Adon Olam

for SATB Chorus and Piano

Music by Joshua Fishbein
Words attributed to Solomon ibn Gabirol (1021-1058)

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Winner, Delaware Valley Chorale 2013 Competition for Young Choral Composers

Hebrew Transliteration

Adon olam asher malach b'terem kol y'tzir nivra,
L'eit na'asah b'cheftzo kol, azai Melech sh'mo nikra.

V'acharei kichlot ha-kol l'vado yimloch nora,
V'hu hayah v'hu hoveh, v'hu yih'yeh b'tif'arah.

V'hu echad v'ein sheini l'hamshil lo l'hachbirah,
B'li rei-shit b'li tachlit, v'lo ha-oz v'hamisrah.

V'hu ei-li v'chai go'ali v'tzur chevli b'eit tzarah,
V'hu nisi u-manos li, m'nat kosi b'yom ekra.

B'yado afkid ruchi b'eit ishan v'a-irah,
V'im ruchi g'viyati Adonai li v'lo ira.

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Pronunciation guide for Hebrew Transliteration

Vowels

a as in f*a*ther
ai as in *ai*sle (= long *i* as in *i*ce)
e = short *e* as in b*e*d
ei as in *ei*ght (= long *a* as in *a*ce)
i as in p*i*zza (= long *e* as in b*e*)
o = long *o* as in g*o*
u = long *u* as in l*u*nar
' = unstressed vowel close to or unstressed short e

Consonants

ch as in German Ba*ch* or Scottish lo*ch* (not as in cheese)
g = hard *g* as in *g*et (not soft g as in gem)
tz = as in boa*ts*
h after a vowel is silent

Poetic Translation

Lord of the world who reigned before the universe was formed,
When by his will all things were created, then he was proclaimed King.

And after all shall cease, alone shall reign the Awesome one;
He was, He is, and He shall remain in glory.

He is one and there is no second to compare or share -
Without beginning, without end - His strength and His dominion.

He is my God - my living helper - my rock in times of trouble;
He is my banner, my refuge, and my cup's portion for all.

Within his hands I trust my soul, before I sleep and when I wake,
And with my soul, my body, too: The Lord is with me; I shall not fear.

English translation adapted by the composer
from the Standard Book of Jewish Verse (New York, 1917)

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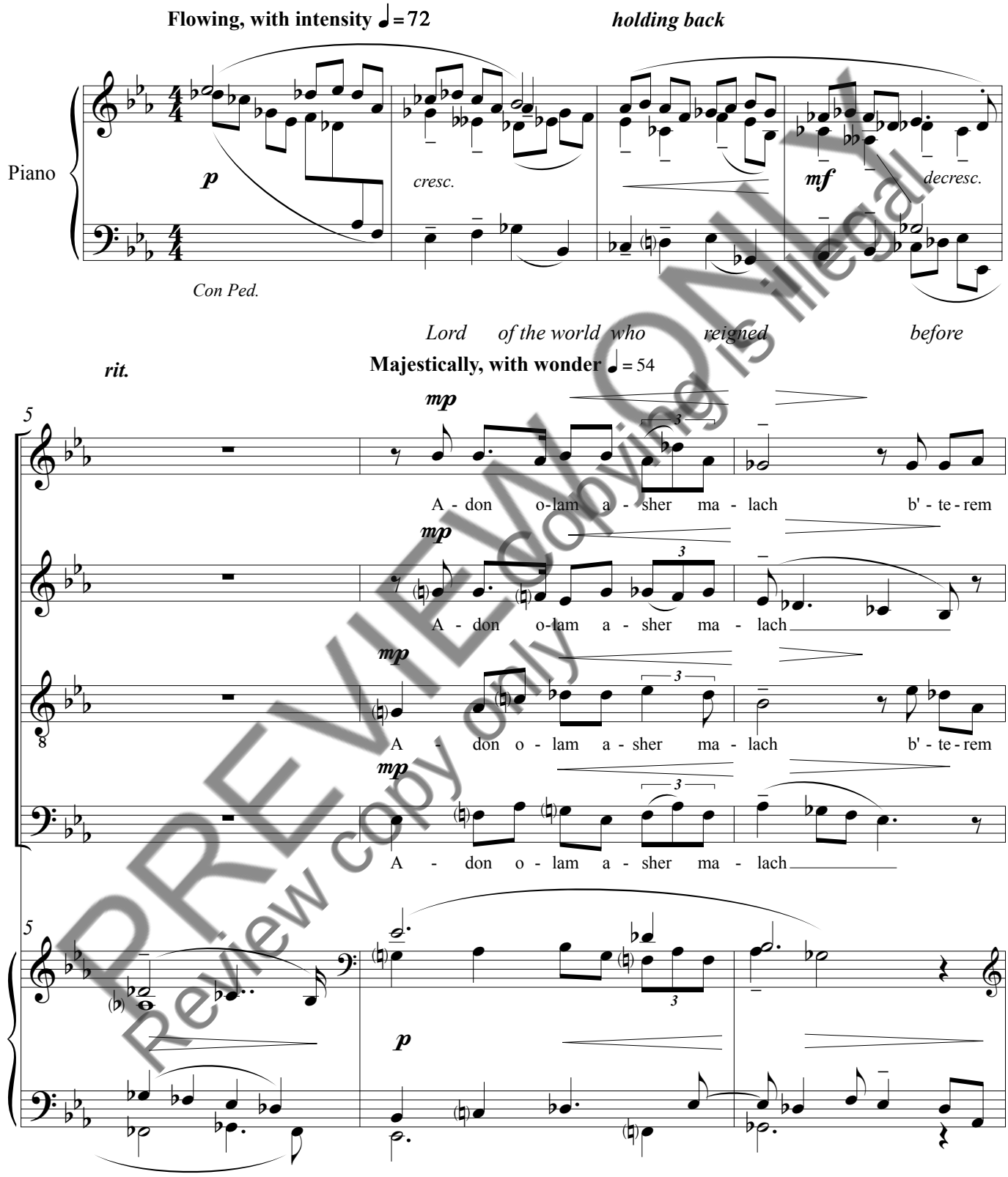
Adon Olam

Solomon ibn Gabirol (1021-1058) **Joshua Fishbein**



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the universe was formed, When by his will were created

movendo (♩ = 60)

S: kol y' - tzir niv - ra, L' - eit na - a - sah b' - chef - tzo

A: b' - te - rem kol y' - tzir niv - ra, L' - eit na - a - sah

T: kol y' - tzir niv - ra, L' - eit na - a - sah b' - chef - tzo

B: b' - te - rem kol y' - tzir niv - ra, L' - eit na - a - sah

all things, then King He was proclaimed.

pressing forward (♩ = 72)

S: kol, a - zai Me - lech sh' - mo ni - kra, sh' - mo ni -

A: b' - chef - tzo kol, a - zai Me - lech sh' - mo ni - kra, sh' - mo ni -

T: kol, a - zai Me - lech sh' - mo ni - kra,

B: b' - chef - tzo kol, a - zai Me - lech sh' - mo ni - kra,

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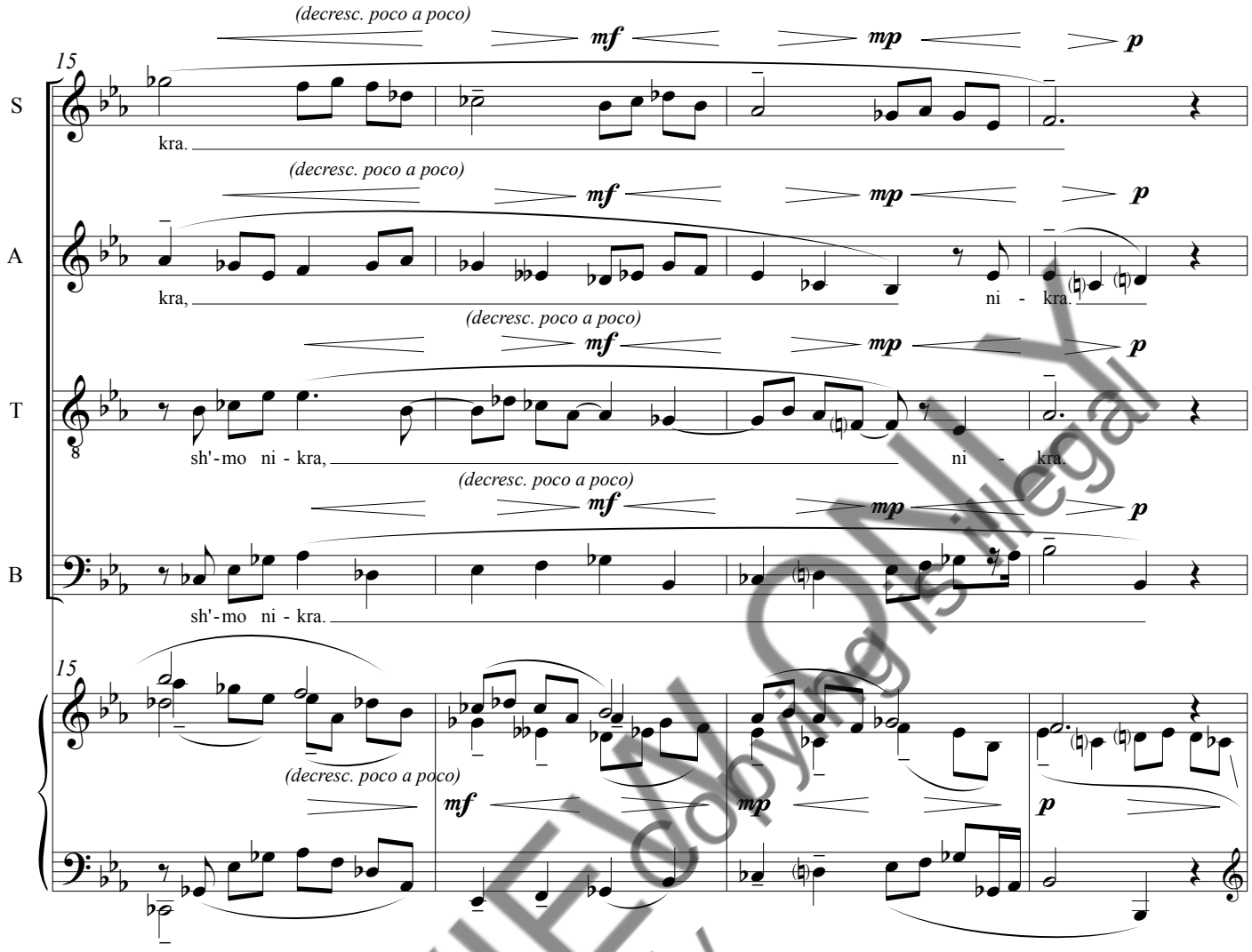
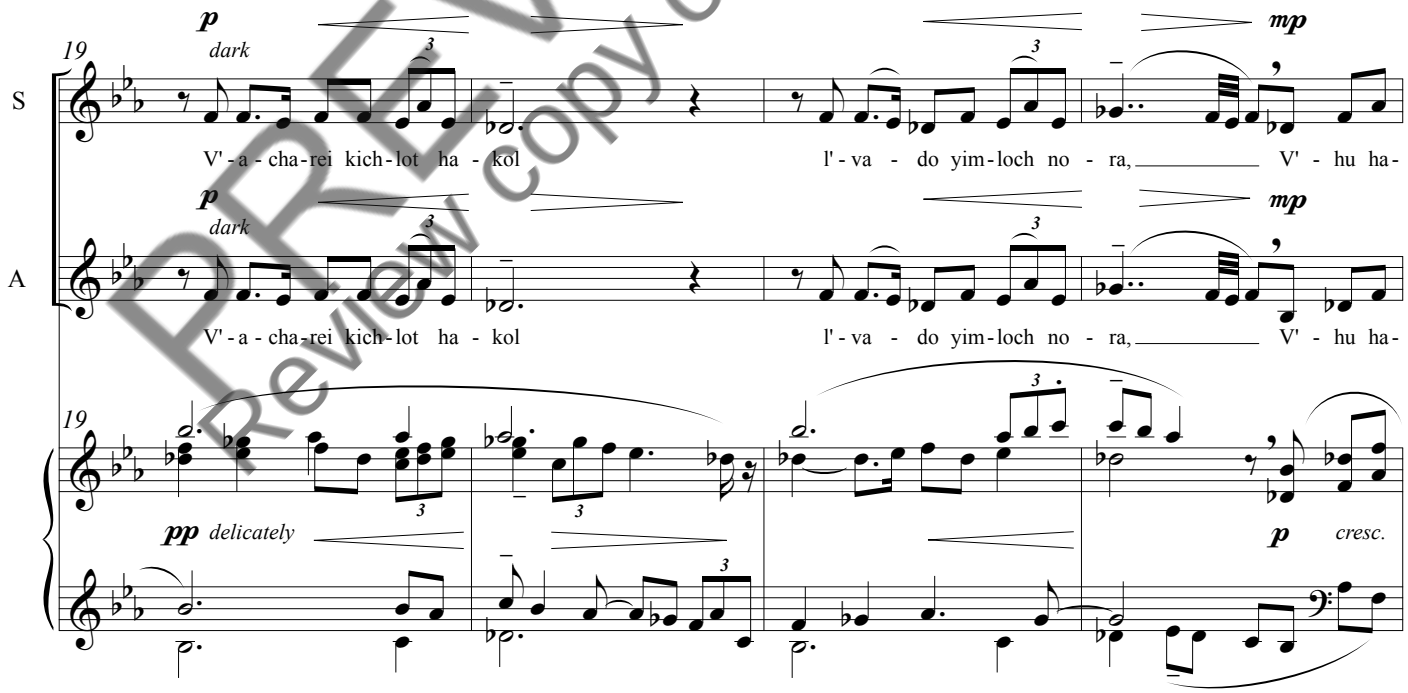


And after shall cease all alone shall reign the Awesome one; He was,

Majestically, with wonder ♩ = 54



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He is, and He shall remain

pressing forward, gradually (♩ = 62)

23

cresc. poco a poco

S: yah v' - hu ho - veh, v' - hu yi - h' - yeh, v' - hu yi - h'-

A: yah v' - hu ho - veh, v' - hu yi - h' - yeh, v' - hu yi - h'-

T: V' - hu ha - yah v' - hu ho - veh, v' - hu yi - h'yeh,

B: V' - hu ha - yah v' - hu ho - veh, v' - hu yi-h' - yeh,

in glory.

(♩ = 72) *triumphantly* ***poco rit.*** **Leisurely, but strong** ♩ = 60

26

S: yeh b' - tif - a - rah.

A: yeh b' - tif - a - rah, b' - tif - a - rah.

T: b' - tif - a - rah, b' - tif - a - rah.

B: b' - tif - a - rah, b' - tif - a - rah.

molto *cantabile*

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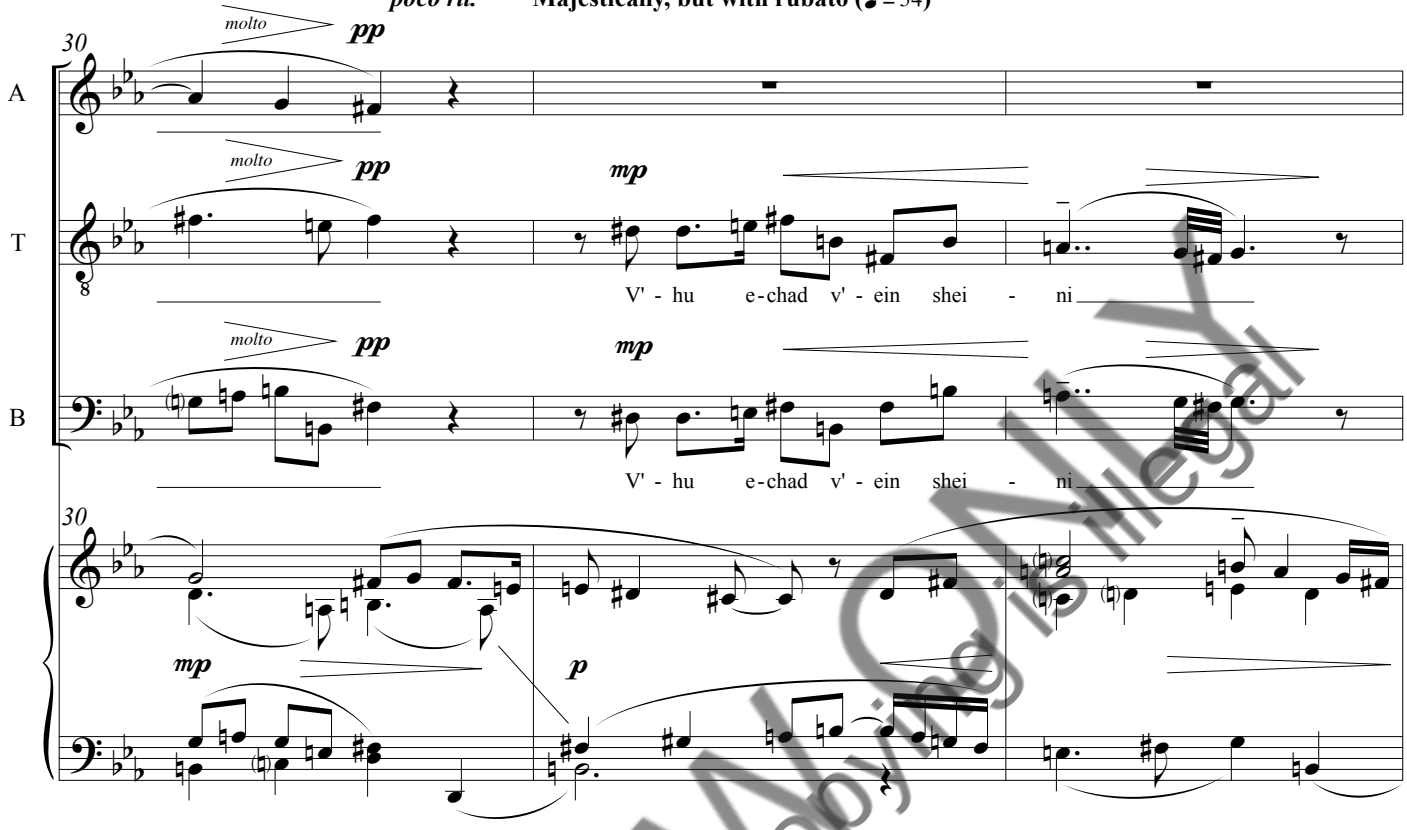
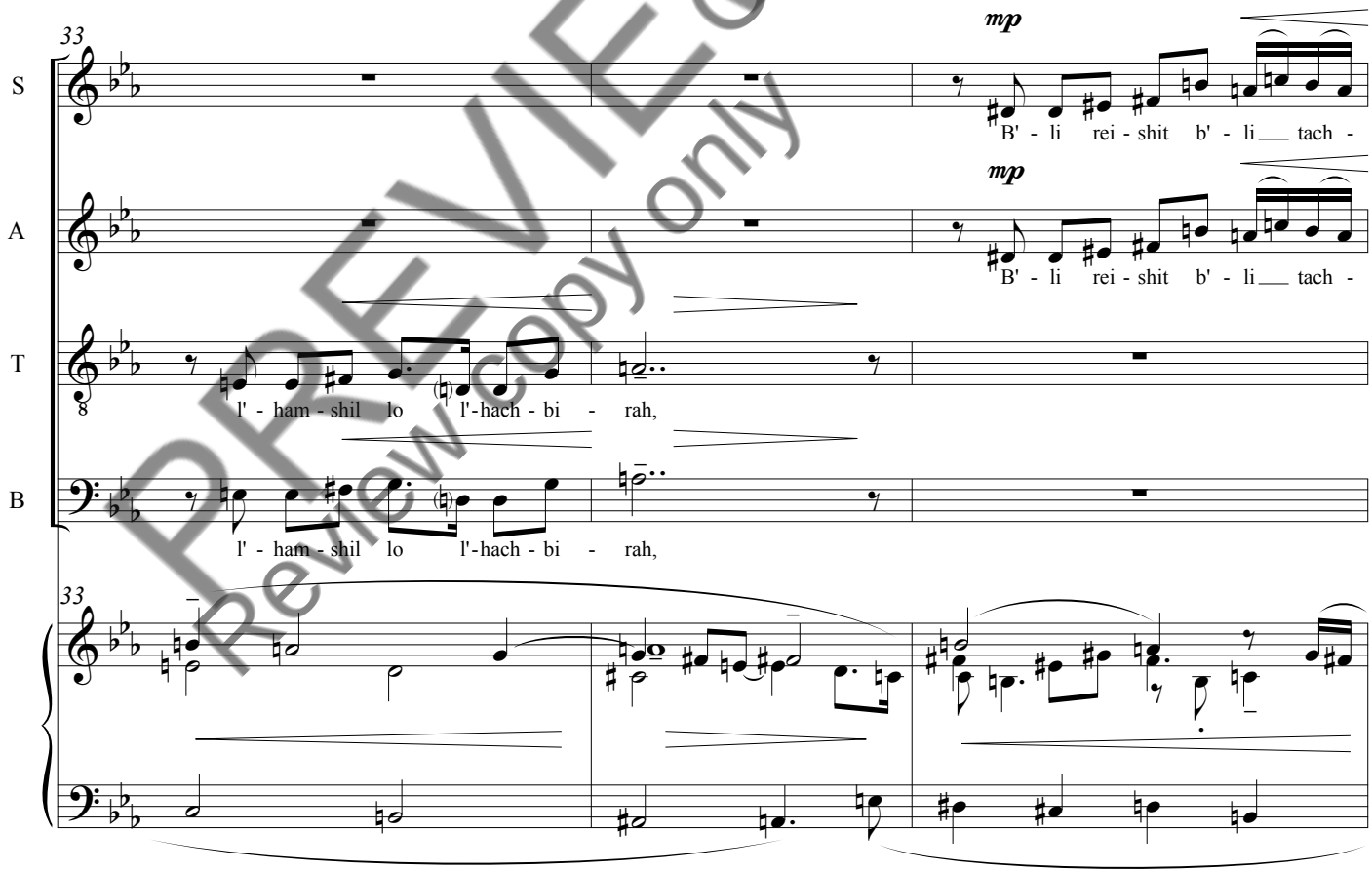
He is one and there is no second

poco rit. **Majestically, but with rubato (♩ = 54)**



to compare or share - Without beginning, without end -



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His strength and His dominion.

poco allargando

36

S: lit, — ***mf*** *cresc. gaining power* v' - lo ha-oz v' - ha - mis - rah, — *declamando* v' - ha - mis -

A: lit, — ***mf*** *cresc. gaining power* v' - lo ha-oz v' - ha - mis - rah, — *declamando* v' - ha - mis -

T: ***mf*** *cresc. gaining power* v' - lo ha-oz v' - ha - mis - rah, — *declamando* v' - ha - mis -

B: ***mf*** *cresc. gaining power* v' - lo ha-oz v' - ha - mis - rah, — *declamando* v' - ha - mis -

36

mp ***mf*** *declamando*

A little faster, flowing ♩ = 60

39

S: ***f*** rah, — v' - ha - mis - rah. — *(poco decresc. gradualmente)* ***mf***

A: ***f*** rah, — v' - ha - mis - rah. — *(poco decresc. gradualmente)* ***mf***

T: ***f*** rah, — v' - ha - mis - rah. — *(poco decresc. gradualmente)* ***mf***

B: ***f*** rah, — v' - ha - mis - rah. — ***mf***

39

f ***mf***

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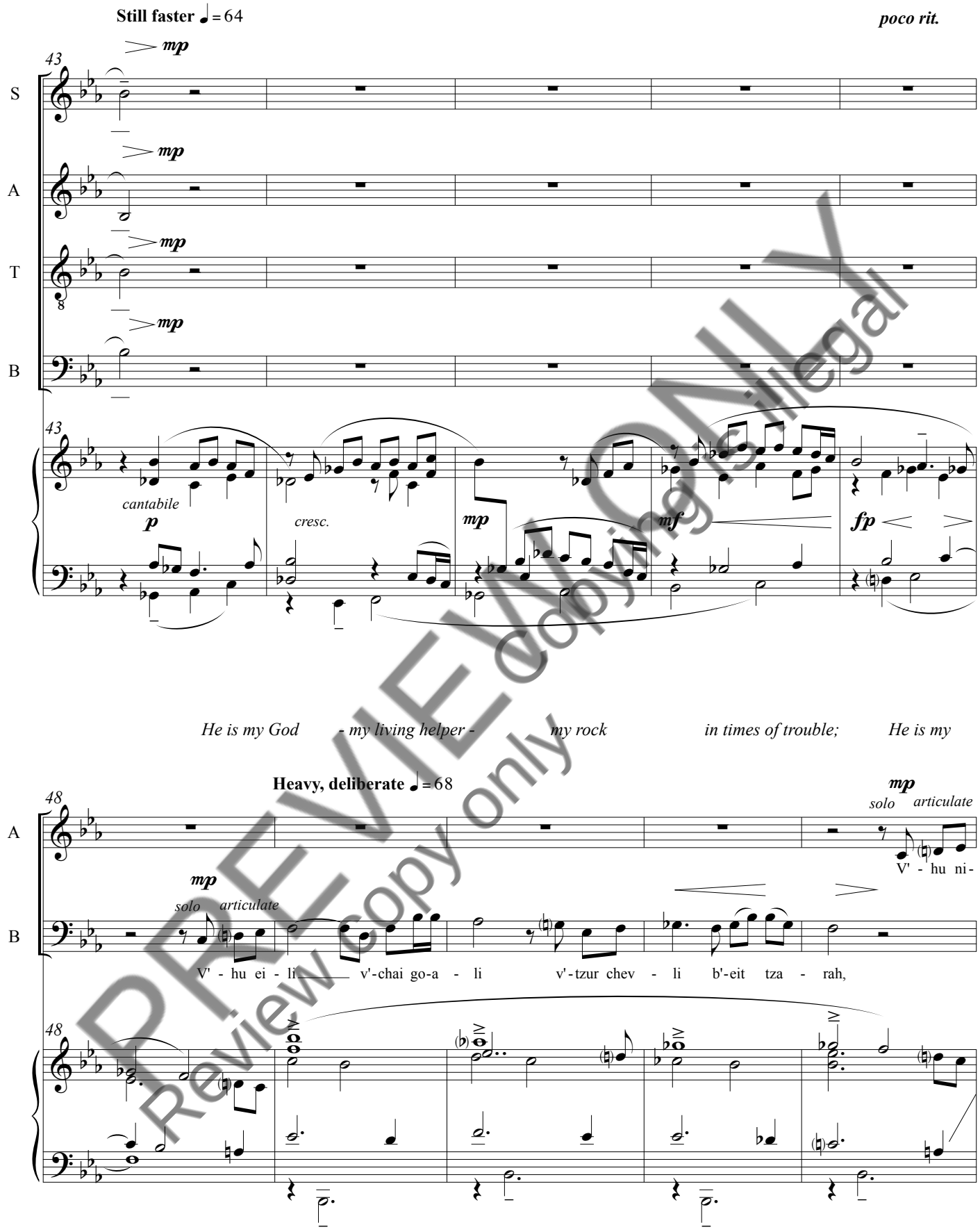

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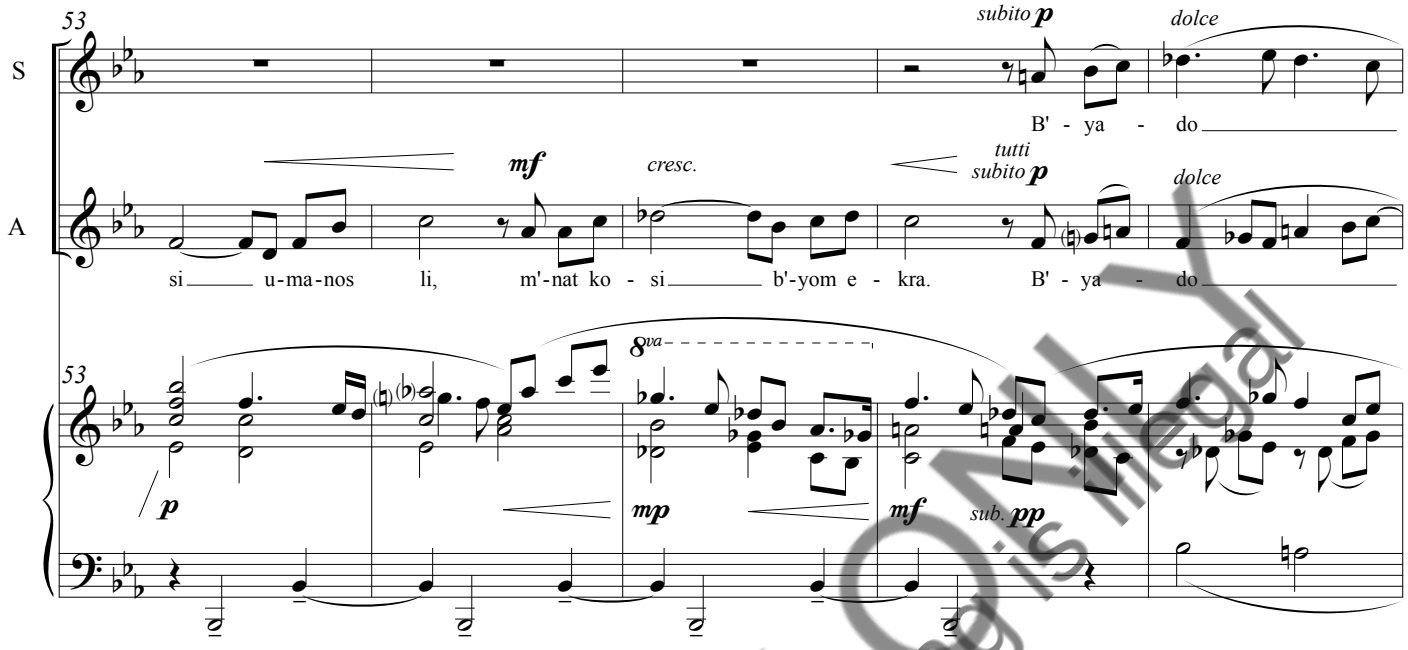
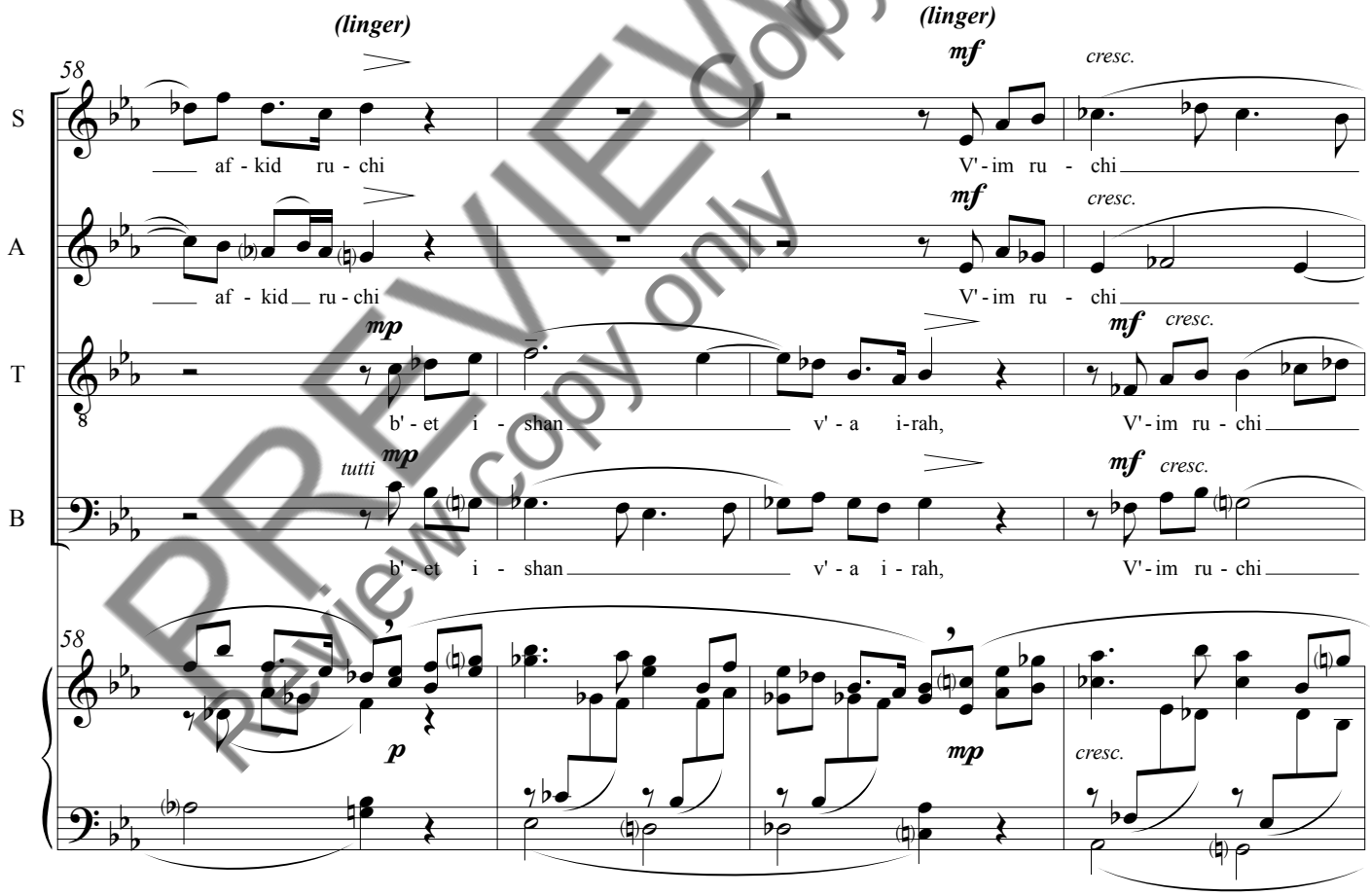
banner, my refuge, and my cup's portion for all. Within His hands

Faster again, restless ♩ = 72



I trust my soul, before I sleep and when I wake, And with my soul,



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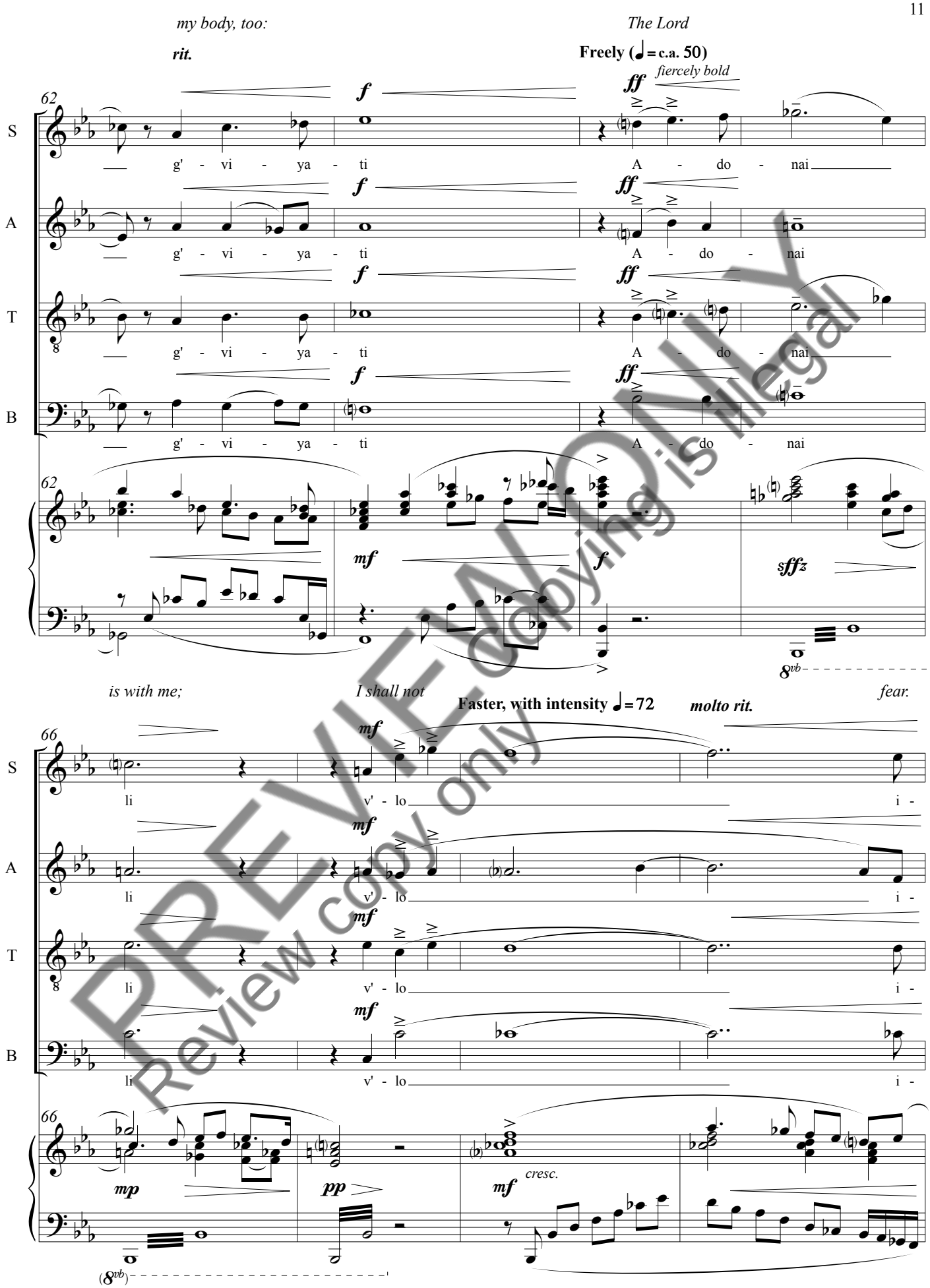

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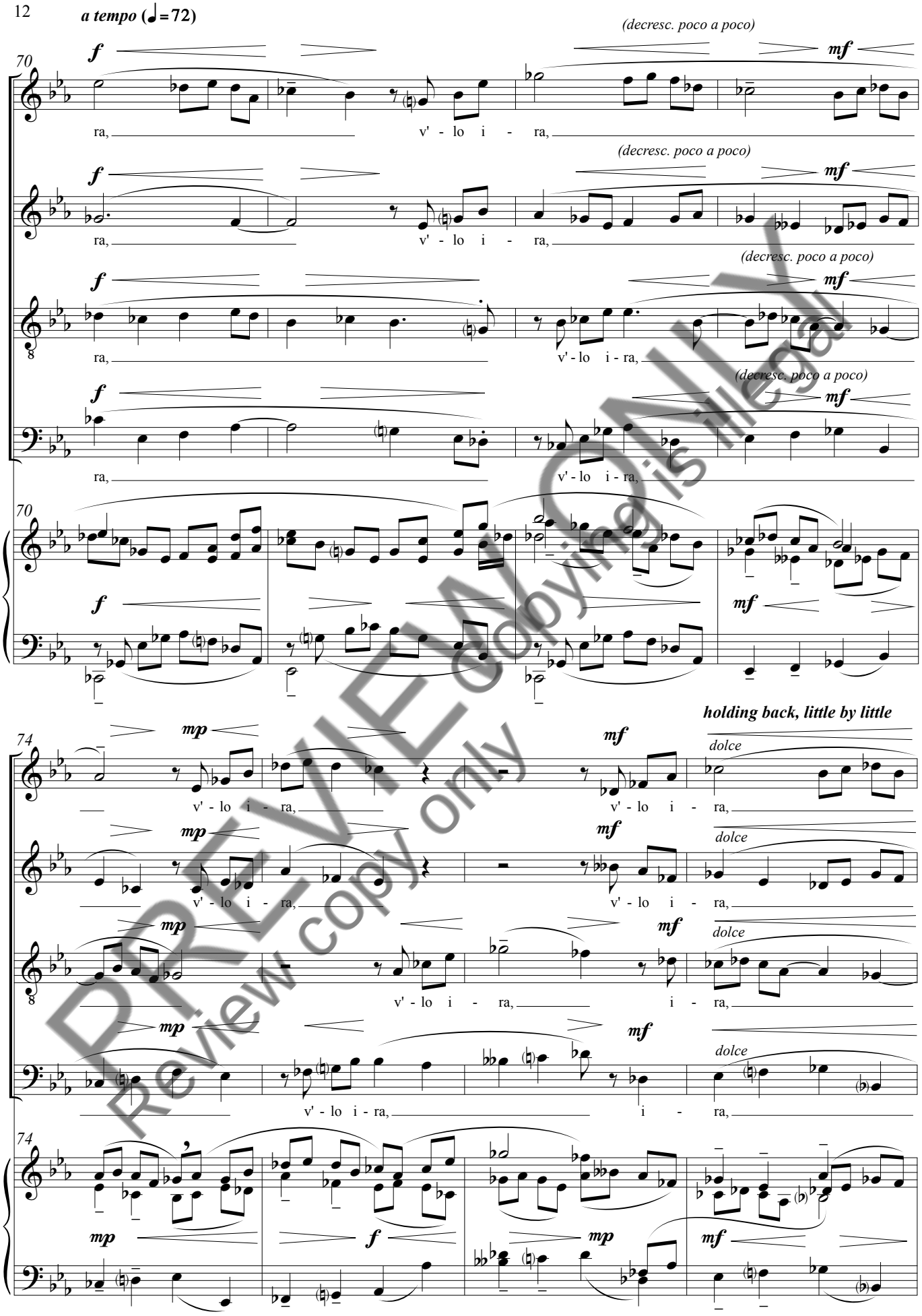

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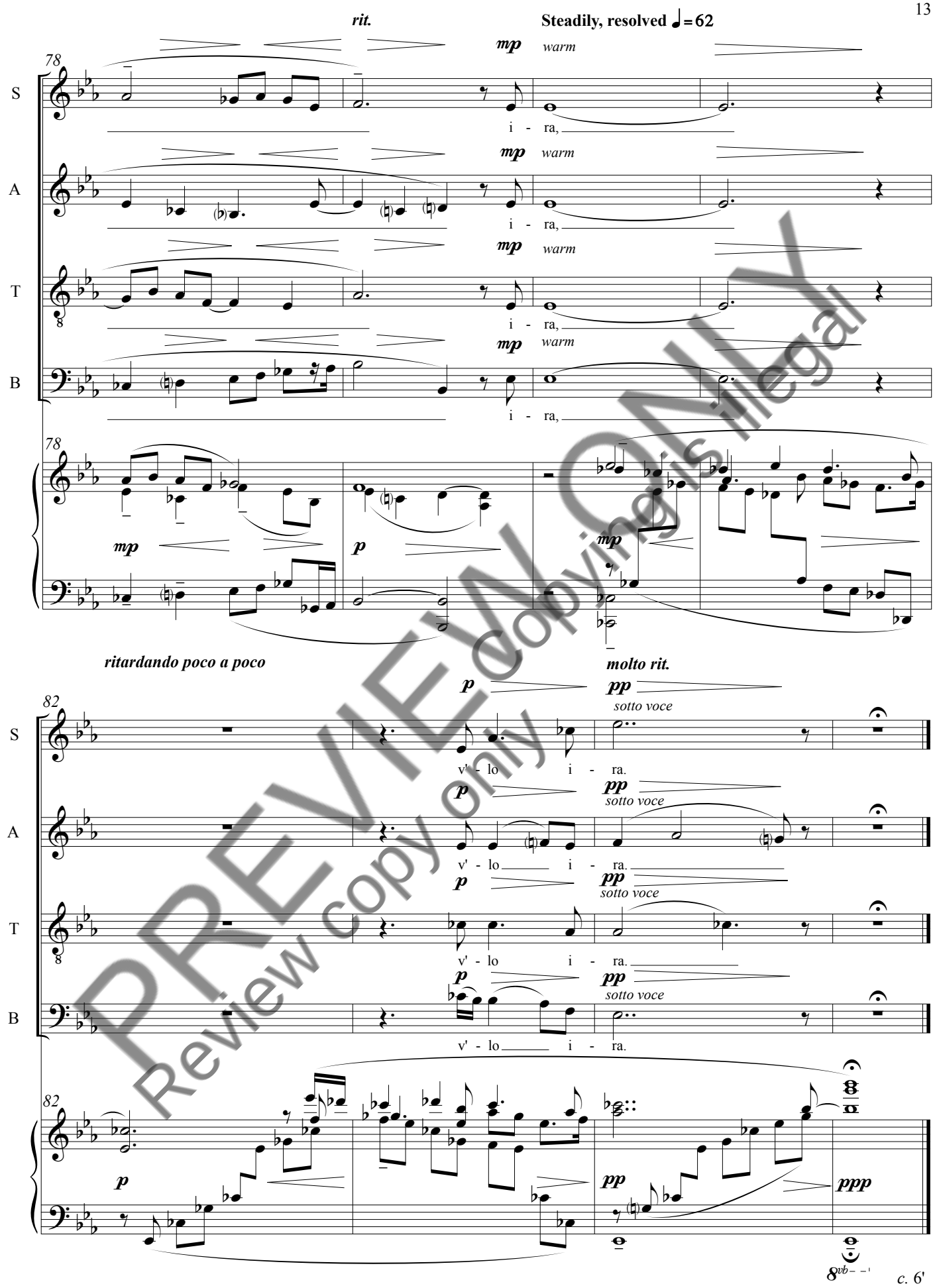

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