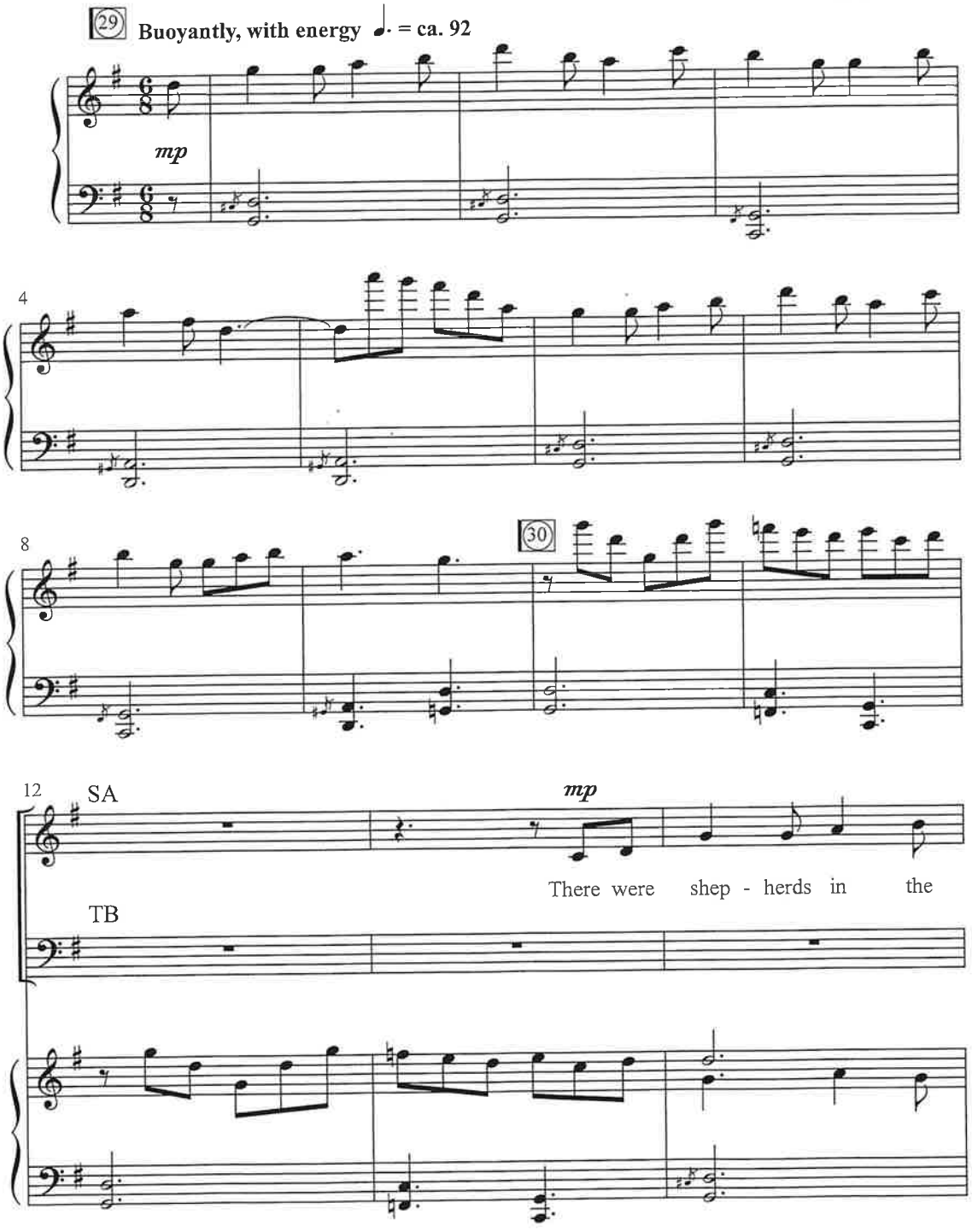
Shepherds in the Field

Words by **Lloyd Larson**
Based on **Luke 2:8-15** and
Traditional English Carol

Arranged by **Lloyd Larson**
Based upon **I SAW THREE SHIPS**
and **SUSSEX CAROL,**
Traditional English Carols



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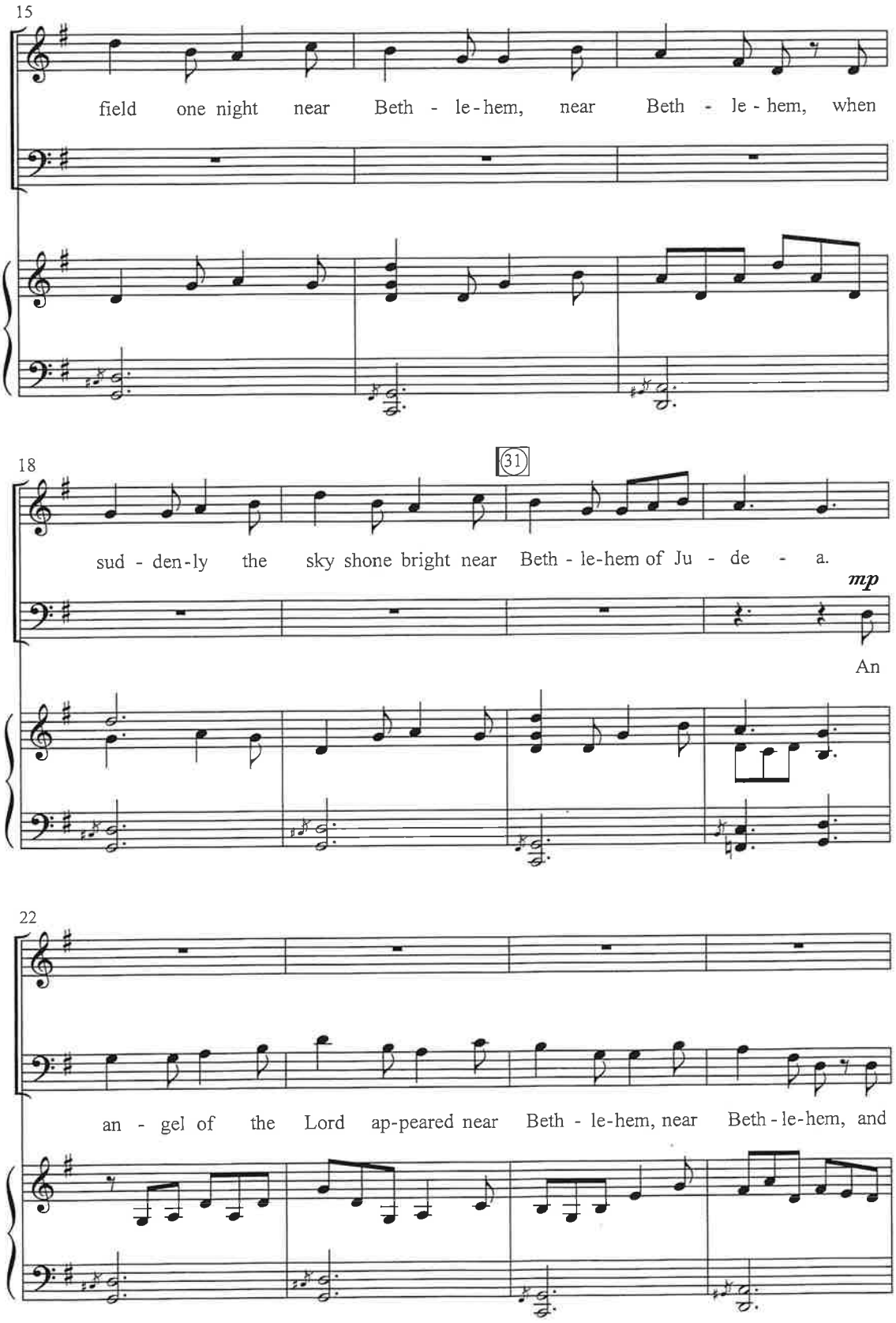
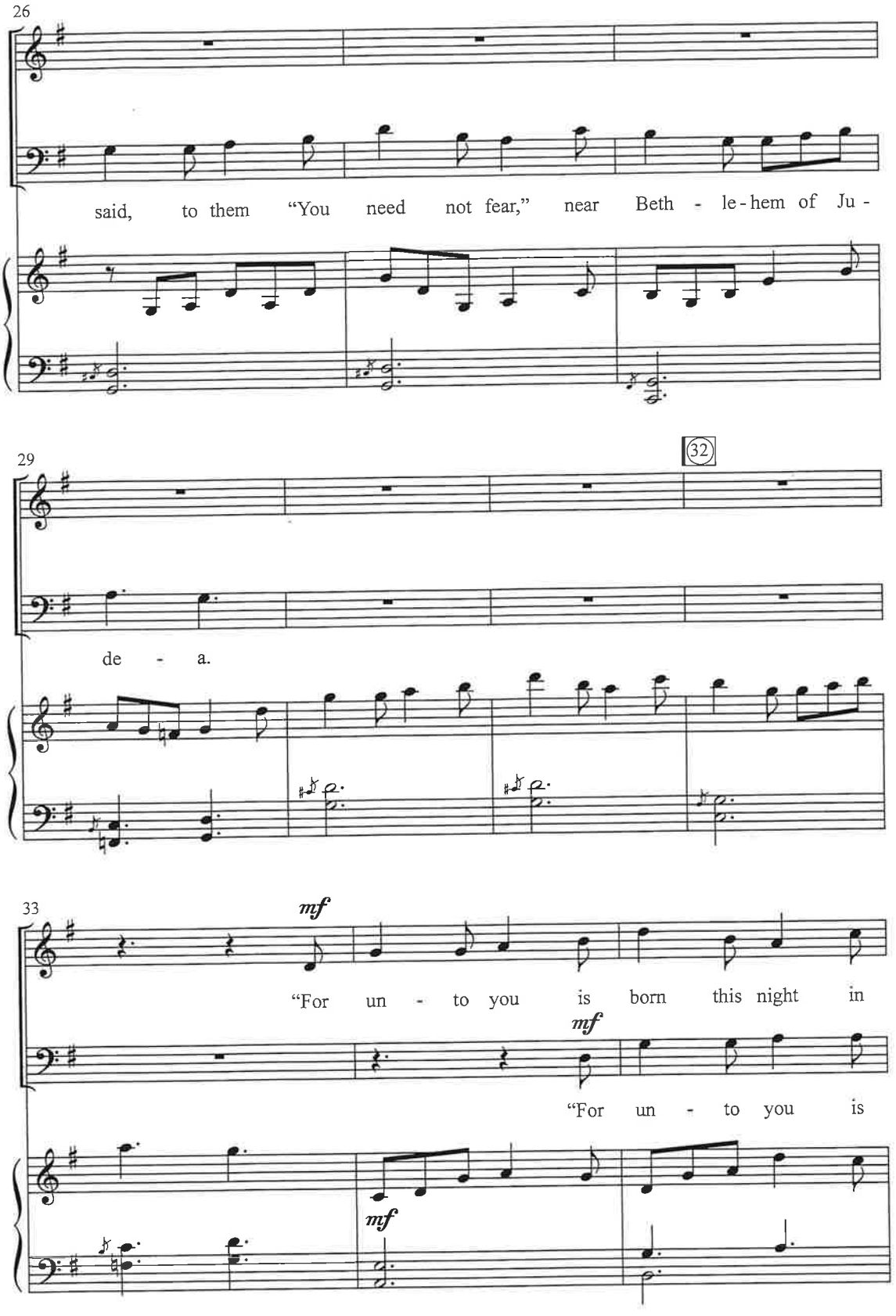
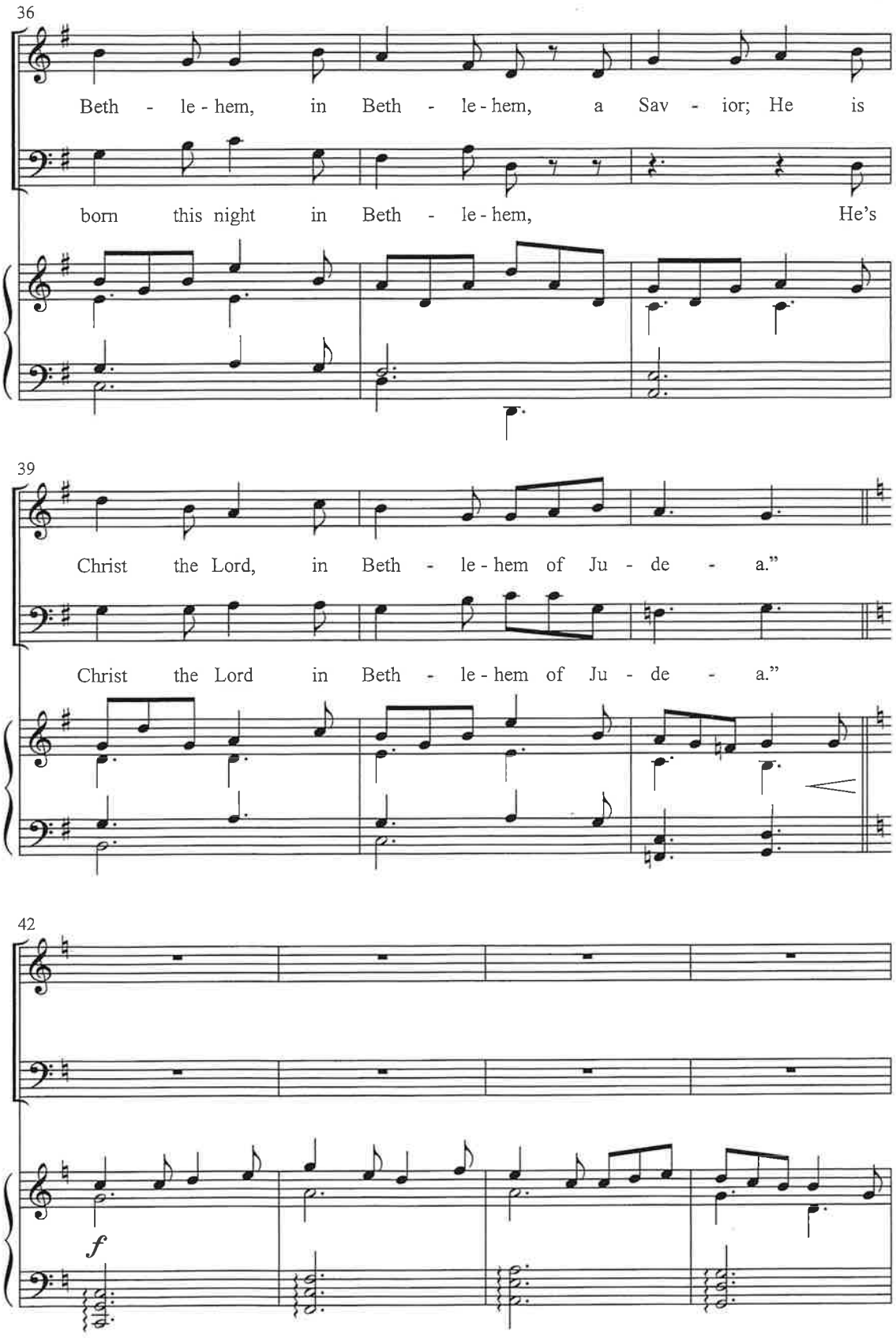
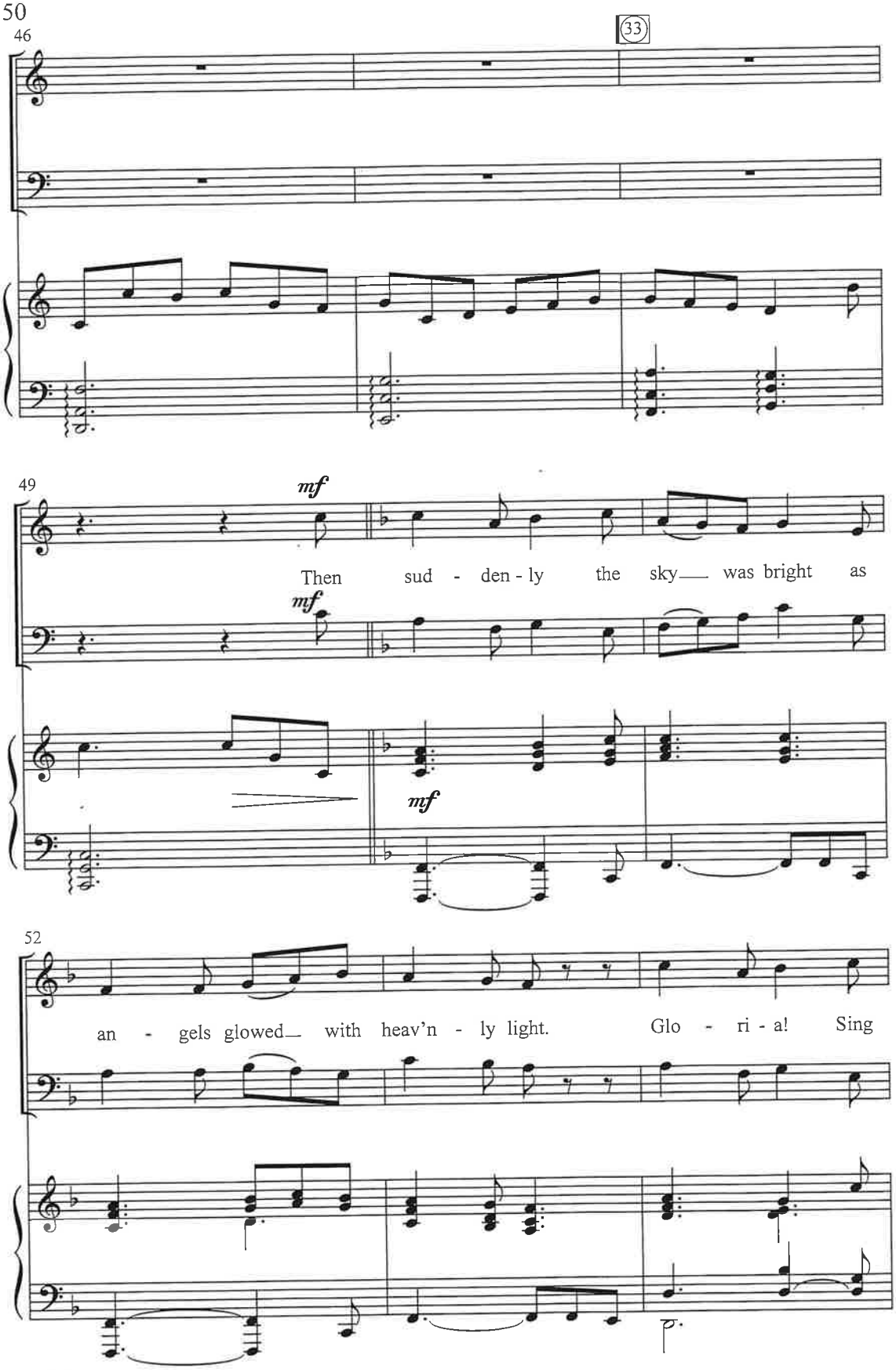
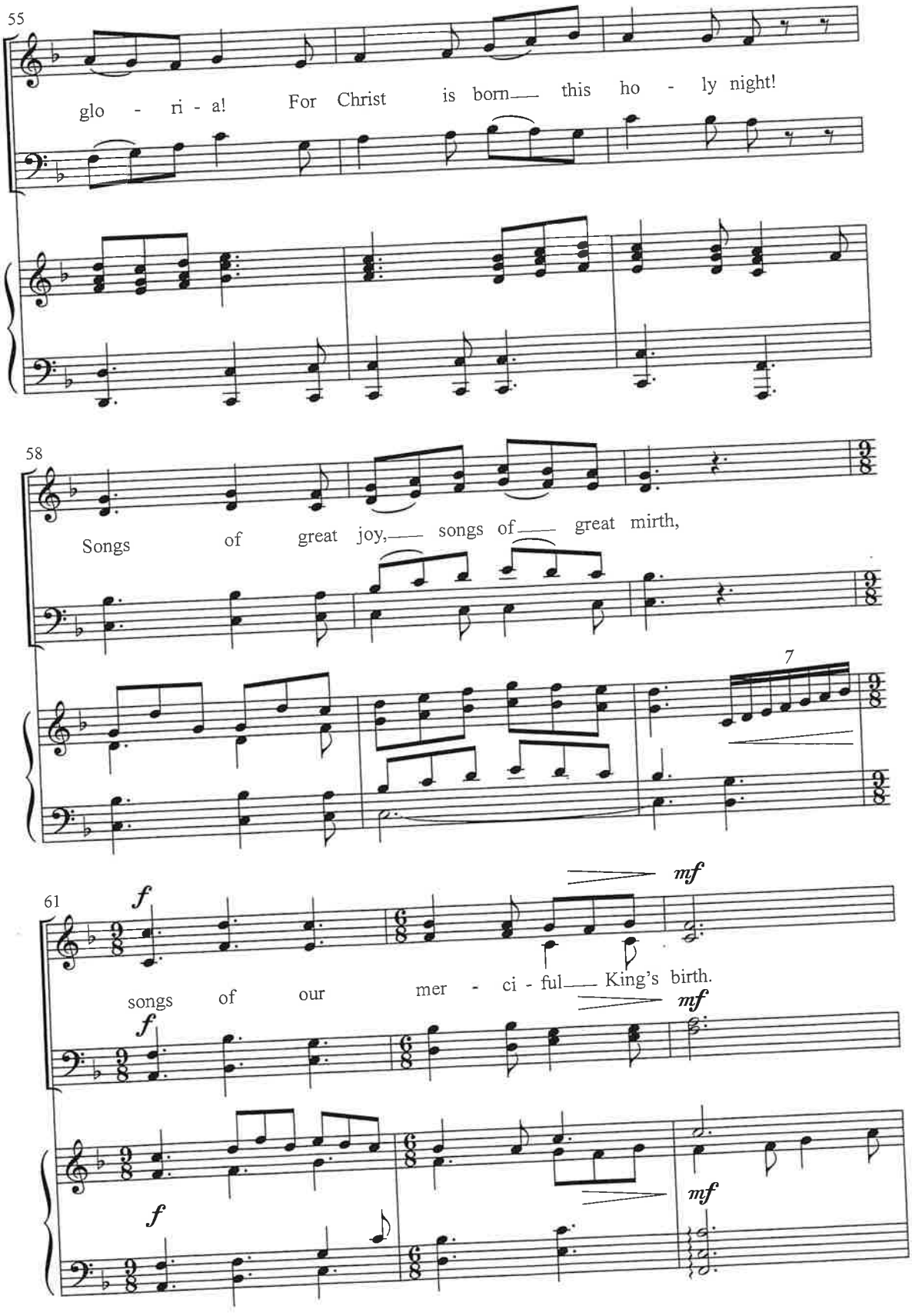
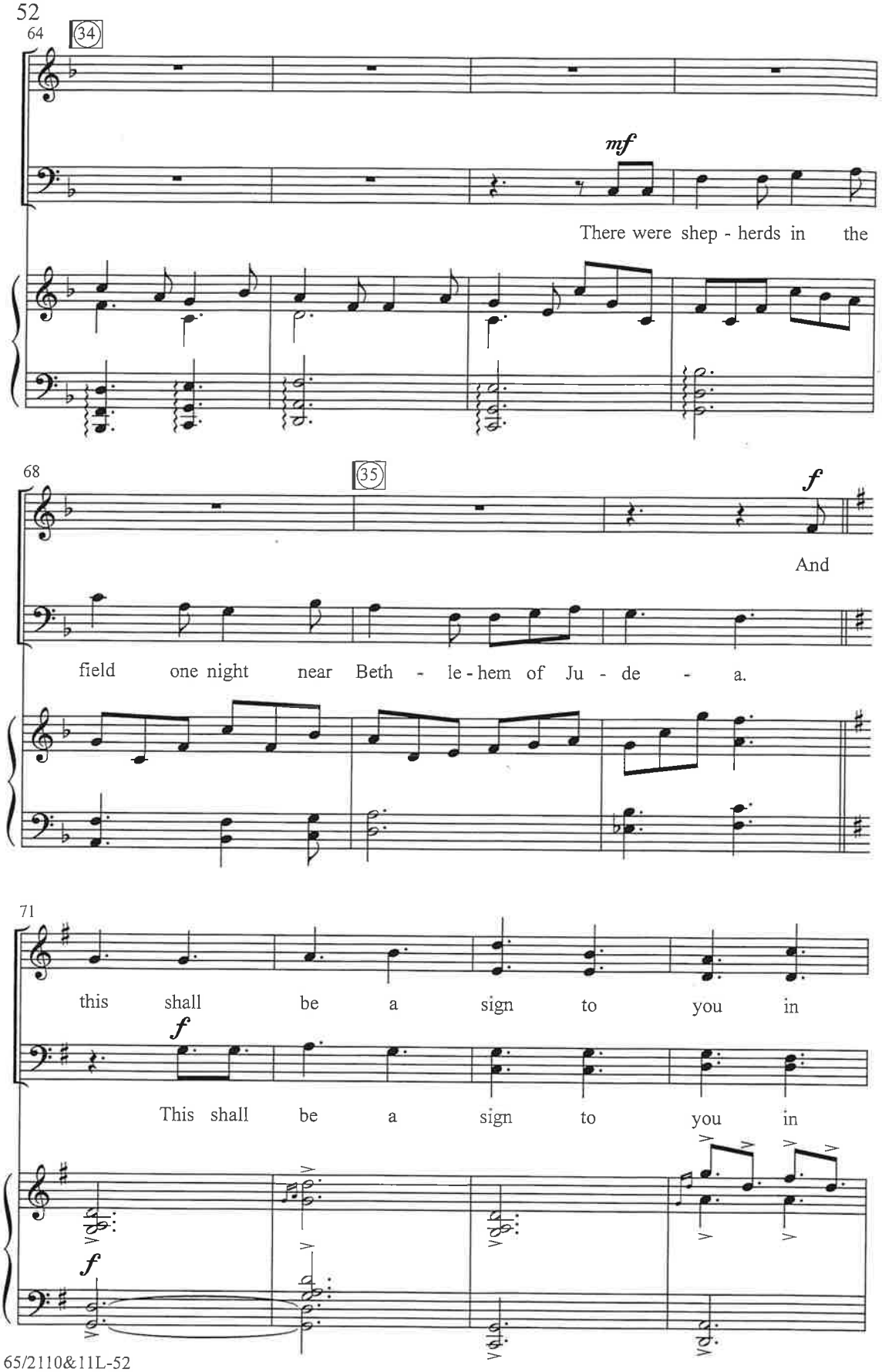

15
field one night near Beth - le-hem, near Beth - le - hem, when
18
31
sud - den-ly the sky shone bright near Beth - le-hem of Ju - de - a.
mp
An
22
an - gel of the Lord ap-peared near Beth - le-hem, near Beth - le-hem, and

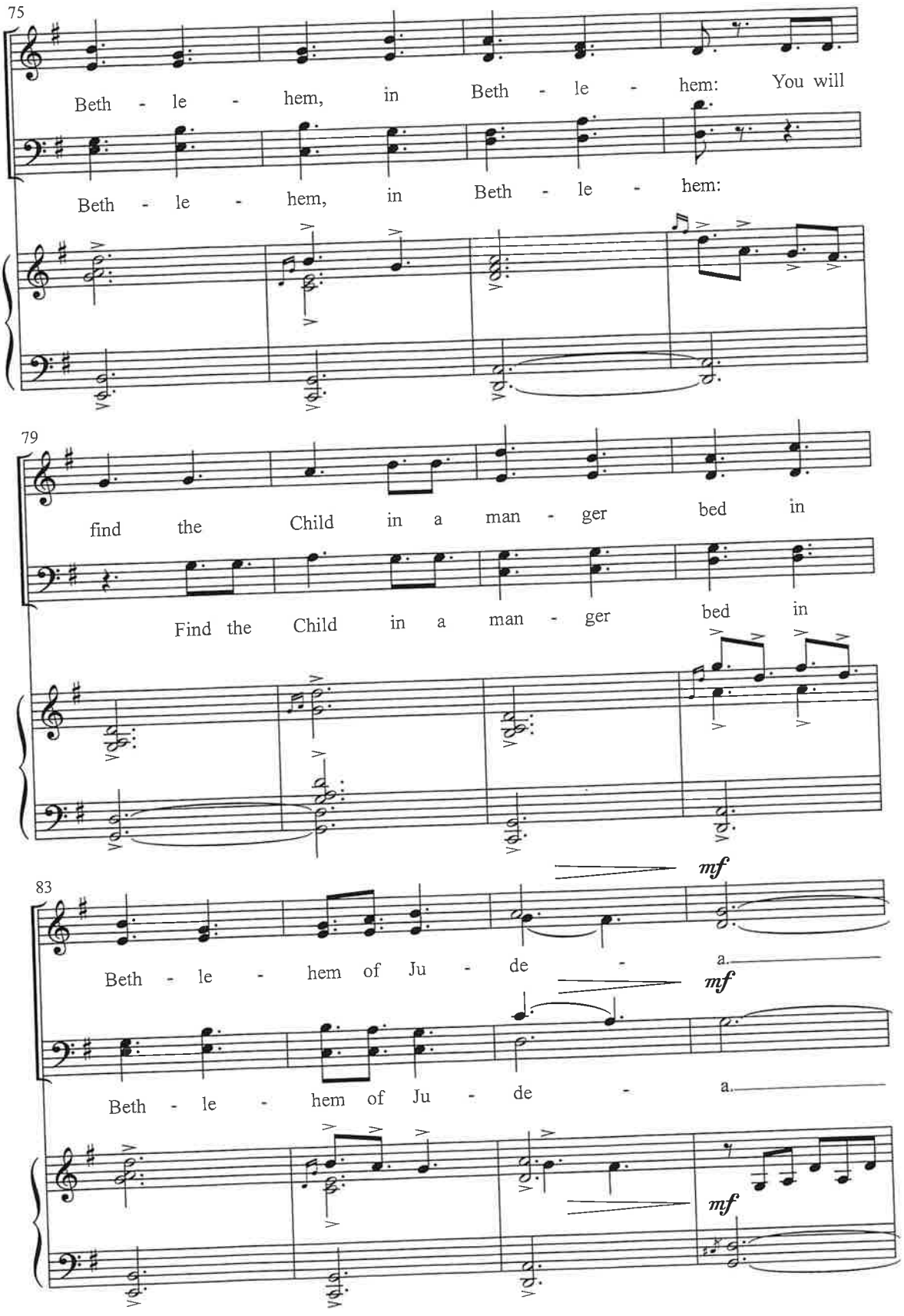

26
said, to them "You need not fear," near Beth - le - hem of Ju -
29
32
de - a.
33
mf
"For un - to you is born this night in
mf
"For un - to you is
mf

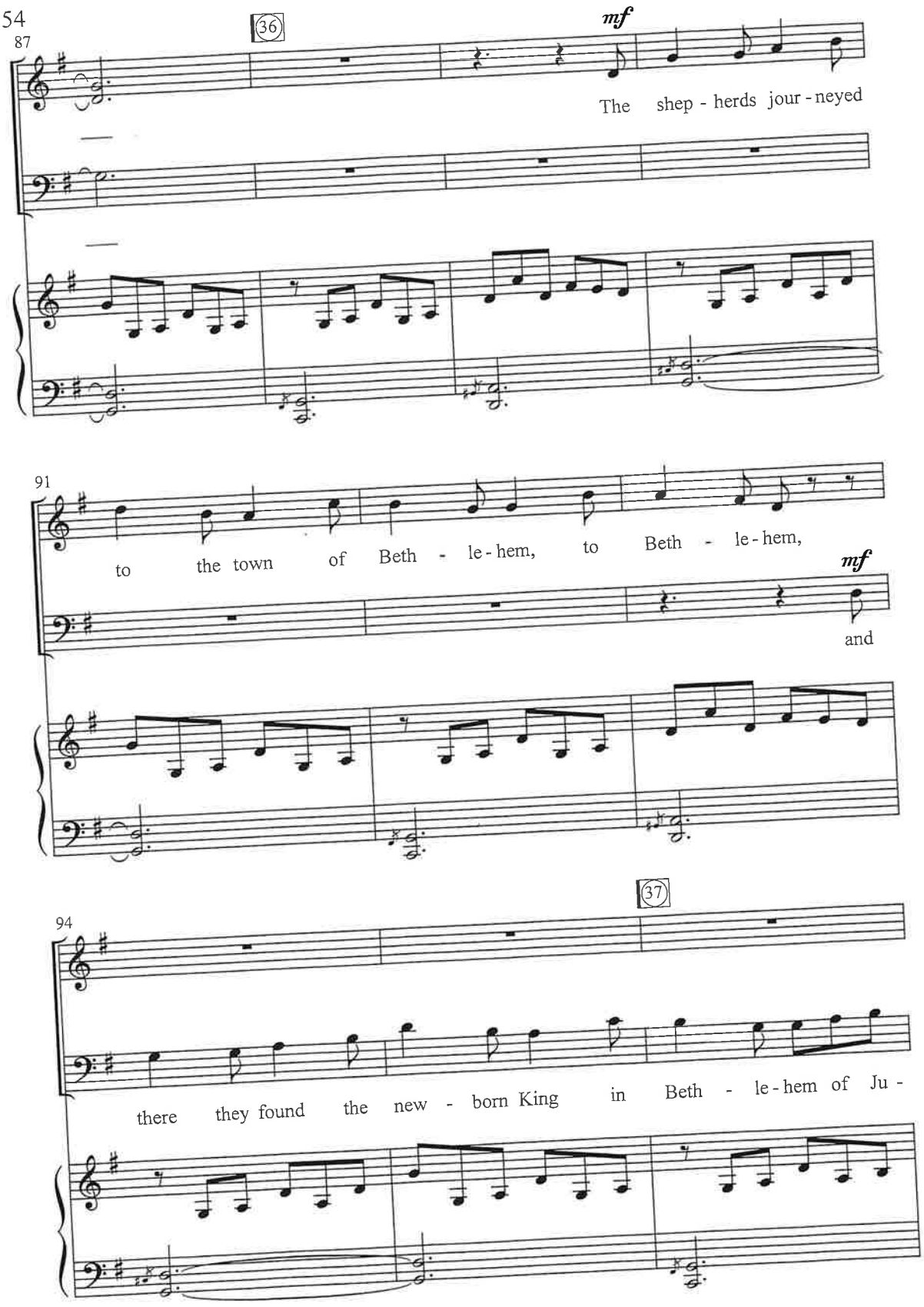

36
Beth - le - hem, in Beth - le - hem, a Sav - ior; He is
born this night in Beth - le - hem, He's
39
Christ the Lord, in Beth - le - hem of Ju - de - a."
Christ the Lord in Beth - le - hem of Ju - de - a."
42
f

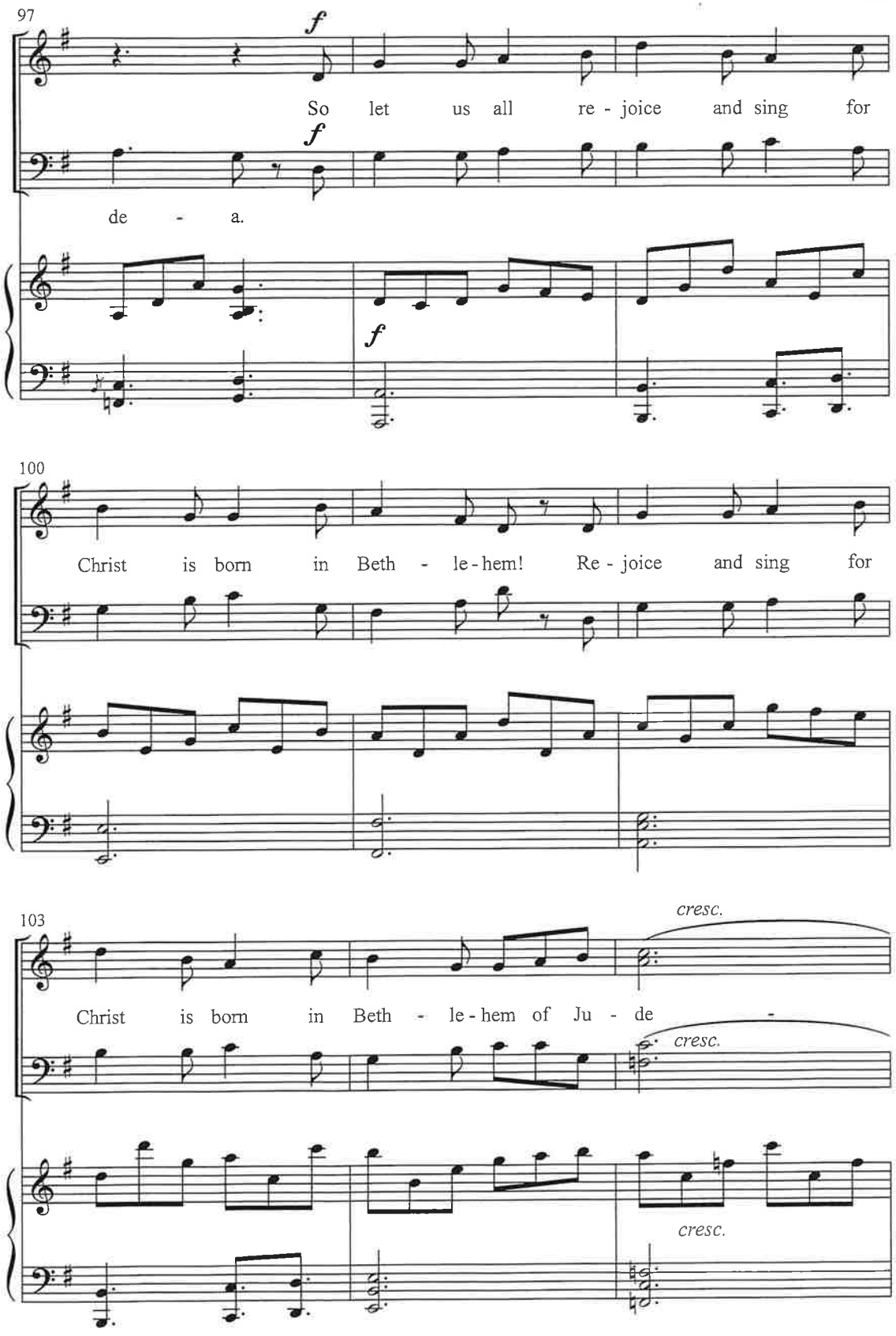

46
33
49
mf
Then sud - den - ly the sky was bright as
mf
mf
52
an - gels glowed with heav'n - ly light. Glo - ri - a! Sing

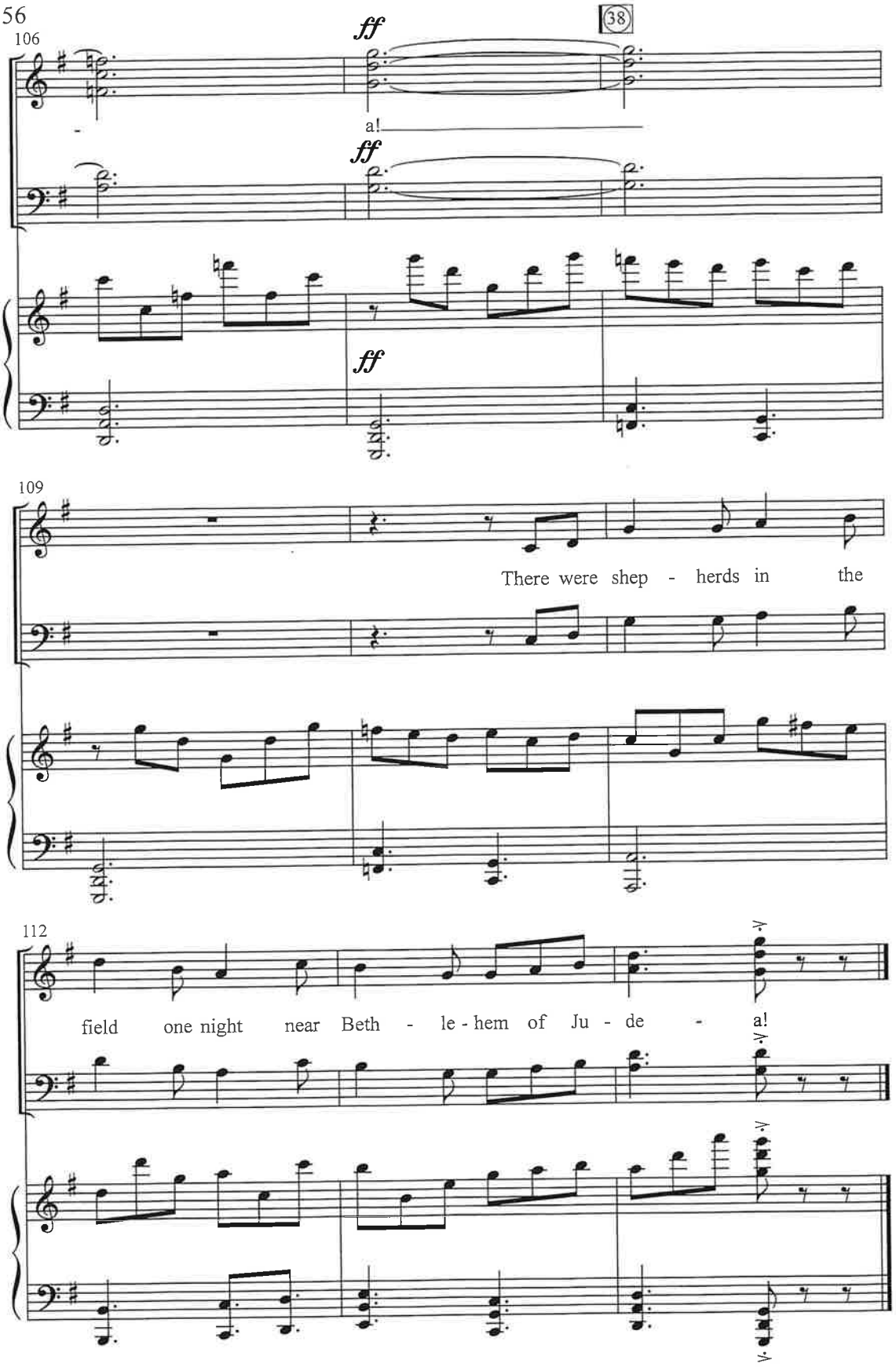

55
glo - ri - a! For Christ is born this ho - ly night!
58
Songs of great joy, songs of great mirth,
7
61
f
mf
songs of our mer - ci - ful King's birth.
f
mf
f
mf


64
34
mf
There were shep - herds in the
68
35
f
And
field one night near Beth - le - hem of Ju - de - a.
71
this shall be a sign to you in
f
This shall be a sign to you in
f


75
Beth - le - hem, in Beth - le - hem: You will
Beth - le - hem, in Beth - le - hem:
79
find the Child in a man - ger bed in
Find the Child in a man - ger bed in
83
mf
Beth - le - hem of Ju - de - a.
mf
Beth - le - hem of Ju - de - a.
mf


87
36
mf
The shep - herds jour - neyed
91
to the town of Beth - le - hem, to Beth - le - hem,
mf
and
94
37
there they found the new - born King in Beth - le - hem of Ju -


97
f
So let us all re - joice and sing for
f
de - a.
f
100
Christ is born in Beth - le - hem! Re - joice and sing for
103
cresc.
Christ is born in Beth - le - hem of Ju - de -
cresc.
cresc.


106
38
ff
a!
ff
ff
109
There were shep - herds in the
112
field one night near Beth - le - hem of Ju - de - a!

Narration 5

Narrator 2: The best news the shepherds ever heard came in lights, proclamations, and songs from angels in the night sky. This is what started them down the road. But it was not just the journey that changed them; it was the Person at the end of it.

Narrator 1: As they walked toward this promised King, they may have discussed what it would take to get a chance to see Him. Would they be permitted? They knew they weren't a well-respected group. Would they be turned away?

Narrator 2: What a surprise, to find what they found: a scene they could easily enter and knew much about. There was no guard at the door; just a few sheep, which made them laugh. Oh, this is not a normal King. This is a King for us!

Narrator 1: In the quiet, in the stillness, there among the hay, they held and beheld Him: Jesus. This endless God made Himself small enough to hold. How could it be? And yet it was, here in Bethlehem. ***(music begins)***

Narration 6

Narrator 2: The Magi came later, with no sweet songs on their lips or promises to follow. King Herod sent them to find this promised Messiah. Herod said he wanted to worship Him. But even as he spoke, the Magi sensed the lie in his words.

Narrator 1: How could a person start on a road marked with suspicion, deception, and destruction, and end anywhere else? Herod set them on that dark path, but it was a star in the sky that lit their way.

Narrator 2: It was a star in the sky that replaced their suspicion with joy. It was a star in the sky that illuminated Jesus' small face; God's great love.

Narrator 1: They gave their gifts freely. They knelt at His small feet. They heard the voice of God in His small words. They felt the love of God in His small presence. Having seen and heard, they left Bethlehem. But Bethlehem never left their hearts. Every path leads to God when it is God you are following. ***(music begins)***