Please note that not all pages are included. This is purposely done in order to protect our property and the work of our esteemed composers.

If you would like to see this work in its entirety, please order online or call us at 800-647-2117.

NOTES

Vidimus stellam was commissioned by ChoralArt of Portland, Maine—Robert Russell, Music Director—in celebration of the 25th anniversary of Christmas at the Cathedral, a series of concerts presented annually at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Portland. Robert Russell conducted the premiere on December 1, 2012.

Four organizations partnered in the commission:

Capitol Hill Chorale, Washington, DC—Frederick Binkholder, Artistic Director
Georgetown University Concert Choir, Washington, DC—Frederick Binkholder, Director
Manchester Choral Society, Manchester, New Hampshire—Dan Perkins, Music Director
National Lutheran Choir, Minneapolis, Minnesota—David Cherwien, Artistic Director

The original commission from ChoralArt was to create a cantata for choir and brass, using Latin texts, in the vein of Daniel Pinkham's Christmas Cantata (Sinfonia Sacra), composed in 1957. Since Daniel Pinkham was one of my teachers and principal mentors during my studies at the New England Conservatory, I was thrilled to take on this commission as a tribute to his enduring work.

The texts of *Vidimus stellam* (We Have Seen His Star) are organized around the theme of Light. The overall musical form follows this theme as it progresses through the seasons of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany.

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AVAILABLE EDITIONS

Choral Score	8634
Full Score	8634A
Brass Quintet Parts	8634B

TEXT AND TRANSLATION

I. O Oriens

O Oriens, splendor lucis aeternae,
et sol justitiae: veni, et illumina
sedentes in tenebris.

O Rising Star, splendor of light eternal,
and sun of righteousness: come and
enlighten those who dwell in darkness.

II. Rorate caeli

Rorate caeli desuper,
et nubes pluant justum.
Aperiatur terra,
et germinet Salvatorem.

Drop down heavens from above,
and let the clouds pour down righteousness.
Let the earth be opened,
and send forth a Savior.

III. Hodie Christus natus est

Hodie Christus natus est;
hodie Salvator apparuit;
hodie in terra canunt Angeli,
laetantur Archangeli;
hodie exsultant justi, dicentes:
Gloria in excelsis Deo, alleluia.

Today Christ is born,
today the Savior has appeared,
today the Angels sing on earth,
the Archangels rejoice:
today the righteous rejoice, saying:
"Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia!"

IV. Surge, illuminare

Surge, illuminare Jerusalem:
quia gloria Domini super te orta est.

Rise, shine Jerusalem:
for the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.

V. Vidimus stellam

Vidimus stellam ejus in Oriente, et
venimus cum muneribus adorare Dominum.

We have seen his star in the East, and
have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

Venit lumen tuum, Jerusalem,
et gloria Domini super te orta est;
et ambulabunt gentes in lumine tuo.

Your light is come, O Jerusalem,
and the glory of the Lord is risen upon you,
and the nations shall walk in your light.

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Catalog No. 8634

Vidimus stellam

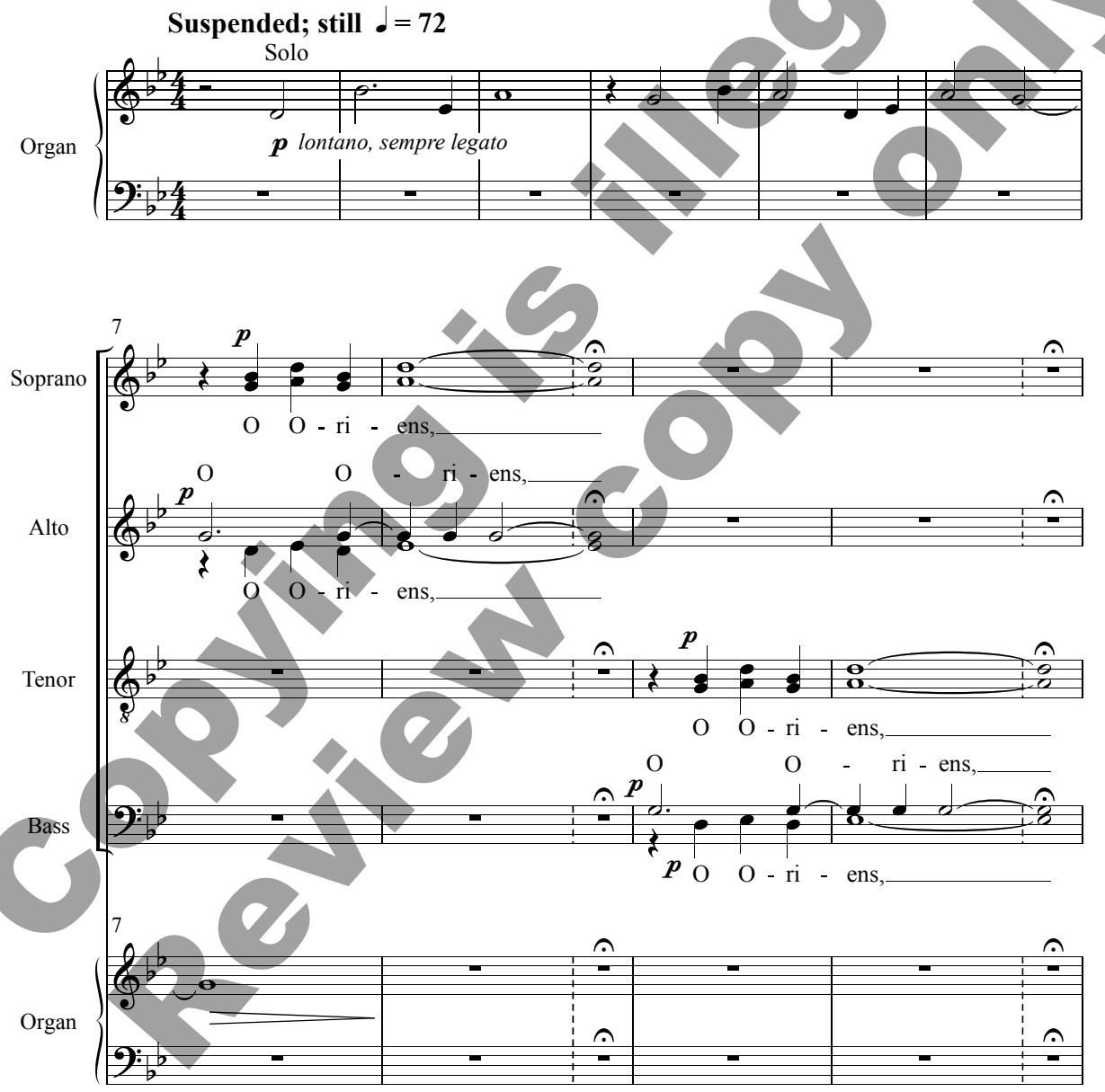
(We Have Seen His Star)

Christmas Cantata for SATB Chorus (divisi) and Brass Quintet or Organ

Traditional Latin

Kevin Siegfried

I. O Oriens



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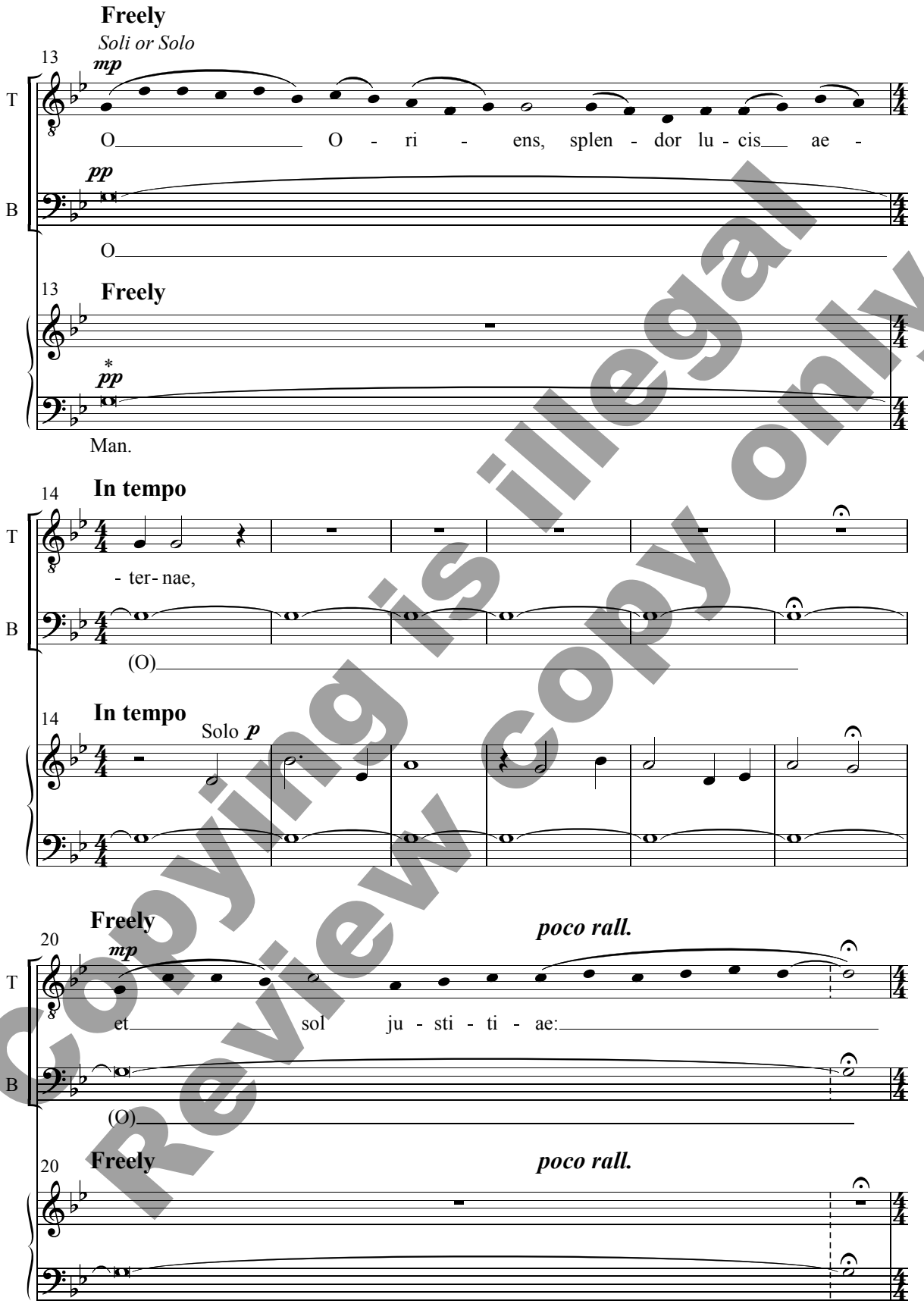

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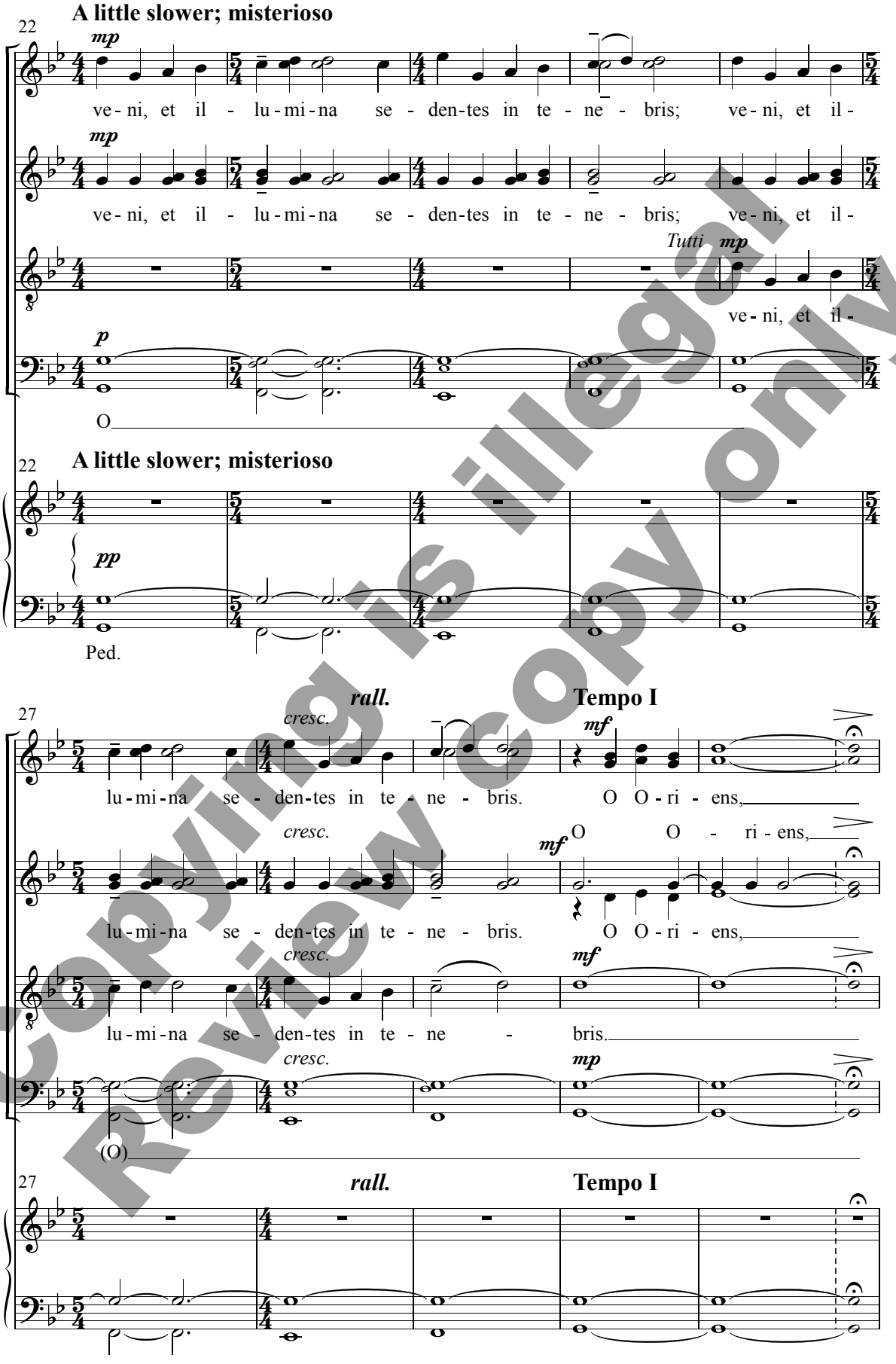
*Optional drone to support Basses.



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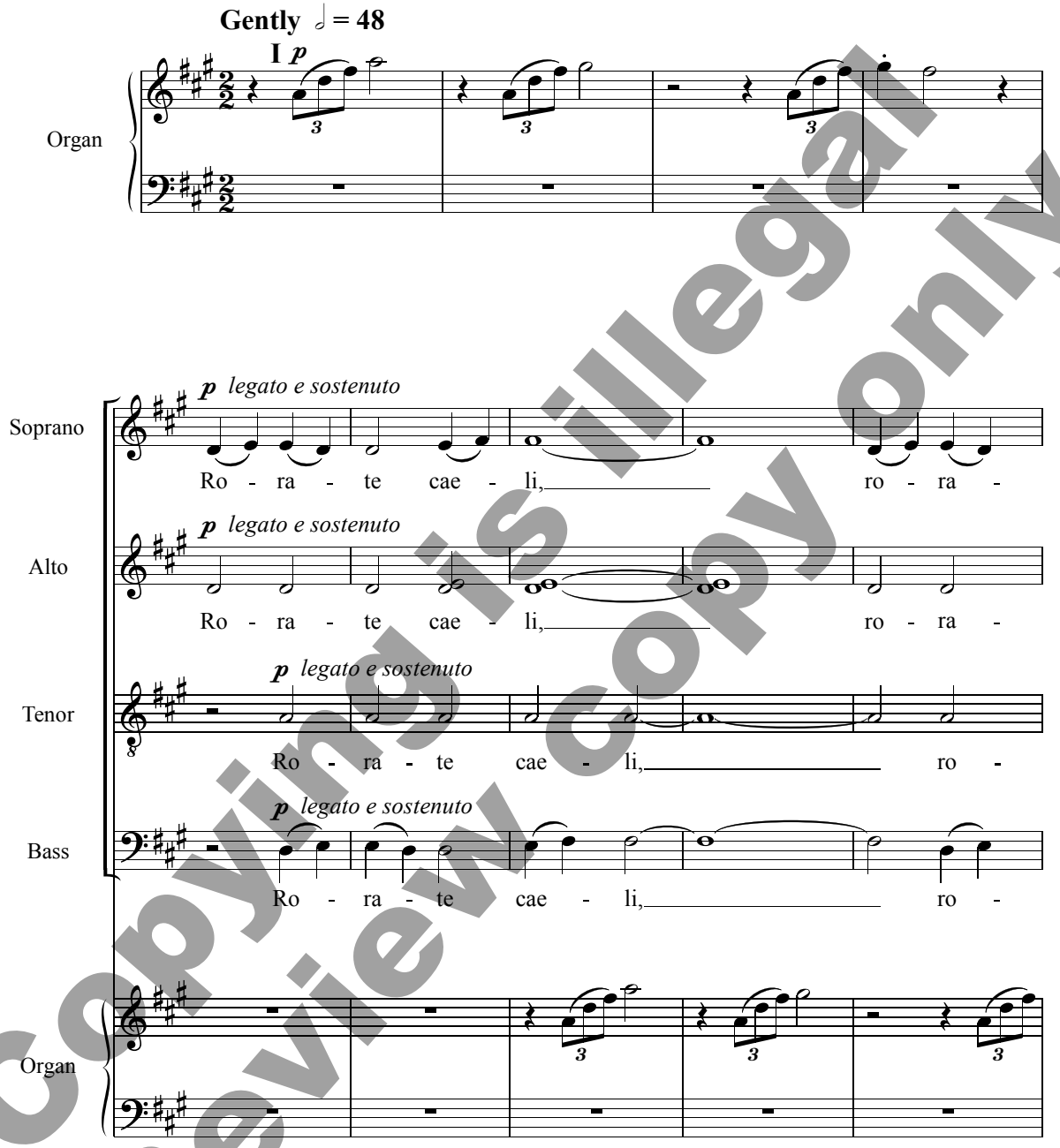
II. Rorate caeli



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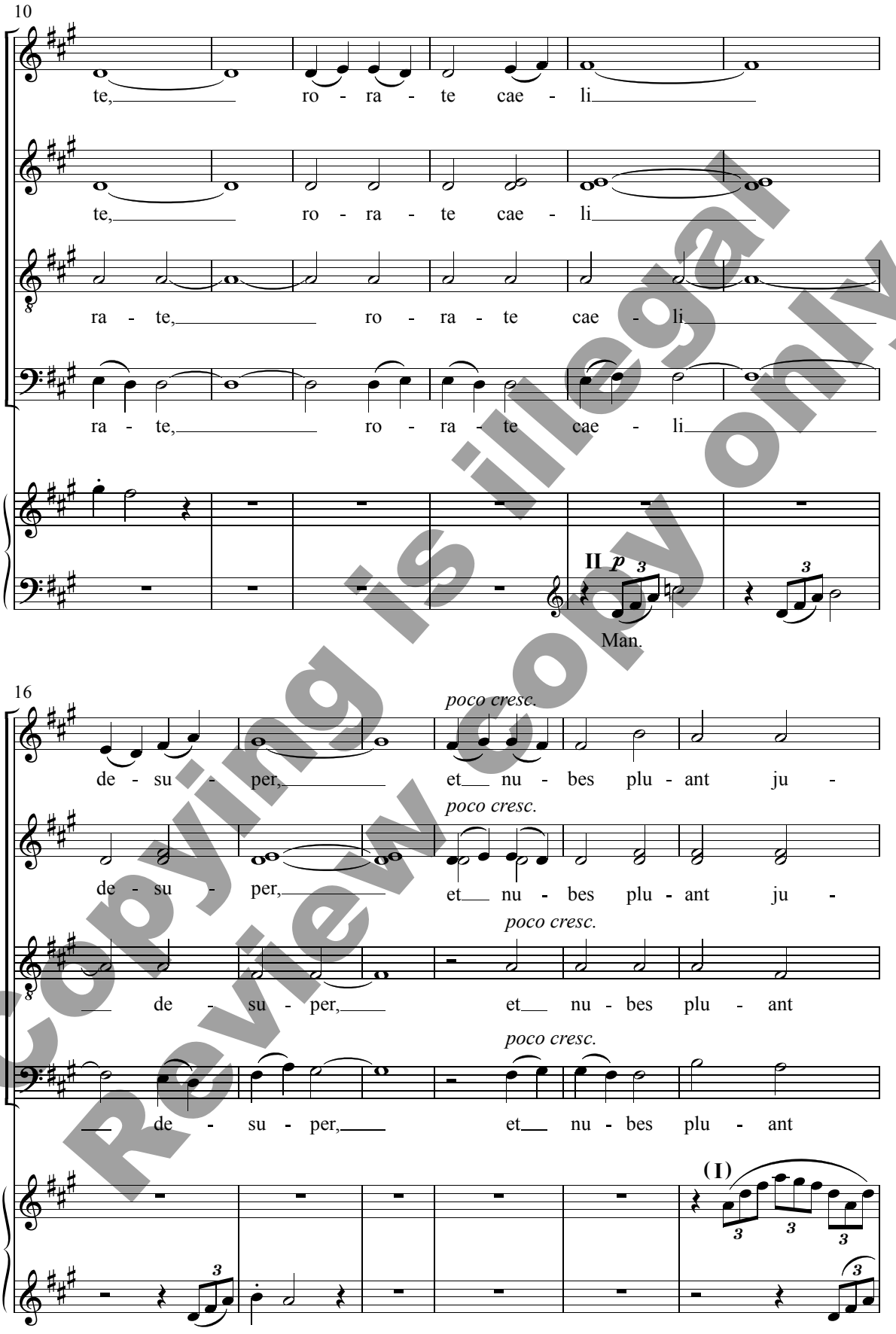

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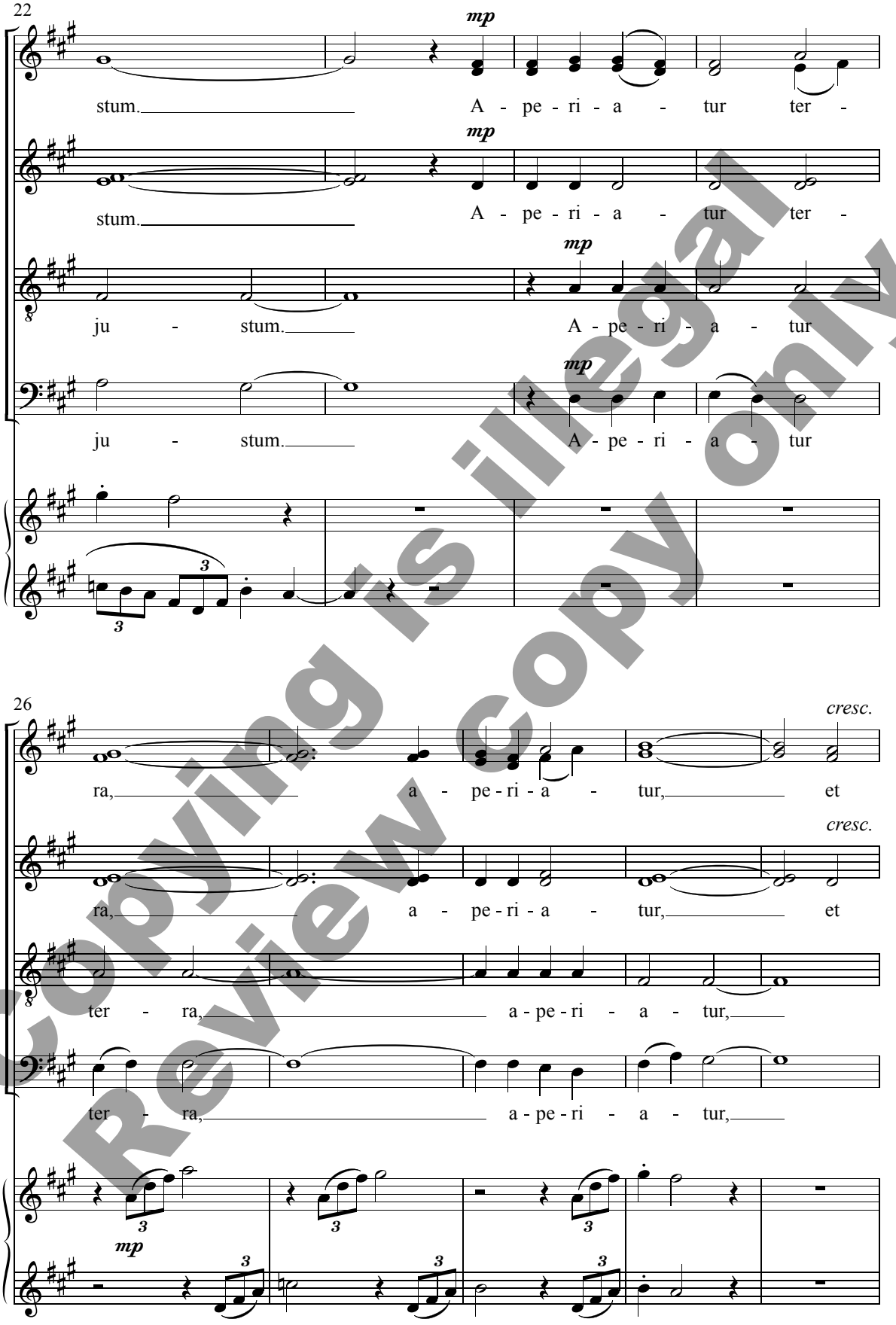

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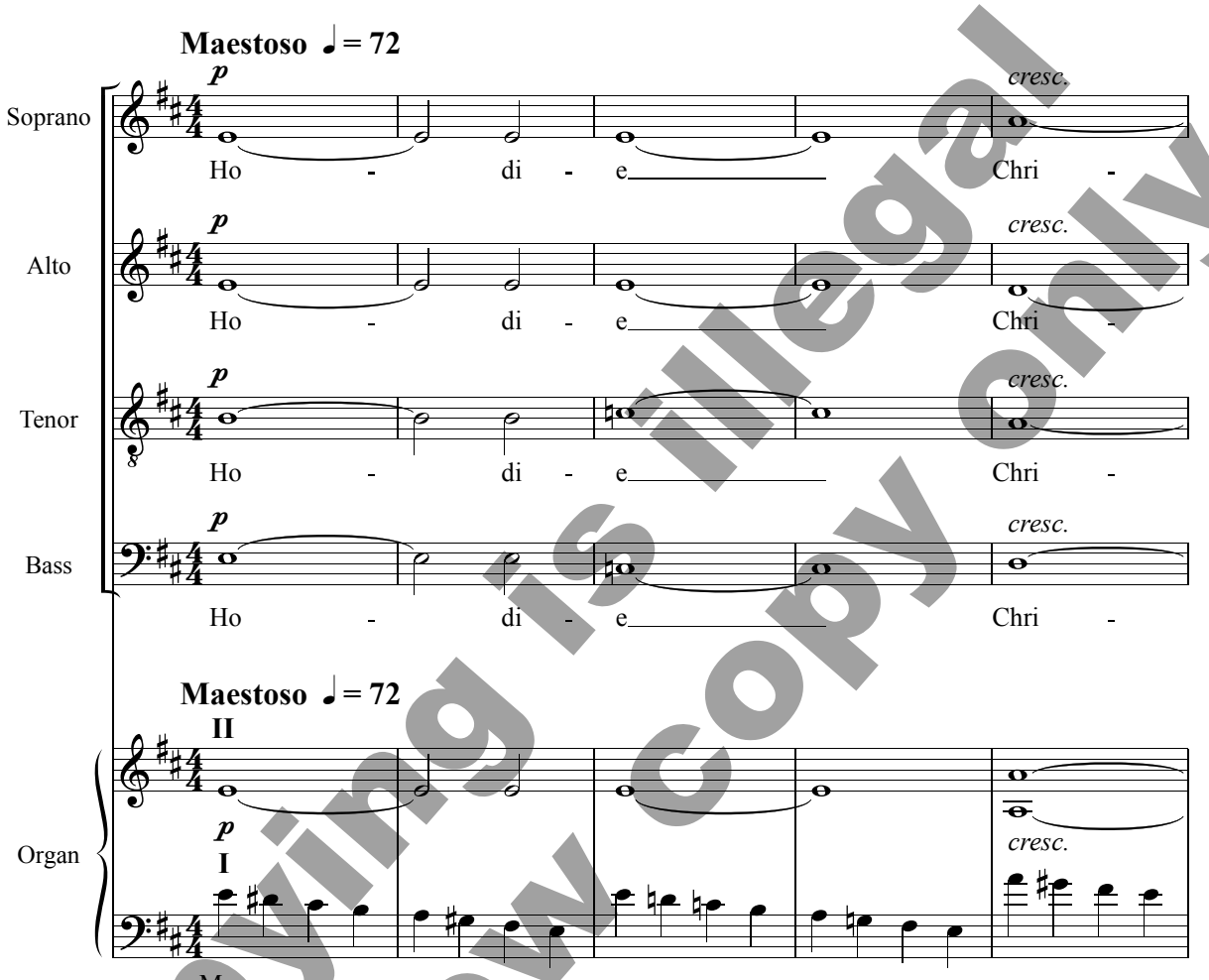
III. Hodie Christus natus est



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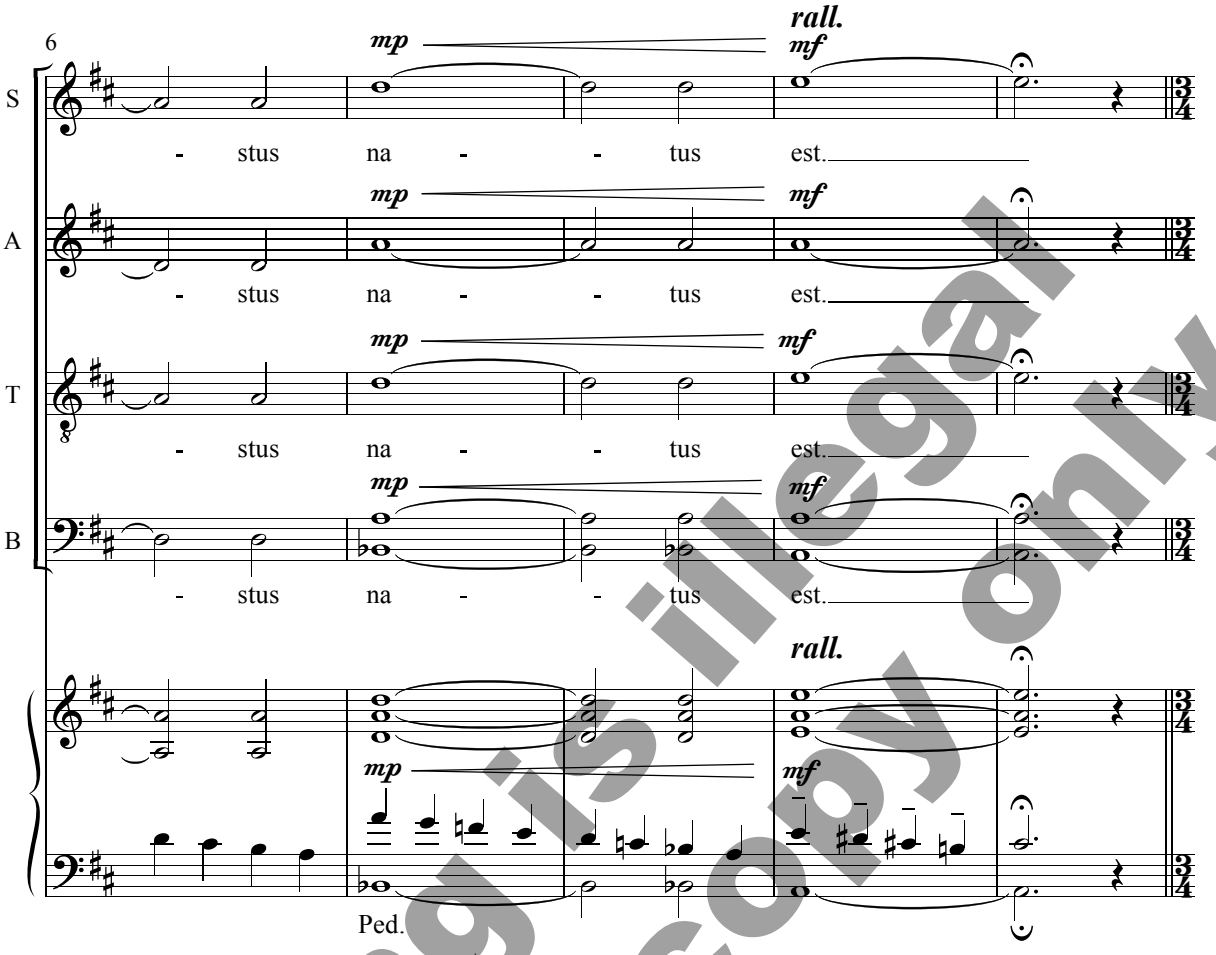
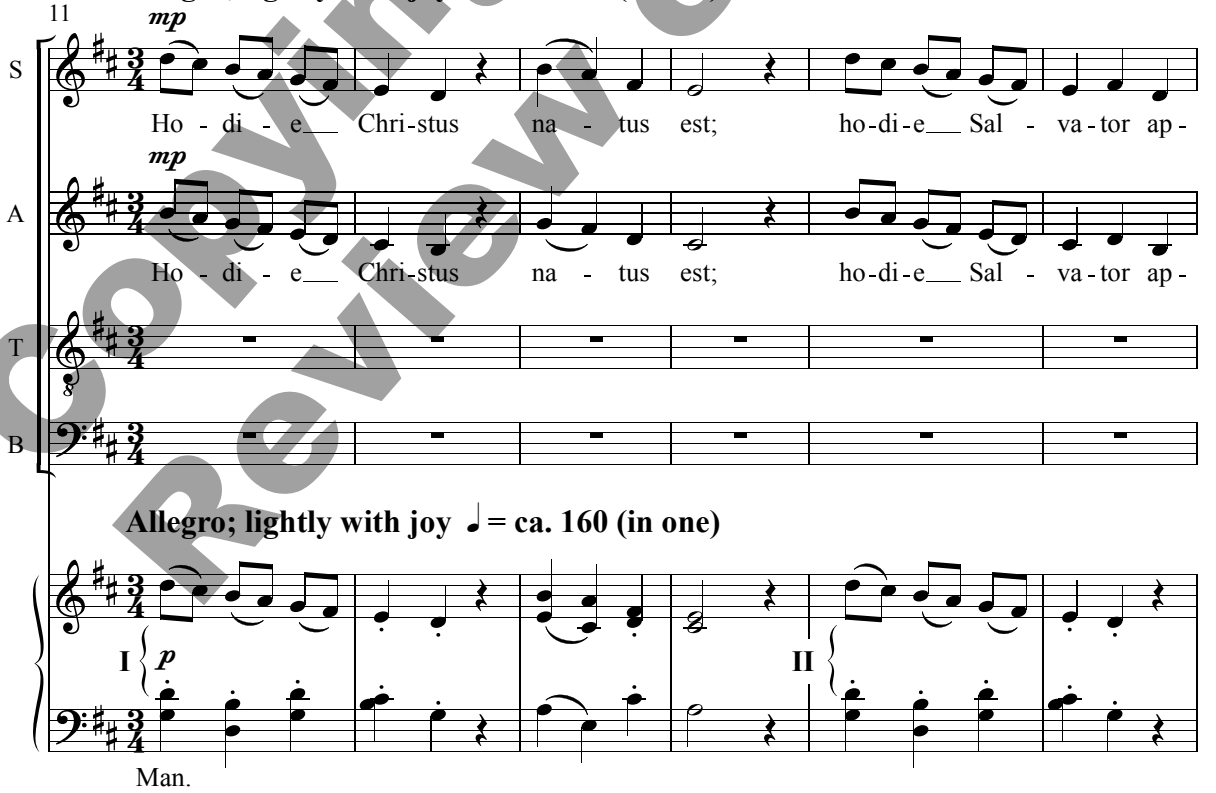


Allegro; lightly with joy ♩ = ca. 160 (in one)



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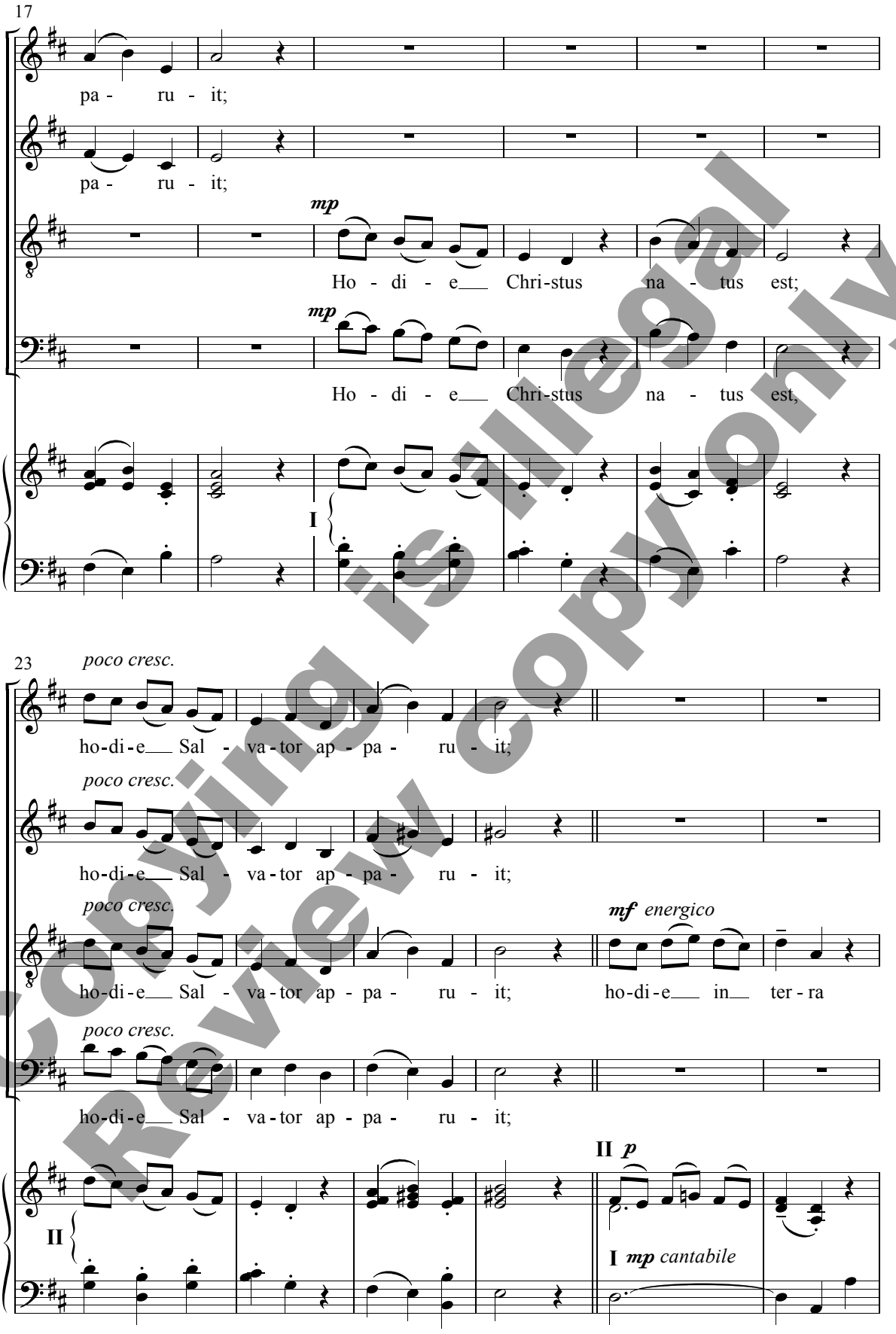

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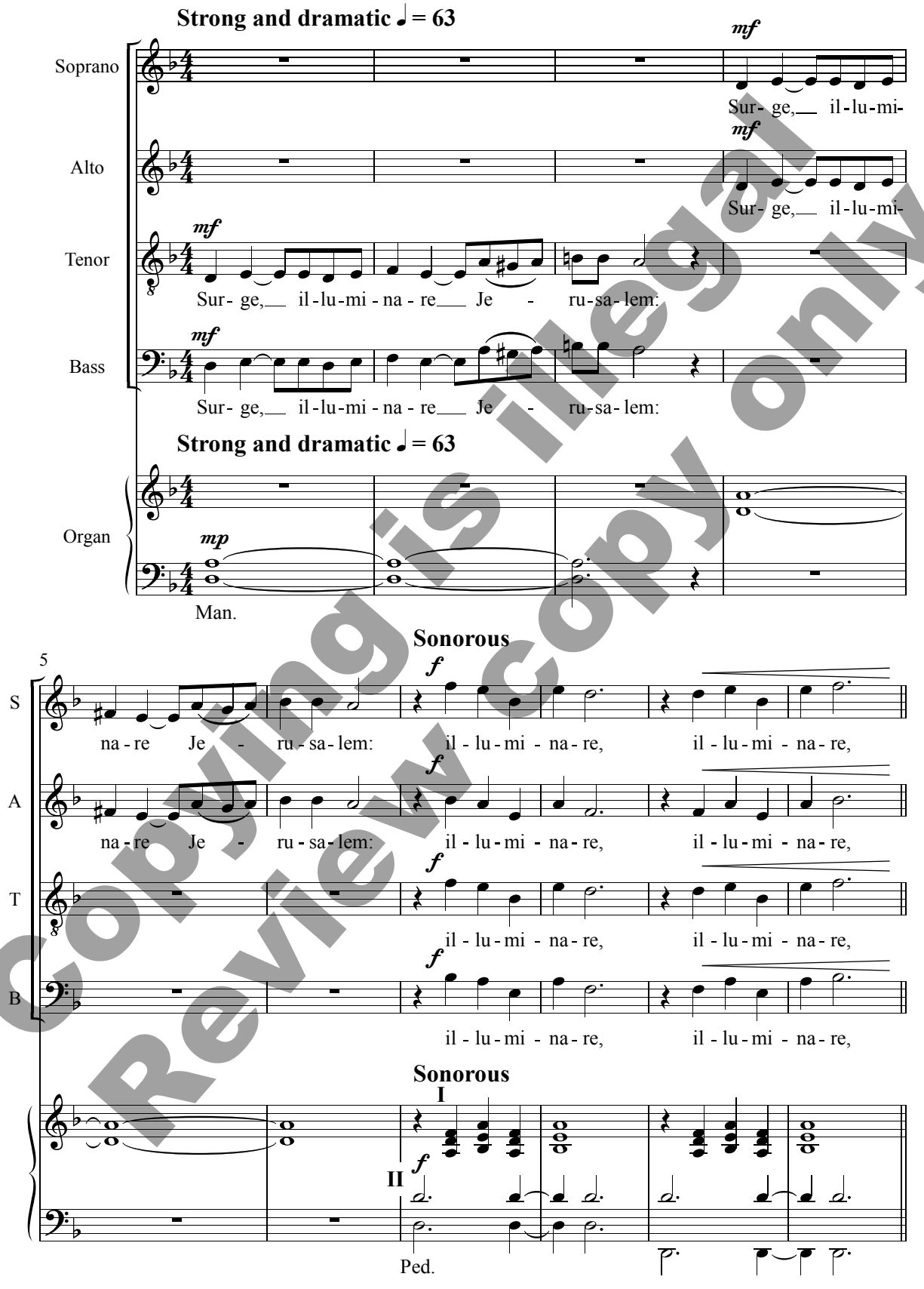
IV. Surge, illuminare



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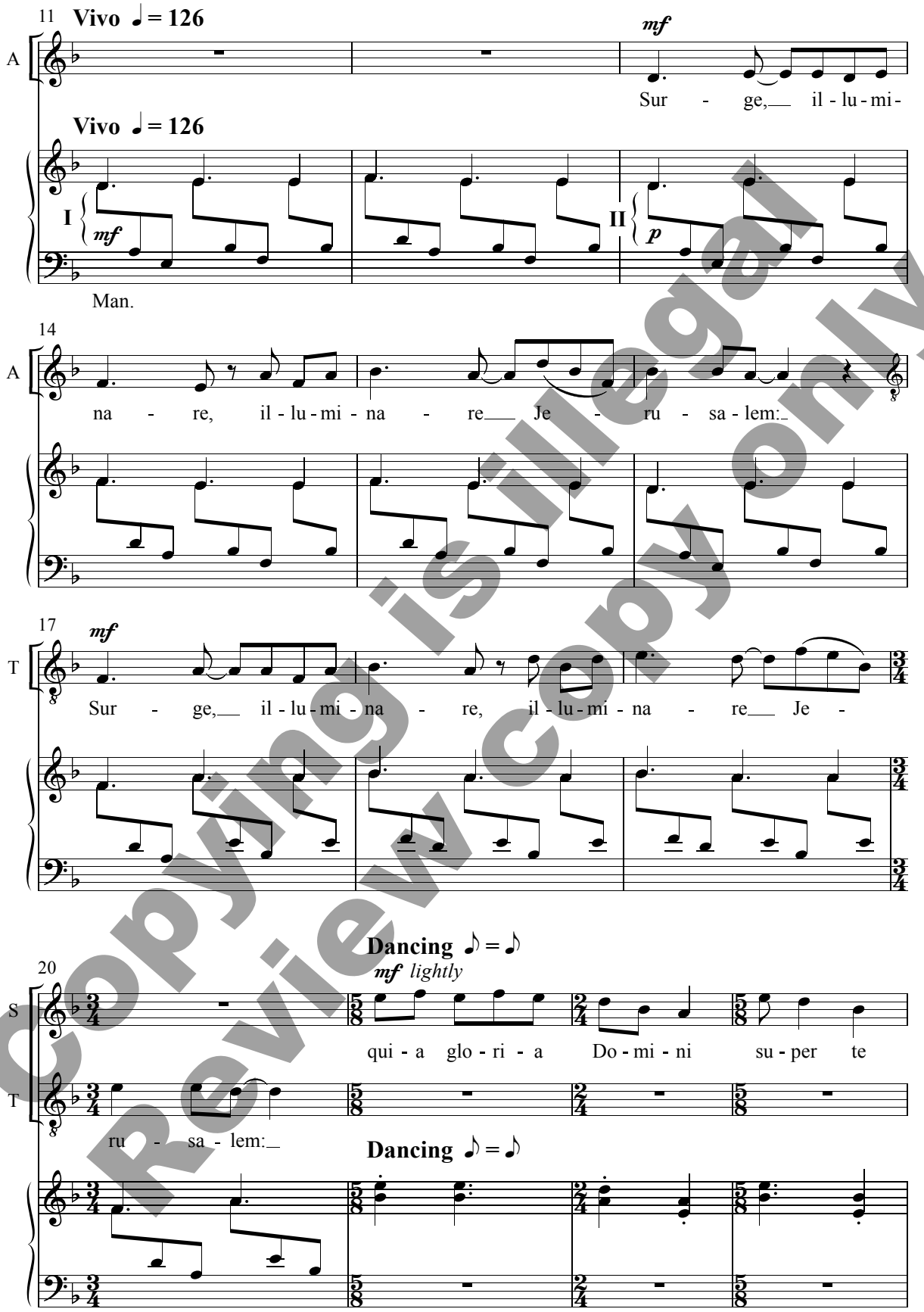

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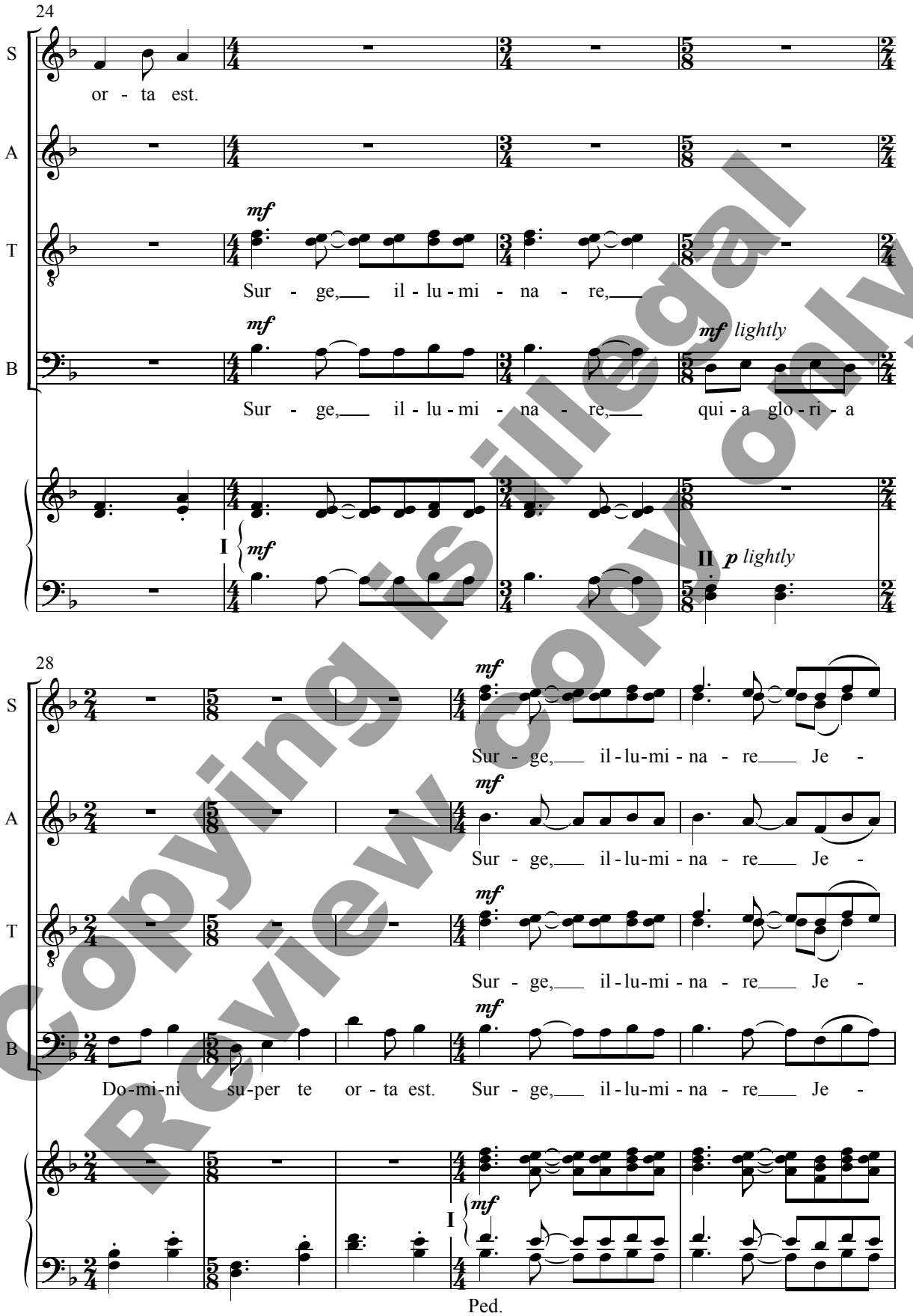

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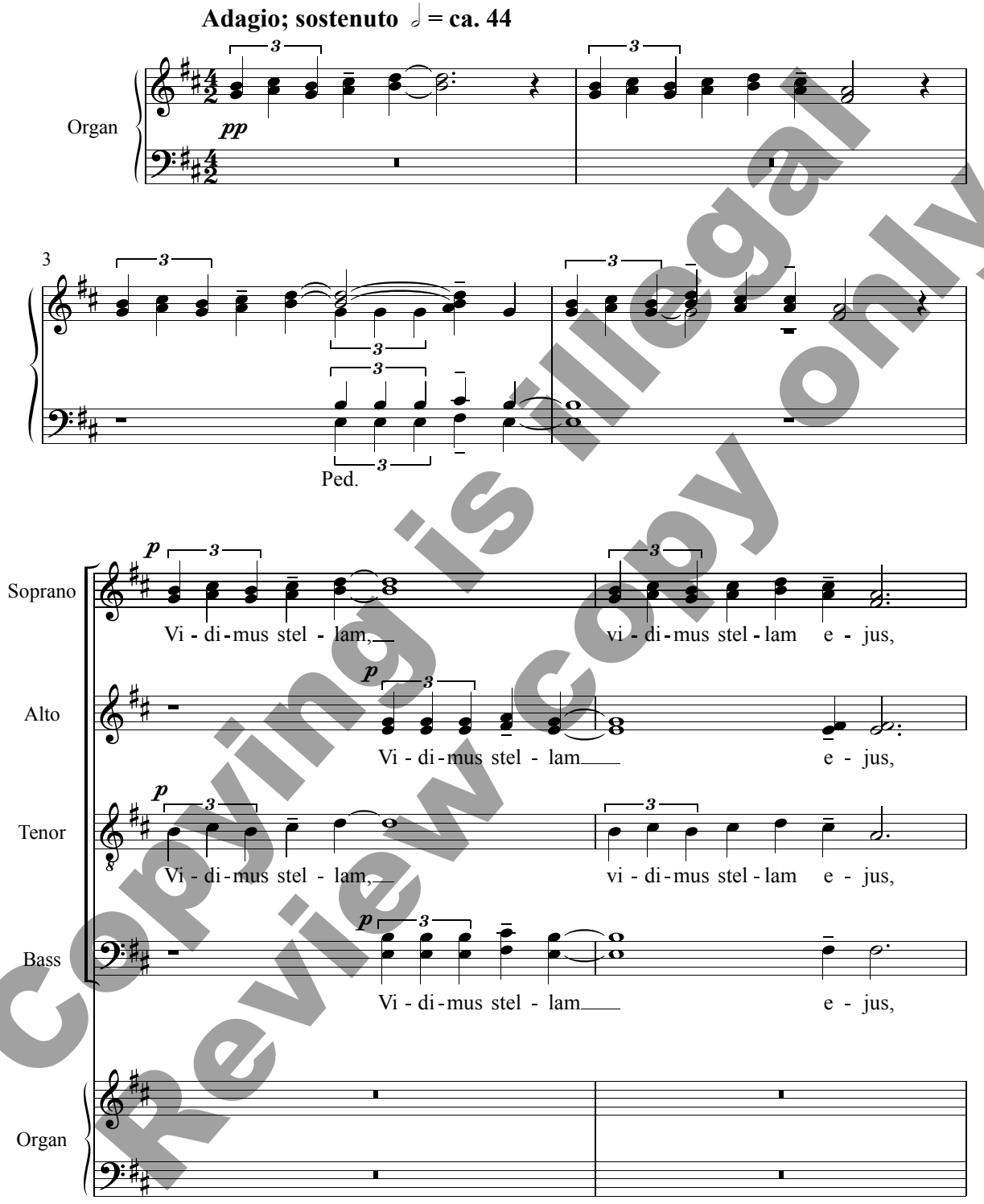
V. Vidimus stellam



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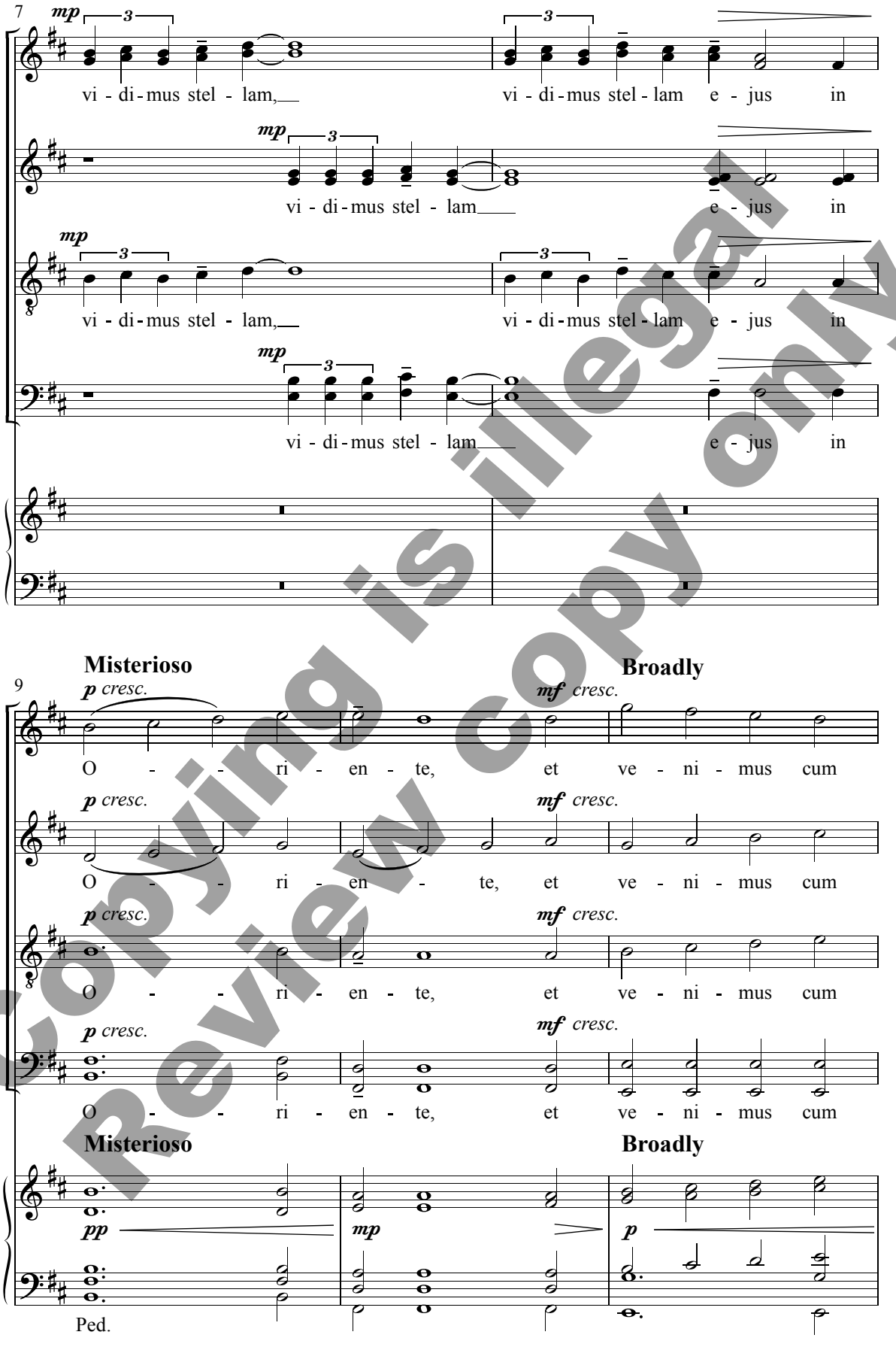

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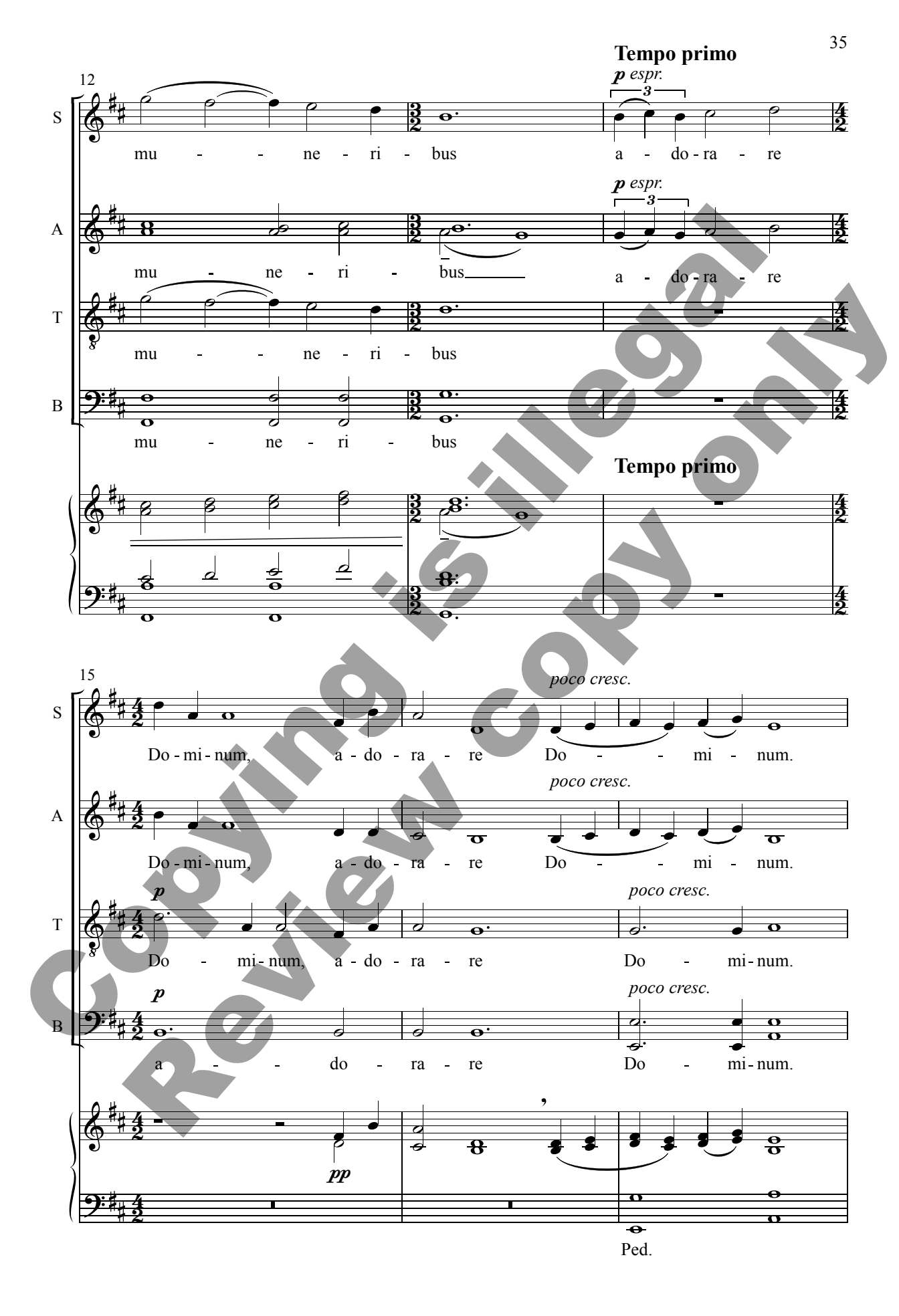

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