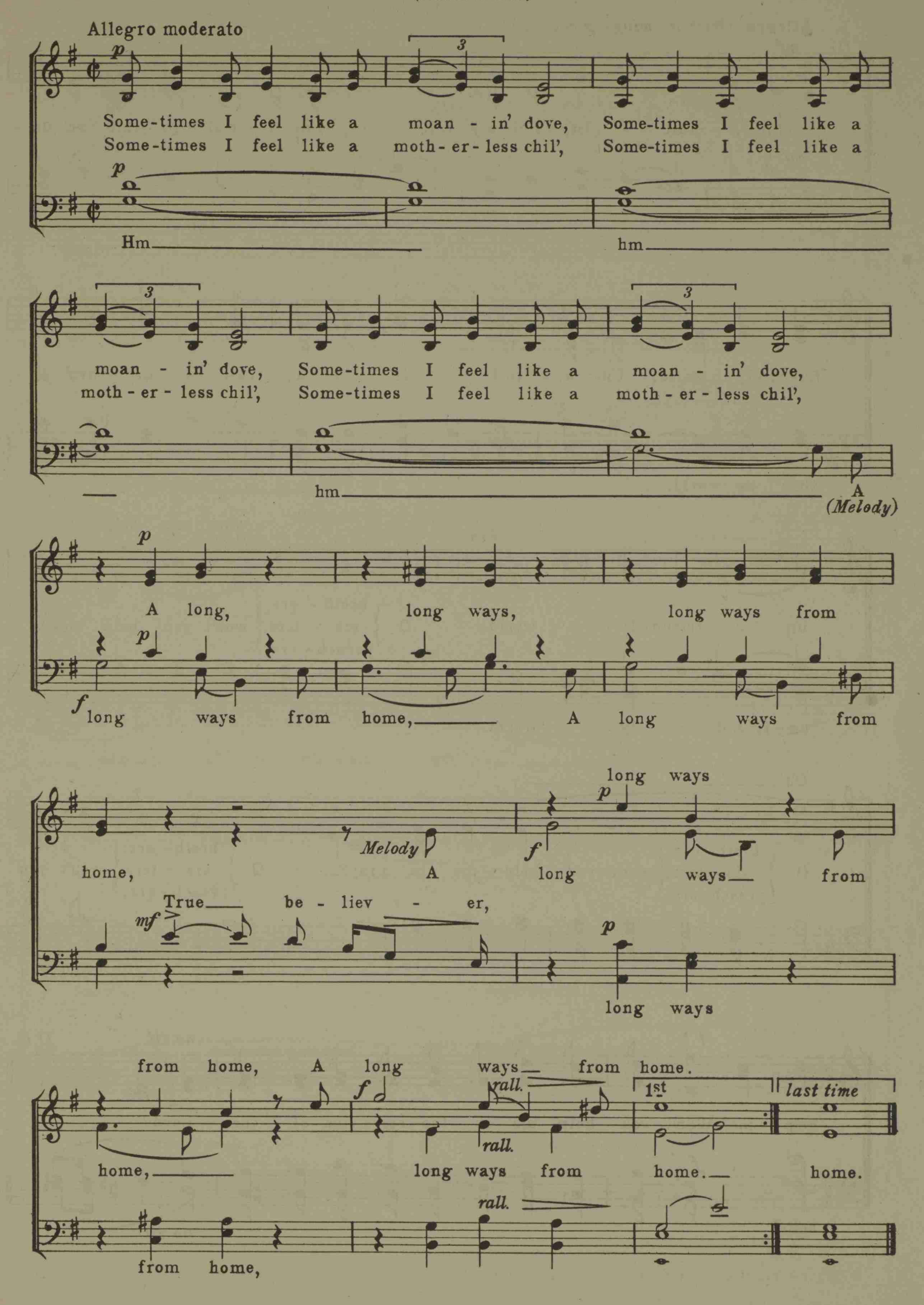
you__

(Mixed Voices)



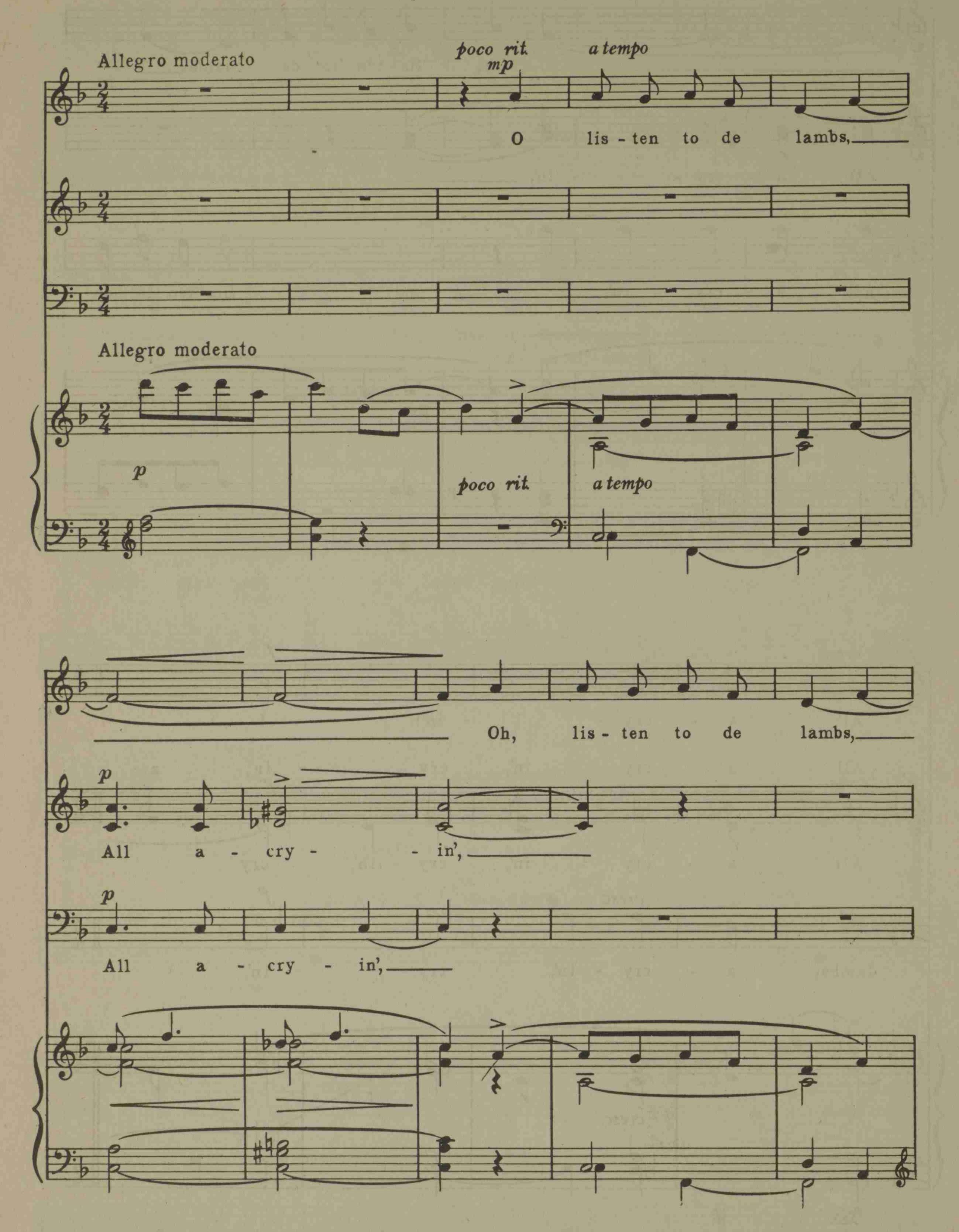
Sometimes I Feel Like a Moanin' Dove

(Mixed Voices)

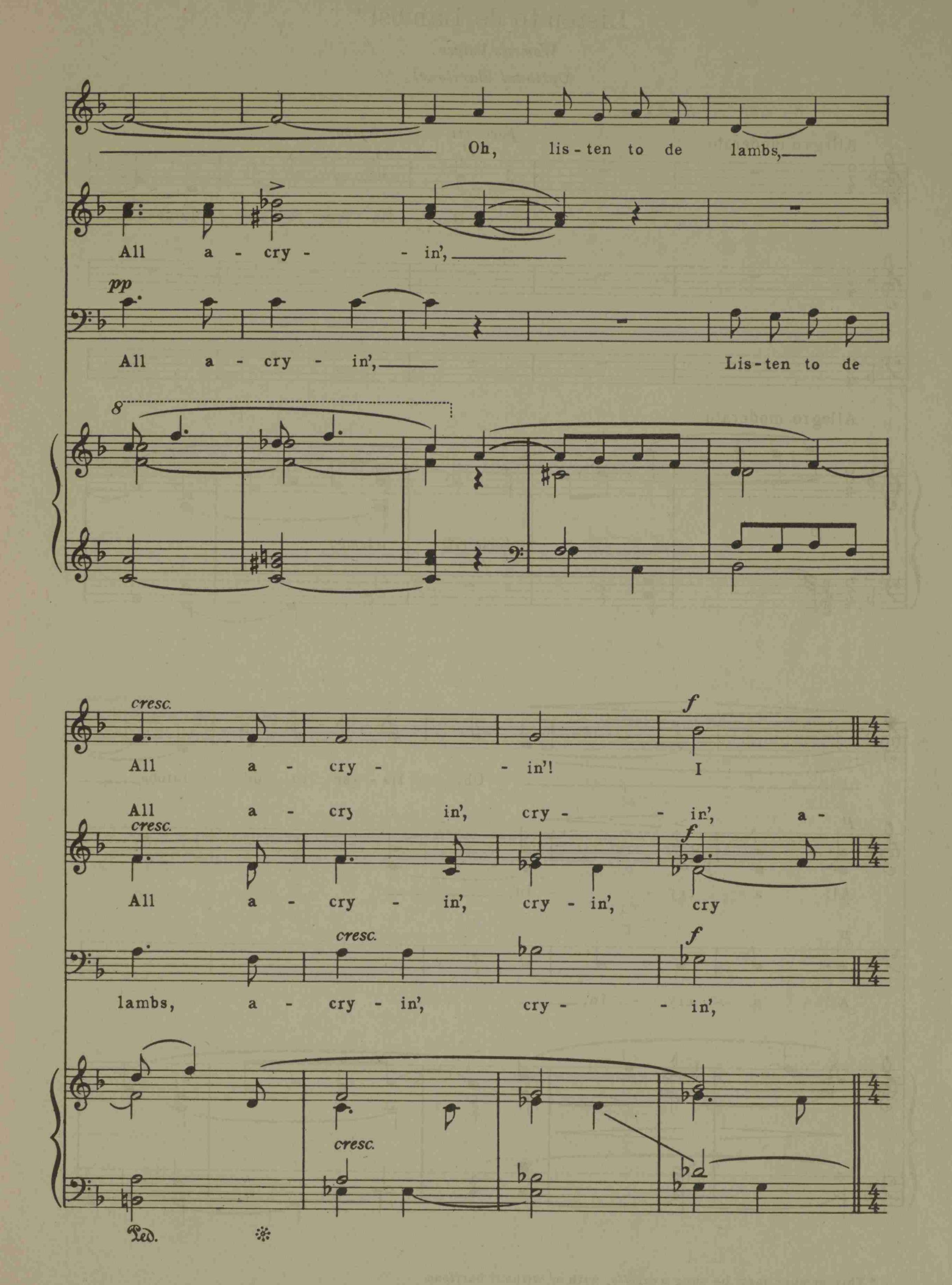


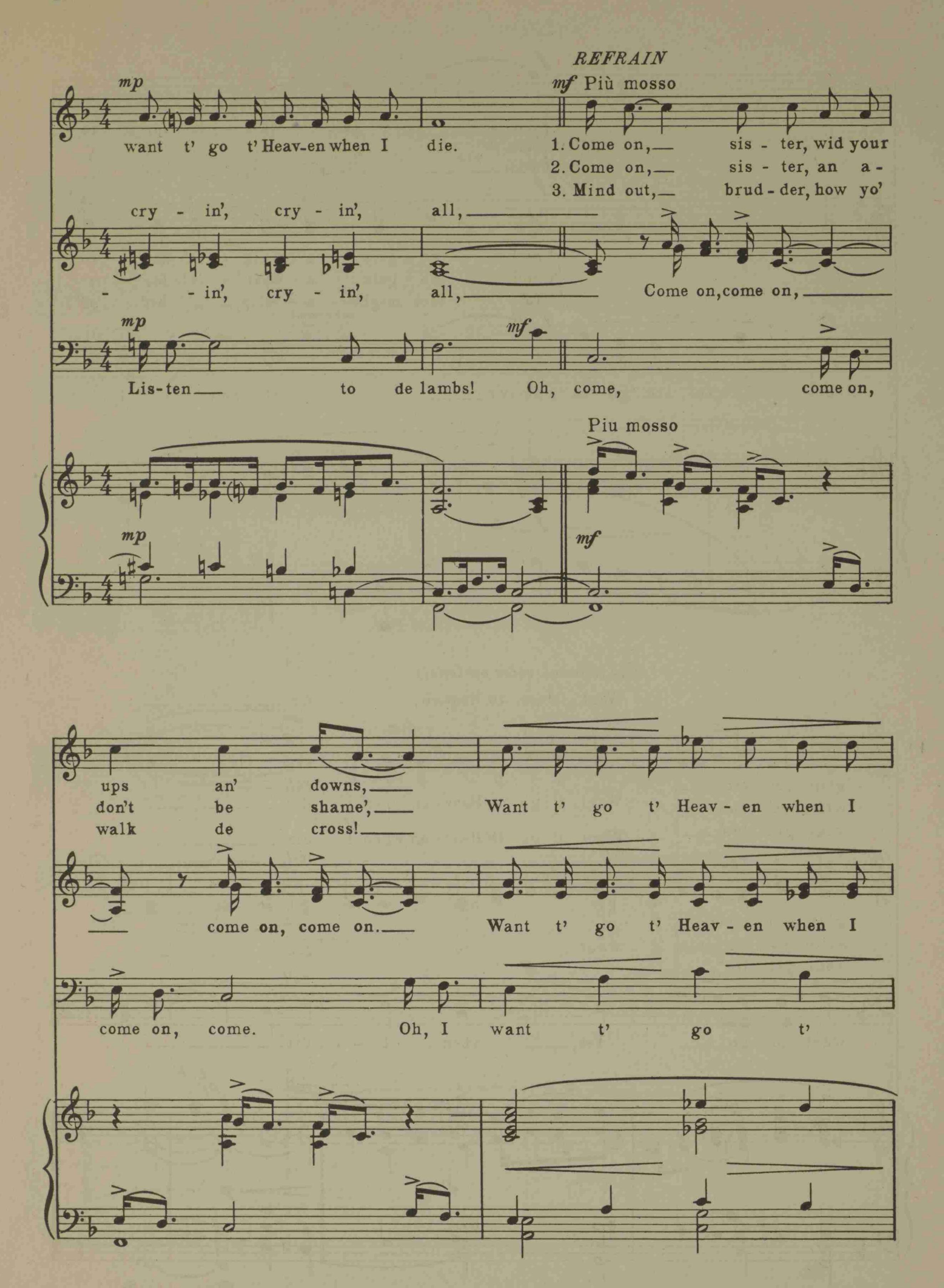
Listen to de Lambs! *

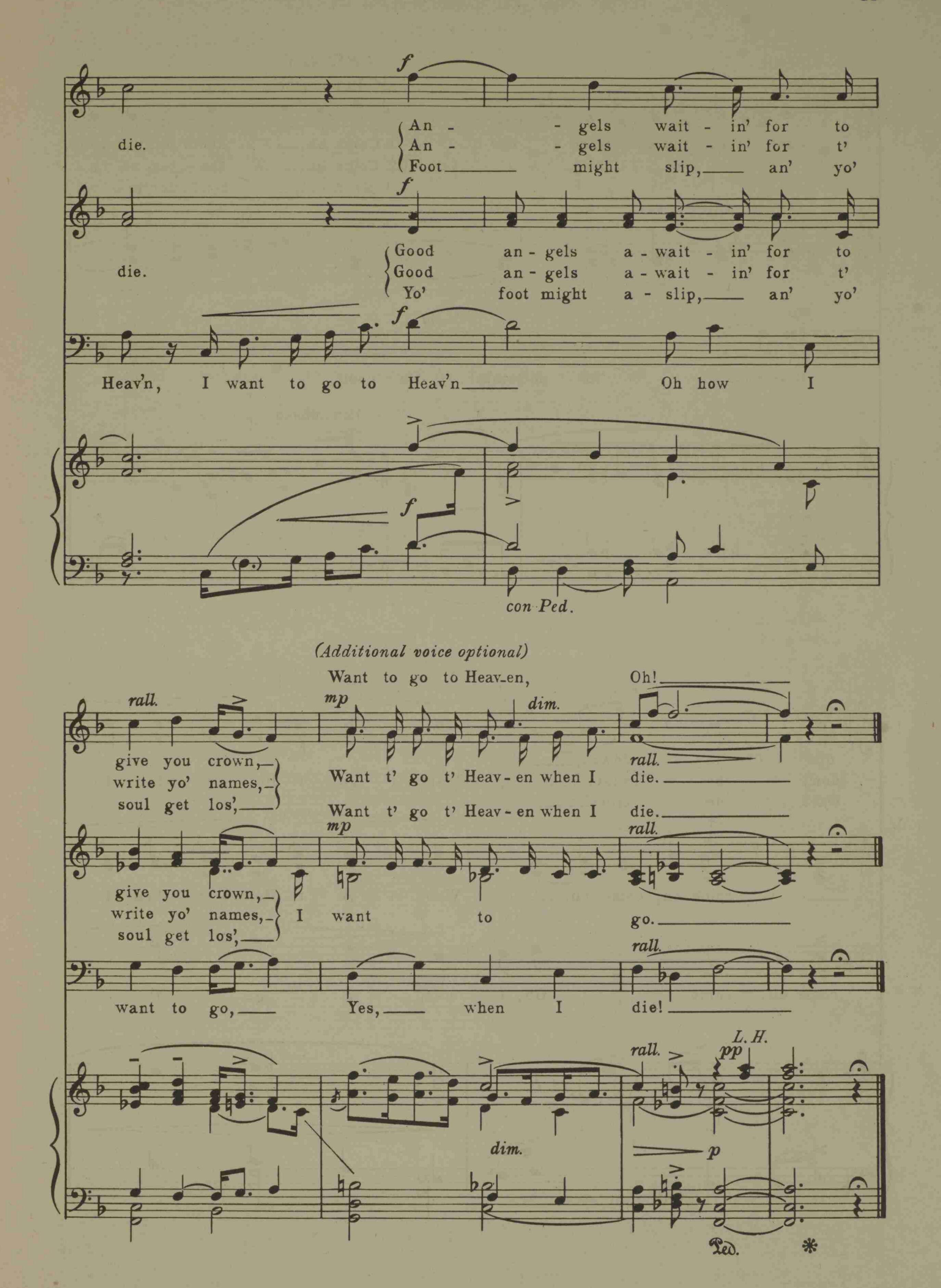
Women's Voices
(Optional Baritone)



^{*} This number may be sung a capella, with or without baritone.



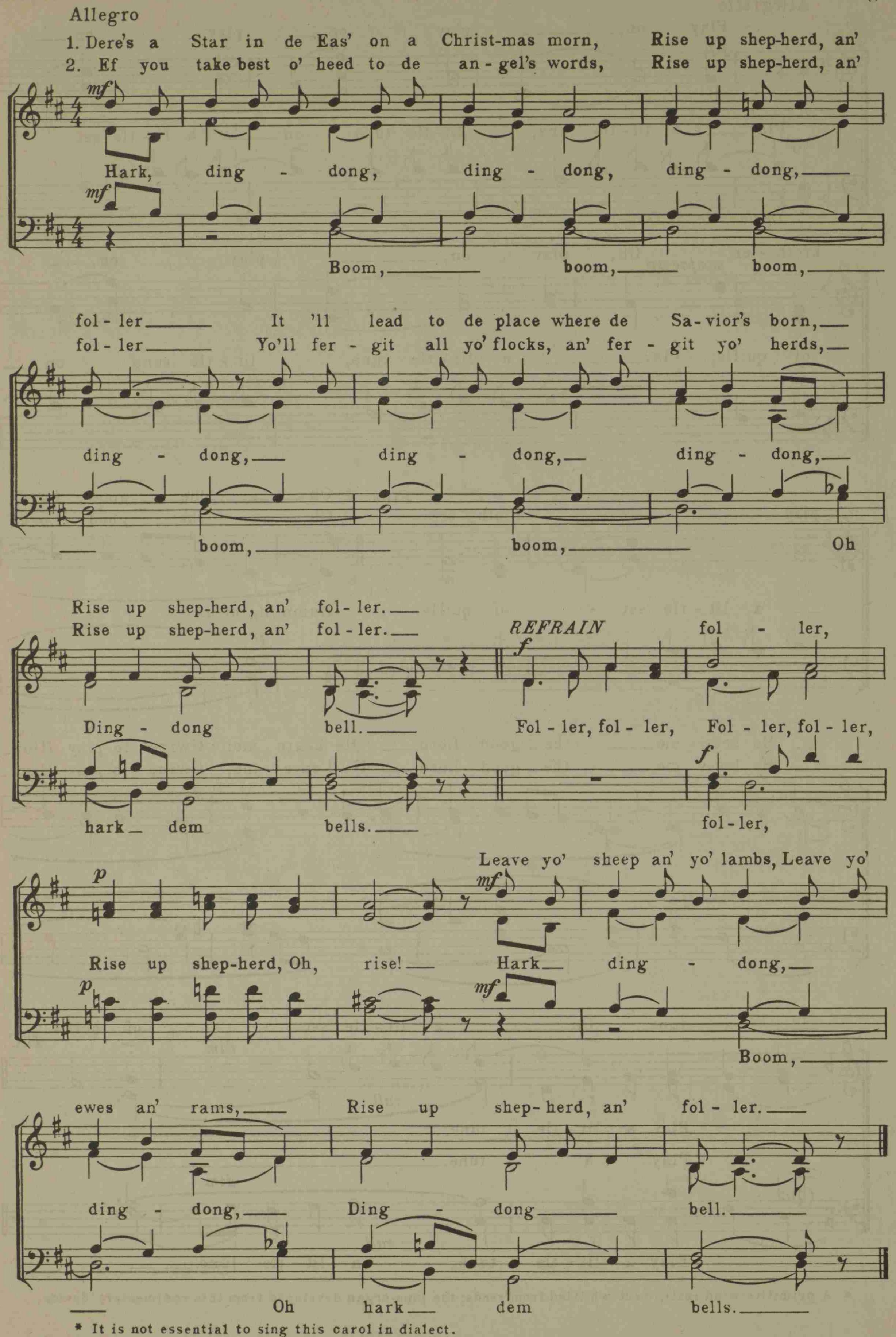




Rise up, Shepherd and Foller *

Mixed Voices

Christmas Plantation Song



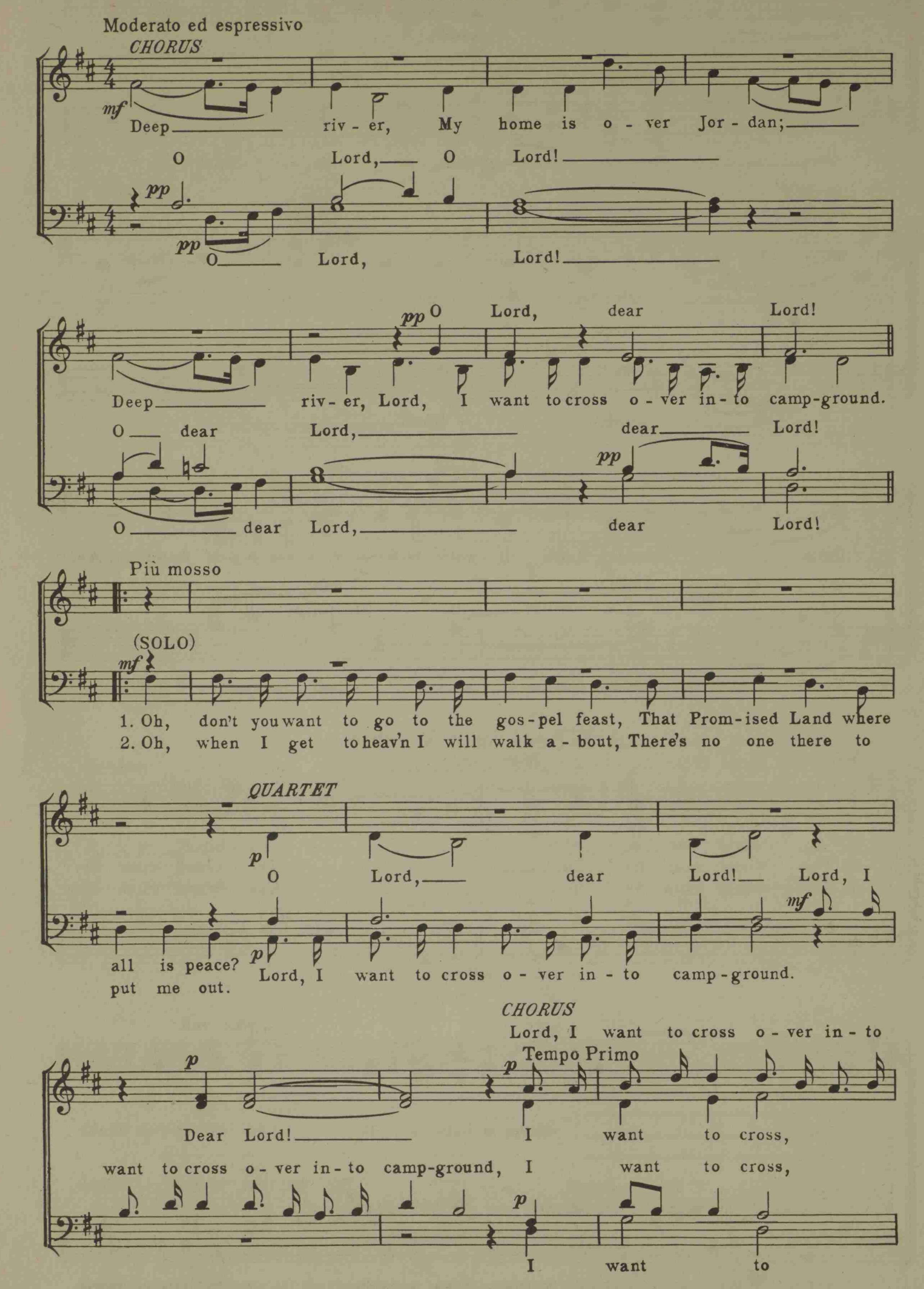
A Little Set of Quills *



* A primitive wind instrument whittled from reeds; the pipe-organ developed from this rudimentary device.

Deep River

Mixed Voices

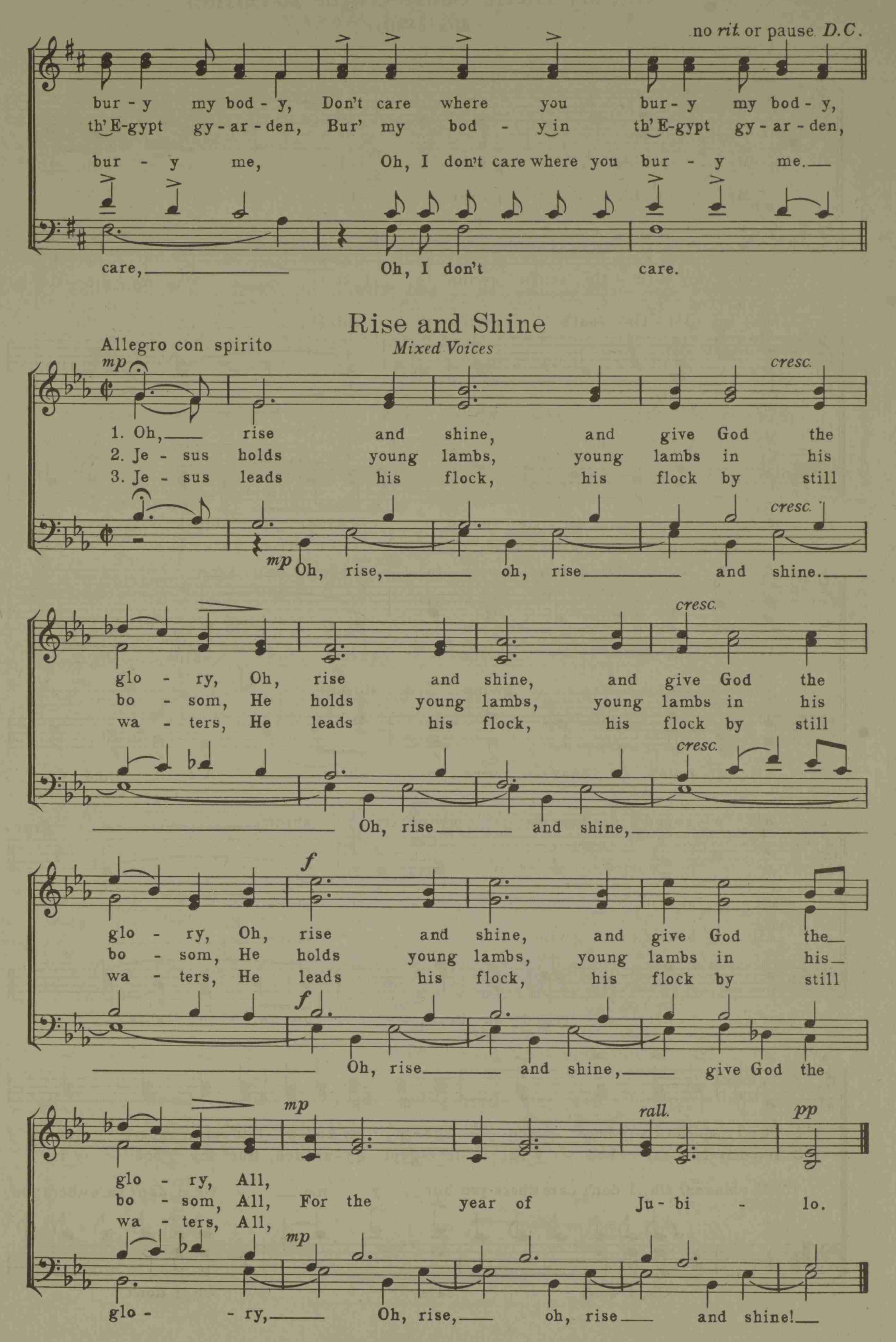




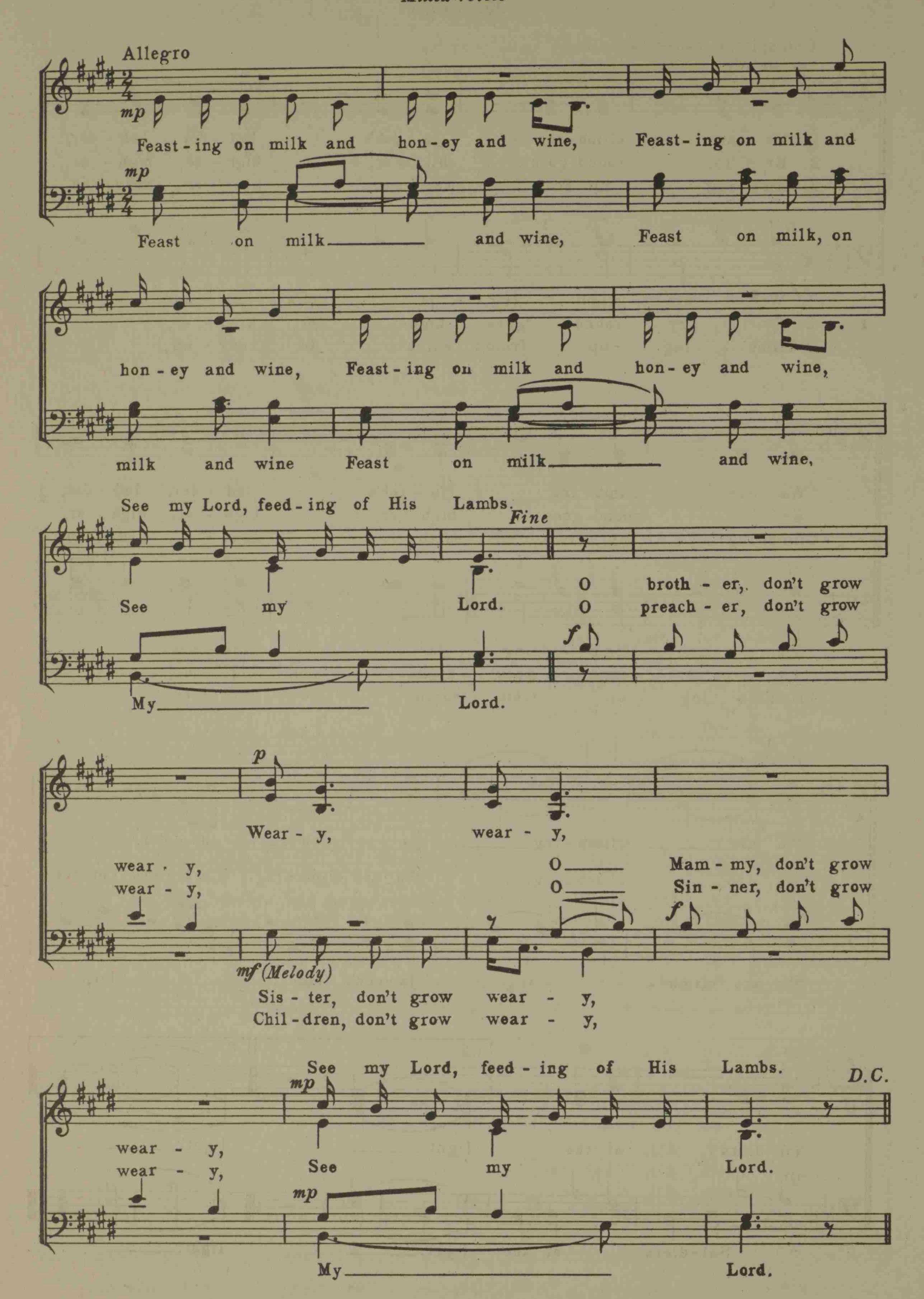
Oh, My Little Soul's Gwine to Shine!

Mixed Voices





Brothers, Don't Get Weary Mixed Voices



Jacob's Ladder Mixed Voices



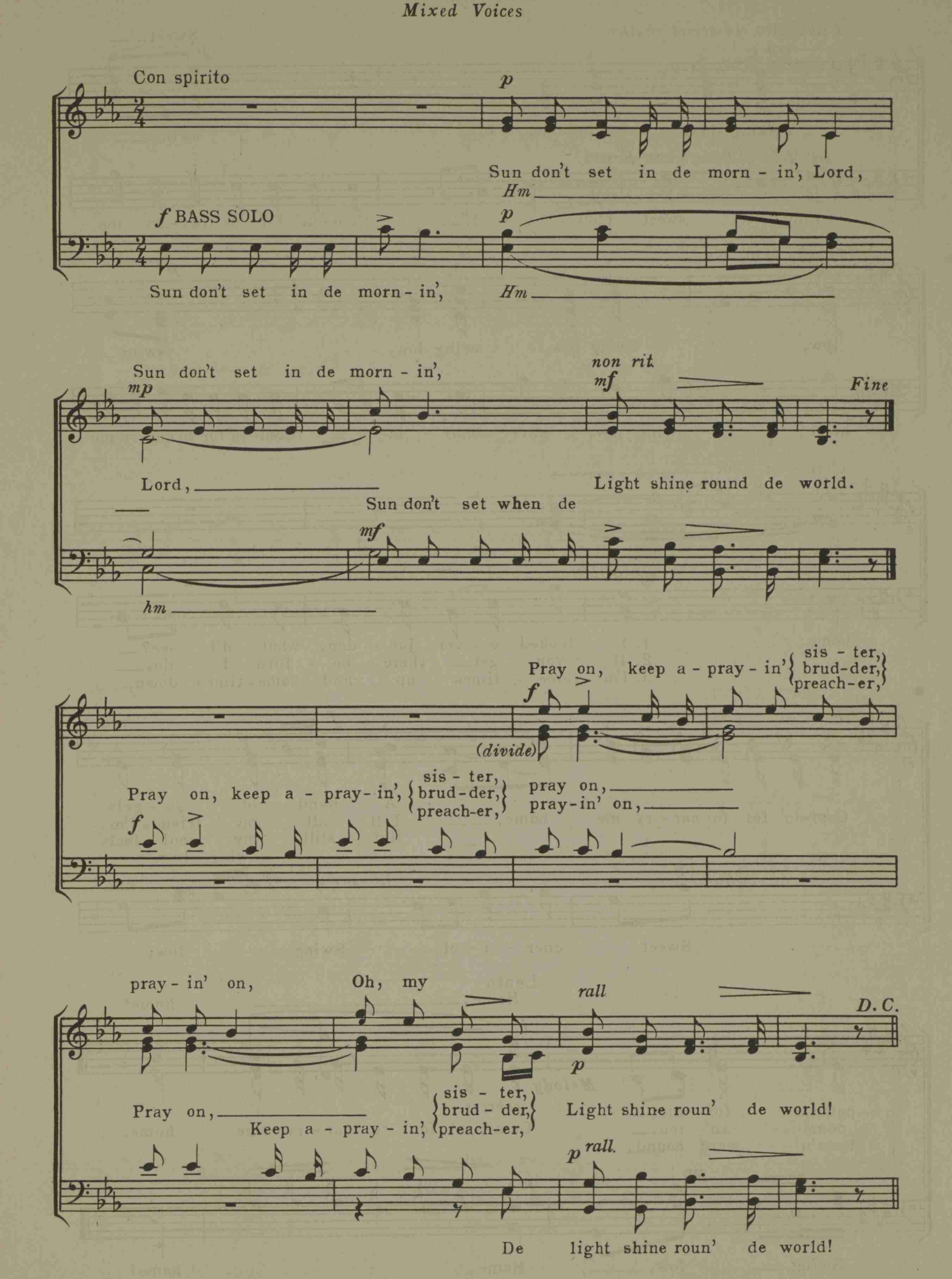
Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

Mixed Voices



^{*} This number may be sung in Eb, the Dh in measure 13 to be read Db.

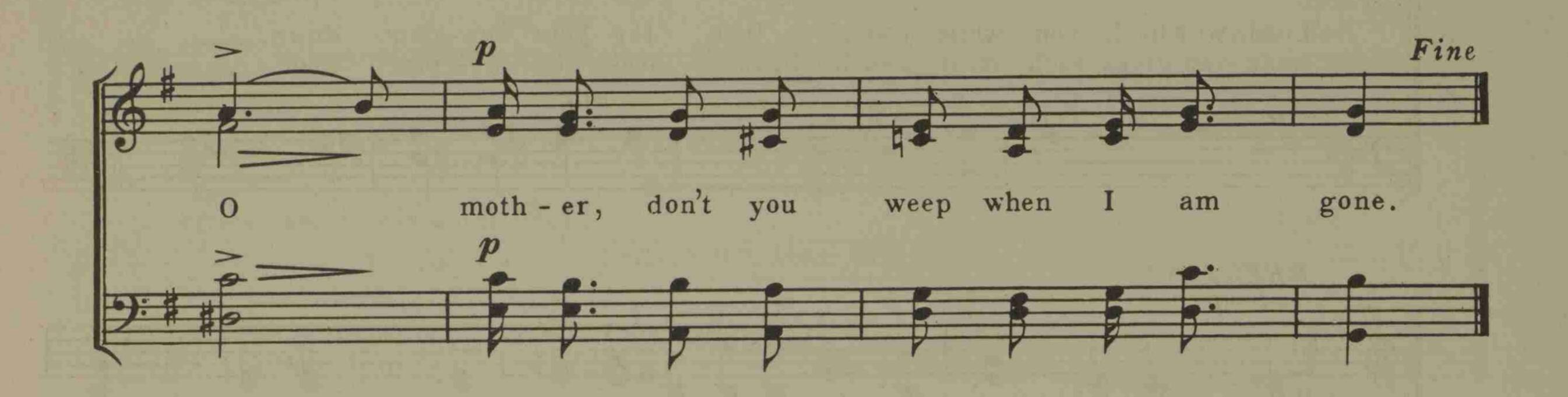
Sun Don't Set in de Mornin'



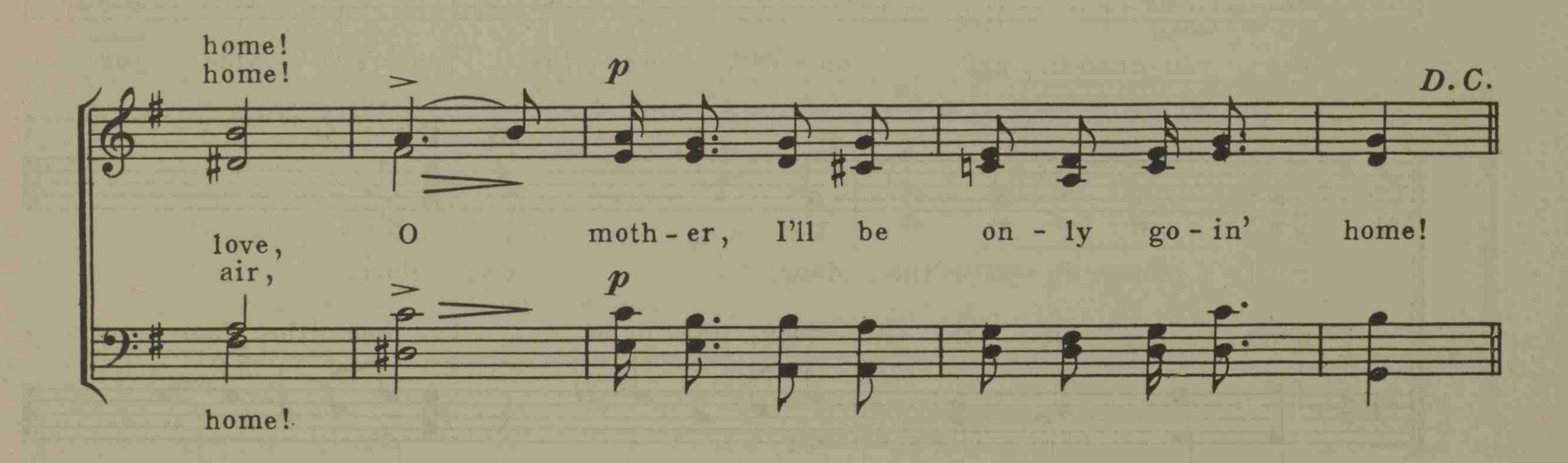
O Mother, Don't You Weep

Mixed Voices







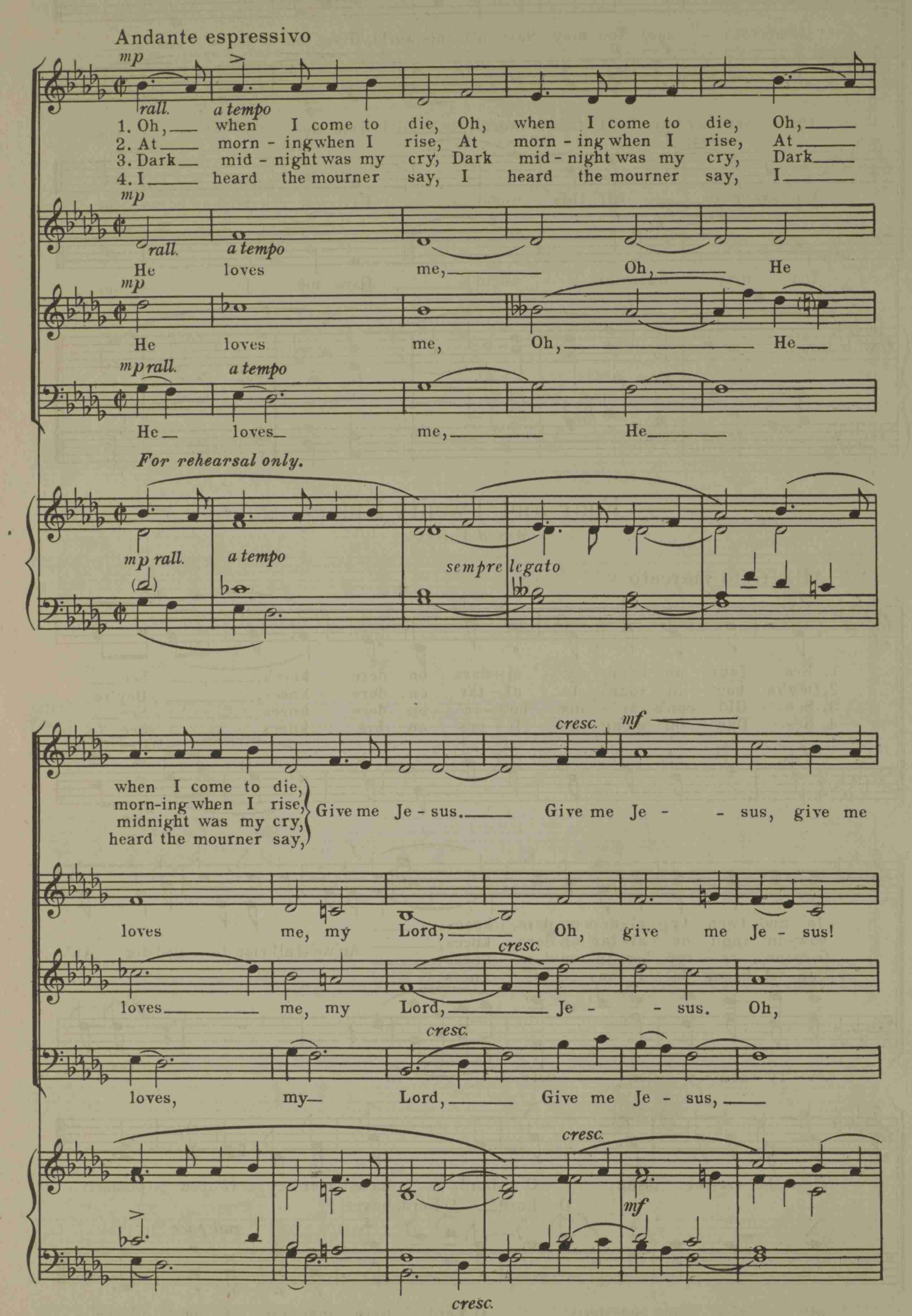


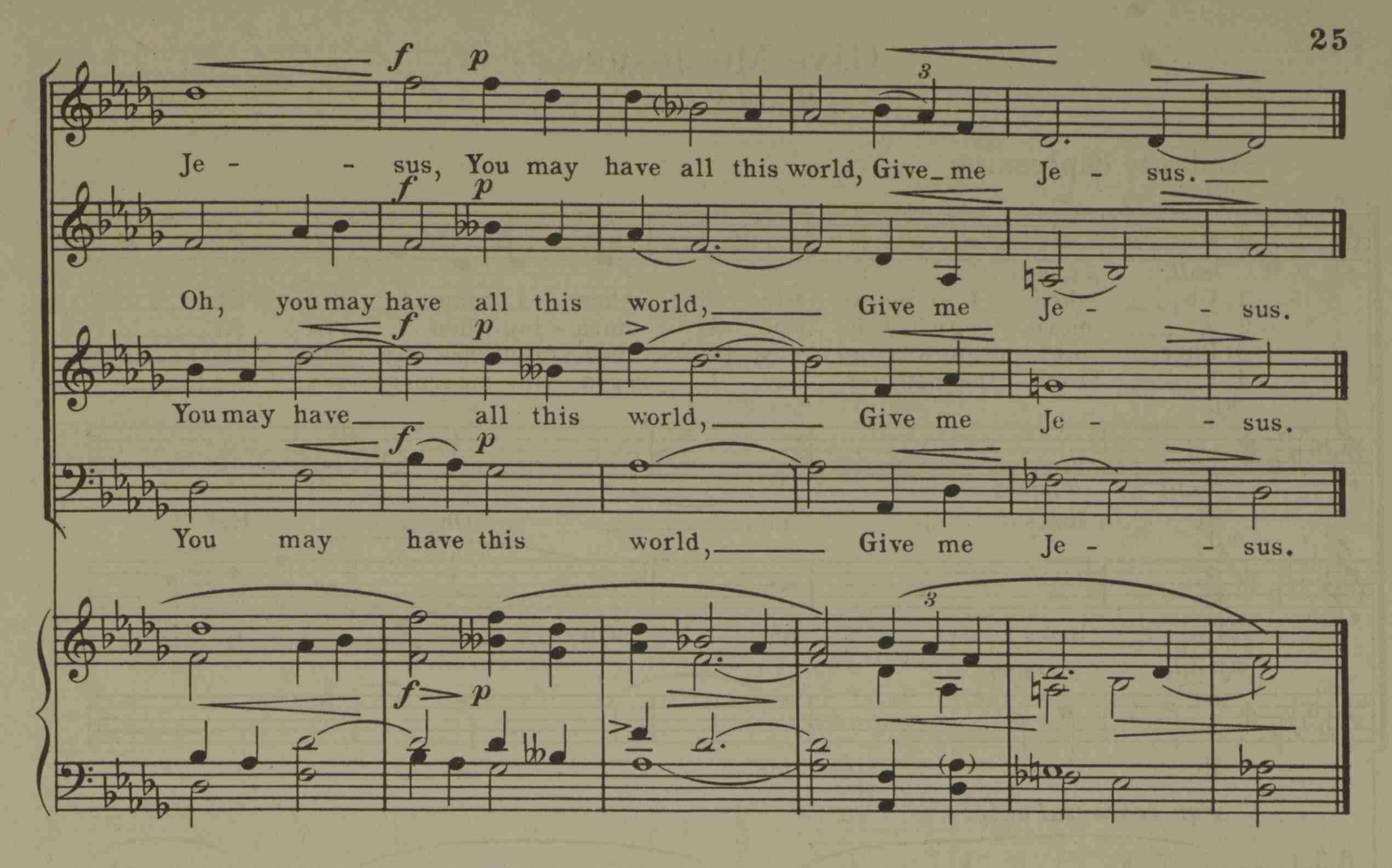
Mixed Voices Words adapted



* The "ragtime" in this Refrain might stamp it a rather modern song, for the older spirituals had only the ordinary syncopation and the "Scotch snap," although many of them have been "ragged" of late.

Give Me Jesus Mixed Voices





Four and Twenty Elders

Mixed Voices



It's Me Mixed Voices, Five Parts



- * This number may be sung a capella, also by women only.
- The opening tenor phrase has been supplied by the arranger.

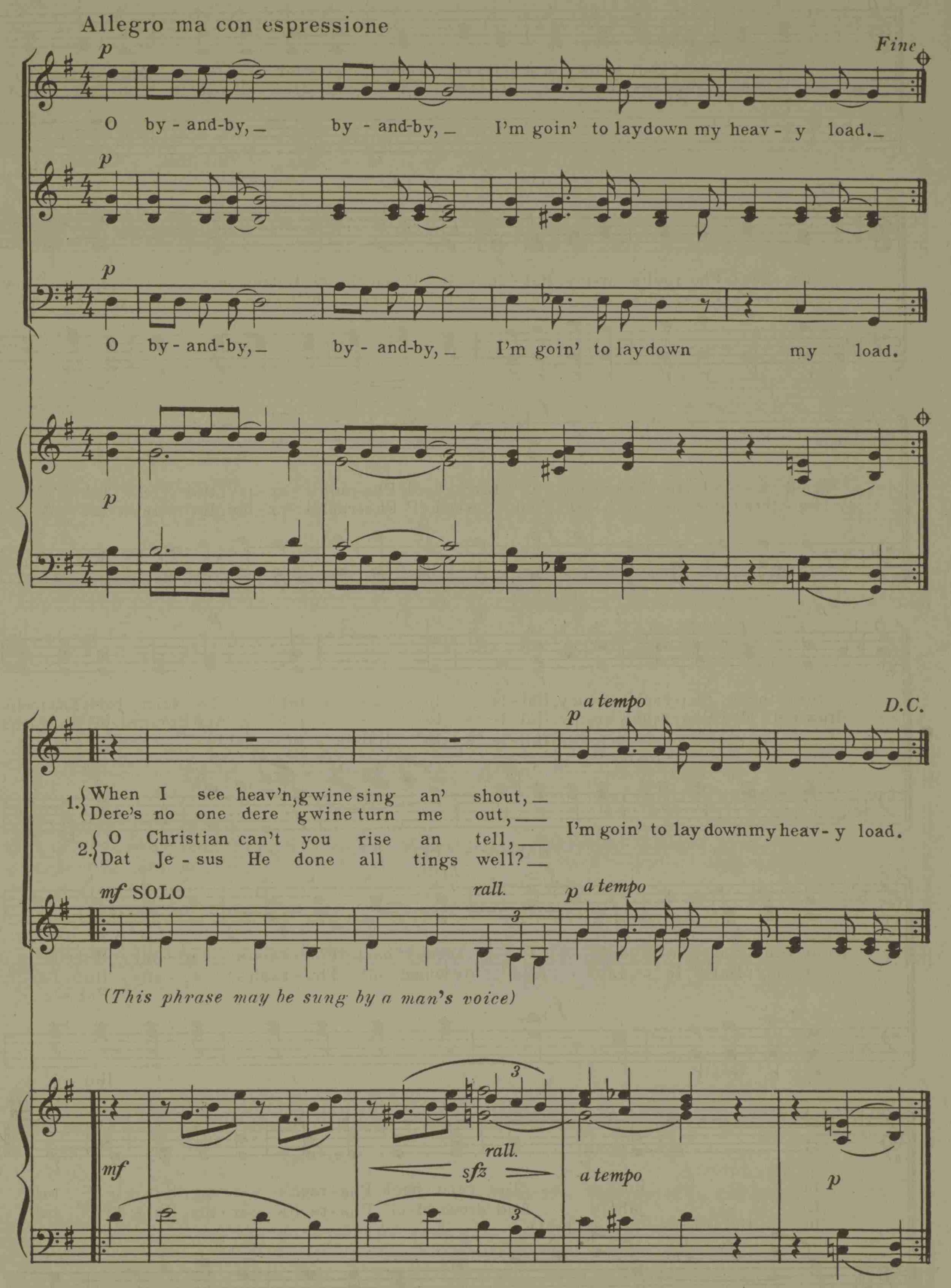


Pharaoh's Army*

Mixed Voices

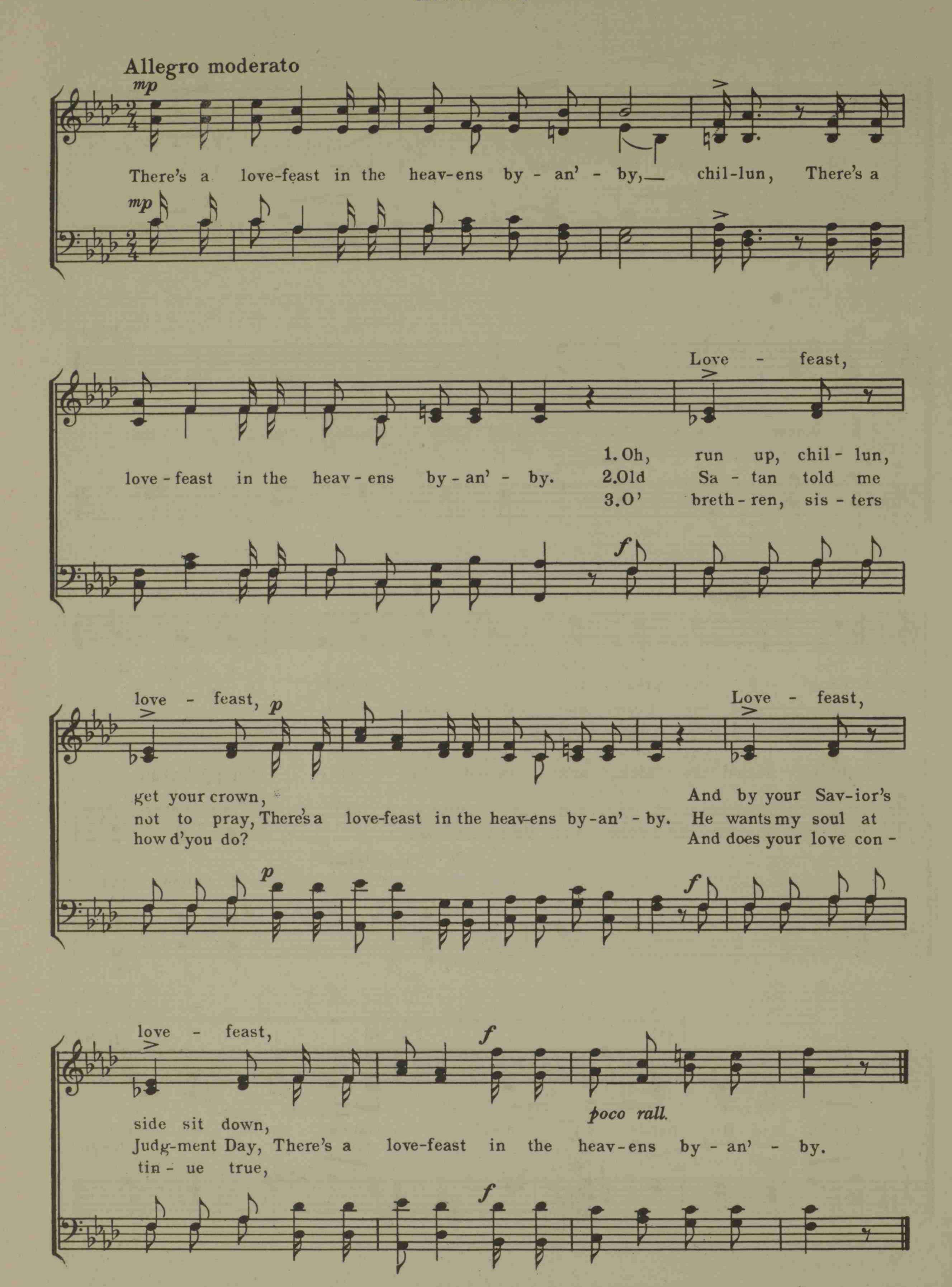


* It is of interest to observe that this tune divides itself into periods of fourteen quarter-notes instead of the usual sixteen.



- * This number may be sung a cappella.
- Repeat the first time only.

A Love-Feast in Heaven Mixed Voices



I Know the Lord's Laid His Hands on Me Mixed Voices



Can't You Live Humble?

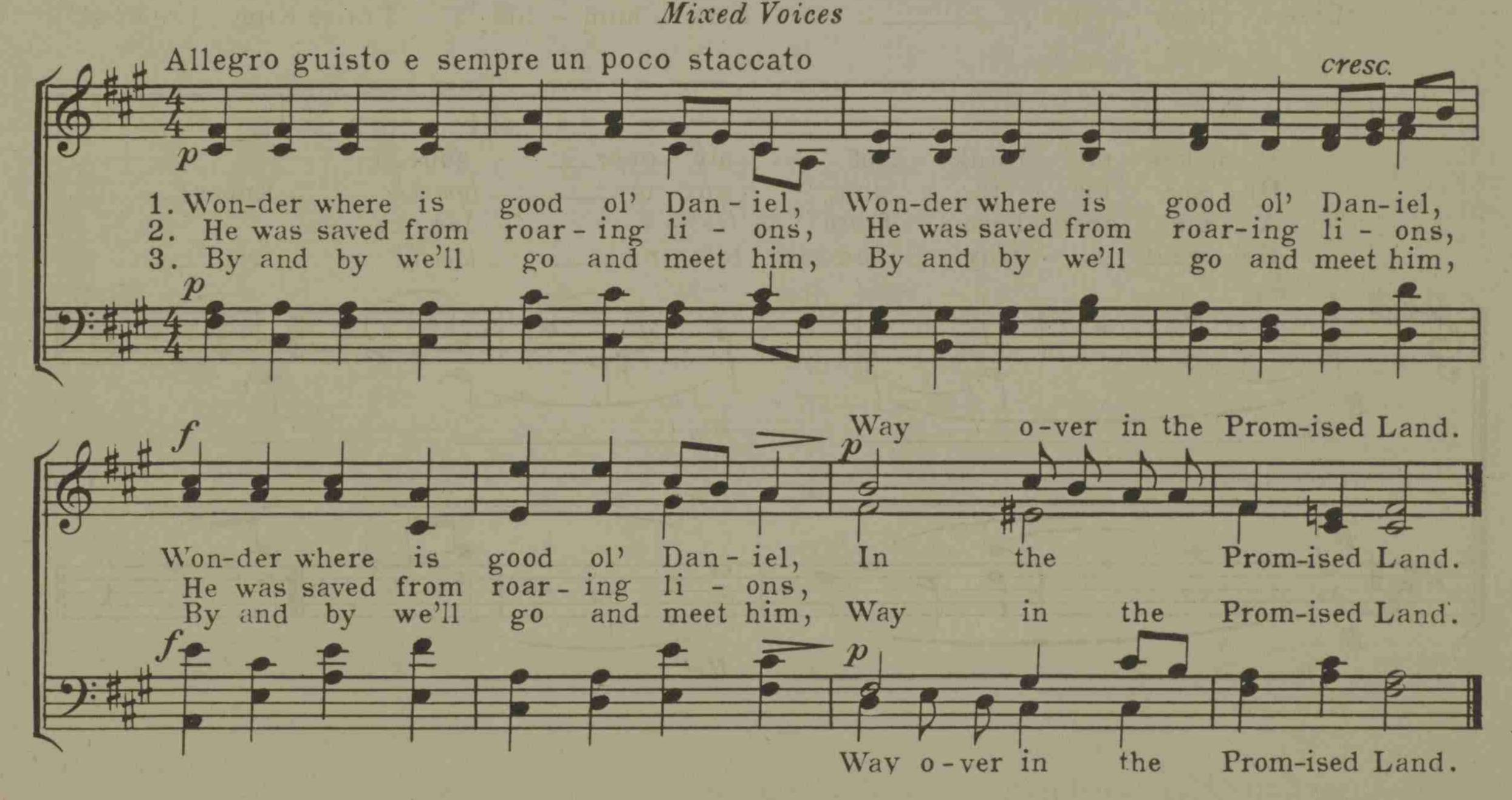
Mixed Voices, Five Parts



Go Down, Moses Mixed Voices



Wonder Where is Good Ol' Daniel



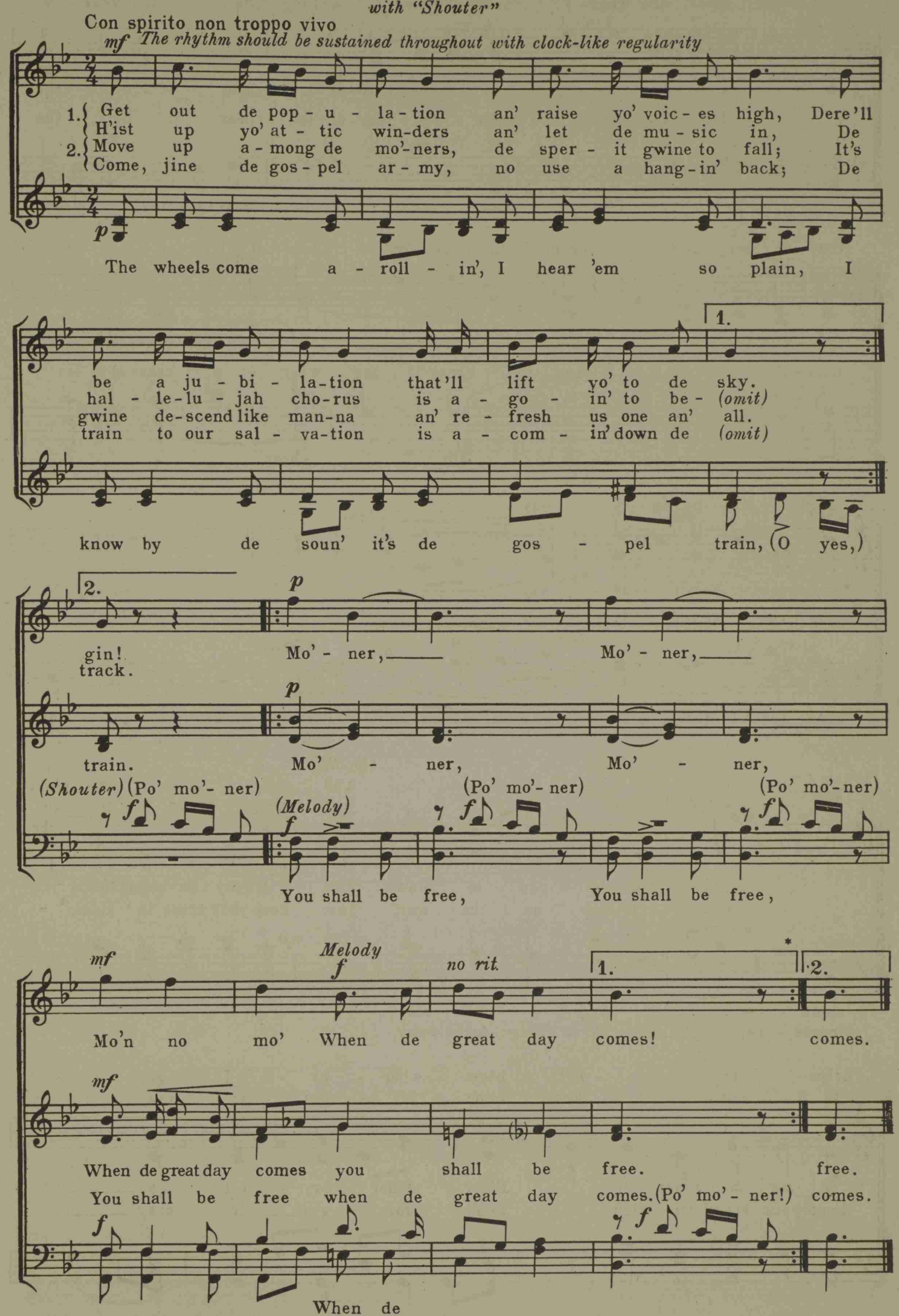
Let Us Cheer the Weary Traveller

Mixed Voices



Poor Mourner*

Mixed Voices, Five Parts with "Shouter"



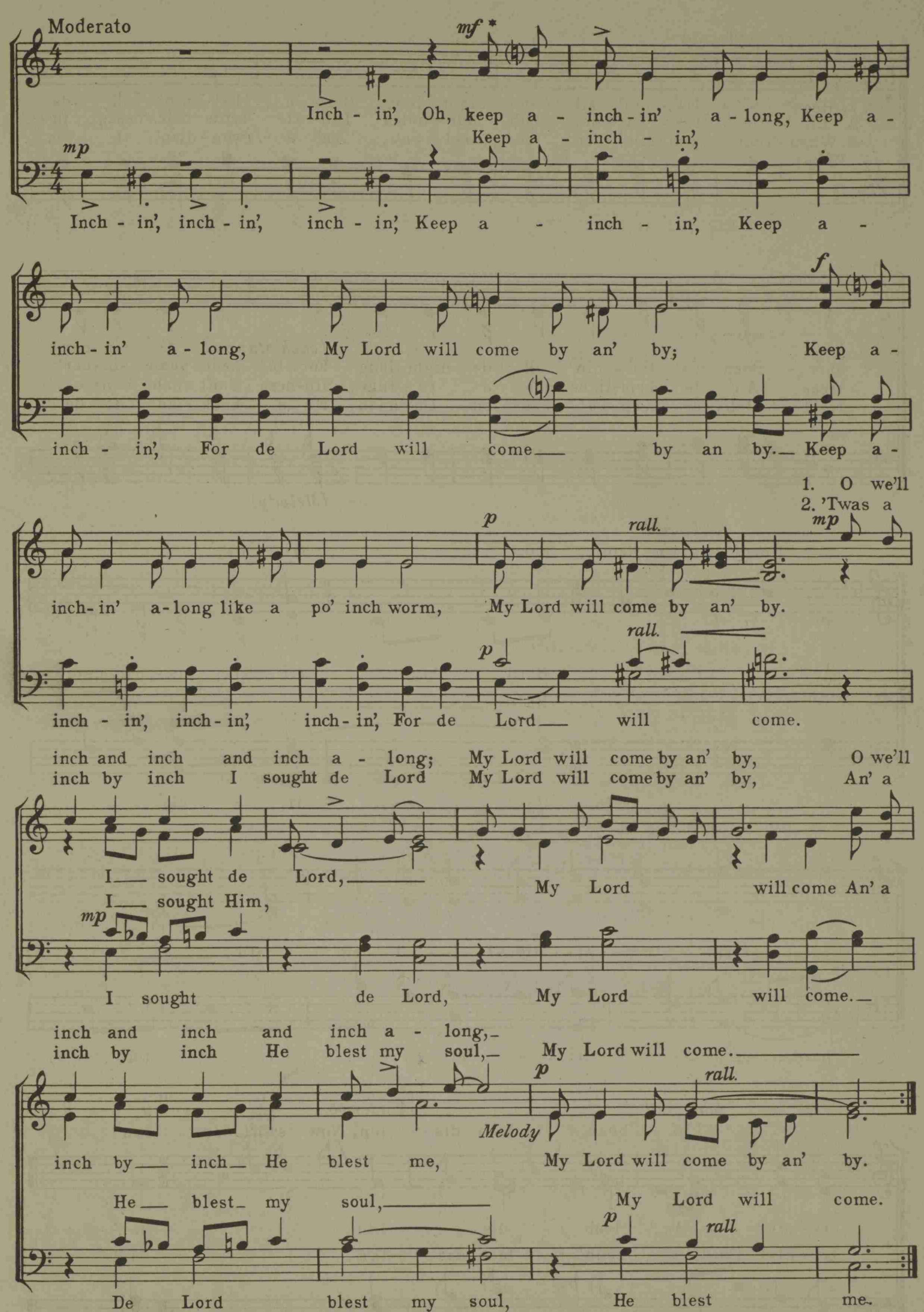
^{*} Dynamic variation at the repeats may be made according to fancy.

Hard Trials Mixed Voices



Inching Along

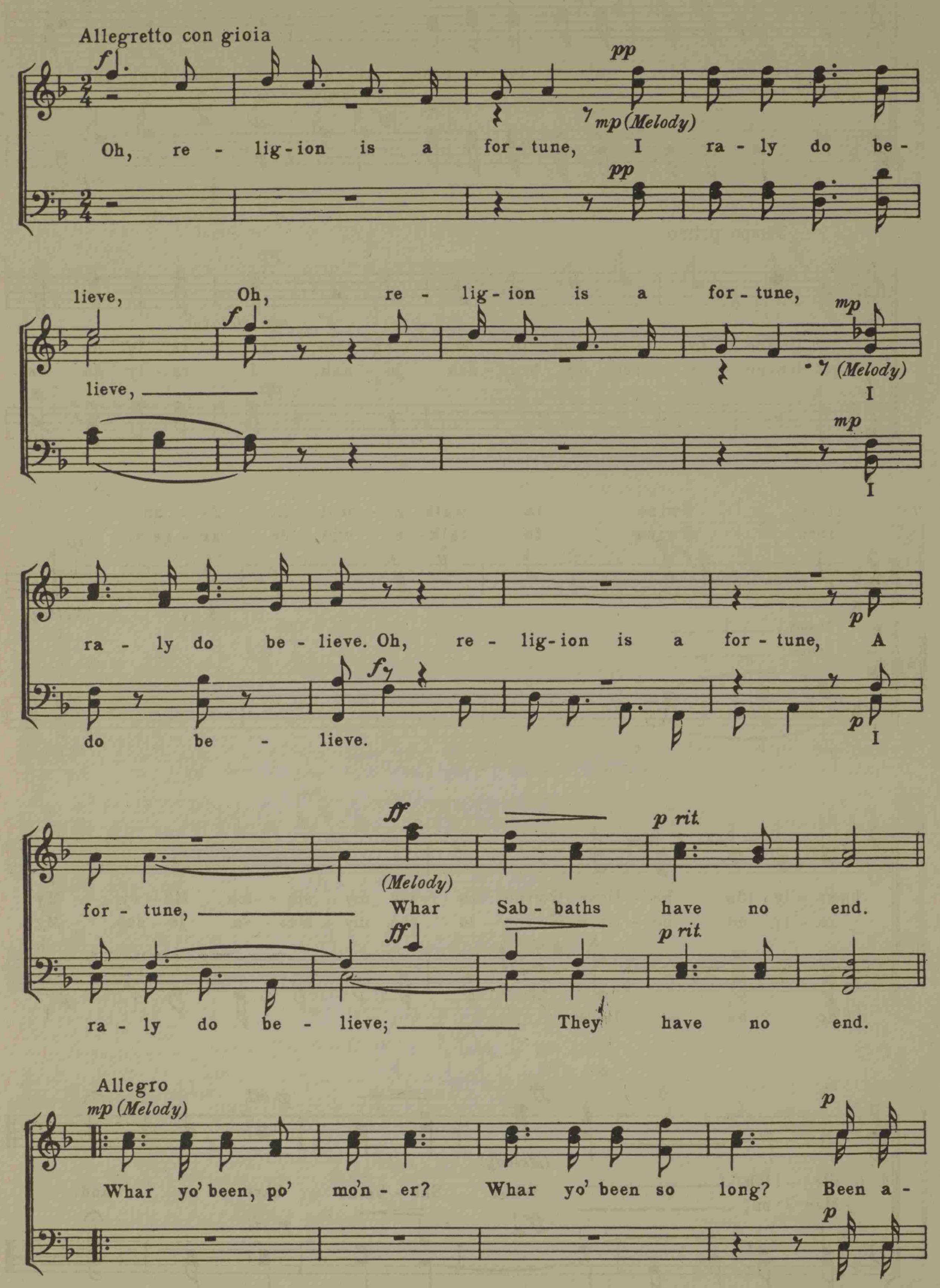
Mixed Voices



* In the literature of folksong there is probably no more startling initial phrase than the above to be found, it has the melodic audacity in which Richard Strauss delights.

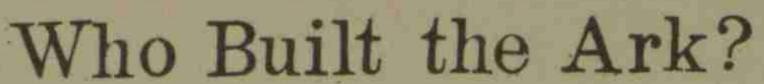
Religion is a Fortune

Men's Voices *



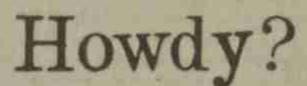
* When the piano is used in the numbers for men's voices it should always be remembered that the music in the treble clef is to be played an octave lower than printed.

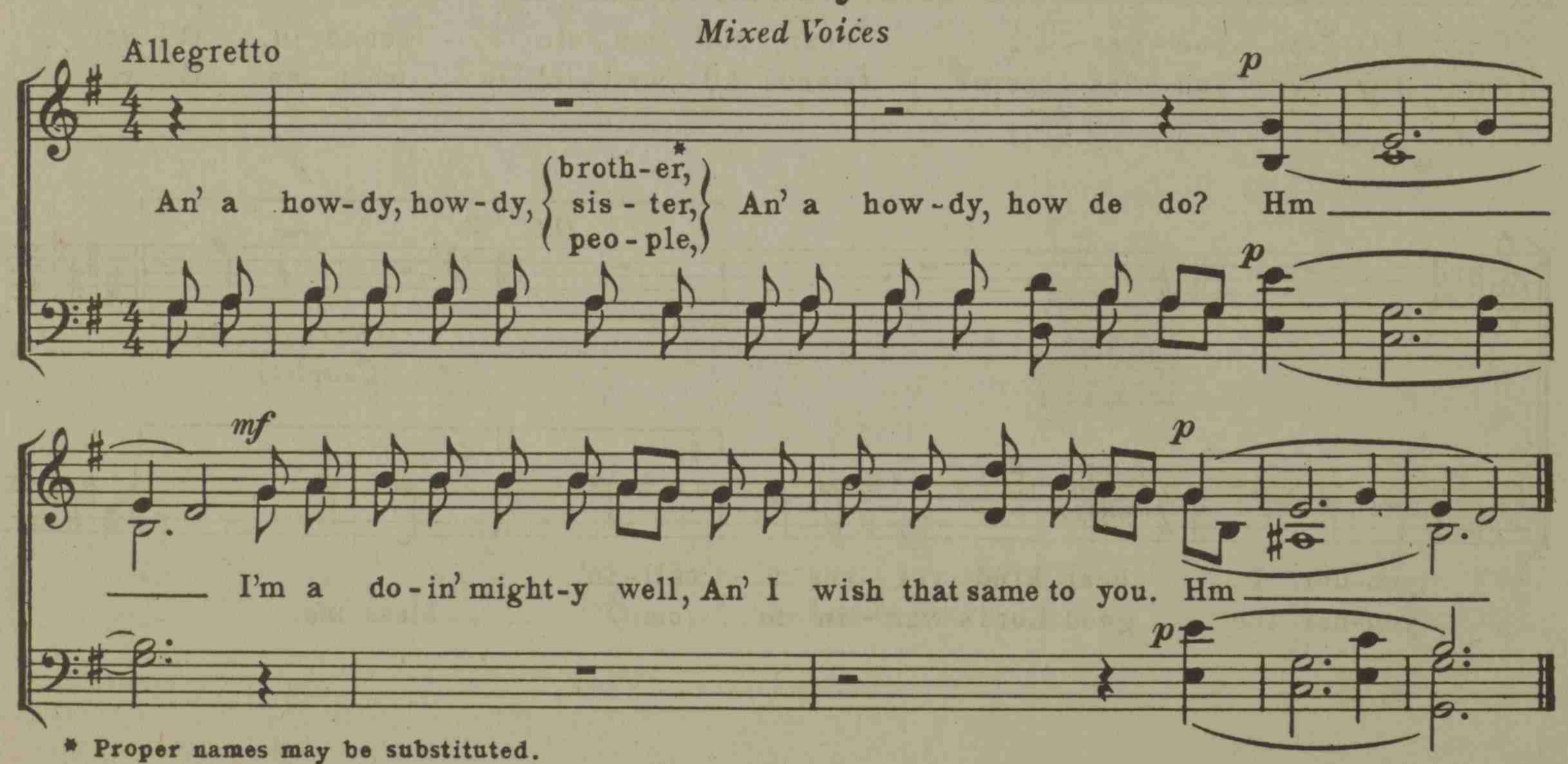






* Always begin the following stanza without ritard or interruption.

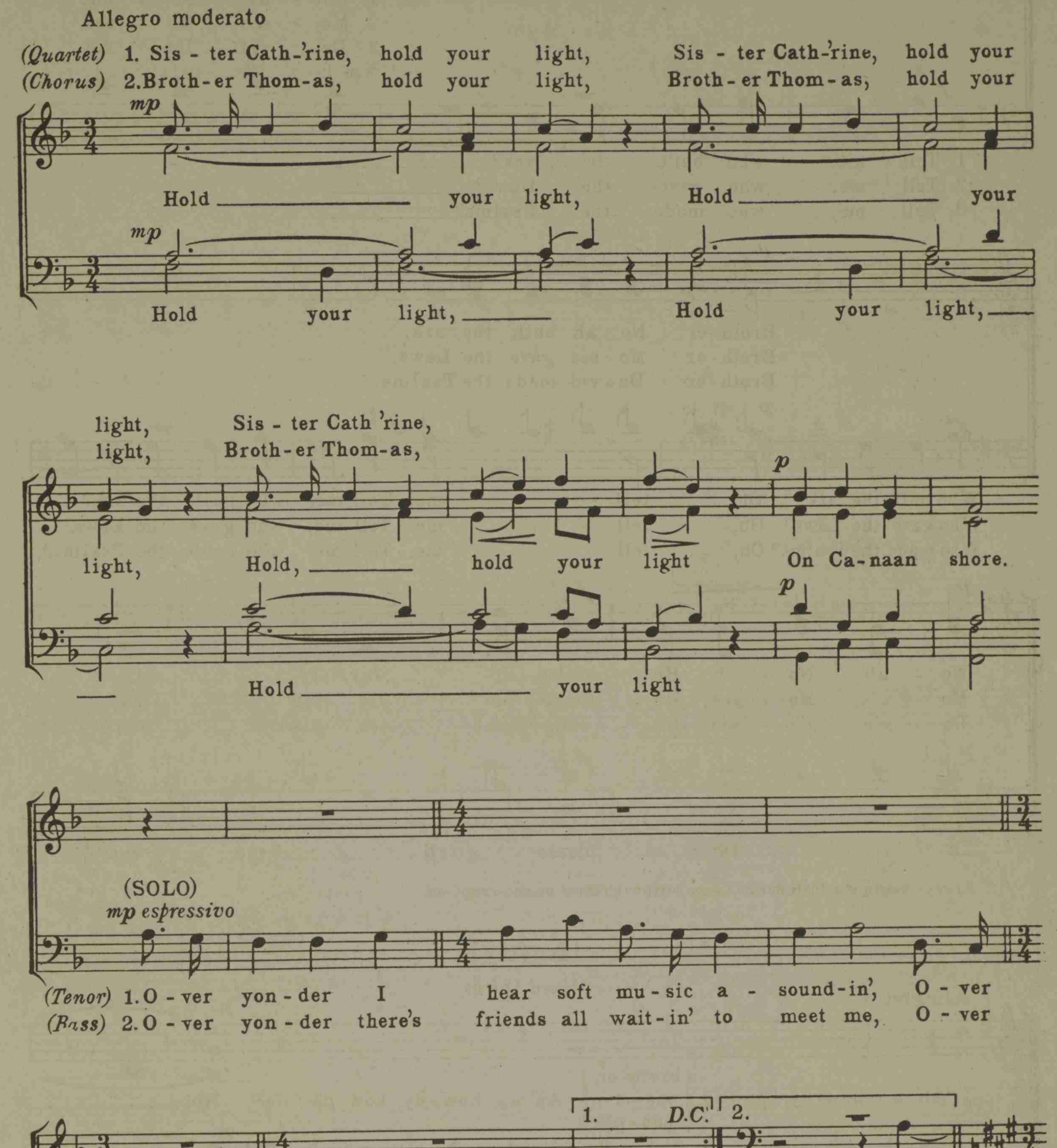


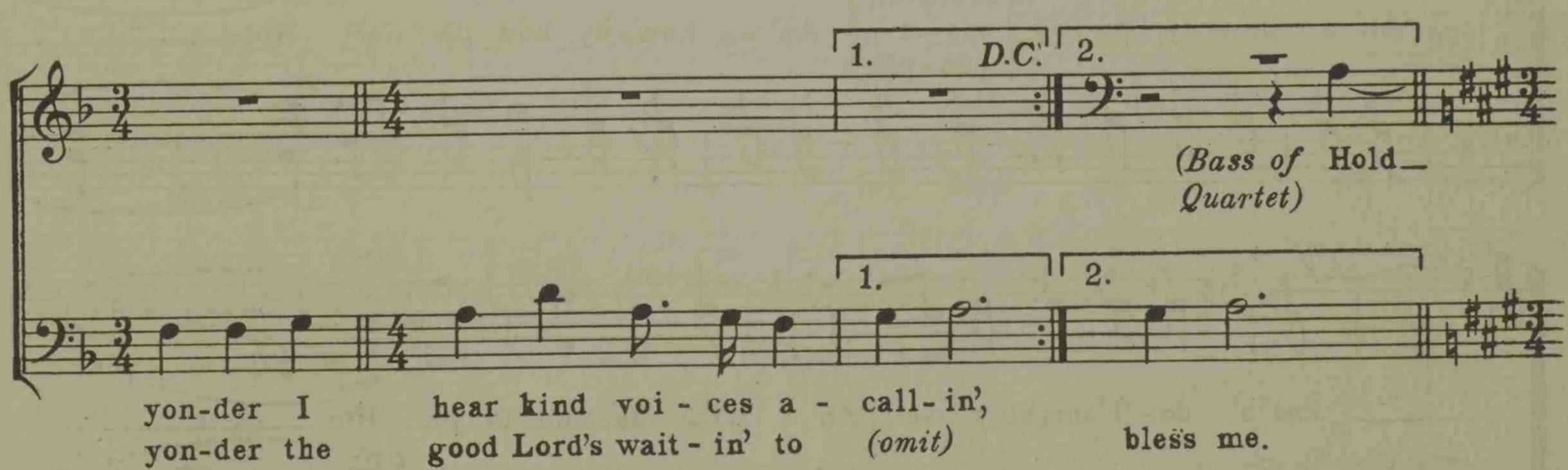


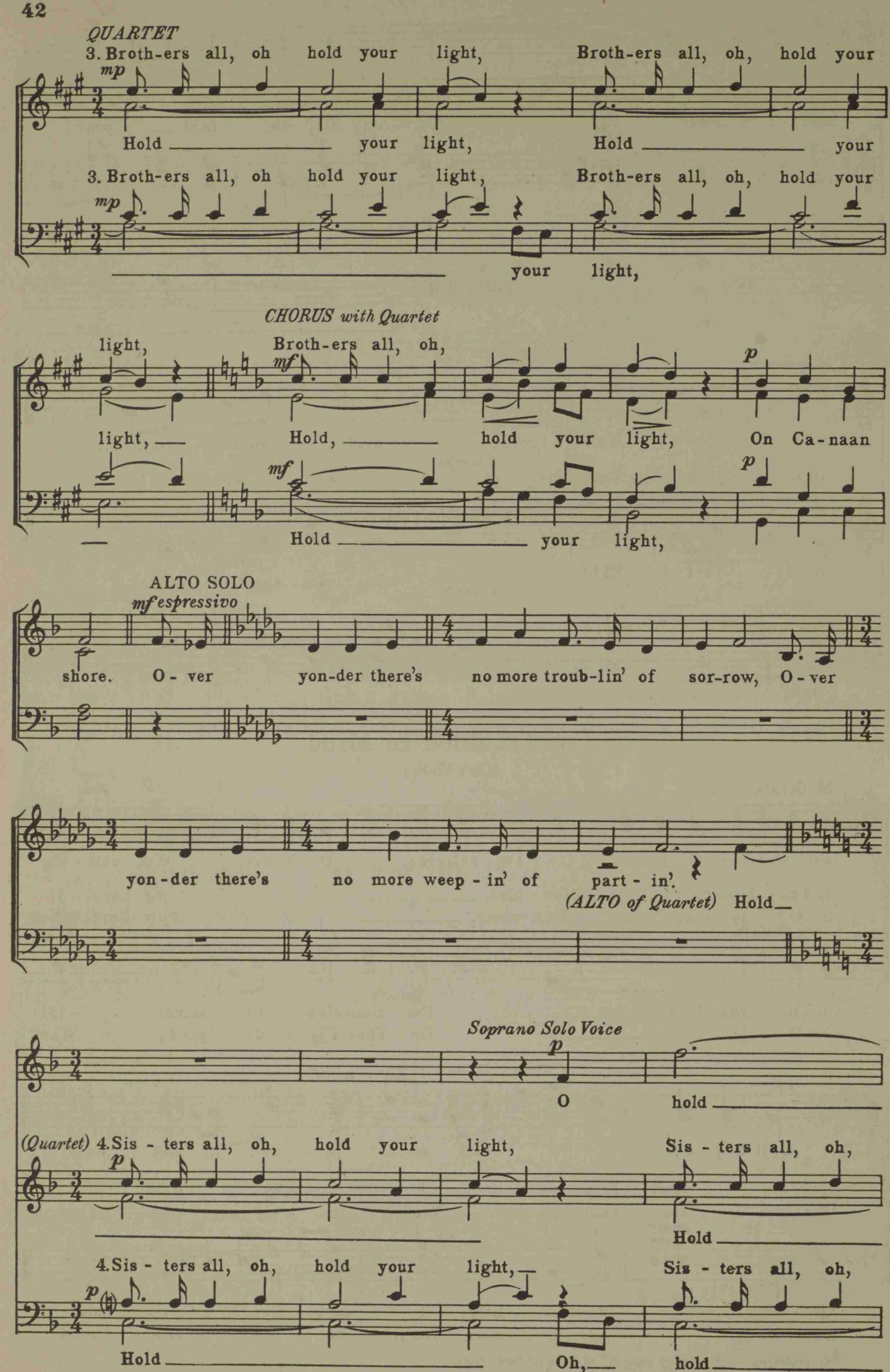
On Canaan Shore

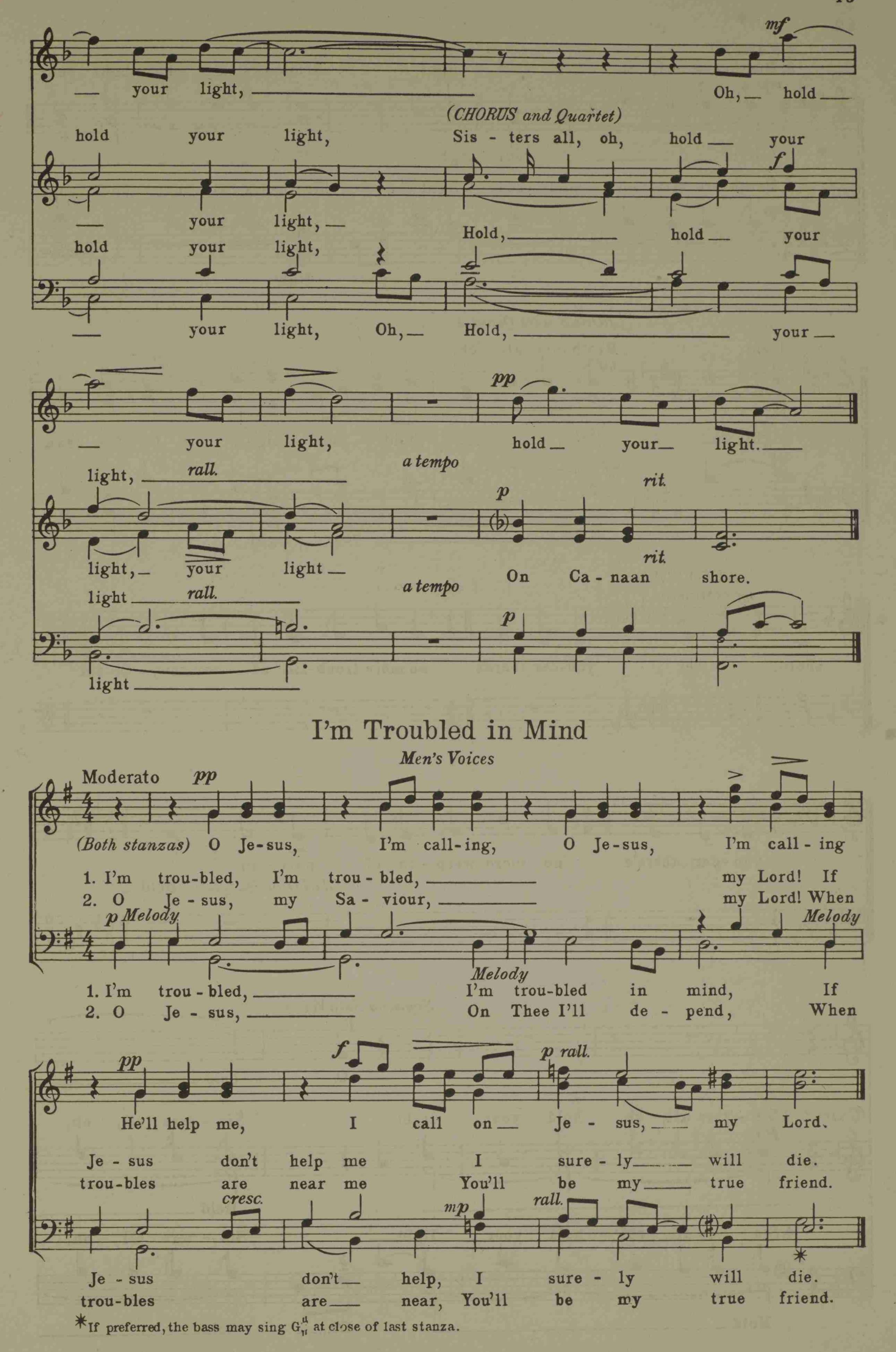
Mixed Chorus, Quartet and Solos

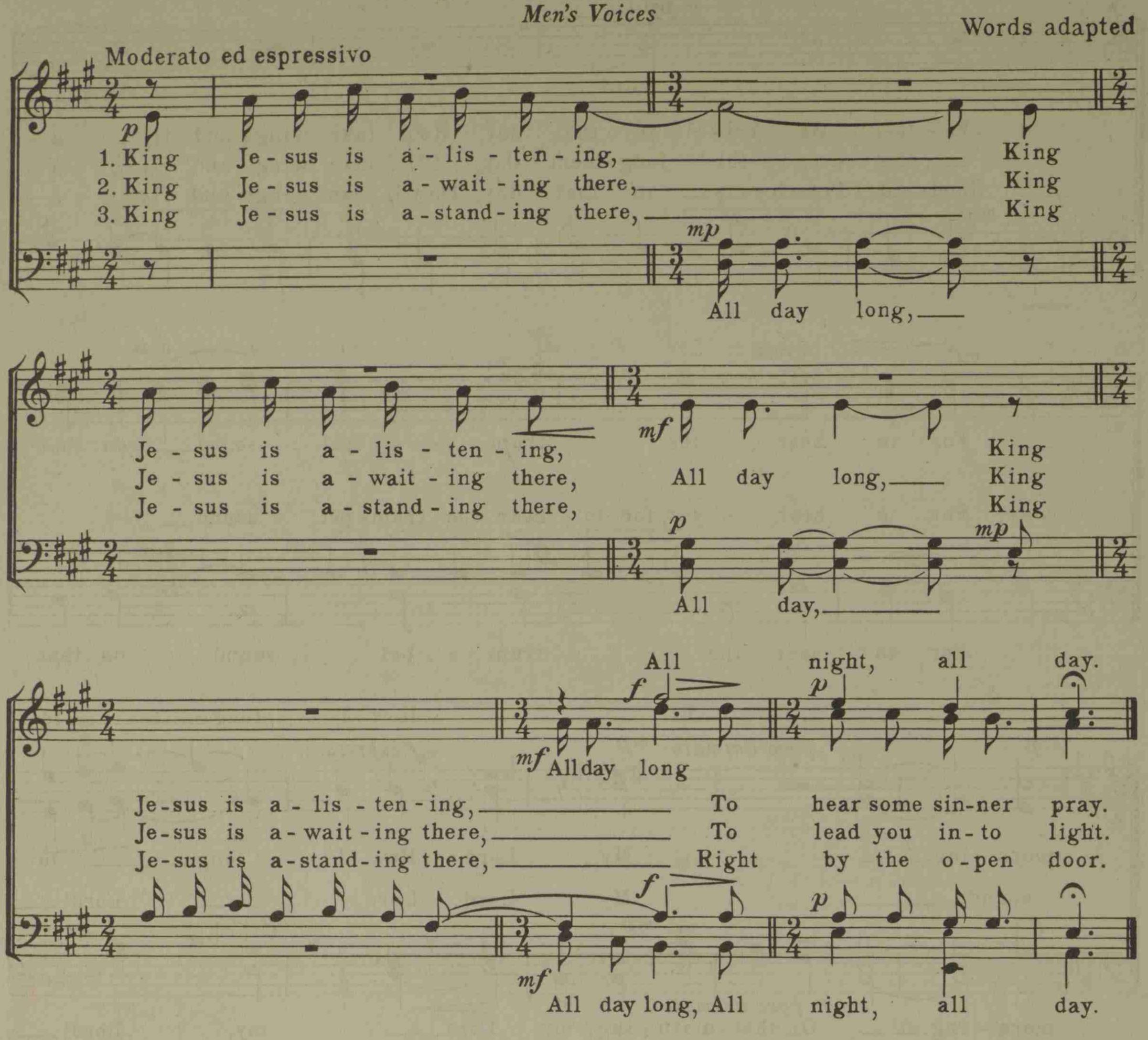
Words and Tune adapted











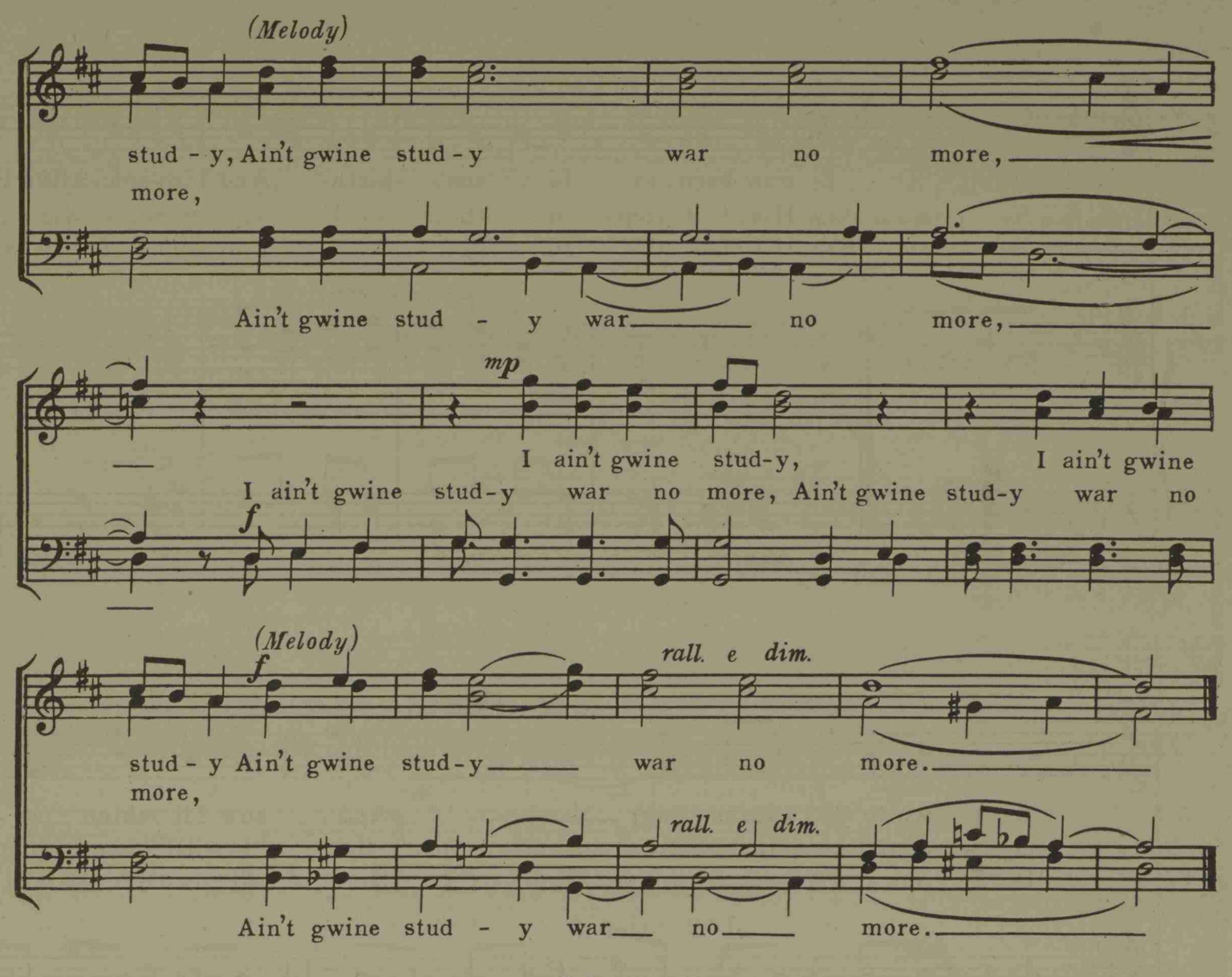
I'll Hear the Trumpet Sound





I Ain't Gwine Study War No More Men's Voices



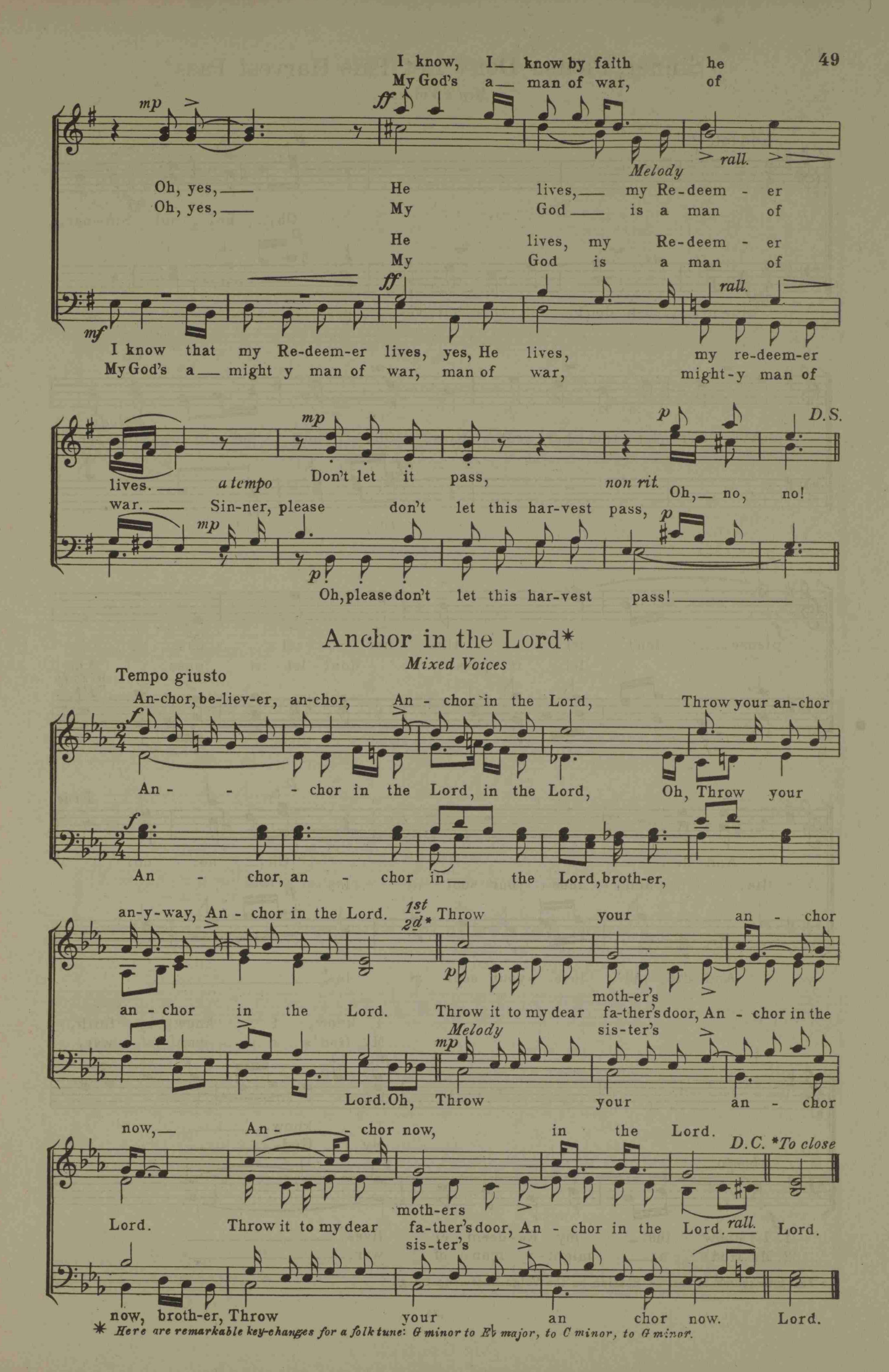


Run, Mary, Run Men's Voices

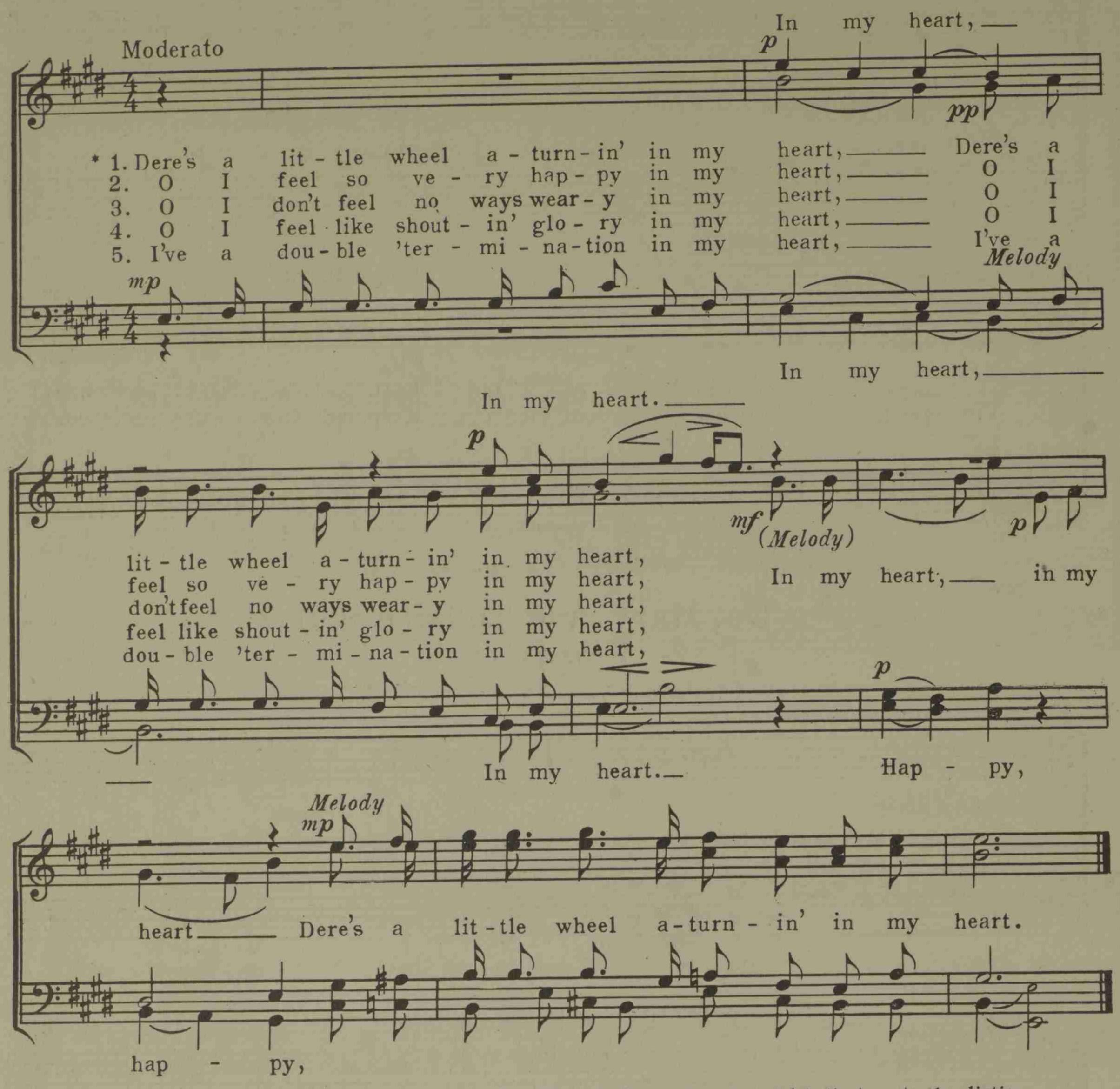


Sinner, Please Don't Let This Harvest Pass* Men's Voices





Men's Voices

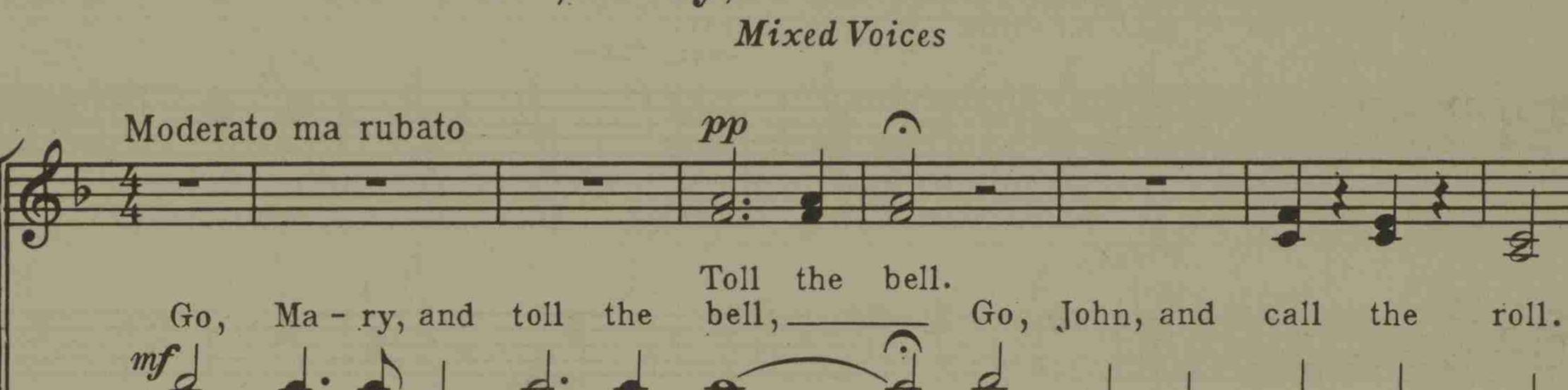


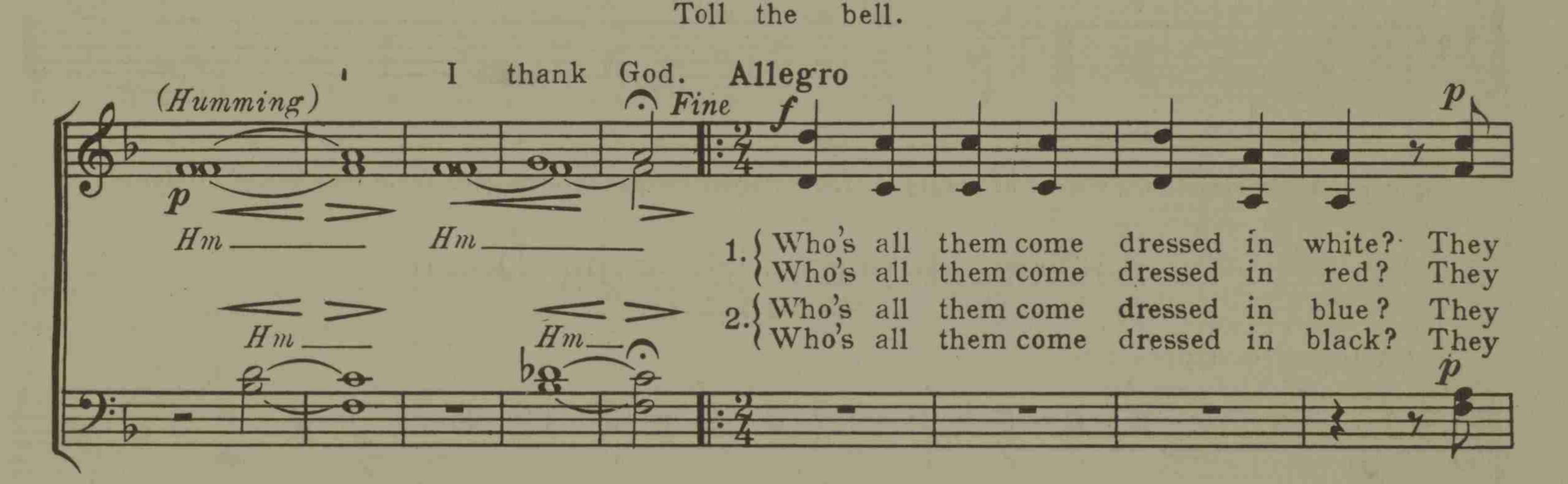
* Slight rhythmic variations will be necessary in the different stanzas to accommodate the tune to the diction.

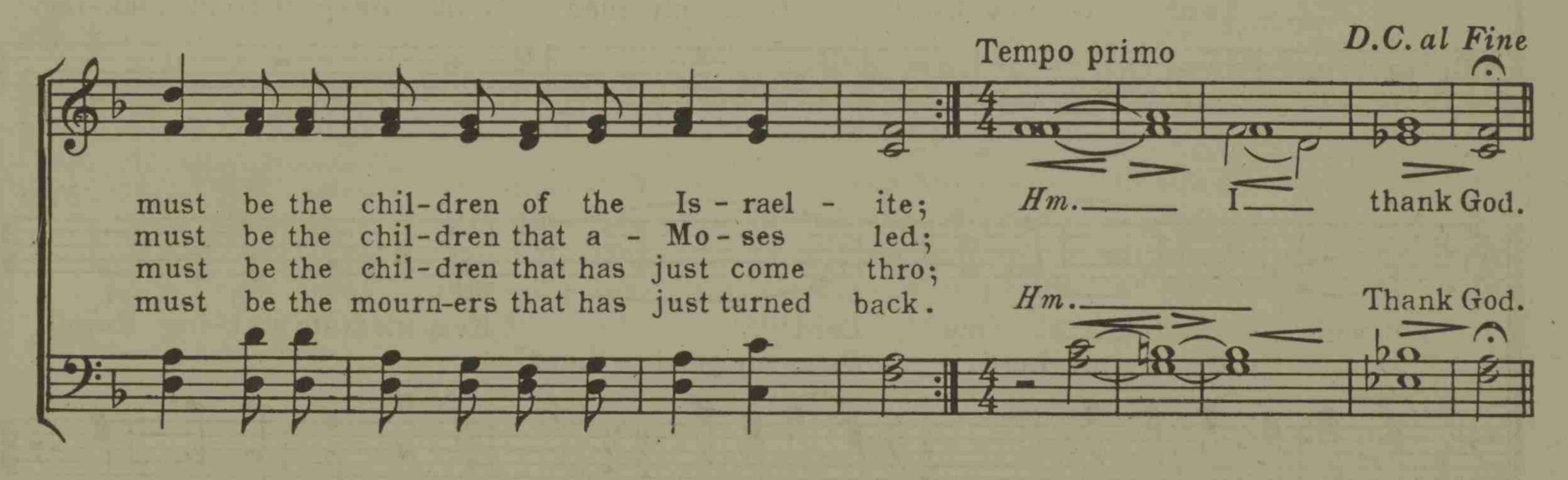
Keep Me from Sinking Down Mixed Voices



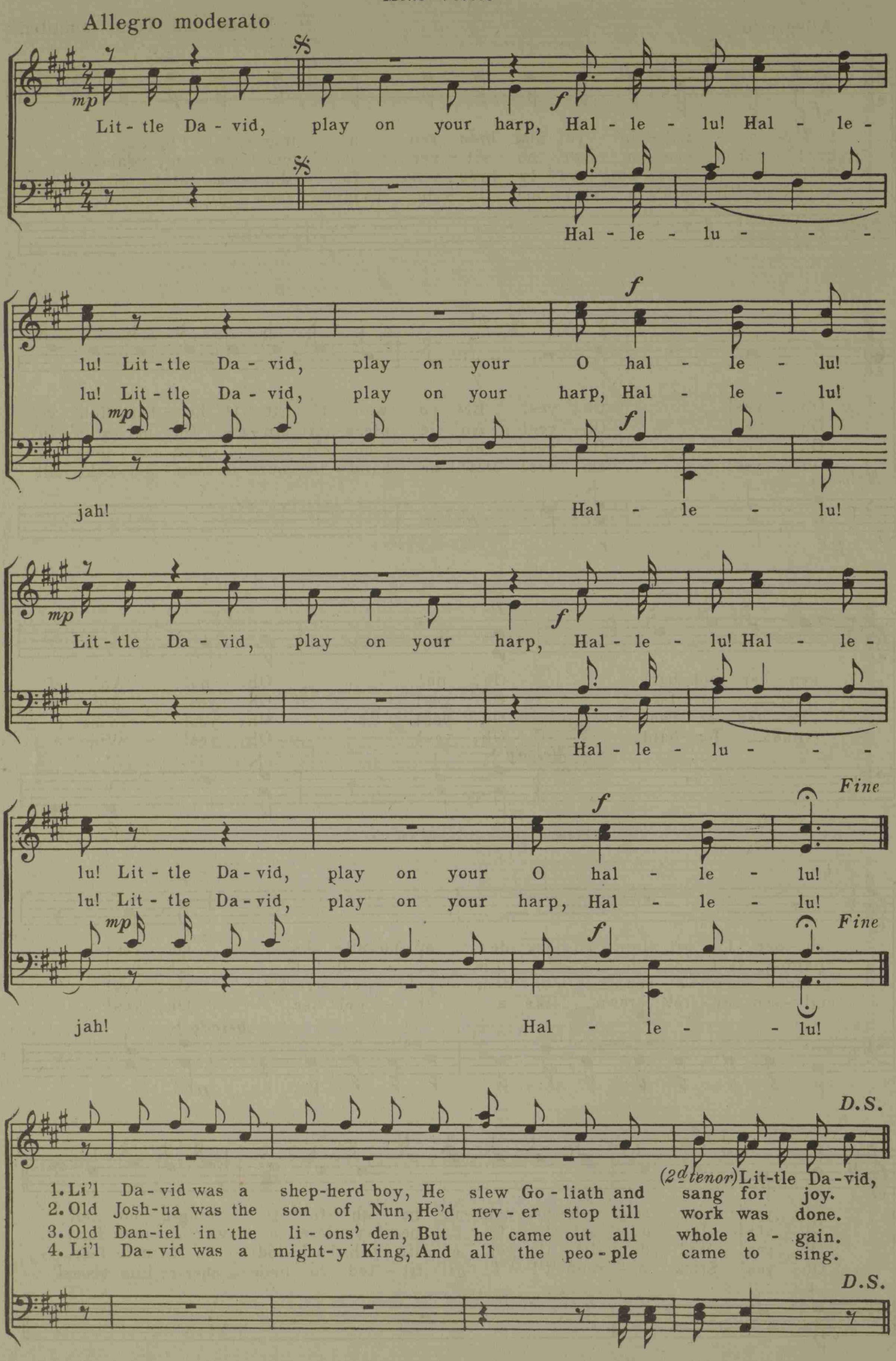






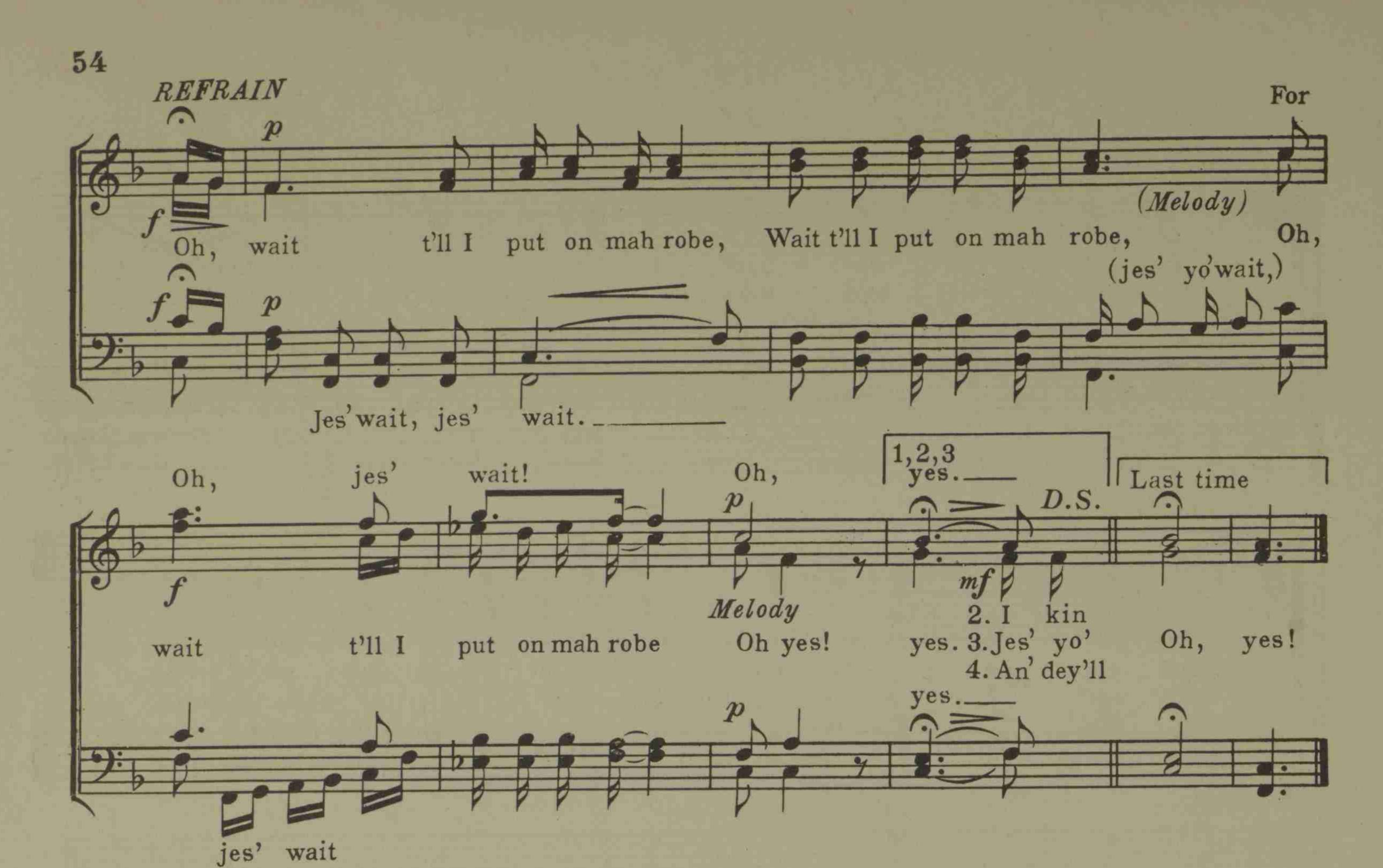


Little David Mens' Voices



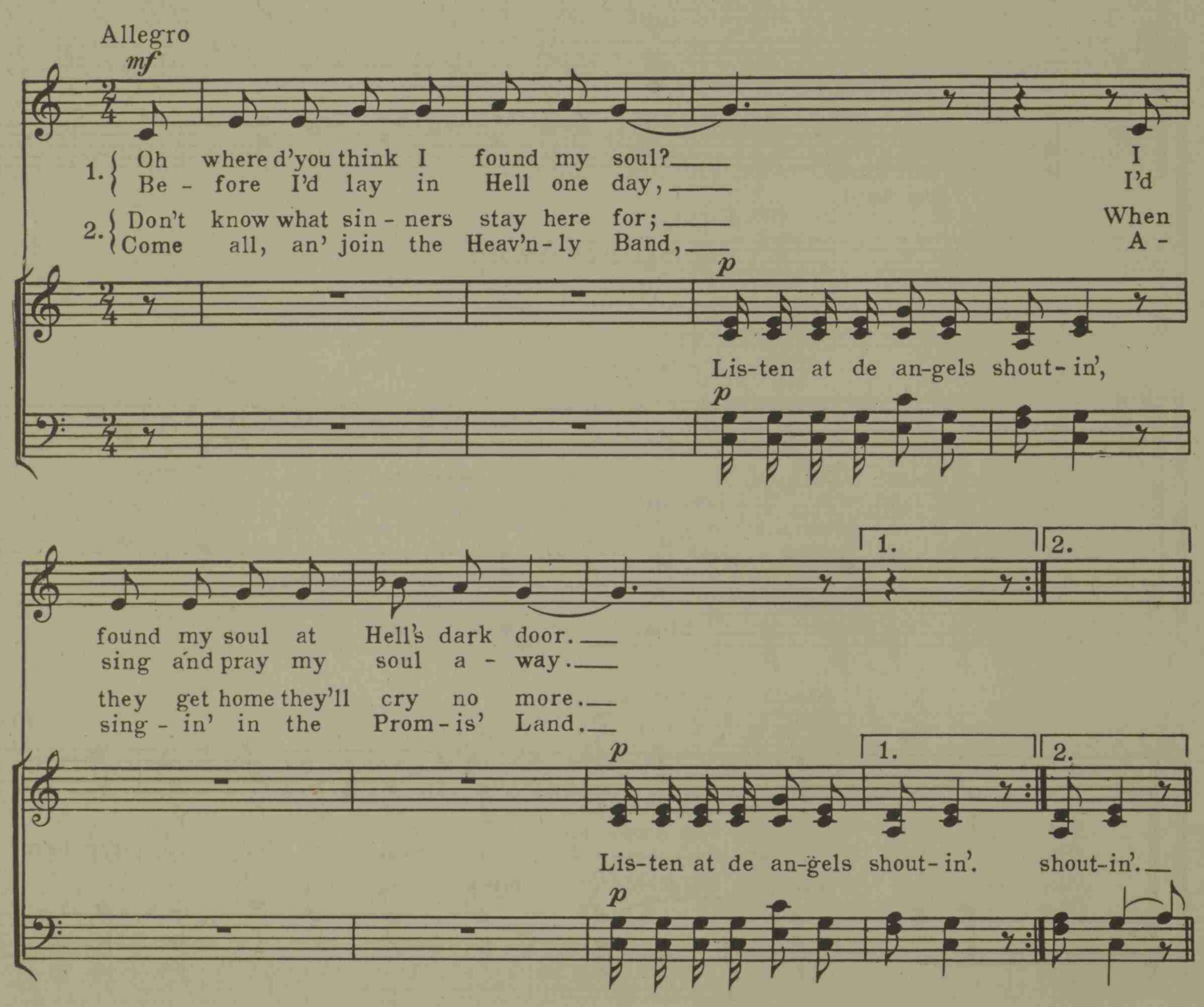
Hal-le - lu - jah!

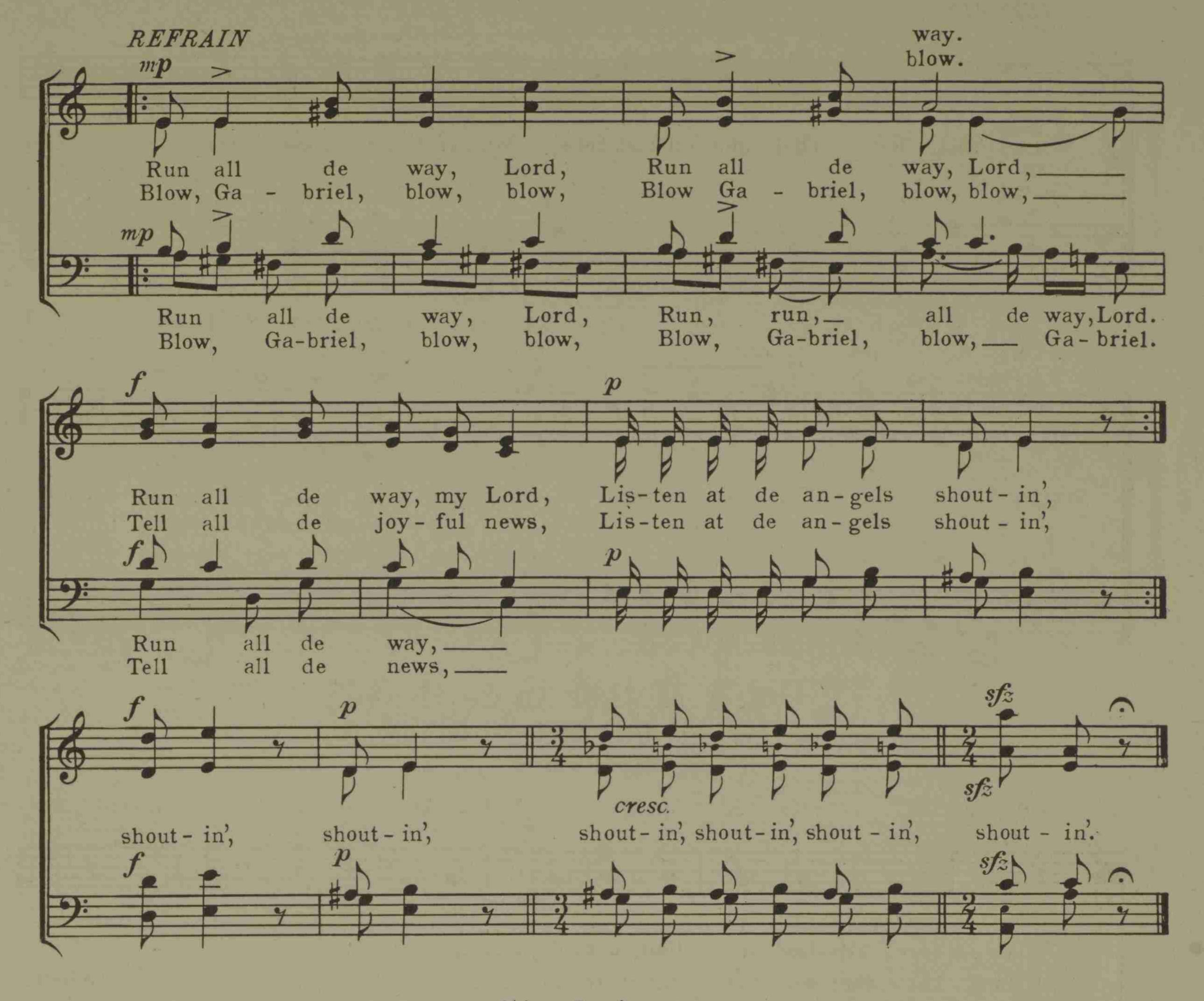




Listen at de Angels Shoutin'

Mixed Voices





Steal Away Mixed Voices





I Got a Mother in de Heaven

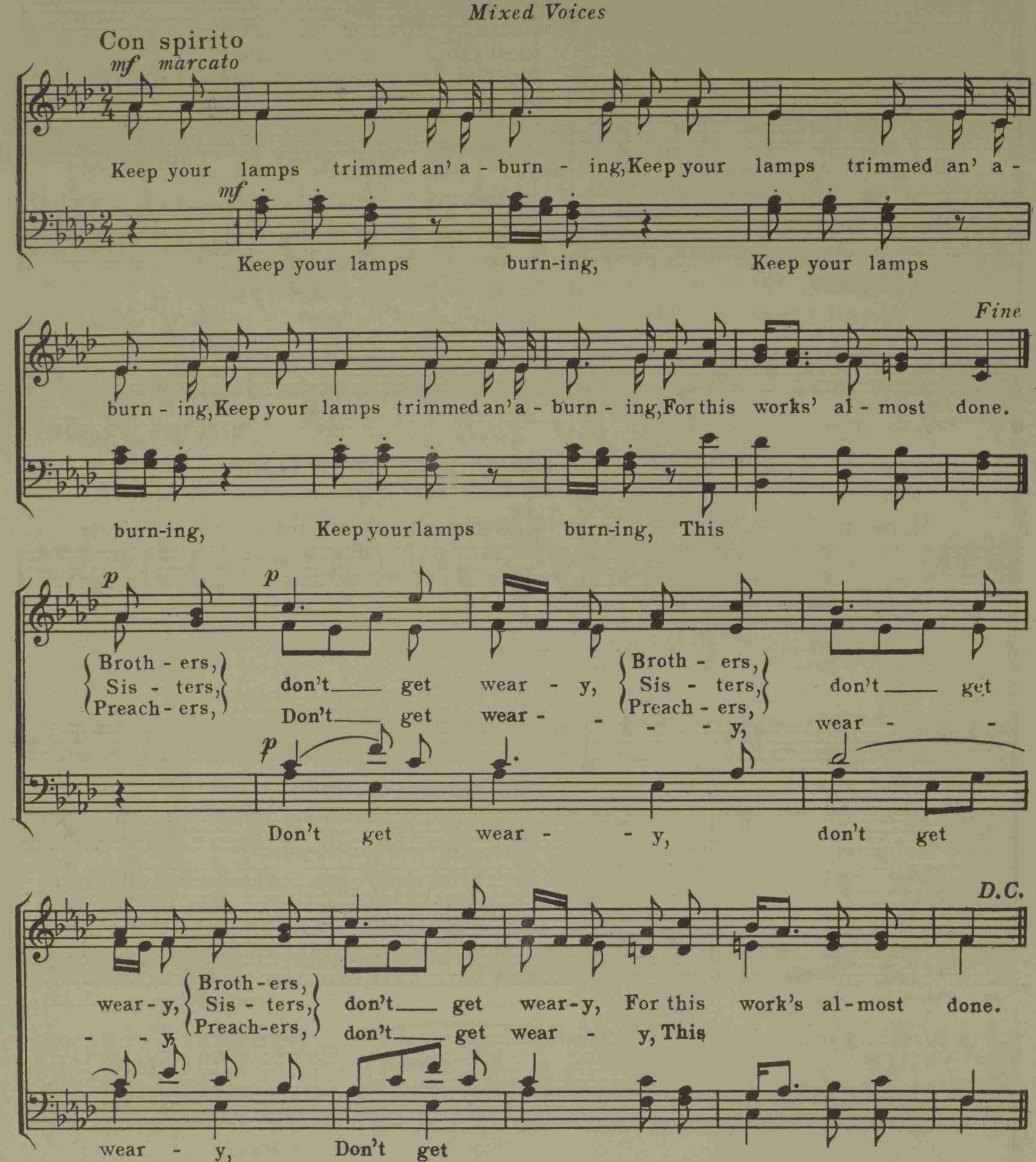
Men's Voices



Men's Voices

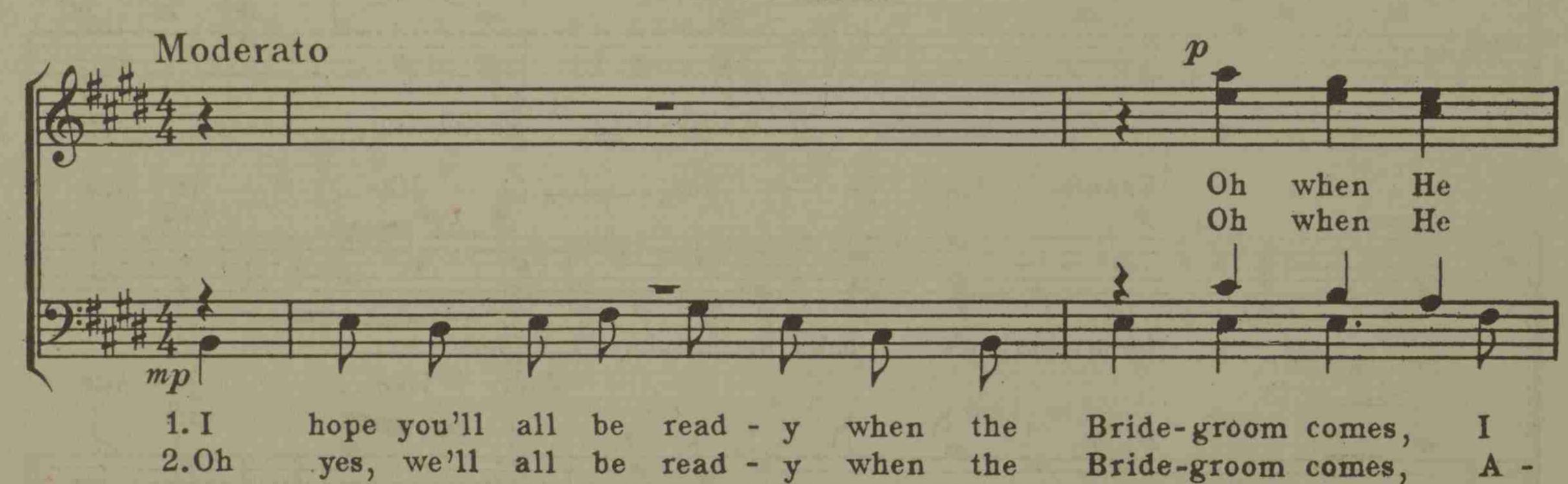


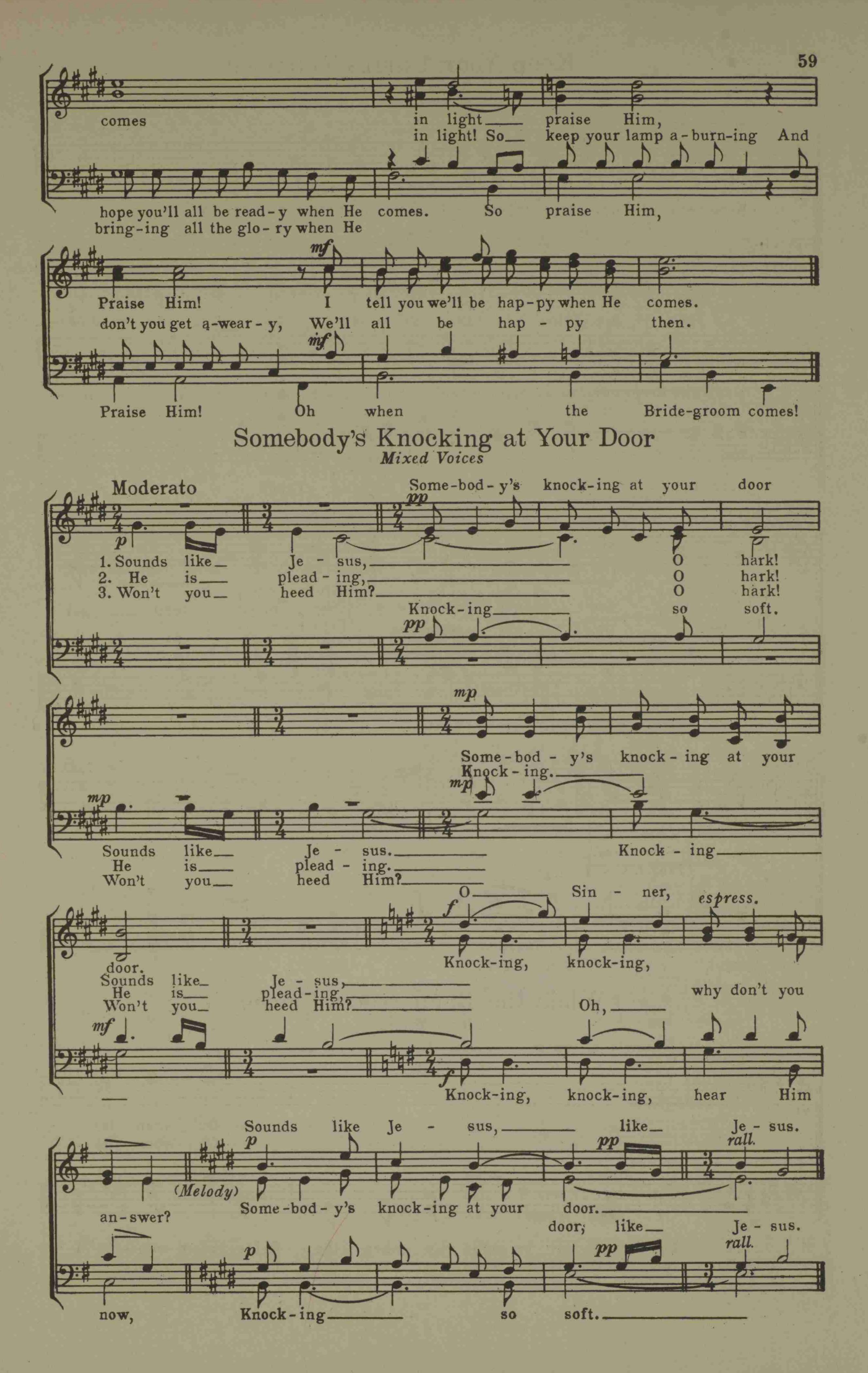
Keep Your Lamps Trimmed



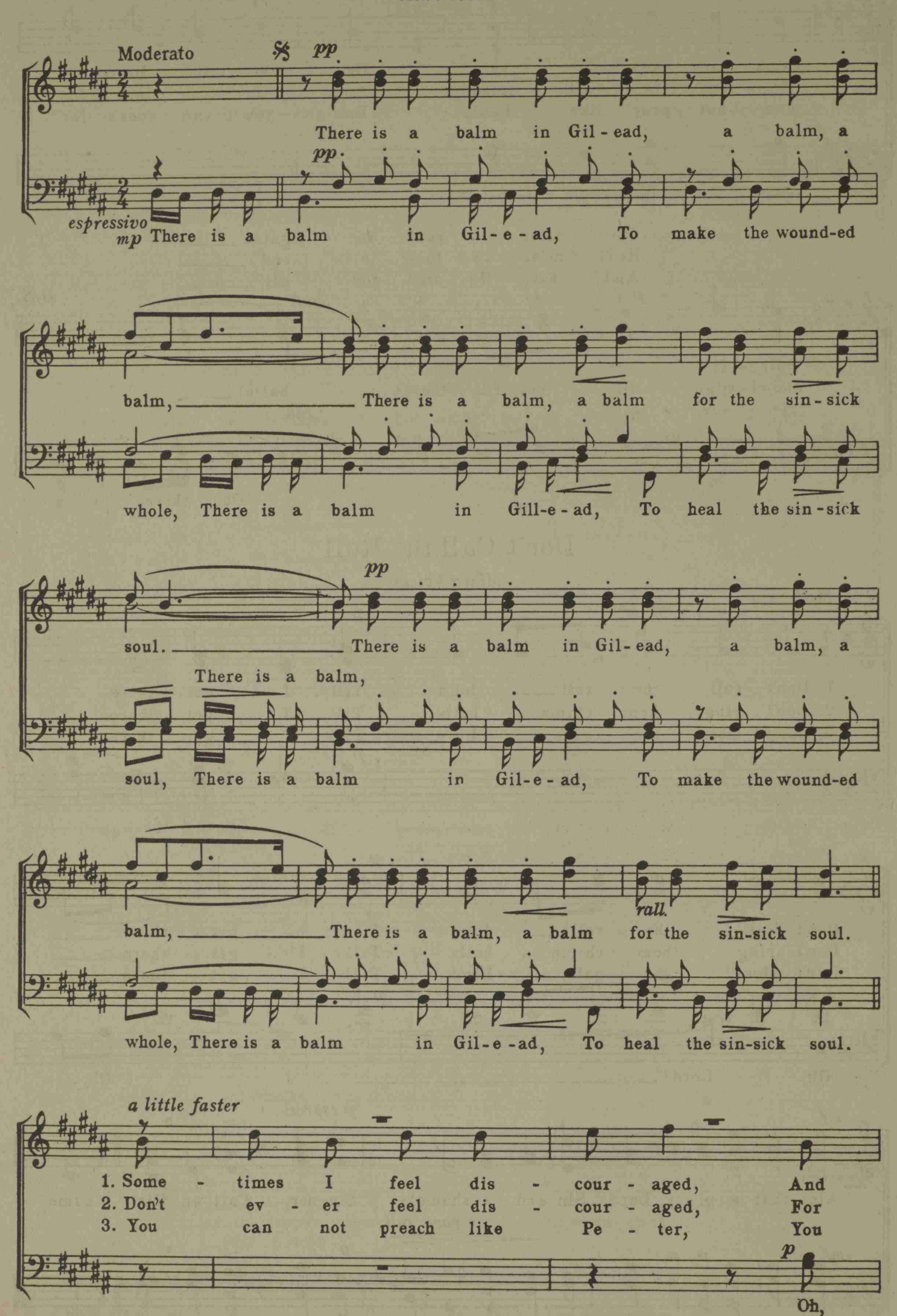
When the Bridegroom Comes

Men's Voices





Men's Voices





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