1001485P JAMES ELIAS PICK SATB US $2.95

SATB CHOIR, WITH PIANO

JAMES ELIAS PICK

SOFTLY IN WINTER

ALSO AVAILABLE FOR SAB

Preview Only

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About The Composer

James Elias Pick is a composer and collaborative pianist based in Southwest Washington. Active throughout the Pacific Northwest, he works as a music director and pianist in professional, academic, and community settings. He performs as a pianist and vocalist with Male Ensemble Northwest, a touring ensemble of choral professionals.

He holds a Master of Music in Collaborative Piano from Portland State University and undergraduate degrees in Piano Performance and Theory/Composition from George Fox University. An award-winning composer, he has written for choral, chamber, film, and musical theater. As a collaborative pianist, he has worked with a wide range of performers and educators and frequently serves as an accompanist for honor choirs and festivals. For more information, visit www.JamesPick.com

Text

A chill sweeps down from the hills,
Comes gently to rest in the valley.
The frosted fields are fallow,
And all is folded in, at rest.
The trees, now bare of leaves,
Clatter gently in the breeze:
A whispered melody.
And it is quiet. It is quiet.

I will go softly in winter,
The way the first snowflakes fall.
Silent, serene, and slowly, slowly.
I will go softly in winter,
To learn a quieter song:
A music that lives near to silence,
And waits to be heard.

A chill sweeps down from the hills,
And waits just beyond the front door.
It ices the windows,
And softly calls to those within:
"Come walk the frozen ground,
And see the winter stars.
The world is hushed, waiting.
And it is quiet. It is quiet."

I will go softly in winter,
To find the beauty it brings.
Returning with handfuls of quiet, of peace.
I will go softly in winter,
And learn from slumbering earth,
To wait, rest, believe,
That every season returns.

Text by Benjamin David Tissell, used by permission

About The Piece

This charming text captures the quiet stillness of a winter evening, far from the bustle of holiday preparations and flurries of activity that accompany the season. Through images of frosted fields, bare trees, and the first falling snowflakes, winter becomes an invitation to slow down, rest, and rediscover a quiet beauty.

The music reflects this sense of calm, retaining a gentle character throughout. Choirs are encouraged to let each return of "I will go softly in winter" emerge with quiet sincerity, maintaining the intimacy of the text. The dynamics are restrained throughout except perhaps at measure 71, where the musical arrival underscores the importance of the words "wait, rest, believe," which are central to the piece's message.

Amid a season often filled with noise, activity, and expectation, *Softly in Winter* offers a moment to pause, find peace in the waiting, and hope in the promise of renewal. May this piece lead performers and listeners alike to moments of stillness and peace, and remind us to reflect on the things that are worth believing in.

- James Elias Pick
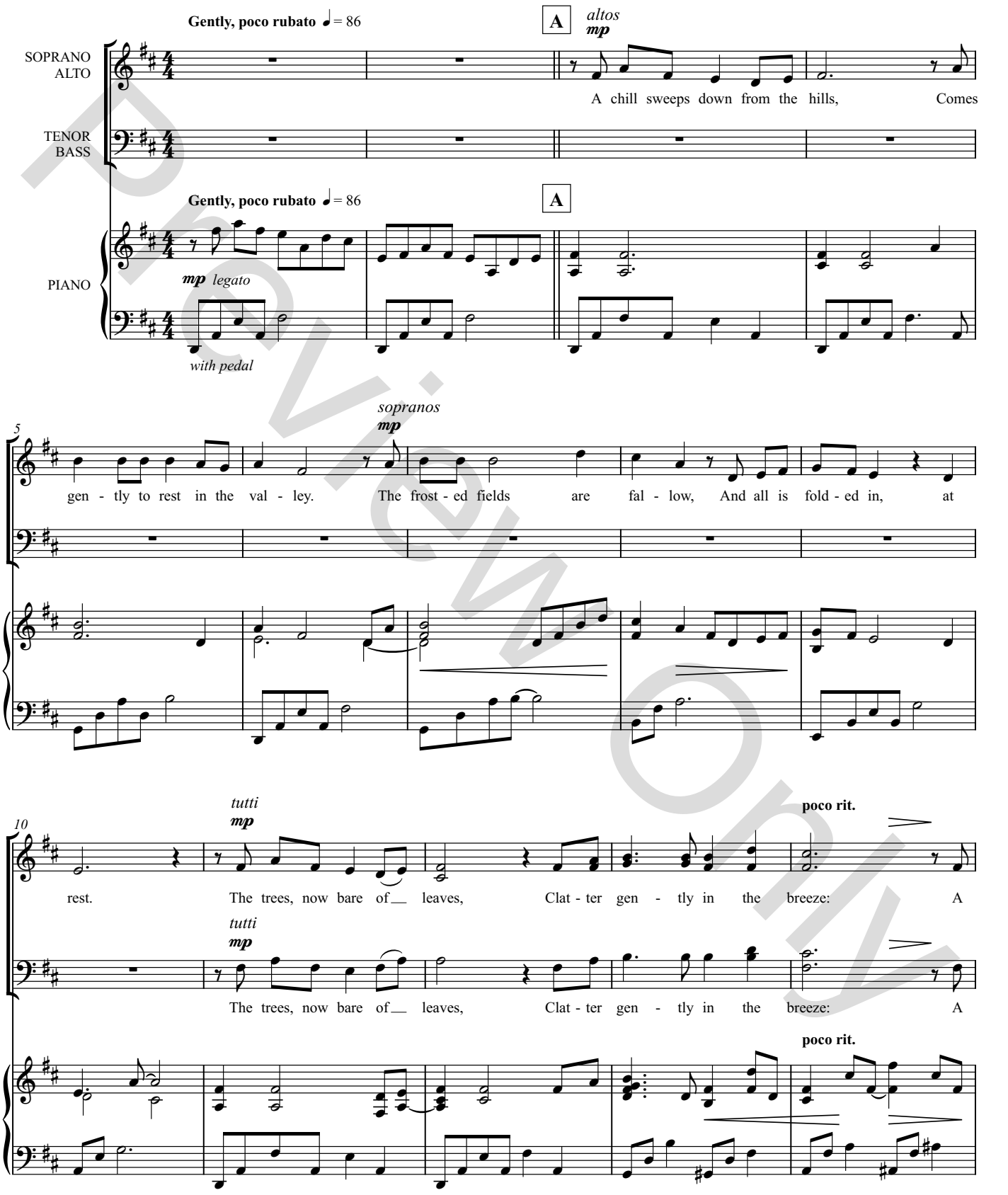
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SOFTLY IN WINTER

*For SATB choir with piano**

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BENJAMIN DAVID TISSELL
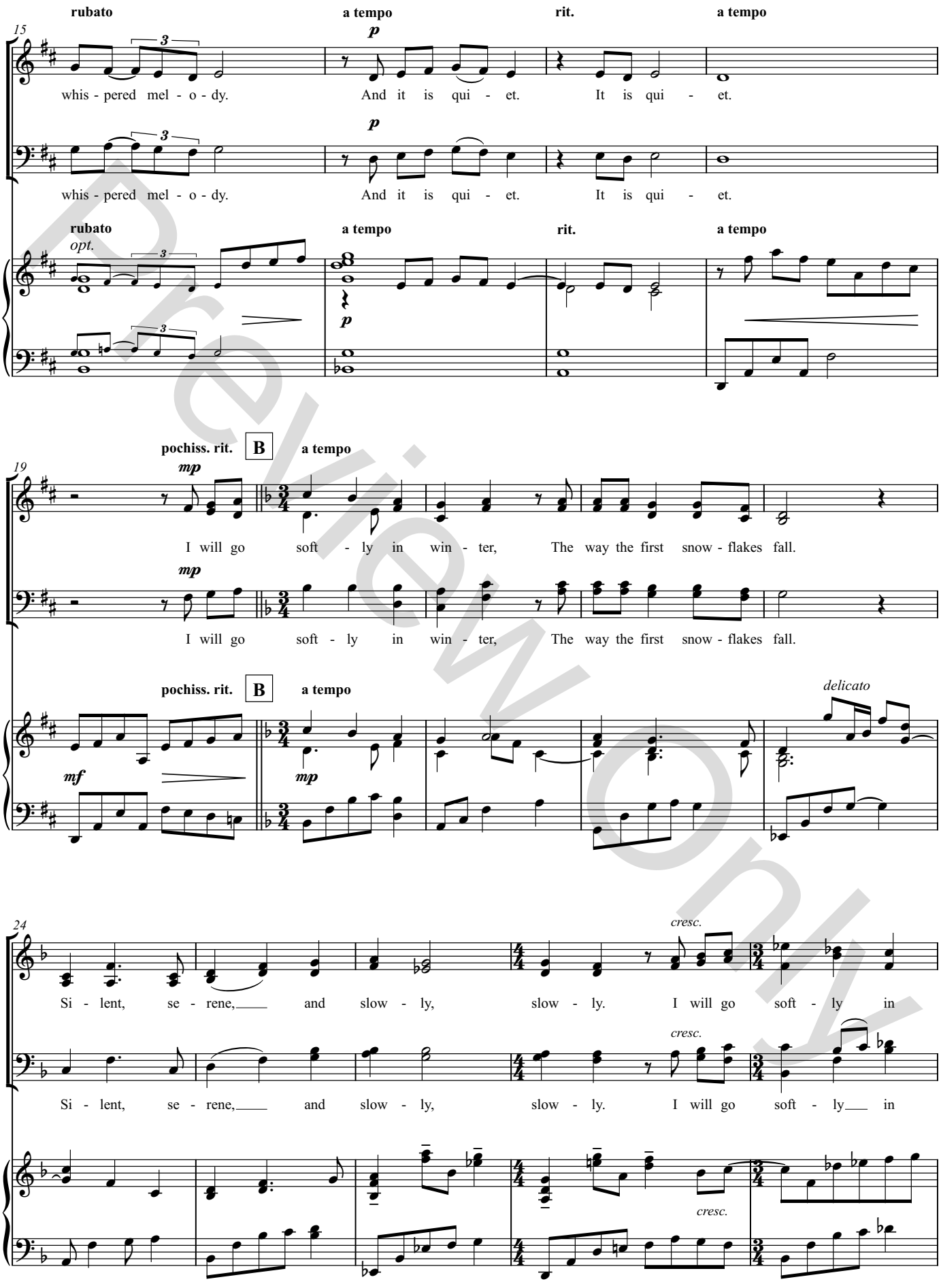
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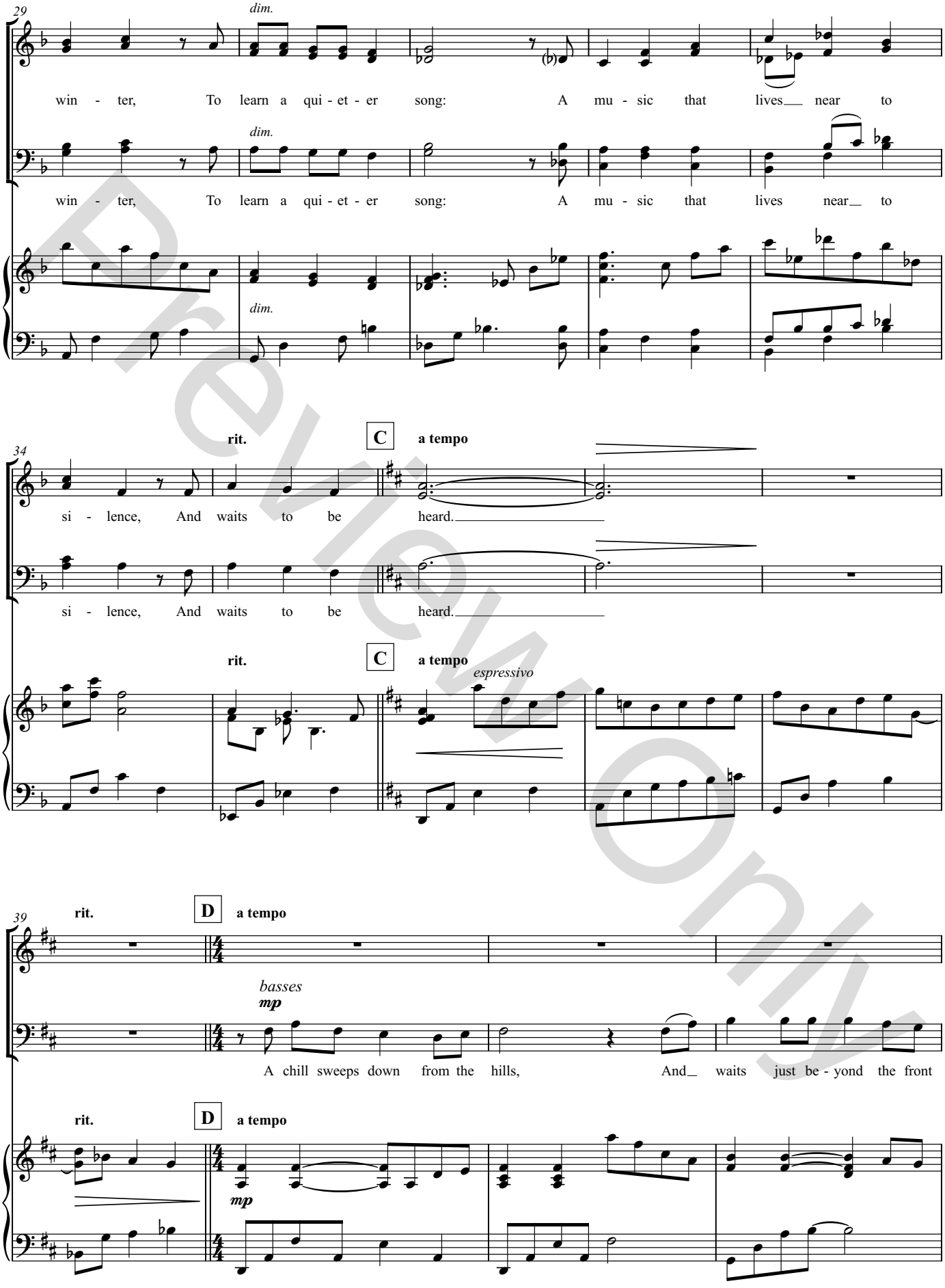


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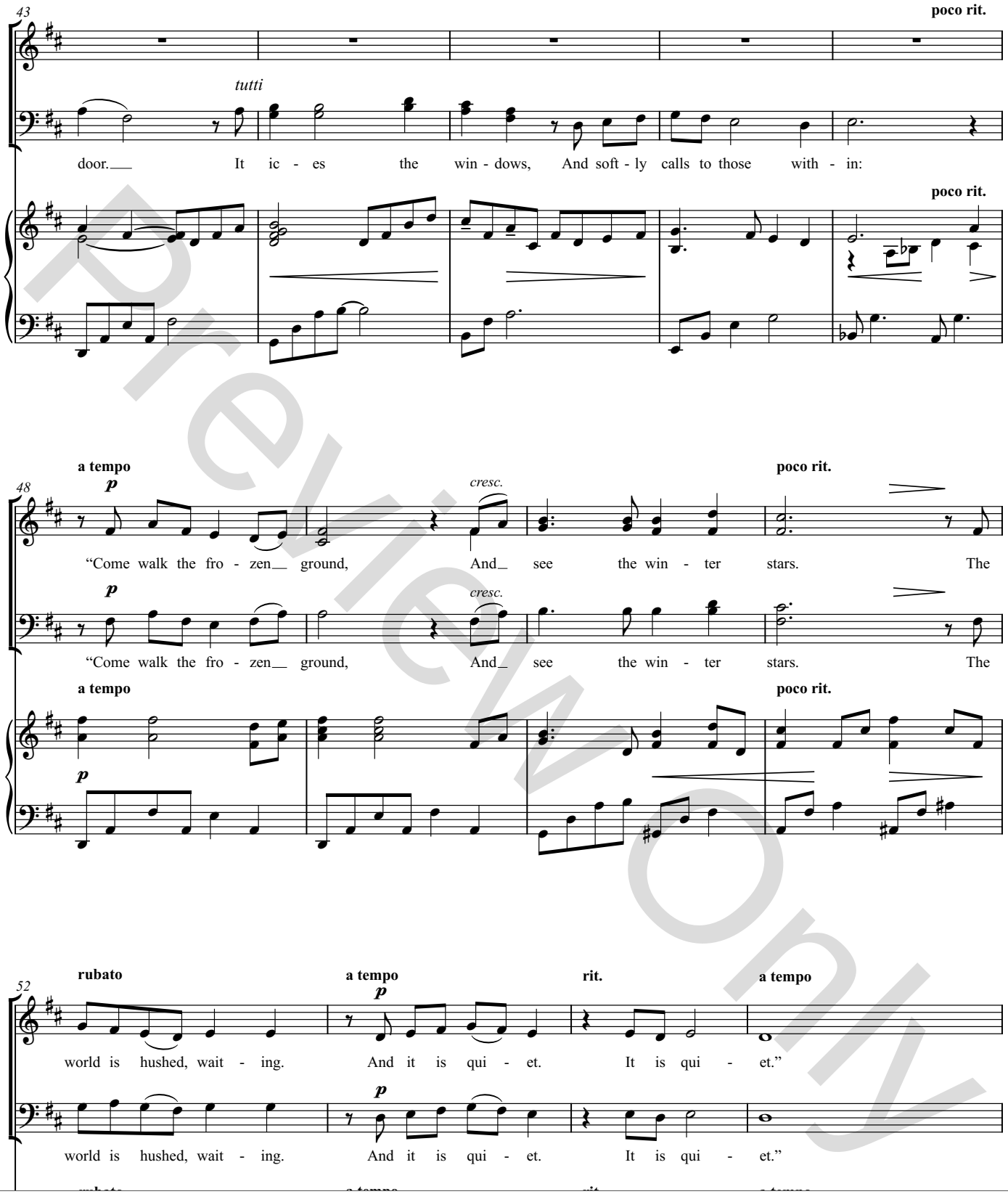
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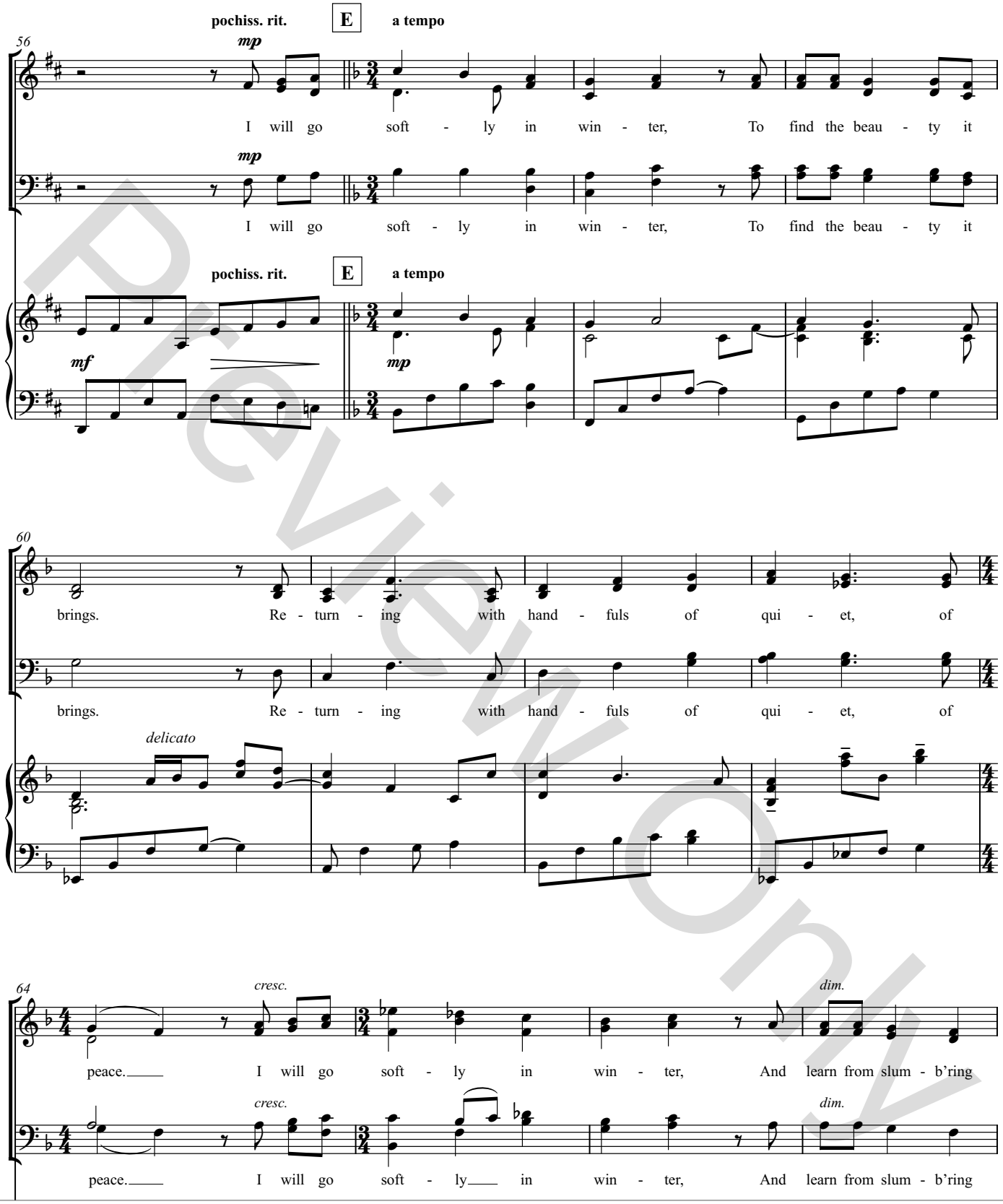


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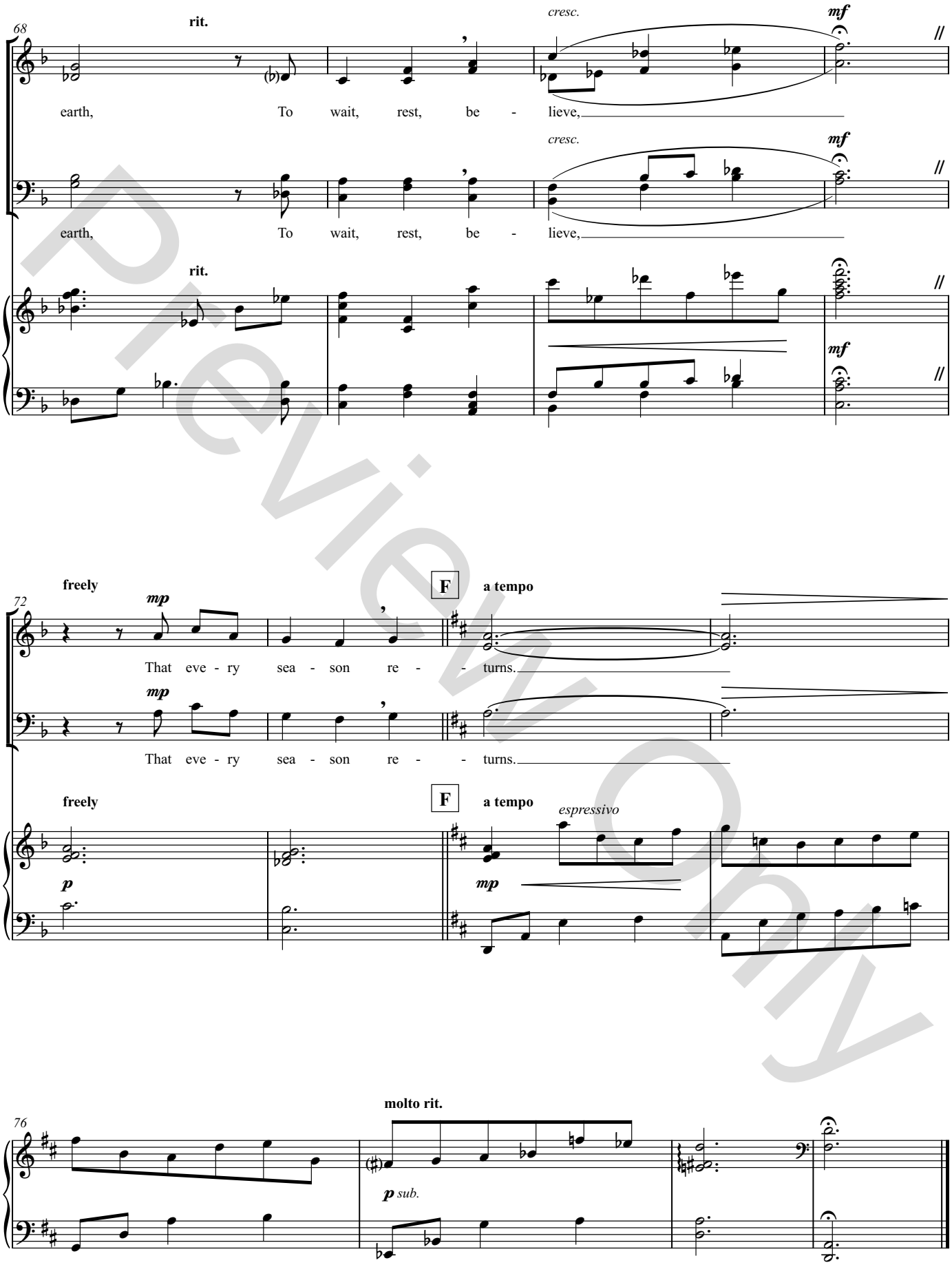


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