SONGS FOR THE PRE-SCHOOL AGE



"It was his nature to blossom into song, as it is a tree's to leaf itself in April."—Alexander Smith.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD

OF THE

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

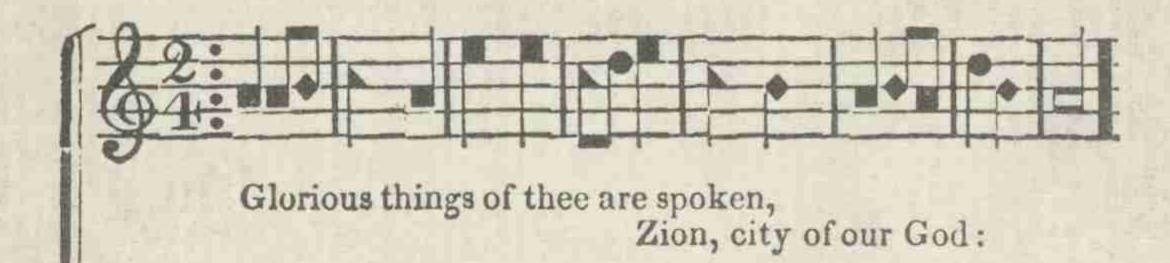
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Z8B SH92 BISHOP ROBERT WESTLY PEACH
COLLECTION OF CHURCH MUSIC
AND
HYMNOLOGY

ACQUIRED BY THE

AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

1939



PRESENTED BY

AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

TO

THE WARRINGTON-PRATT-SOULE COLLECTION OF HYMNOLOGY

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HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

SONGS FOR THE PRE-SCHOOL AGE

FOR USE IN THE
SUNDAY SCHOOL, HOME
AND KINDERGARTEN

Compiled and Edited by
AURORA MEDFORD SHUMATE

PRICE 50c

BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

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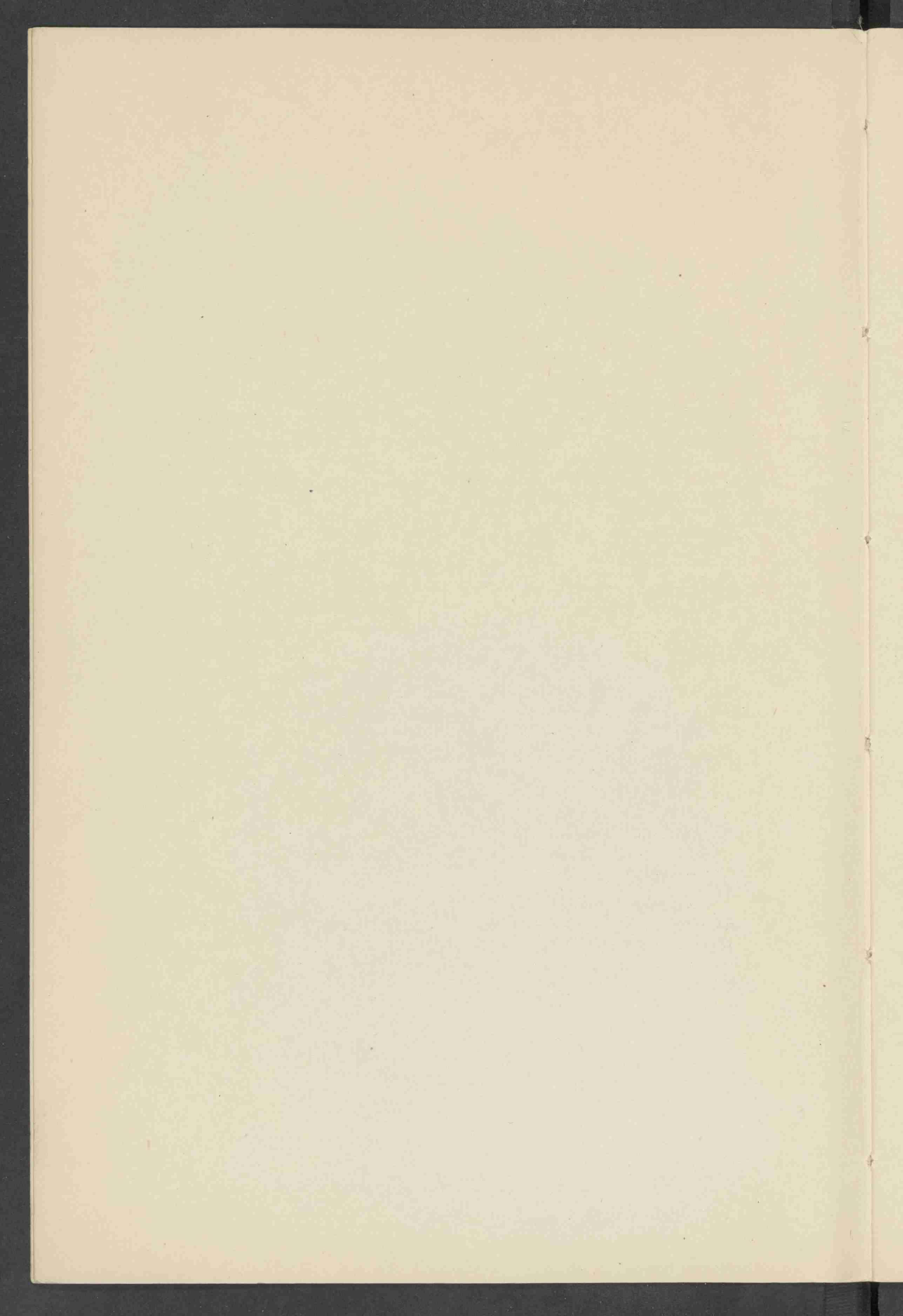
PREFACE

This book is sent out to offer help and inspiration to the workers with small children. These songs are short and tuneful and it is hoped that they will meet the needs of the little ones. A little child can grasp only one truth at a time, and when that truth is wrapped up in a rhythmic song it will live on and on in the child's life. Bulwer says, "Music once admitted to the soul, becomes a sort of spirit, and never dies." These songs have a spiritual message for the child in the midst of us. A few relaxation exercises are added to help meet one of the physical characteristics of little children—restlessness.

We desire to thank all who have helped in getting this book together. Especially do we wish to thank Mildred White Wallace, Johnie B. Wood, Ora McMullen, and B. B. McKinney, who freely gave their services as a love gift to childhood. The Standard Publishing Company allowed us to use their song called "Little Baby in the Manger, I Love You." Robert H. Coleman gave permission to use "Church Bells" which appears in his song book called "Harvest Hymns." Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Company allowed the use of two songs from "Song Devices and Jingles," as a special permission. A. S. Barnes Company permitted the use of several of their relaxation exercises from their book called "Story Plays." To Ginn & Company we are grateful for a "Bedtime Story" which is taken from a book of theirs called "Play Life in the First Eight Years," by Palmer. The Milton Bradley Company kindly gave permission to use Luella Habenicht's poem called "Finger Play for March."

We hope you will find as much joy in using these songs and relaxation exercises as we have found in preparing them. May they be used to glorify God in the lives of little children.

AURORA MEDFORD SHUMATE.



This book is lovingly dedicated to my own little baby,
GEORGE MARSHAL SHUMATE,
the "baby who could not stay."

SUGGESTIONS FOR TEACHING SONGS TO LITTLE CHILDREN

It is better for the children to be familiar with the music before teaching the songs. The pieces may be played as "Soft Music," while the children gather in the circle and become quiet, or while they put on their wraps at the end of the service.

In the Beginners' Departments of Sunday schools, the children are allowed much freedom of expression. The music should always be given with the words. Do not teach a song as drill work, but sing it over and over to the children in a joyous way, using pictures, objects, and blackboard drawings until the children unconsciously absorb the words and music. Then sing a phrase or two at a time to the children and have them sing back to you. Take plenty of time in developing a song. See that the children sing softly. Be careful that the voices of the helpers do not sound above those of the children.

The pianist should memorize the music to many of the songs so that she may be ready when the children request their favorites. A good musician can almost make the piano tell what each song says—that is the kind of playing little children need. She should play softly, being careful not to cover the melody with the bass. When the children say, "Let's sing it again," the workers may know that the children have caught the spirit of the song. Let the children sing the same song as often as they wish. It is better than teaching too many new ones. Each song has a great truth that goes deeper and deeper into their lives as they sing it again and again.

Fellowship Sonsg

GOOD MORNING SONG



*Substitute "Good-bye" for "Good morning" when desired Copyright, 1926, Sunday School Board Southern Baptist Convention

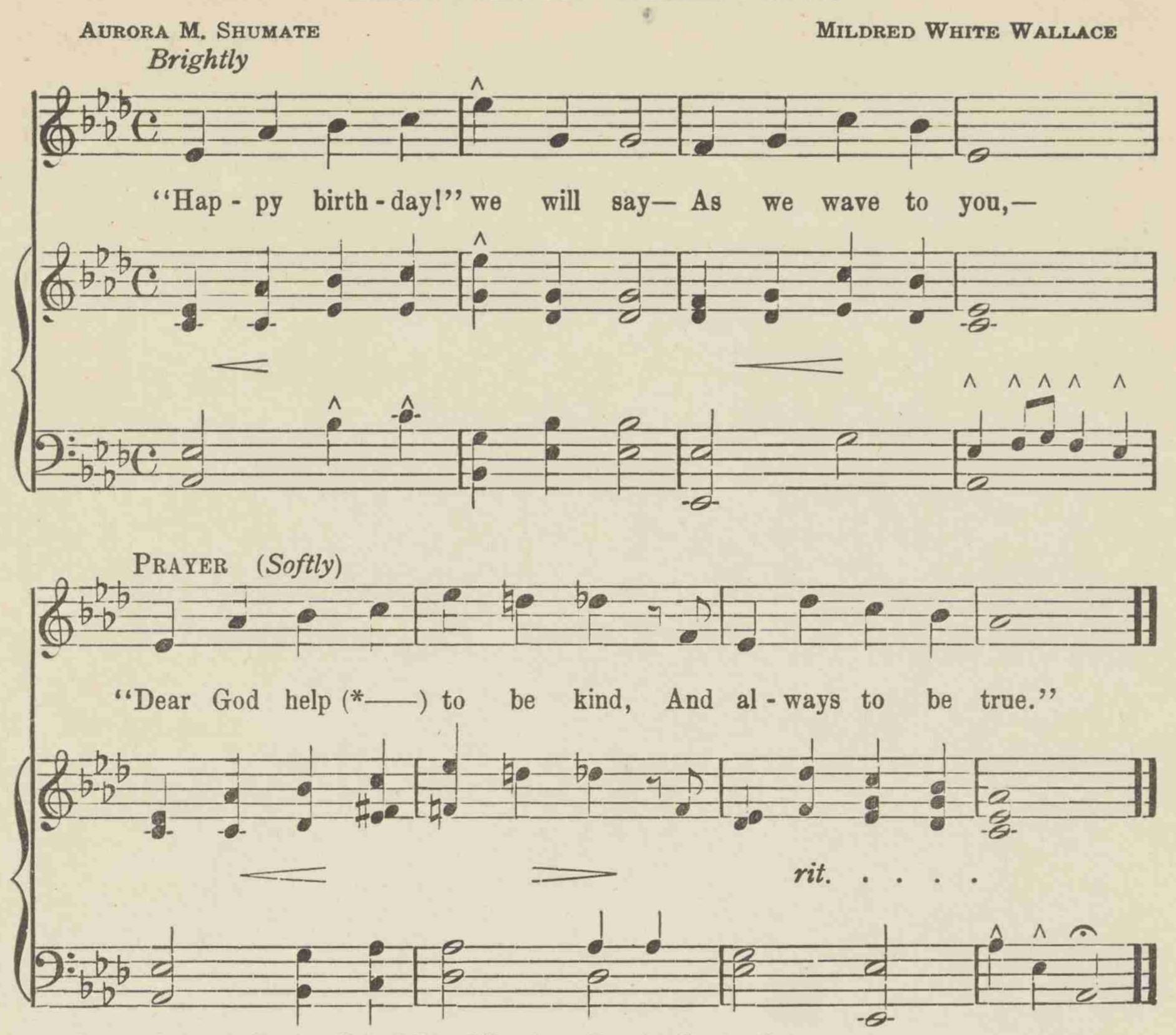
GOOD MORNING! GOOD MORNING!





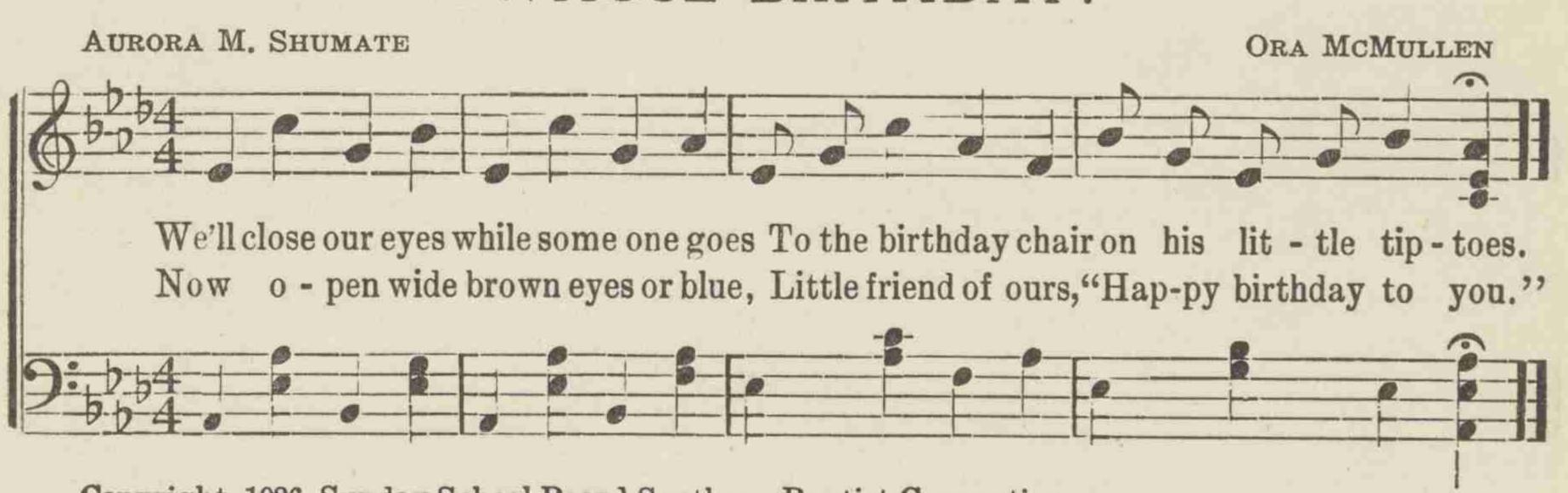


BIRTHDAY GREETING



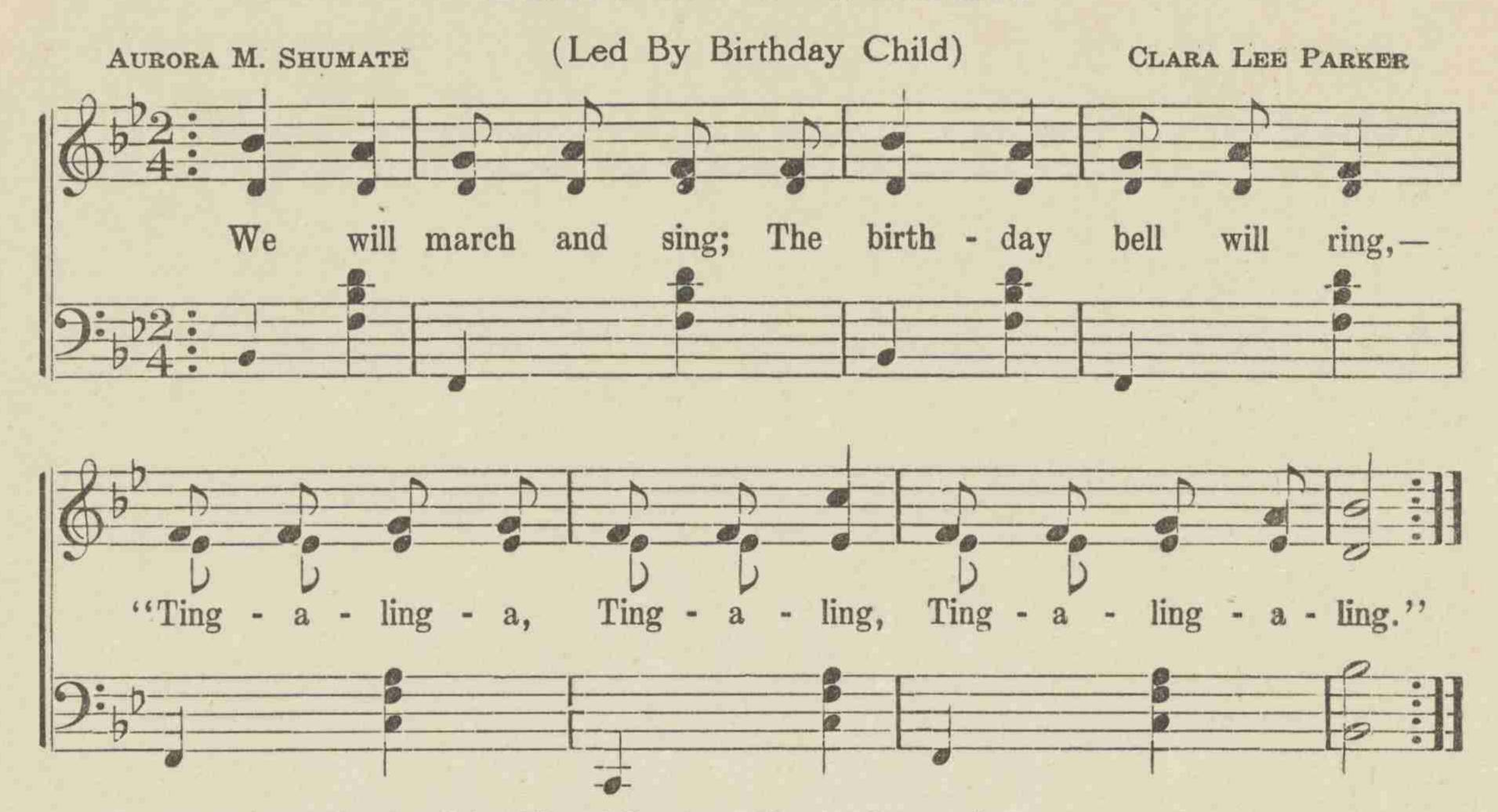
Copyright, 1926, Sunday School Board Southern Baptist Convention *Use name of birthday child

WHOSE BIRTHDAY?



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BIRTHDAY MARCH



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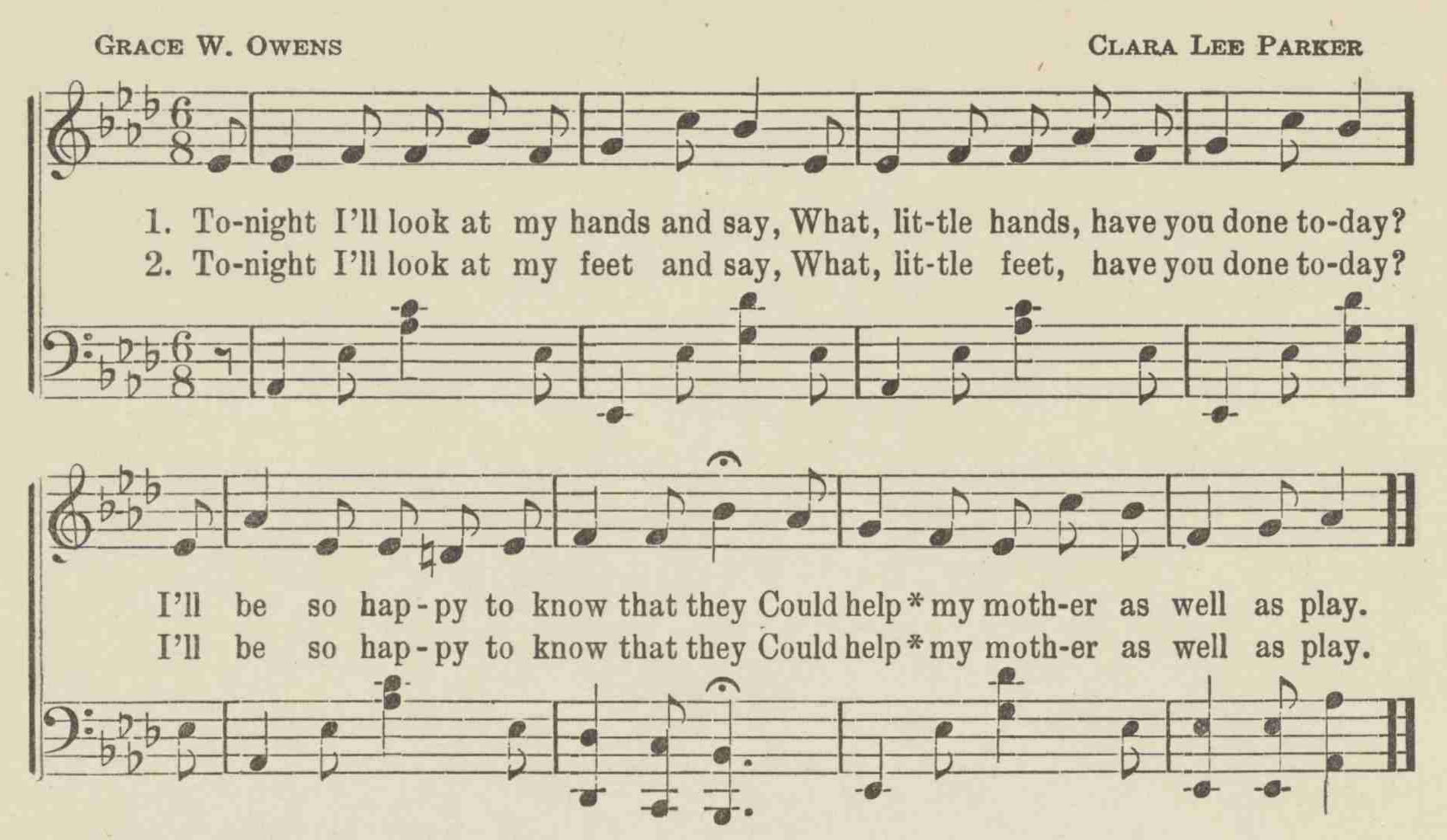
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GOOD-BYE SONG

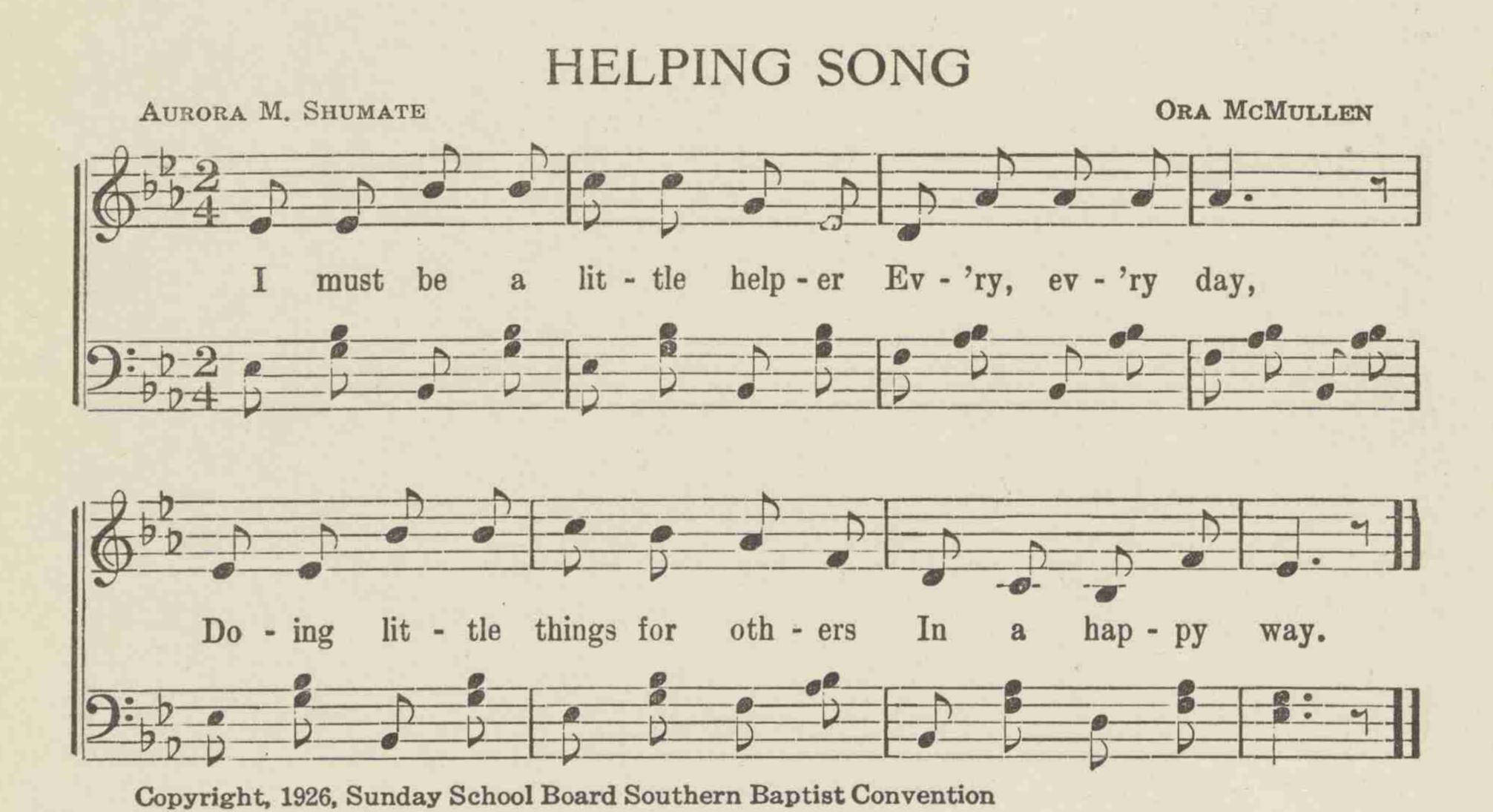




HELPING HANDS AND FEET



* The words "somebody," "little brother," "my Daddy," etc., may be substituted here. Copyright, 1926, Sunday School Board Southern Baptist Convention



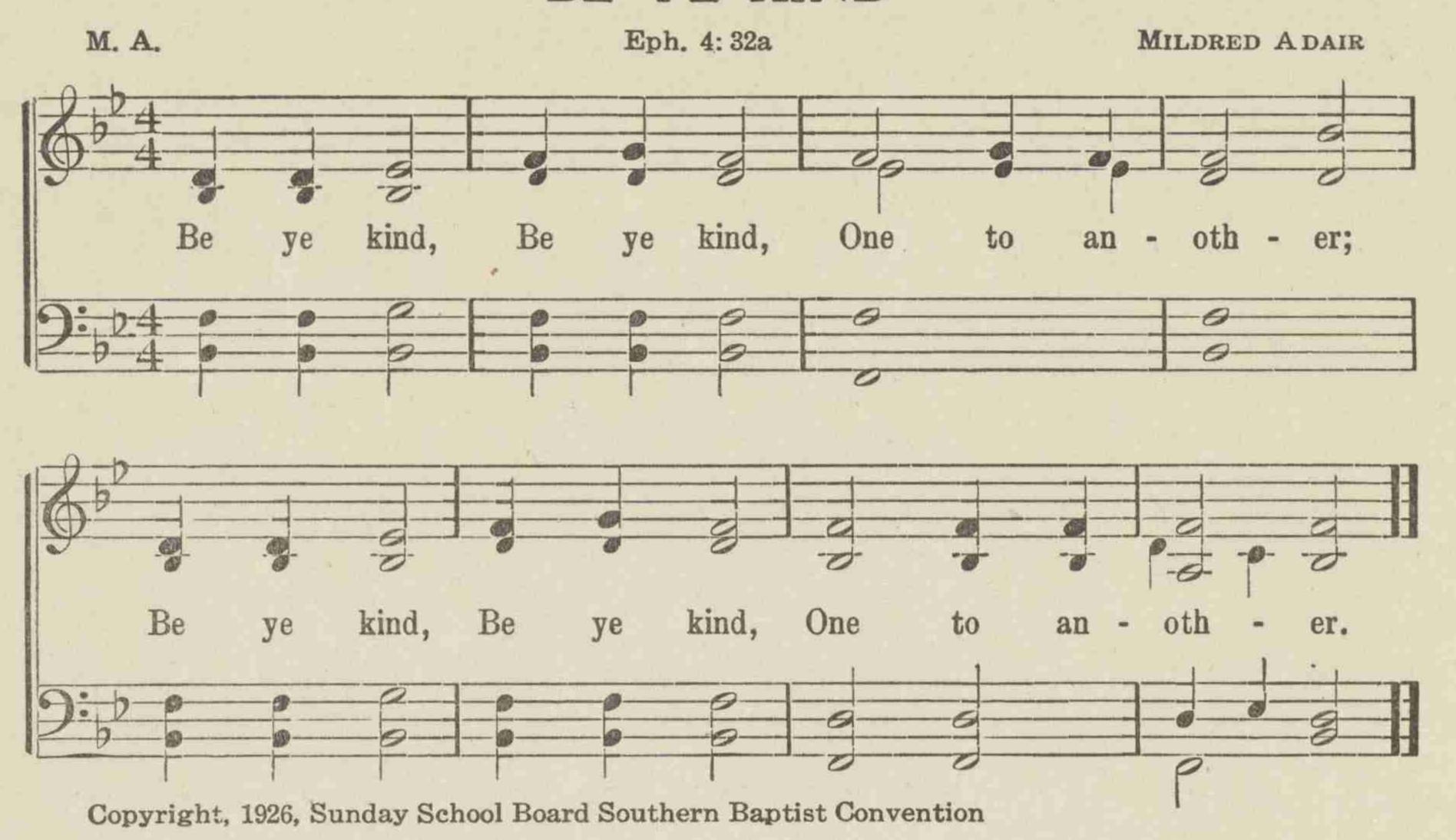
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THE NEW BABY



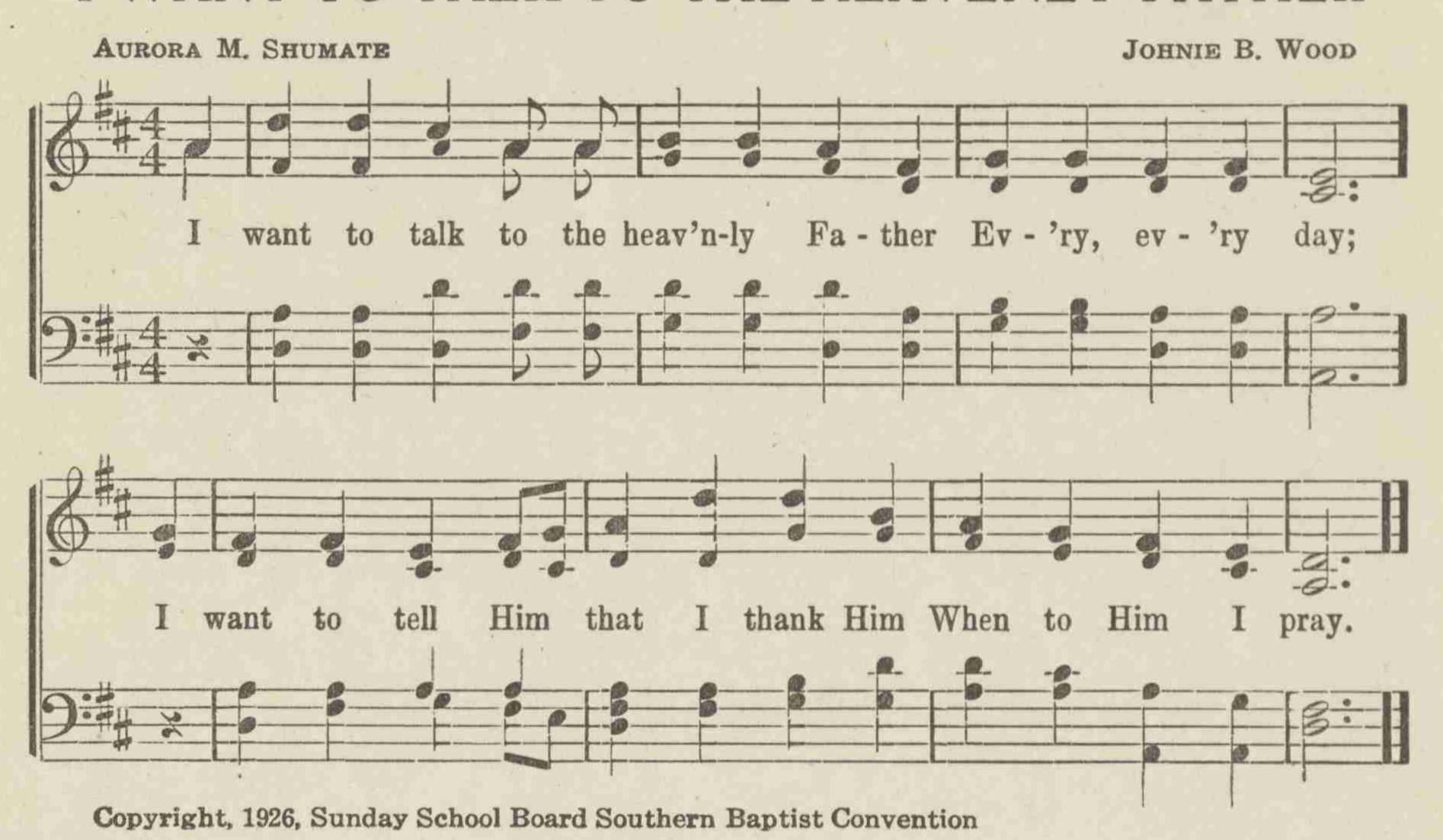
*Use name of child who has a new baby brother or sister.
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BE YE KIND



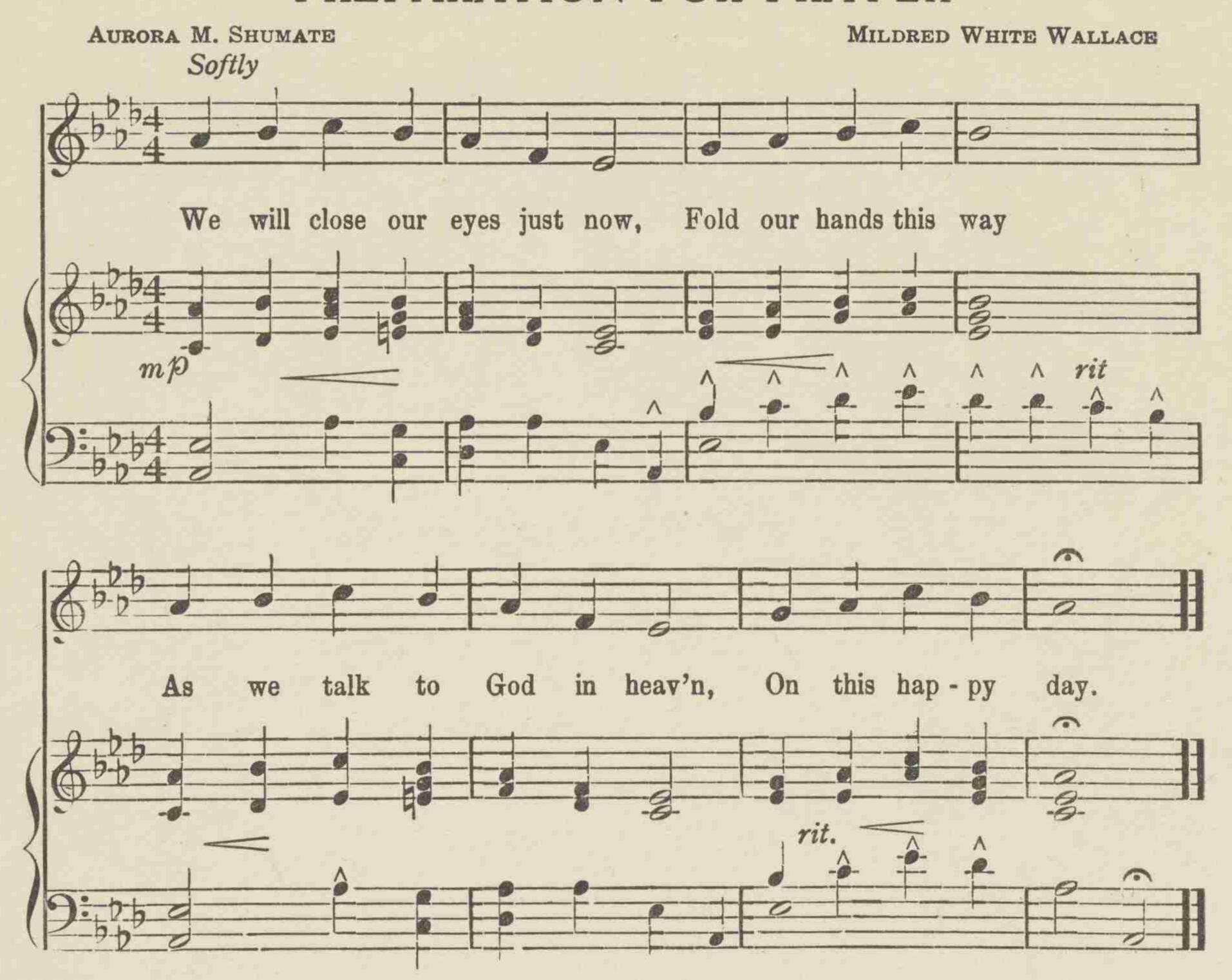
Worship Songs

I WANT TO TALK TO THE HEAVENLY FATHER



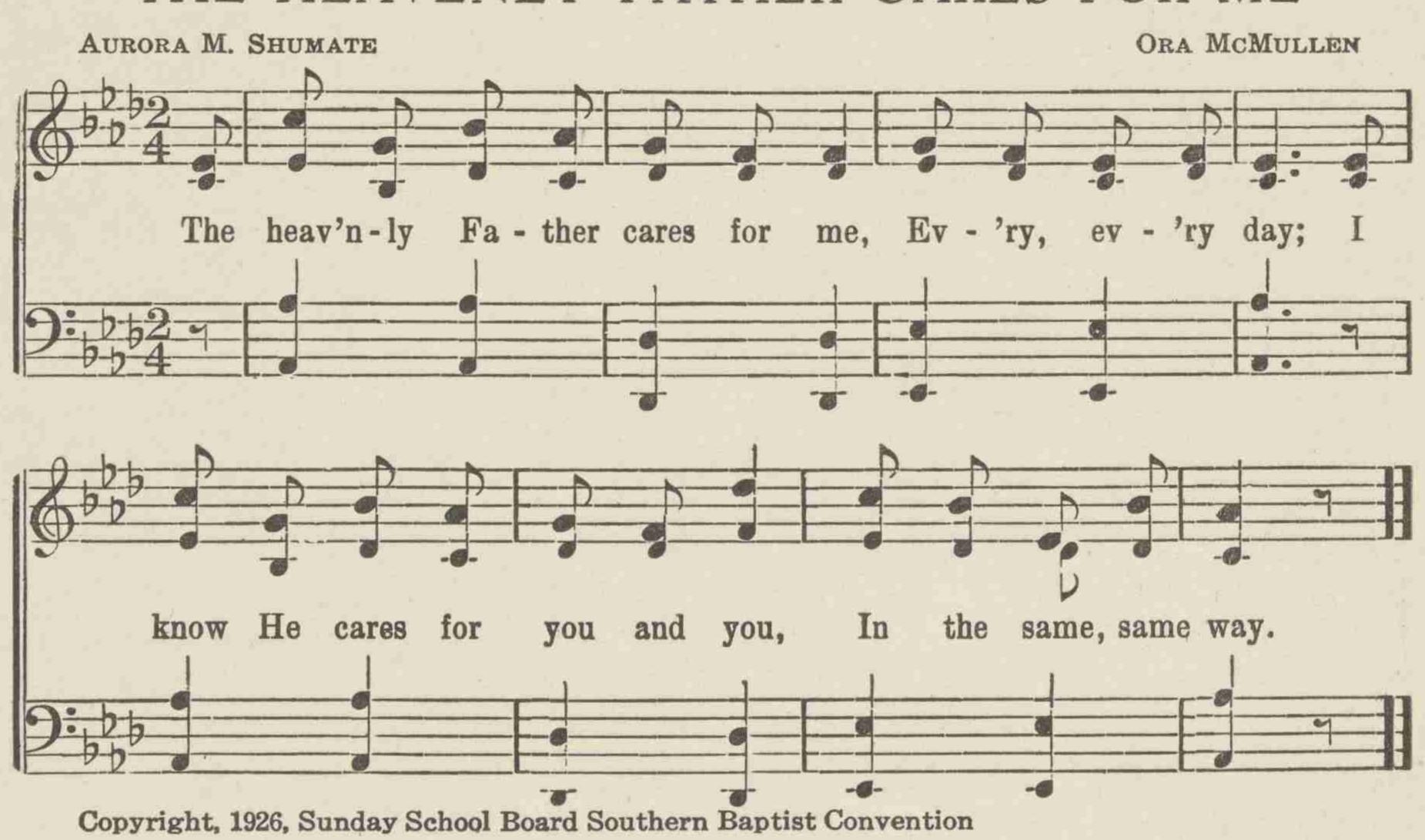


PREPARATION FOR PRAYER



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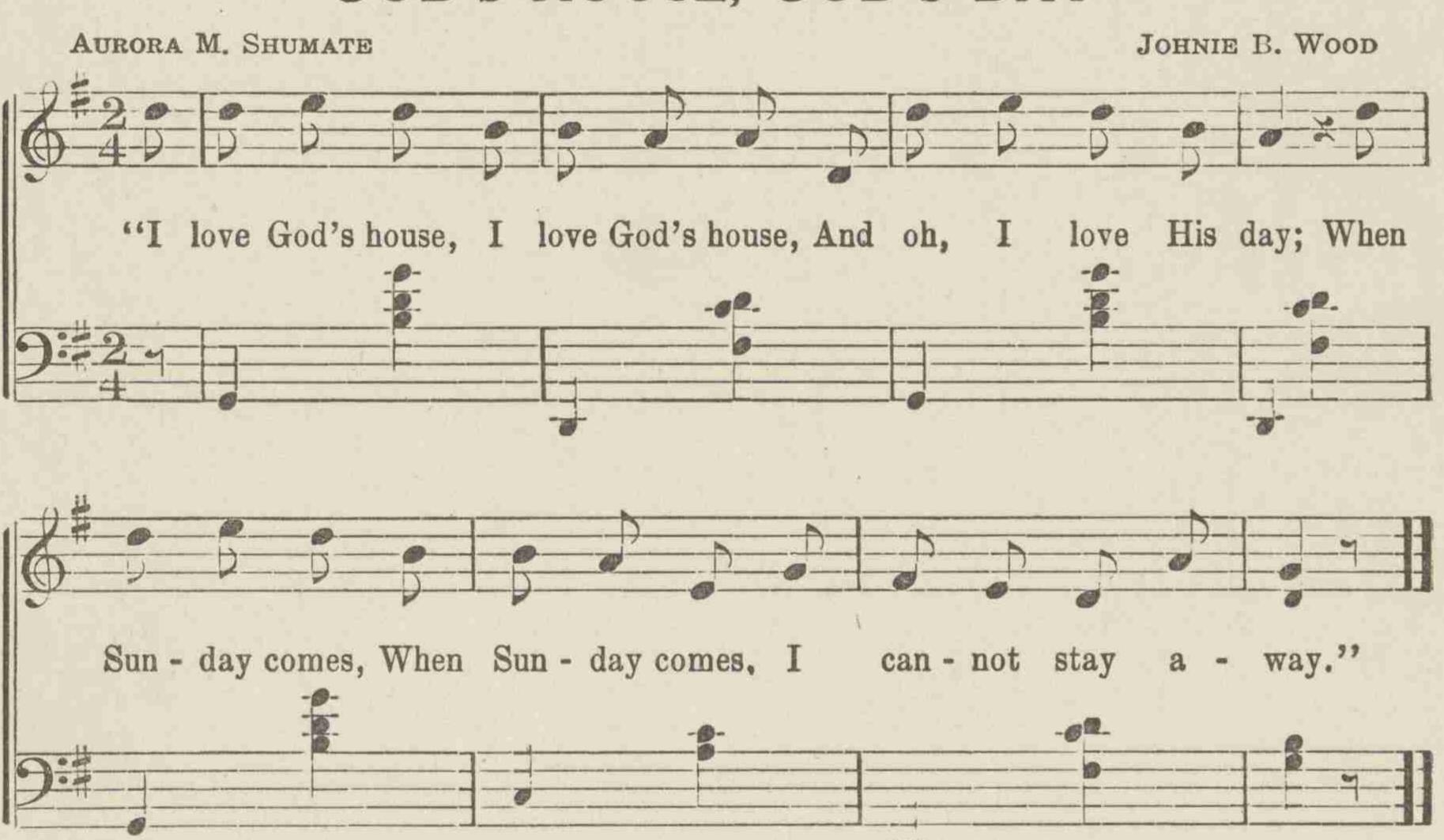
THE HEAVENLY FATHER CARES FOR ME



PRAISE HIM, PRAISE HIM!



GOD'S HOUSE, GOD'S DAY

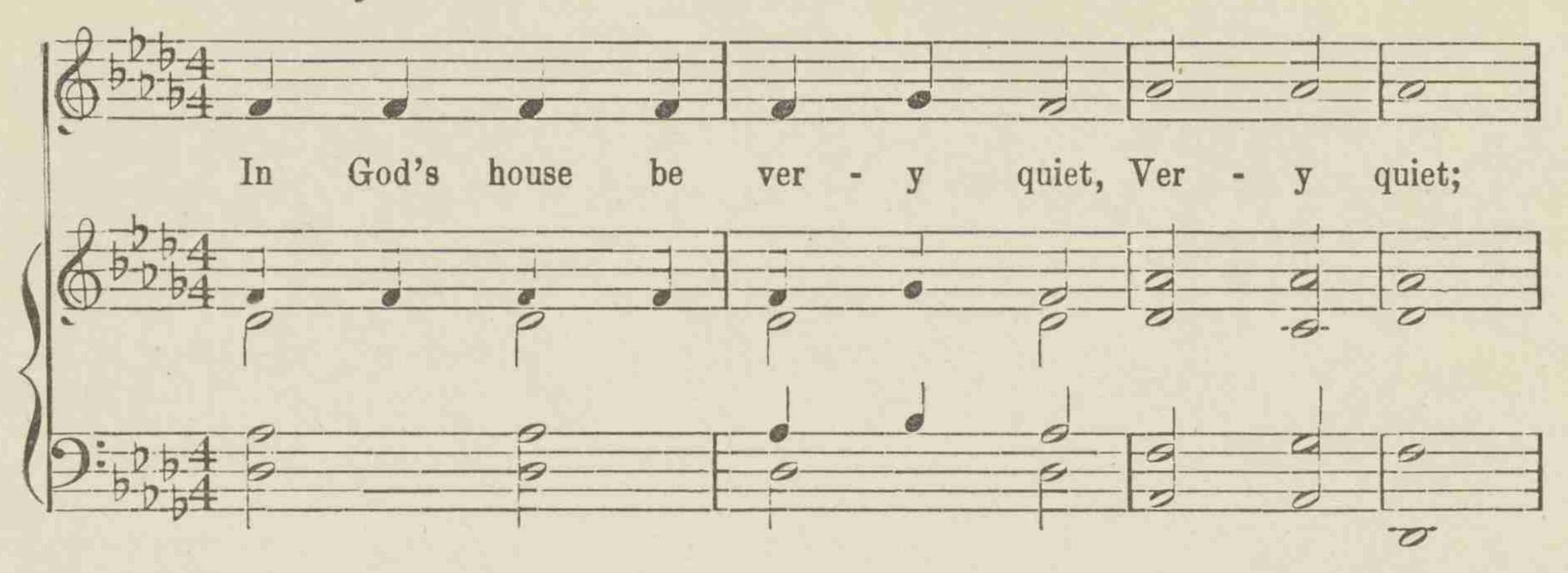


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IN GOD'S HOLY HOUSE

M. A.
In a churchly manner.

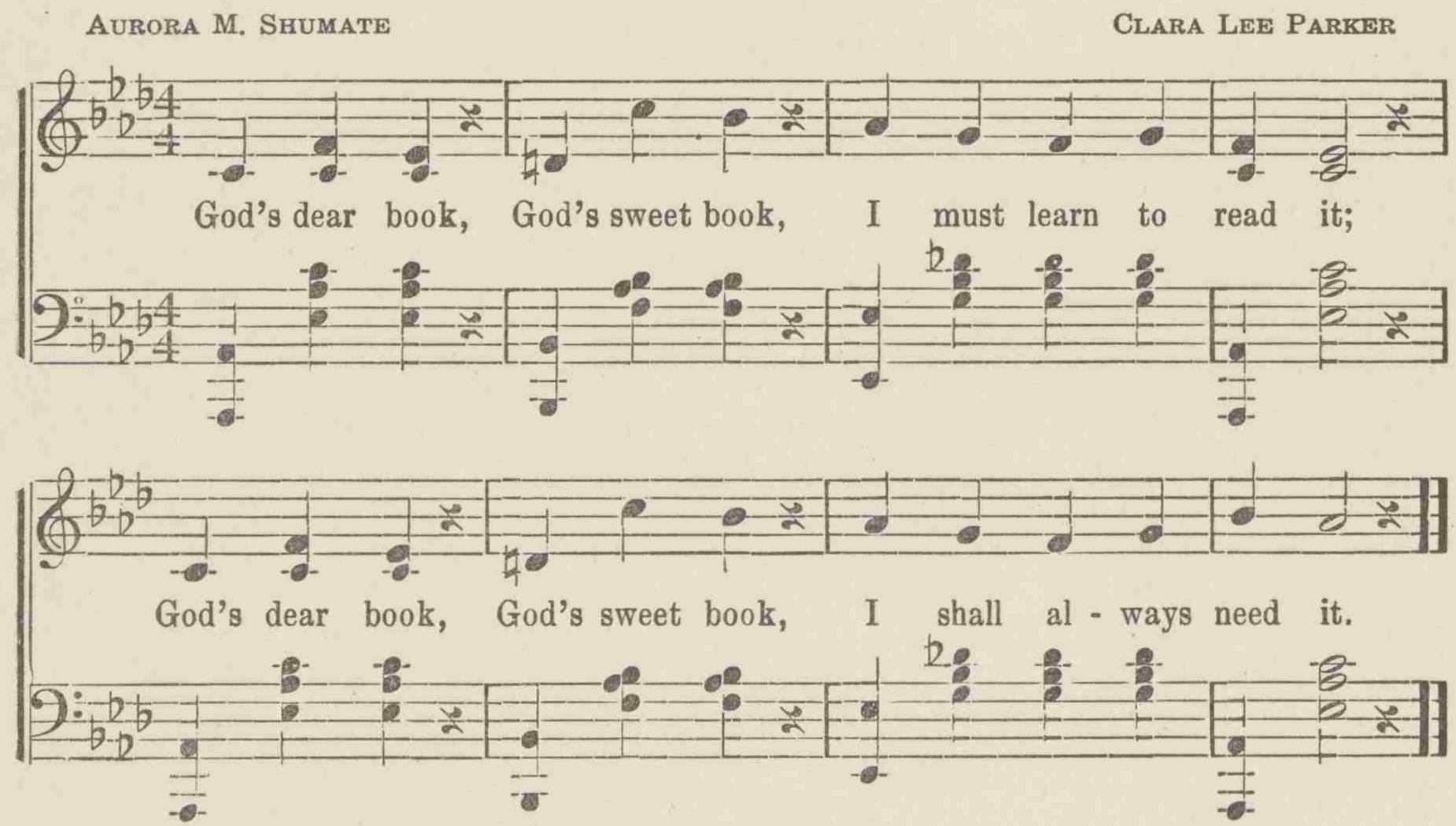
MILDRED ADAIR





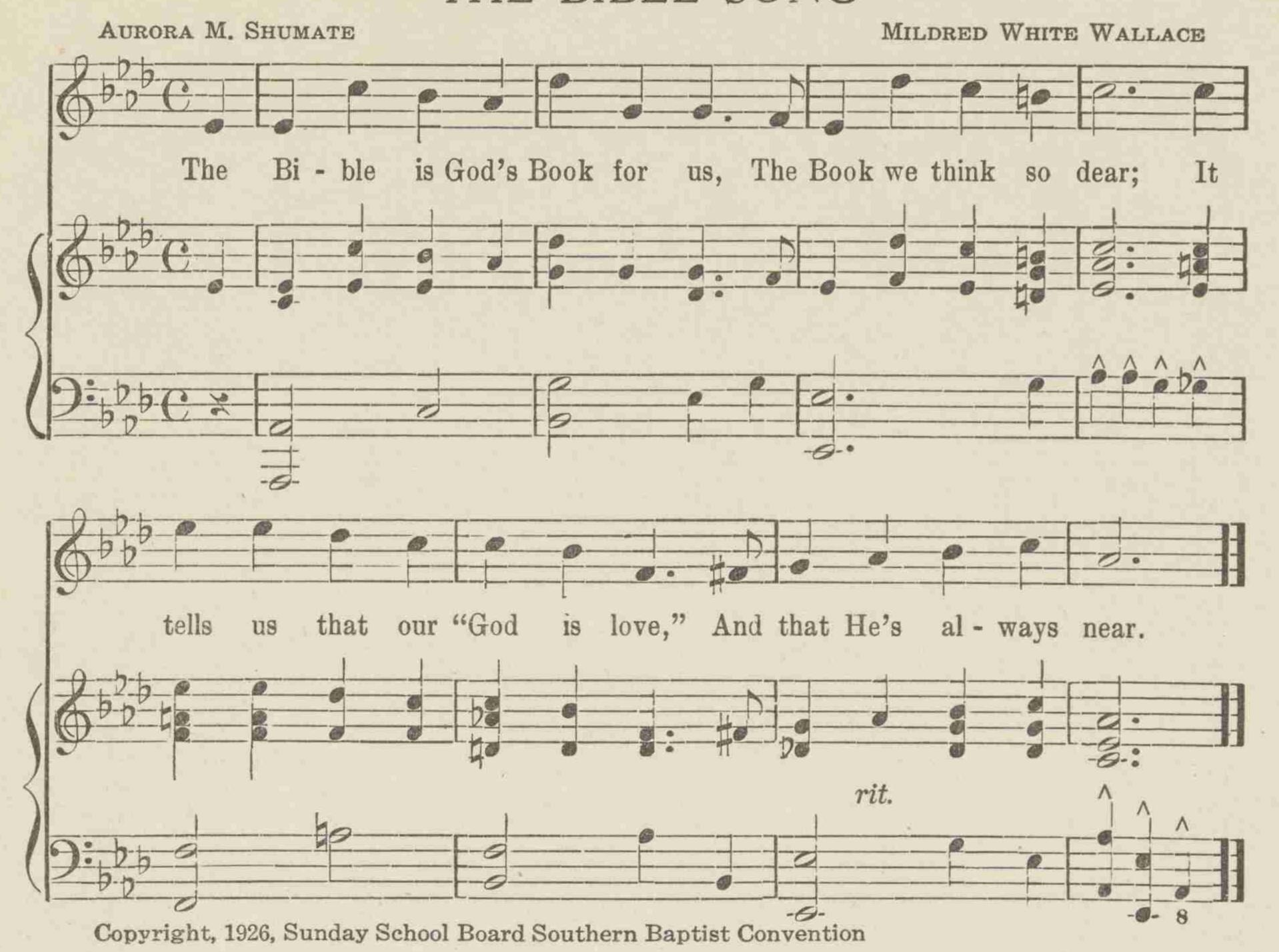
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GOD'S BOOK

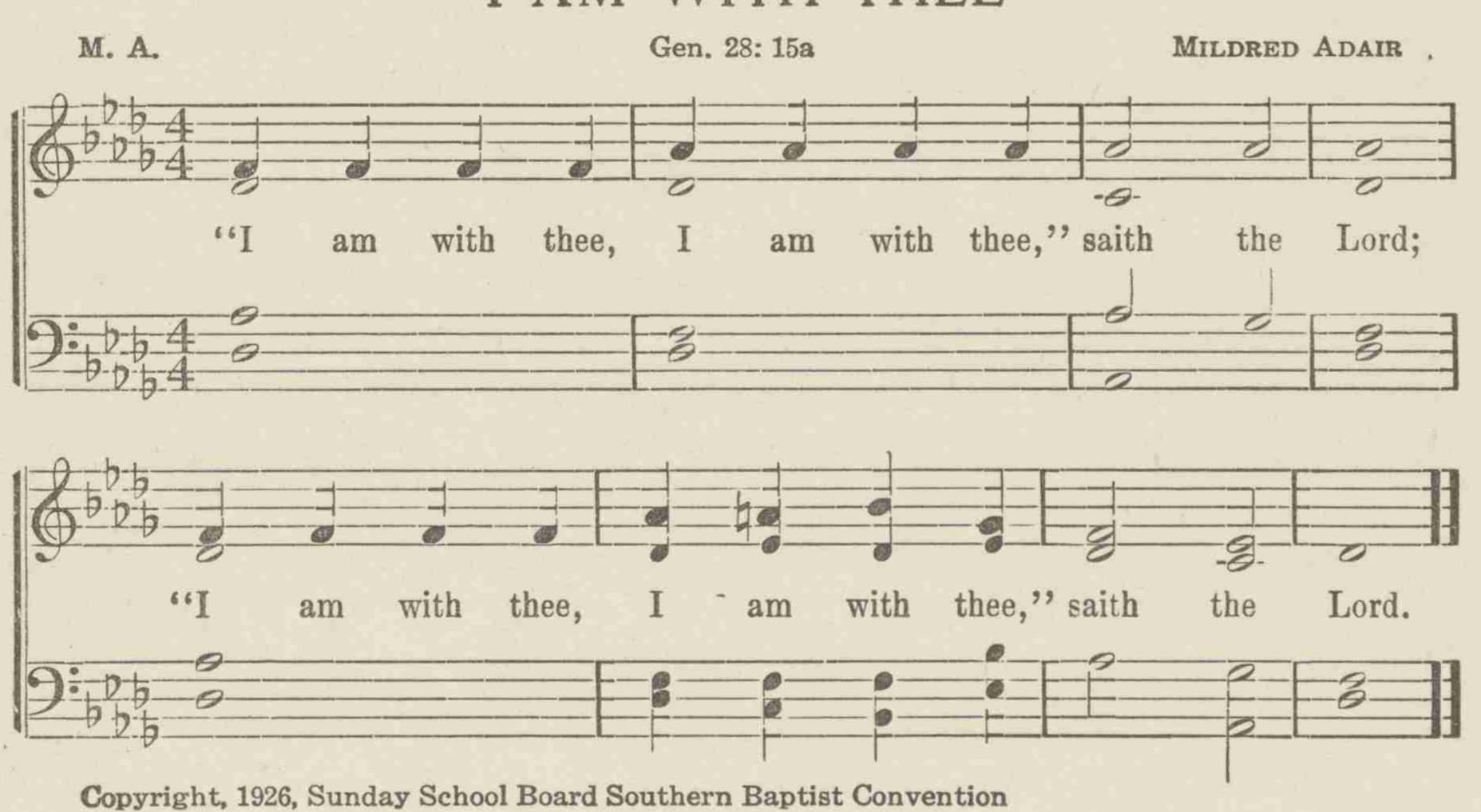


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THE BIBLE SONG



I AM WITH THEE



GOD IS LOVE; OH, GOD IS LOVE

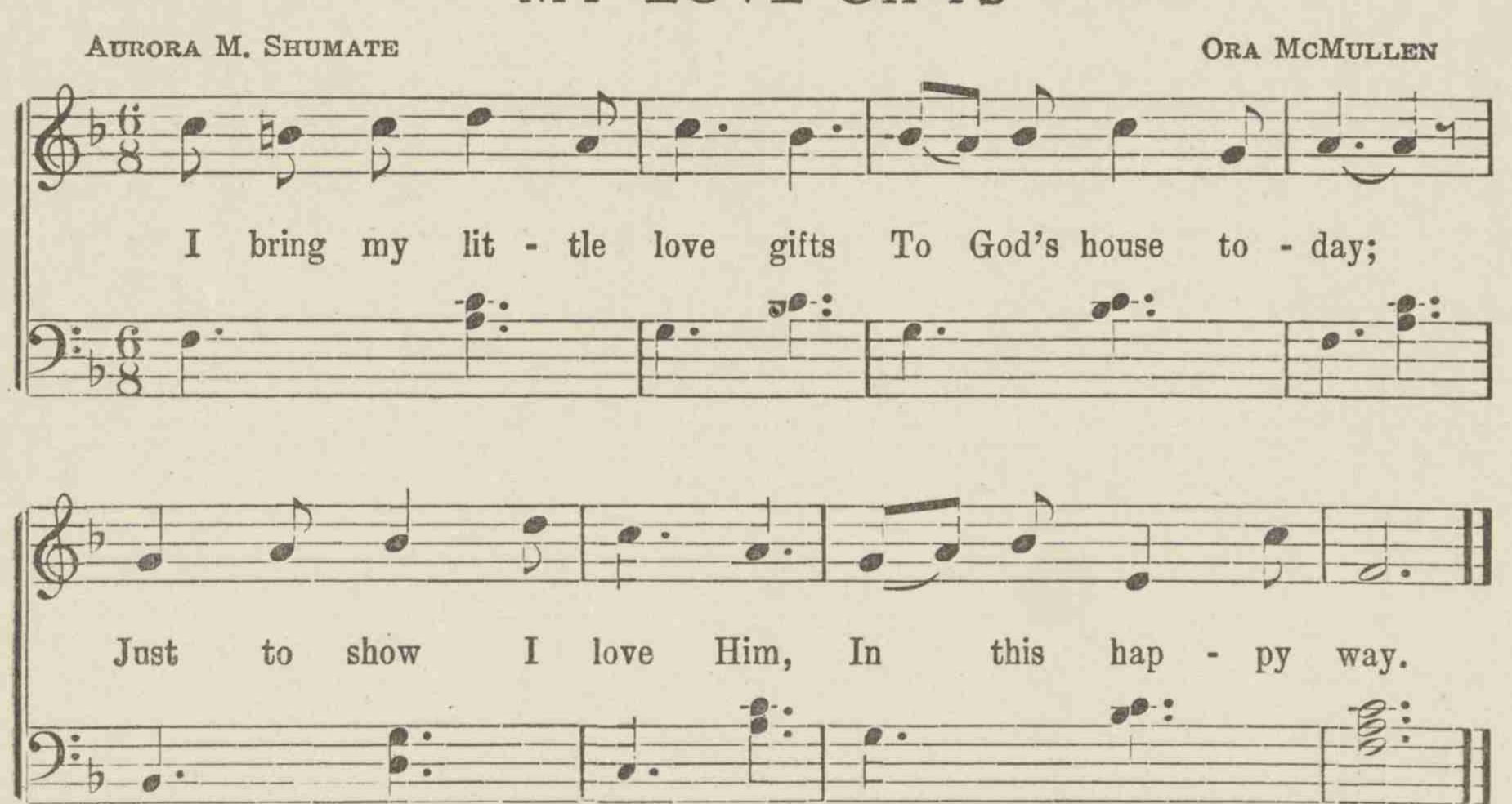






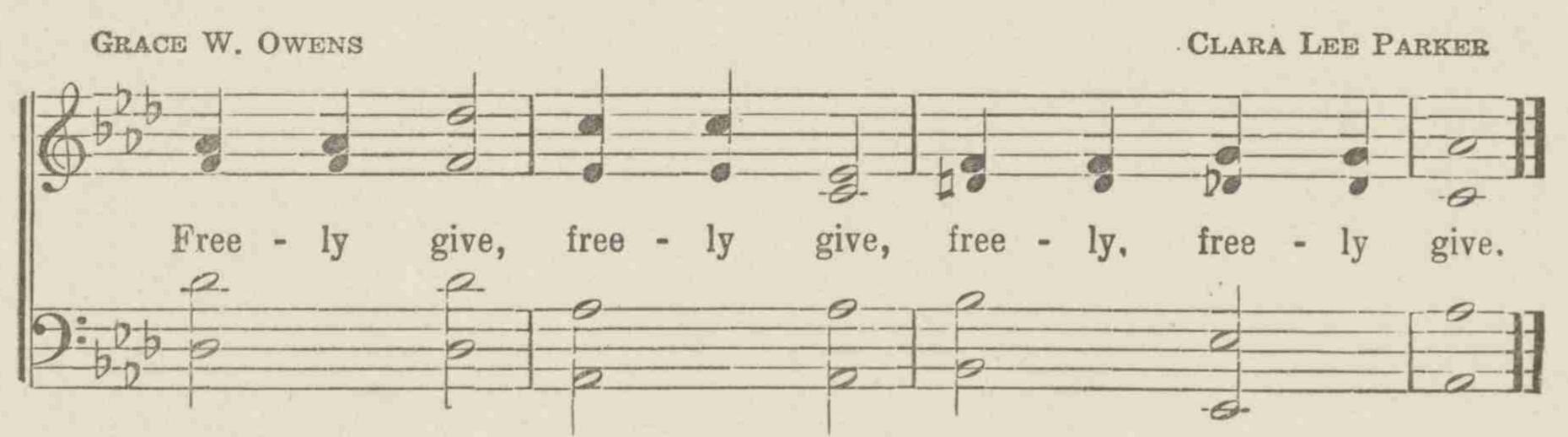
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MY LOVE GIFTS



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OFFERTORY SONG

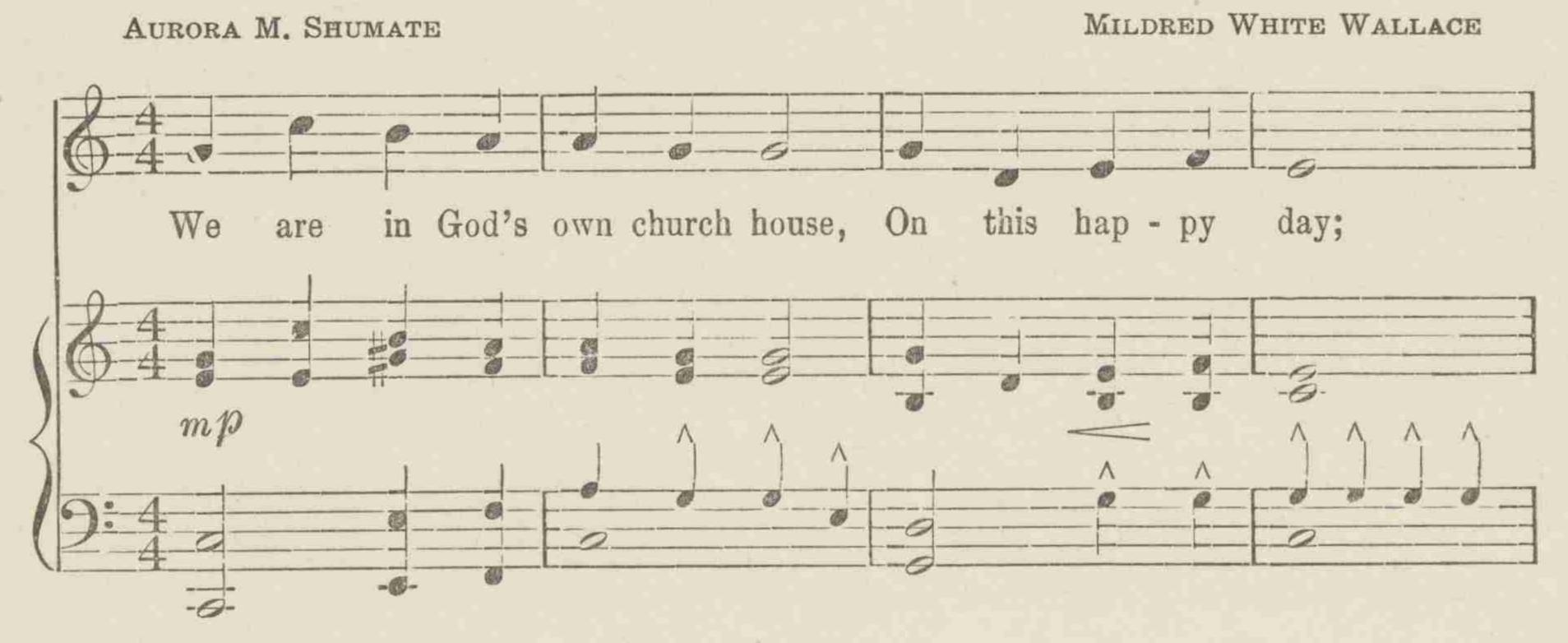


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WONDER SONG



A "THANK YOU" SONG



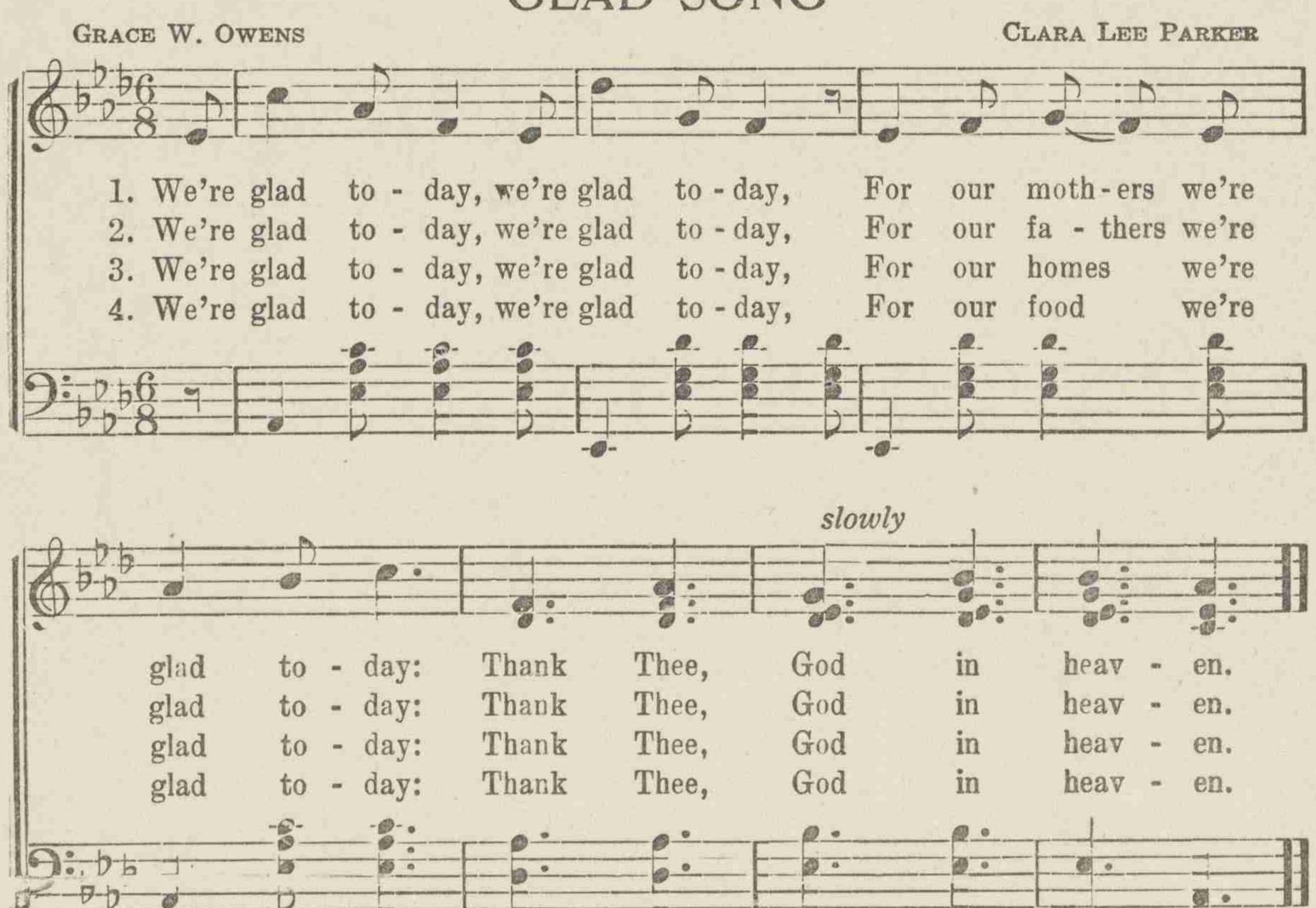


HE LOVED US AND SENT HIS SON



SUFFER THE LITTLE CHILDREN





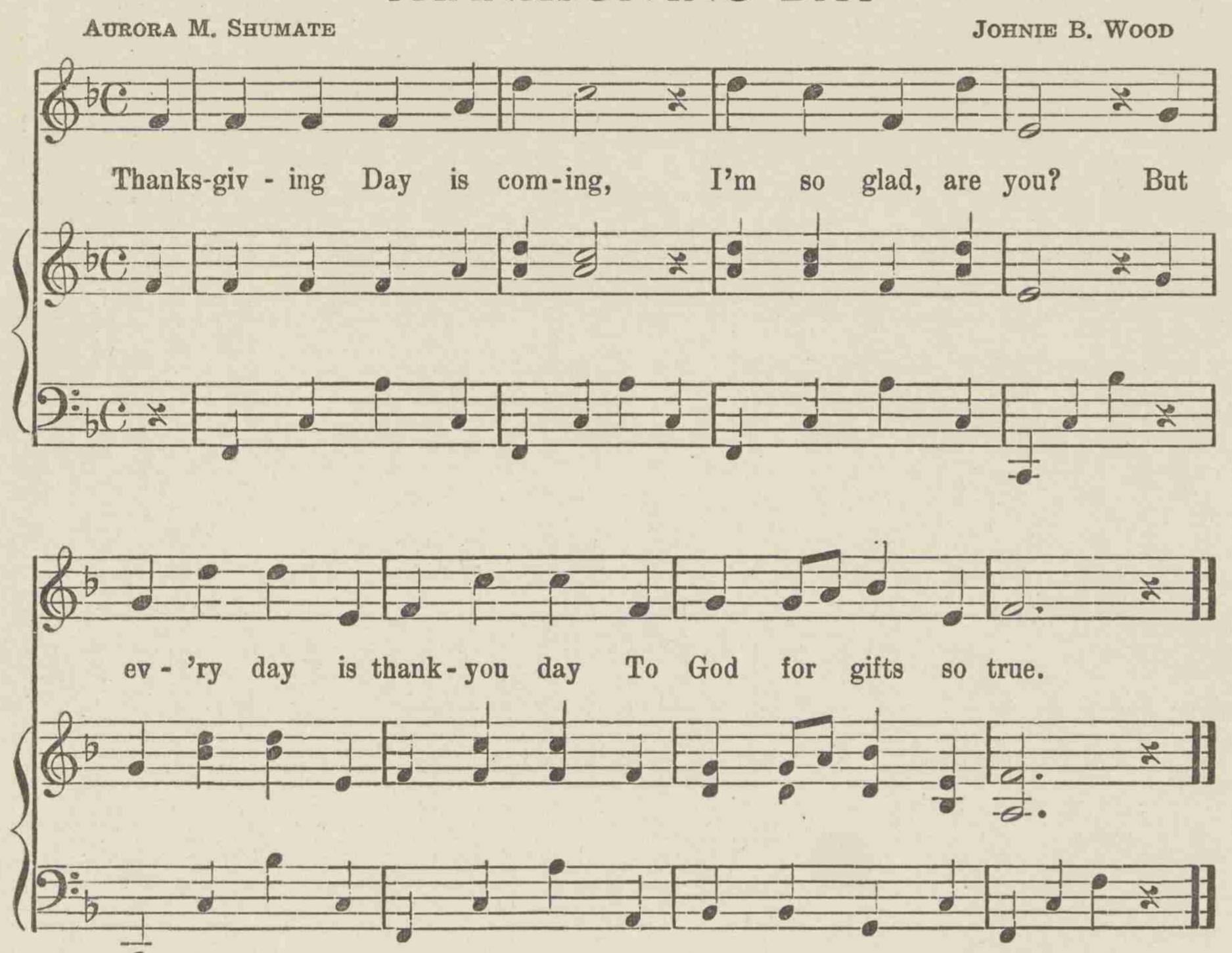
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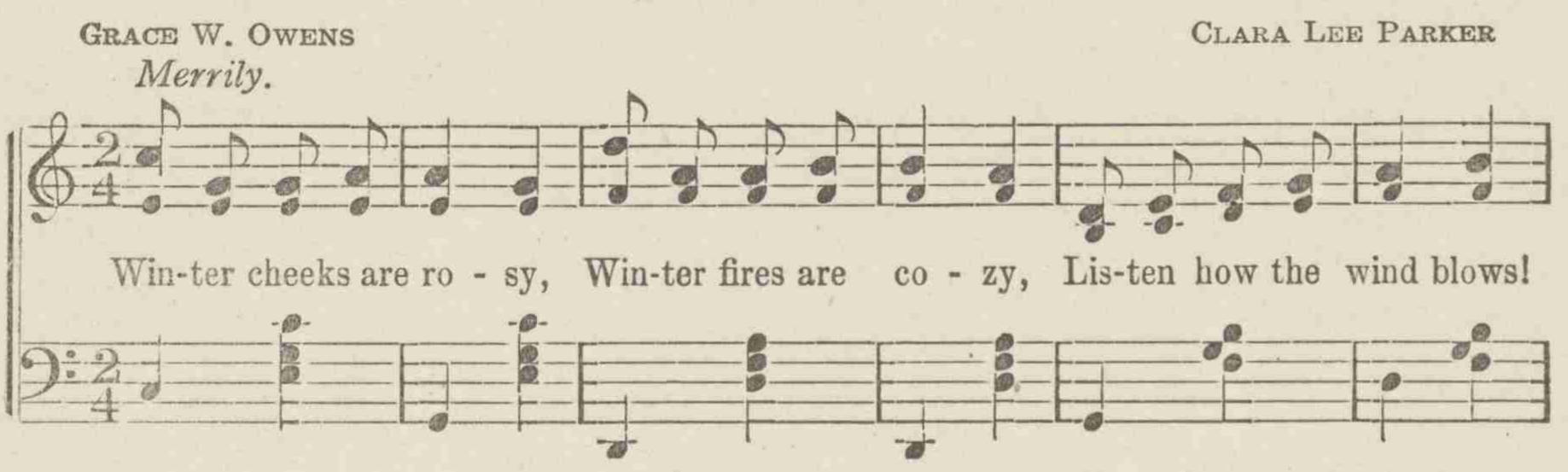
Seasonal Songs

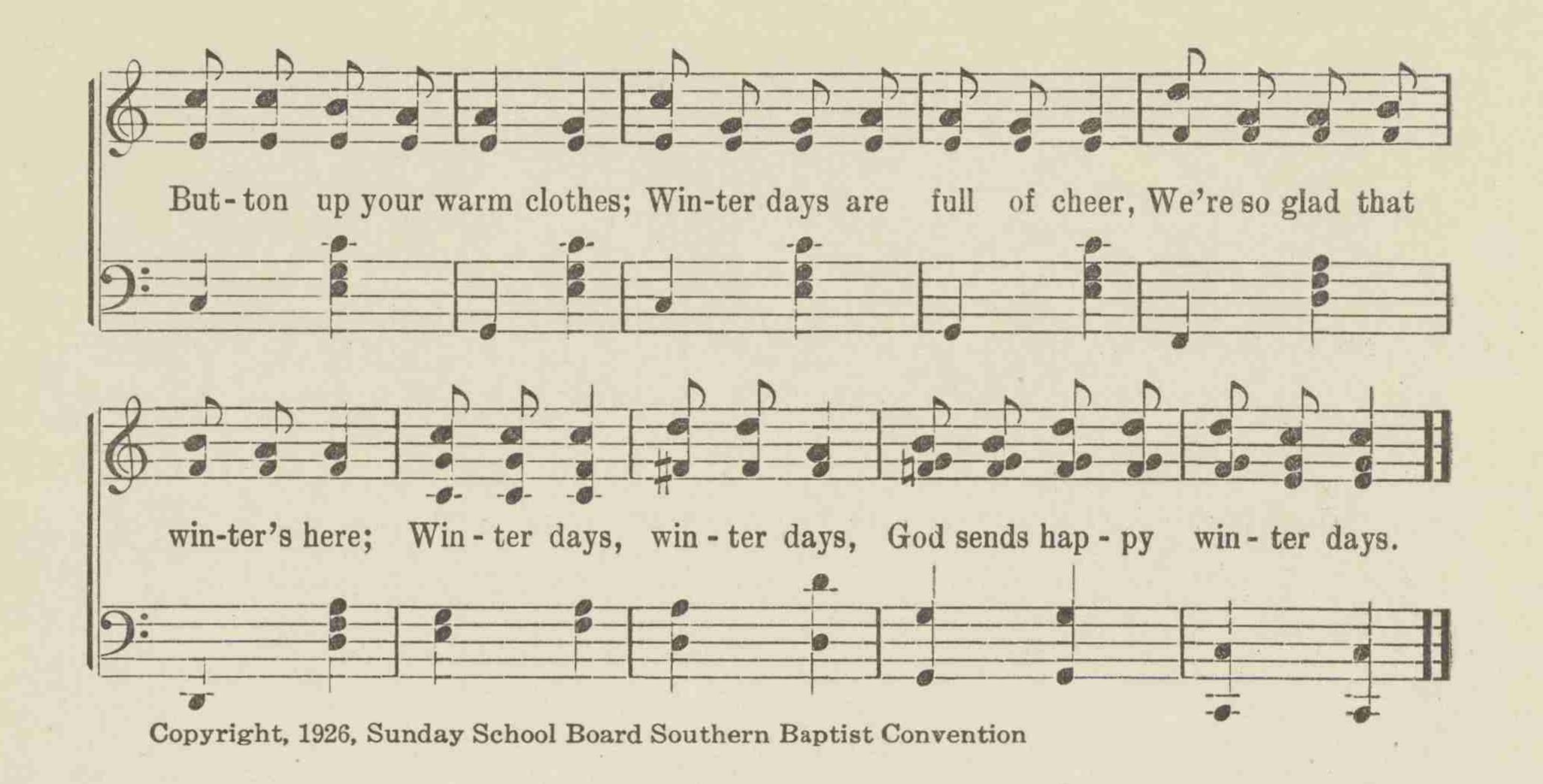
THANKSGIVING DAY



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WINTER DAYS ARE FULL OF CHEER





THE CHRISTMAS STORY



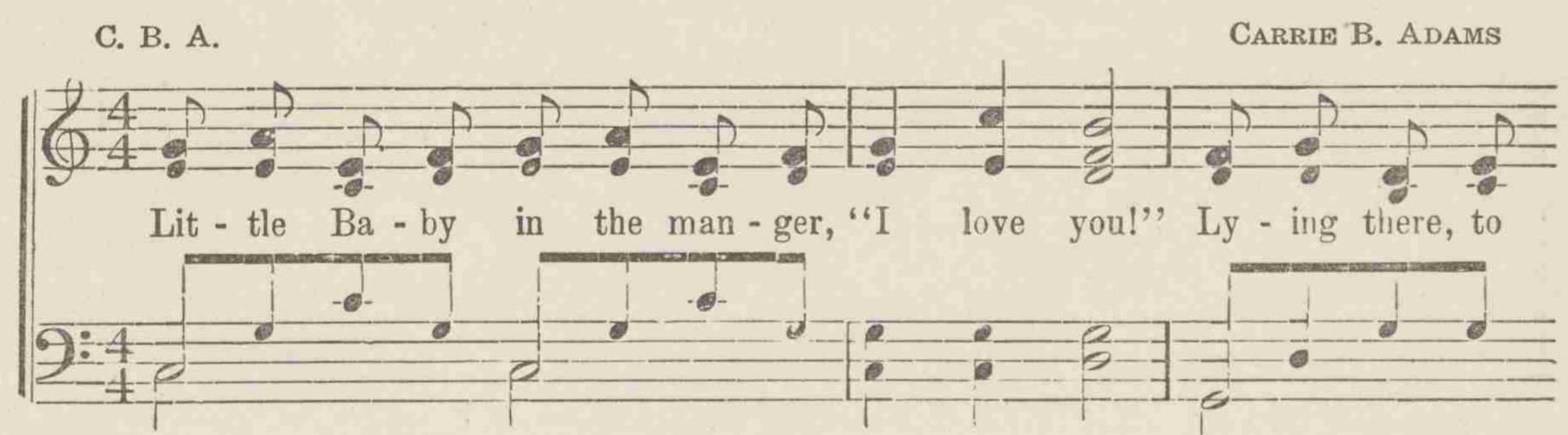
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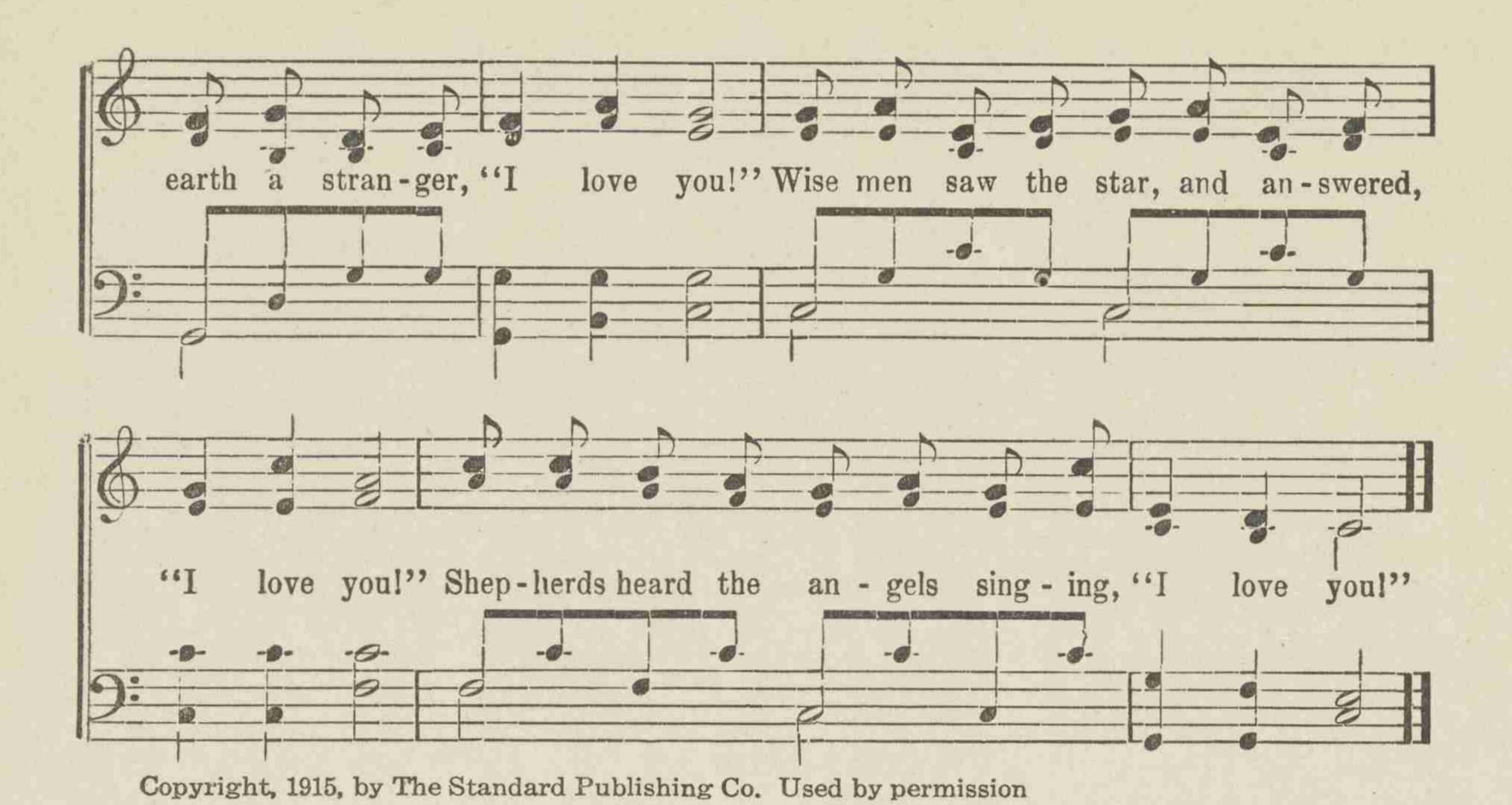
CHRISTMAS BELLS



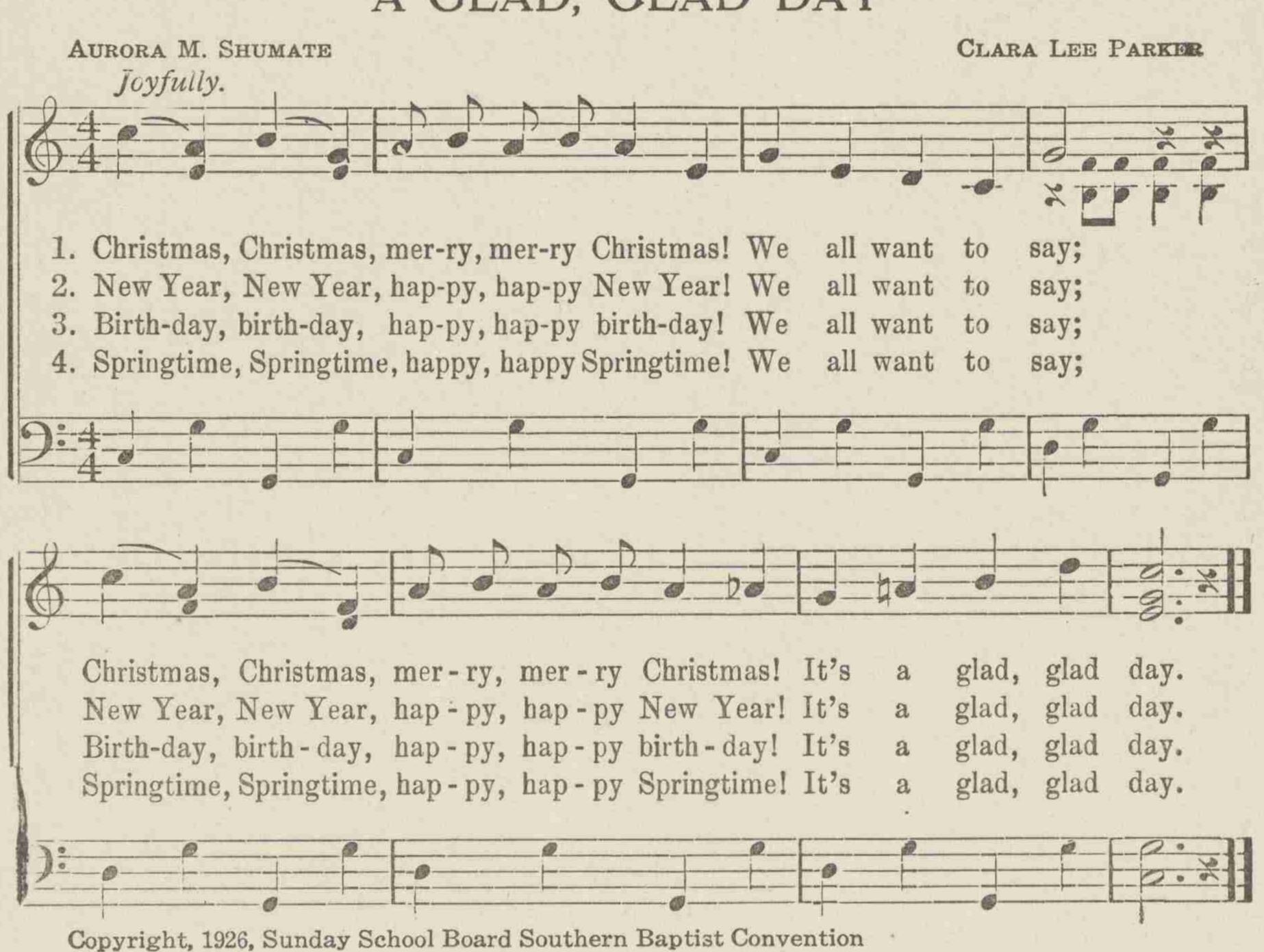
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LITTLE BABY IN THE MANGER, I LOVE YOU



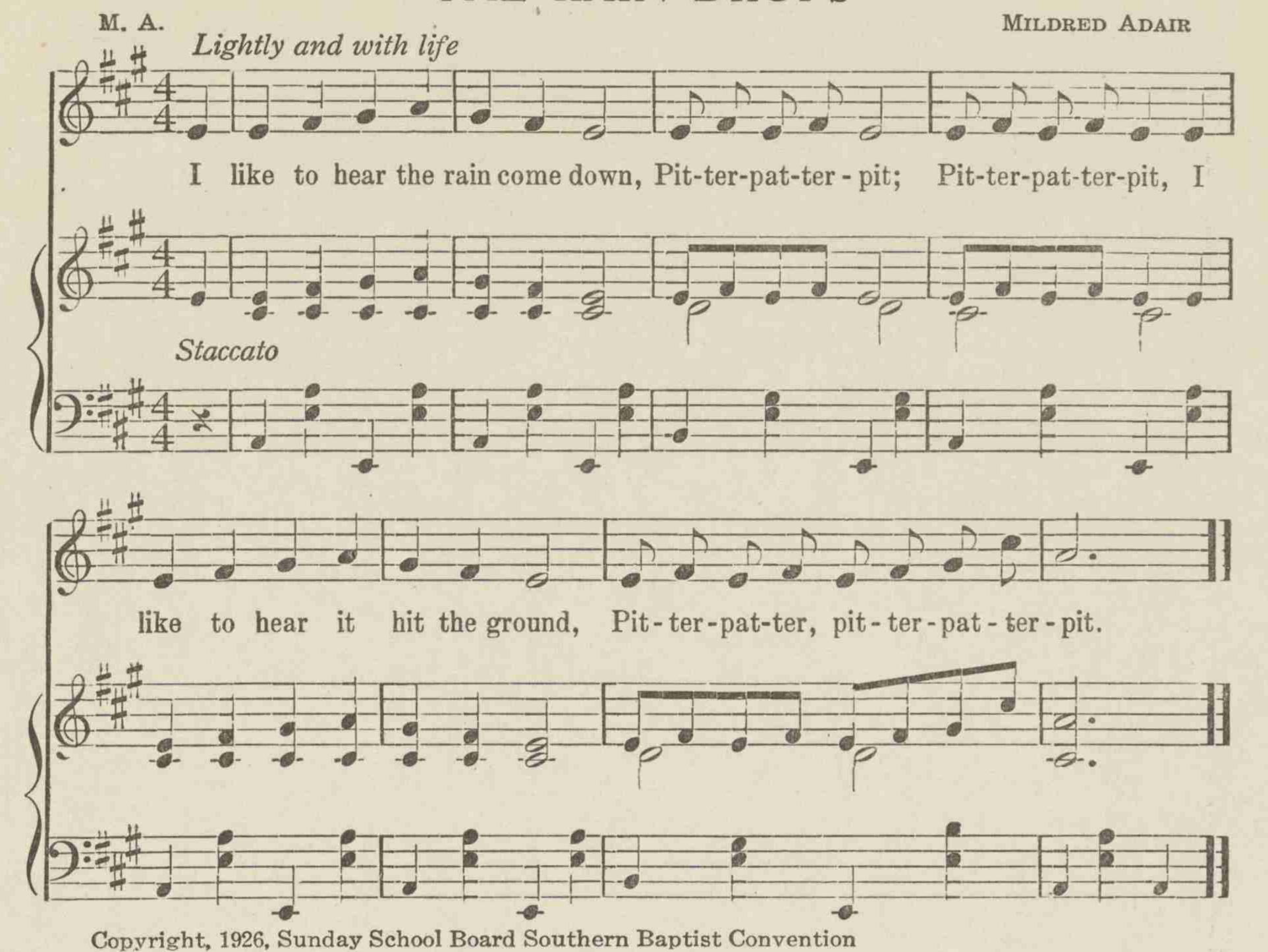


A GLAD, GLAD DAY

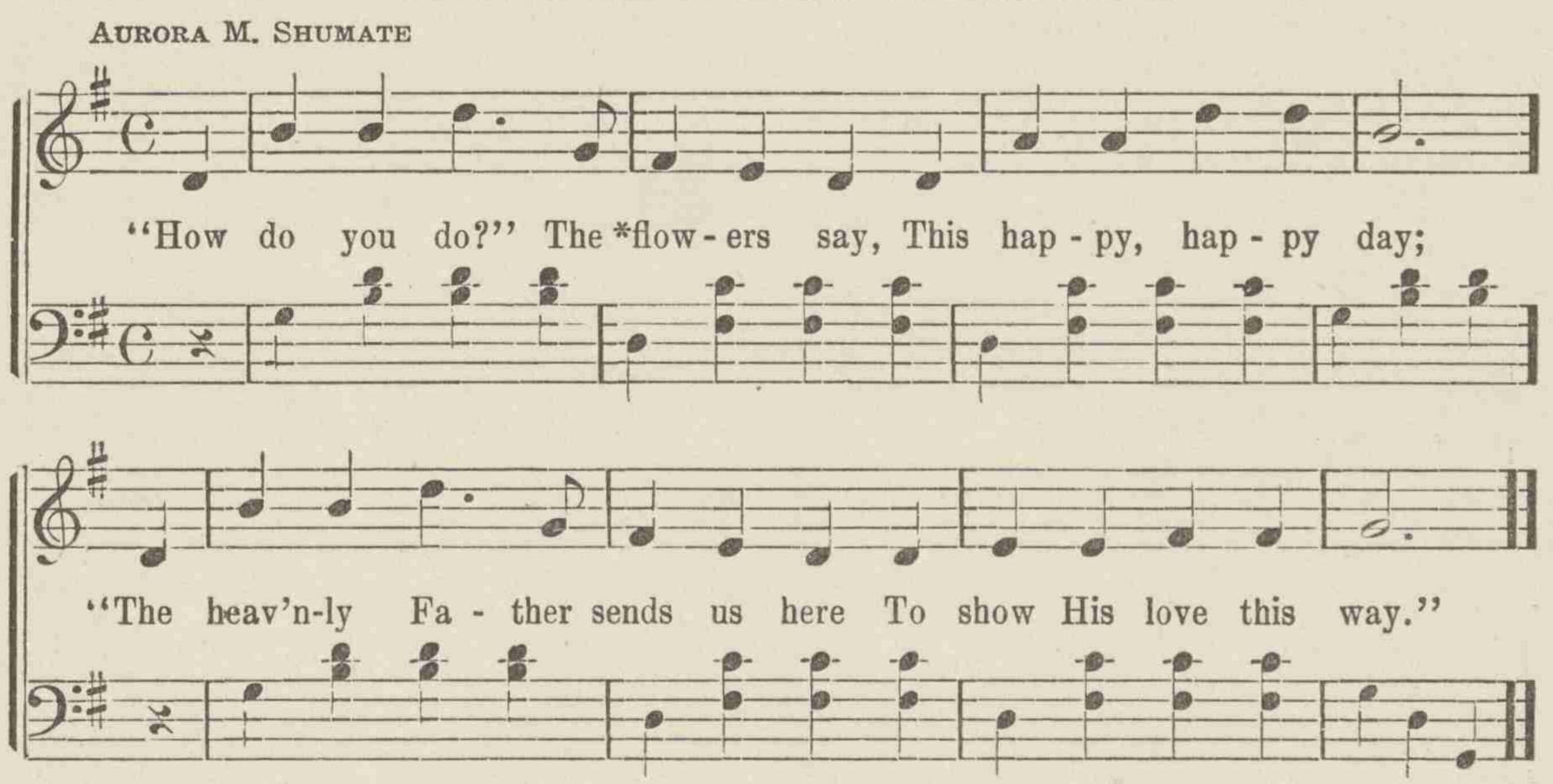


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THE FLOWER'S MESSAGE



*The words "lilies," "roses," "daisies," may be substituted here.

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THE SUN AND THE RAIN

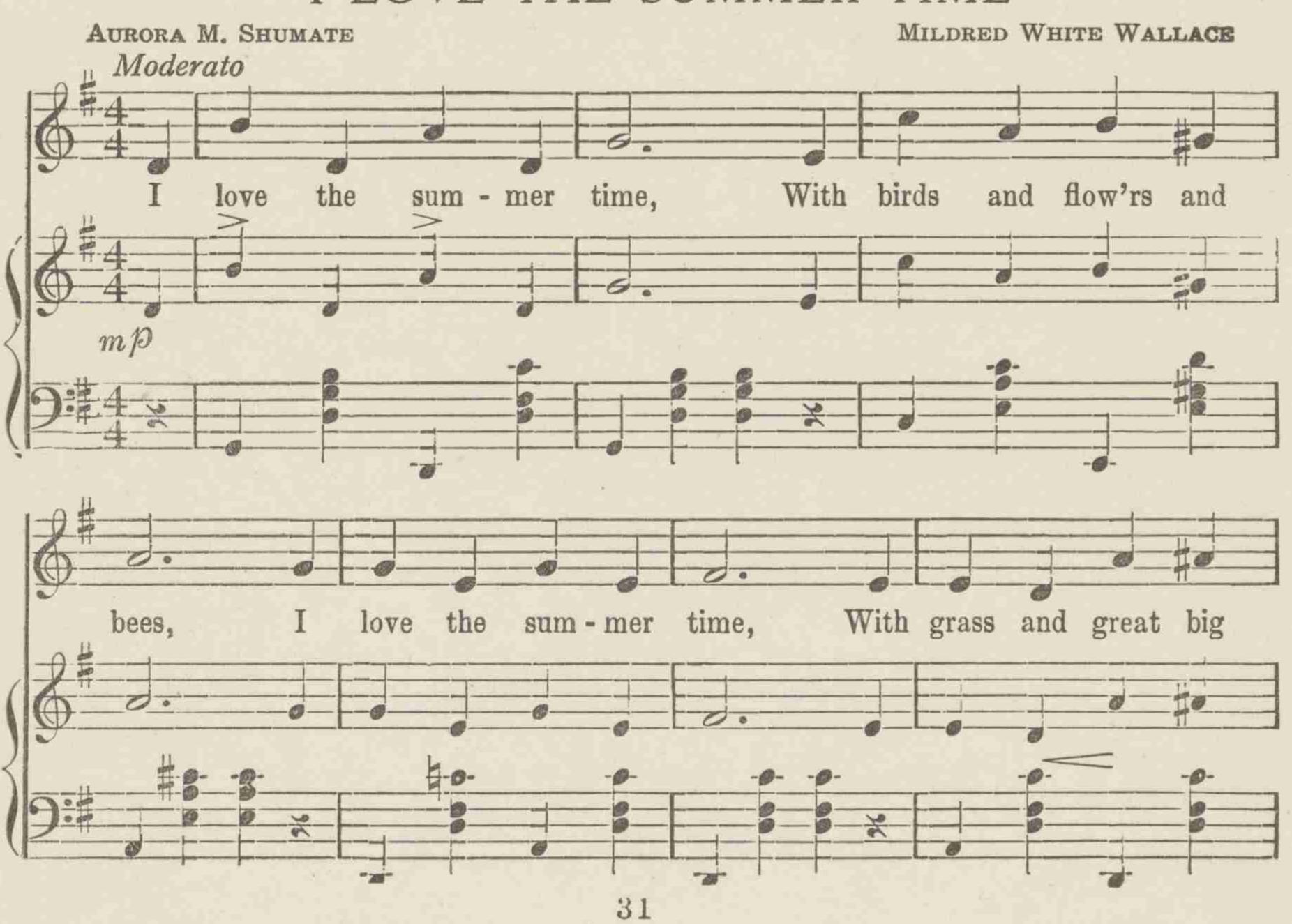


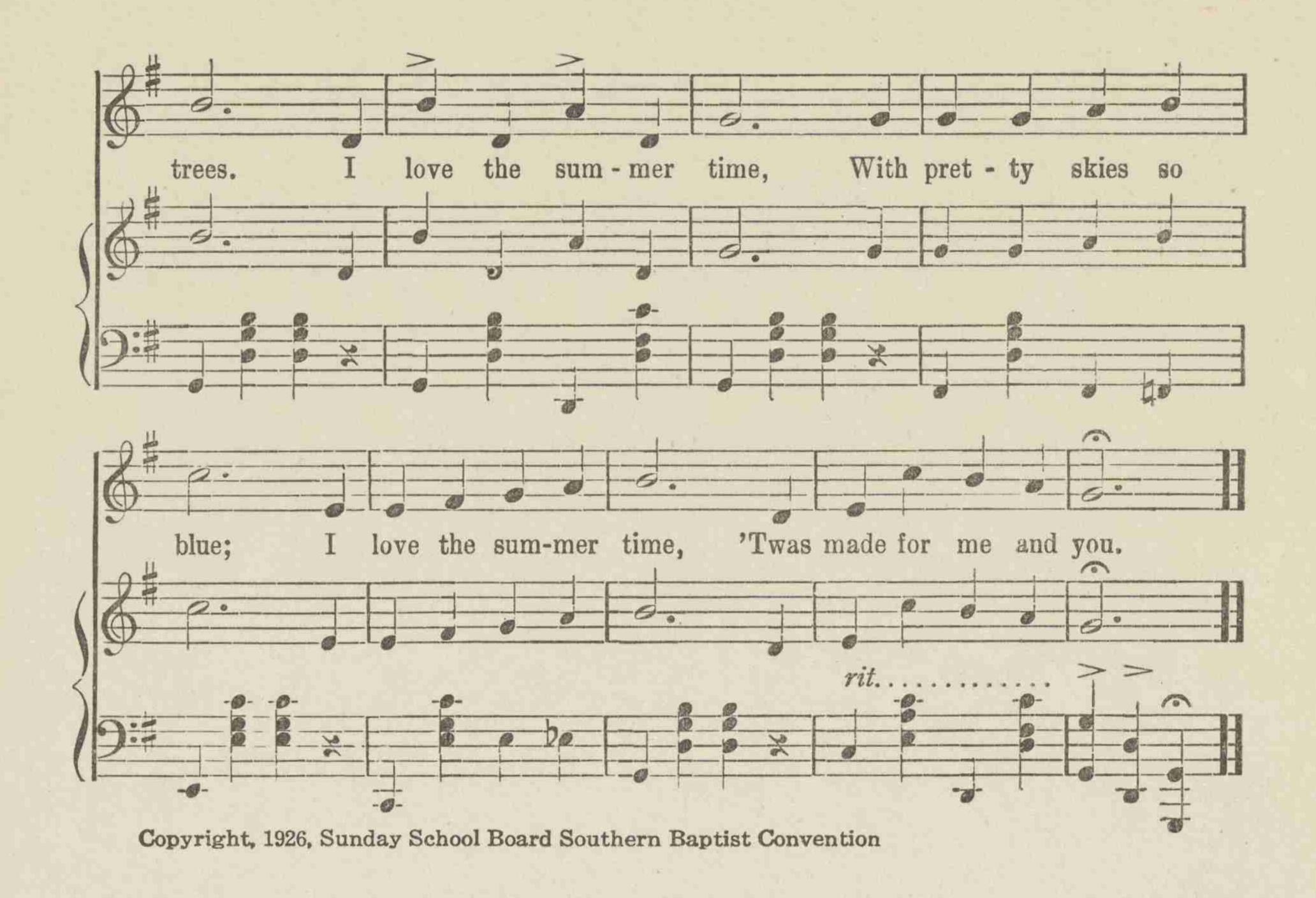
SPRING SONG





I LOVE THE SUMMER TIME



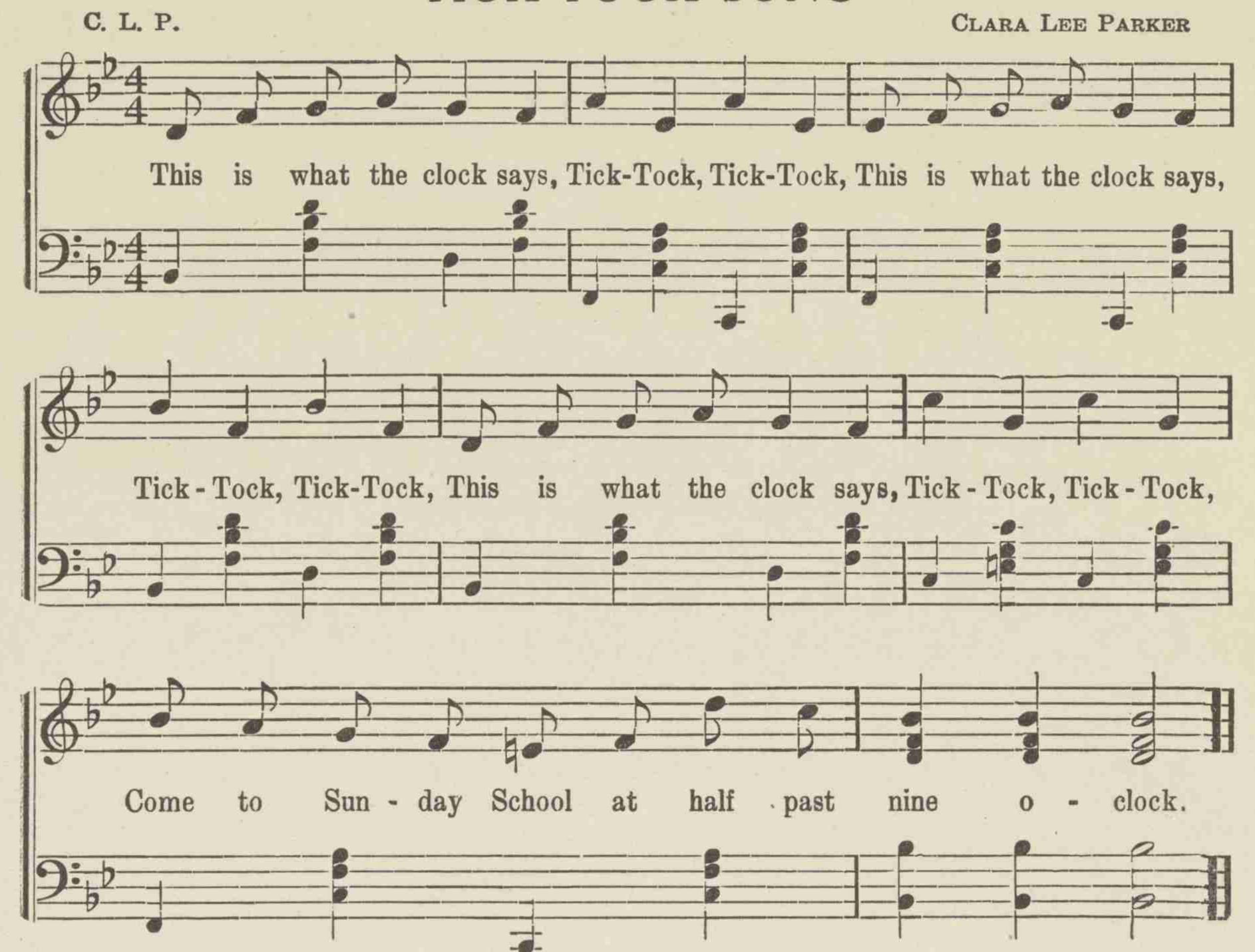


Play Songs, Marches, etc.

WHERE IS THE CHURCH?

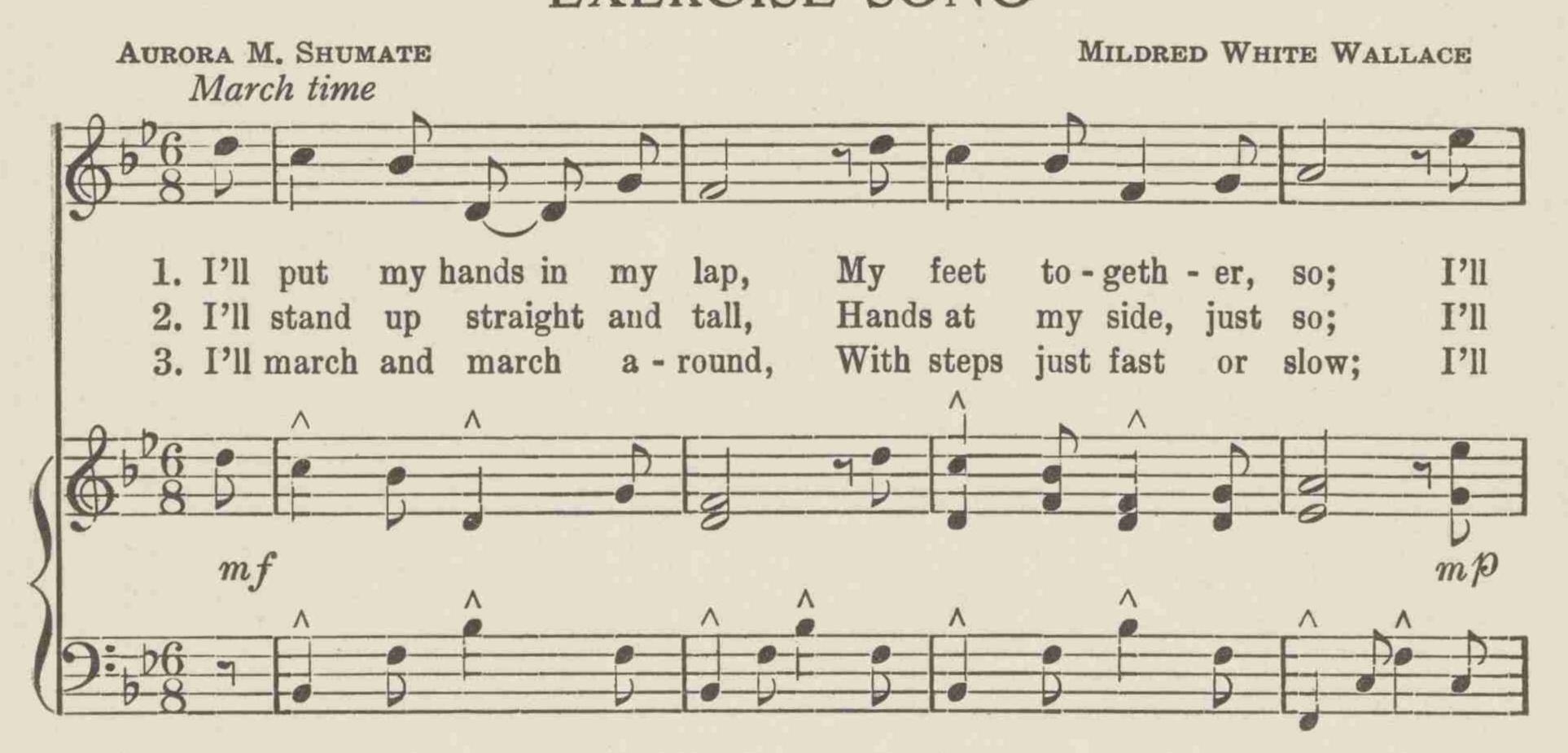


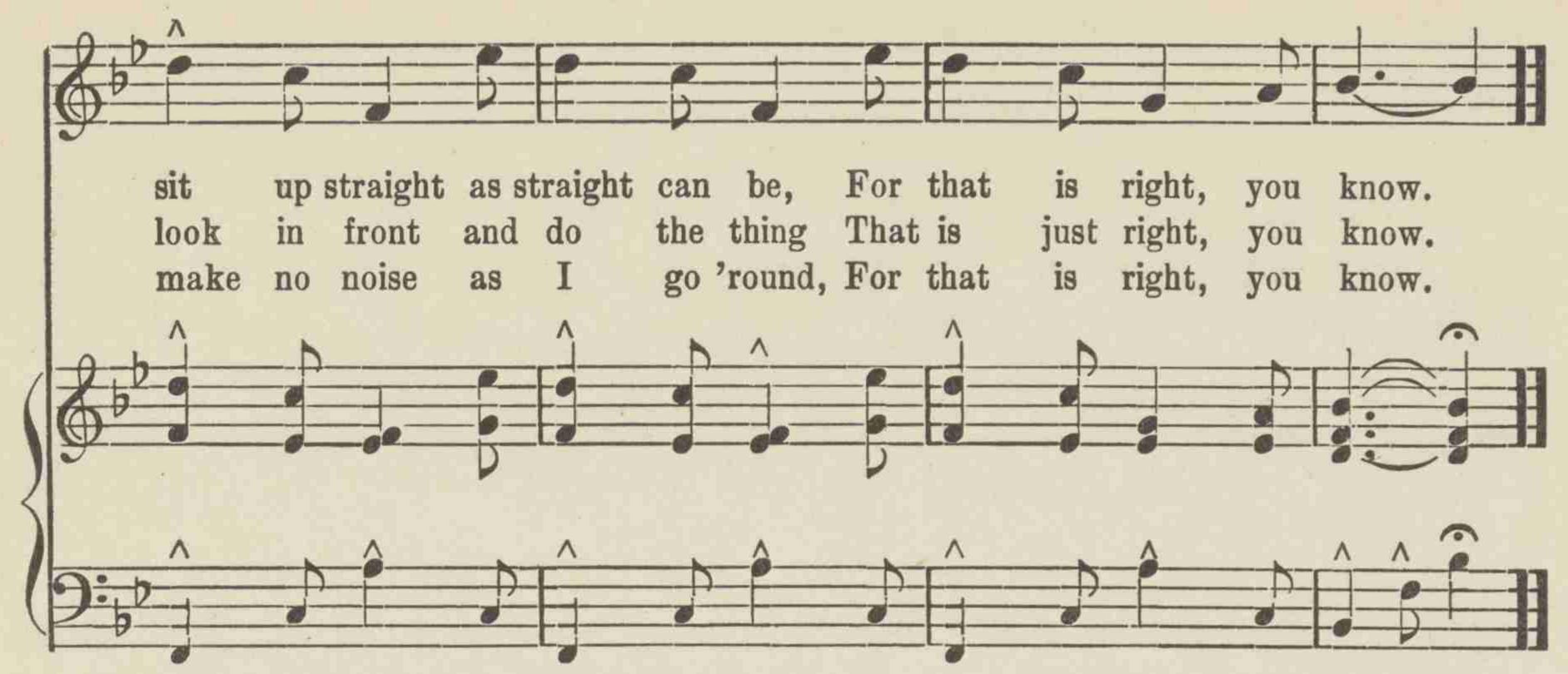




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EXERCISE SONG





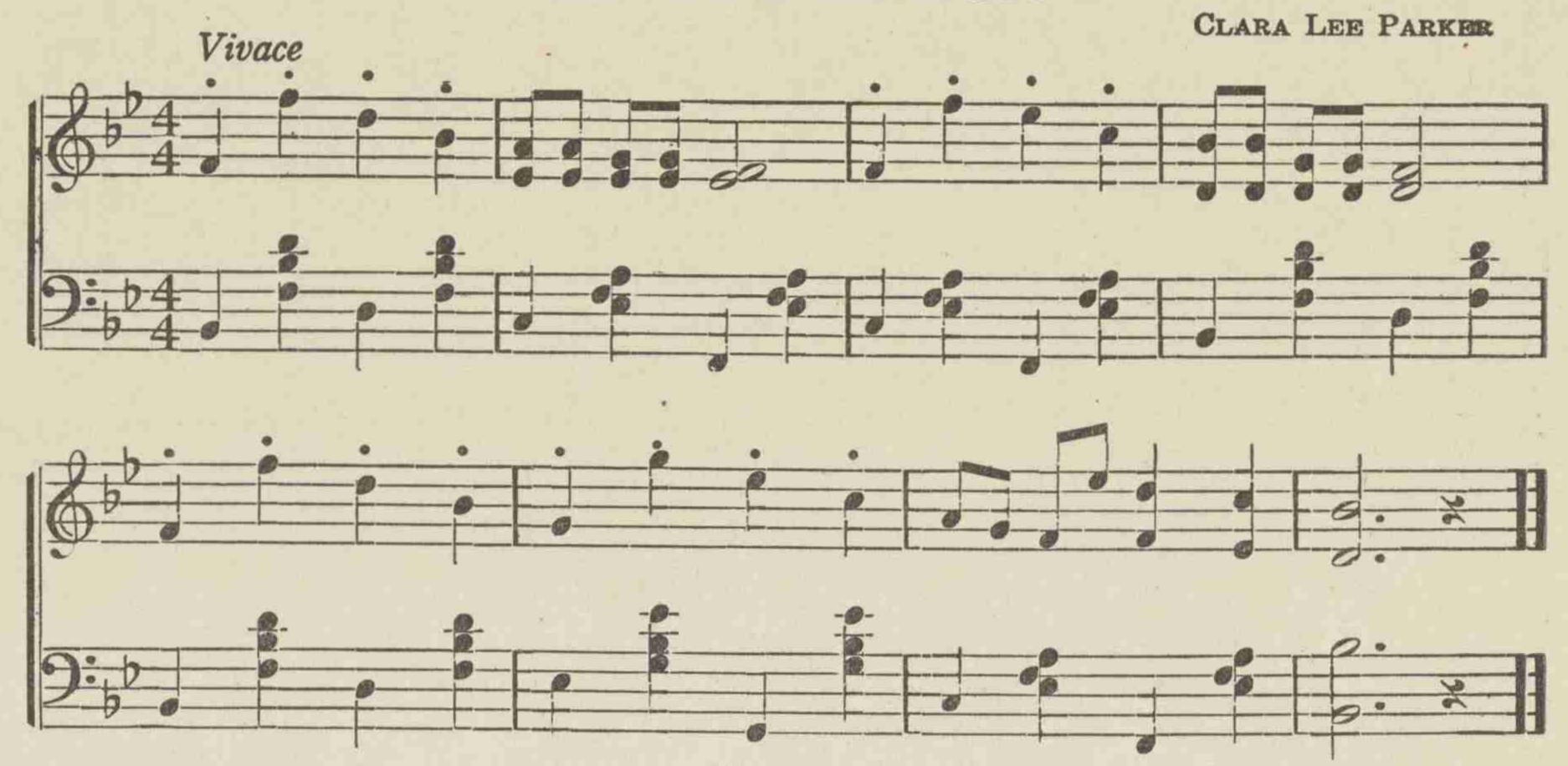
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THE TREES ARE GENTLY SWAYING



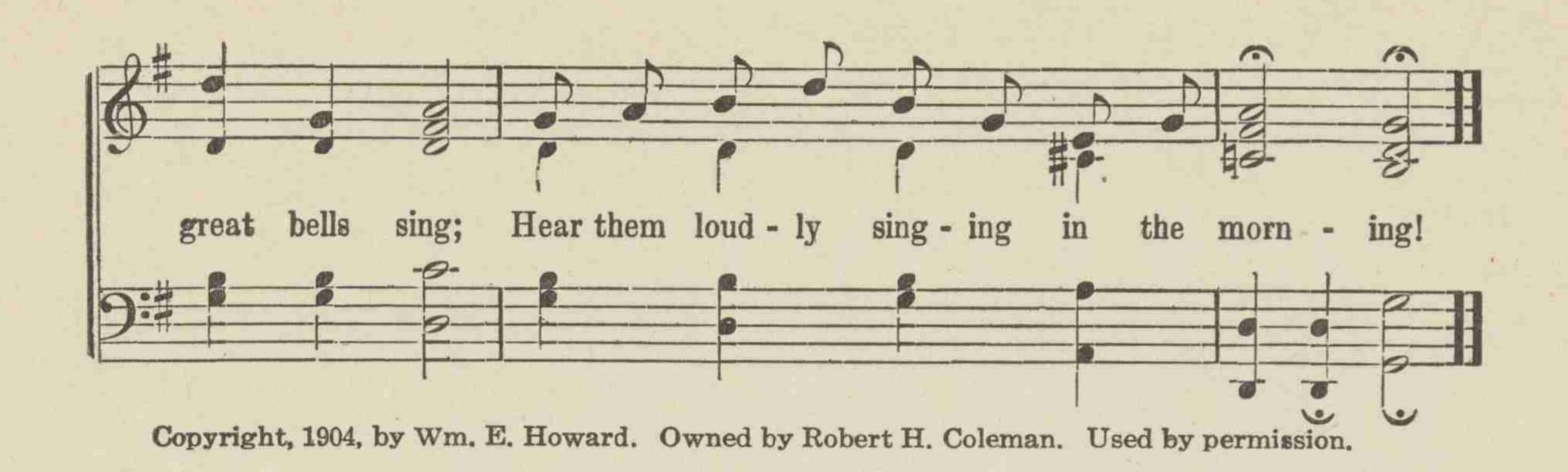
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TIP-TOE MARCH



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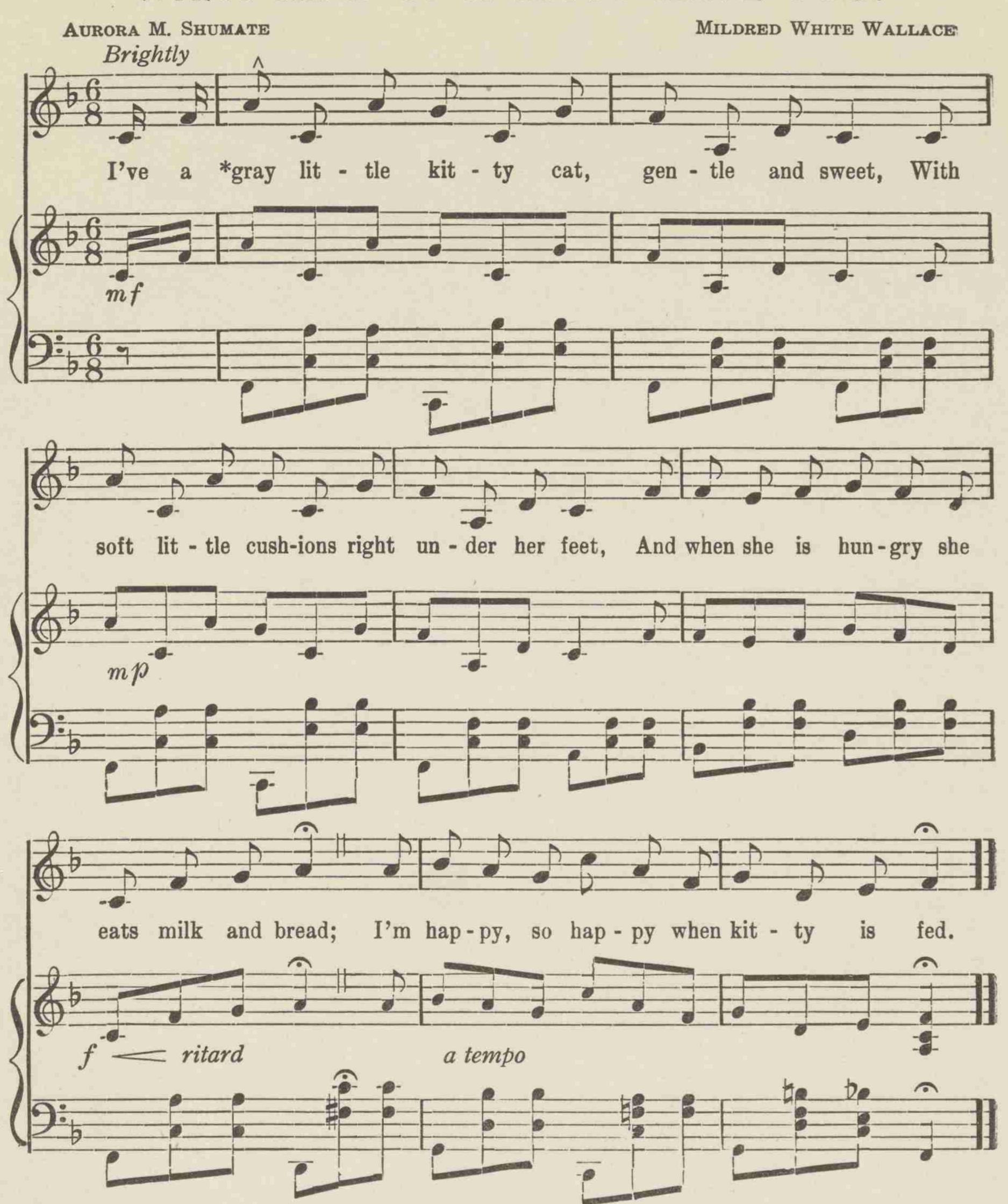


DEAR LITTLE BIRDIE



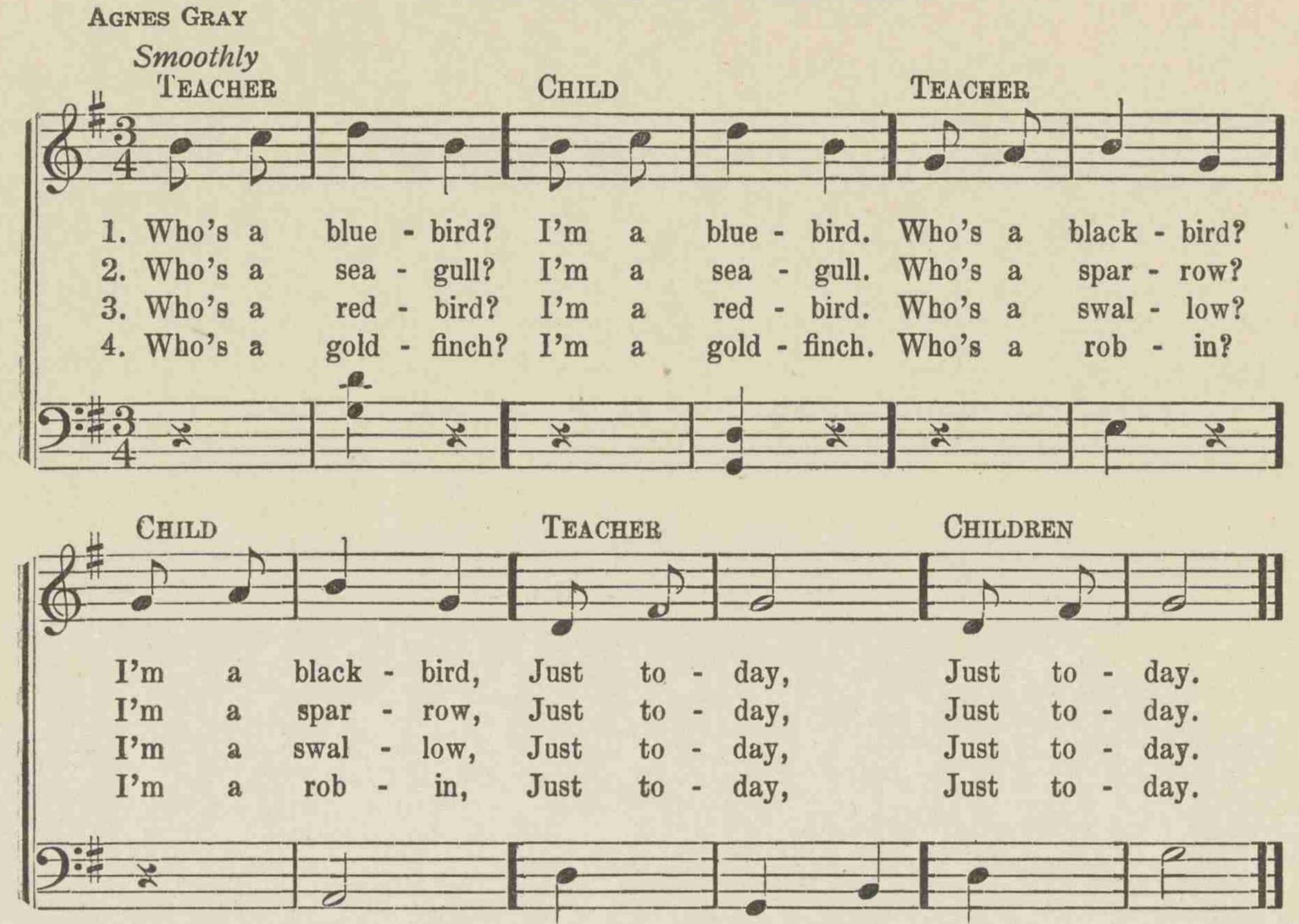
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WHAT KIND OF A KITTY HAVE YOU?



Copyright, 1926, Sunday School Board Southern Baptist Convention *Substitute colors of the children's kitties

WHO'S A BLUEBIRD?



(Different children will be chosen to sing individual answers, while all the children sing the final response—"Just to-day."

From "Song Devices and Jingles," by Eleanor Smith Used by special permission of Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Co.

Relaxation Exercises

In which the action may be suited to the words.

I SAW*

I Saw a Tall Man Walking

Children take long steps, walking on toes. Each two rows once around one row of seats.

I Saw a Short Man Walking

Knees bend. Walk forward a few steps, then backward.

I Saw a Man Chopping Wood

Take ax in both hands, swing arms over right shoulder and down, then over left and down. Repeat.

I Saw a Lame Chicken

Hop several times on one foot (in place). Same on other foot.

I Saw a Man Picking Apples

Bend forward from hips, pick apples from ground, place in basket. Repeat.

I Saw a Man Looking Up

Bend head backward, then look up. Repeat.

I Saw a Dog Panting

Breathe in, then pant.

^{*}From "Story Plays," by Louise C. Wright. Copyright 1923 by A. S. Barnes & Co., Publishers, New York. Used by permission.

ANIMALS*

Horses Galloping

Each two rows gallop once around one row of seats.

Rabbits

Thumbs held at sides of head to imitate rabbit's ears, bend knees and jump on both feet; each two rows once around one row of seats.

Cows Mooing

Breathe in, then breathe out with sound of "Moo-Moo!"

High Stepping Horses

Hands on hips. Lift knees high (in place), first one, then the other.

The Giraffe

Very tall. Stand on toes, arms upward stretch.

Cow Moving Its Head

Bend head forward then up. Repeat.

Dog Barking

Breathe in, then out audibly (Bow-wow-wow).

THE RAINY DAY*

Looking at the Clouds

Look up at the right, look up at left. Repeat.

Rain Falling from the Clouds

Arms upward stretch, lower them forward, downward, bending body forward (knees stiff) finger tips nearly touching floor. Repeat.

Running in the Rain

Each two rows run once around one row of seats.

Jumping the Puddles

Bend knees, then jump forward a step. Repeat.

Drying Feet

Stand on one foot (hands on hips) and shake other foot vigorously. Repeat, standing on opposite foot.

All Tired

Breathe in, then out.

^{*}From "Story Plays," by Louise C. Wright. Copyright 1923 by A. S. Barnes & Co., Publishers, New York. Used by permission.

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TOUCH EXERCISE

I'll touch my hair, my lips, my eyes,
I'll sit up straight and then I'll rise;
I'll touch my ears, my nose, my chin,
Then quietly sit down again.

-A. M. S.

AUTUMN LEAVES

We are little Autumn leaves Falling, falling down; Falling, oh, so joyously Right upon the ground!

-A. M. S. -

FALLING RAIN

Rap-a-tap-tap,
The rain falls to the ground,
Rap-a-tap-tap
It hardly makes a sound.

Rap-a-tap-tap,
The rain falls to the ground,
Rap-a-tap-tap,
It makes a loud, loud sound.

-A. M. S.

FALLING LEAVES

Pretty little leaves
Falling, falling down;
Tumbling o'er each other
Till they reach the ground.

-A. M. S.

FLOWER PLAY

"If I were a little flower,
Sleeping underneath the ground,
I'd raise my head and grow and grow,
And stretch my arms and grow and grow
And nod my head and say
'I love you, I love you, I love you.'"

—Selected.

THE WINDOW

See the window I have here, So big and high and square; I can stand in front of it, And see the things out there.

(Make window with the arms and allow children to mention outdoor things.)

-A. M. S.

VERSE ON OBEDIENCE*

Father tells me things to do, Mother wants me to help her, too; I'll try to smile, just this way, And show I'm glad to obey.

(Say the verse, then allow different children to play out the things they do to help.)

-A. M. S.

FINGER PLAY ON OBEDIENCE*

This is the way these girls and boys,
Can hop and skip and play;
(Wiggle fingers up and down.)
But when their mothers call to them,
They mind in just this way.

(Hold fingers upright and move back and forth like walking.)
—A. M. S.

THE HAPPY HOME

This is a home where people live,

Each one helps the other;
They do such kind and helpful things,

They love one another.

(Make a house with the hands)

-A. M. S.

^{*}From First Year Beginner Daily Vacation Bible School Text Book.

^{*}From First Year Beginner Daily Vacation Bible School Text Book.

FINGER PLAY FOR MARCH*

Ten little leaf buds growing on a tree (Children have fingers outstretched for the buds)

Curled up as tightly as can be.

(Curl fingers up into tight little fists)

See them keeping snug and warm During winter's cold and storm.

(Snuggle fists up under chin) Now along comes windy March,

With his breath now soft, now harsh. First he swings them roughly so,

(Swing fists vigorously back and forth)

Then more gently to and fro. (Now swing them tenderly)

Till the raindrops from the skies,

(Stretch arms high, bring down to floor tapping fingers constantly to represent falling rain)

Falling pitter-patter wise,

(Repeat previous movement)
Open wide the leaf buds' eyes.

(With arms outstretched, open up fist and spread fingers at the word "eyes")

-Luella Habenicht.

THE BIRTHDAY CAKE*

Mix a cake, bake a cake,
Baker's man.
Make it as pretty
And sweet as you can.

Beat a cake, bake a cake,
Then, 'fore you stop,
Make a pink frosting
With candles atop.

-Helen Metzger.

^{*}From Kindergarten and First Grade Magazine. Copyrighted, The Milton Bradley Co. Used by permission.

^{*}From the Cradle Roll Home.

A FINGER PLAY BEDTIME STORY

This little boy is going to bed;

(First finger of right hand in palm of left)

Down on the pillow he lays his head;

(Thumb of left hand is pillow)

Wraps himself in the covers tight—

(Fingers of left hand closed)

This is the way he sleeps all night.

Morning comes, he opens his eyes;
Back with a toss the cover flies;
(Fingers of left hand open)
Up he jumps, is dressed and away,
(Right index finger up and hopping away)
*Ready for frolic and play all day.

The play can be repeated, using the first finger of the left hand for "This little girl."—From "Play Life in the First Eight Years," by Luella Palmer. Used by permission of Ginn & Co.

*May be changed to read, "Ready to help and play all day."

THE HELPFUL RAIN

Pitter, patter falls the rain,
On the roof and window pane;
Softly, softly it comes down,
Makes a stream that runs around;
Flowers lift their heads and say,
"A nice, cool drink God gives today."

(Stretch out hands in front with fingers apart. Move arms up and down slowly as the first three lines are said. Let hands imitate the stream on fourth line. Raise the head high, with hands at side for the last two lines.)

—A. M.S.

FINGER PLAY ON HELPFULNESS*

This little girl does nothing but play;
This child always wants her way;
This is a girl so strong and tall;
This child will not help at all.
Here's one who's kind and true,
Always helping just like you.

(Substitute the word "boy" for "girl" when desired.)

^{*}From First Year Beginner Daily Vacation Bible School Text Book.

FEEDING THE BIRDS

The children play pushing up the windows and throwing out crumbs to the birds.

A WALK IN THE WOODS

The children walk to imaginary woods, gather flowers, shake nut trees and pick up the nuts.

HOPPING BIRDS

Allow the children to play they are birds hopping about, picking up crumbs.

CLAPPING TO MUSIC

Have children clap to music that is soft, loud, brisk, then soft again.

FLYING BIRDS

The children stretch out their arms, move them up and down to imitate flying birds.

GATHERING FLOWERS

Let each child choose the kind of flowers he wishes to gather. Then allow free play in picking.

BUZZING BEES

Allow the children to imitate buzzing bees, flying lightly around, saying "Zzz, zzz, zzz, zzz," and gathering honey from imaginary flowers.

SLEEPING CHILDREN

The children stand, stretch, then sit down, lay head on arm with eyes closed as if asleep. Have soft music played as the children rest.

RINGING CHRISTMAS OR NEW YEAR BELLS

The children reach up high and pull imaginary ropes, saying:

"Ding, dong Christmas (or New Year) bells Ding, dong Christmas (or New Year) bells Ding, dong, ding."

FALLING SNOW

The hands are raised high and come gently to the floor in imitation of snow flakes.

THE WIND

The children sway bodies back and forth and turn around as the leader says "whoo-whoo" in imitation of the wind.

