Thomas Bell

The Work of Christmas

When the song of the angels is stilled
When the star in the sky is gone
When the kings and the princes are home
When the shepherds are back with their flock
Then the work of Christmas begins

To find the lost
To heal the broken
To free the prisoners
To rebuild the nations
To bring peace among the peoples
And to make music in the heart

Poem by Howard Thurmann

The Work of Christmas

Howard Thurmann (1899-1981)
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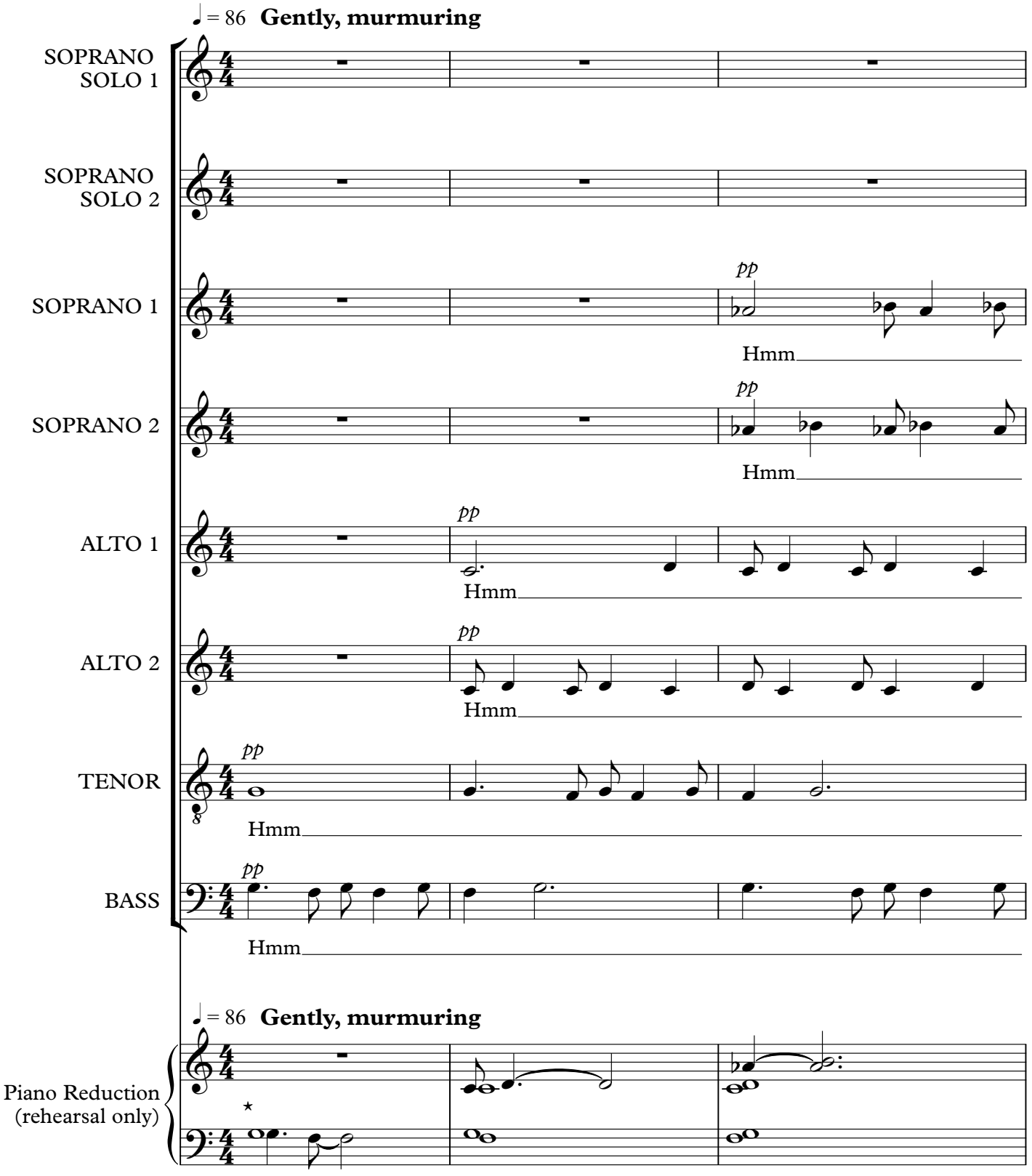
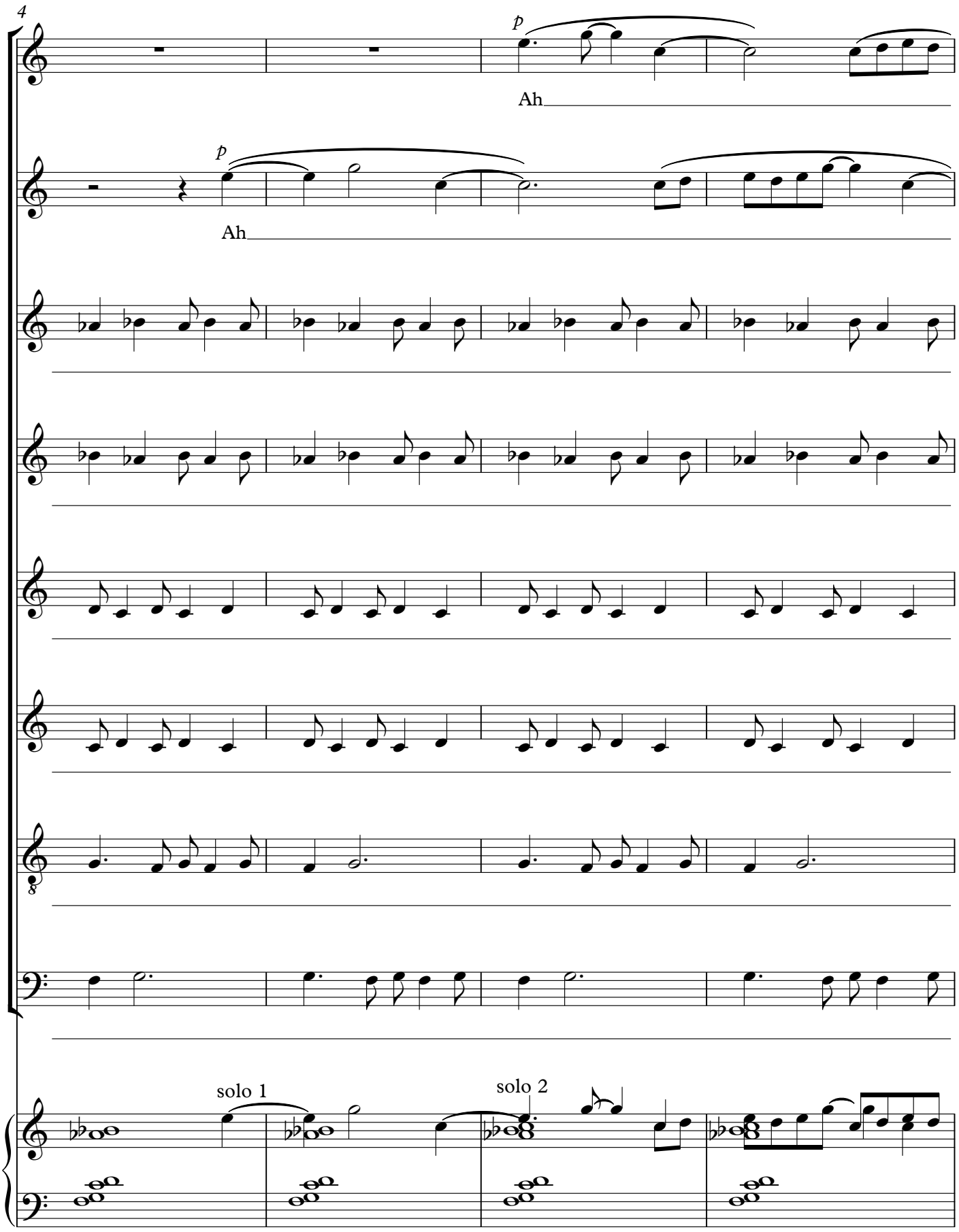
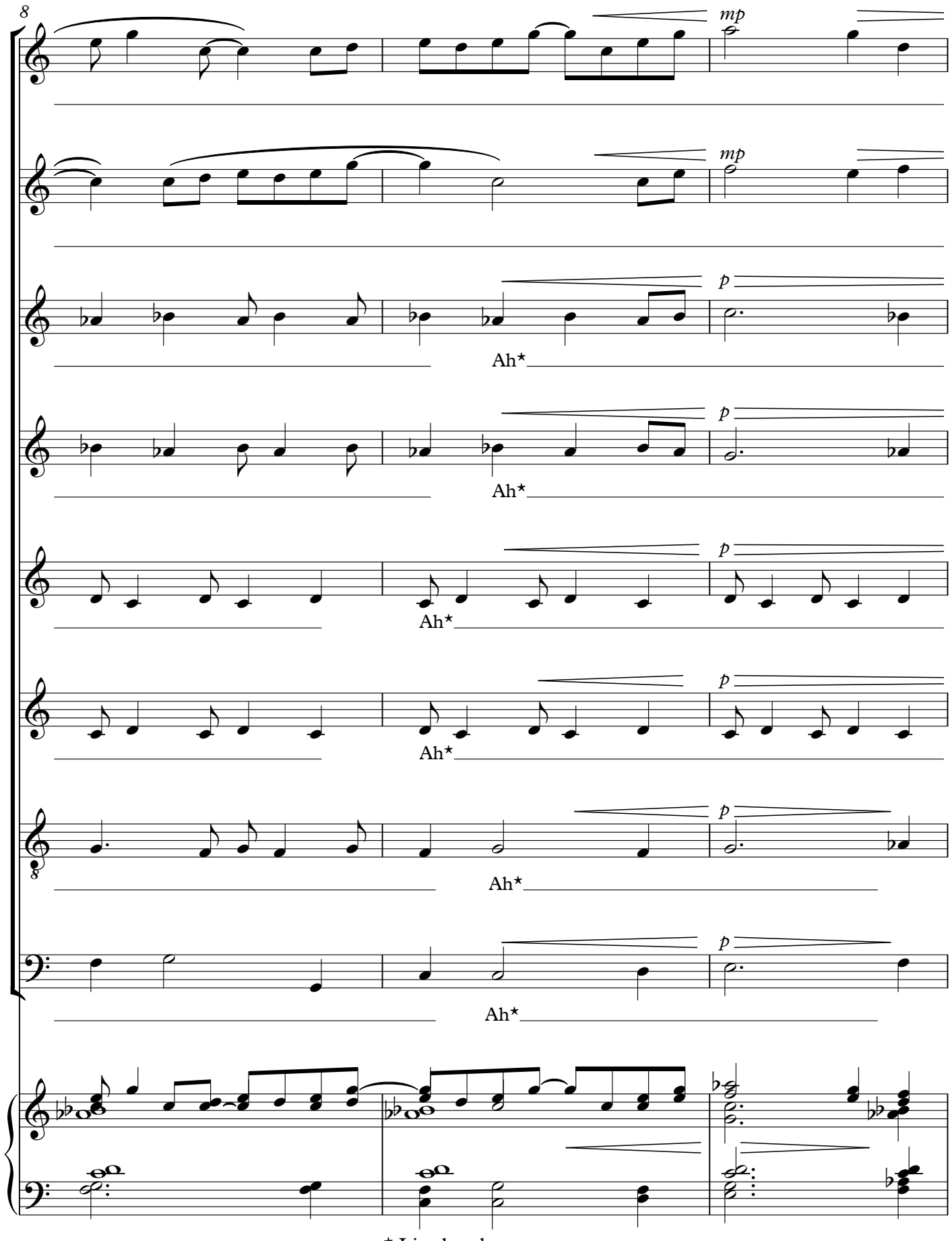
Thomas Bell

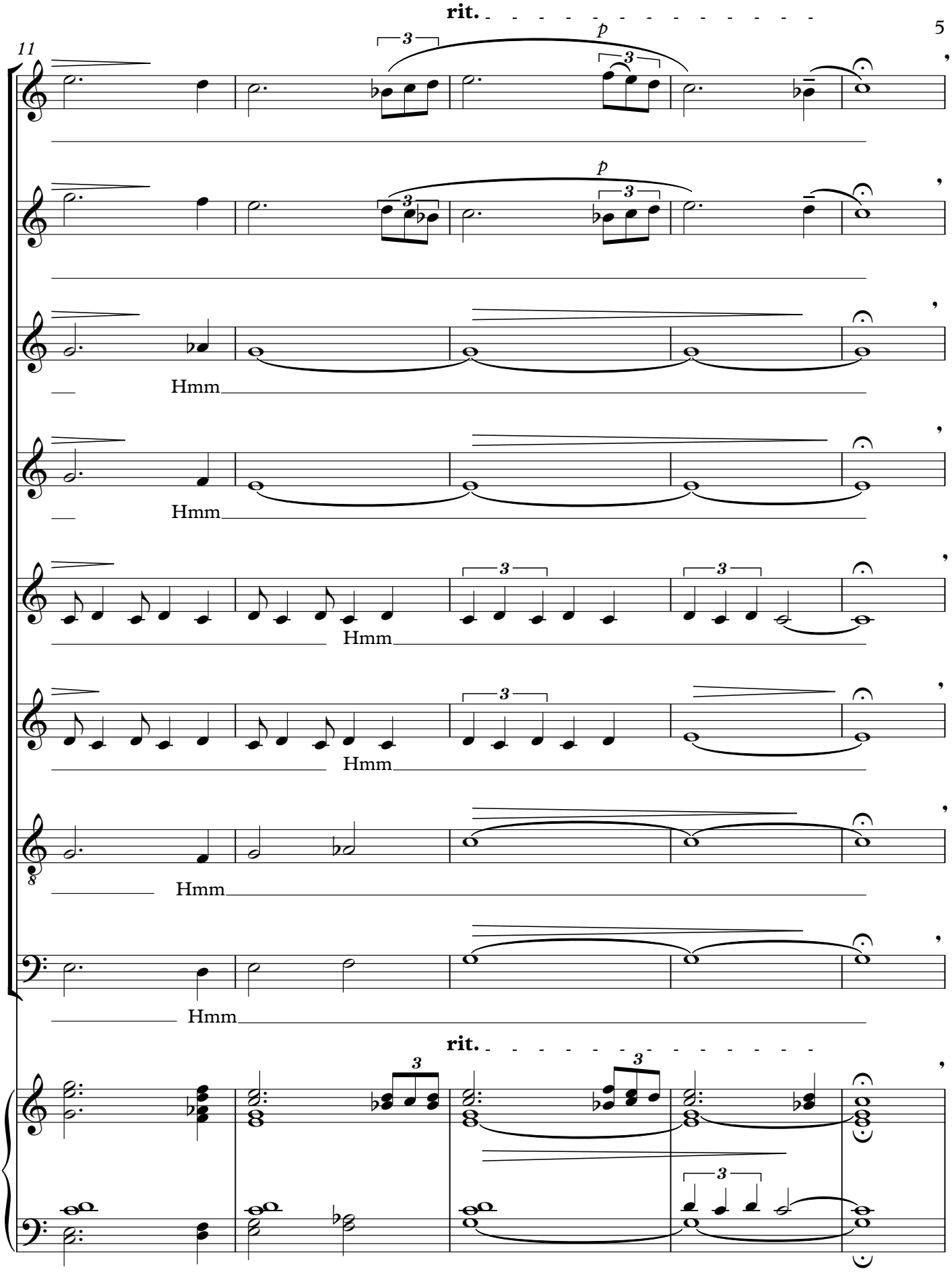


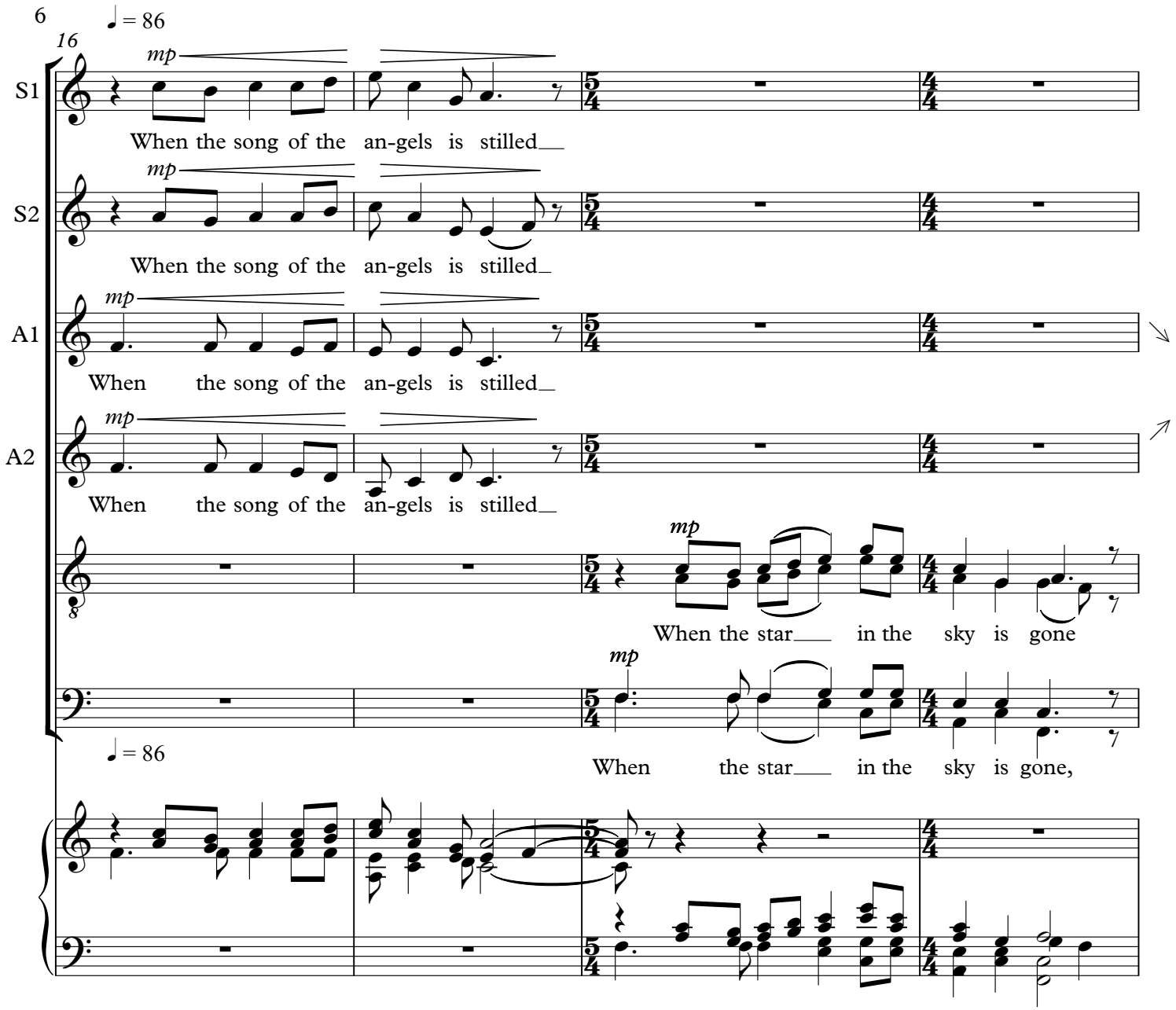
⋆ Reduction of harmony only for clarity in bars 1-15

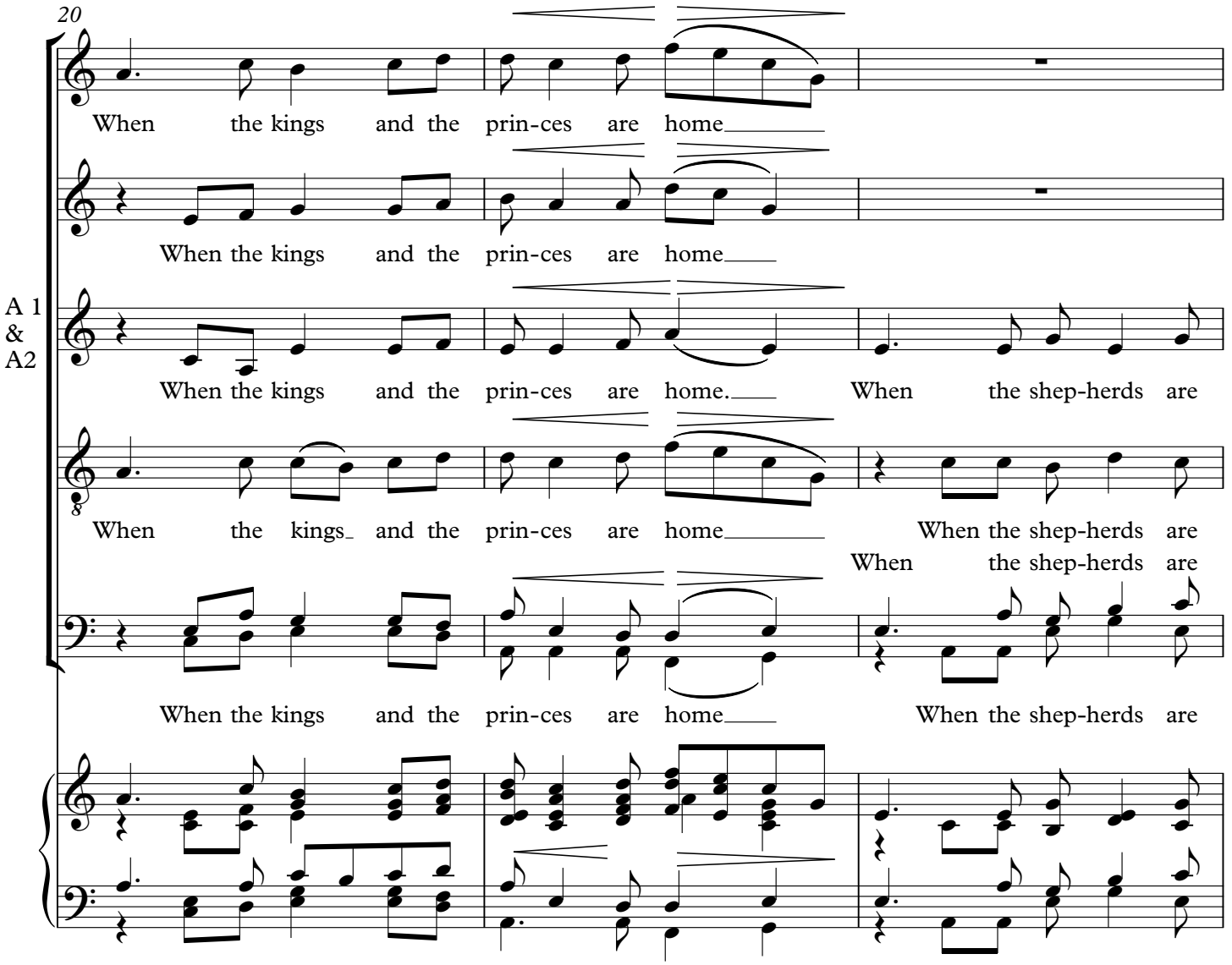

4
p
Ah
p
Ah
8
solo 1
solo 2

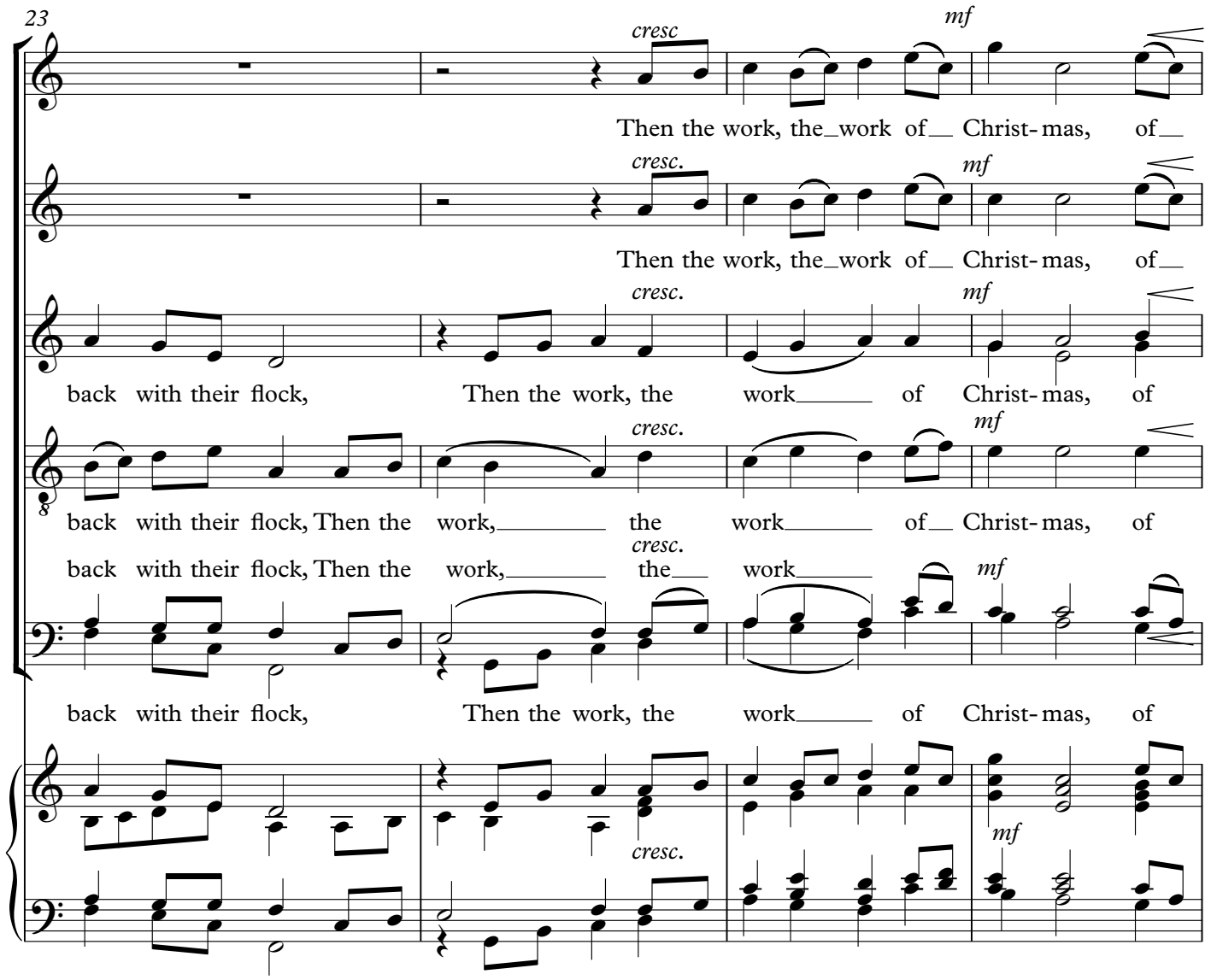


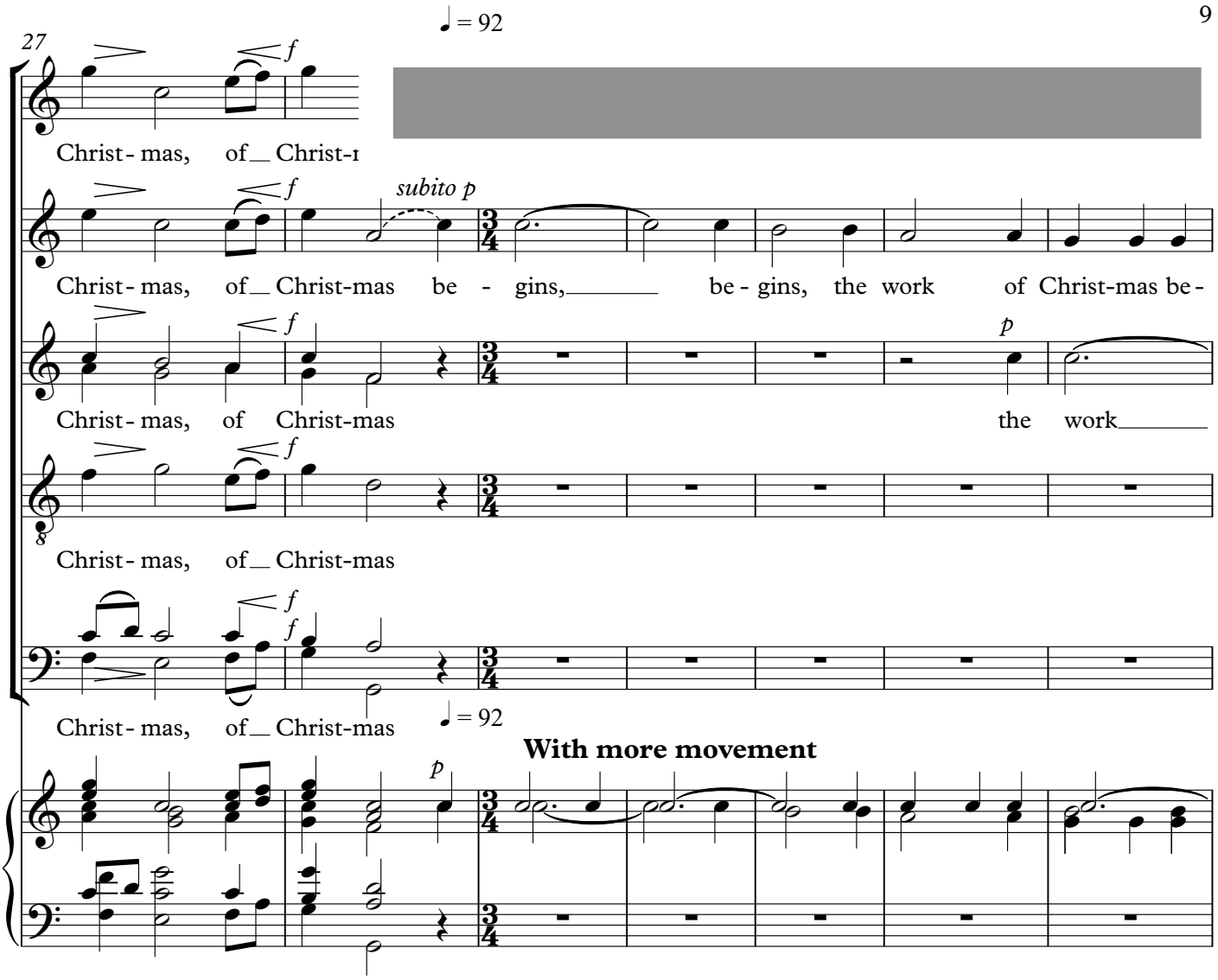
* Lips barely open

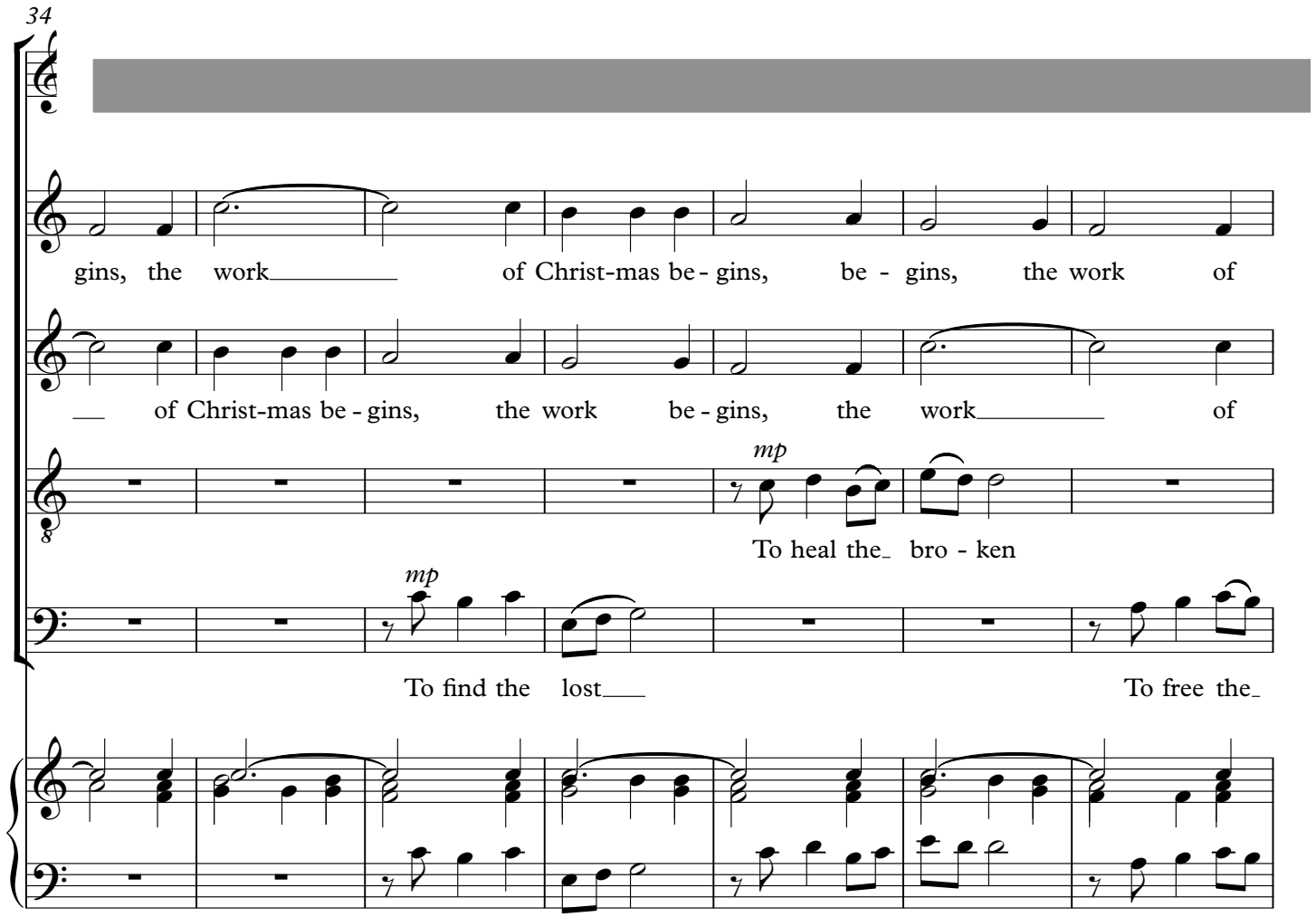

rit.
11
p
3
Hmm
8
rit.

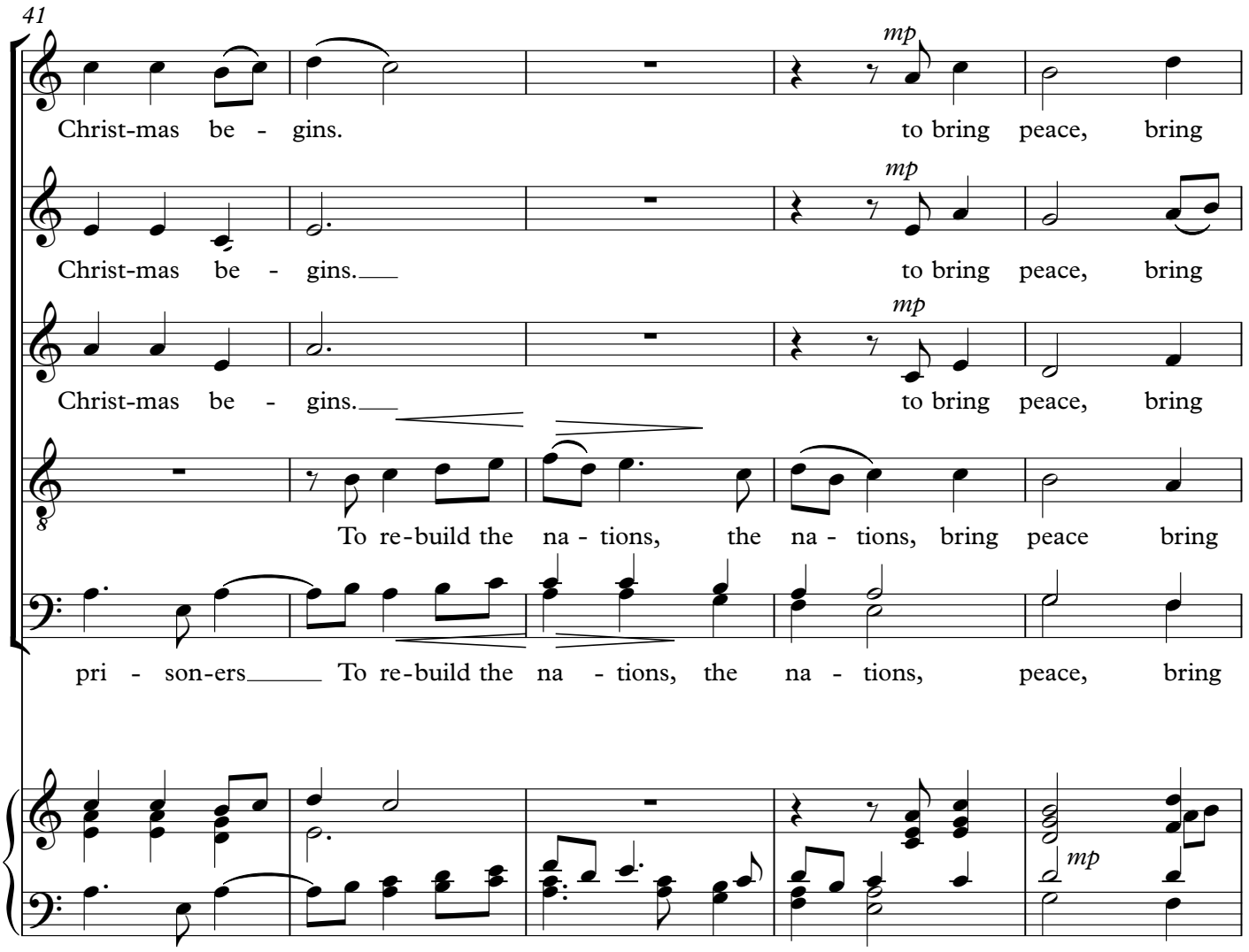

6
16
♩ = 86
S1
mp
When the song of the an-gels is stilled
S2
mp
When the song of the an-gels is stilled
A1
mp
When the song of the an-gels is stilled
A2
mp
When the song of the an-gels is stilled
8
mp
When the star in the sky is gone
mp
When the star in the sky is gone,
♩ = 86

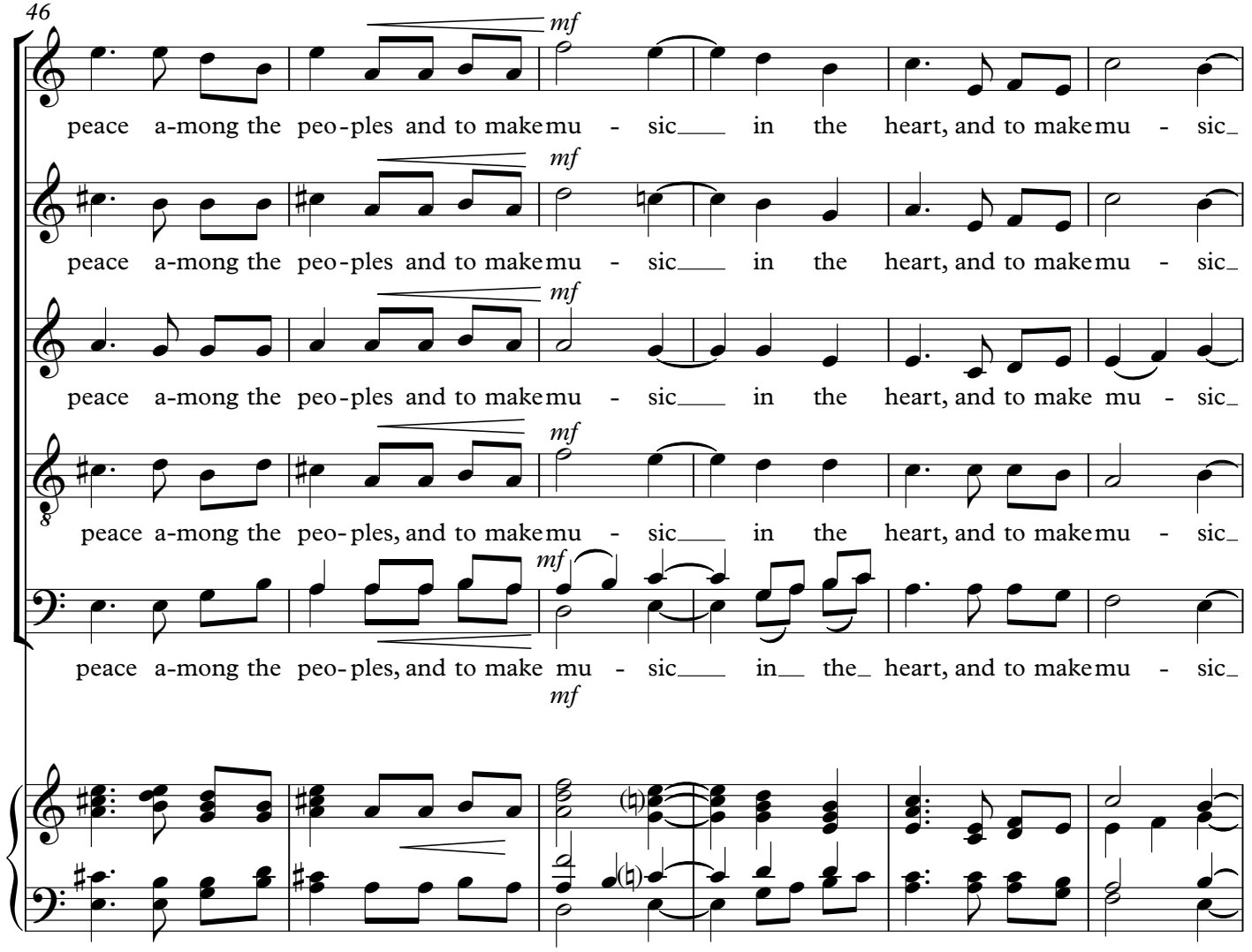

20
When the kings and the prin-ces are home
When the kings and the prin-ces are home
A 1
&
A2
When the kings and the prin-ces are home. When the shep-herds are
When the kings and the prin-ces are home When the shep-herds are
When the shep-herds are
When the kings and the prin-ces are home When the shep-herds are


23
cresc
mf
Then the work, the work of Christ- mas, of
cresc.
mf
Then the work, the work of Christ- mas, of
cresc.
mf
back with their flock, Then the work, the work of Christ- mas, of
cresc.
mf
back with their flock, Then the work, the work of Christ- mas, of
cresc.
mf
back with their flock, Then the work, the work of Christ- mas, of
cresc.
mf


27
♩ = 92
f
Christ - mas, of Christ-
subito p
Christ - mas, of Christ-mas be - gins, be - gins, the work of Christ-mas be -
p
Christ - mas, of Christ-mas the work
8
Christ - mas, of Christ-mas
Christ - mas, of Christ-mas
♩ = 92
With more movement


34
gins, the work of Christ-mas be - gins, be - gins, the work of
of Christ-mas be - gins, the work be - gins, the work of
mp
To heal the bro - ken
mp
To find the lost
To free the


41
mp
Christ-mas be - gins.
to bring peace, bring
mp
Christ-mas be - gins.
to bring peace, bring
mp
Christ-mas be - gins.
to bring peace, bring
To re-build the na - tions, the na - tions, bring peace bring
pri - son-ers
To re-build the na - tions, the na - tions, peace, bring
mp


46
mf
peace a-mong the peo-ples and to make mu - sic in the heart, and to make mu - sic
peace a-mong the peo-ples and to make mu - sic in the heart, and to make mu - sic
peace a-mong the peo-ples and to make mu - sic in the heart, and to make mu - sic
peace a-mong the peo-ples, and to make mu - sic in the heart, and to make mu - sic
peace a-mong the peo-ples, and to make mu - sic in the heart, and to make mu - sic

52

♩ = 96

rit. - - - - - - **A little slower**

mp

— in the heart. When the song of the an-gels has ceased, then the work of

— in the heart. When the song of the an-gels has ceased, then, — then the work of —

— in the heart. When the song of the an-gels has ceased then the work of

— in the heart. When the song of the an-gels has ceased, then the work of

— in the heart. When the song of the an-gels has ceased, then the work of

♩ = 96

rit. - - - - - - **A little slower**

mp

57

Tempo 1

rit. ♩ = 86

Soprano solo 1

Soprano solo 2

pp (short)

p

Christ - mas, of Christ - mas, of Christ-mas be - gins.

(short)

p

Christ - mas, of Christ - mas, of Christ - mas be - gins.

pp

p

Christ - mas, of Christ - mas, of Christ - mas

p

Christ - mas of Christ - mas, of Christ - mas

p

pp

Christ - mas, of Christ - mas, of Christ - mas Hmm

p

pp

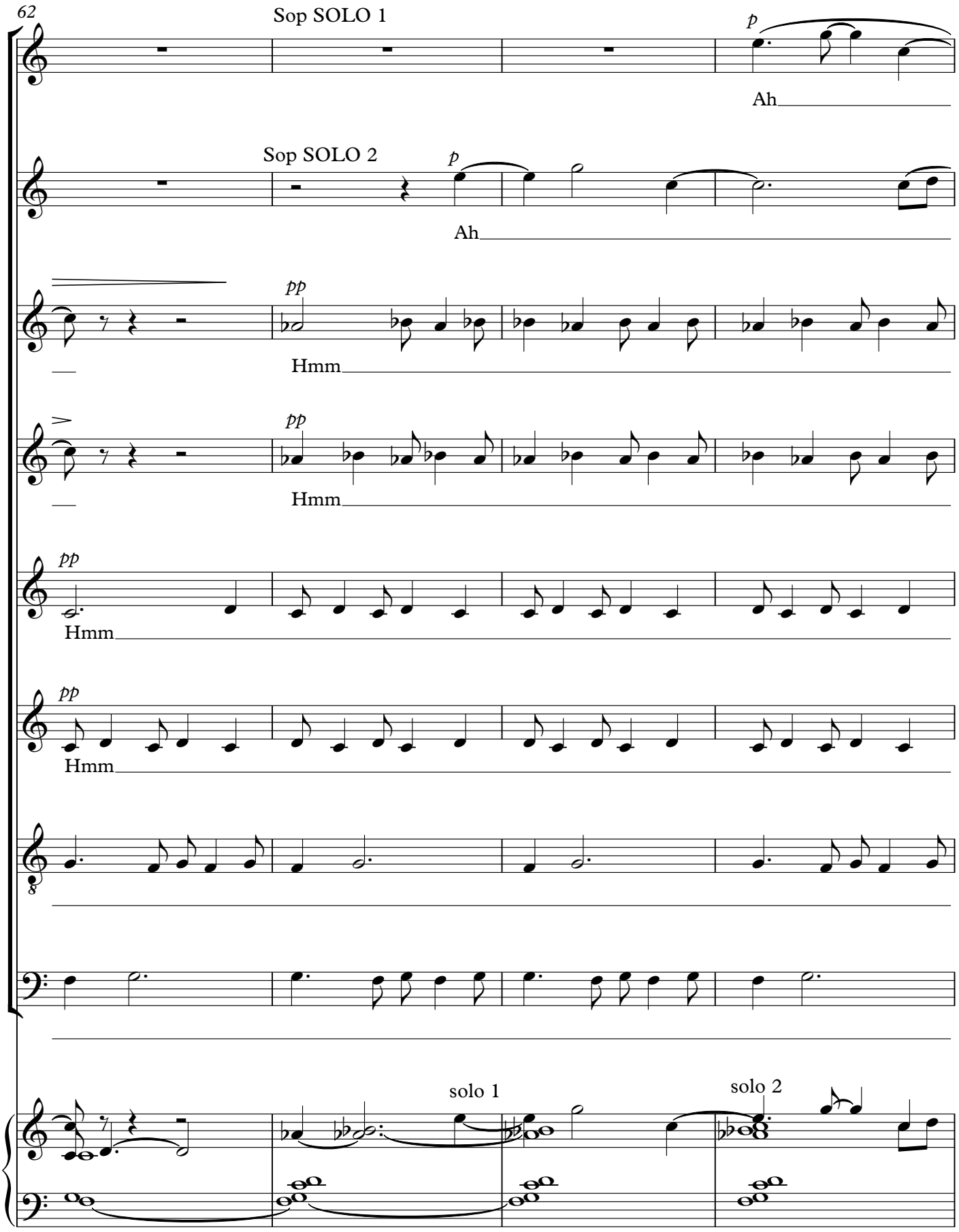
Christ - mas, of Christ - mas, of Christ - mas Hmm

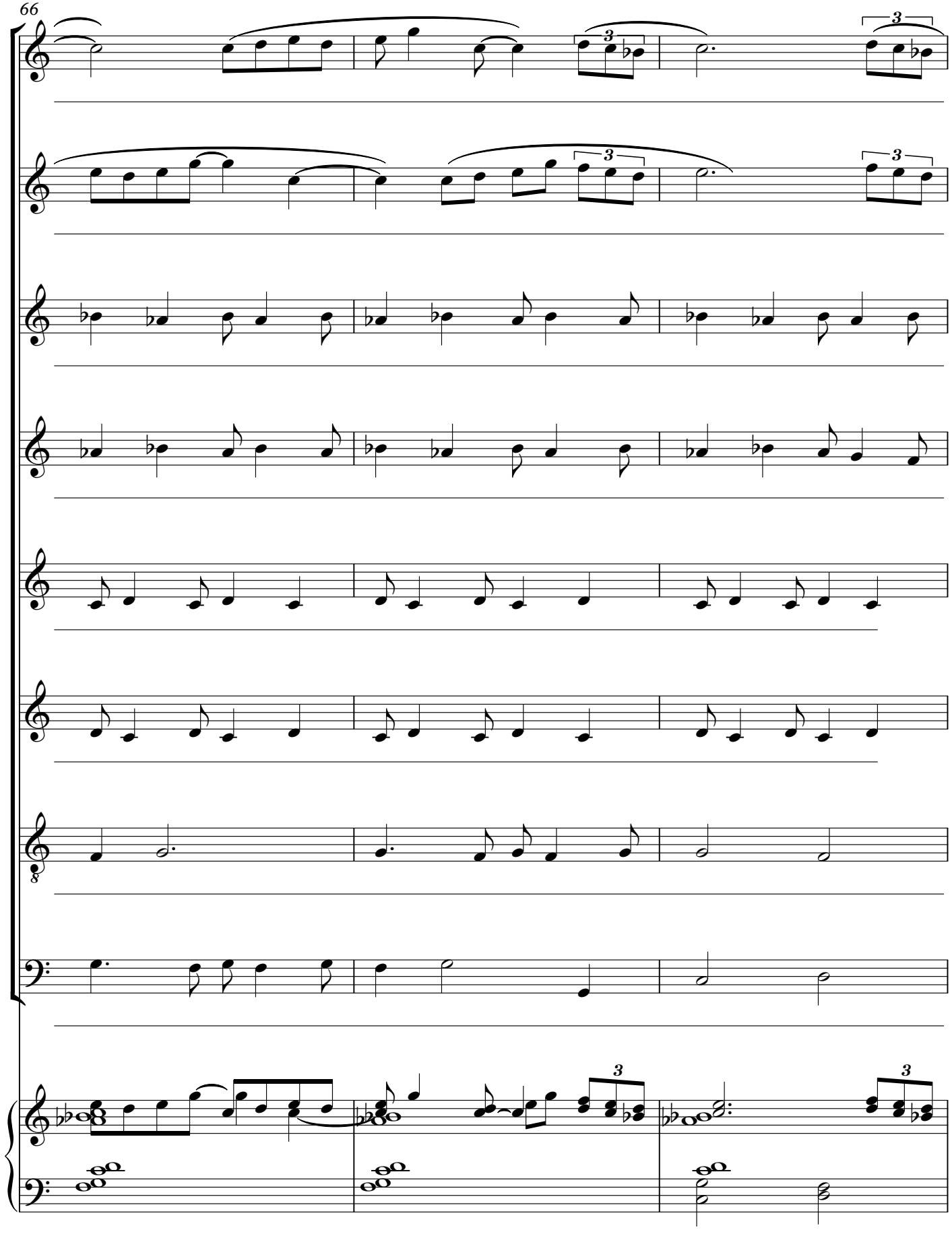
rit. ♩ = 86

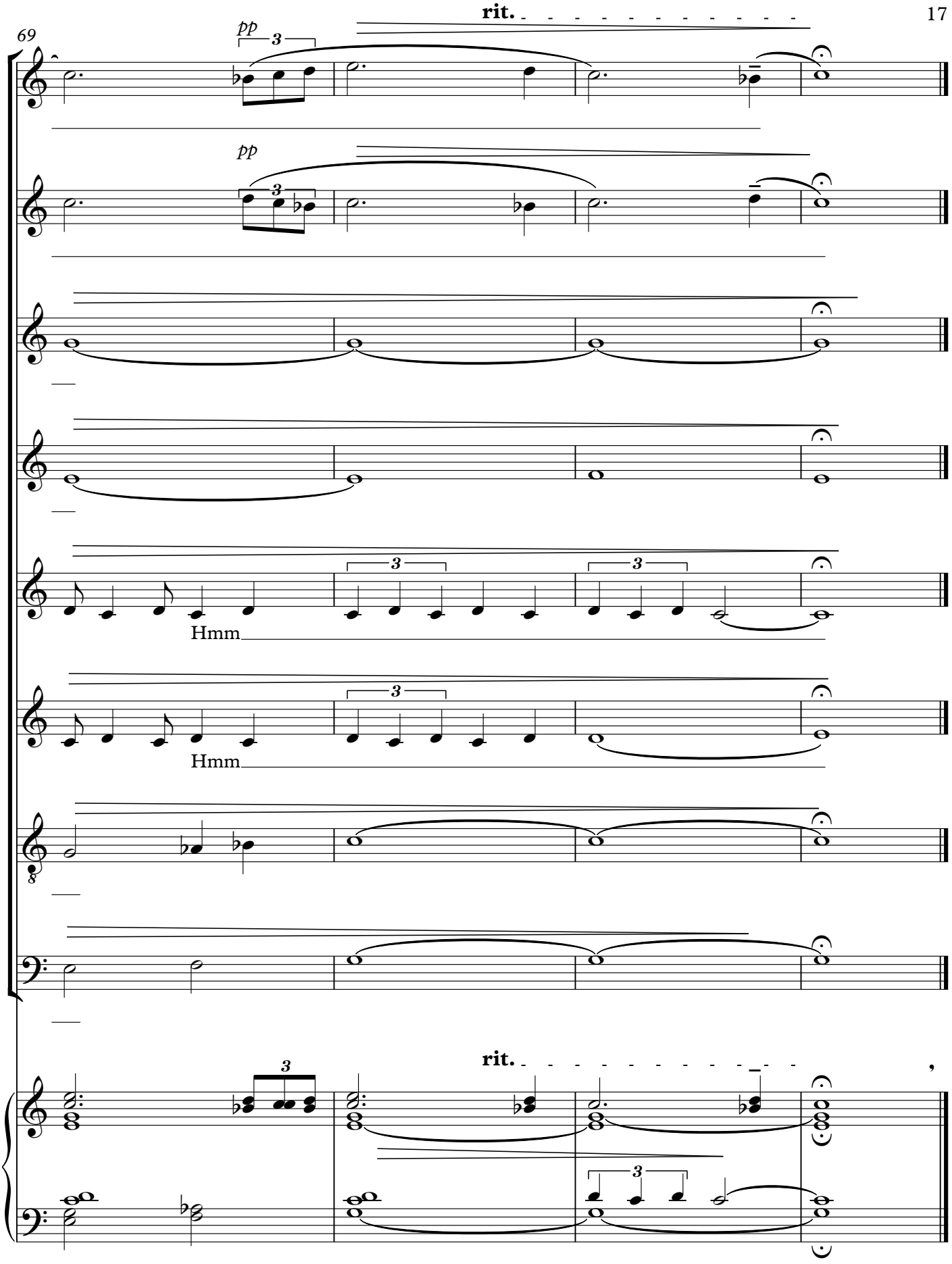
Tempo 1

⋆ *pp*

⋆ Reduction of harmony only for clarity


62
Sop SOLO 1
p
Ah
Sop SOLO 2
p
Ah
S1
pp
Hmm
S2
pp
Hmm
A1
pp
Hmm
A2
pp
Hmm
8
solo 1
solo 2


66
3
3
3
3
8
3
3


69
rit.
pp
3
pp
3
3
3
Hmm
Hmm
8
rit.
3
3