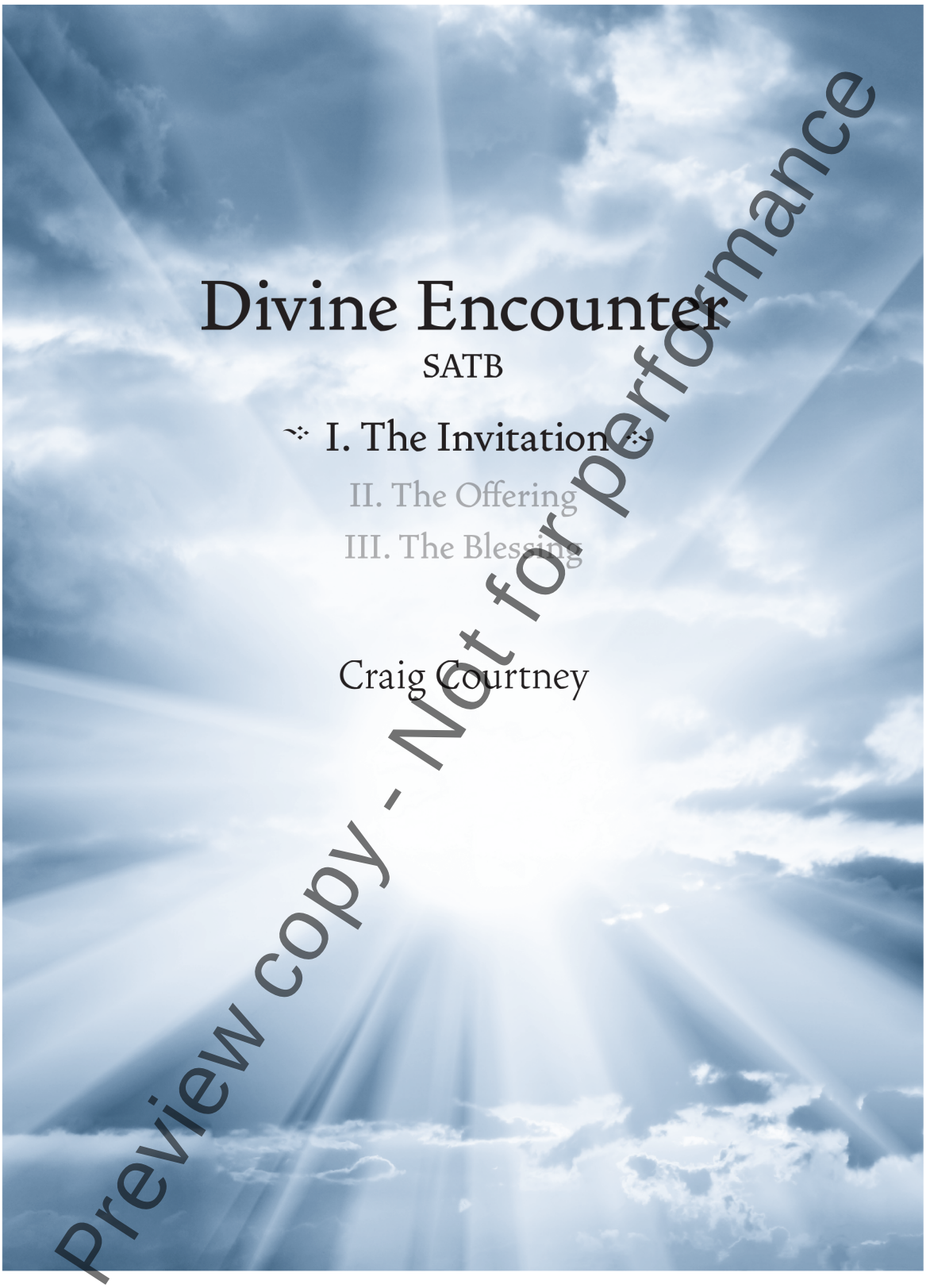

Divine Encounter

SATB

I. The Invitation

II. The Offering

III. The Blessing

Craig Courtney

Preview copy - Not for performance

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FROM THE COMPOSER

Divine Encounter is a musical narrative that describes God's invitation to experience the sustenance that only He can provide, our response to His gifts and the blessing He in turn bestows upon our response. The first movement, *The Invitation*, is based on Isaiah 55:1, 6. Most musical settings of the first verse are lyric and meditative. In *Divine Encounter*, however, the mood is one of joyful celebration, an invitation to the Great Dance. In contrast, the sixth verse is regal, earnest and authoritative and the architecture of the movement is built upon the contrast between these two styles. The second movement, *The Offering*, is based on Micah 6:6-8. As we partake of God's bounty, our gratitude urges us to offer ourselves as living sacrifices to serve God and people alike. The final movement, *The Blessing*, is based on Numbers 6:24-26. As Jesus blessed and multiplied the fish and bread, so God blesses the offering we bring to Him. These movements can be performed as a suite on the concert stage or as the beginning, middle and end of a mass or church service.

Ancillary Products

Score and parts for brass sextet (BP2256A)
Score and parts for string quartet (BP2256B)
Full performance accompaniment CD (BP2256C)
Score and parts for full orchestra (BP2256D)
Alternate piano accompaniment (BP2256E)

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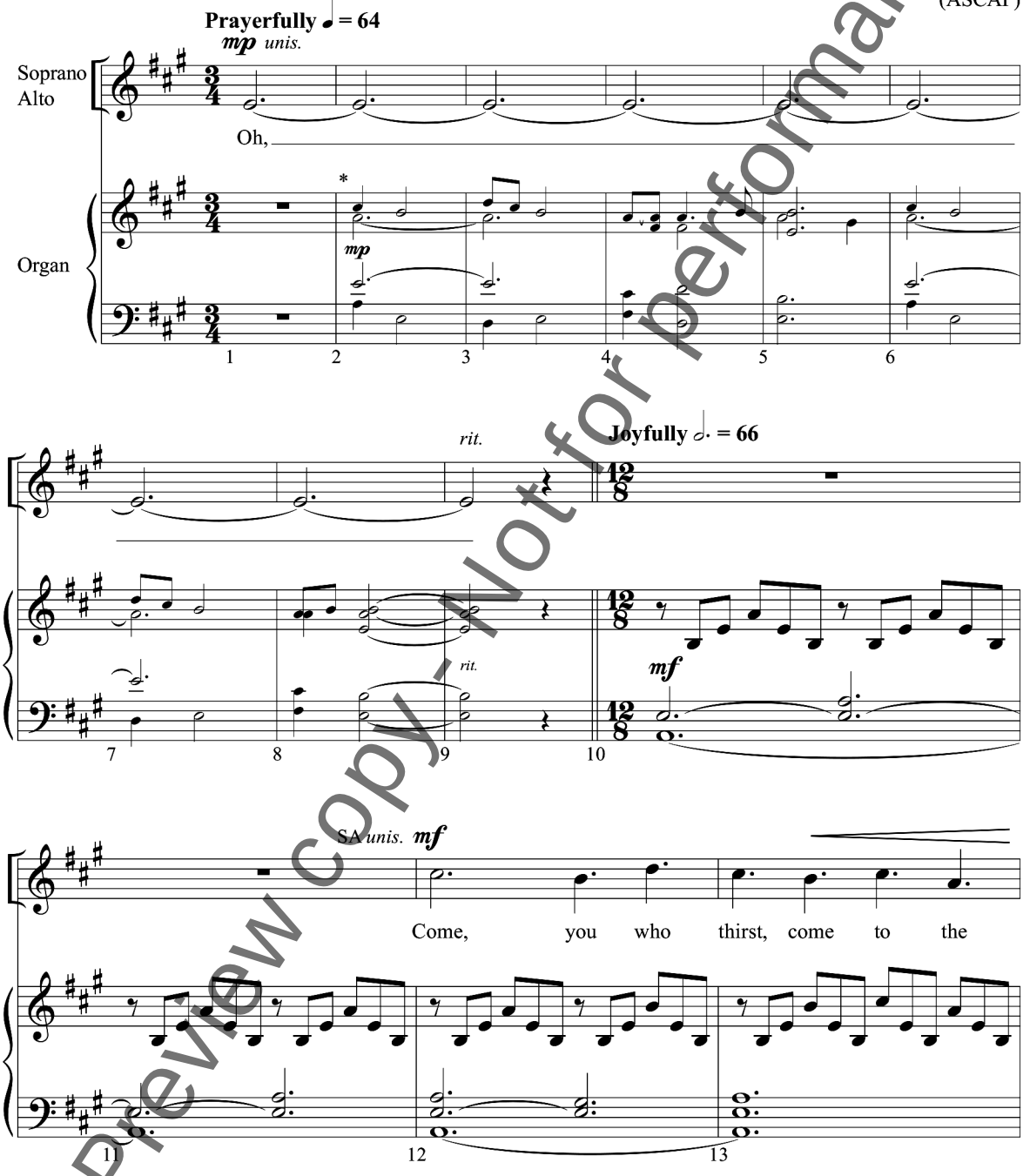
Commissioned by the Edward D. Anderson Choral Scholars Fund
in celebration of the lifetime Music Ministries of
Marvin L. Crawford, Director of Music and the Arts,
and Joe McConathy, Organist;
First Presbyterian Church, Fort Collins, Colorado

The Invitation

For SATB Choir, Organ or Piano and String Quartet, Brass Sextet or Orchestra

Isaiah 55:1, 6

CRAIG COURTNEY
(ASCAP)



*Cue-sized notes may be omitted when string quartet or brass sextet is used.

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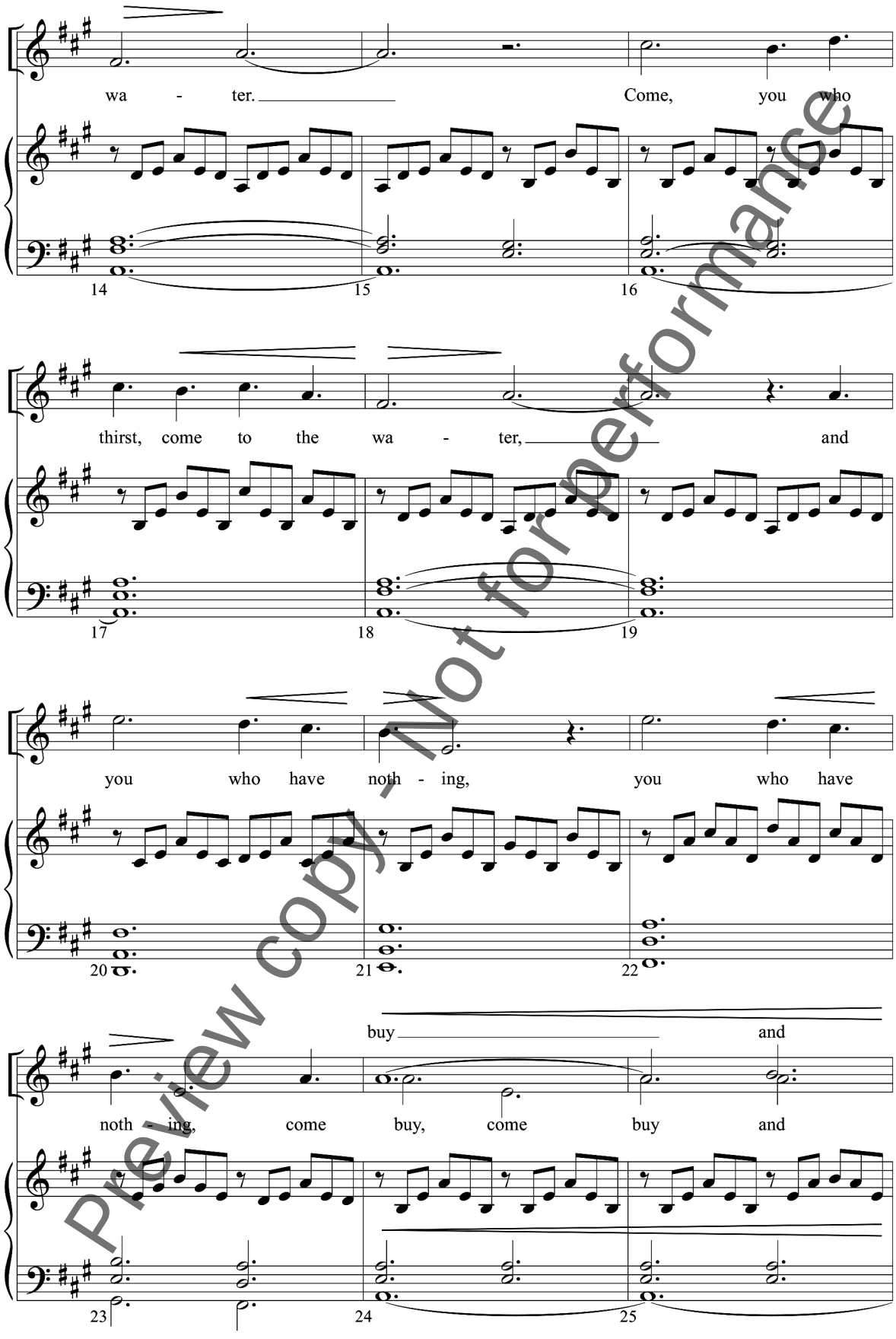

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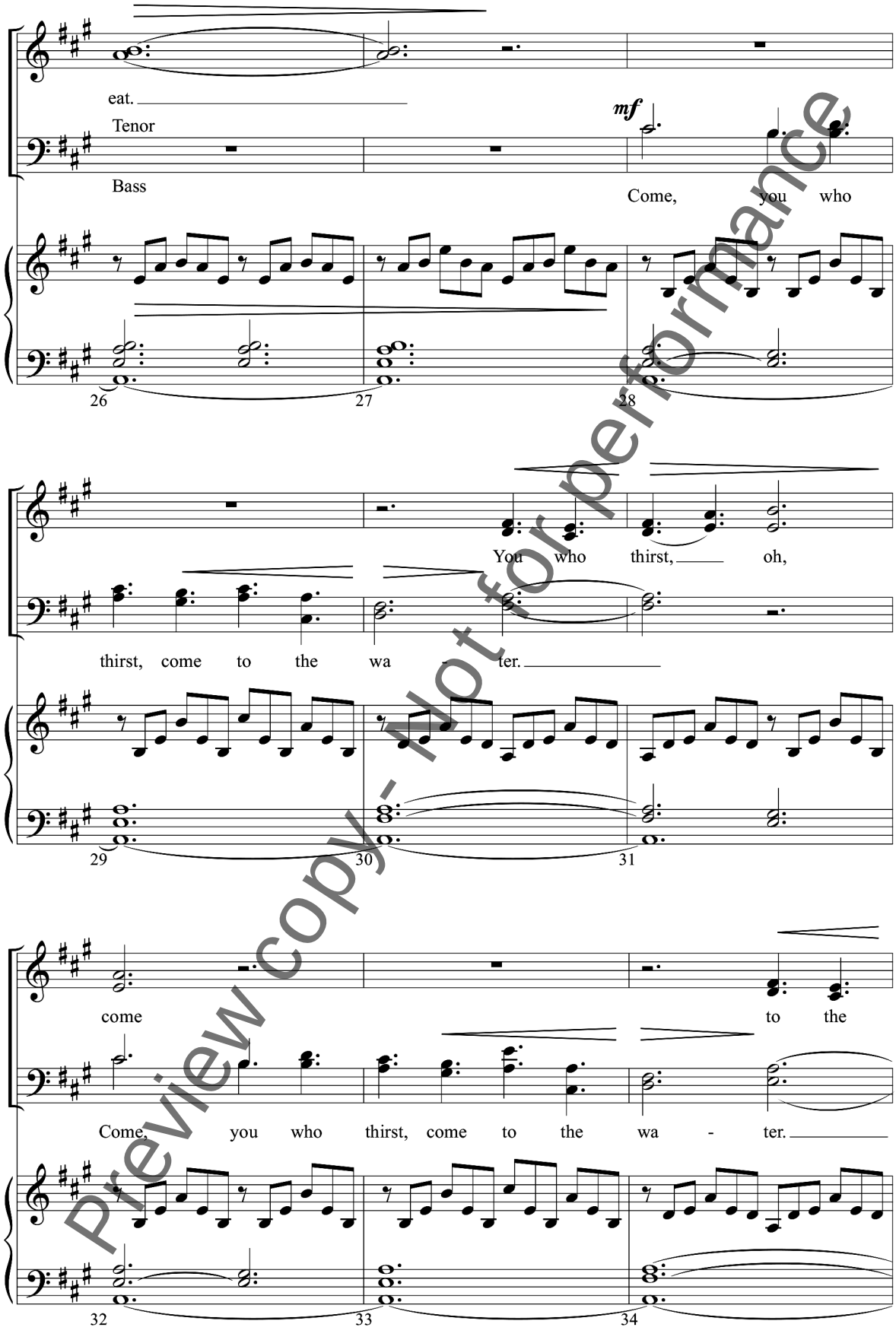

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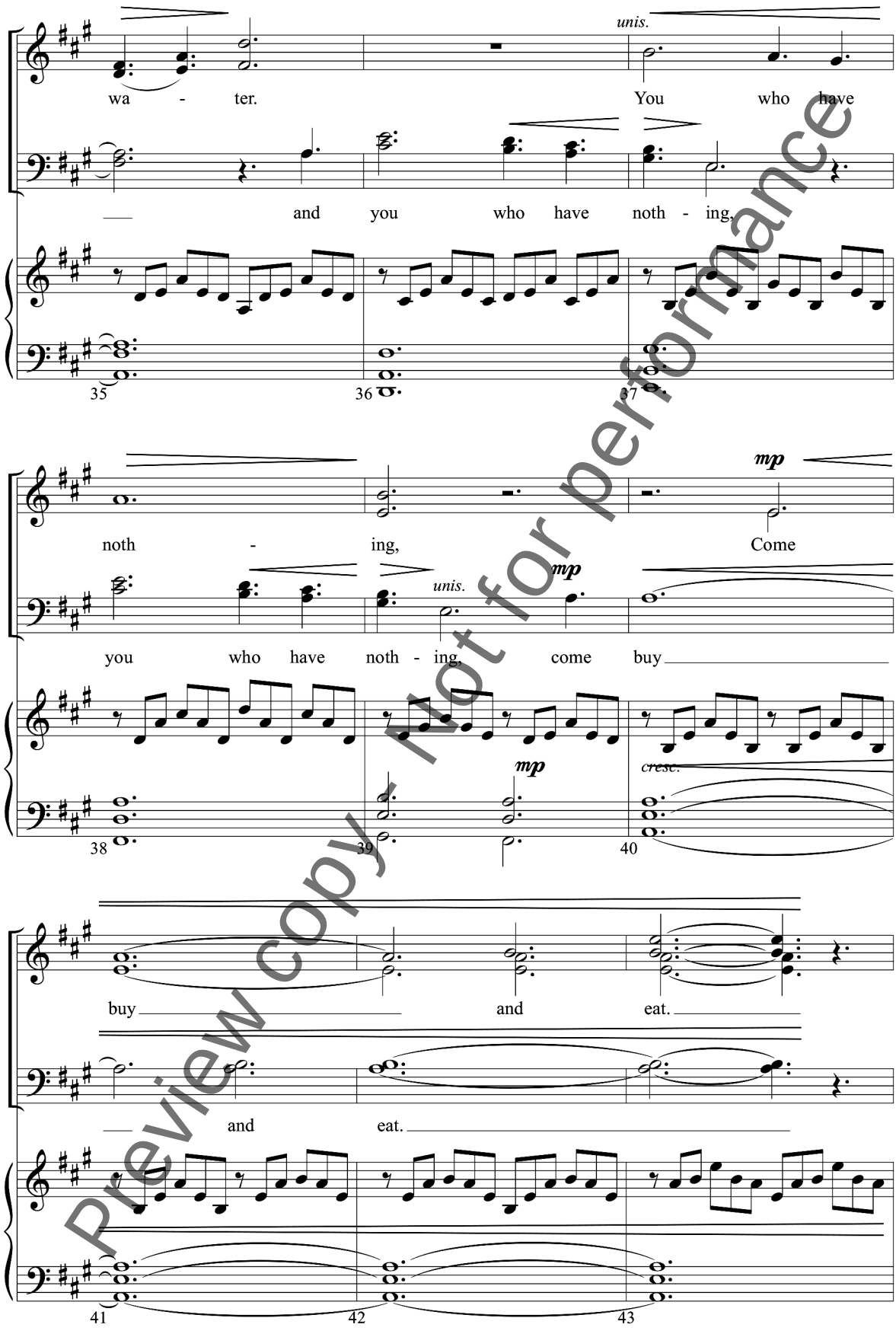

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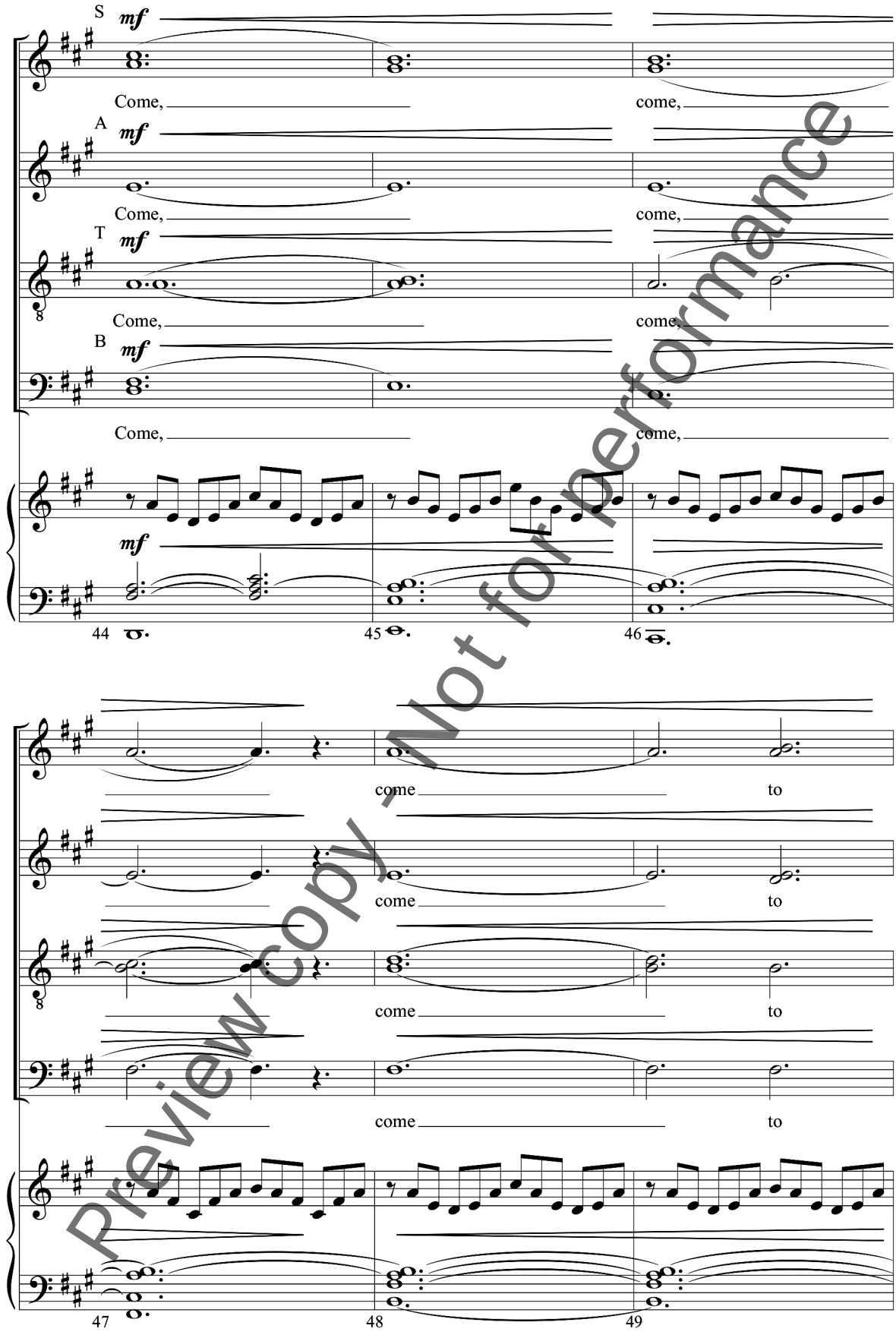

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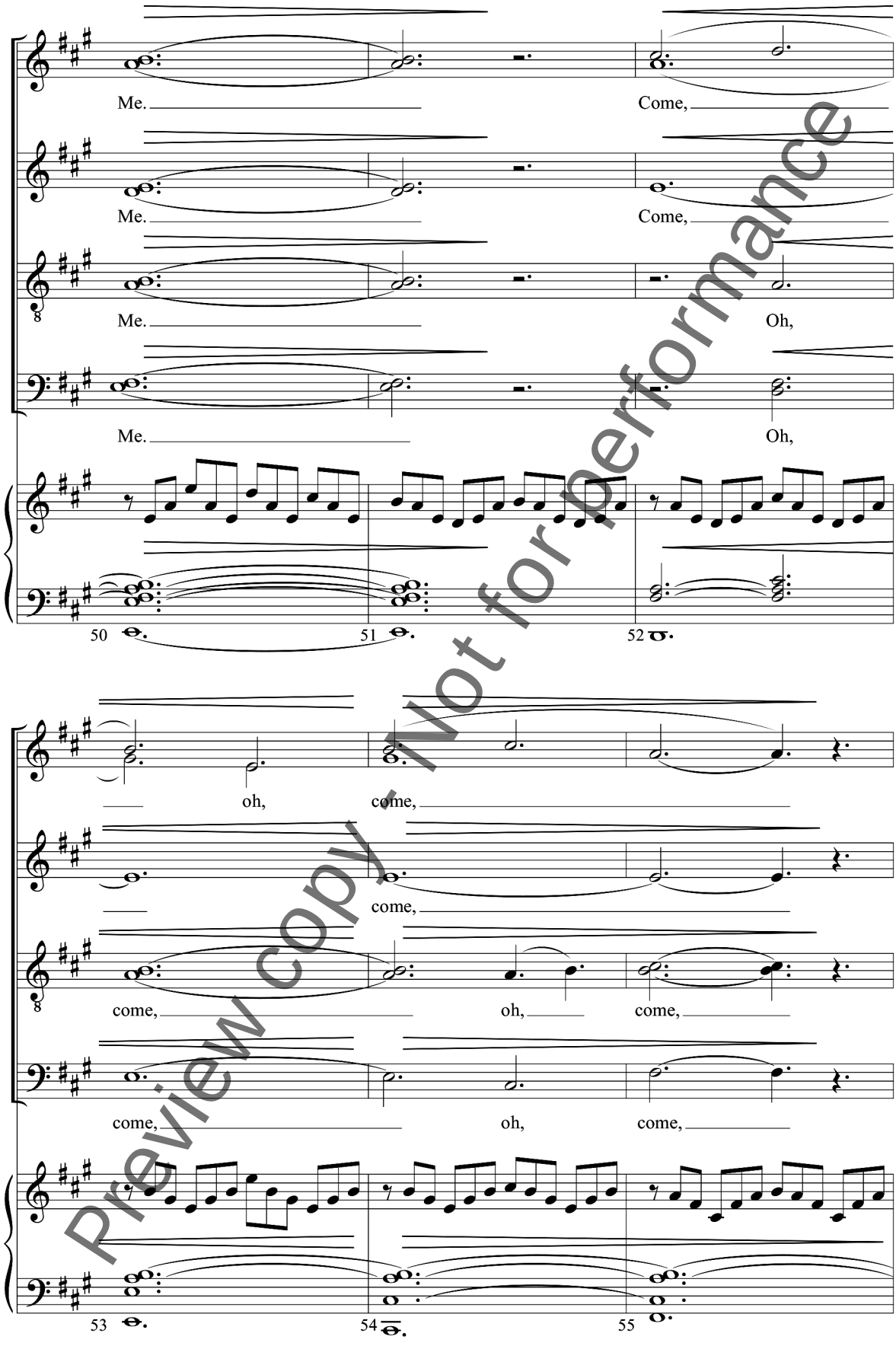

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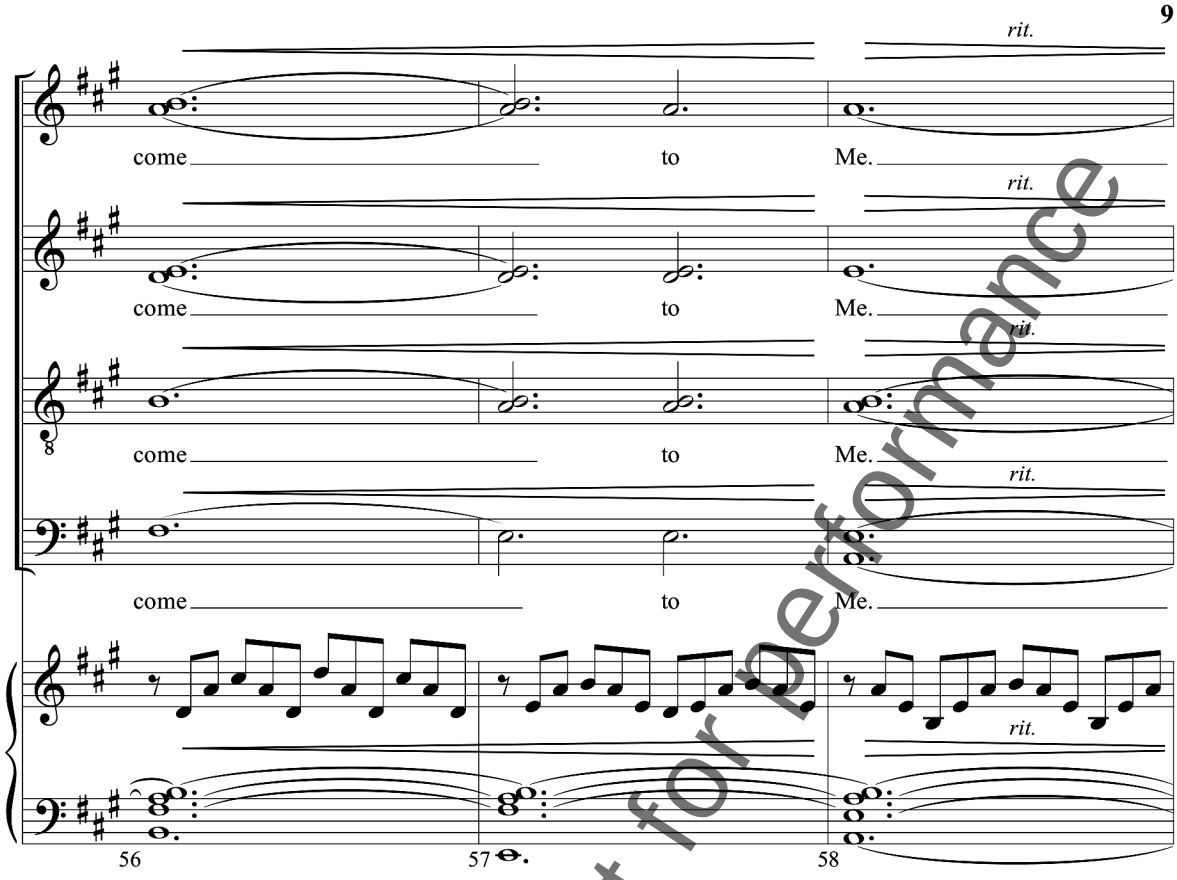

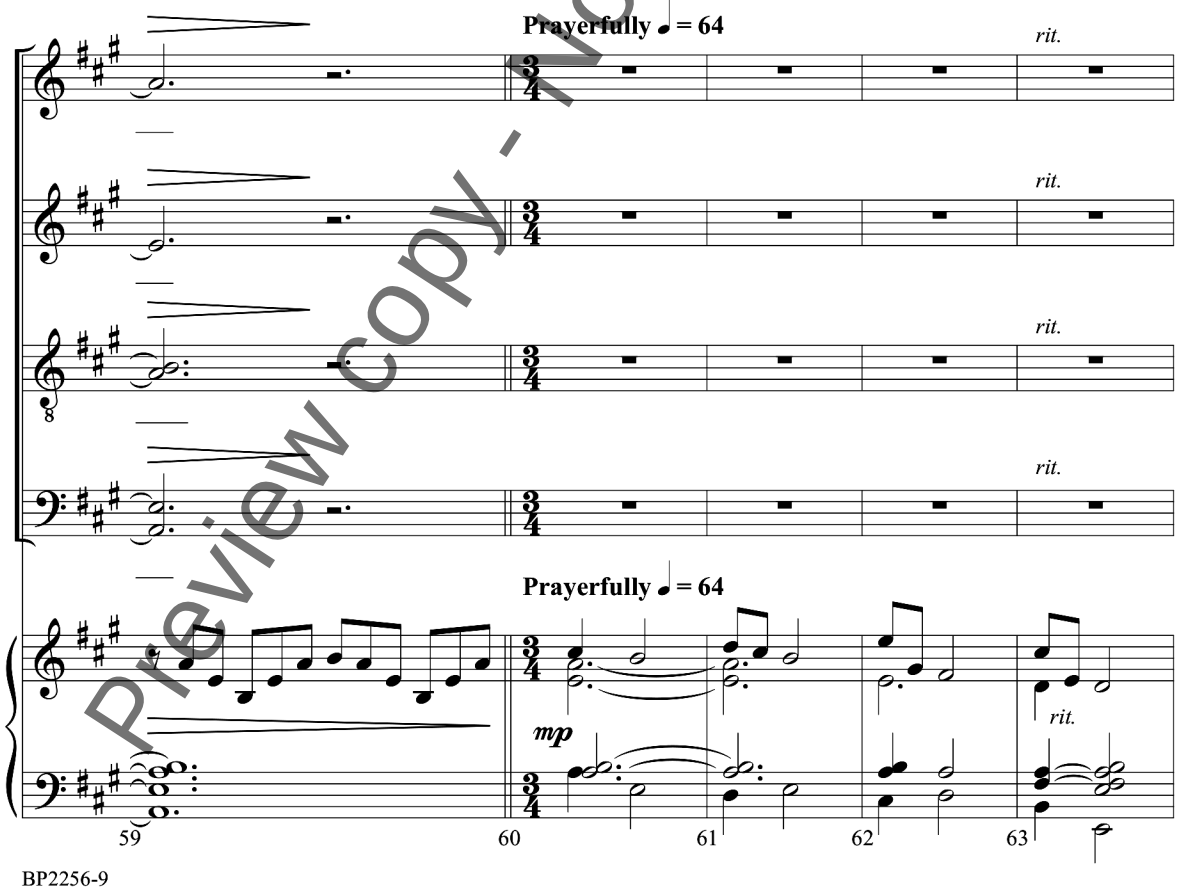

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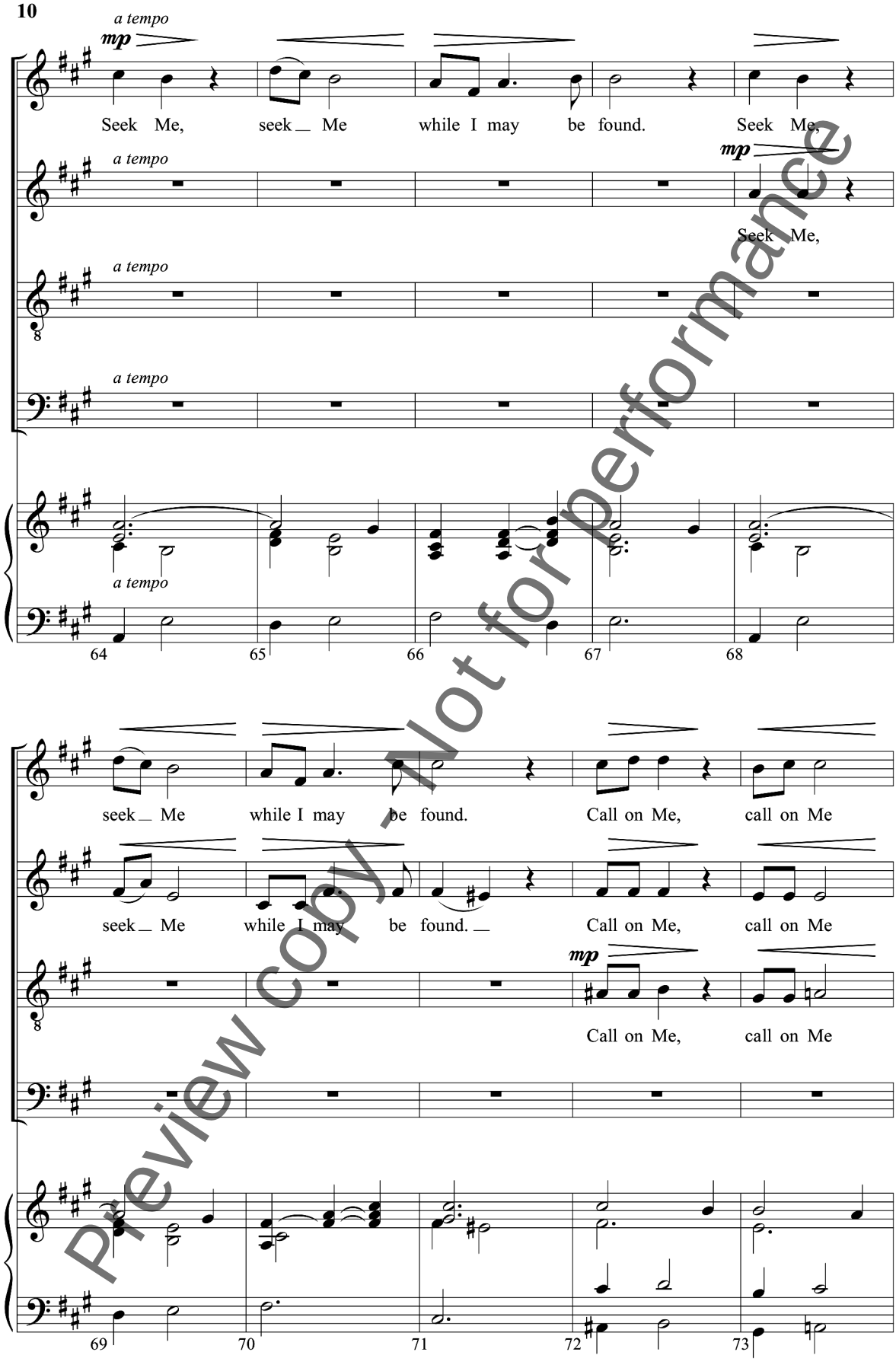

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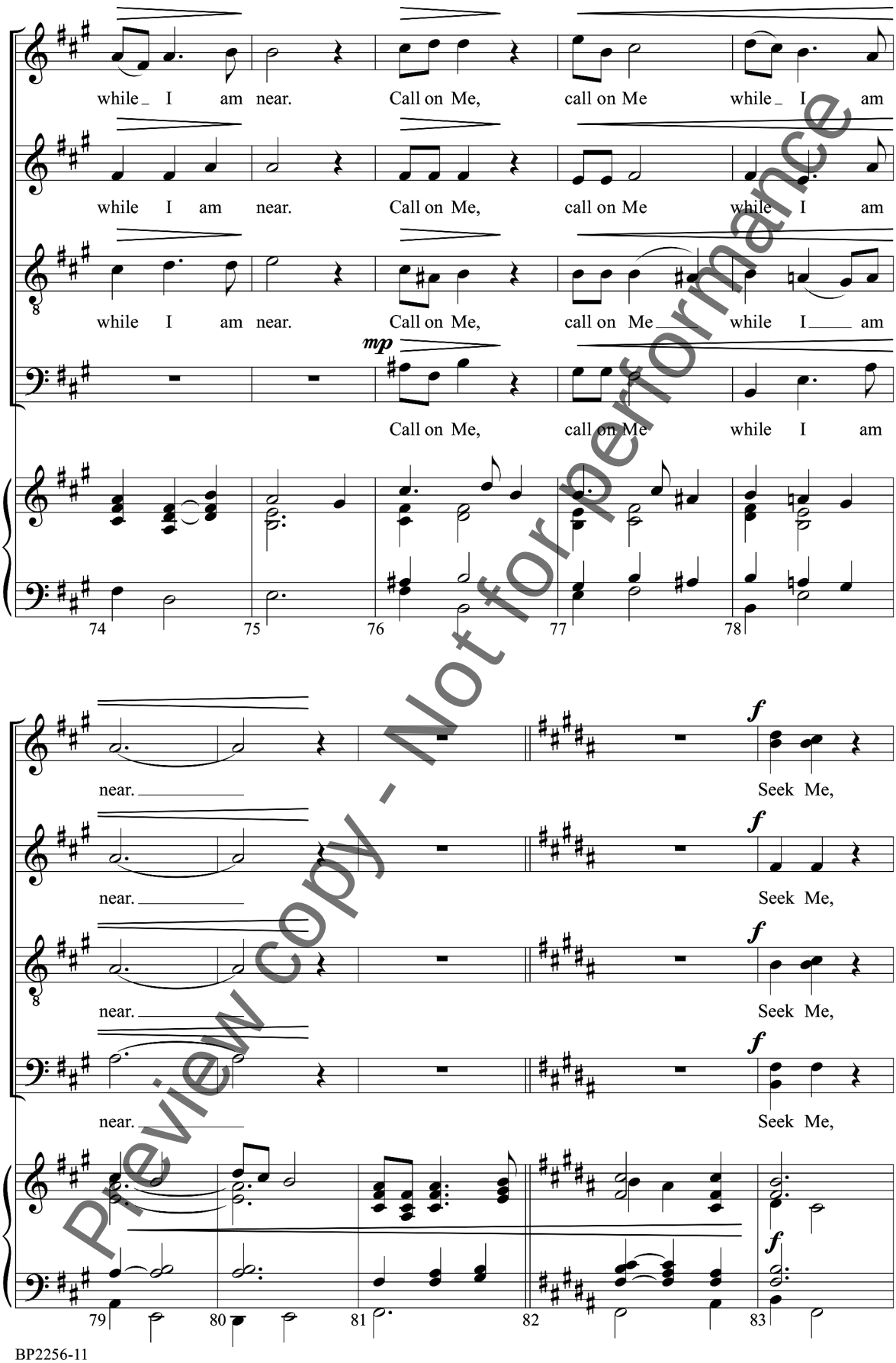

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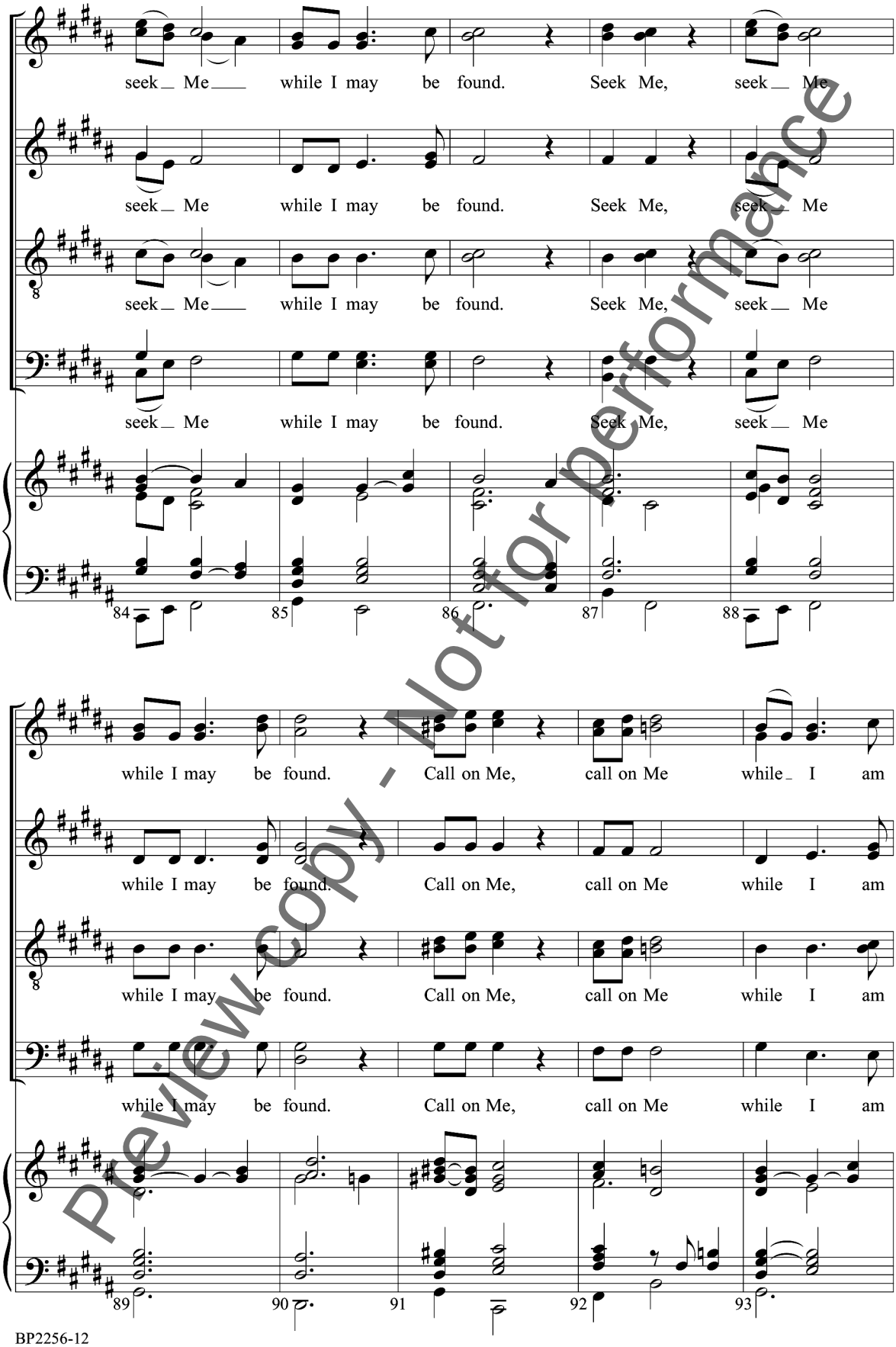

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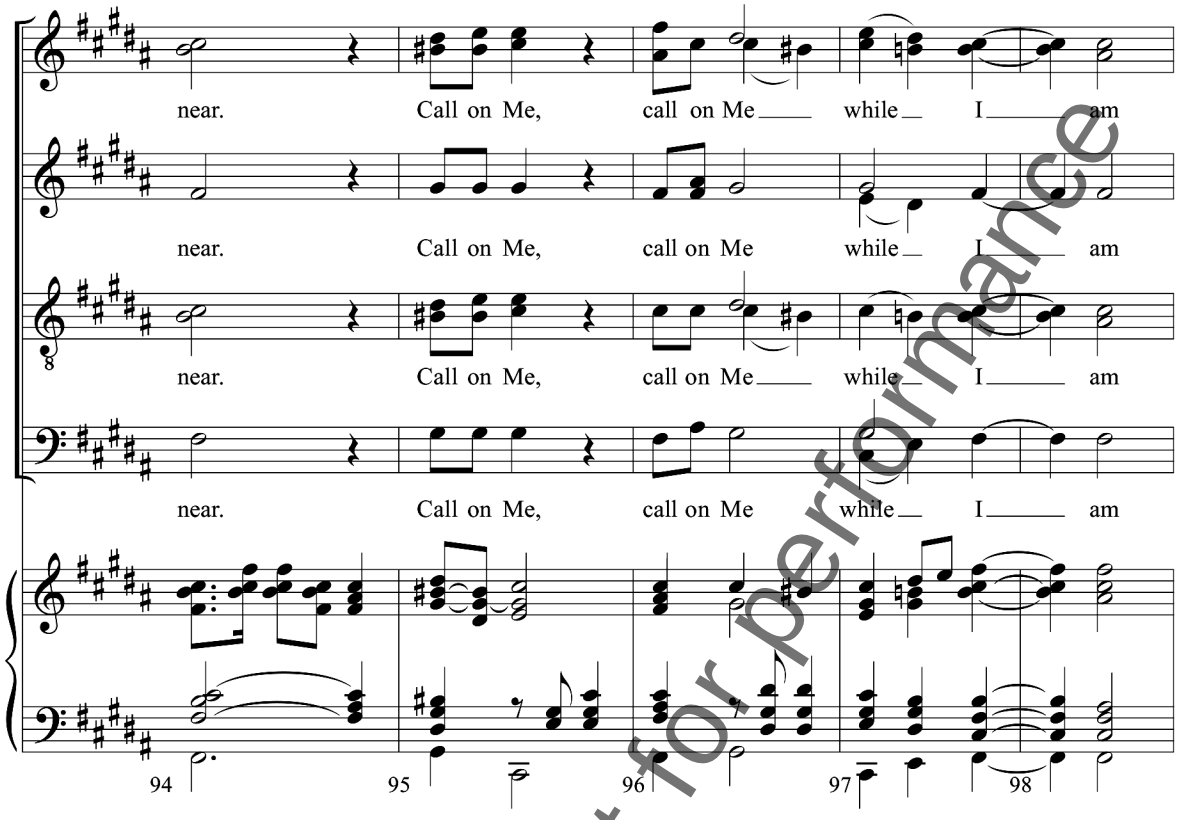

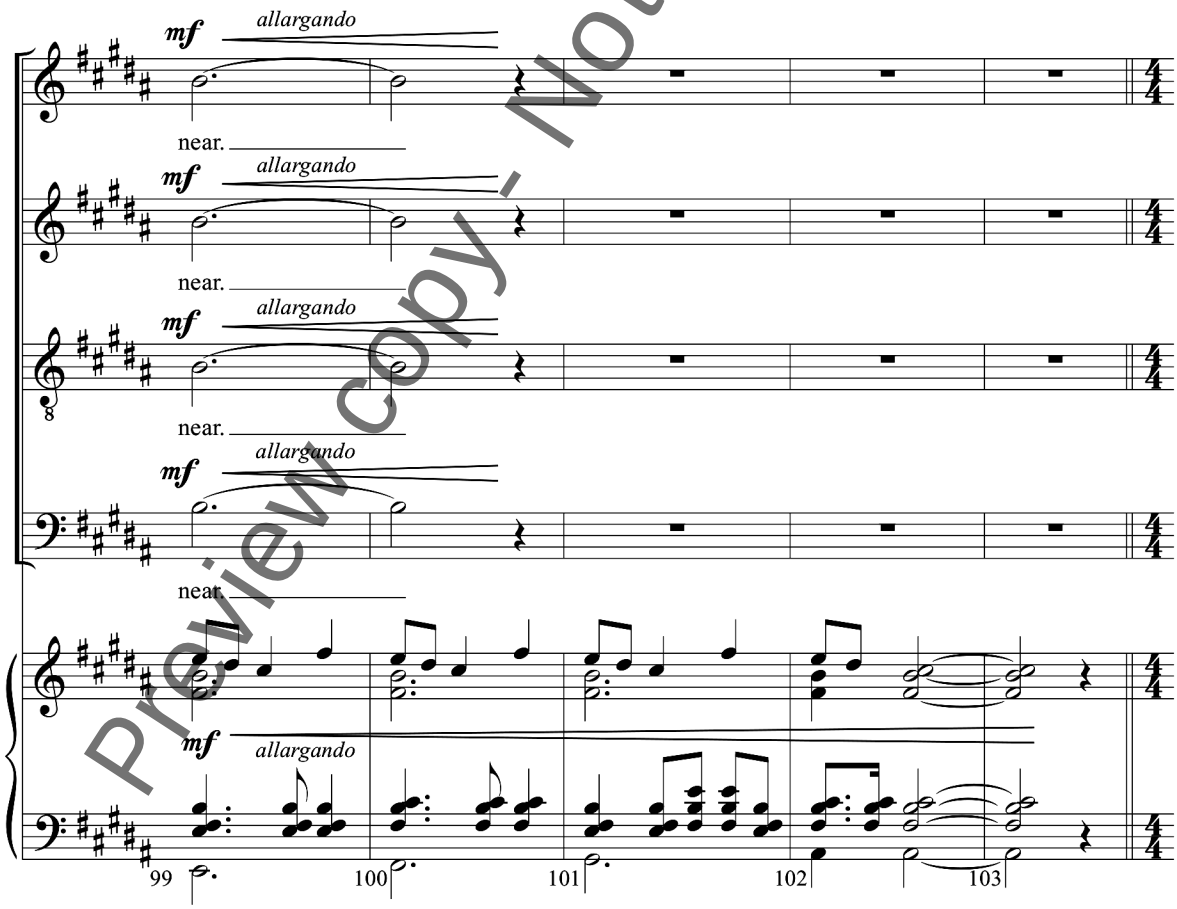

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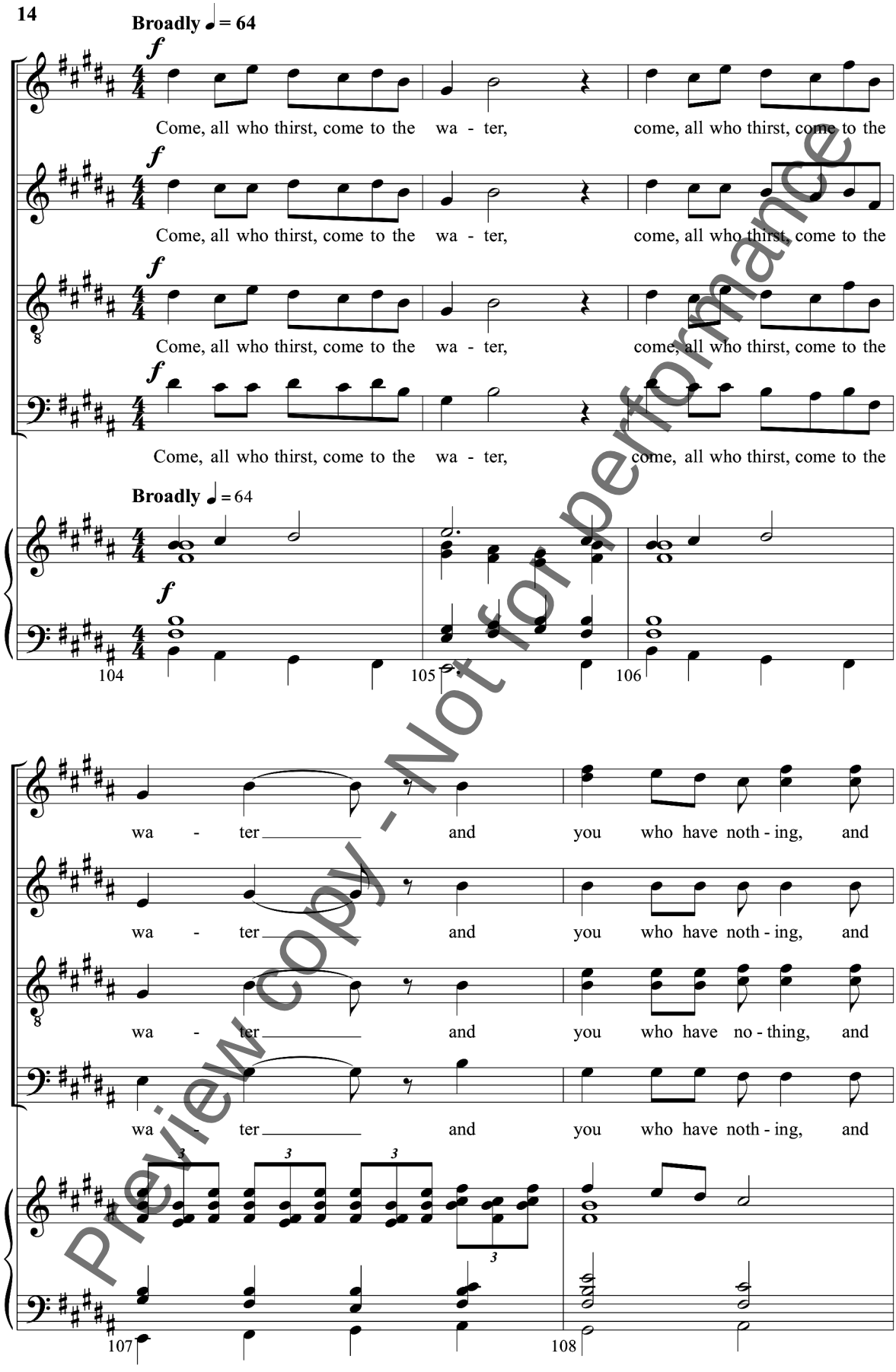

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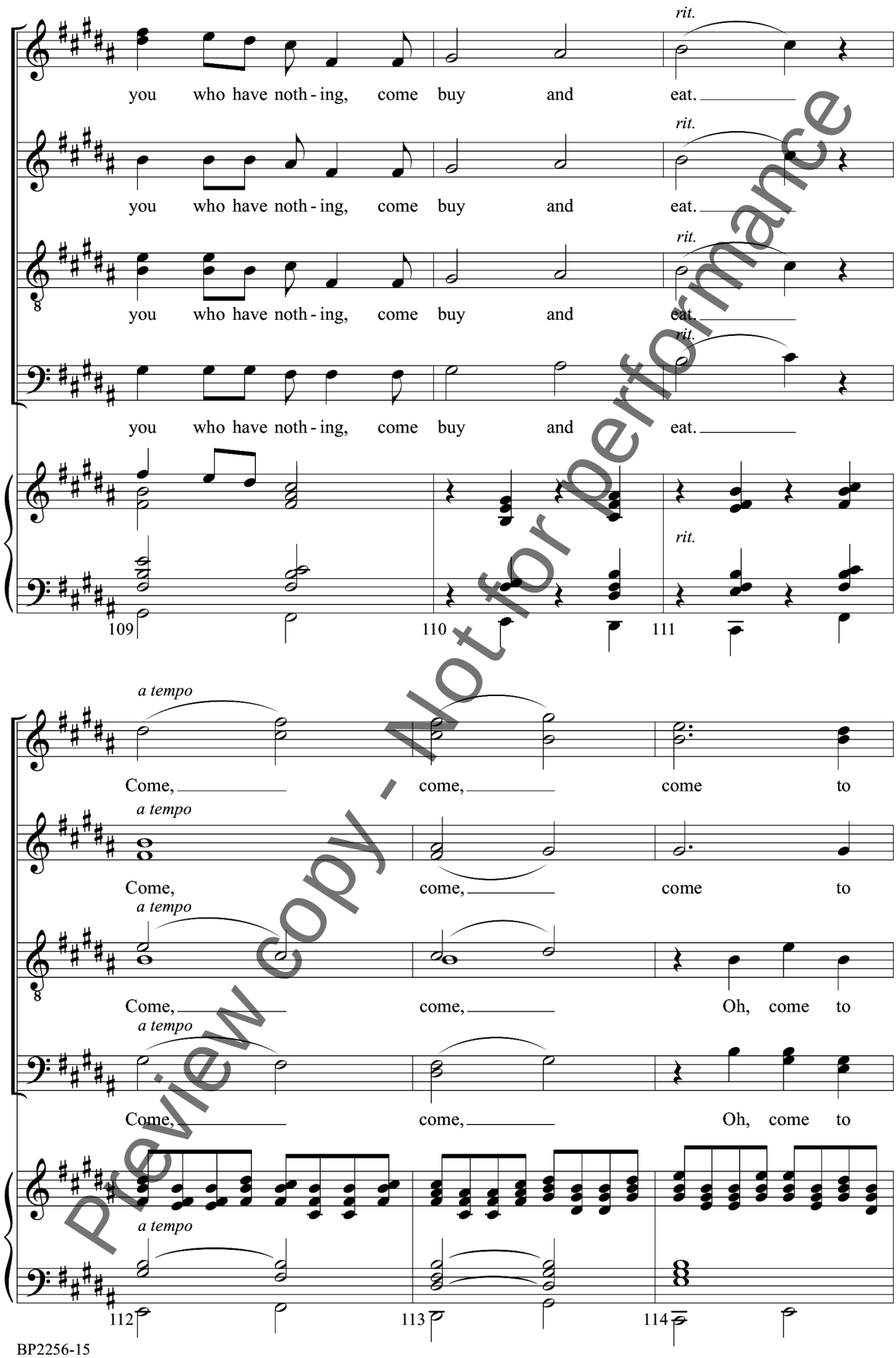

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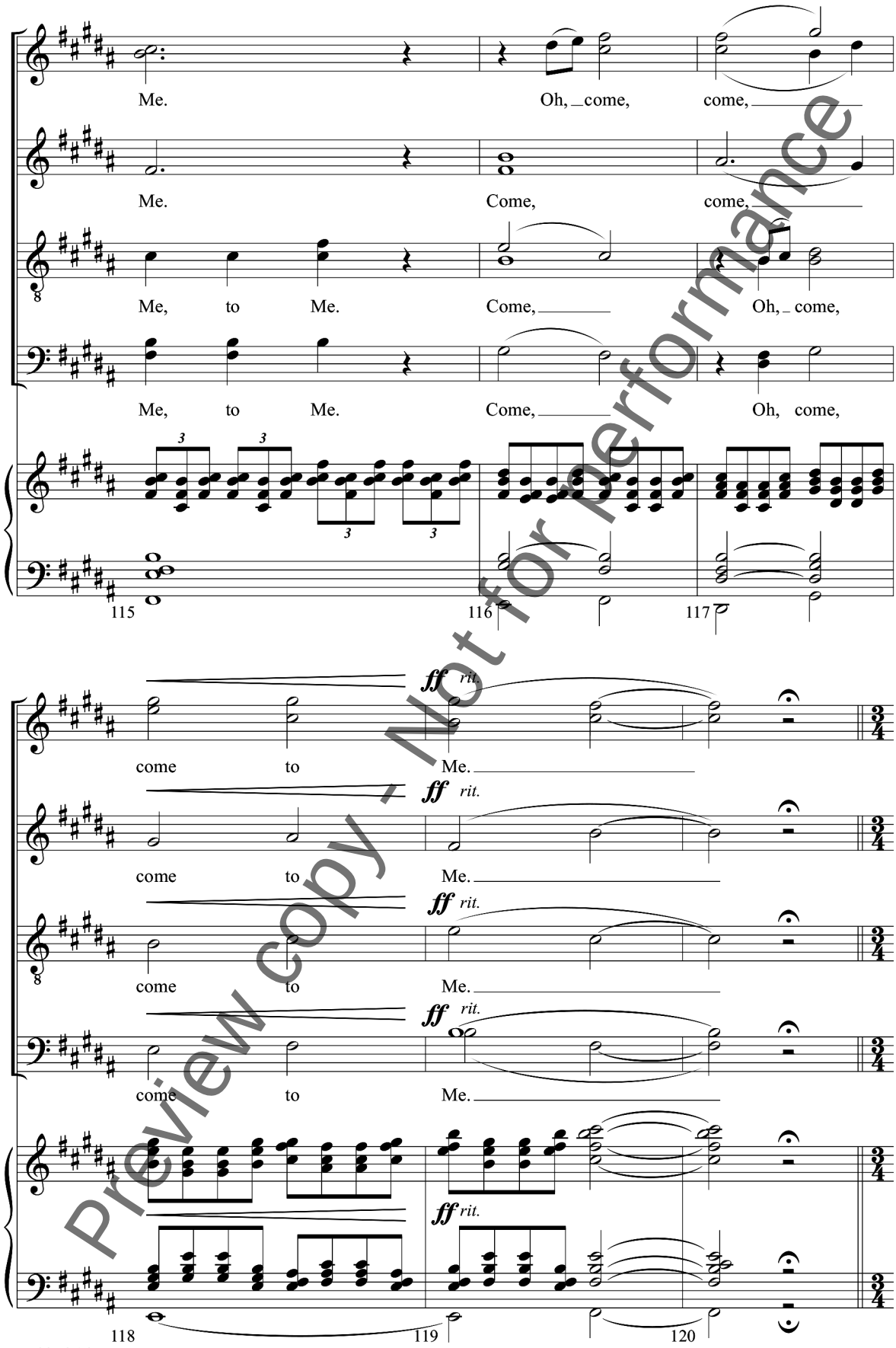

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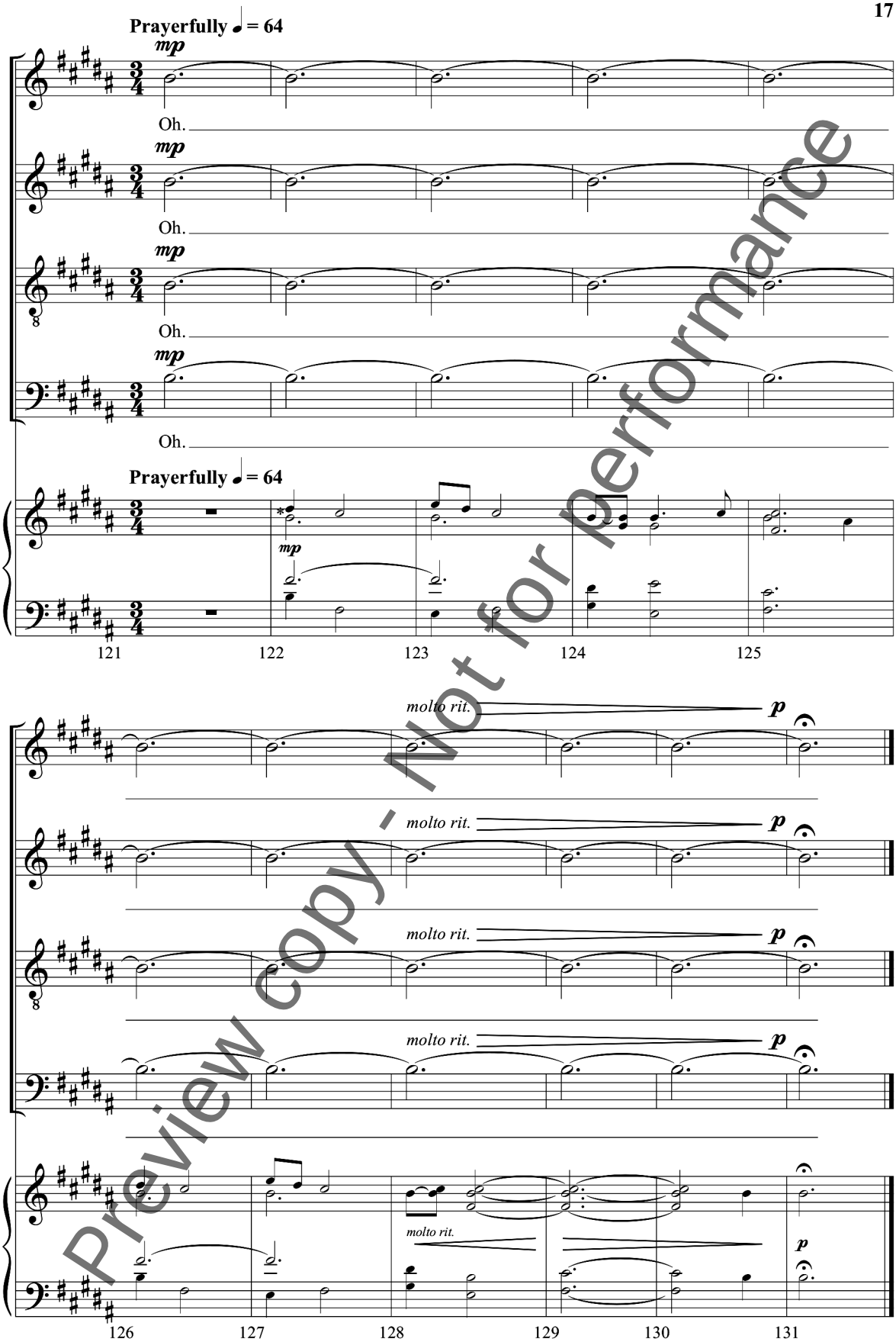

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