God For Us

Cantata
In Honor of
The Rev. Dr. Helmut Koester

Bruce Brolsma

Full Score Edition

This cantata has been commissioned by University Lutheran Church (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America), Cambridge, Massachusetts, on the occasion of the 80th birthday of the Rev. Dr. Helmut Koester.

The text is based on Romans 8:31-39, at the request of Dr. Koester. I found it to be rich in meaning and musical potential.

Dr. Koester is Professor Emeritus of New Testament at Harvard Divinity School. I have been honored to know him personally for many years as he has made wonderful and important contributions to the congregational life of University Lutheran Church. I look forward to many more years of his loving service and deep wisdom.

Bruce Brolsma
Tewksbury, Massachusetts USA

Summer 2006

Performance Notes

Resources and timing, by movement, are as follows:

1. *God For Us. Chorus.*
   3 min 45 sec
2. *The Very Son of God. Soprano, Tenor, and Chorus.*
   2 min 25 sec
3. *Who Can Object? Soprano, Tenor, Bass, and Chorus.*
   2 min 30 sec
4. *As It Is Written. Soprano, Tenor, and Bass.*
   3 min 30 sec
5. *In All These Things. Soprano and Chorus.*
   3 min 5 sec

Total performance time: About 17 minutes.
Instruments (all movements): Violin I, Violin II, Cello, Organ.

Two performance editions have been prepared. The first edition is for rehearsal and/or piano-only accompaniment. The second is an expanded, full-score edition that includes instrumental parts. Individual parts have also been prepared.

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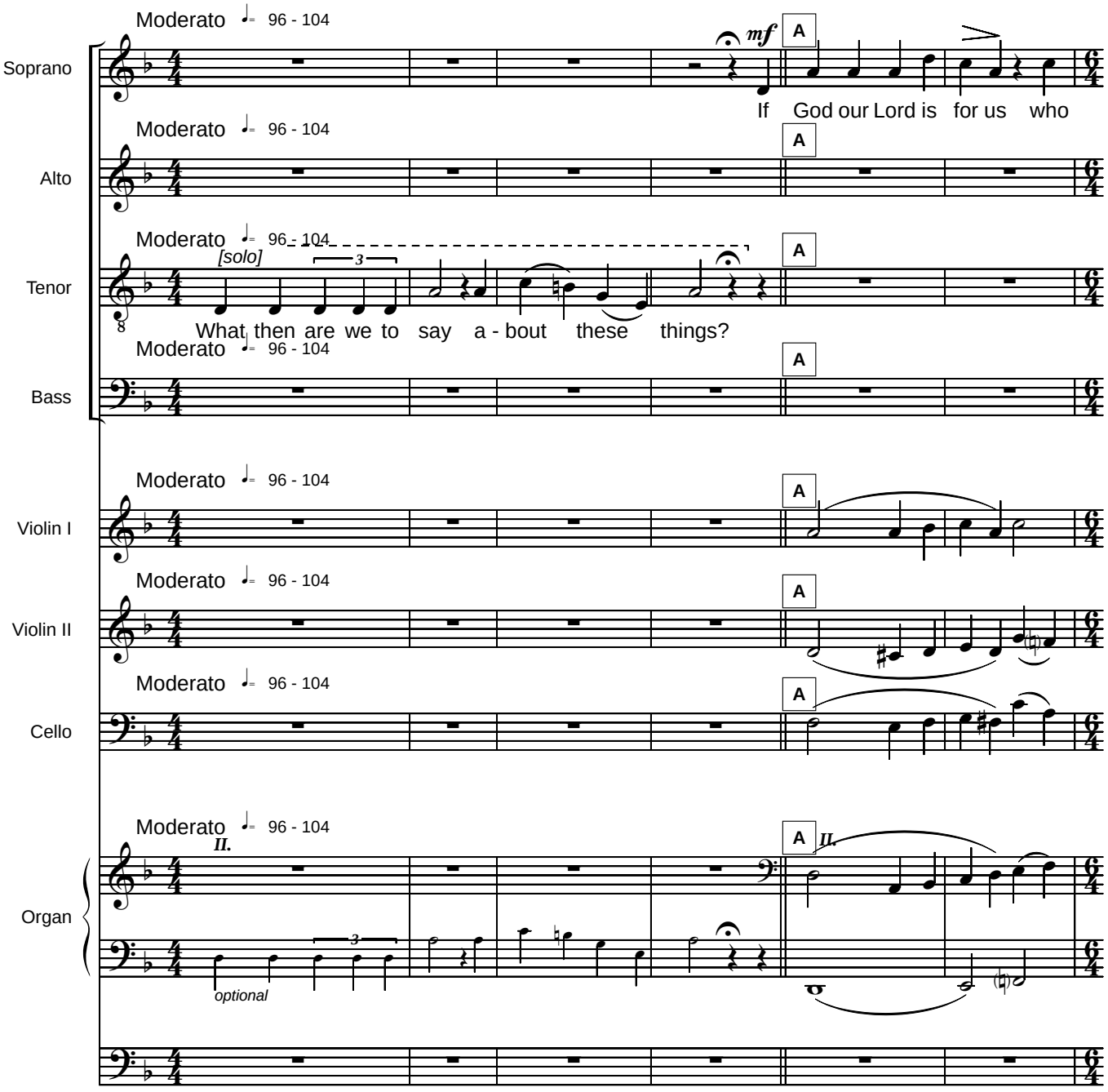
Full Score

1. God for Us

Choir

Bruce Brolsma



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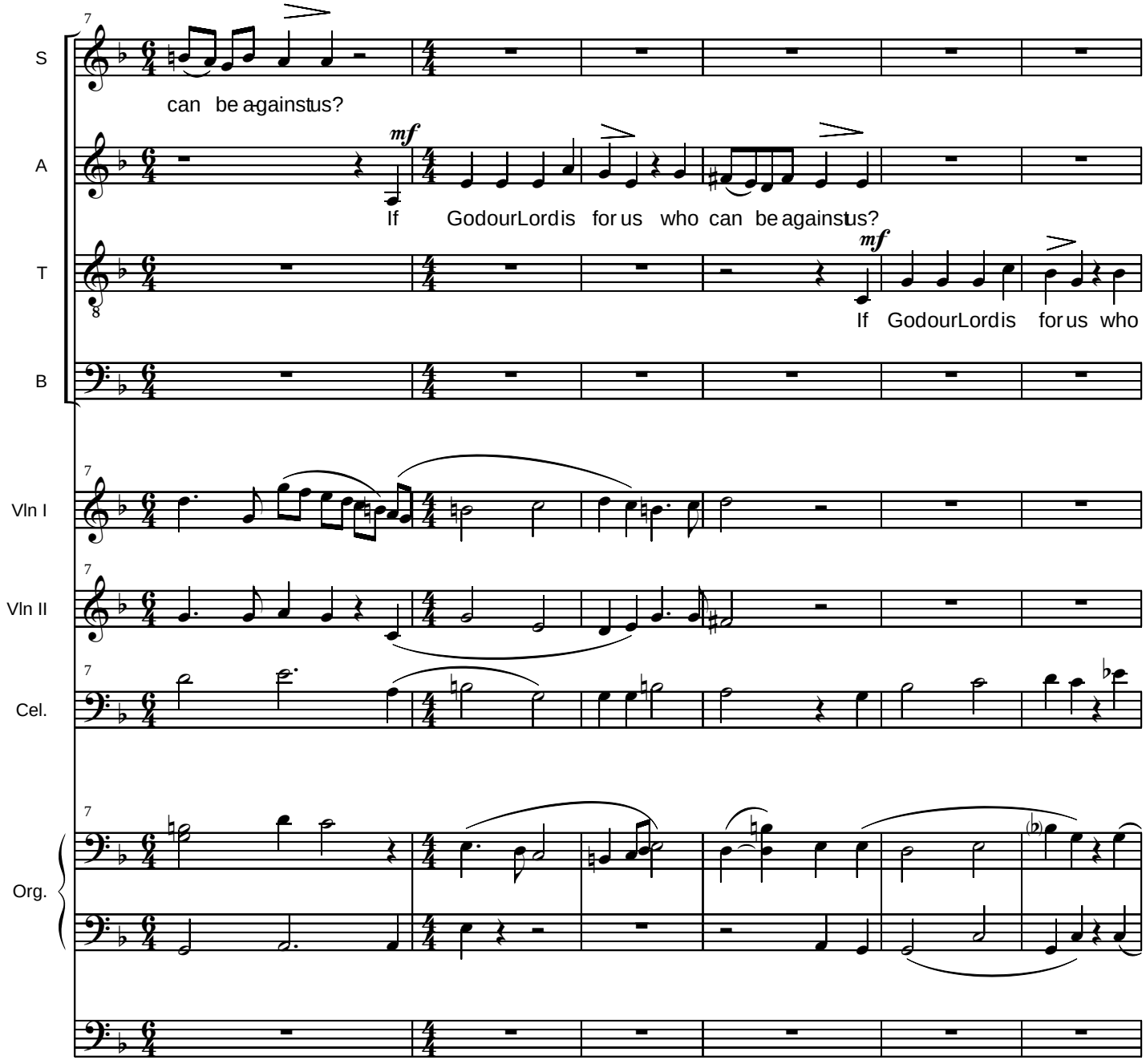
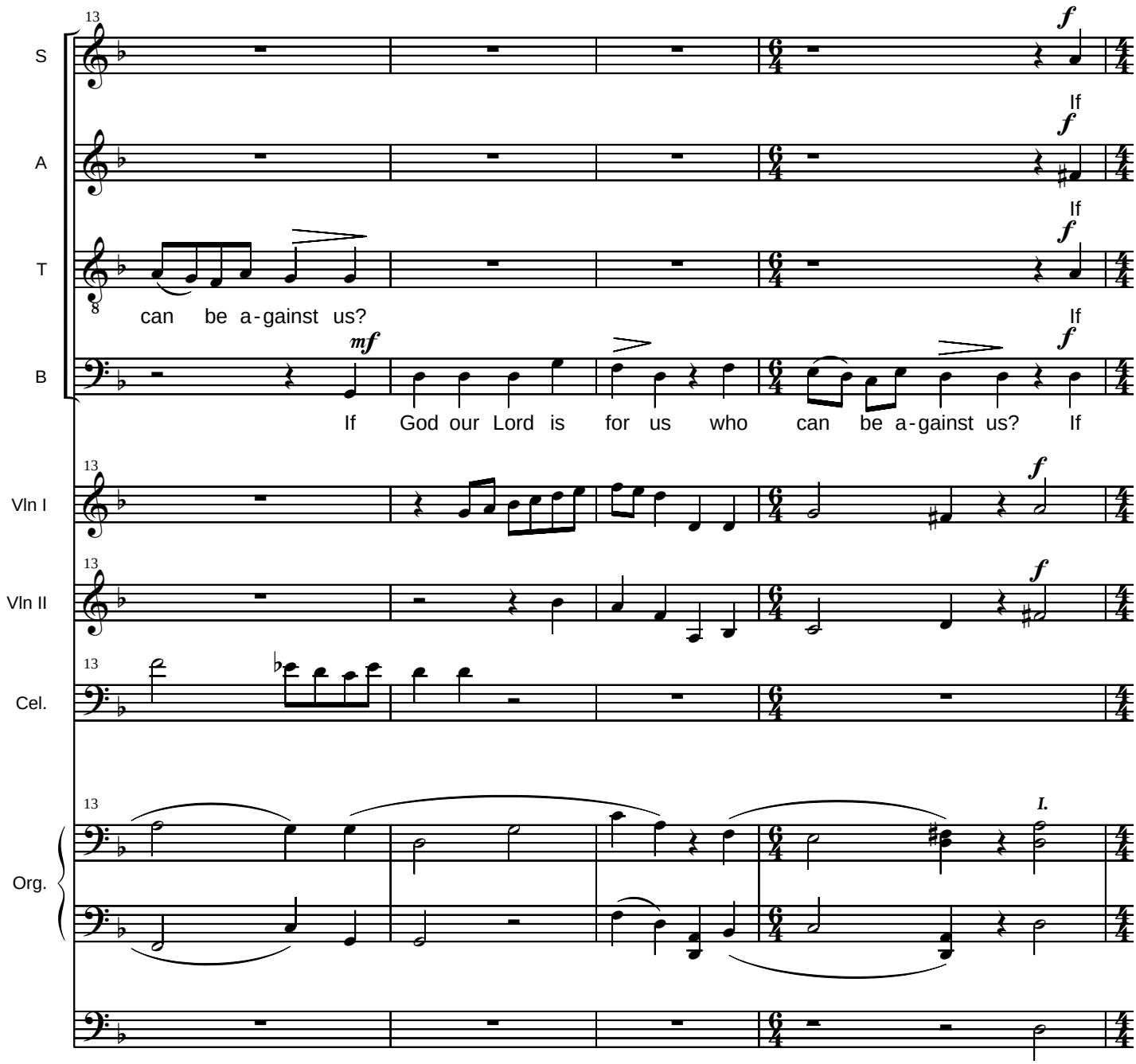
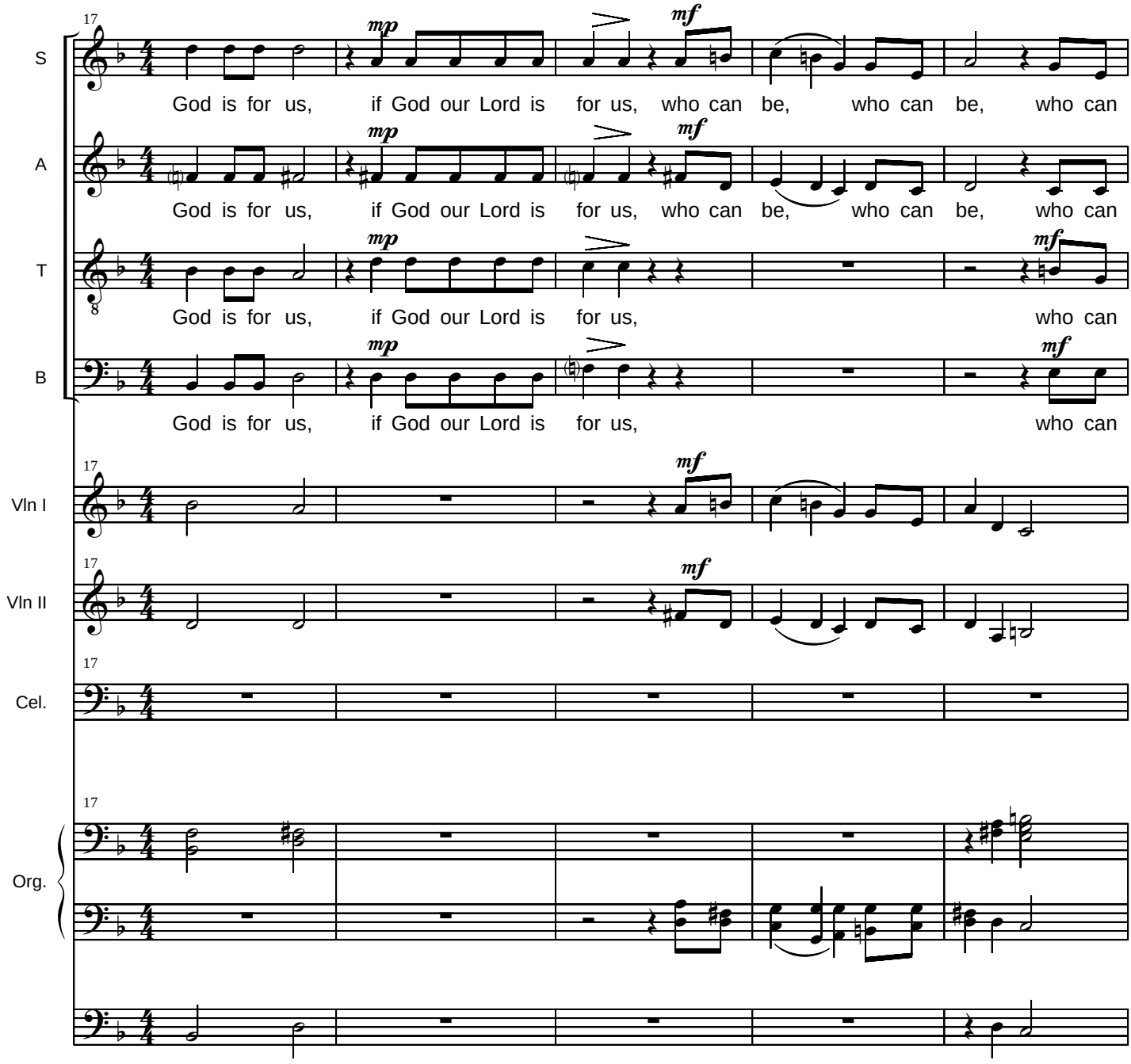
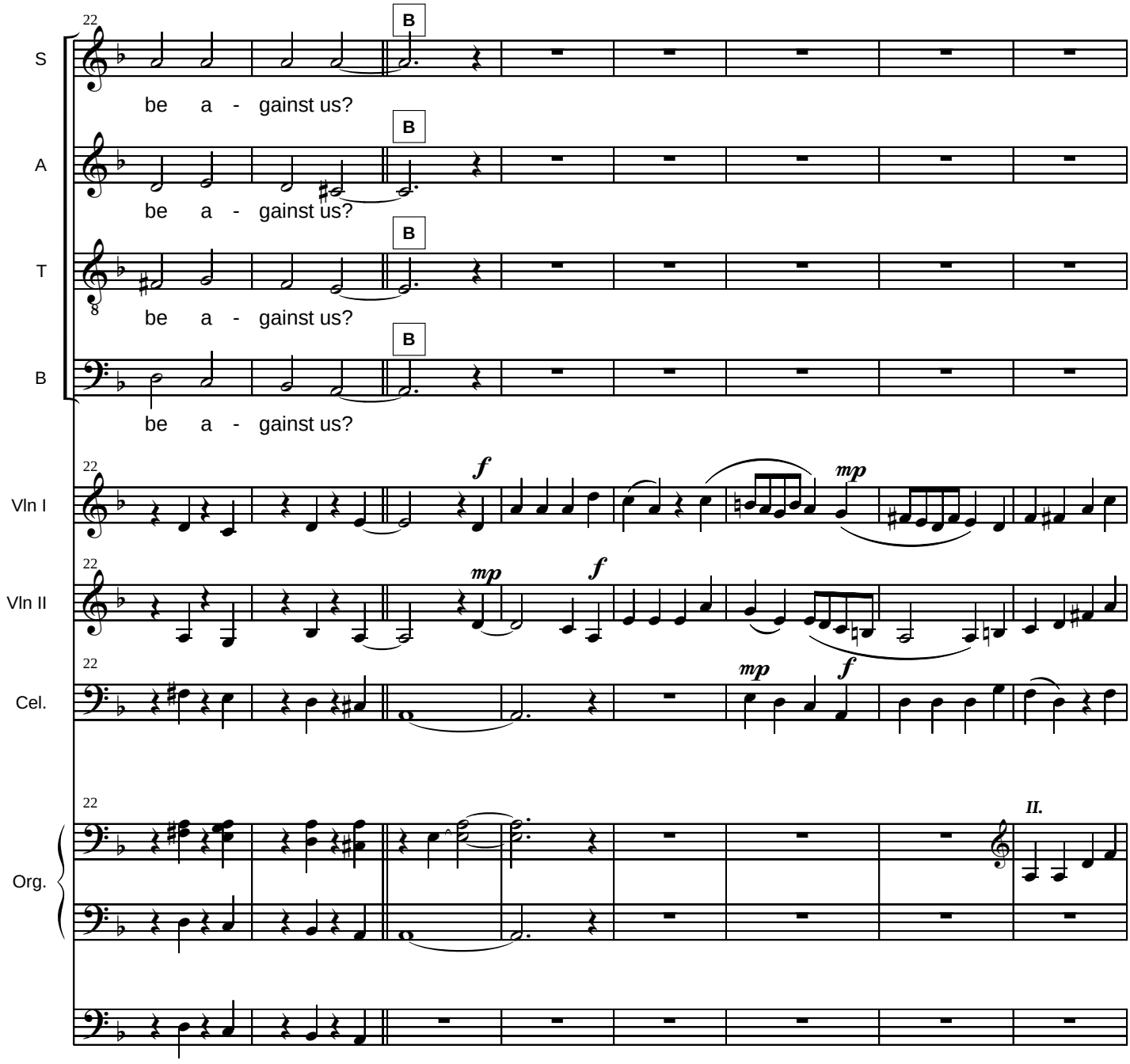
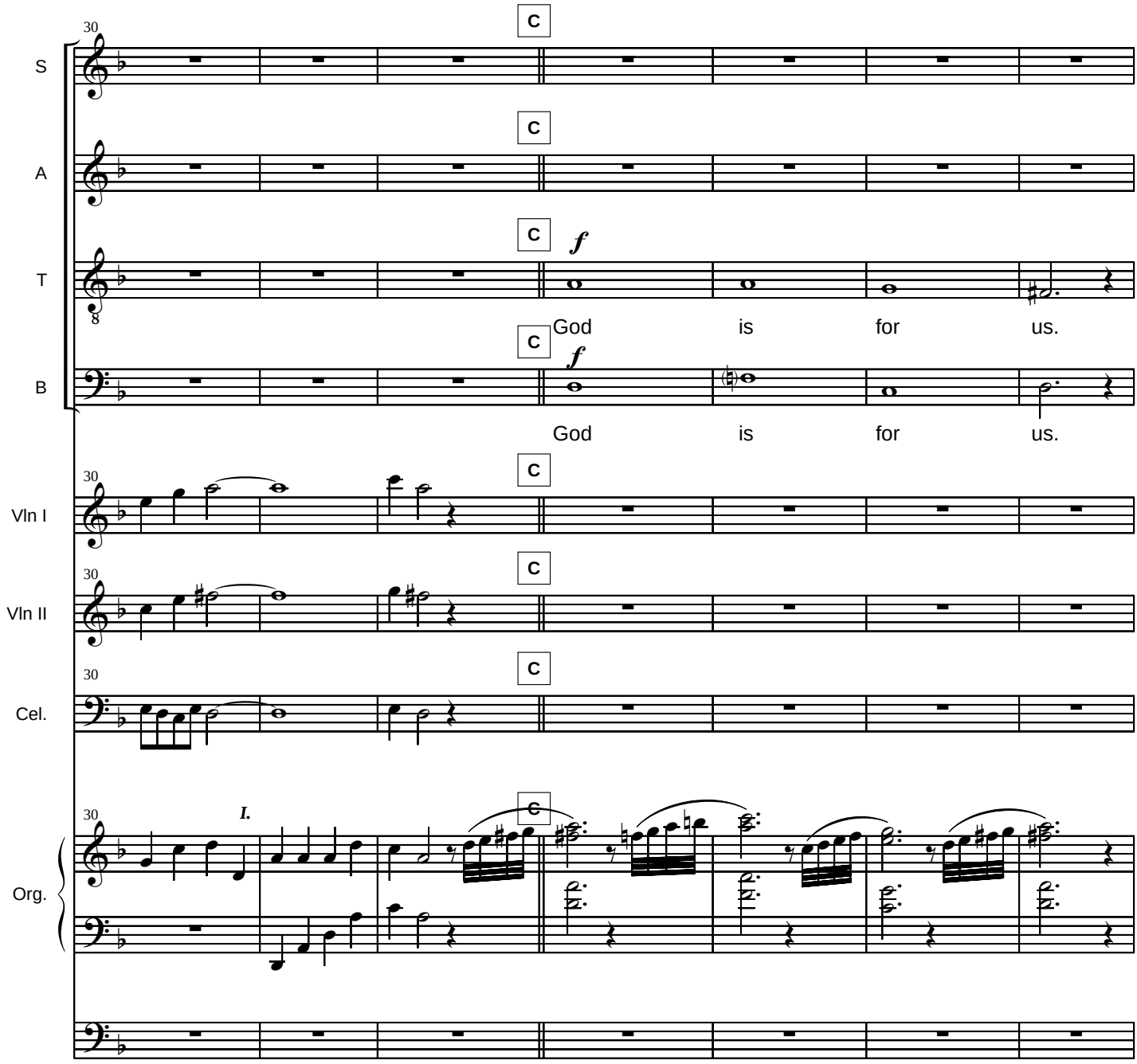
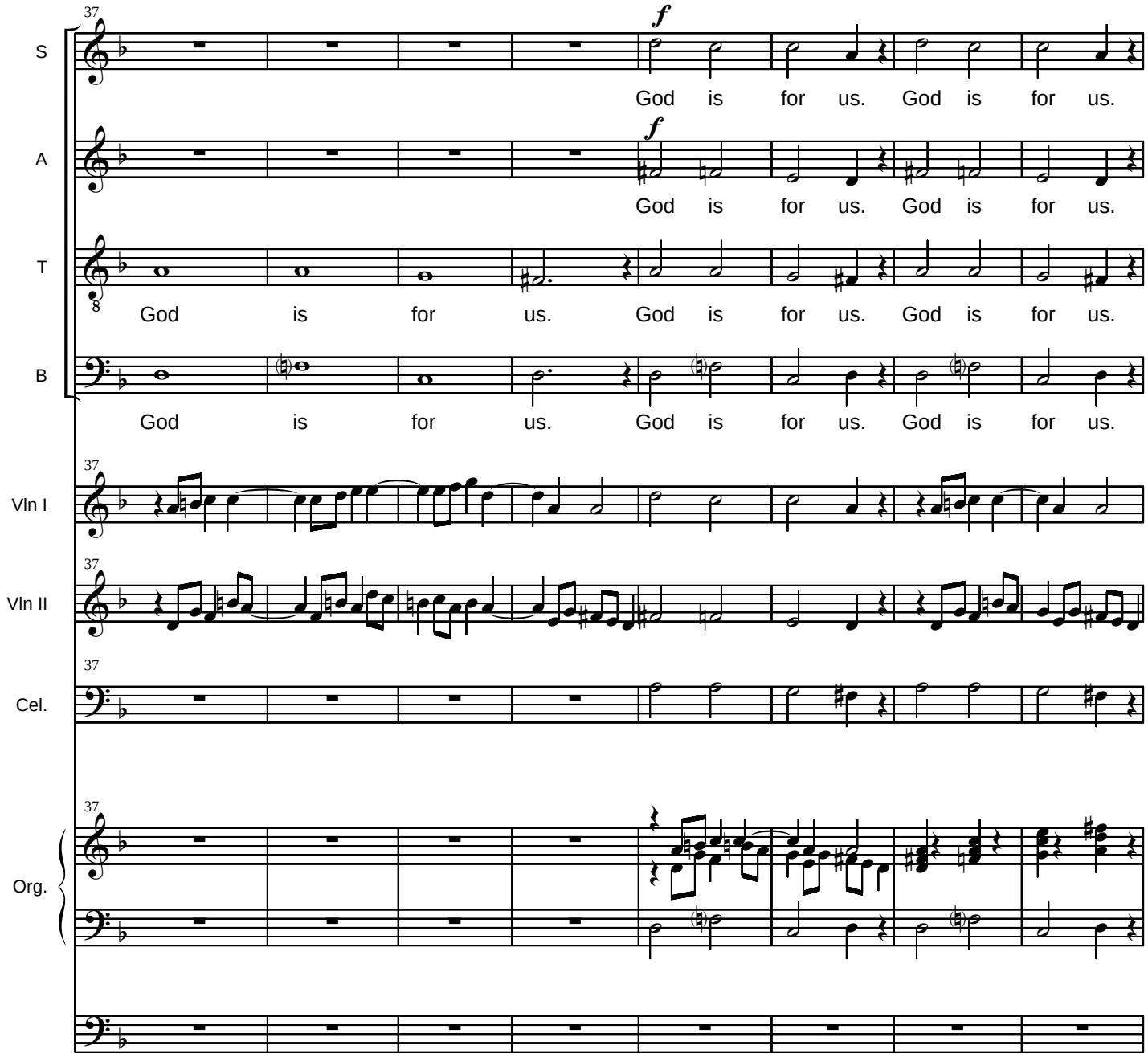

S
A
T
B
Vln I
Vln II
Cel.
Org.
7
can be against us?
mf
If God our Lord is for us who can be against us?
mf
If God our Lord is for us who

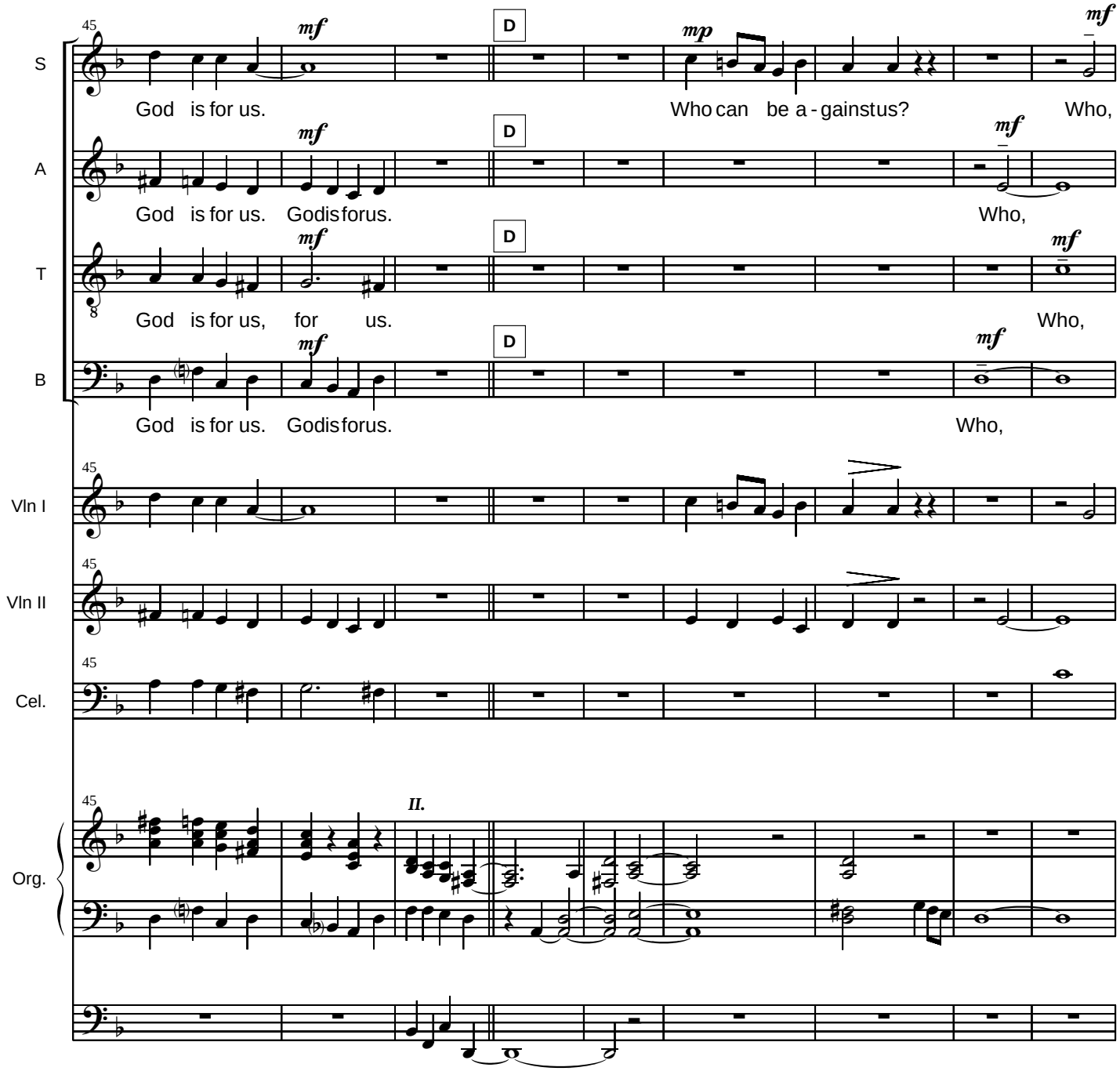

13
S
A
T
B
Vln I
Vln II
Cel.
Org.
f
If
mf
can be a-gainst us?
If God our Lord is for us who can be a-gainst us? If
I.

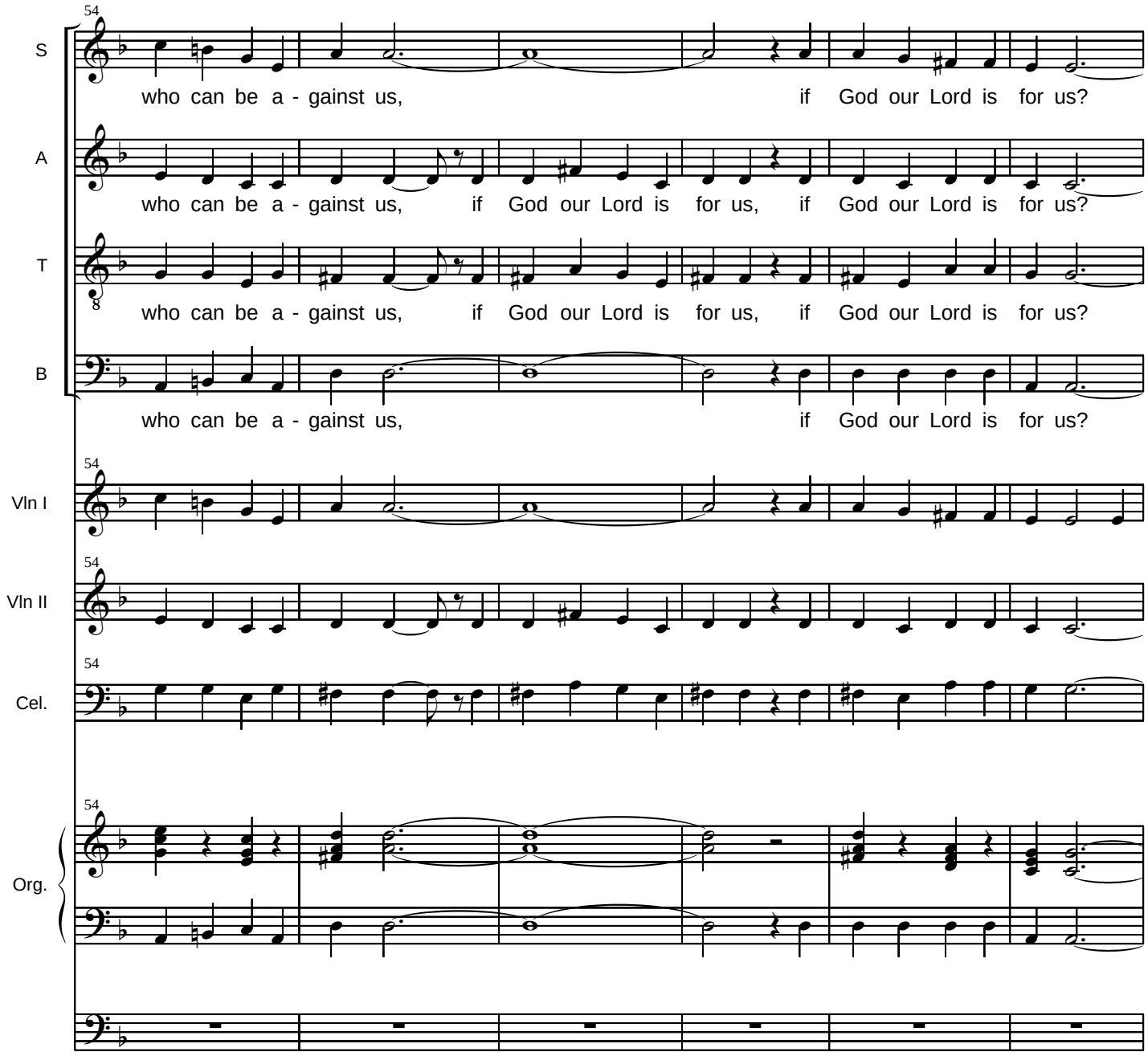

17
S
A
T
B
mp
mf
God is for us, if God our Lord is for us, who can be, who can be, who can
God is for us, if God our Lord is for us, who can be, who can be, who can
God is for us, if God our Lord is for us, who can
God is for us, if God our Lord is for us, who can
Vln I
Vln II
Cel.
Org.

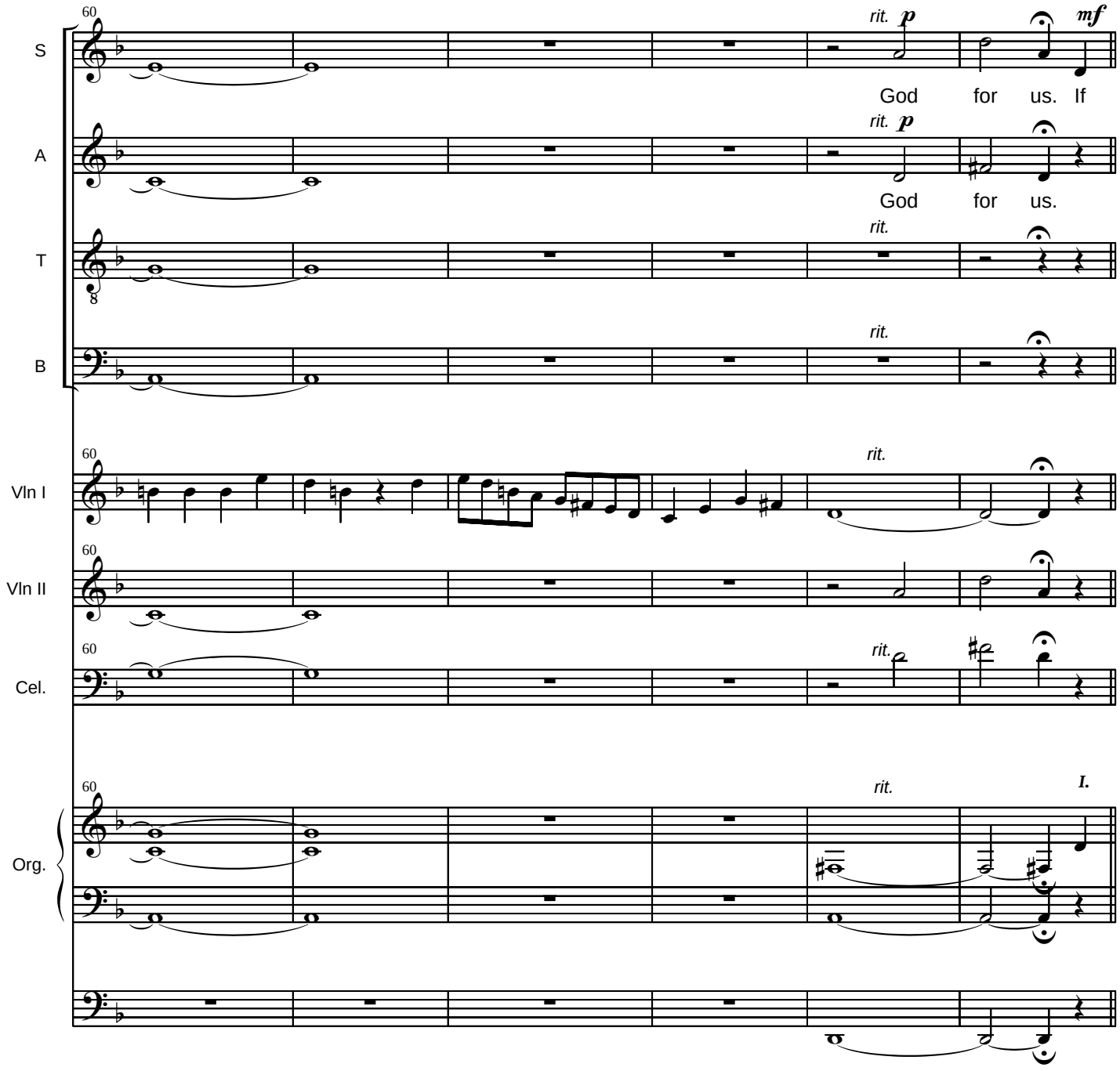

22
B
S
be a - gainst us?
A
be a - gainst us?
T
be a - gainst us?
B
be a - gainst us?
Vln I
f
mp
Vln II
mp
f
Cel.
mp
f
Org.
II.

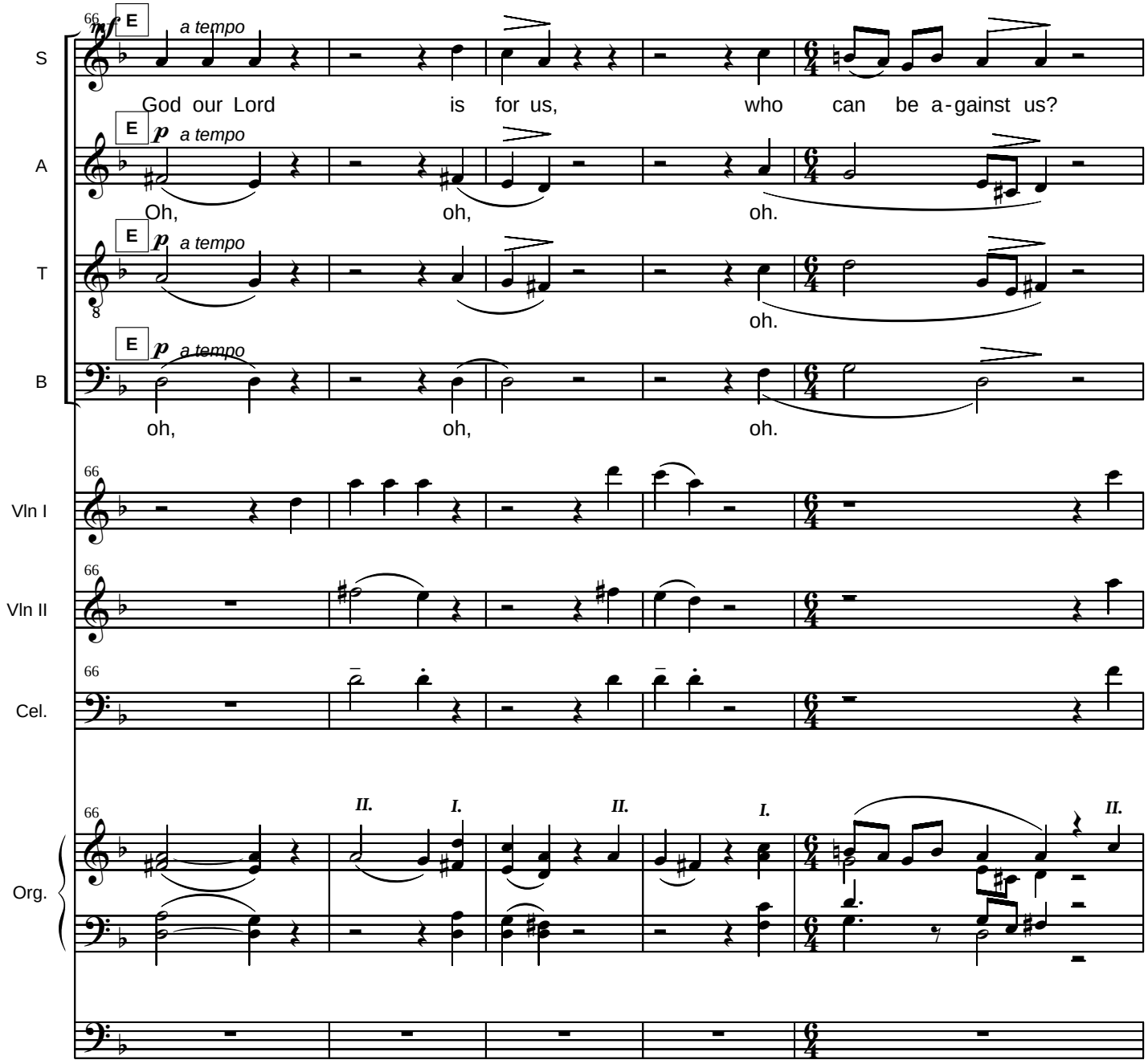

30
C
S
A
T
B
f
God is for us.
Vln I
Vln II
Cel.
Org.
I.

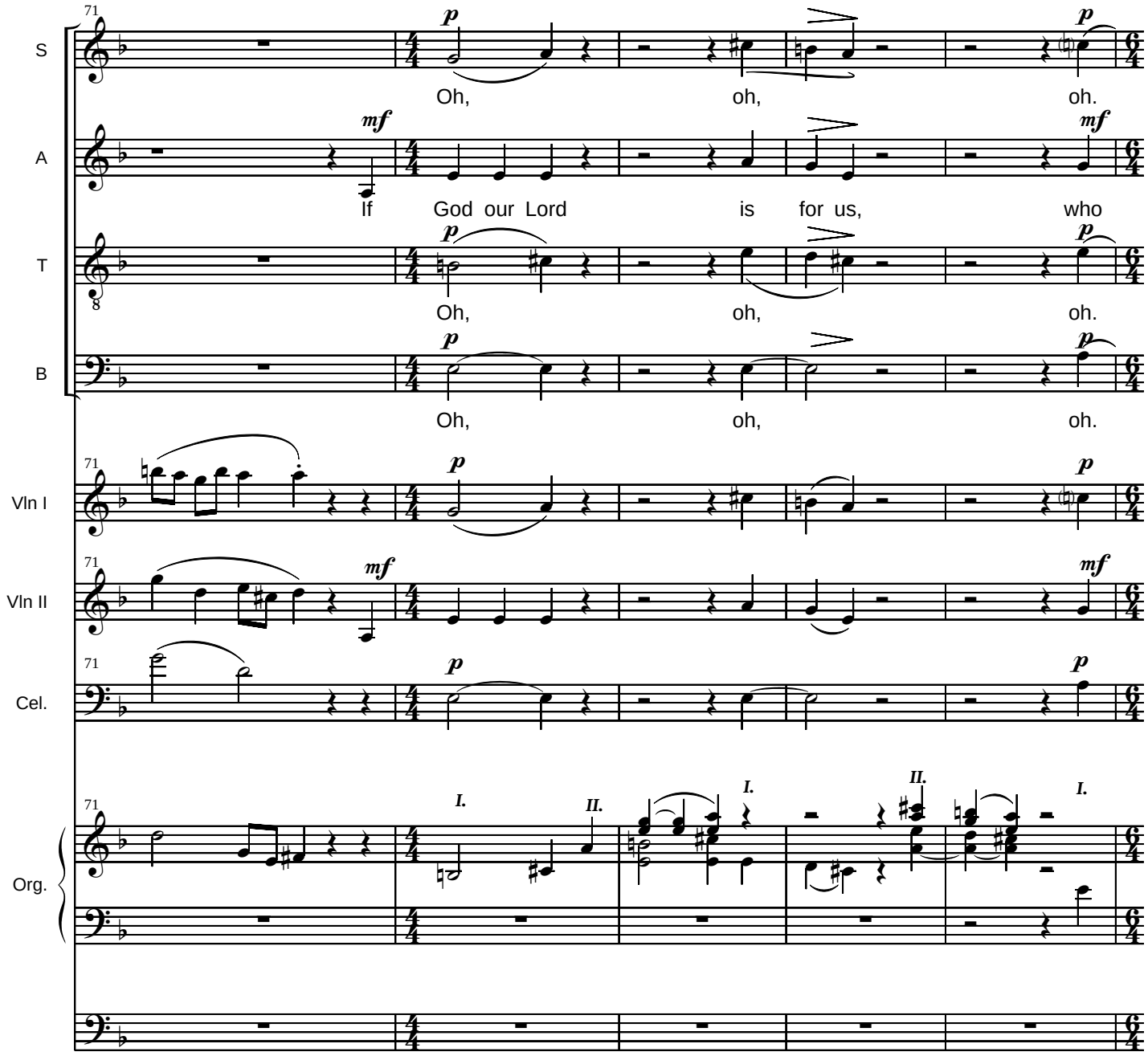

37
S
A
T
B
Vln I
Vln II
Cel.
Org.
f
God is for us. God is for us.
God is for us. God is for us.
God is for us. God is for us. God is for us.
God is for us. God is for us. God is for us.

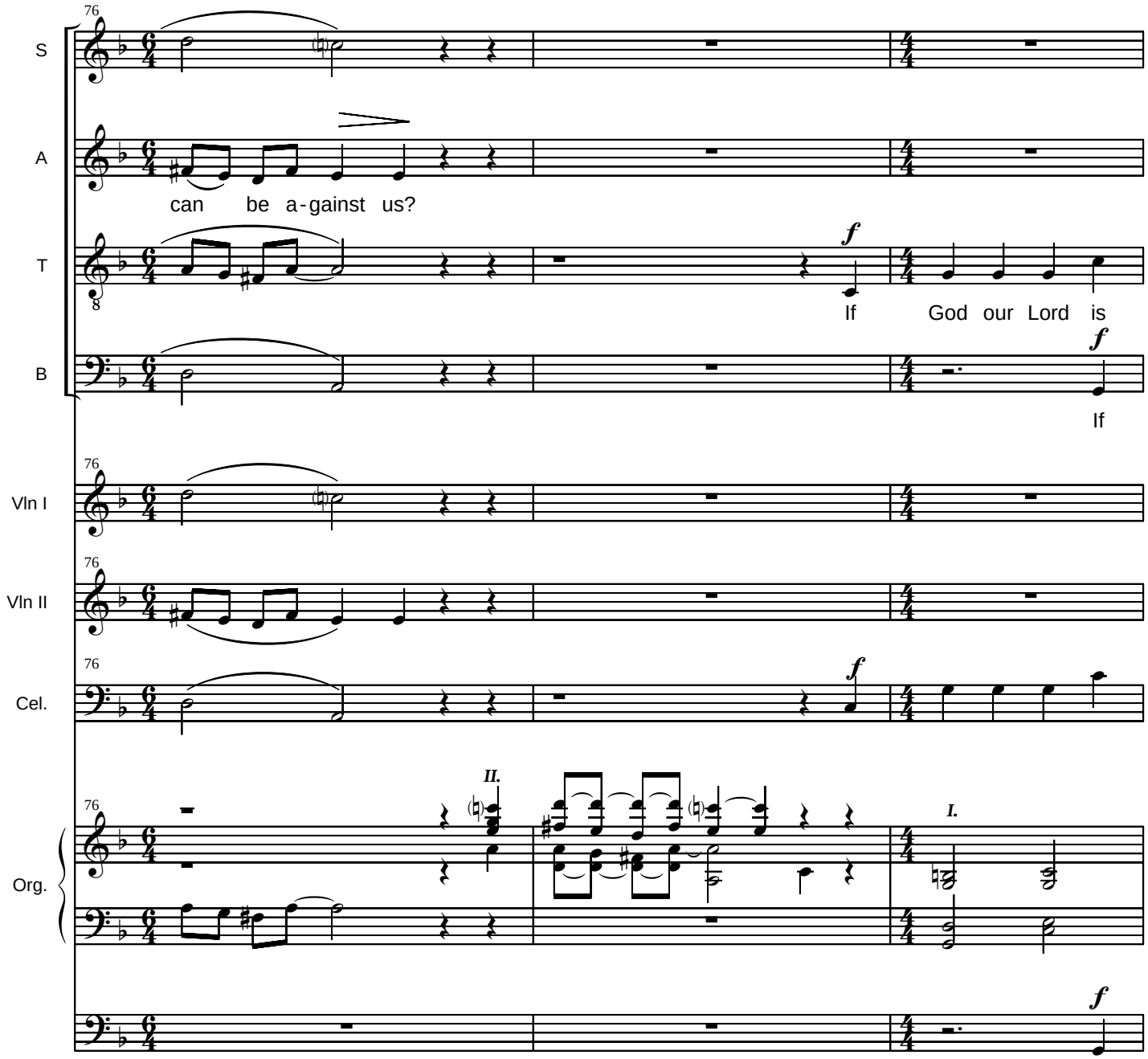

S
A
T
B
Vln I
Vln II
Cel.
Org.
45
D
mf
mp
II.
God is for us.
God is for us. God is for us.
God is for us, for us.
God is for us. God is for us.
Who can be a - gainst us?
Who,

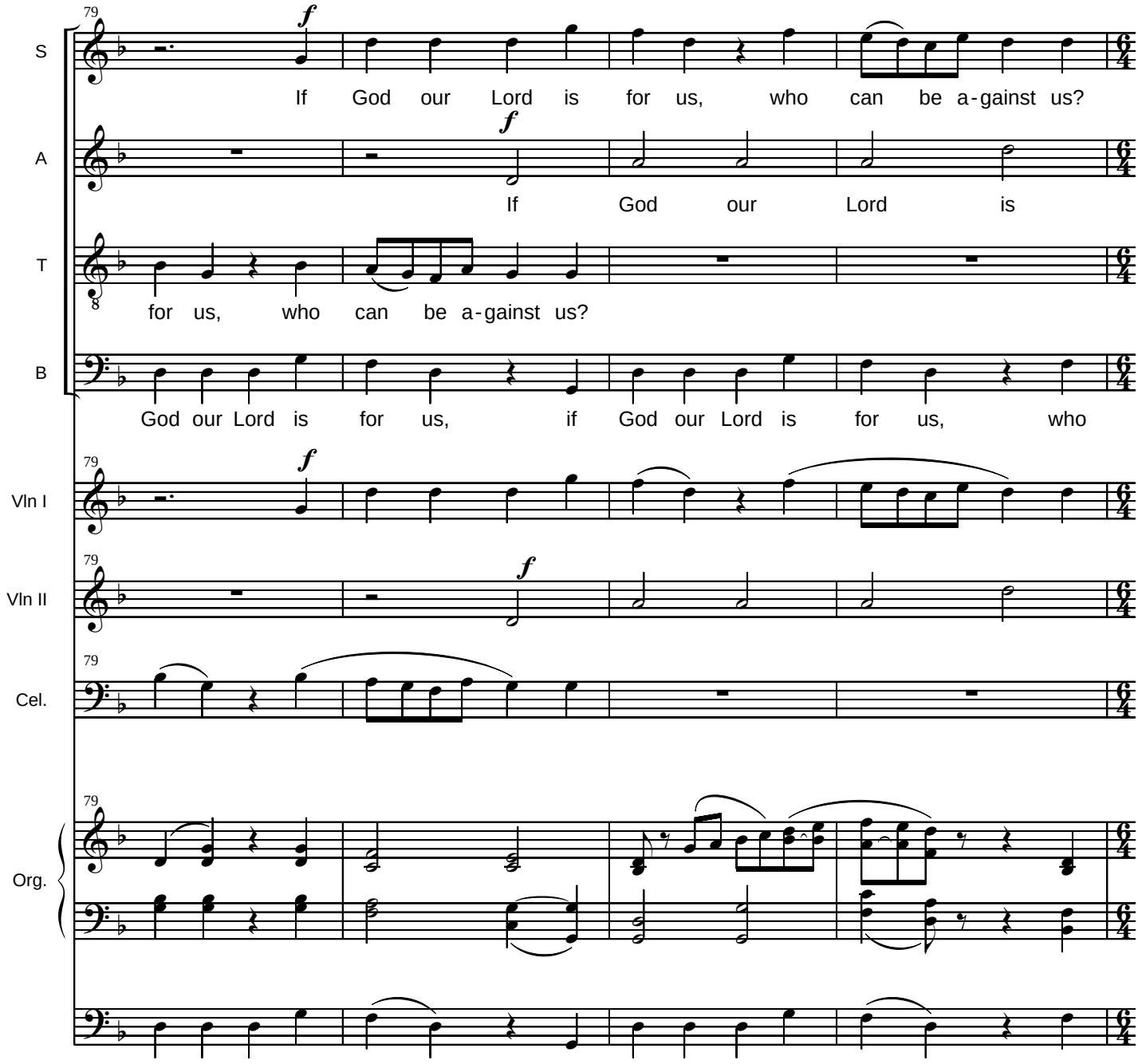

54
S
who can be a - gainst us, if God our Lord is for us?
A
who can be a - gainst us, if God our Lord is for us, if God our Lord is for us?
T
8
who can be a - gainst us, if God our Lord is for us, if God our Lord is for us?
B
who can be a - gainst us, if God our Lord is for us?
54
Vln I
54
Vln II
54
Cel.
54
Org.

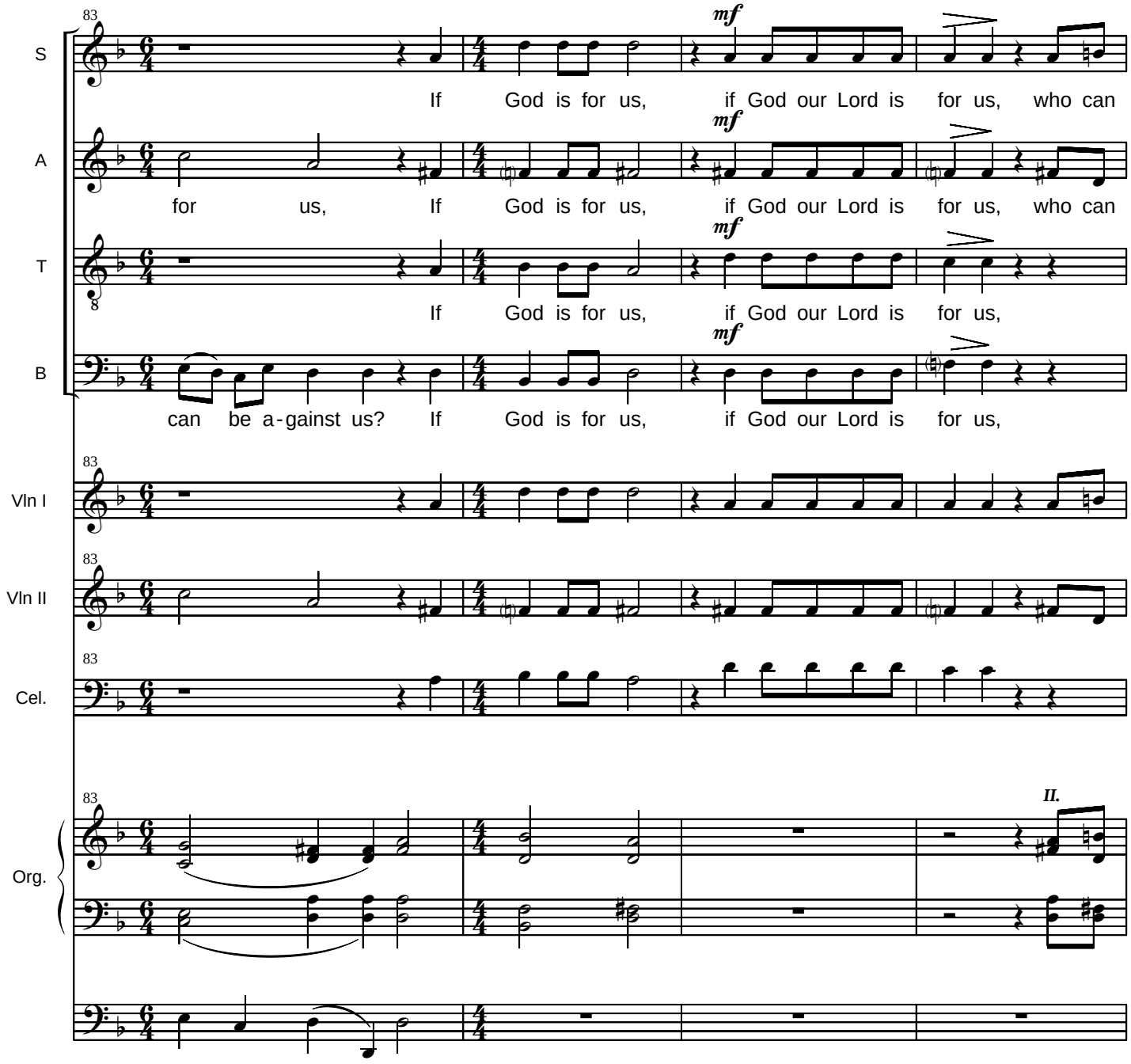

60
S
A
T
B
Vln I
Vln II
Cel.
Org.
rit.
p
mf
God for us. If
God for us.
I.

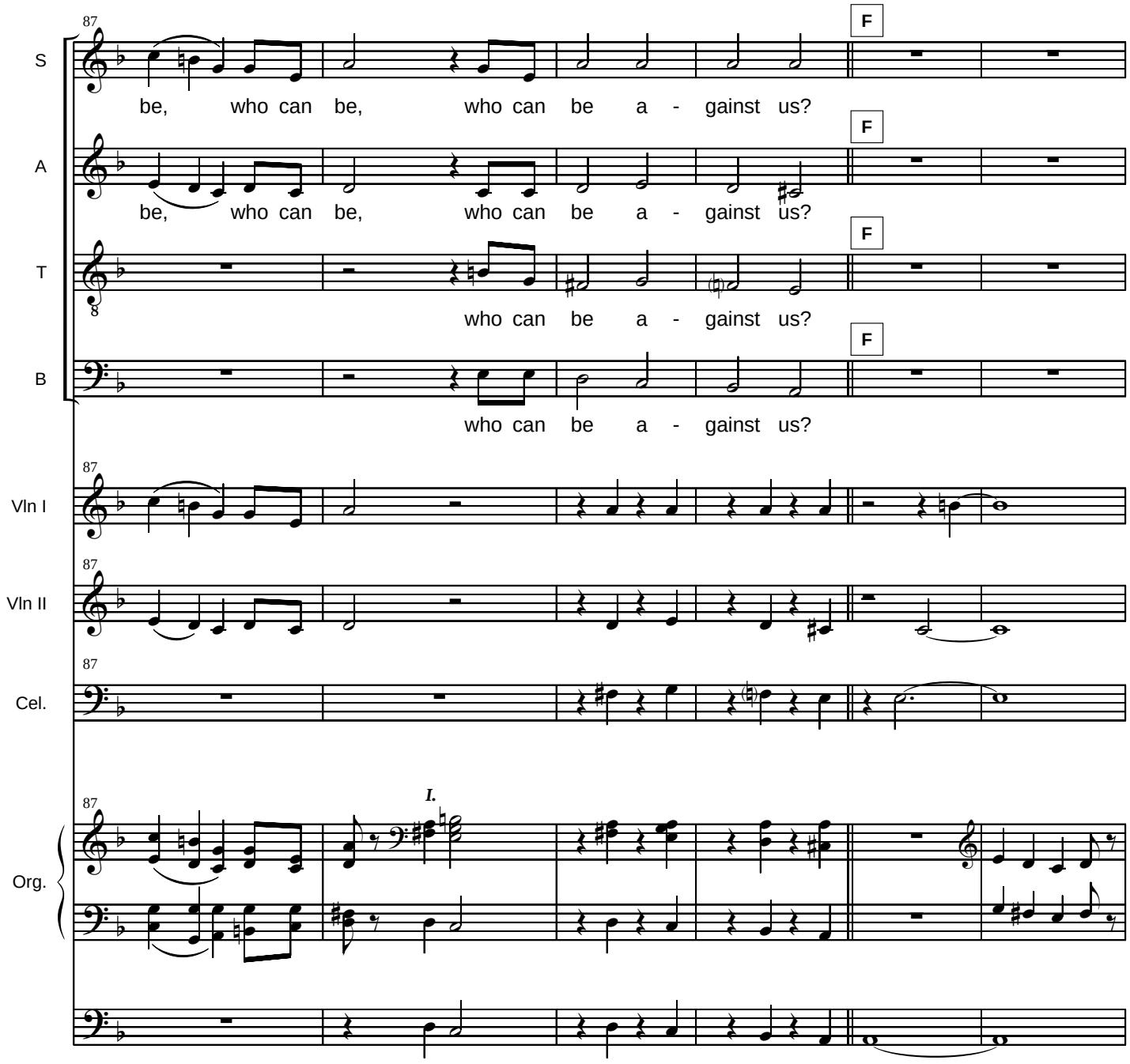

66
E
a tempo
S
God our Lord is for us, who can be a-gainst us?
A
Oh, oh, oh.
T
oh.
B
oh, oh, oh.
Vln I
Vln II
Cel.
Org.
II.
I.
II.
I.
II.

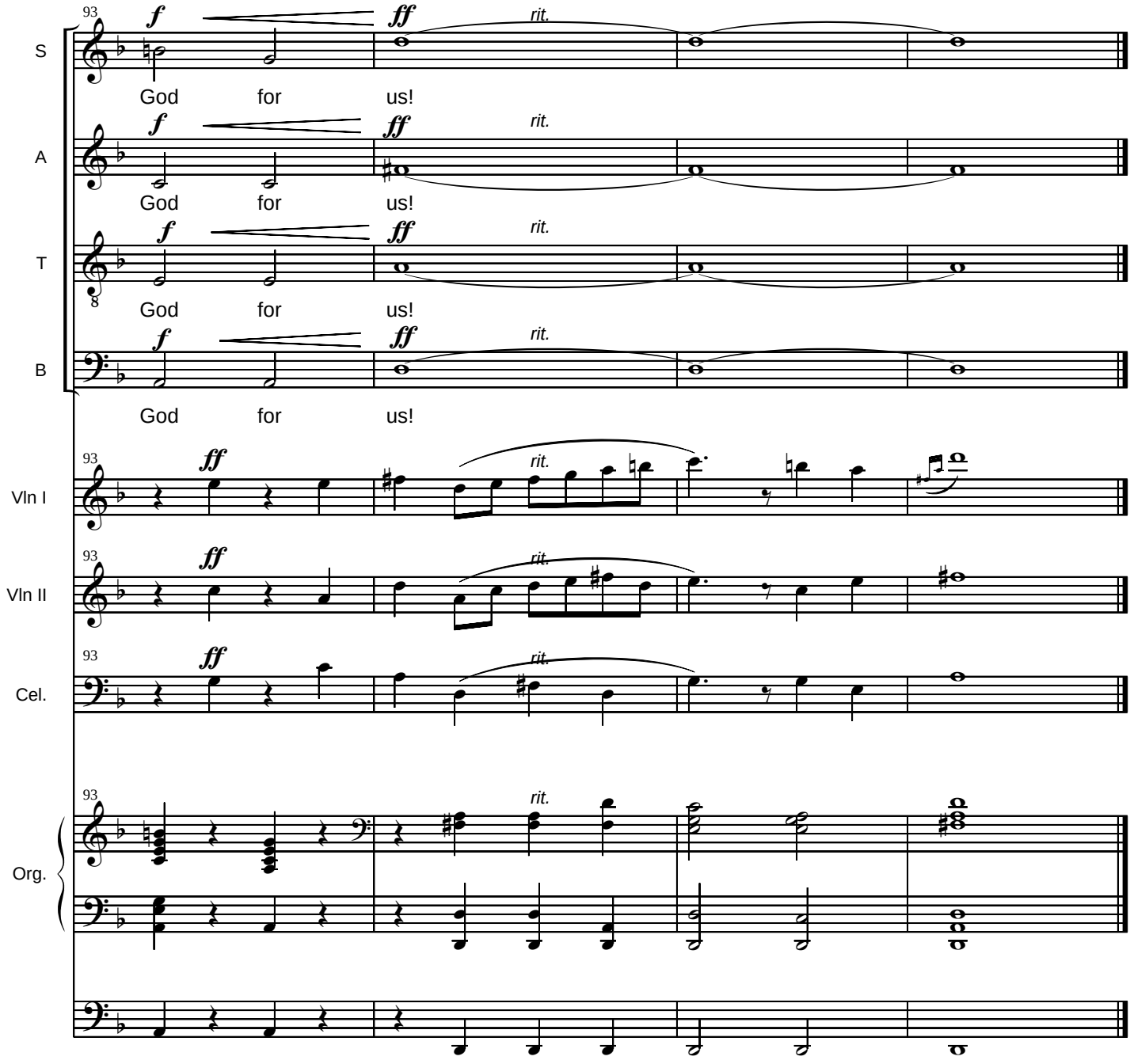

71
S
A
T
B
Vln I
Vln II
Cel.
Org.
p
mf
Oh, oh, oh.
If God our Lord is for us, who
Oh, oh, oh.
Oh, oh, oh.
I.
II.


76
S
A
T
B
Vln I
Vln II
Cel.
Org.
can be a-gainst us?
f
If God our Lord is
f
If
II.
I.
f


79
S
If God our Lord is for us, who can be a-gainst us?
A
If God our Lord is
T
for us, who can be a-gainst us?
B
God our Lord is for us, if God our Lord is for us, who
Vln I
Vln II
Cel.
Org.


83
S
A
T
B
Vln I
Vln II
Cel.
Org.
mf
If God is for us, if God our Lord is for us, who can
for us, If God is for us, if God our Lord is for us, who can
If God is for us, if God our Lord is for us,
can be a-gainst us? If God is for us, if God our Lord is for us,
II.


87
S
be, who can be, who can be a - gainst us?
F
A
be, who can be, who can be a - gainst us?
F
T
who can be a - gainst us?
F
B
who can be a - gainst us?
F
Vln I
Vln II
Cel.
Org.
I.

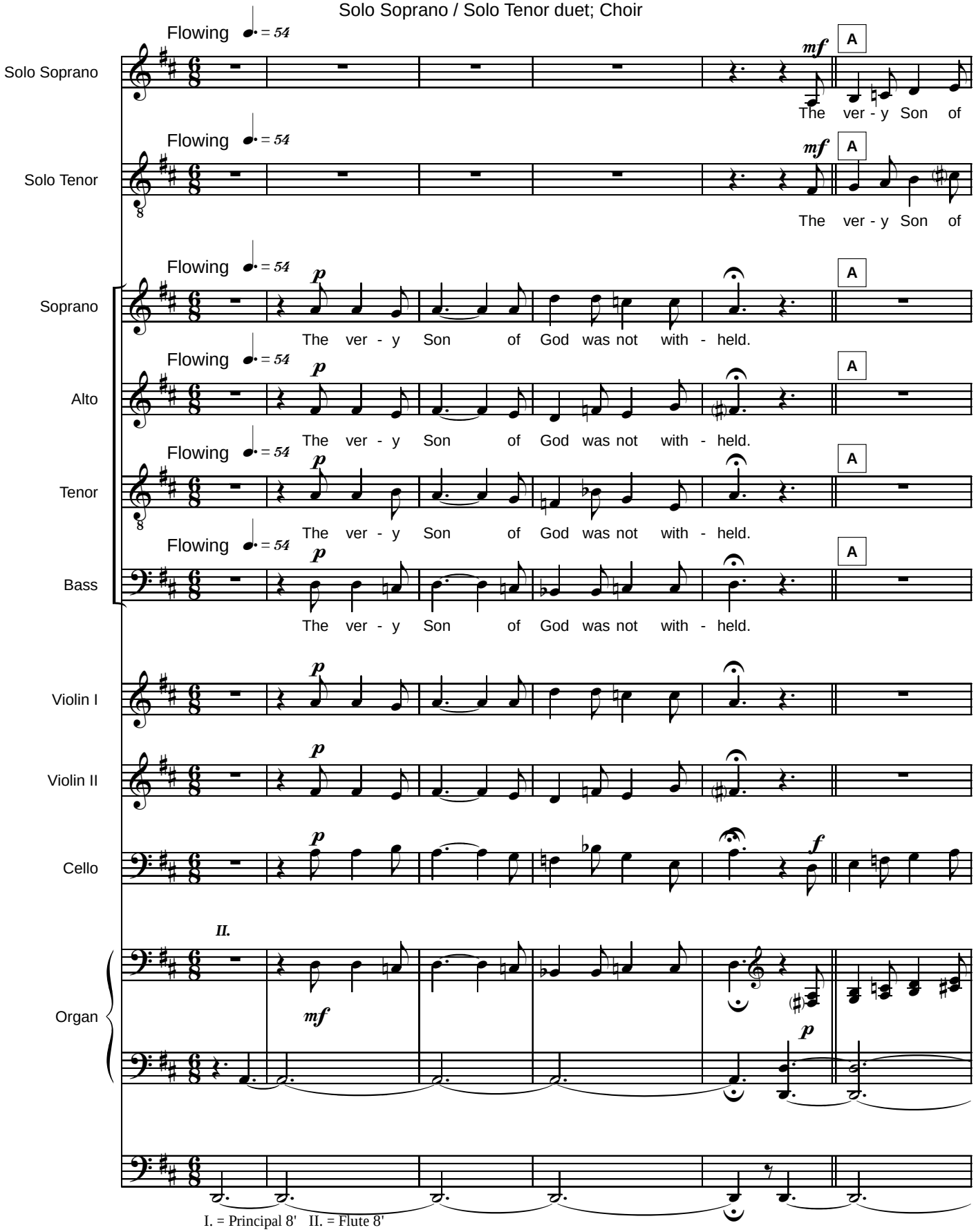


3 min 45 sec

April 15, 2006

2. The Very Son of God

Solo Soprano / Solo Tenor duet; Choir



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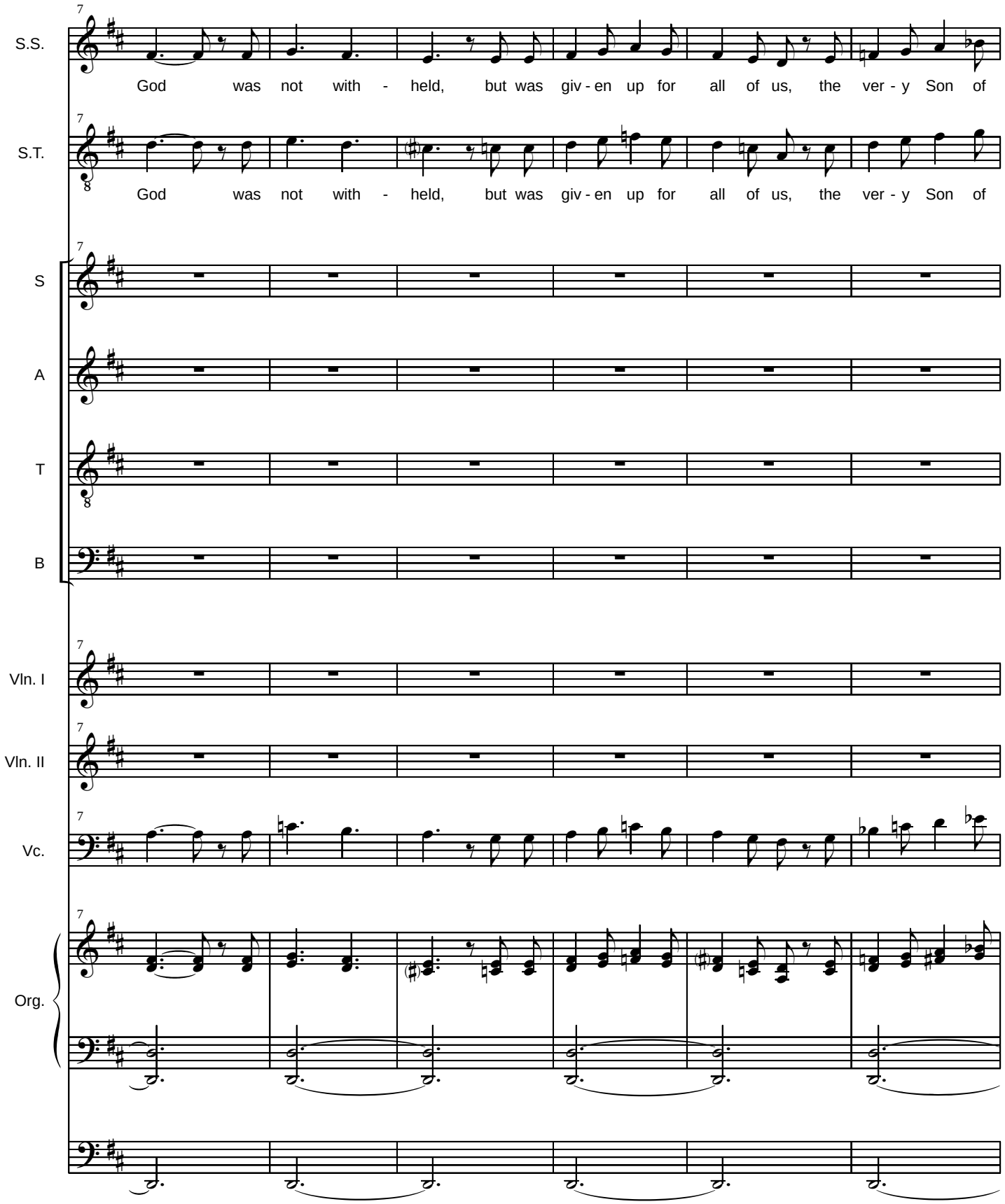
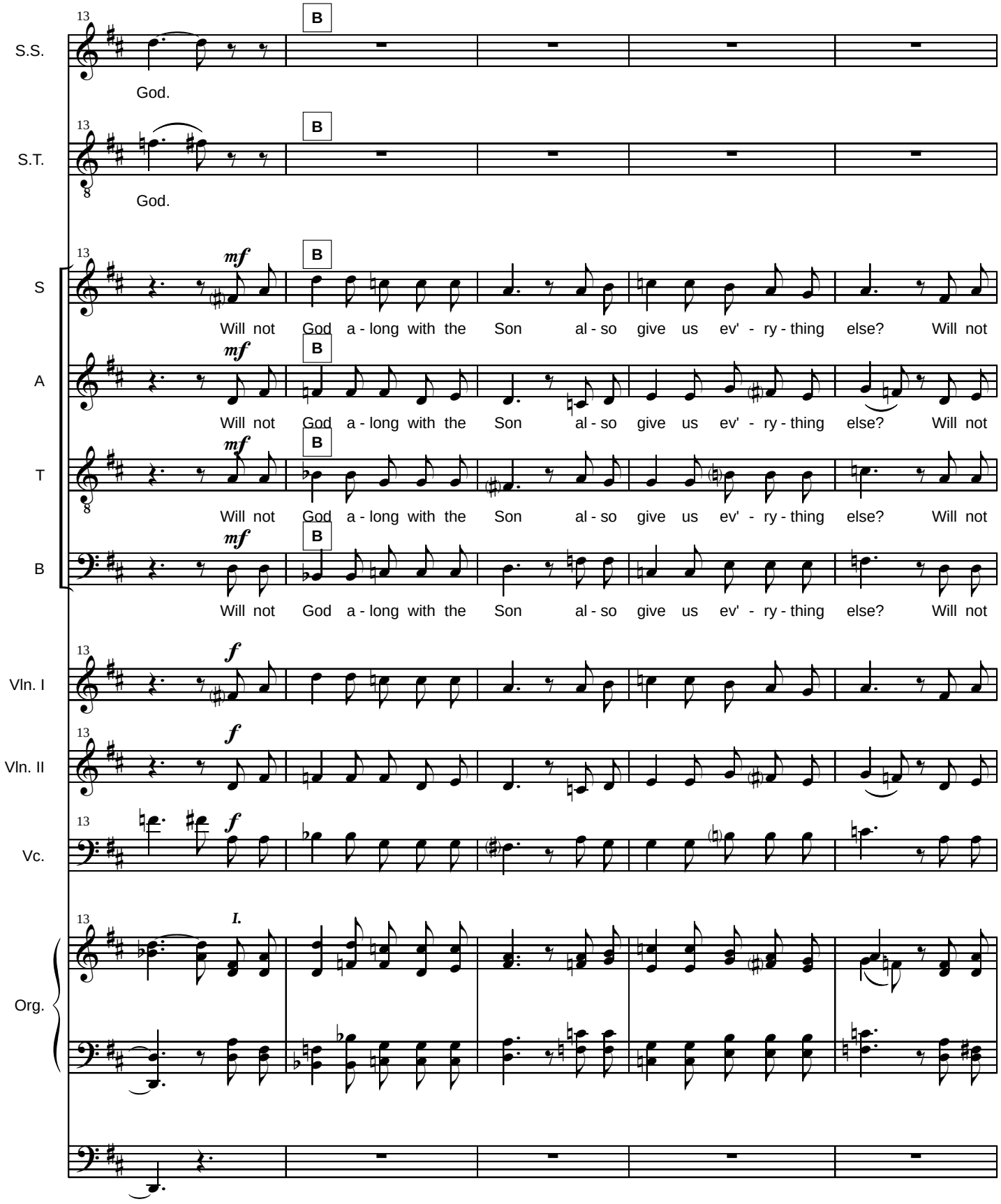
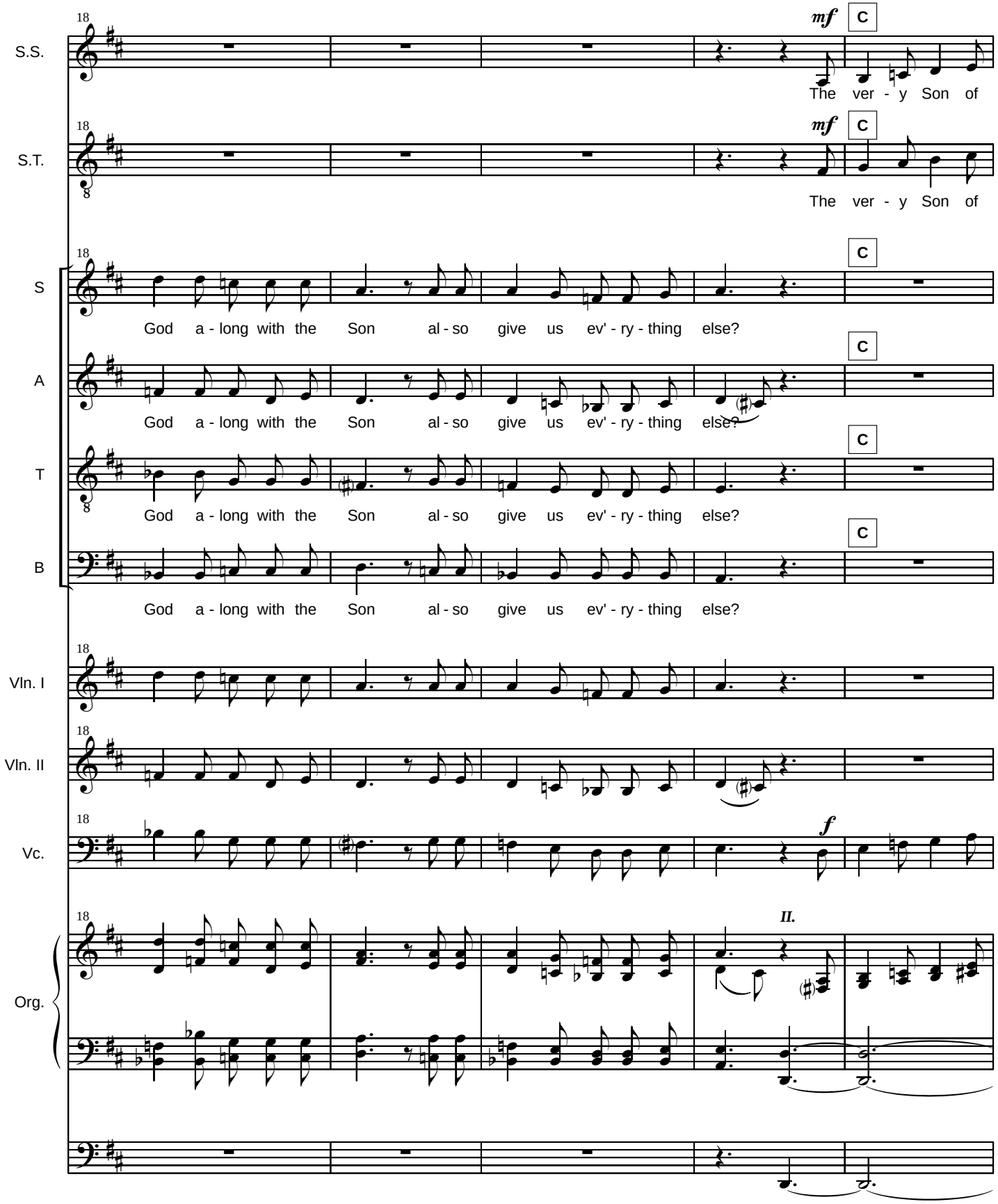
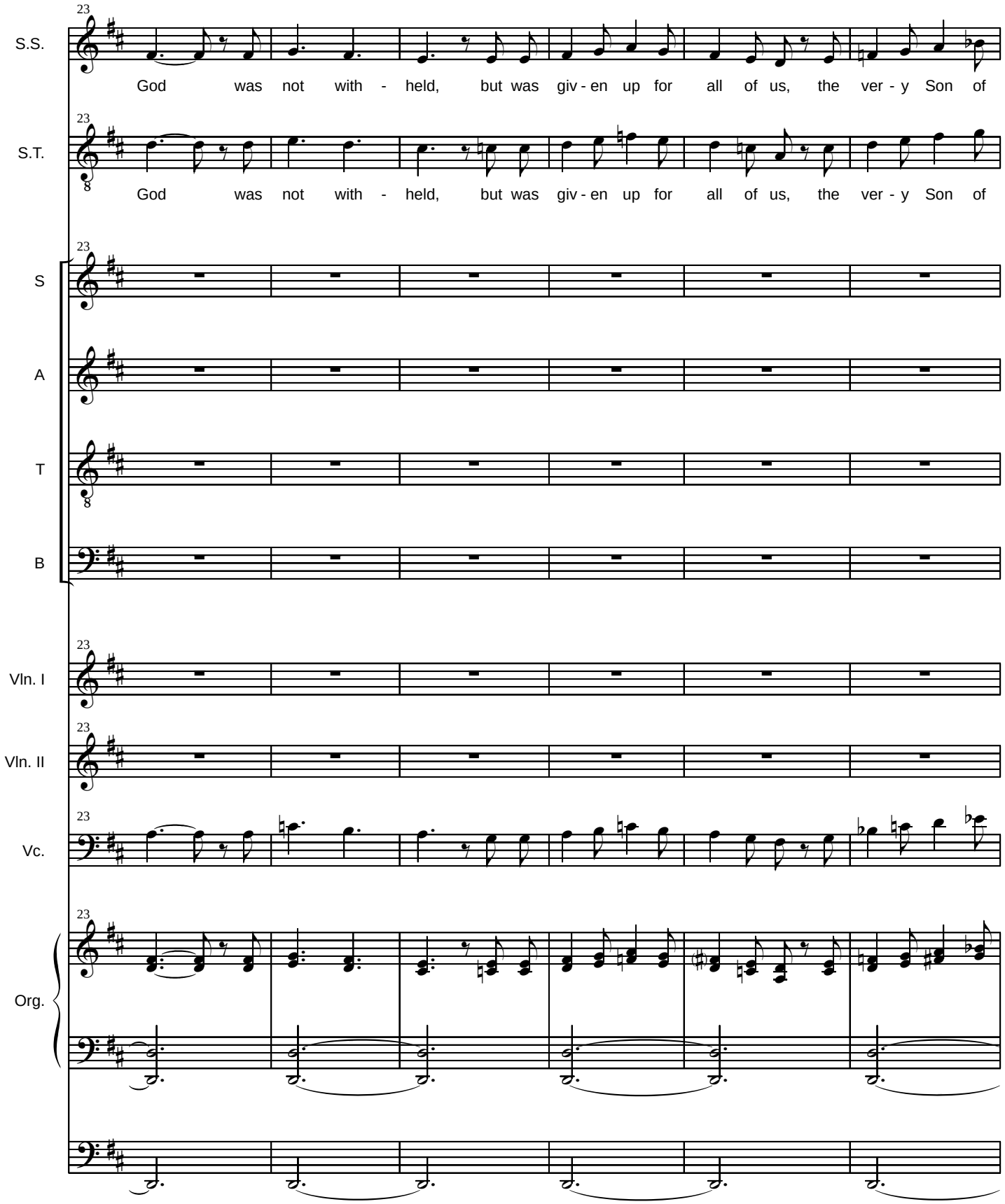
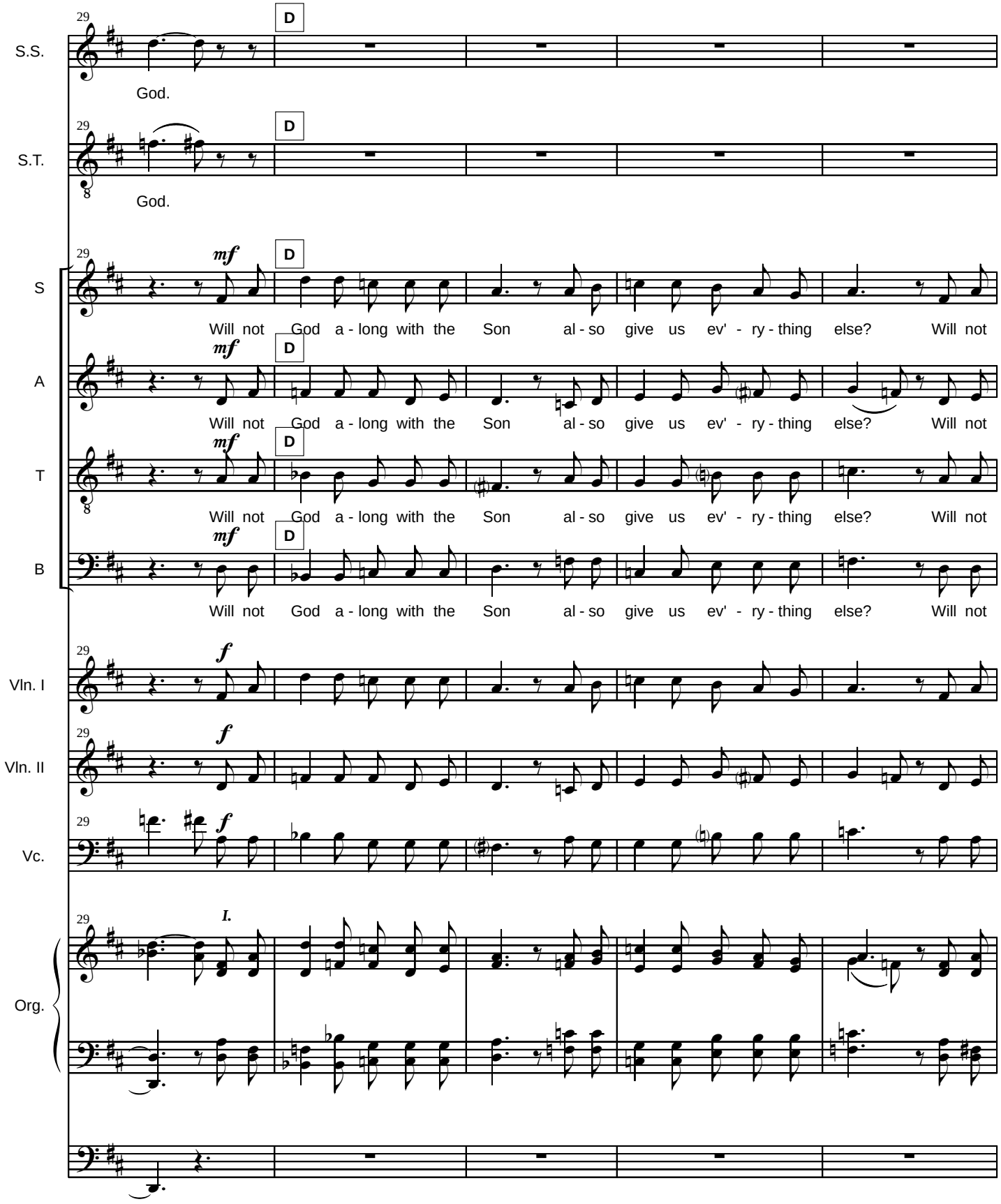
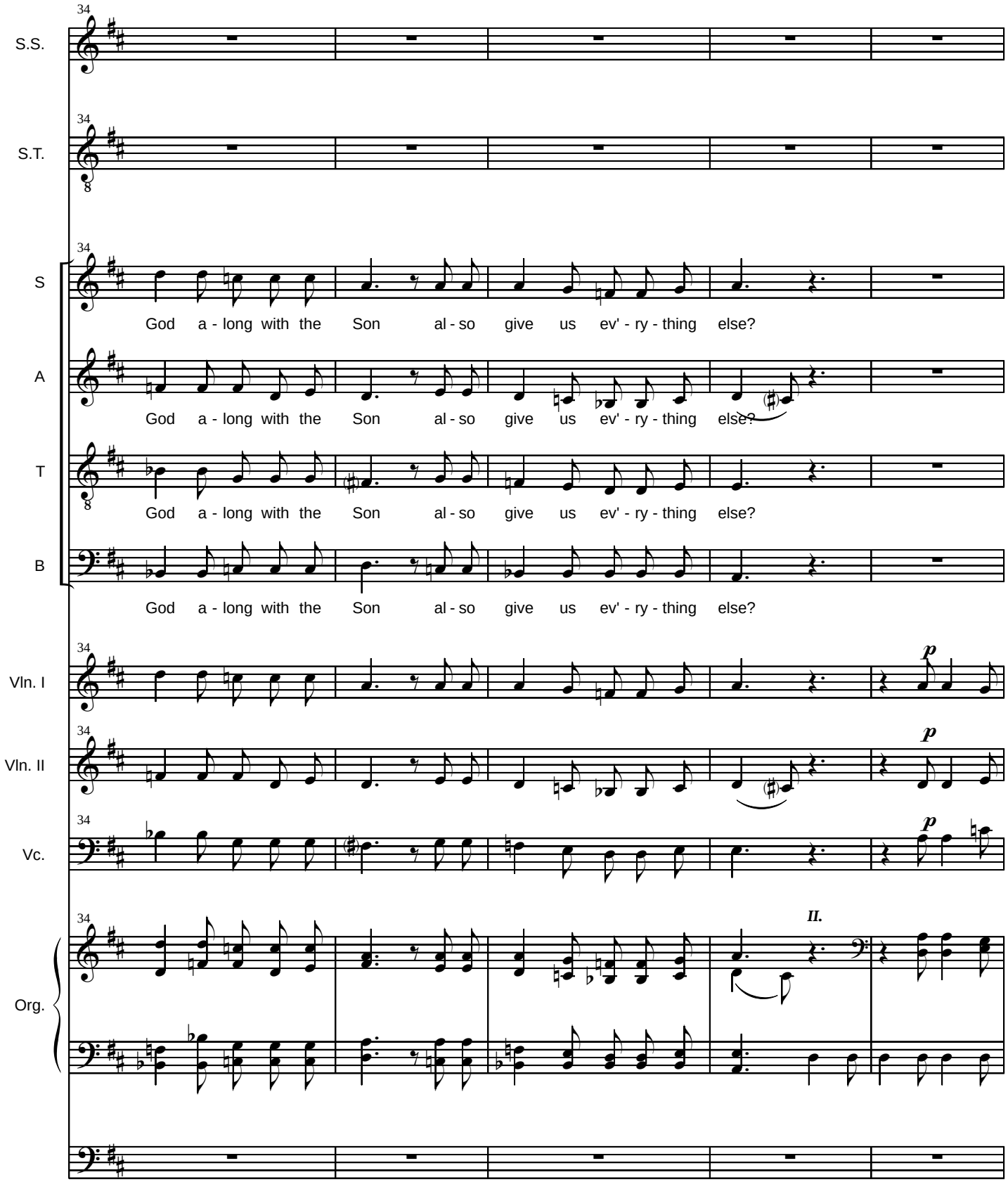

S.S.
God was not with - held, but was giv - en up for all of us, the ver - y Son of
S.T.
God was not with - held, but was giv - en up for all of us, the ver - y Son of
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.

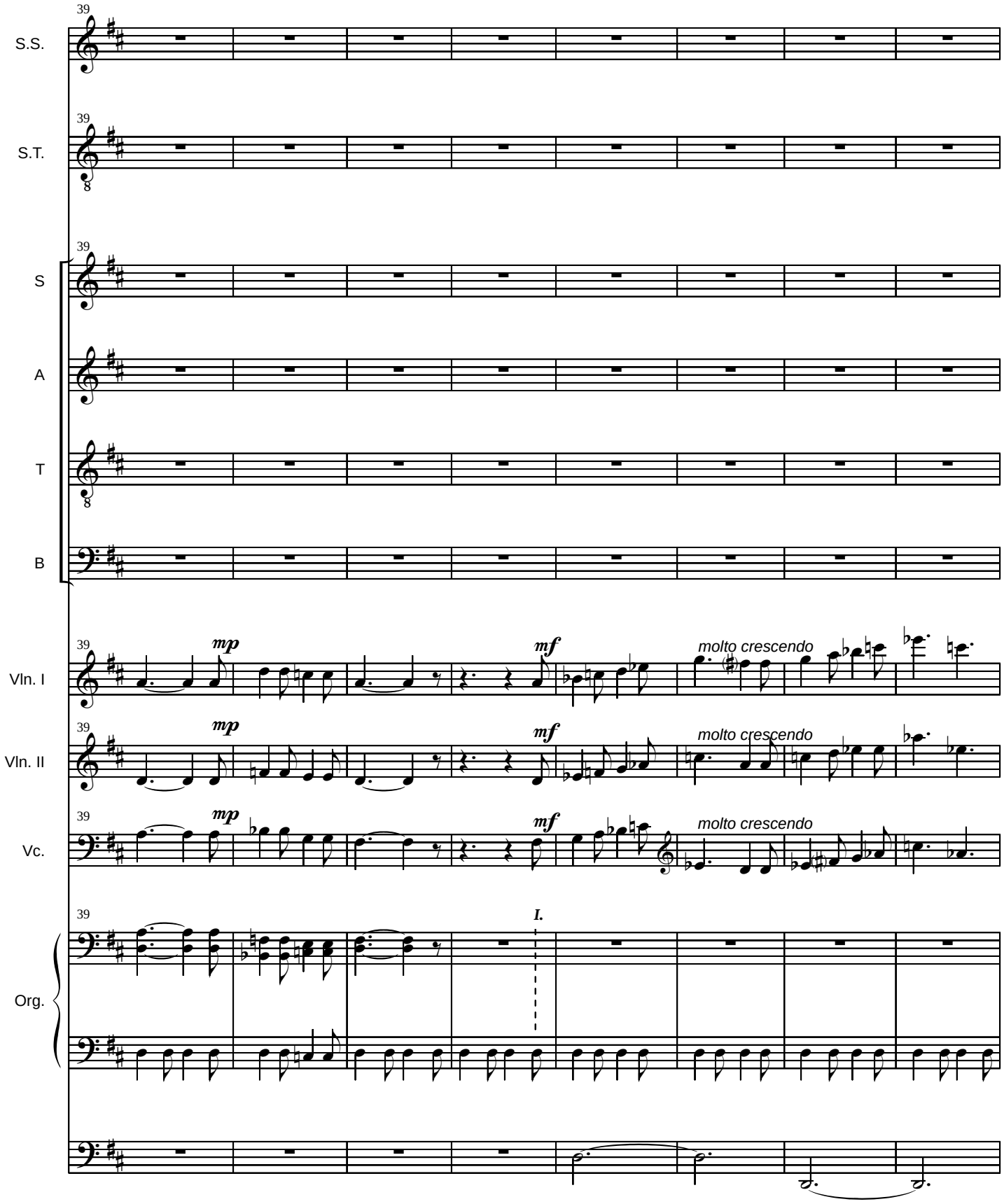

S.S.
S.T.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.
13
B
God.
mf
f
I.
Will not God a - long with the Son al - so give us ev' - ry - thing else? Will not

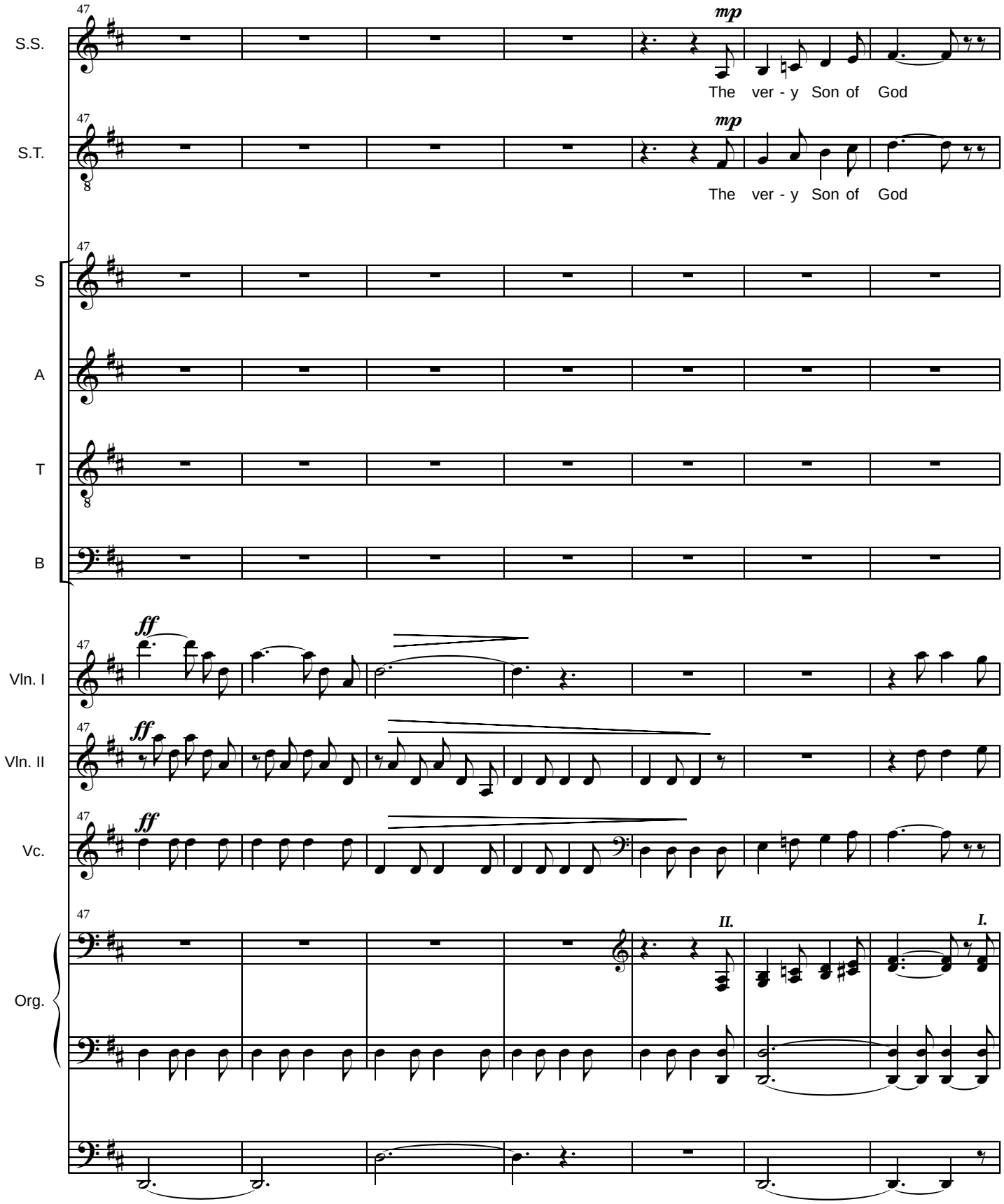

18
S.S.
mf
C
The ver - y Son of
18
S.T.
mf
C
The ver - y Son of
18
S
C
God a - long with the Son al - so give us ev' - ry - thing else?
A
C
God a - long with the Son al - so give us ev' - ry - thing else?
T
C
God a - long with the Son al - so give us ev' - ry - thing else?
B
C
God a - long with the Son al - so give us ev' - ry - thing else?
18
Vln. I
18
Vln. II
18
Vc.
f
18
Org.
II.

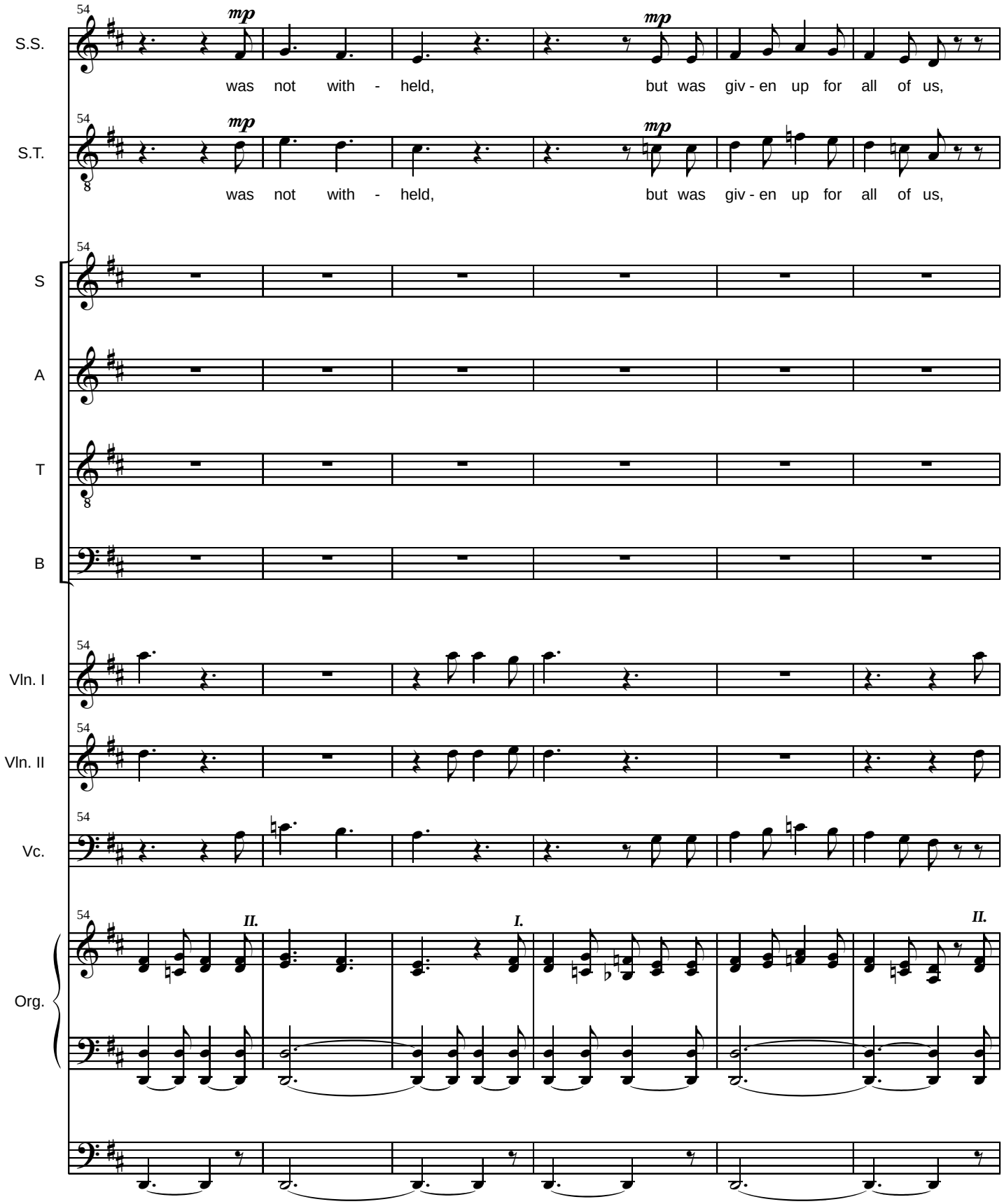

23
S.S.
God was not with - held, but was giv - en up for all of us, the ver - y Son of
S.T.
God was not with - held, but was giv - en up for all of us, the ver - y Son of
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.

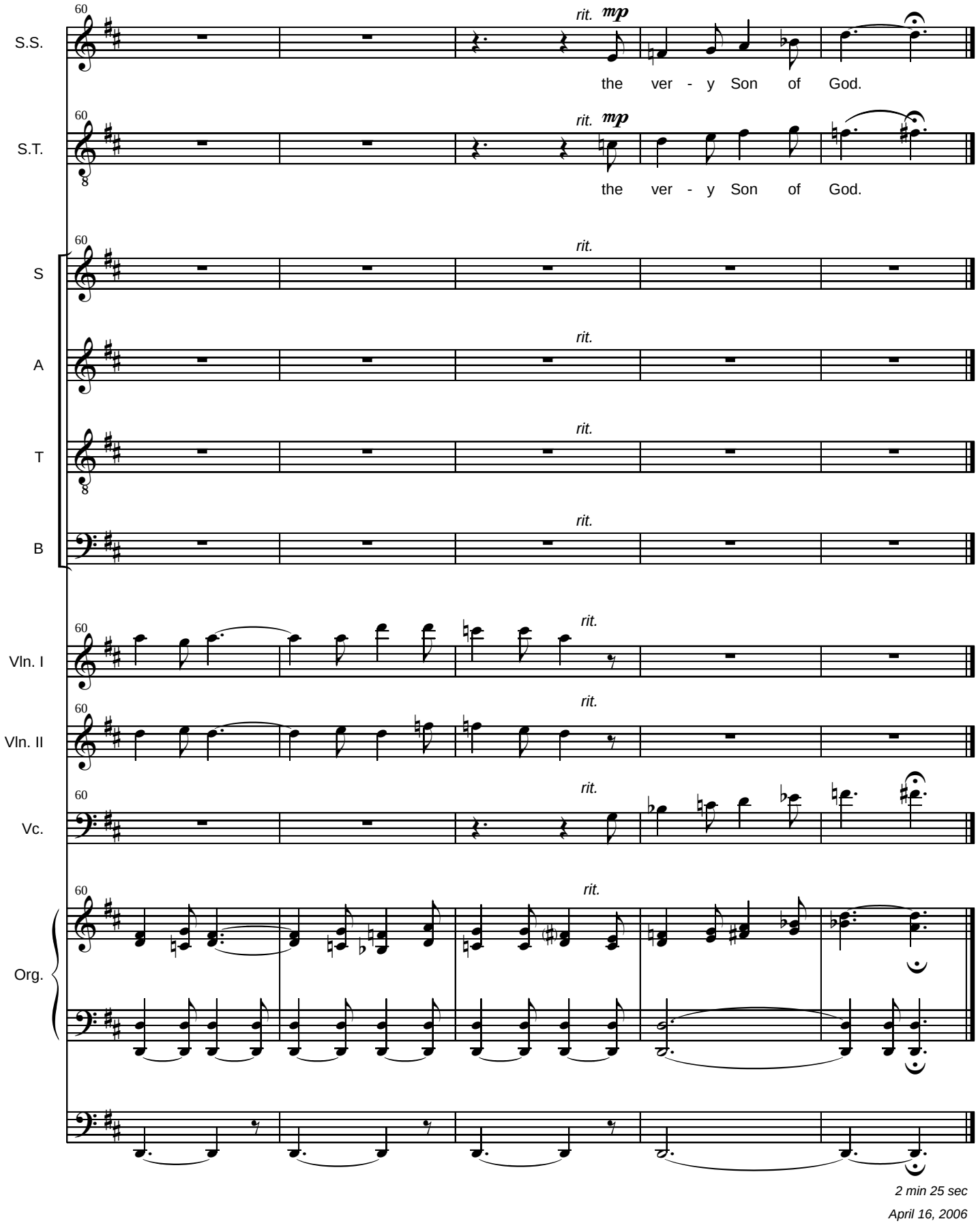

S.S.
S.T.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.
29
D
God.
mf
Will not God a - long with the Son al - so give us ev' - ry - thing else? Will not
f
I.


S.S.
S.T.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.
34
God a - long with the Son al - so give us ev' - ry - thing else?
p
II.


39
S.S.
S.T.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.
mp
mf
molto crescendo
I.

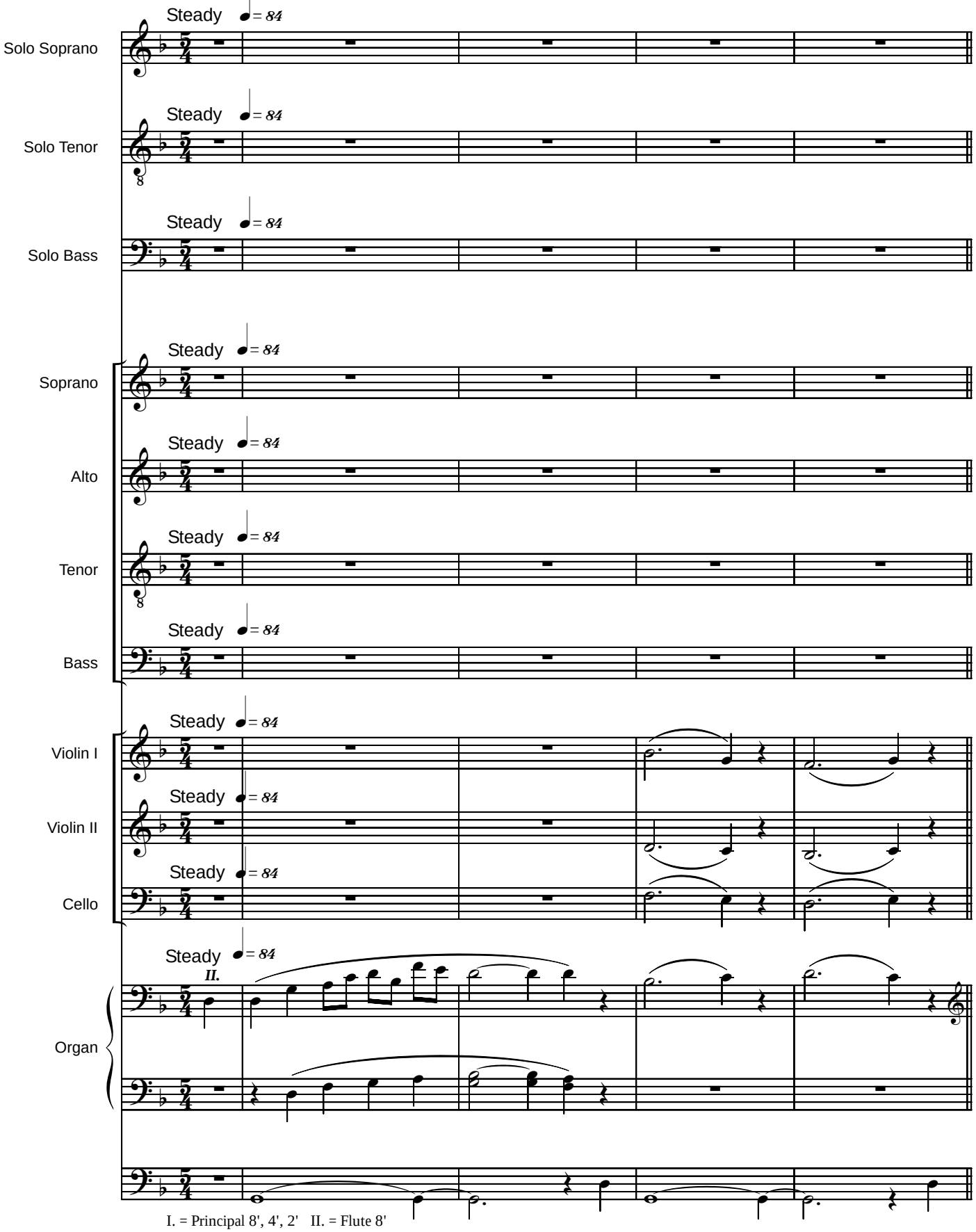

47
S.S.
mp
The ver - y Son of God
47
S.T.
mp
The ver - y Son of God
47
S
A
T
B
47
Vln. I
ff
47
Vln. II
ff
47
Vc.
ff
47
Org.
II.
I.


54
S.S.
mp
was not with - held,
mp
but was giv - en up for all of us,
S.T.
was not with - held,
but was giv - en up for all of us,
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.
II.
I.
II.


S.S.
S.T.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.
60
rit.
mp
the ver - y Son of God.
the ver - y Son of God.
2 min 25 sec
April 16, 2006

3. Who Can Object?

Solo Soprano / Solo Tenor / Solo Bass / Choir



I. = Principal 8', 4', 2' II. = Flute 8'

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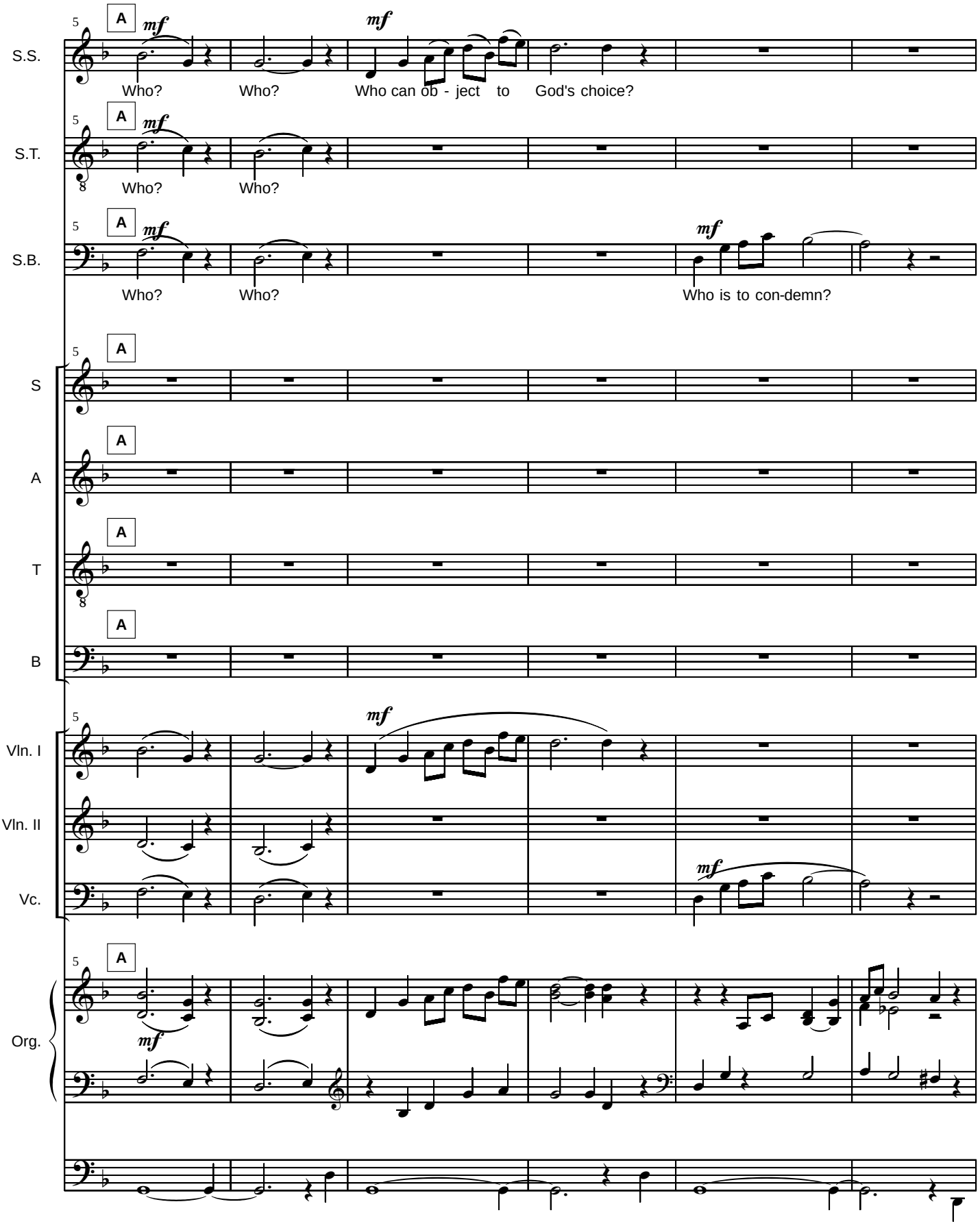
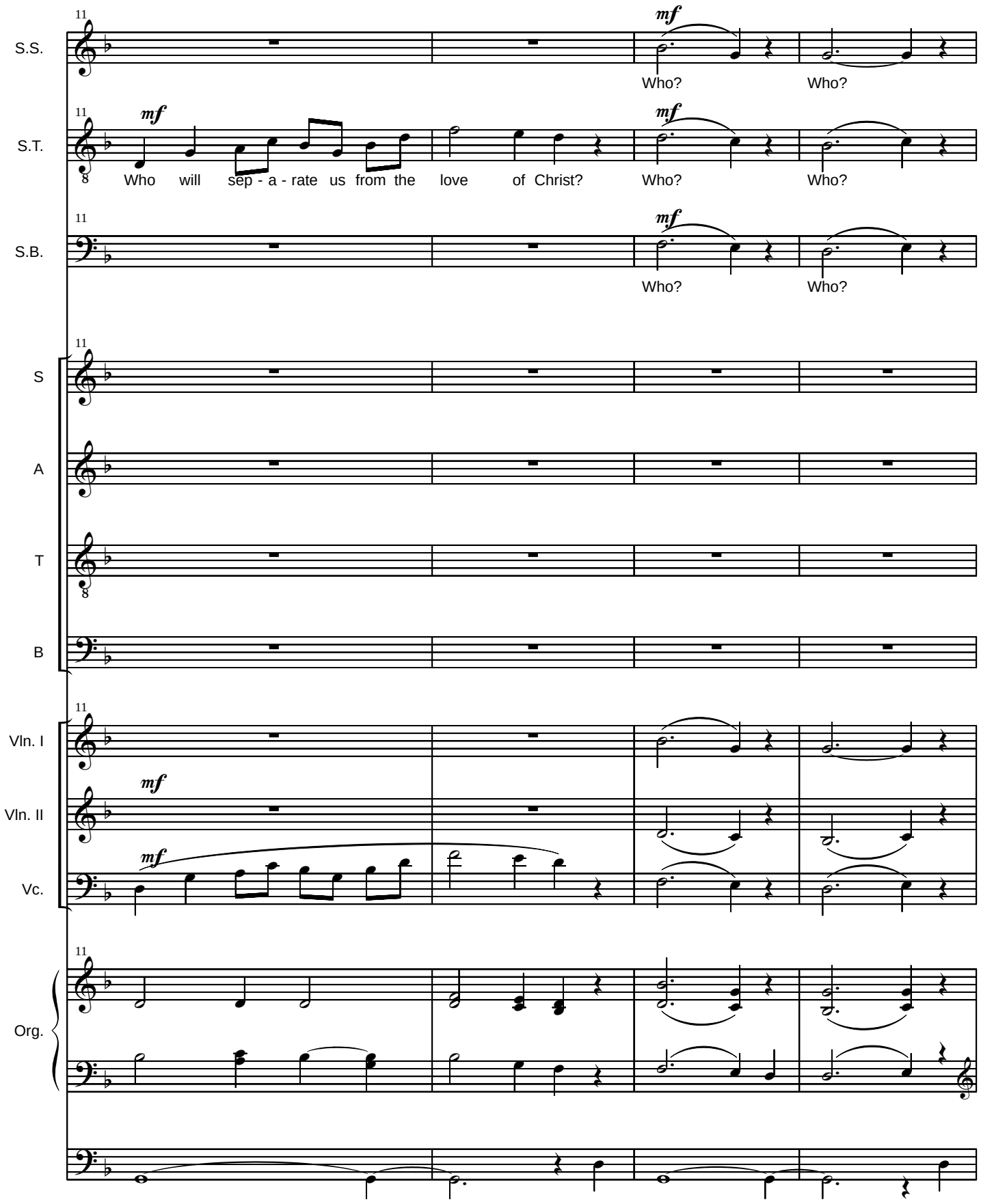
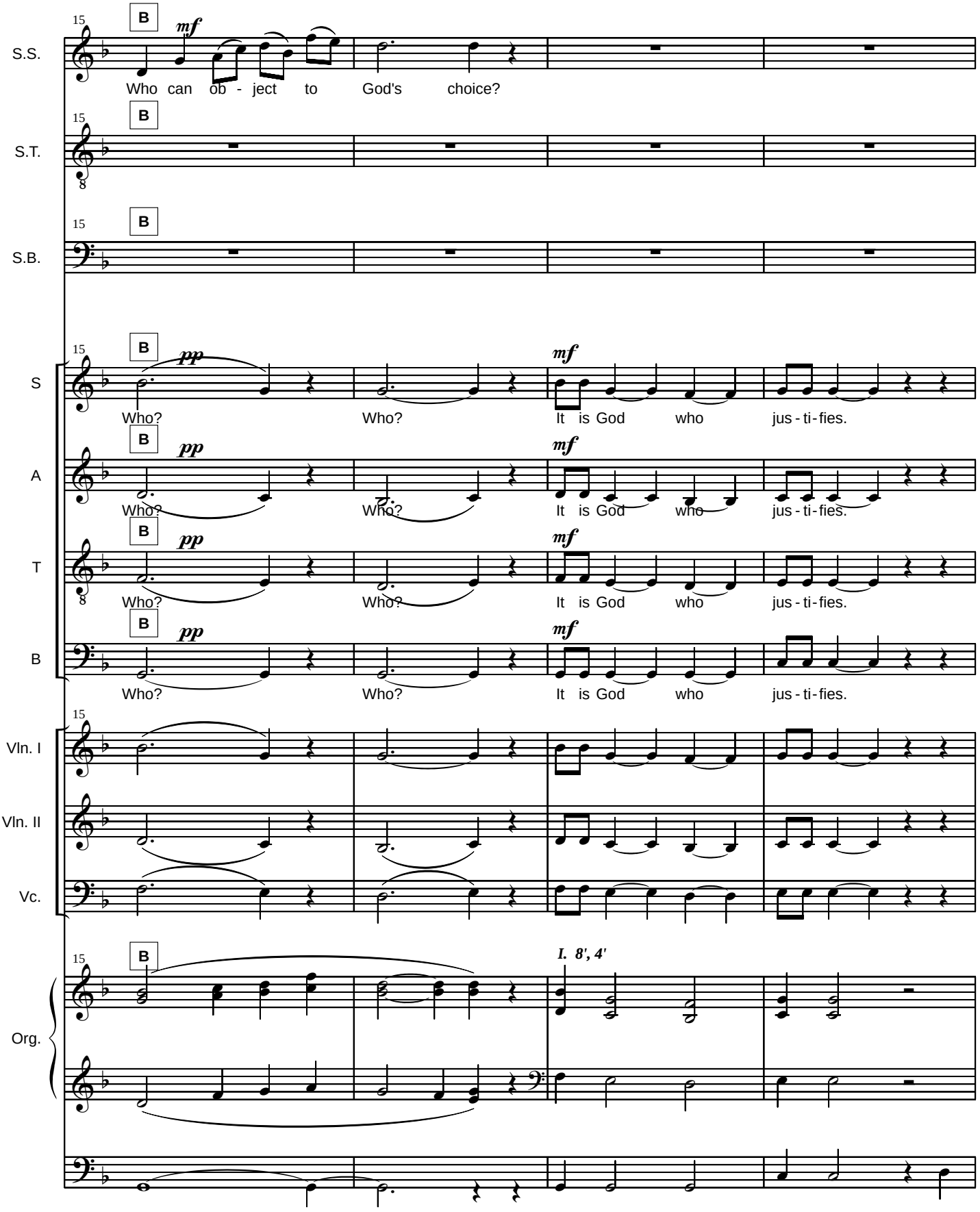
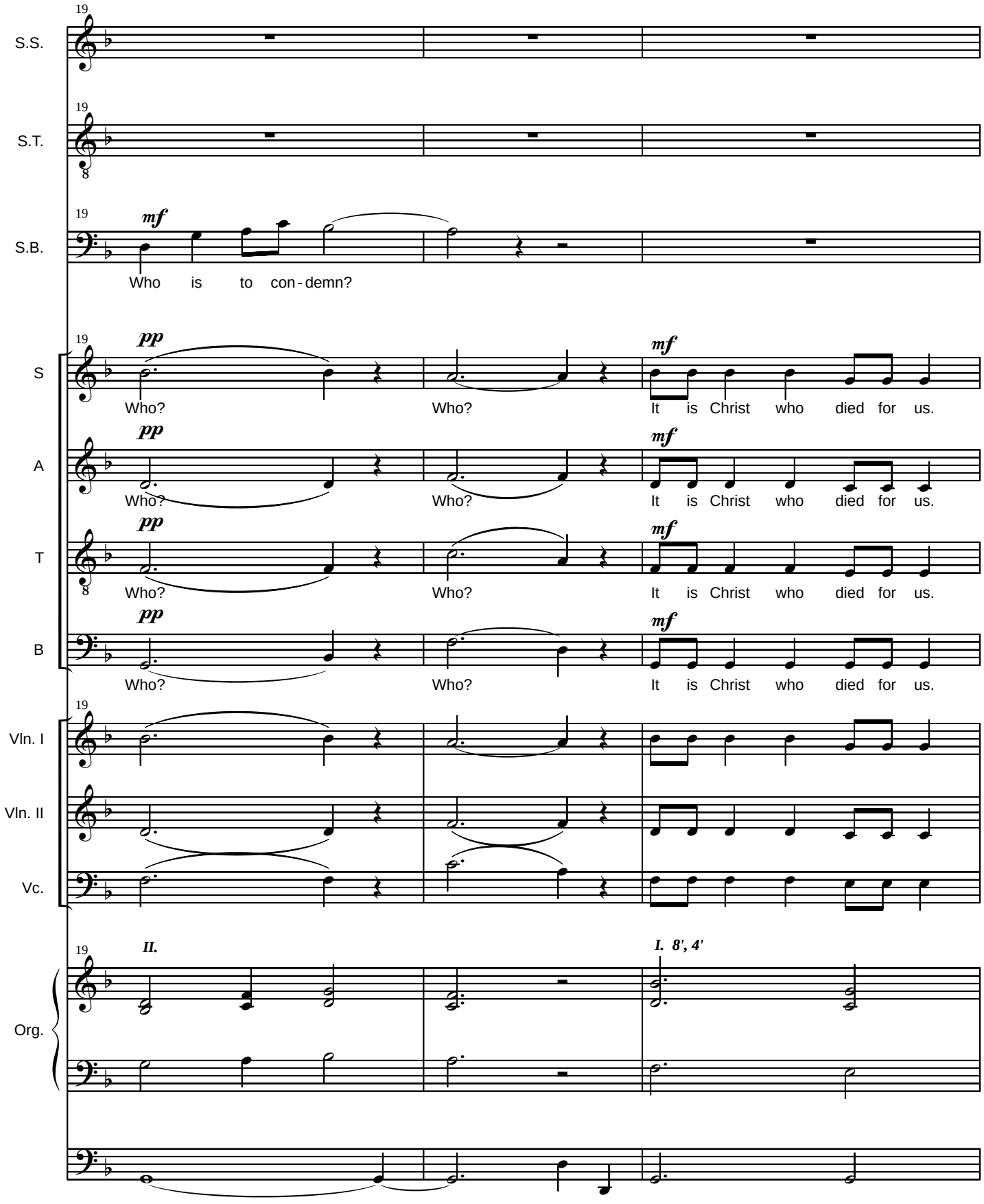
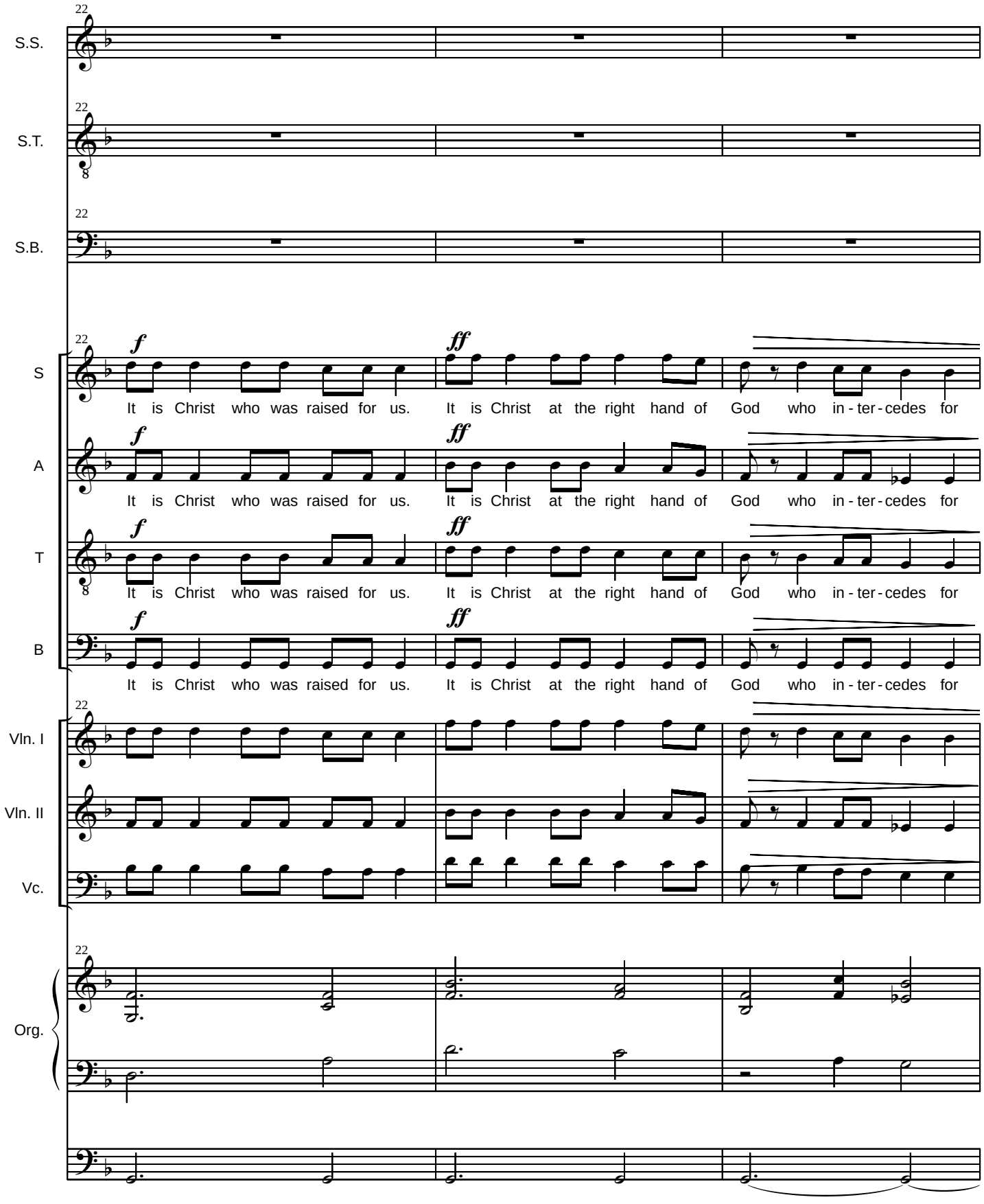
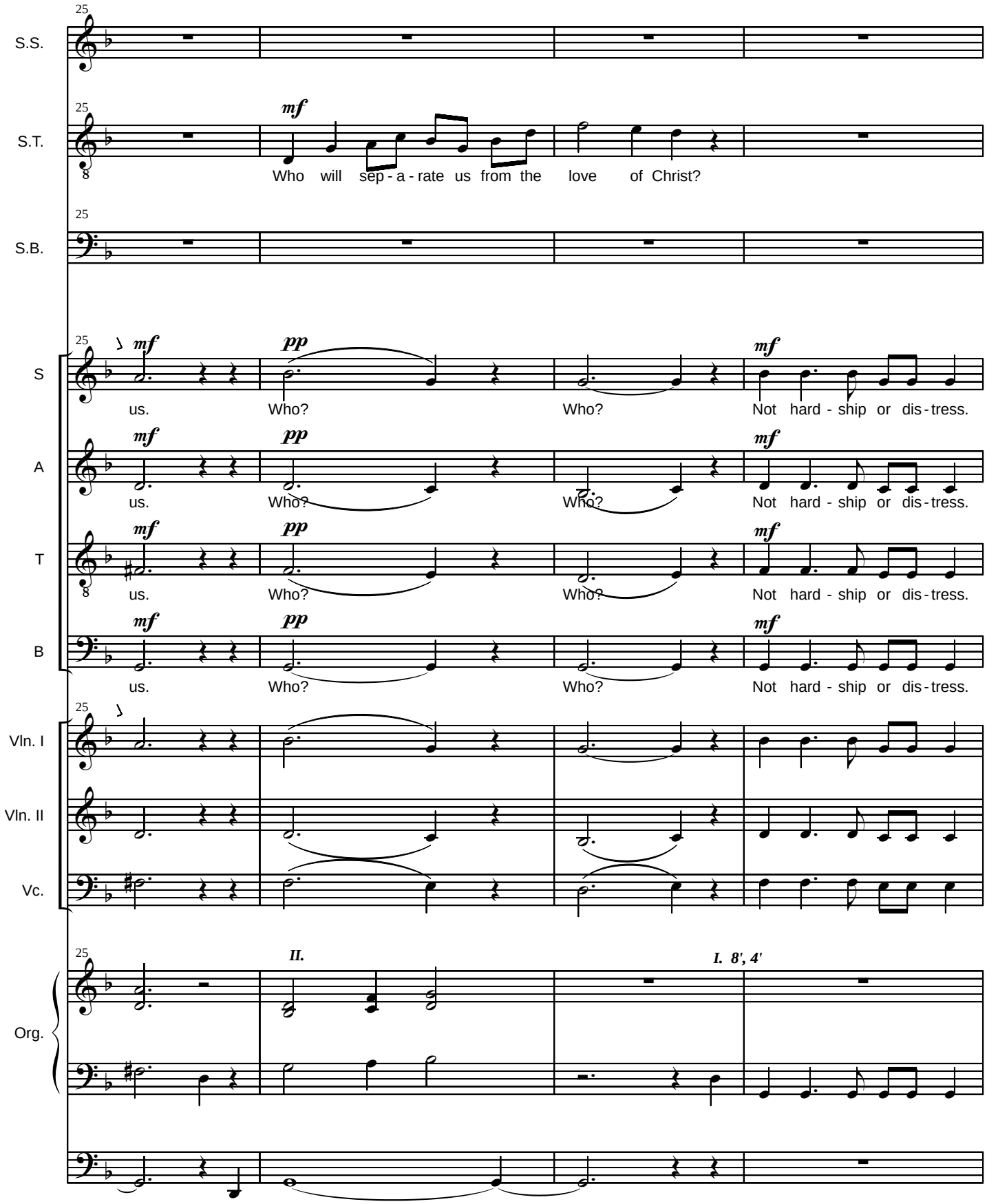

S.S.
S.T.
S.B.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.
A
mf
Who?
Who?
Who can ob - ject to God's choice?
Who is to con-demn?

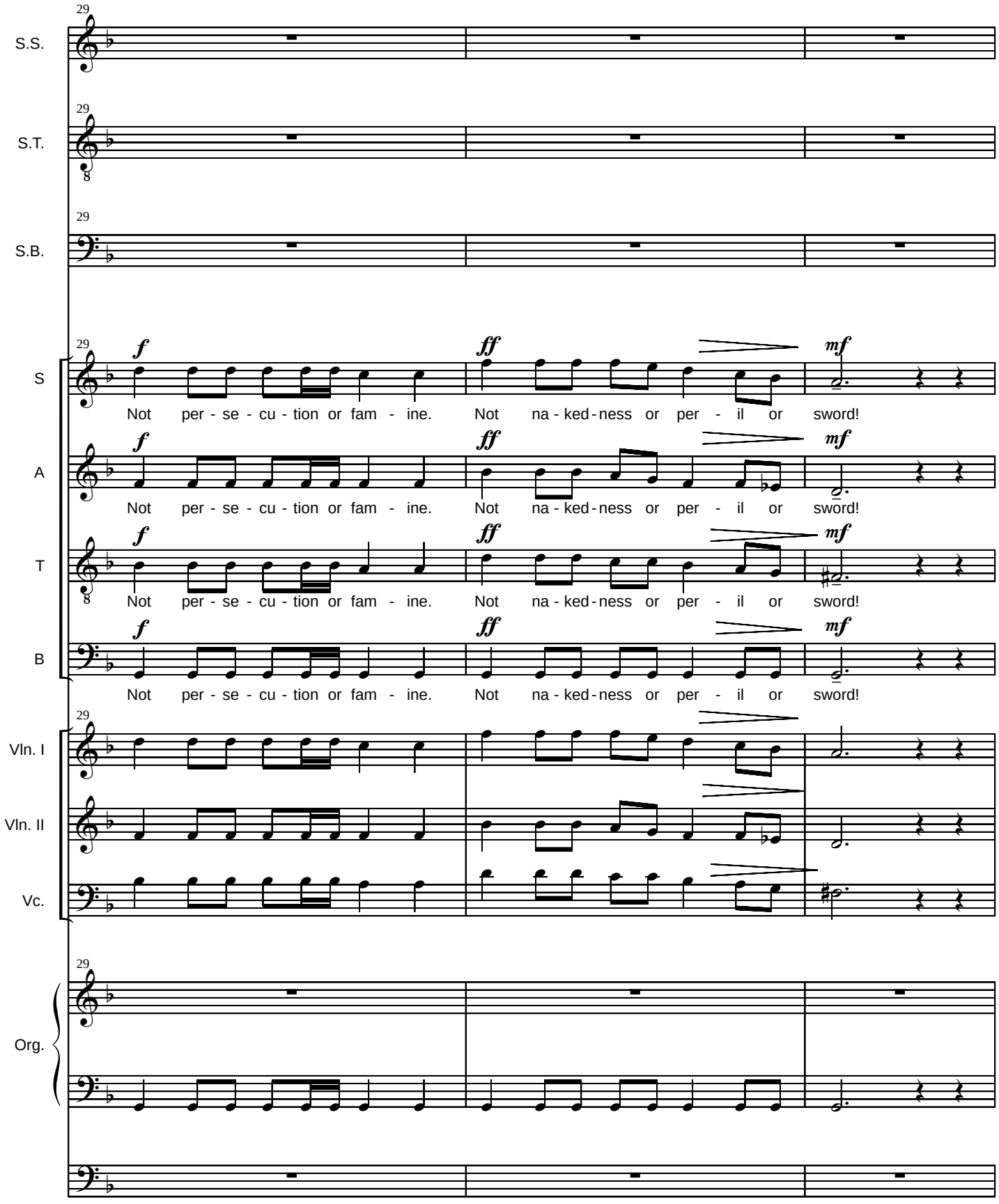

S.S.
S.T.
S.B.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.
11
mf
Who?
Who?
Who?
Who?
Who?
Who?
Who will sep - a - rate us from the love of Christ?

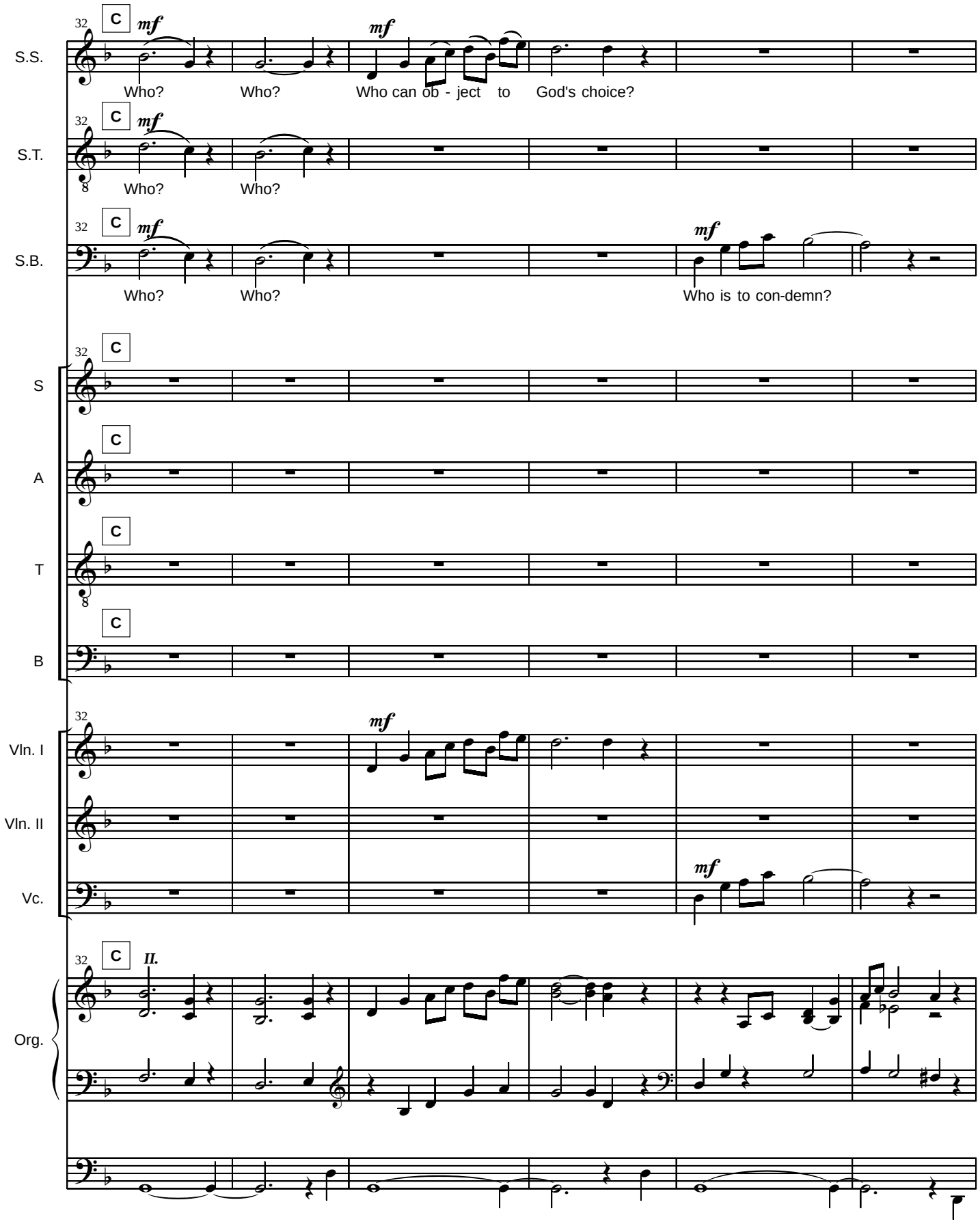

15
B
S.S.
mf
Who can ob - ject to God's choice?
S.T.
S.B.
S
pp
Who?
Who?
mf
It is God who jus - ti - fies.
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.
I. 8', 4'

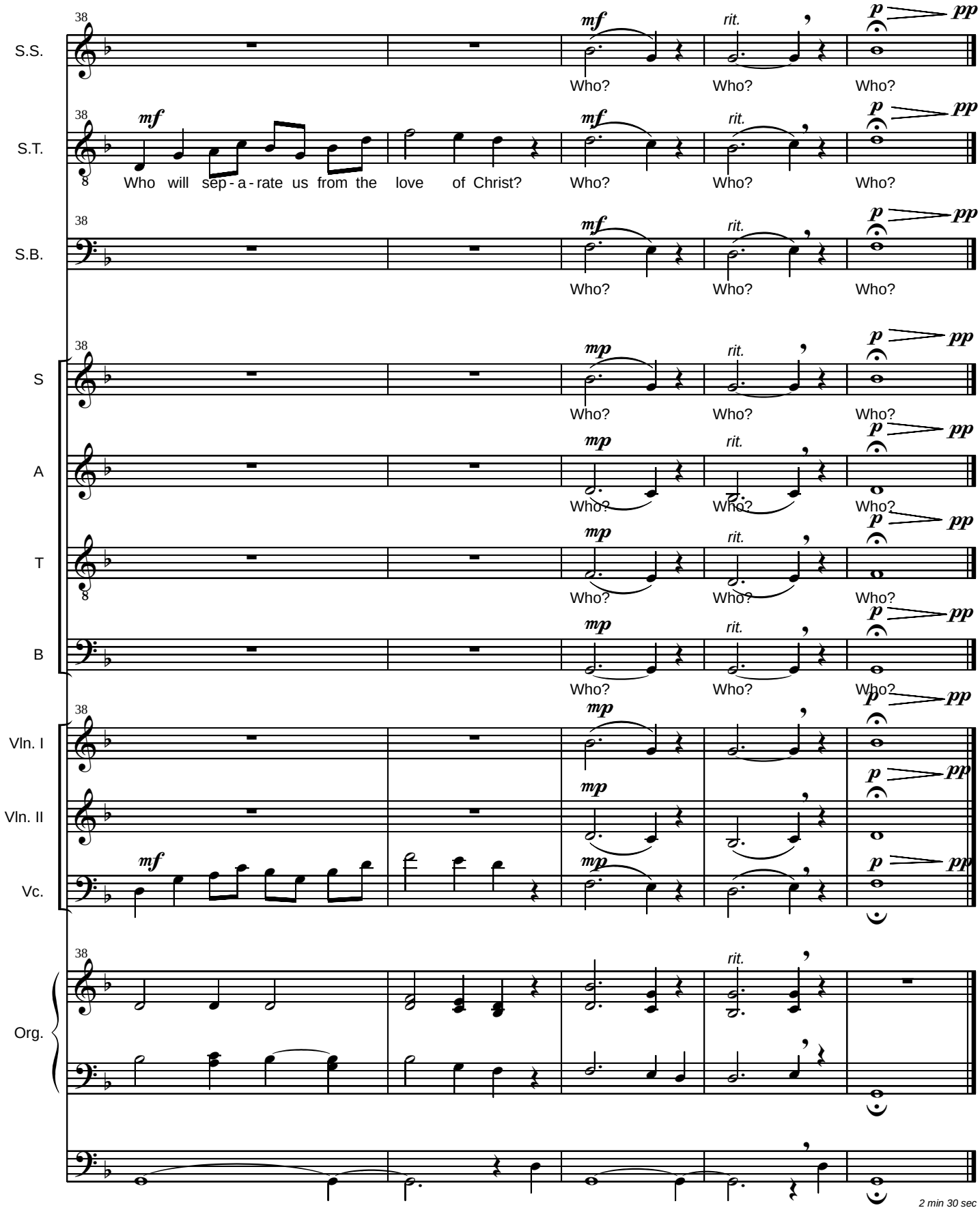

19
S.S.
S.T.
S.B.
mf
Who is to con - demn?
S
A
T
B
pp
Who?
Who?
mf
It is Christ who died for us.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
II.
I. 8', 4'
Org.


22
S.S.
S.T.
S.B.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.
f
ff
It is Christ who was raised for us.
It is Christ at the right hand of God who in - ter - cedes for


25
S.S.
S.T.
S.B.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.
mf
pp
Who will sep - a - rate us from the love of Christ?
us.
Who?
Who?
Not hard - ship or dis - tress.
II.
I. 8', 4'

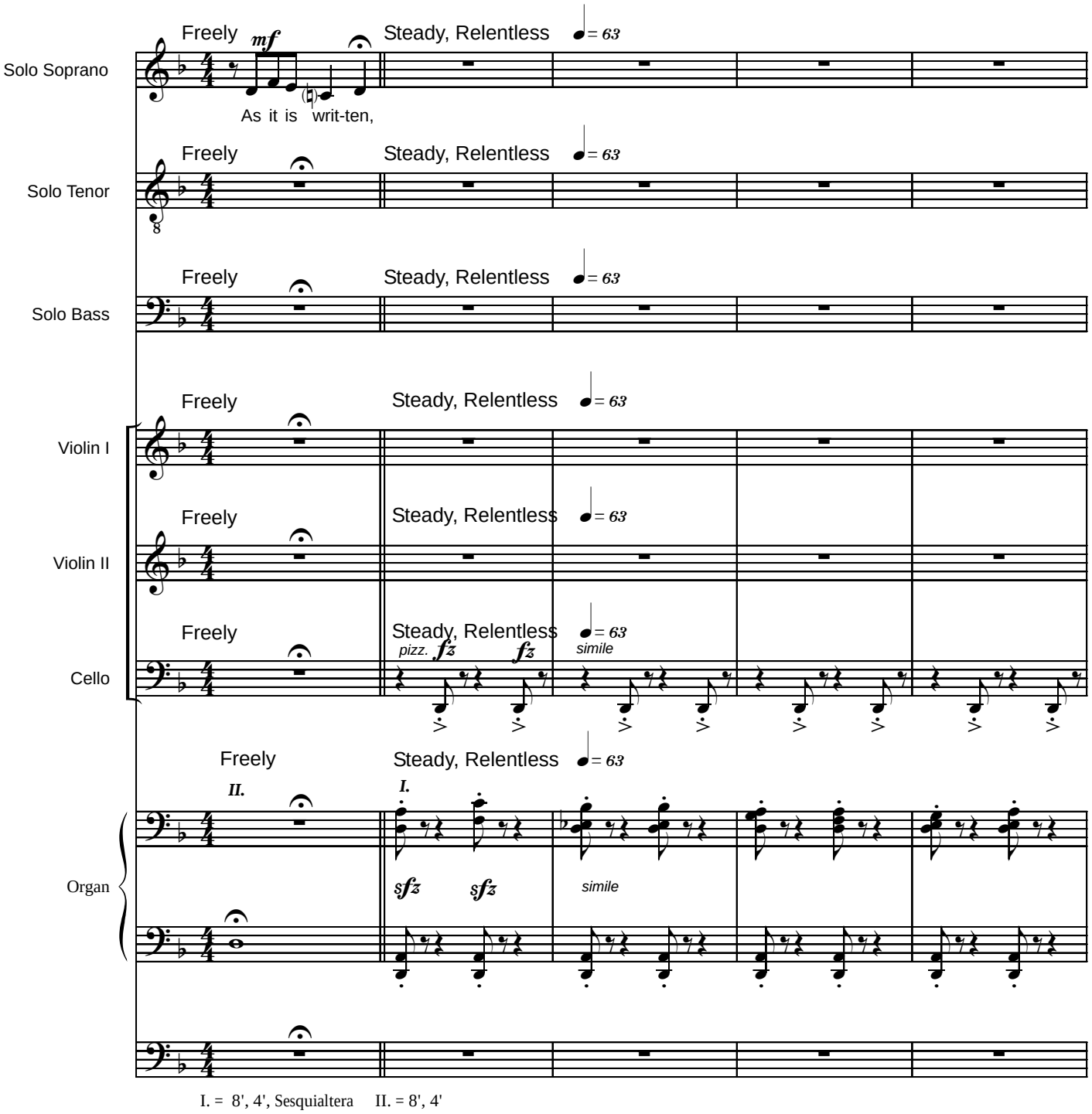

29
S.S.
S.T.
S.B.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.
f
ff
mf
Not per - se - cu - tion or fam - ine. Not na - ked - ness or per - il or sword!


32
C
mf
S.S.
Who?
Who?
Who can ob - ject to God's choice?
S.T.
Who?
Who?
S.B.
Who?
Who?
Who is to con-demn?
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
II.
Org.


S.S.
S.T.
S.B.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.
38
mf
mp
p
pp
rit.
Who?
Who will sep - a - rate us from the love of Christ?
2 min 30 sec
April 16, 2006

4. As It Is Written

Solo Soprano / Solo Tenor / Solo Bass



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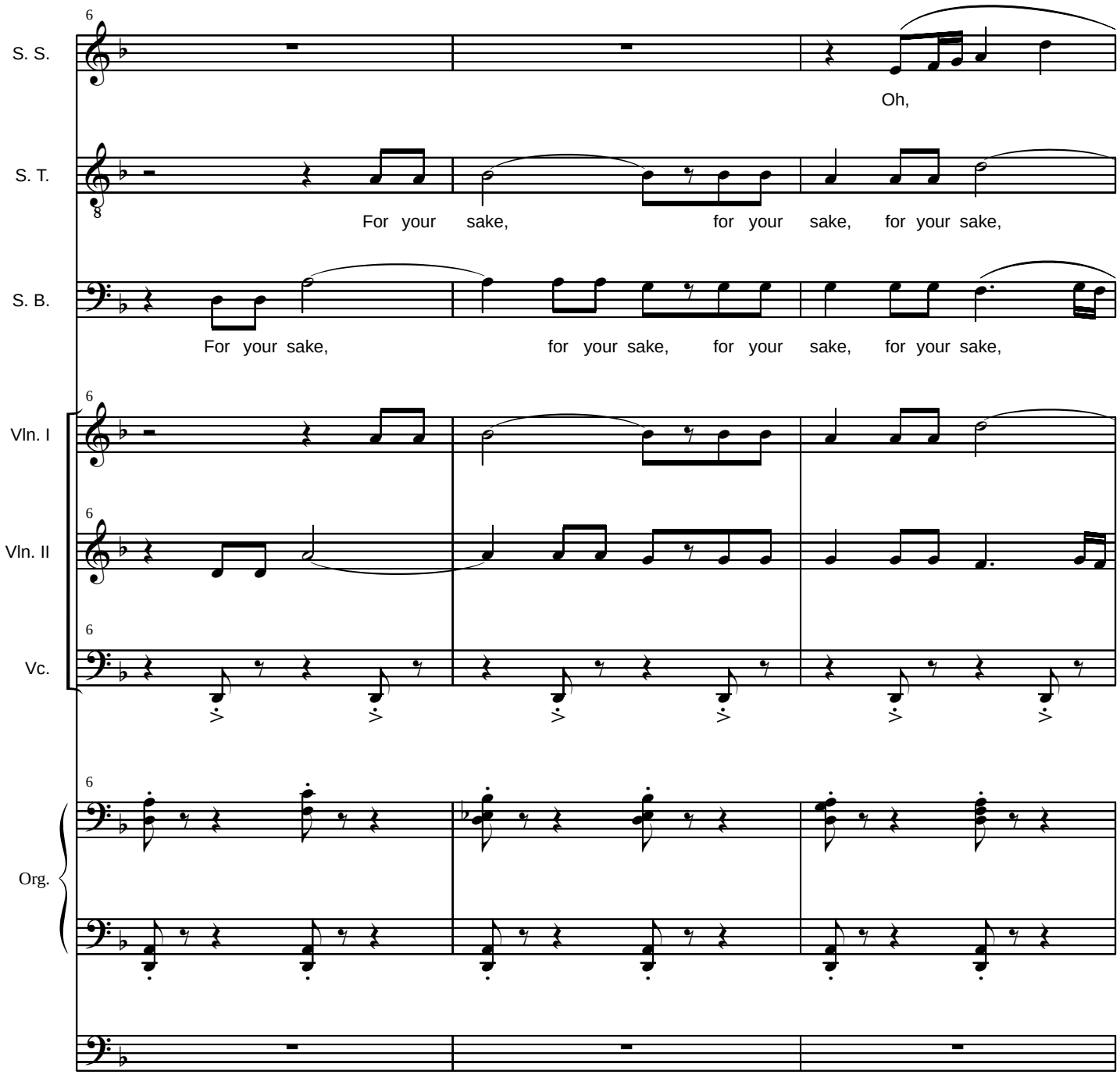
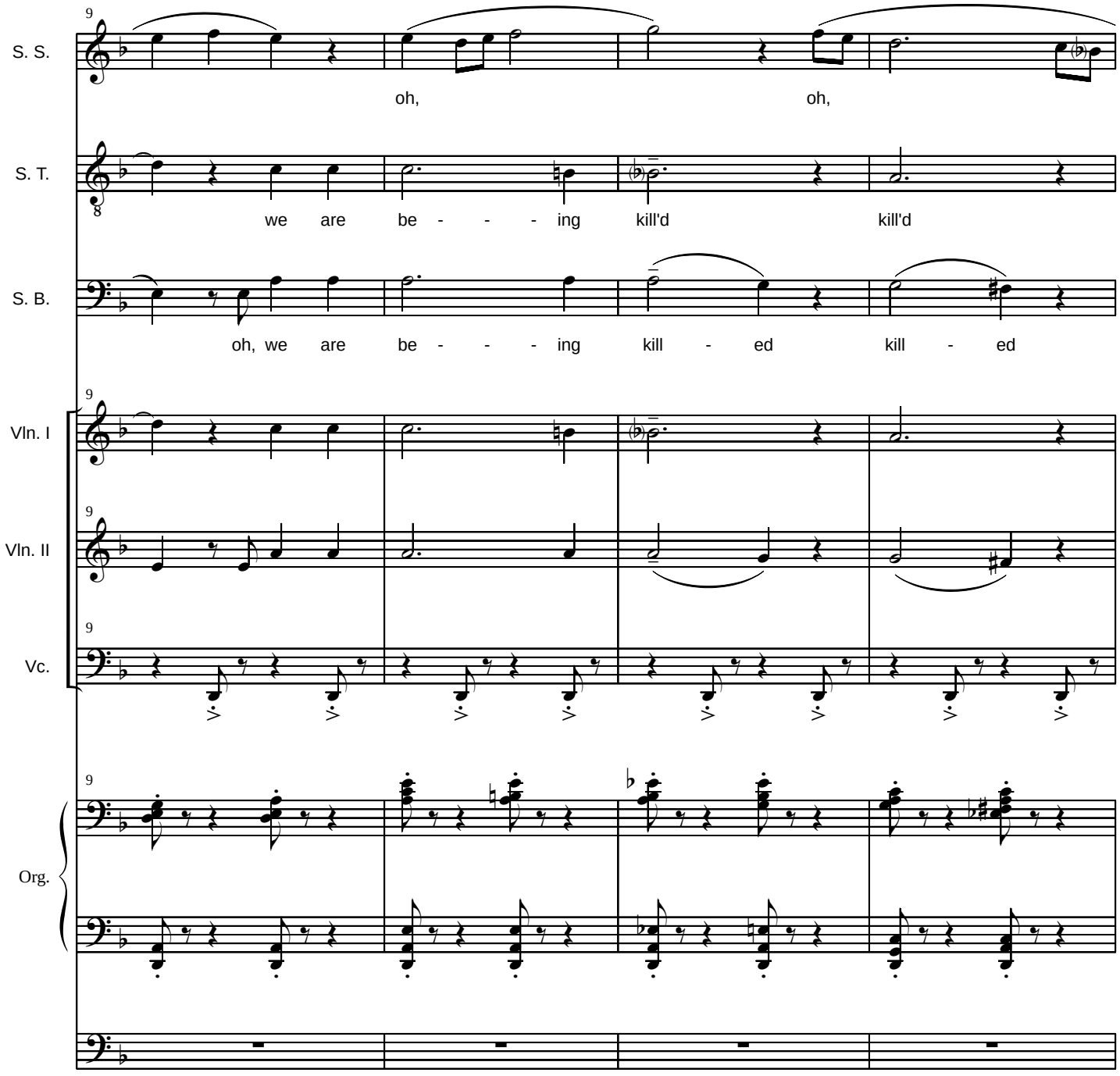
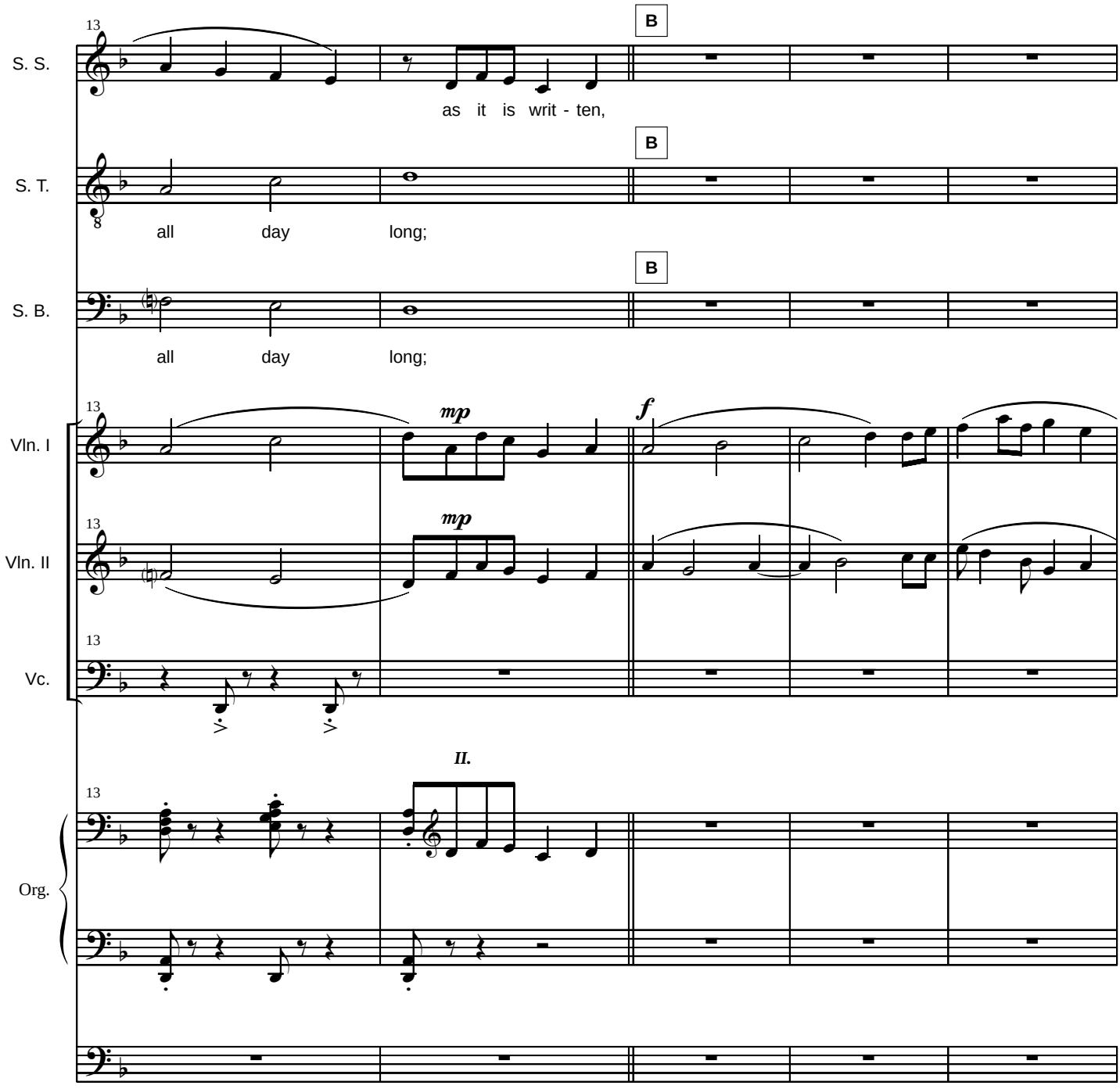
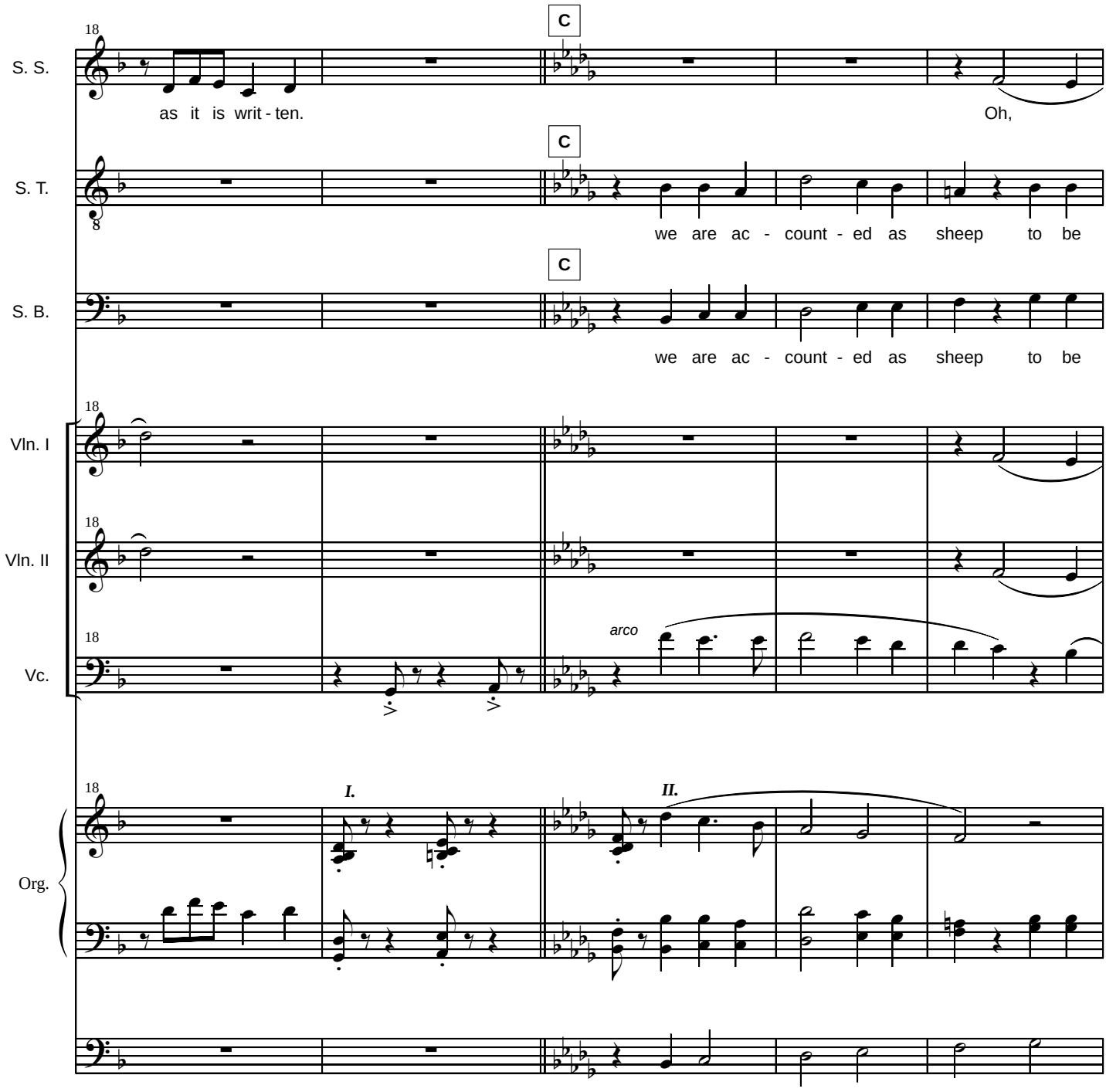
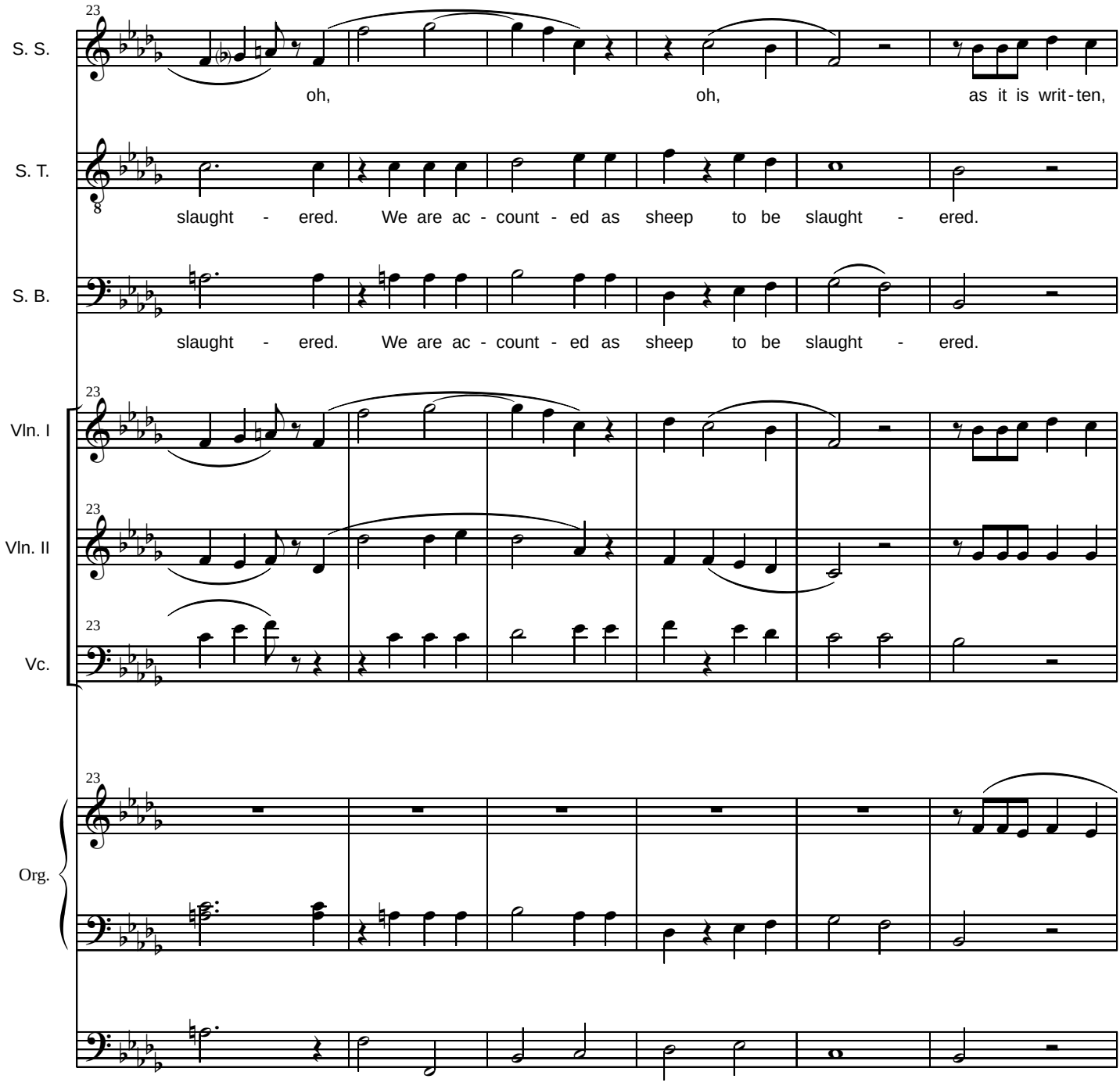
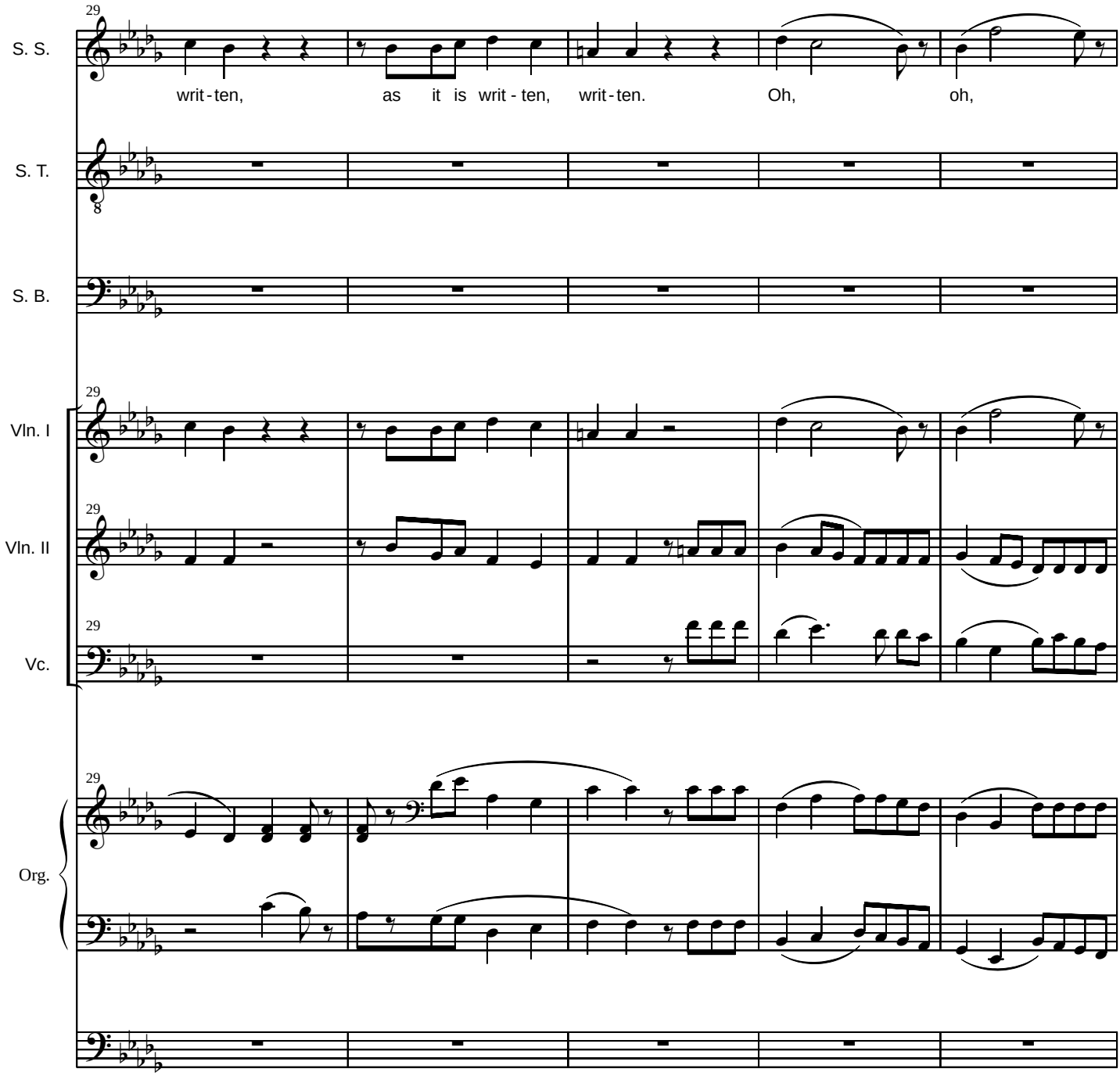

S. S.
Oh,
S. T.
For your sake, for your sake, for your sake, for your sake,
S. B.
For your sake, for your sake, for your sake, for your sake,
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.

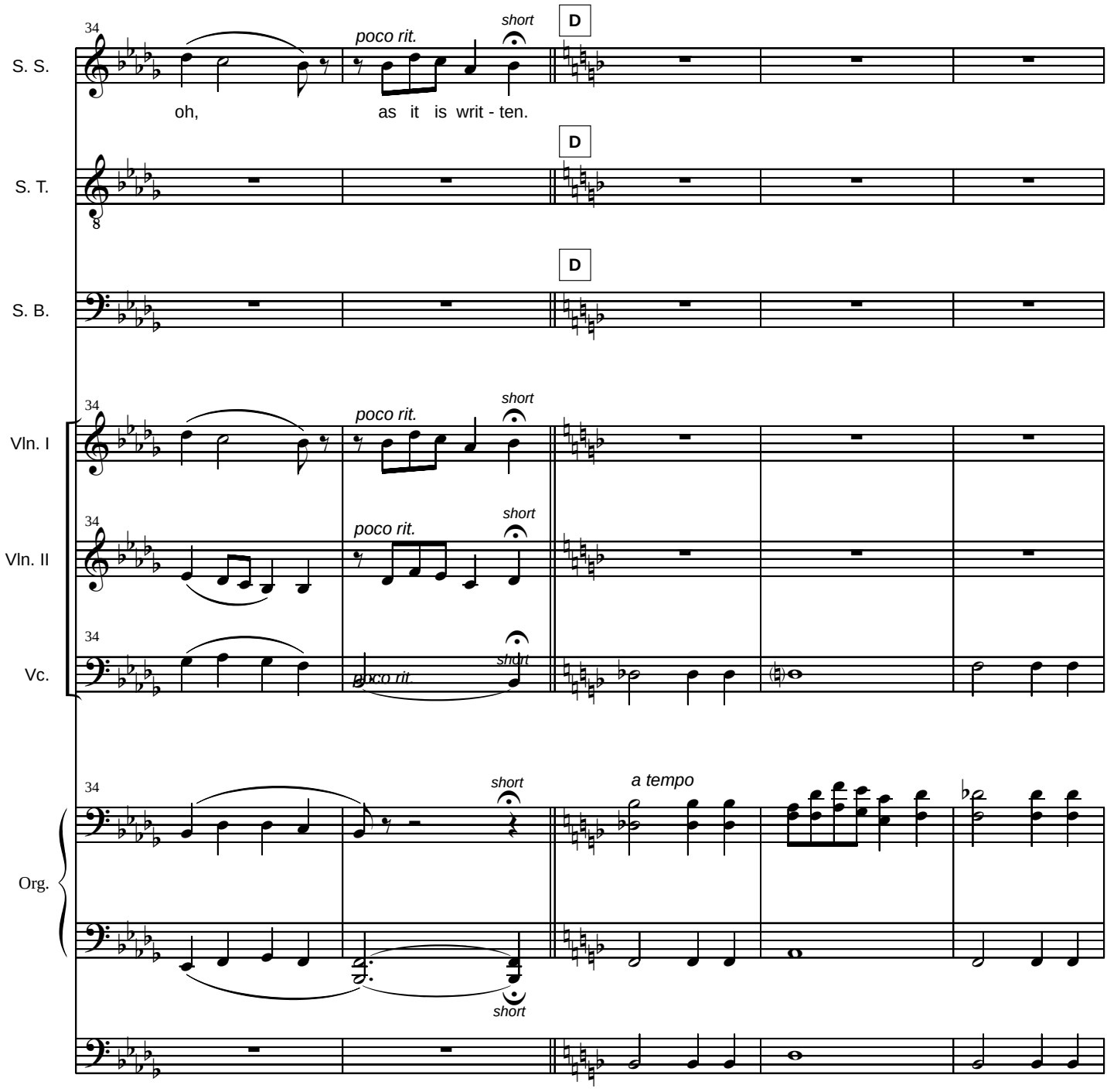

S. S.
oh,
oh,
S. T.
we are be - - - ing kill'd kill'd
S. B.
oh, we are be - - - ing kill - ed kill - ed
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.

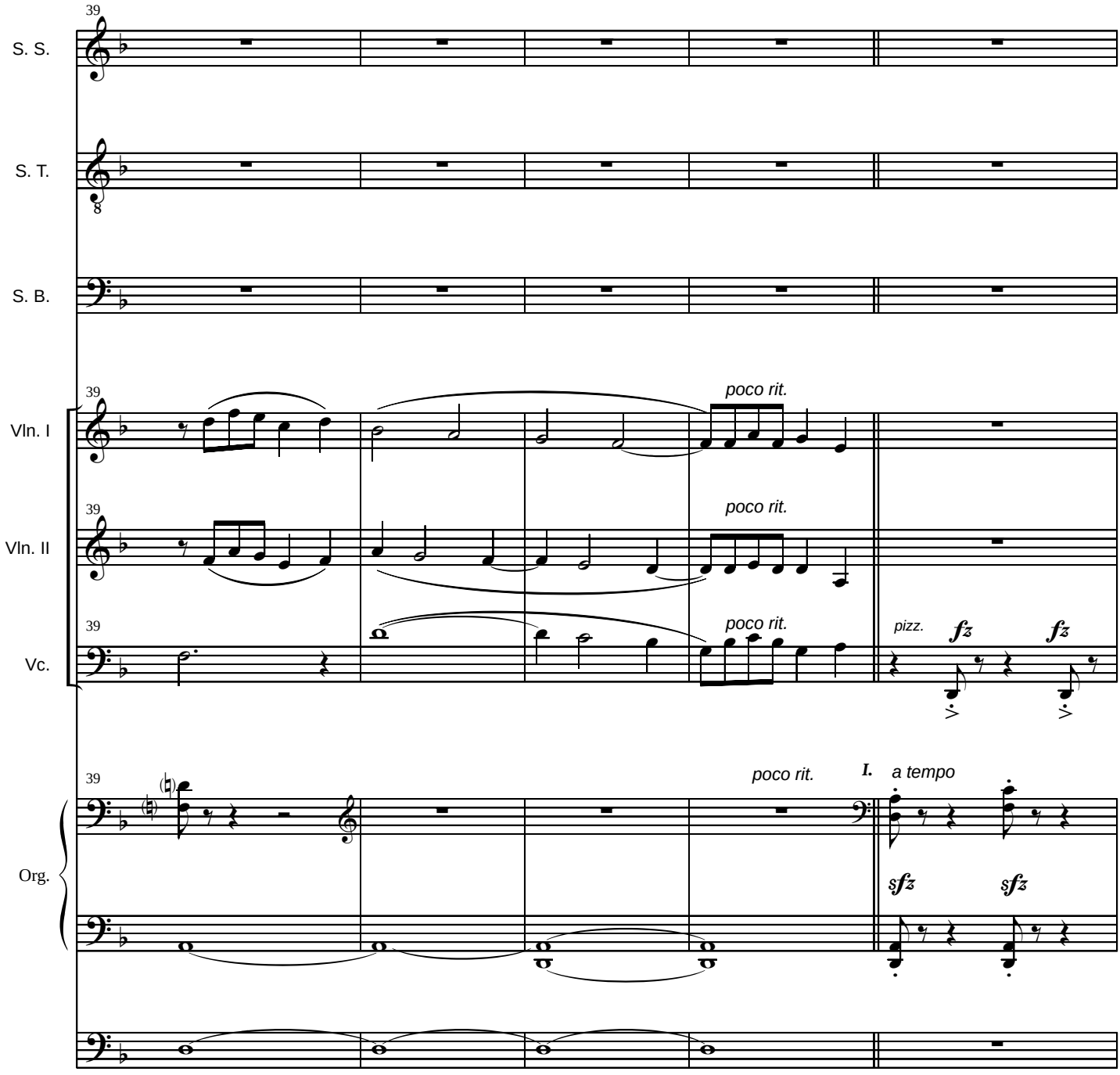

13
B
S. S.
as it is writ - ten,
B
S. T.
all day long;
B
S. B.
all day long;
13
mp
f
Vln. I
13
mp
Vln. II
13
Vc.
II.
13
Org.

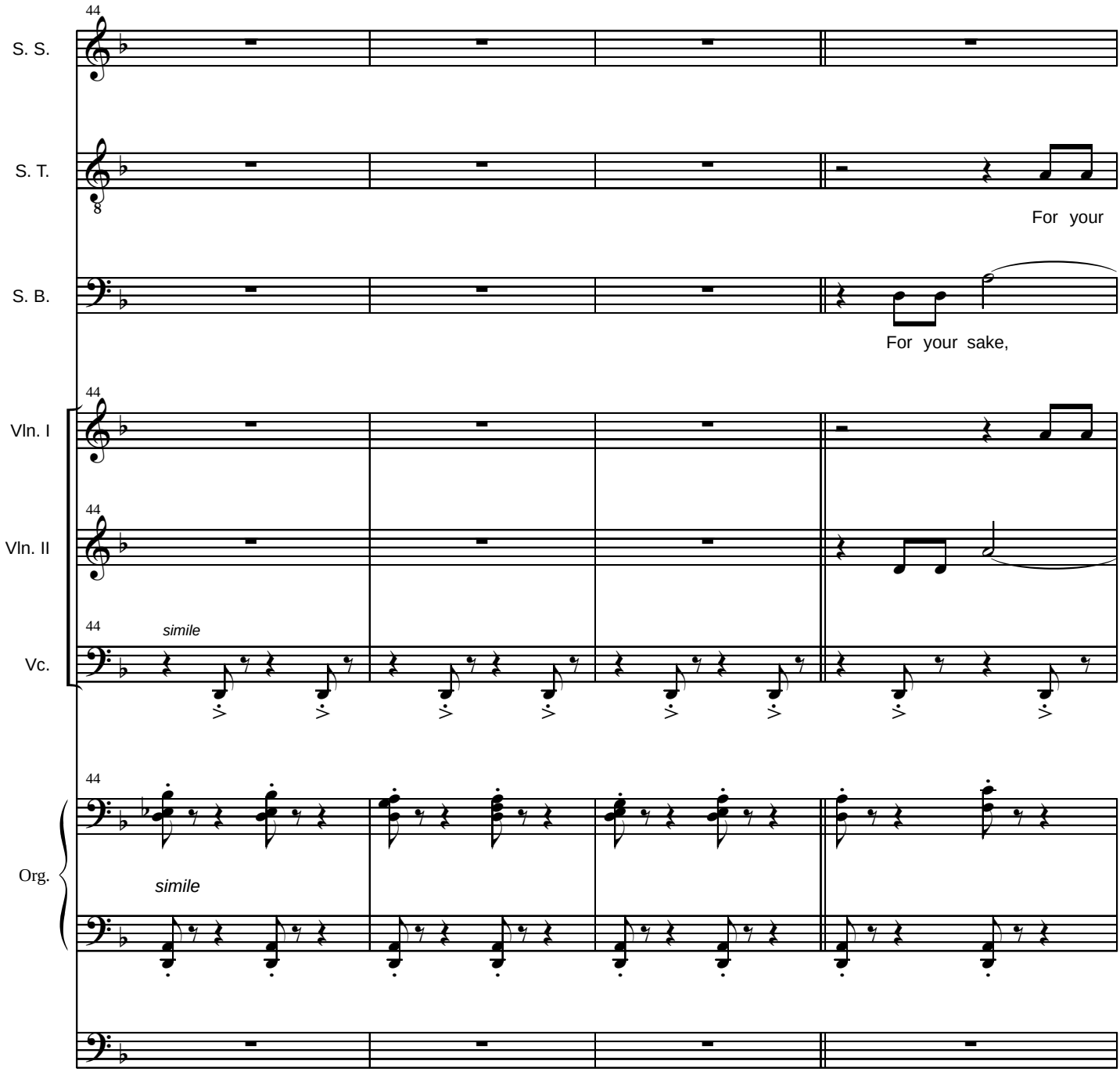

18
C
S. S.
as it is writ - ten.
Oh,
S. T.
we are ac - count - ed as sheep to be
S. B.
we are ac - count - ed as sheep to be
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
arco
Org.
I.
II.

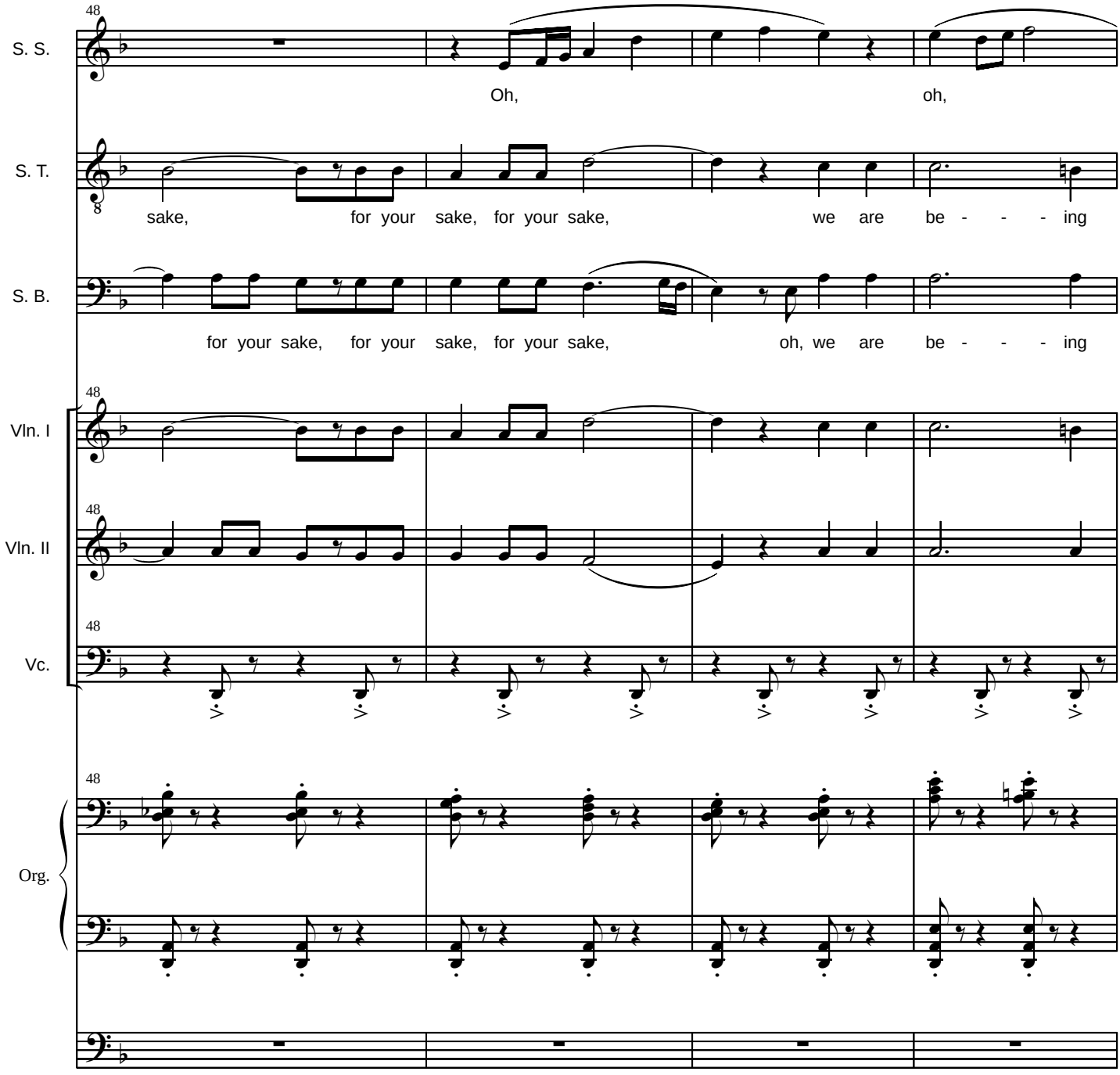

23
S. S.
oh,
oh,
as it is writ - ten,
S. T.
slaught - ered. We are ac - count - ed as sheep to be slaught - ered.
S. B.
slaught - ered. We are ac - count - ed as sheep to be slaught - ered.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.

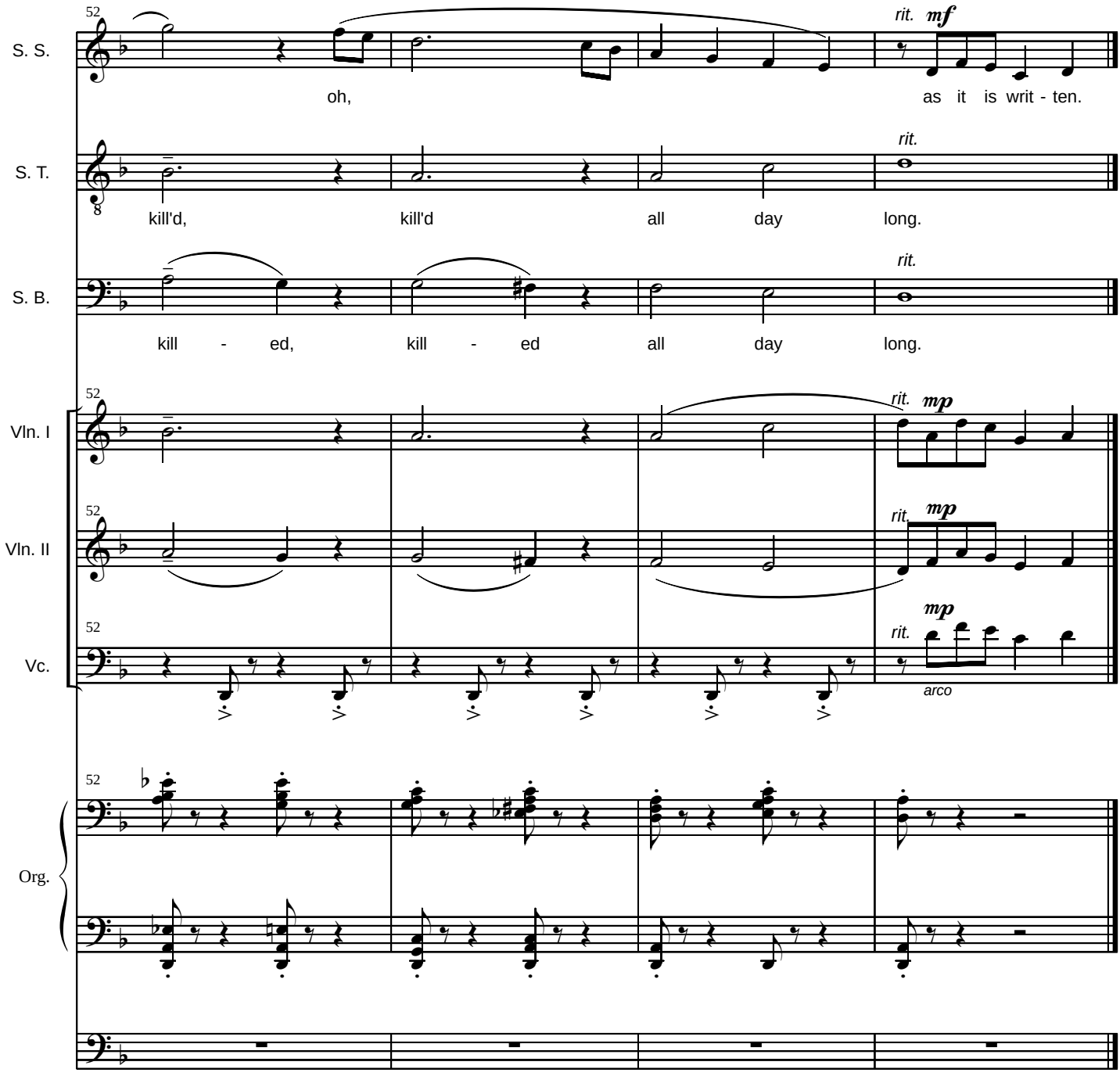

29
S. S.
writ - ten, as it is writ - ten, writ - ten. Oh, oh,
S. T.
8
S. B.
29
Vln. I
29
Vln. II
29
Vc.
29
Org.


S. S.
S. T.
S. B.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.
34
oh,
poco rit.
short
as it is writ - ten.
D
a tempo


39
S. S.
S. T.
8
S. B.
39
Vln. I
poco rit.
39
Vln. II
poco rit.
39
Vc.
poco rit.
pizz.
fz
fz
39
Org.
poco rit.
I.
a tempo
sfz
sfz


S. S.
S. T.
For your
S. B.
For your sake,
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
simile
Org.
simile


48
S. S.
Oh,
oh,
S. T.
sake,
for your sake, for your sake,
we are be - - - ing
S. B.
for your sake, for your sake, for your sake,
oh, we are be - - - ing
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Org.

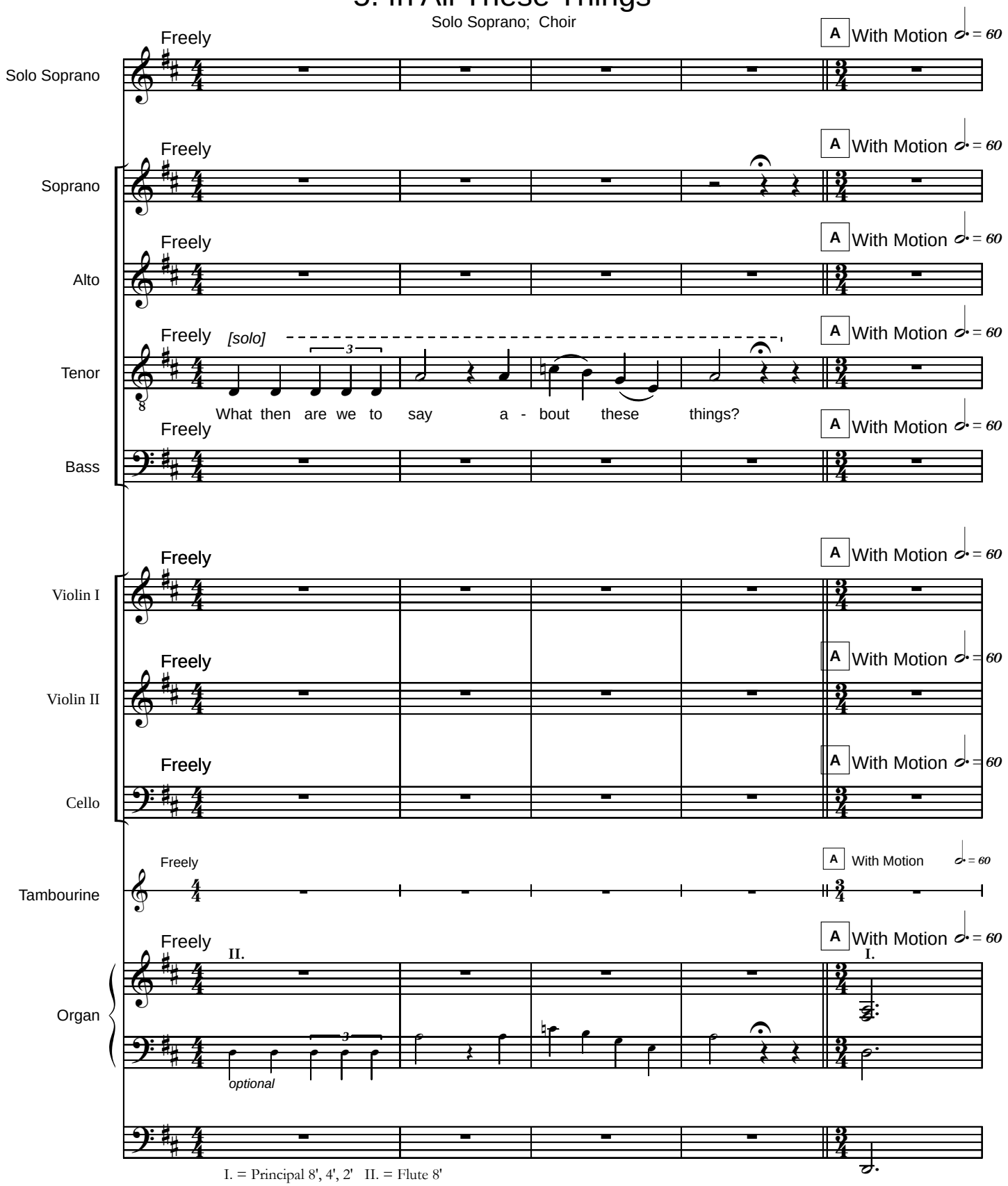


3 min 30 sec

April 16, 2006

5. In All These Things

Solo Soprano; Choir



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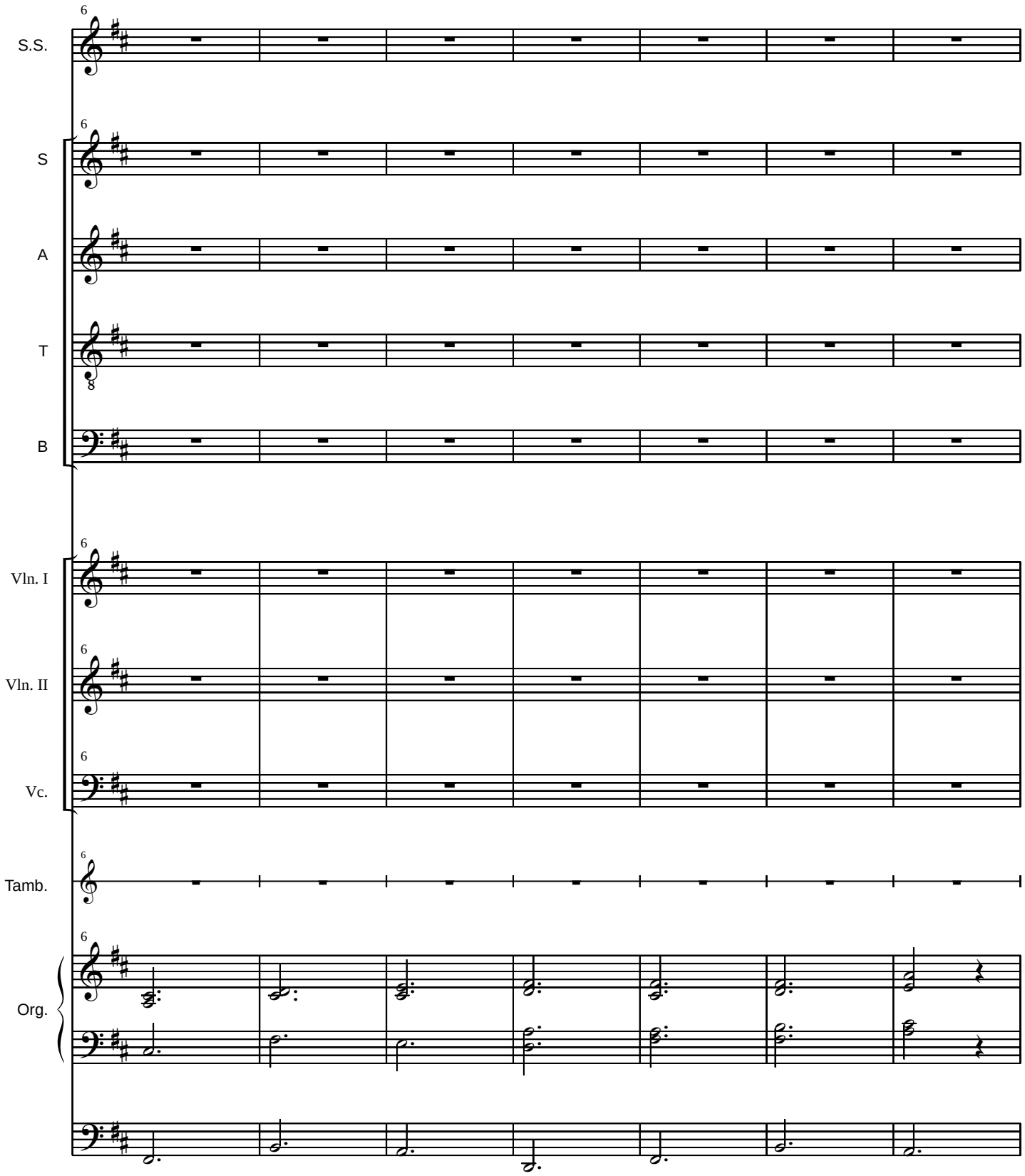
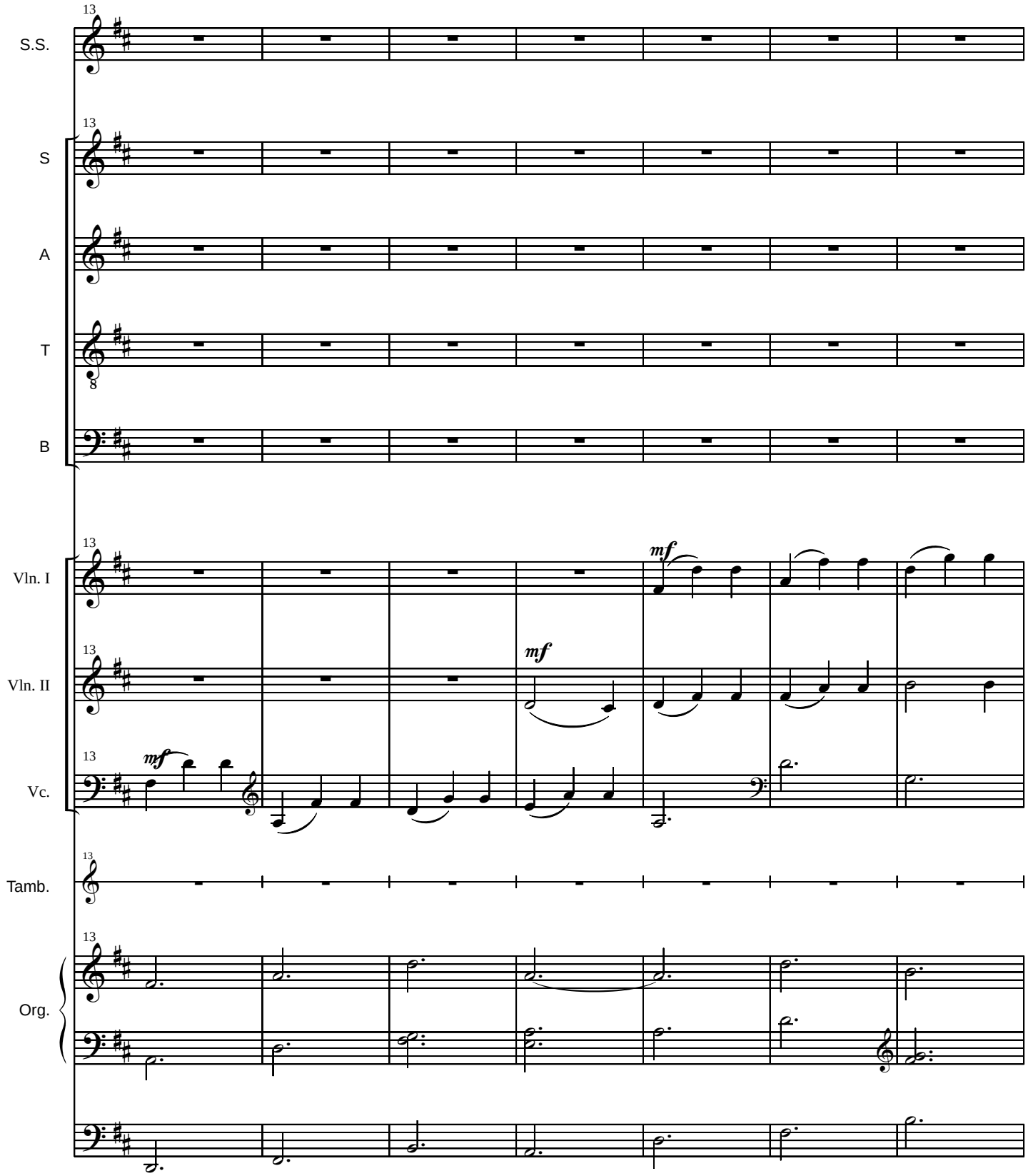
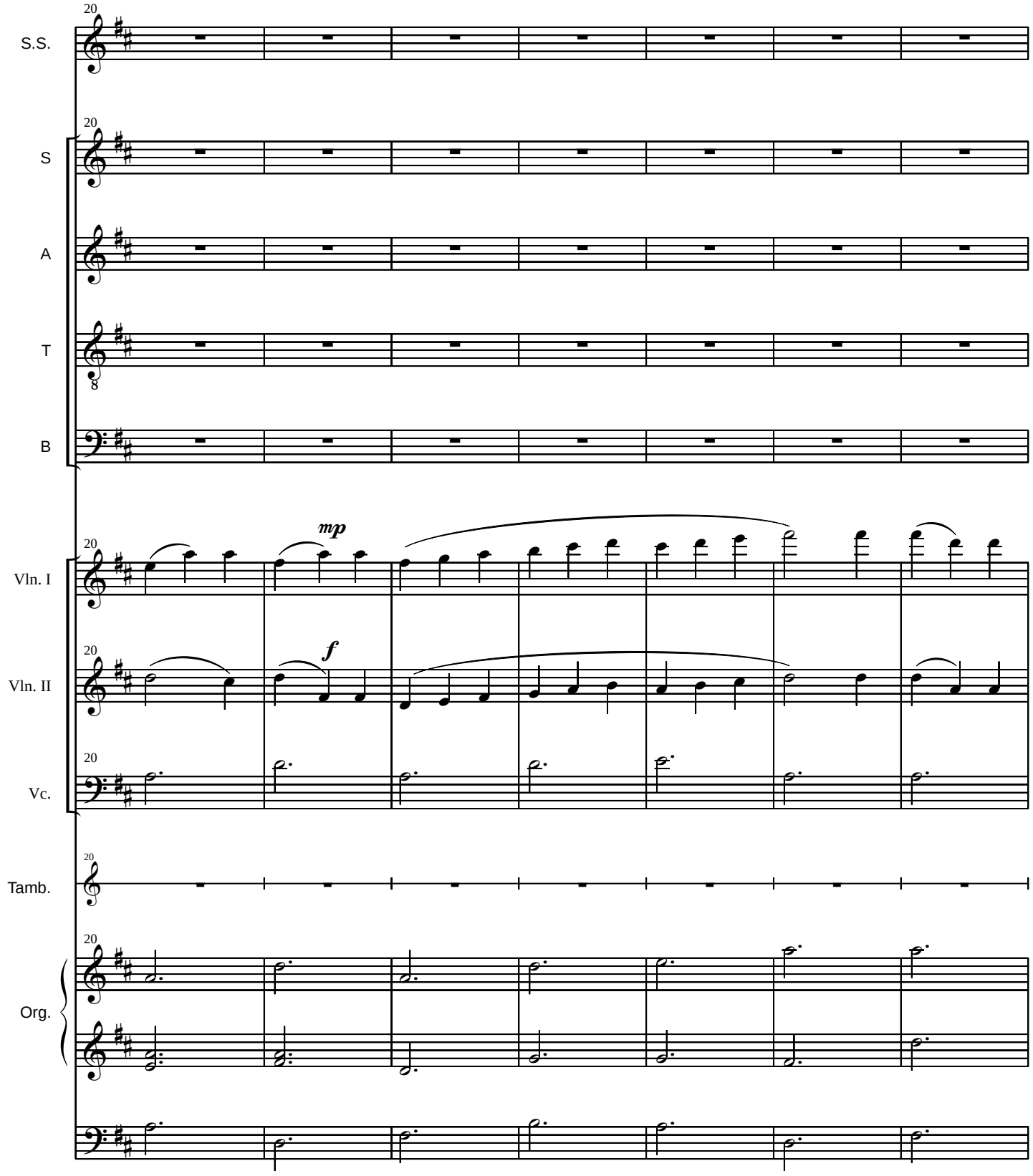
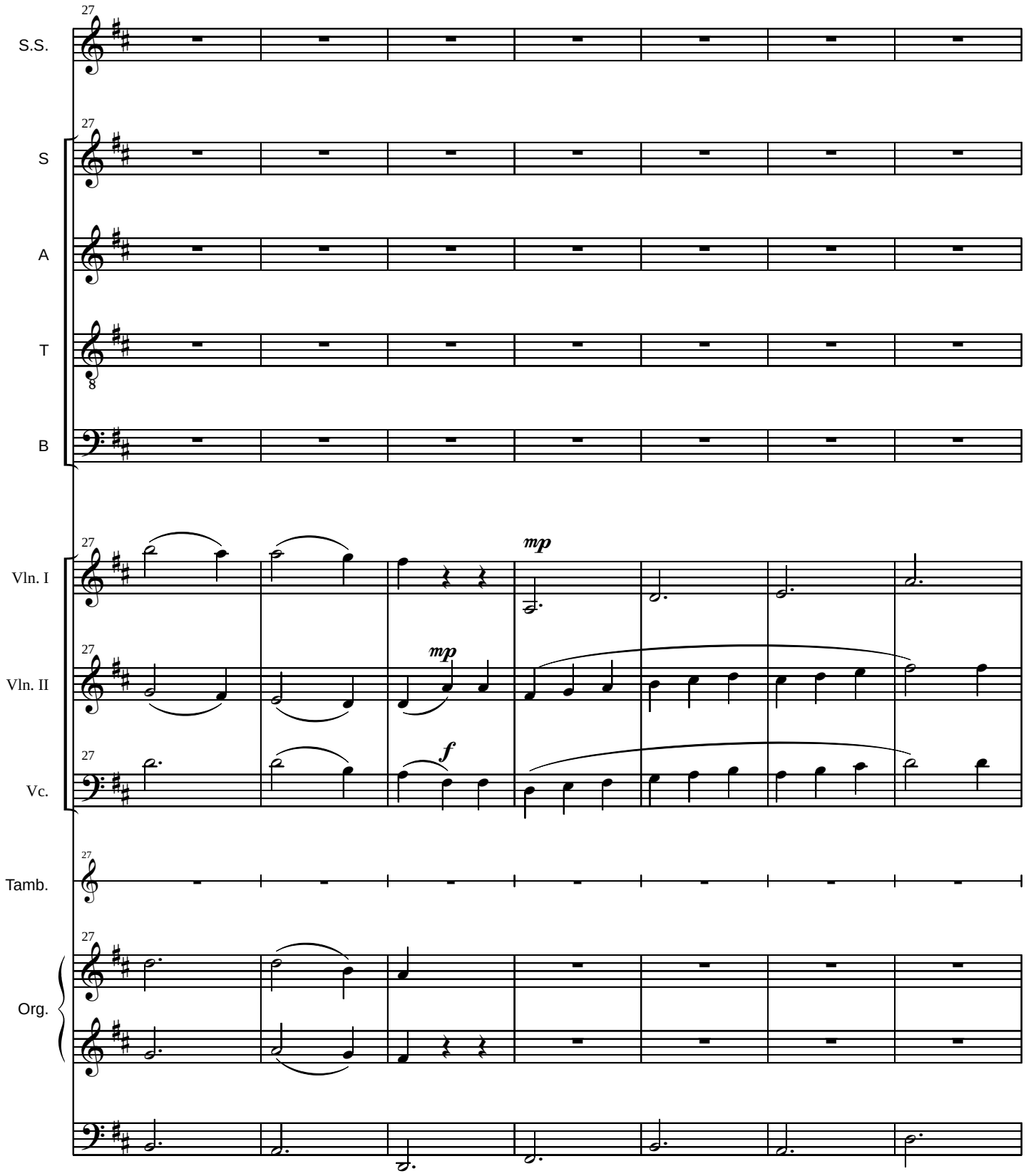
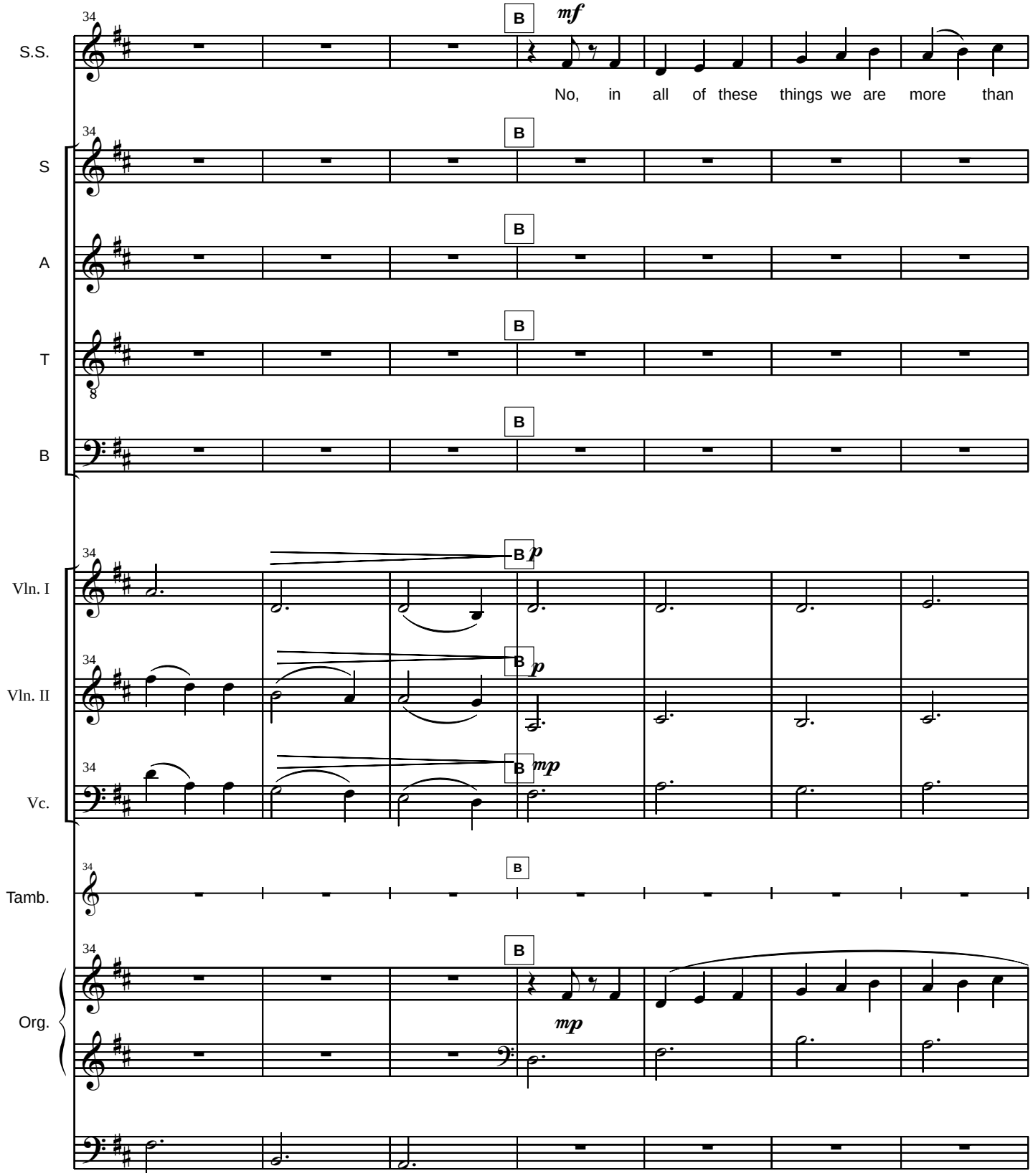
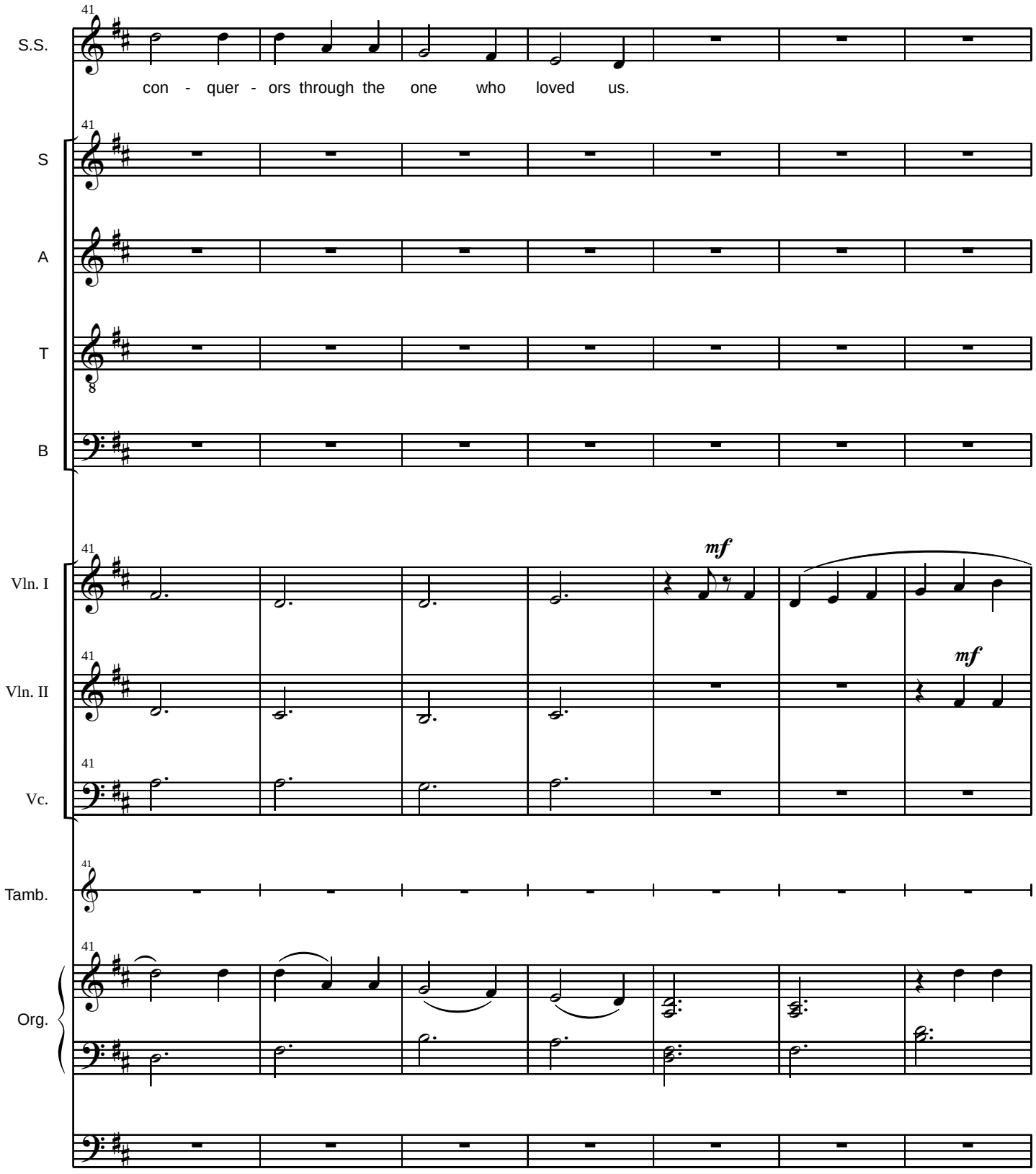

S.S.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.

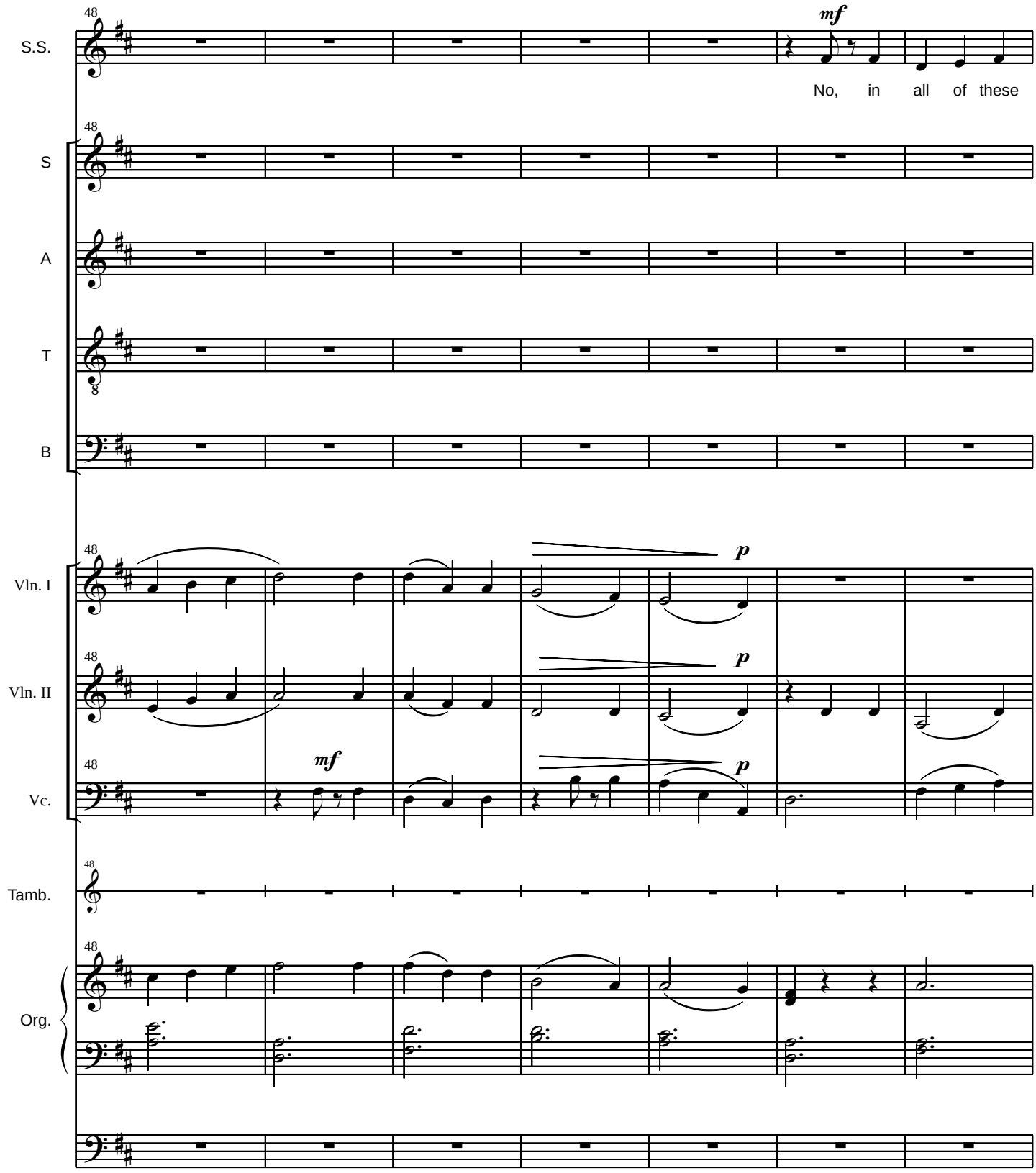

13
S.S.
S
A
T
8
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.
mf
mf
mf

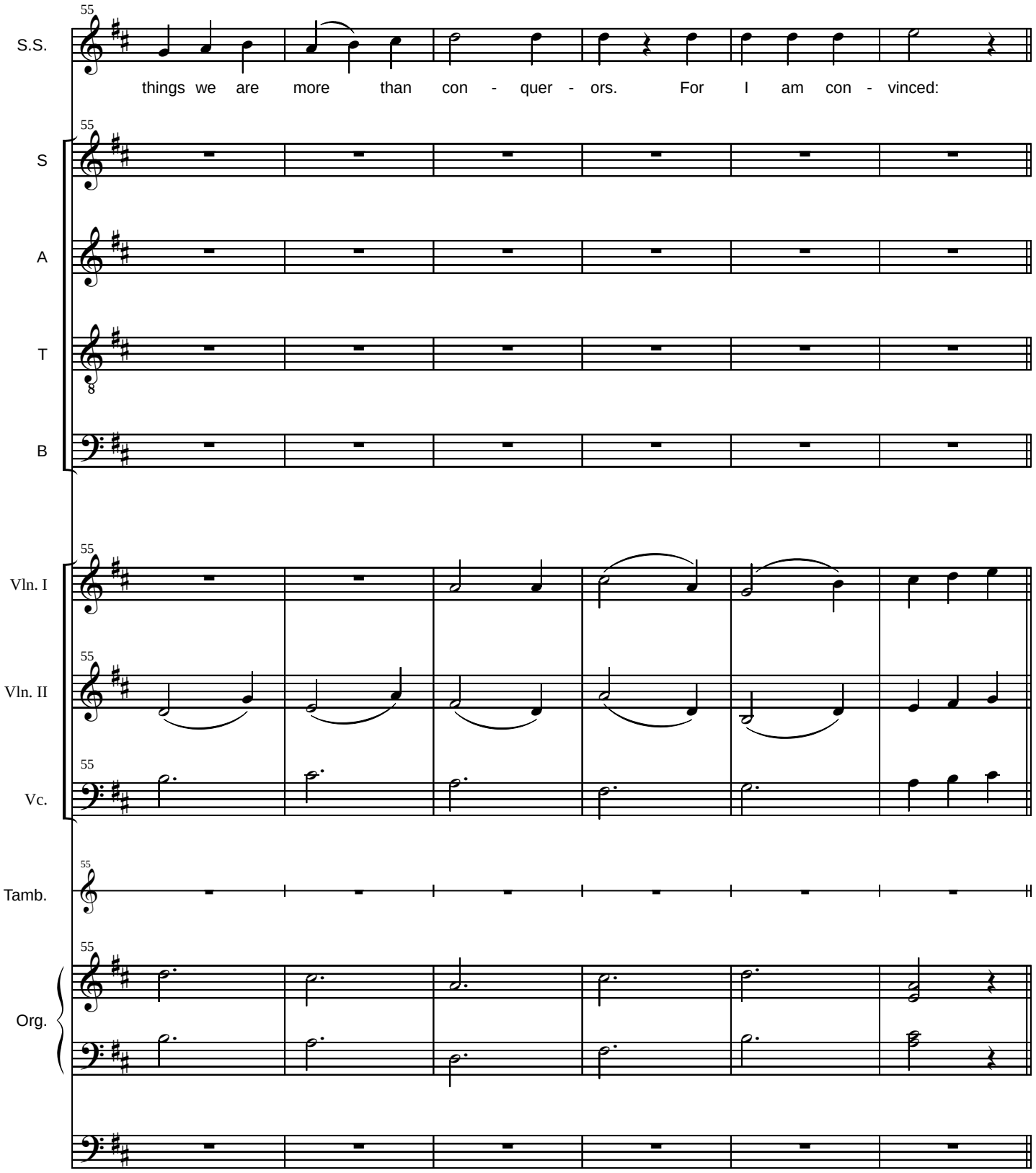

20
S.S.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.
mp
f

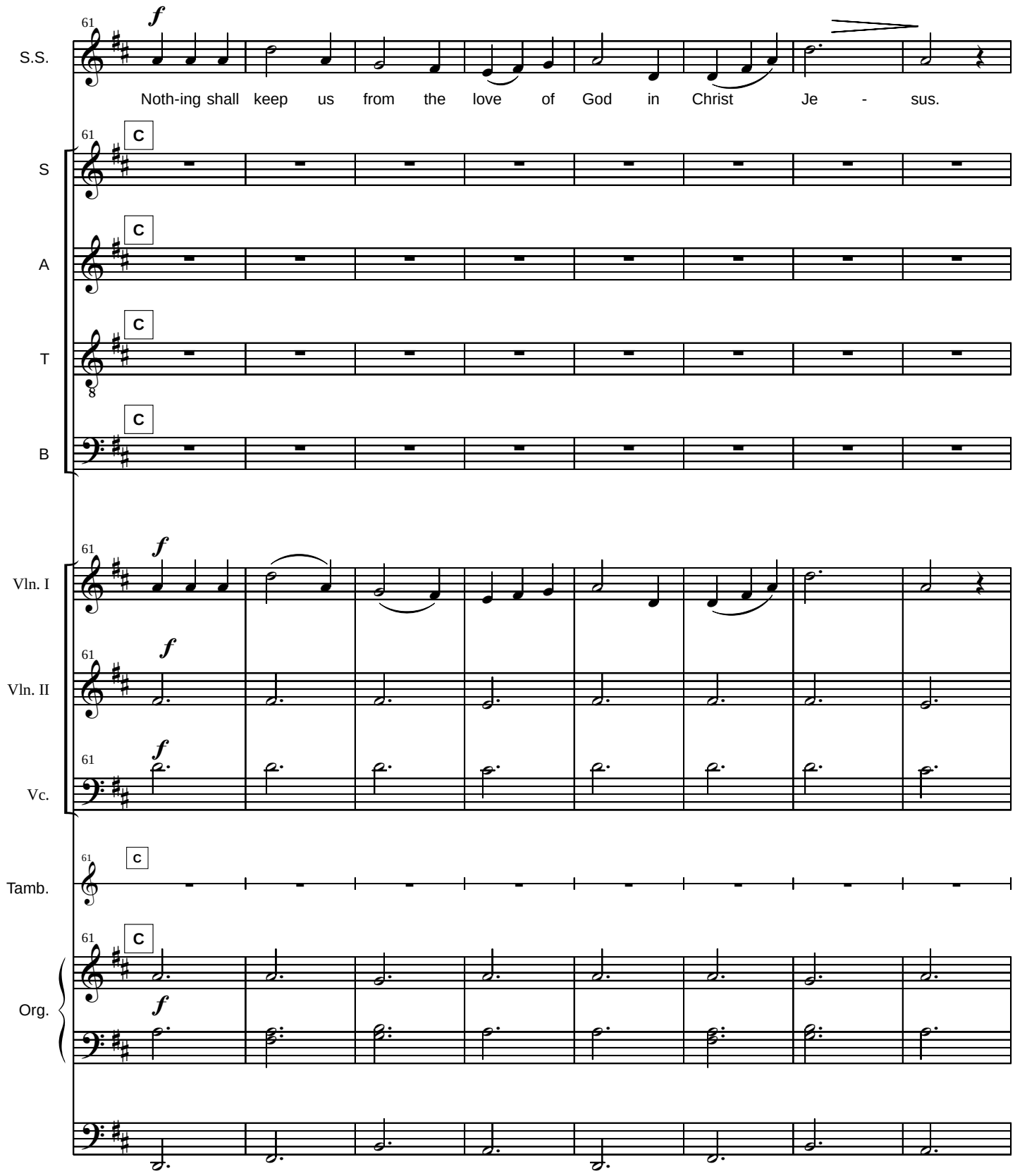

27
S.S.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.
mp
mp
f

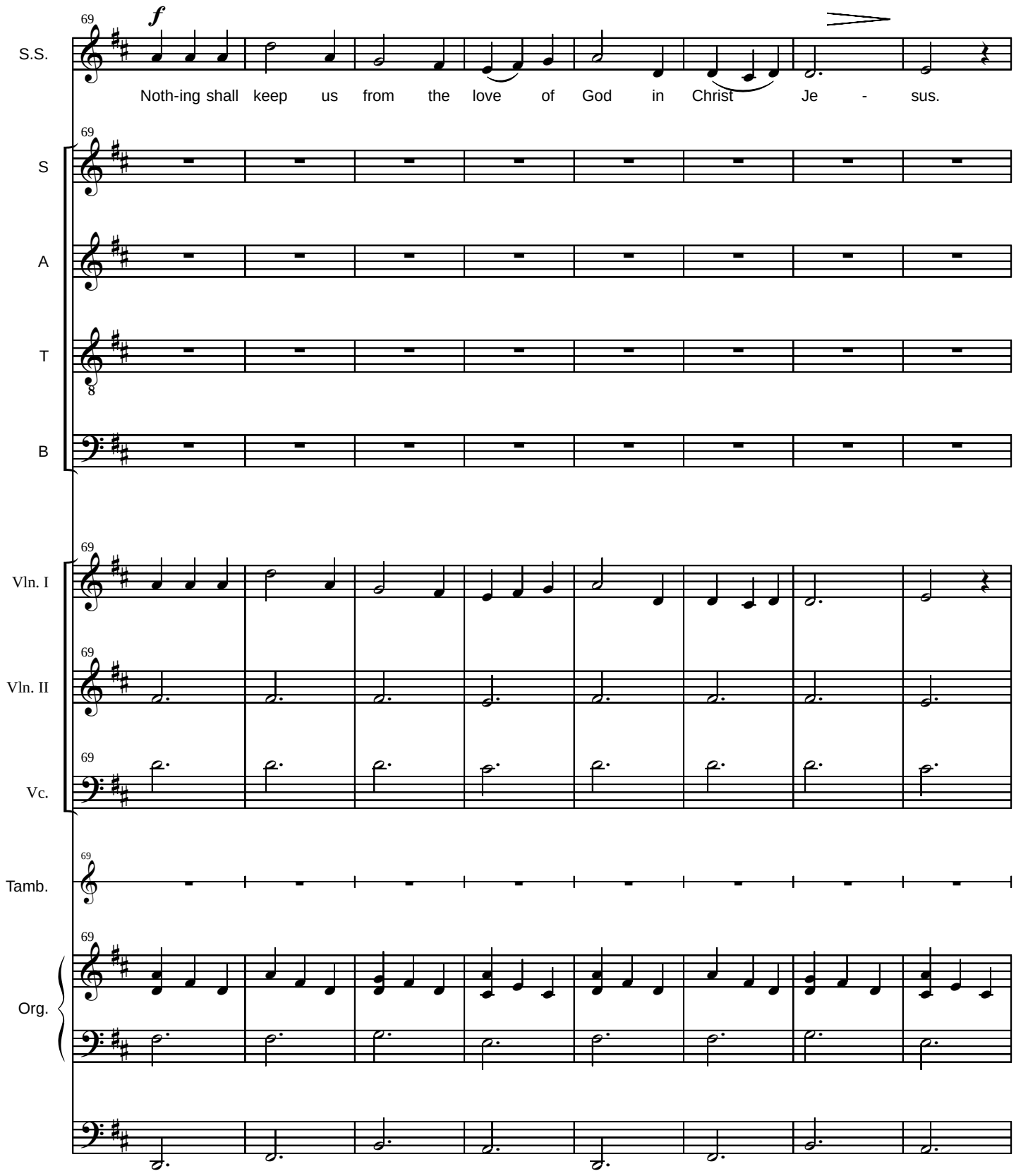

34
B
mf
S.S.
No, in all of these things we are more than
S
A
T
B
p
Vln. I
Vln. II
mp
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.

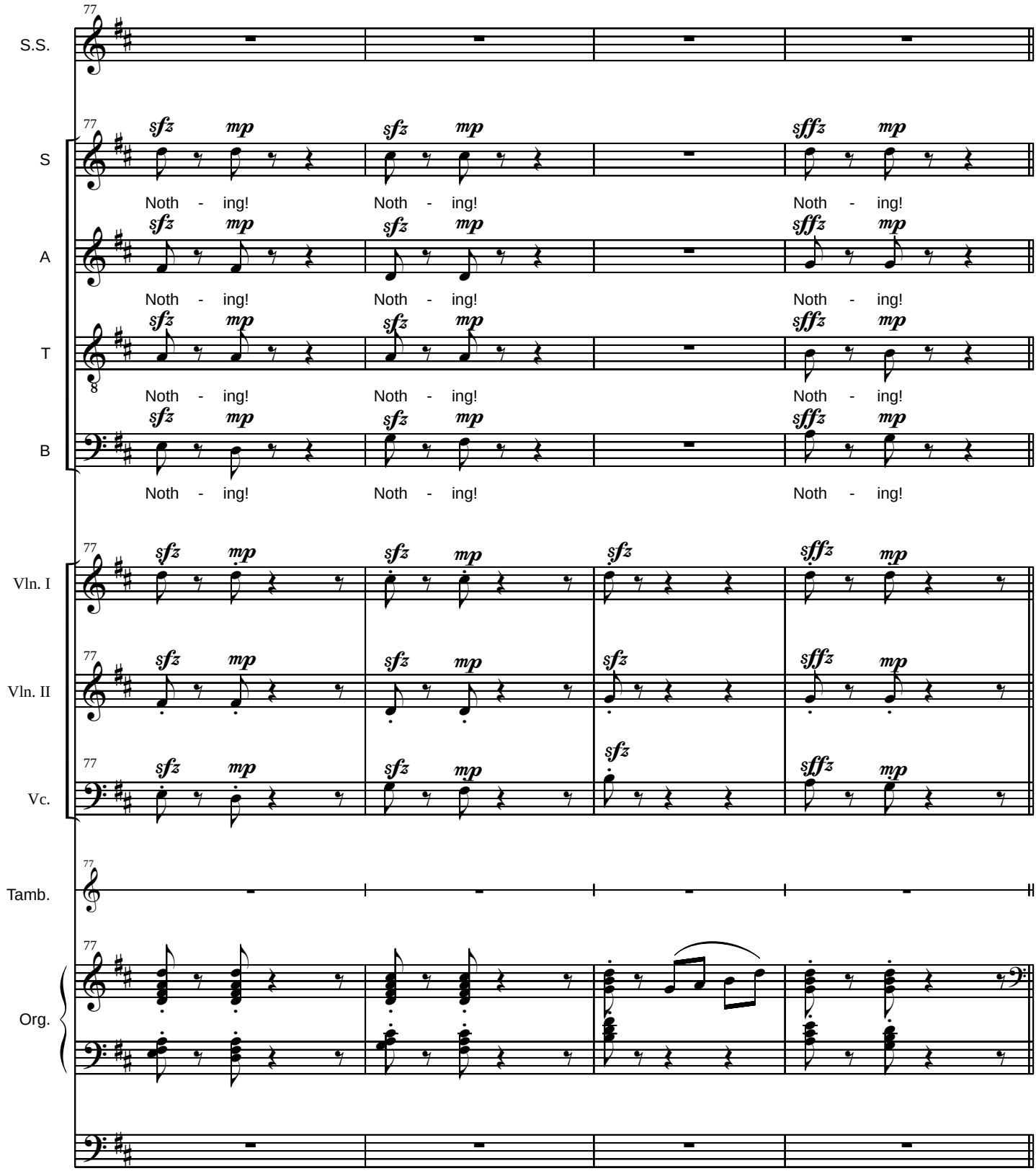

41
S.S.
con - quer - ors through the one who loved us.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
mf
Vln. II
mf
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.

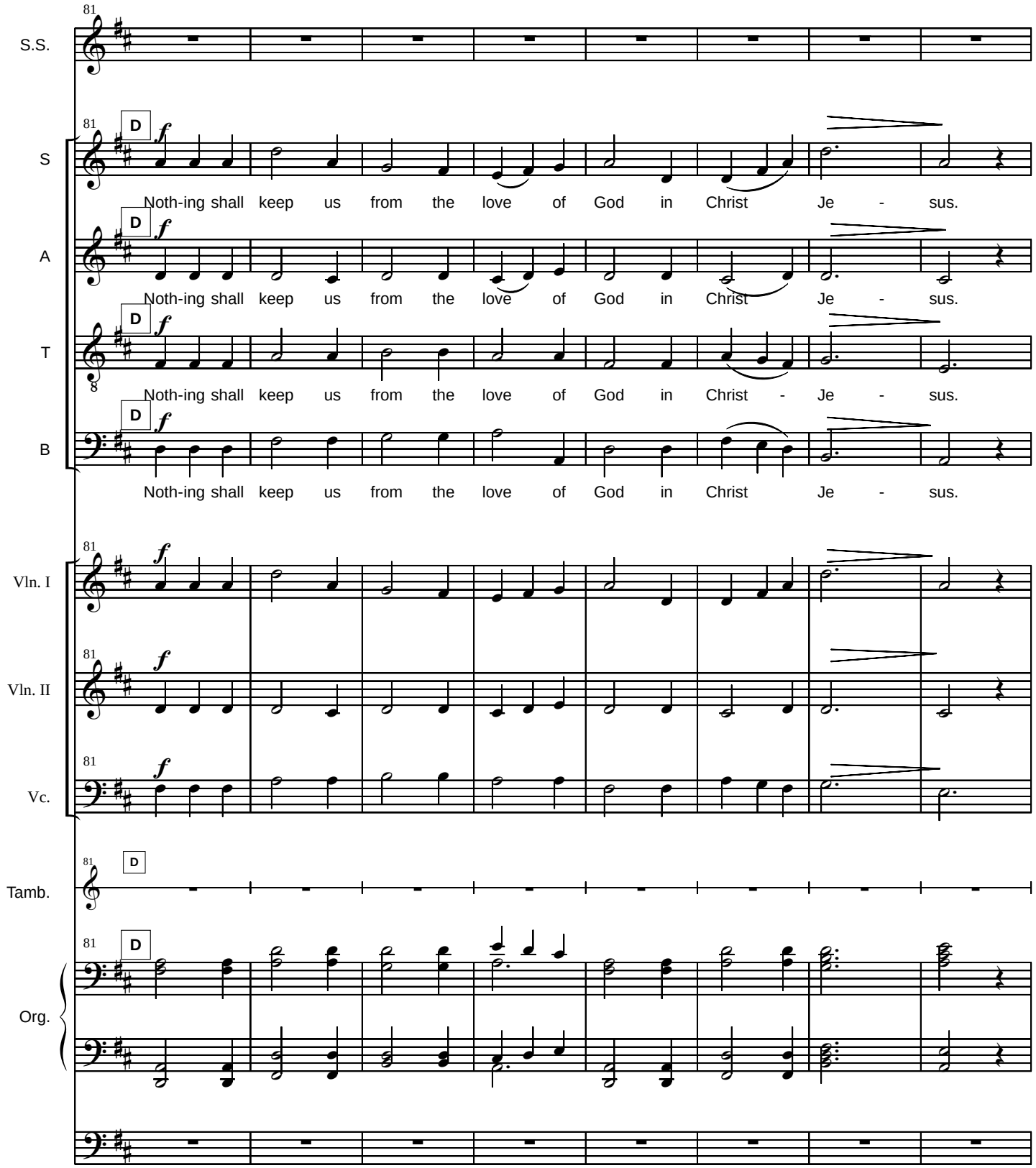

48
S.S.
mf
No, in all of these
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
p
Vln. II
p
Vc.
mf
p
Tamb.
Org.

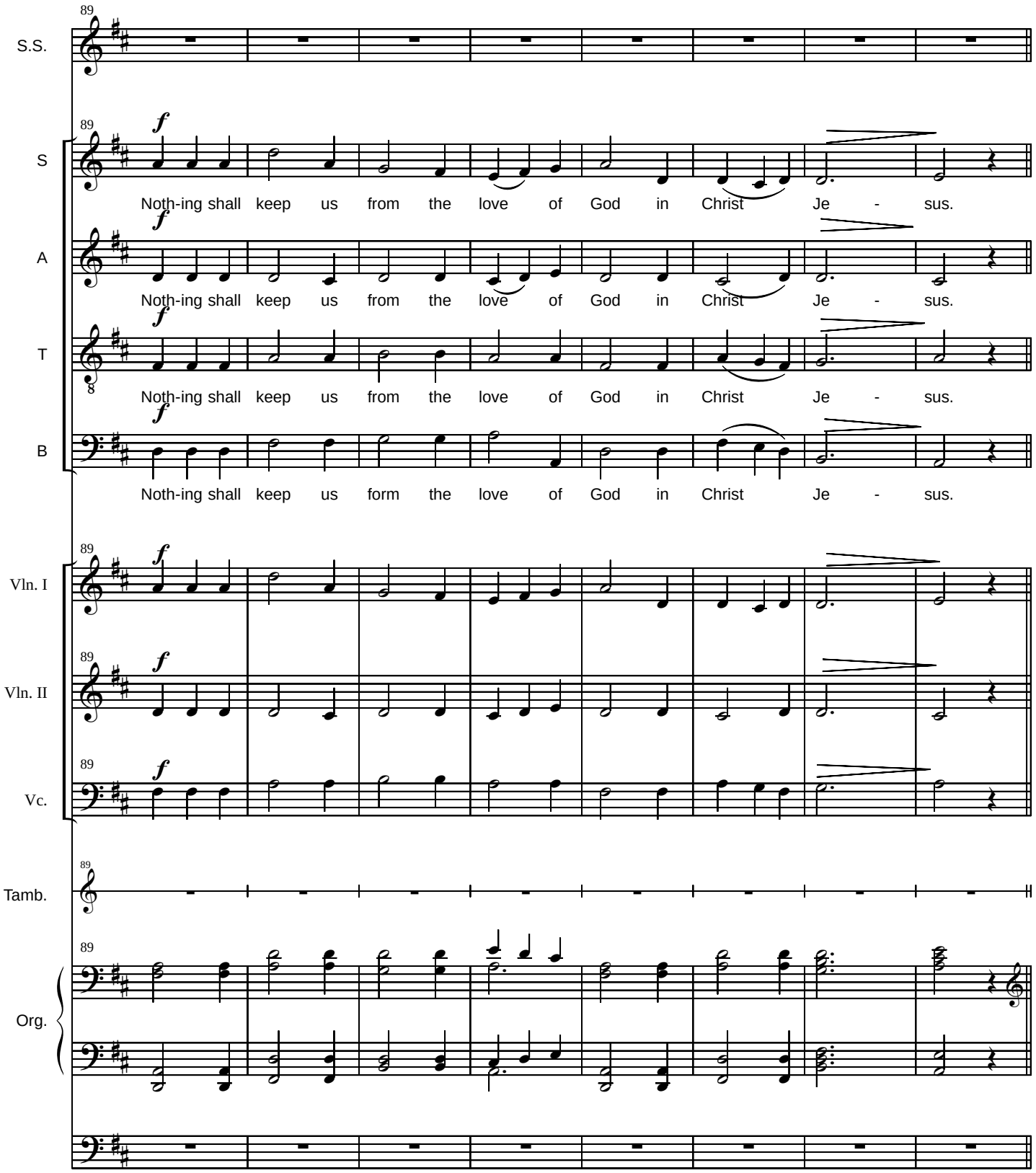

55
S.S.
things we are more than con - quer - ors. For I am con - vinced:
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.

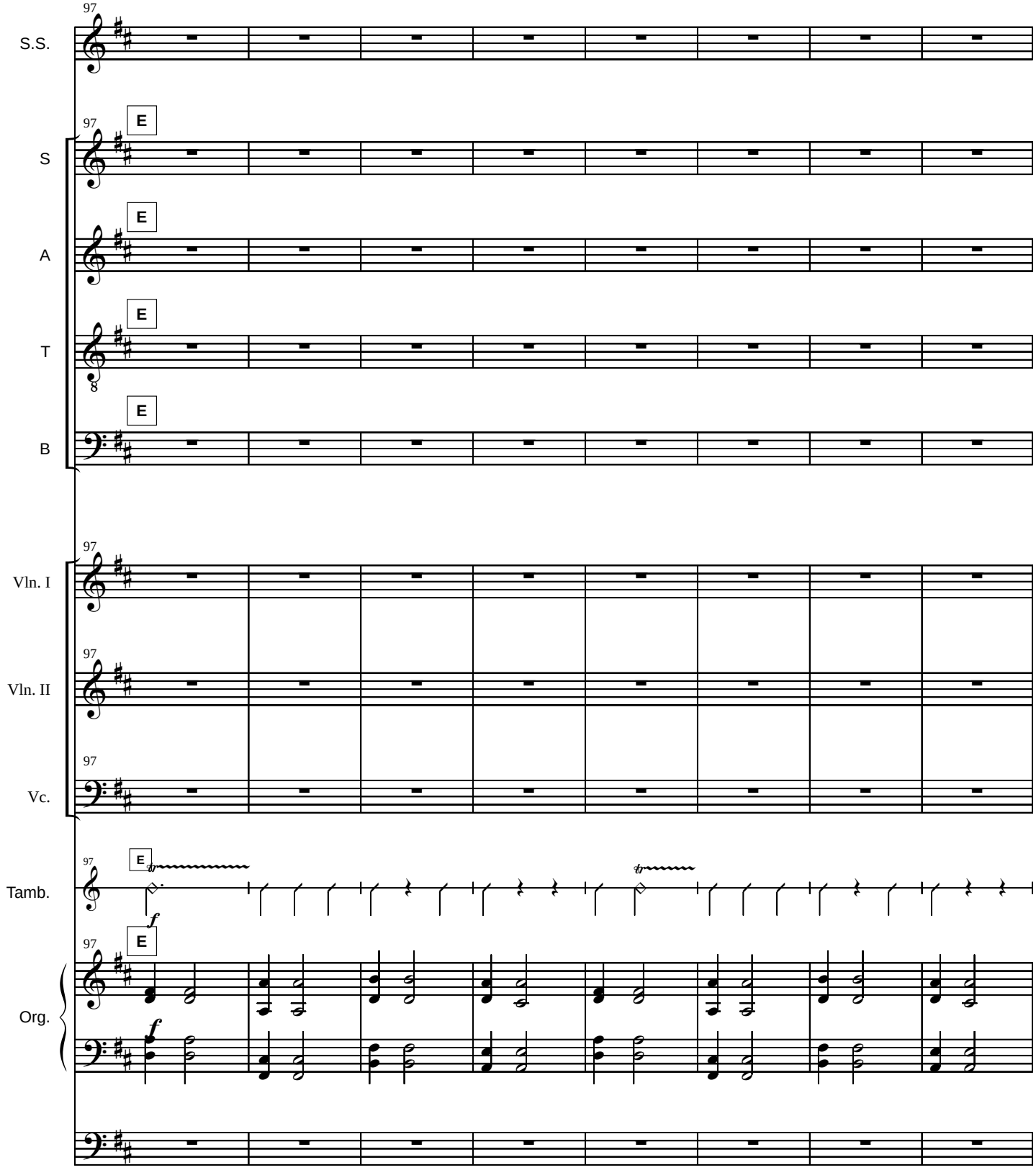

S.S.
Noth-ing shall keep us from the love of God in Christ Je - sus.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.

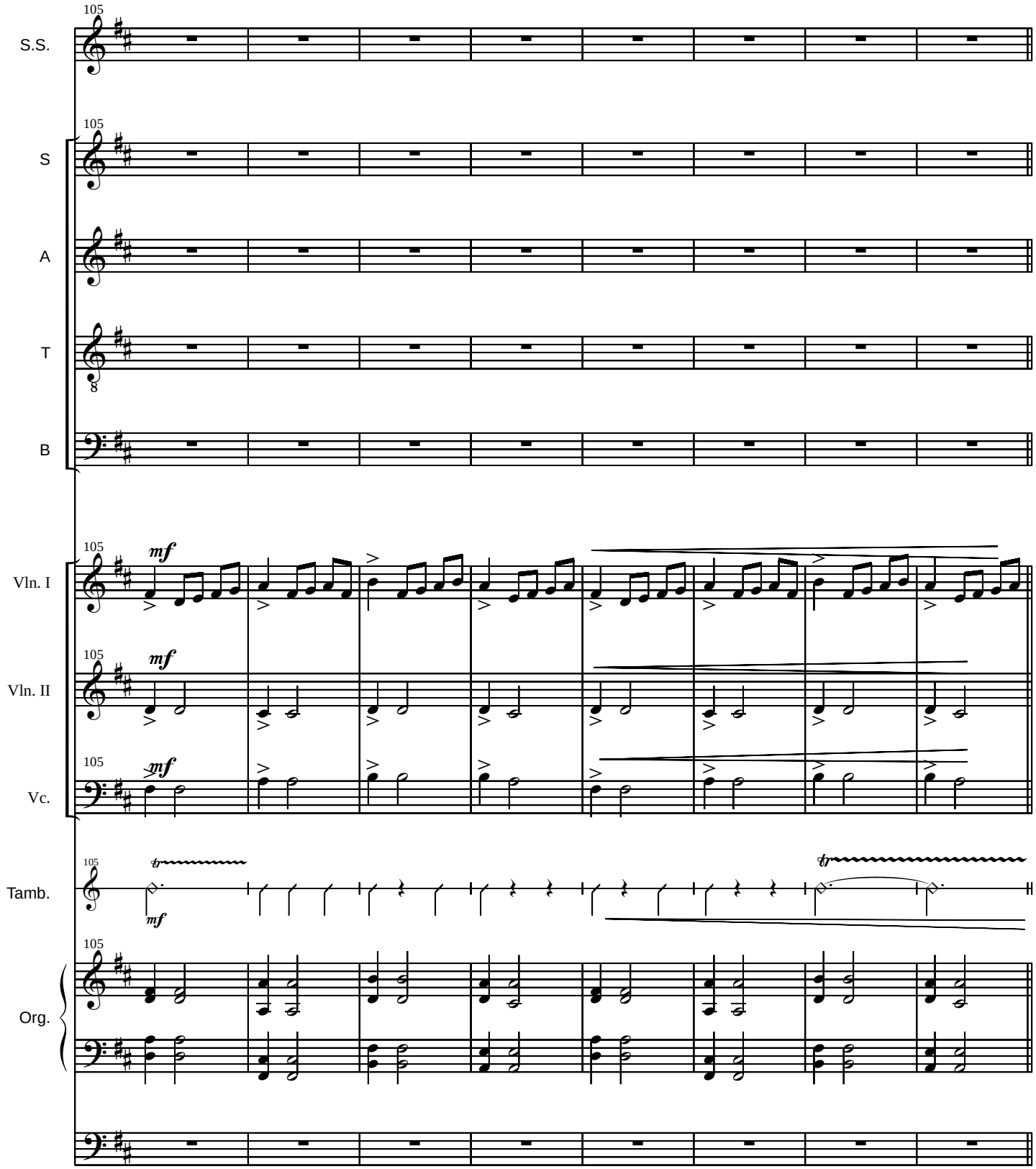

69
f
S.S.
Noth-ing shall keep us from the love of God in Christ Je - sus.
[rejoin sc
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.

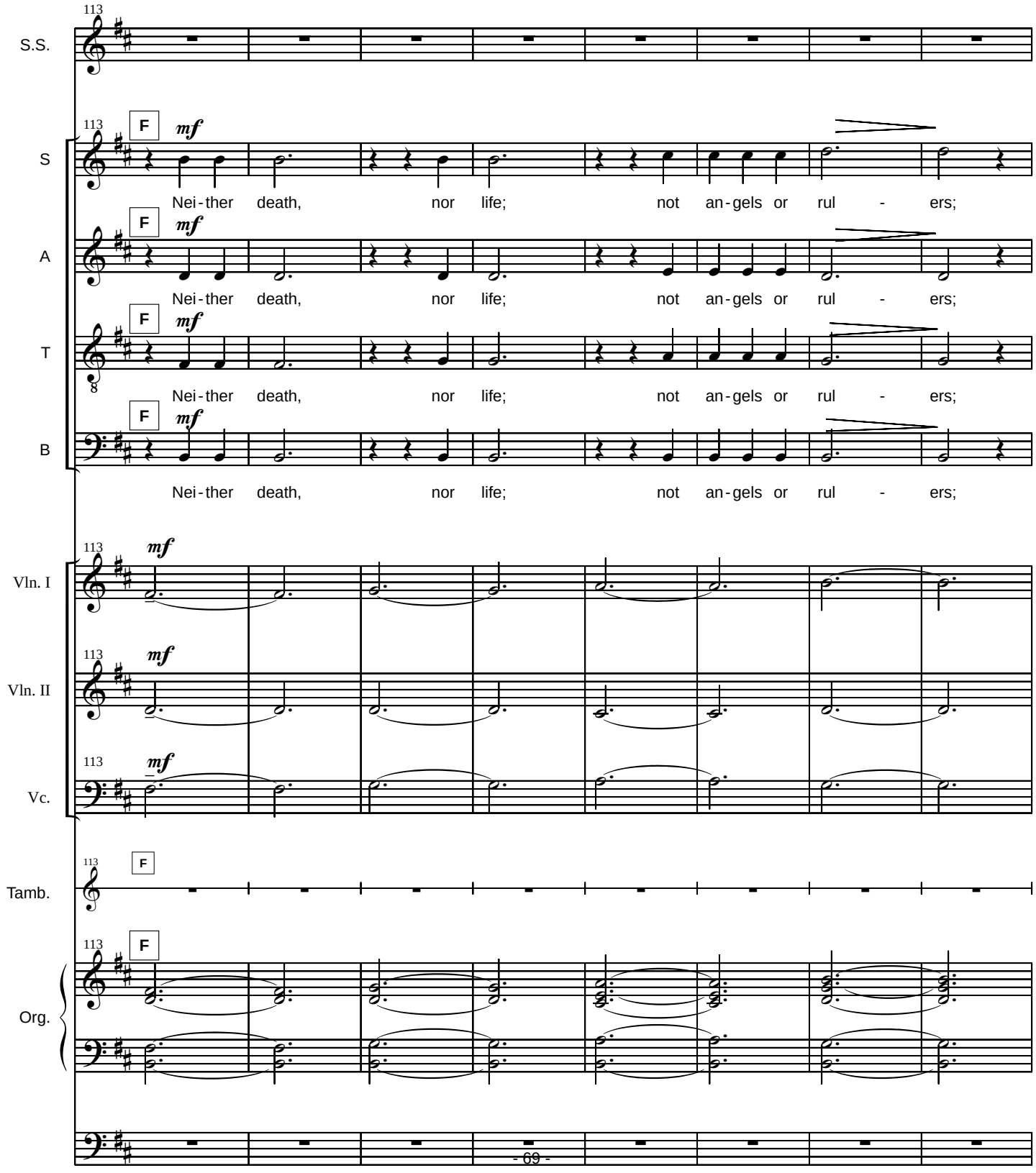

S.S.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.
77
sfz mp
sffz mp
Noth - ing!

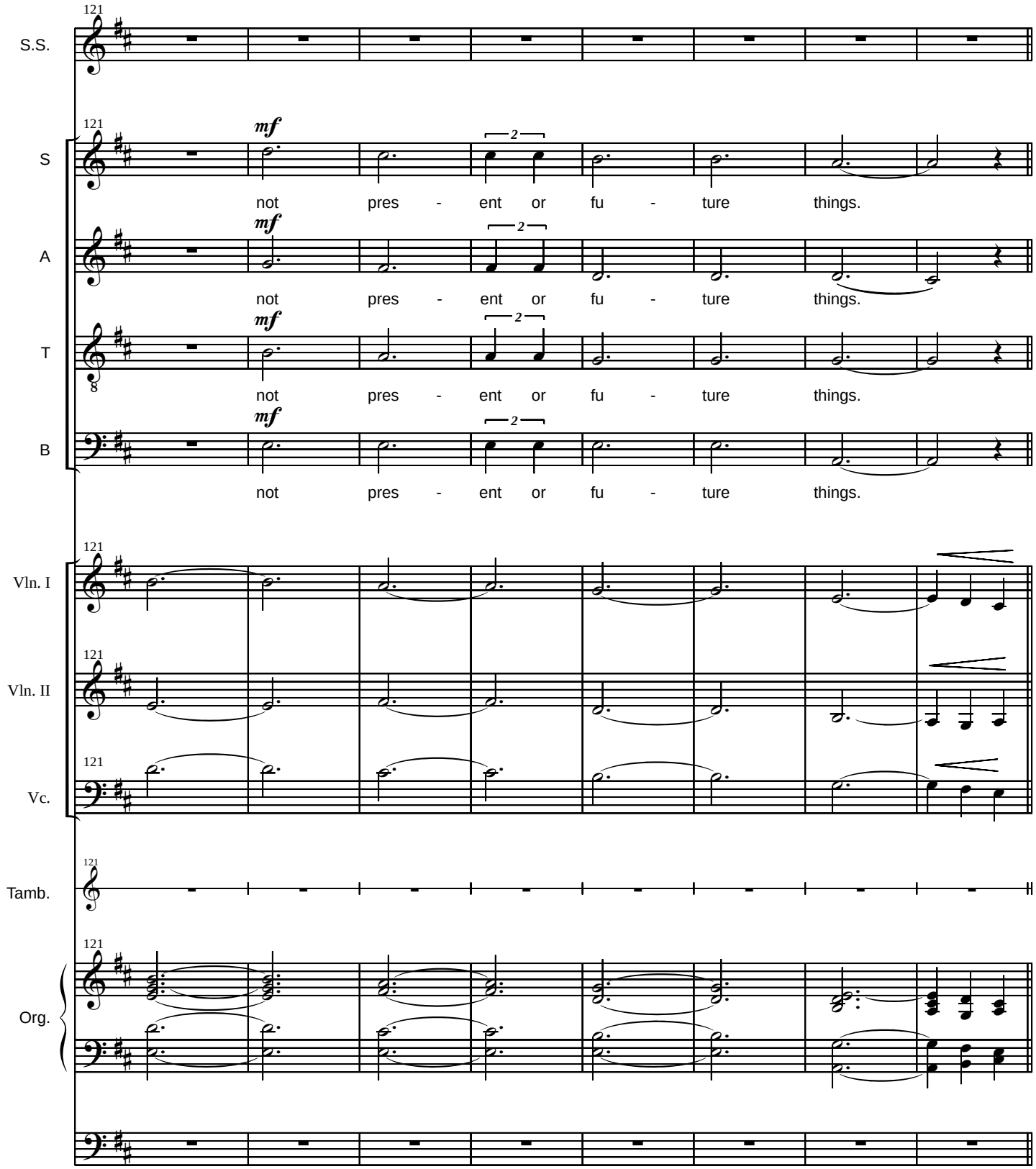

S.S.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.
81
D
f
Noth-ing shall keep us from the love of God in Christ Je - sus.
Noth-ing shall keep us from the love of God in Christ - Je - sus.

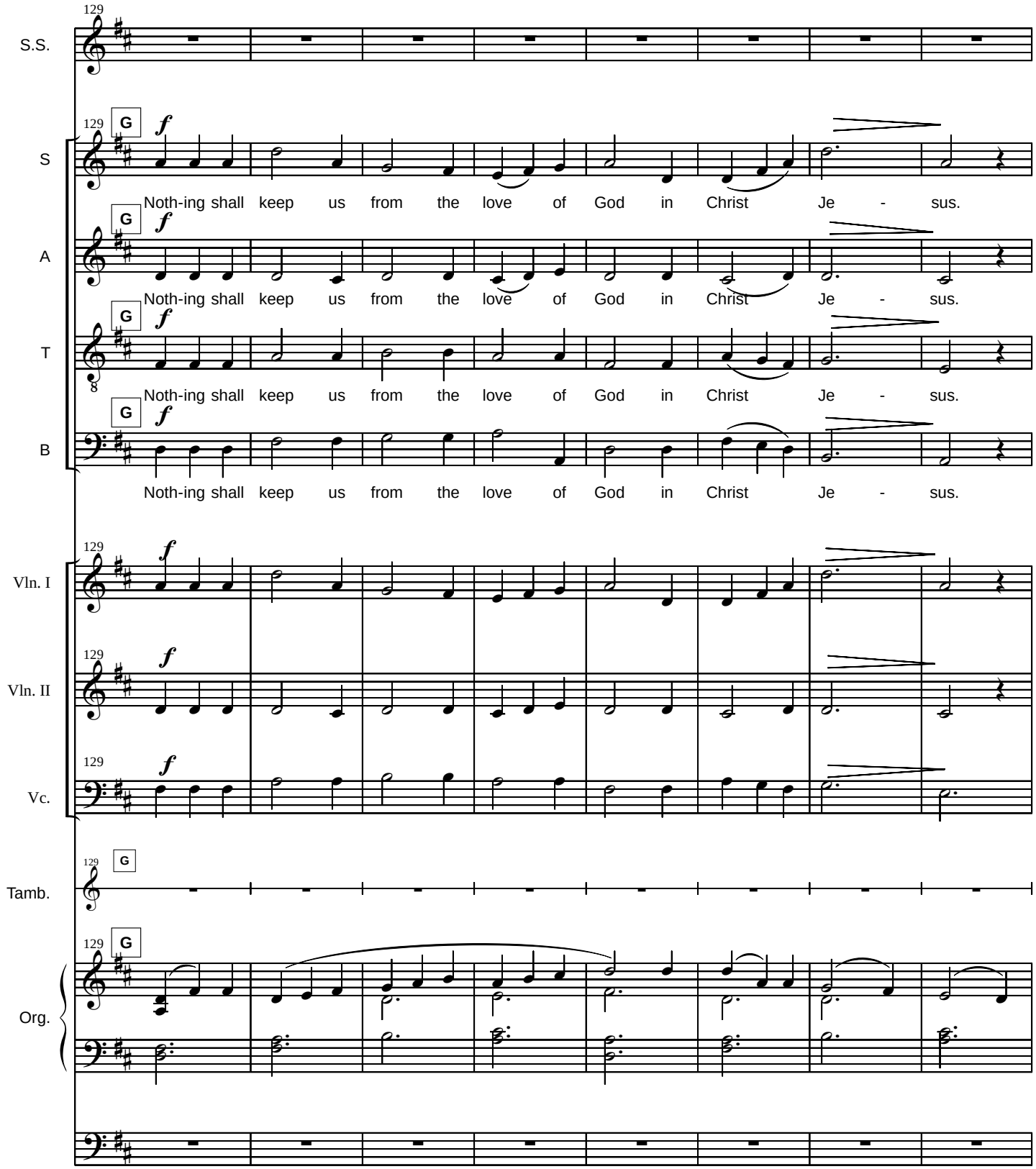

S.S.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.
89
f
Noth-ing shall keep us from the love of God in Christ Je - sus.
Noth-ing shall keep us form the love of God in Christ Je - sus.

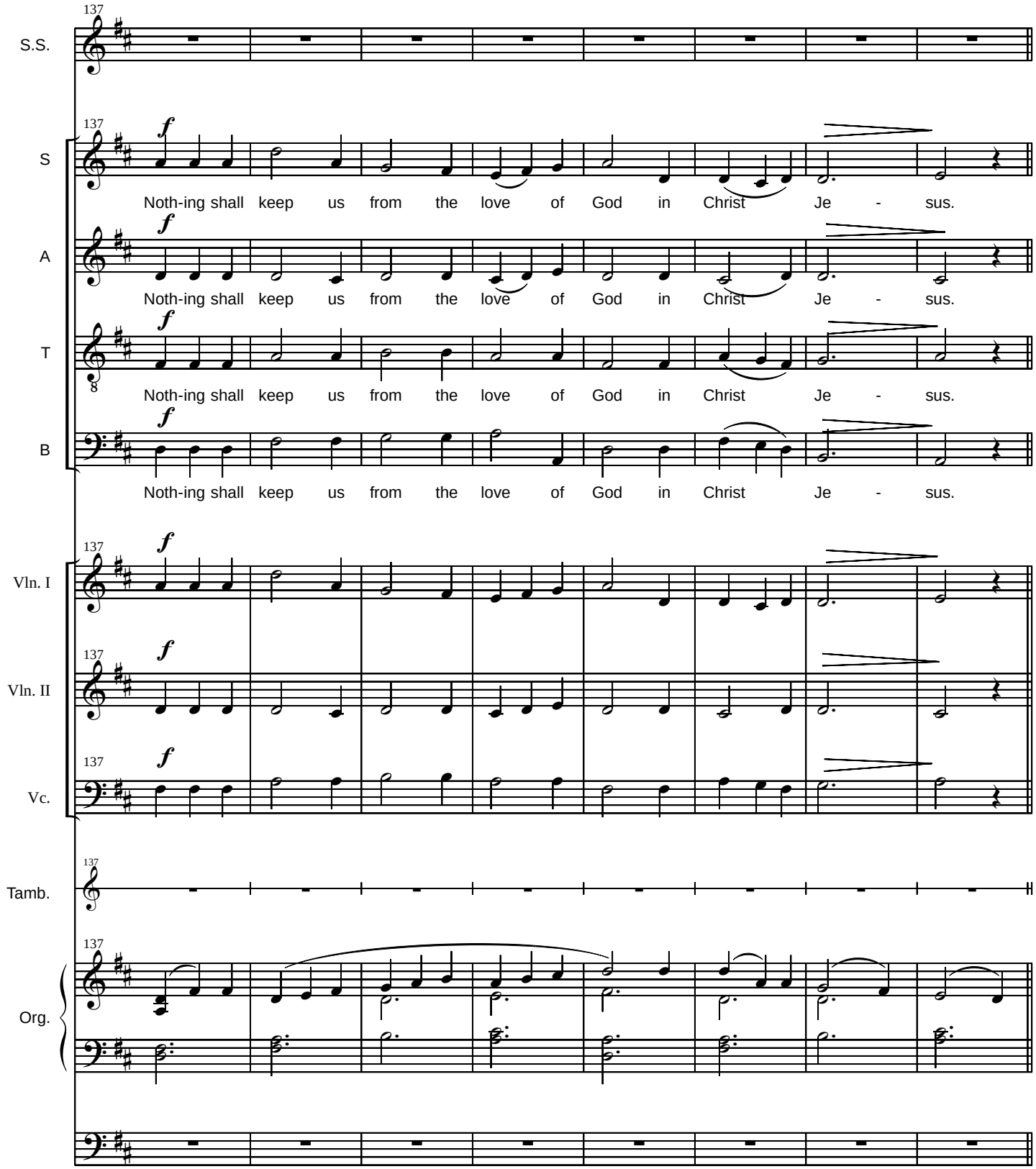

97
S.S.
97
E
S
E
A
E
T
E
B
97
Vln. I
97
Vln. II
97
Vc.
97
E
tr
Tamb.
f
97
E
Org.
f

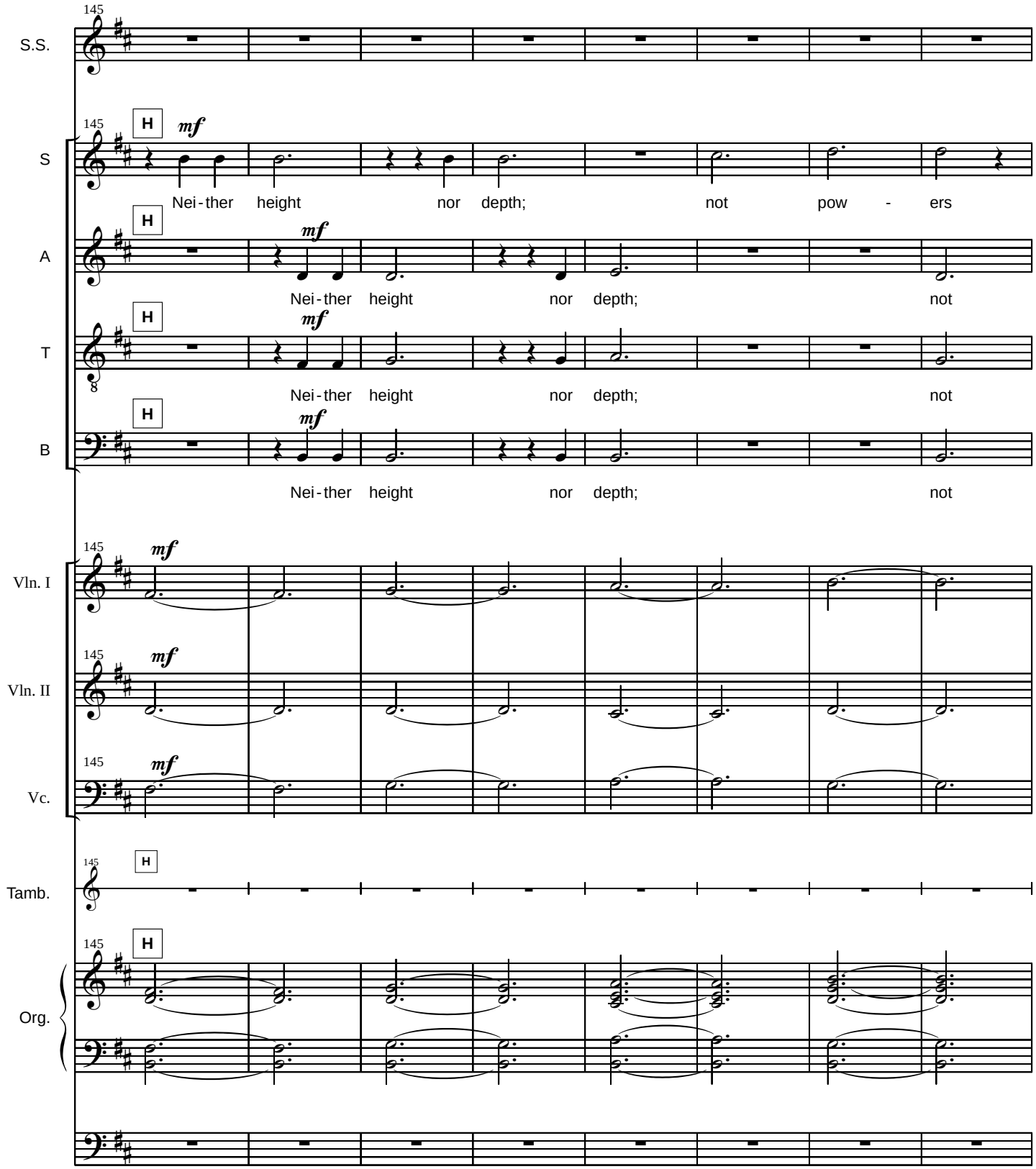

105
S.S.
105
S
A
T
8
B
105
mf
Vln. I
105
mf
Vln. II
105
mf
Vc.
105
tr
mf
Tamb.
tr
105
Org.

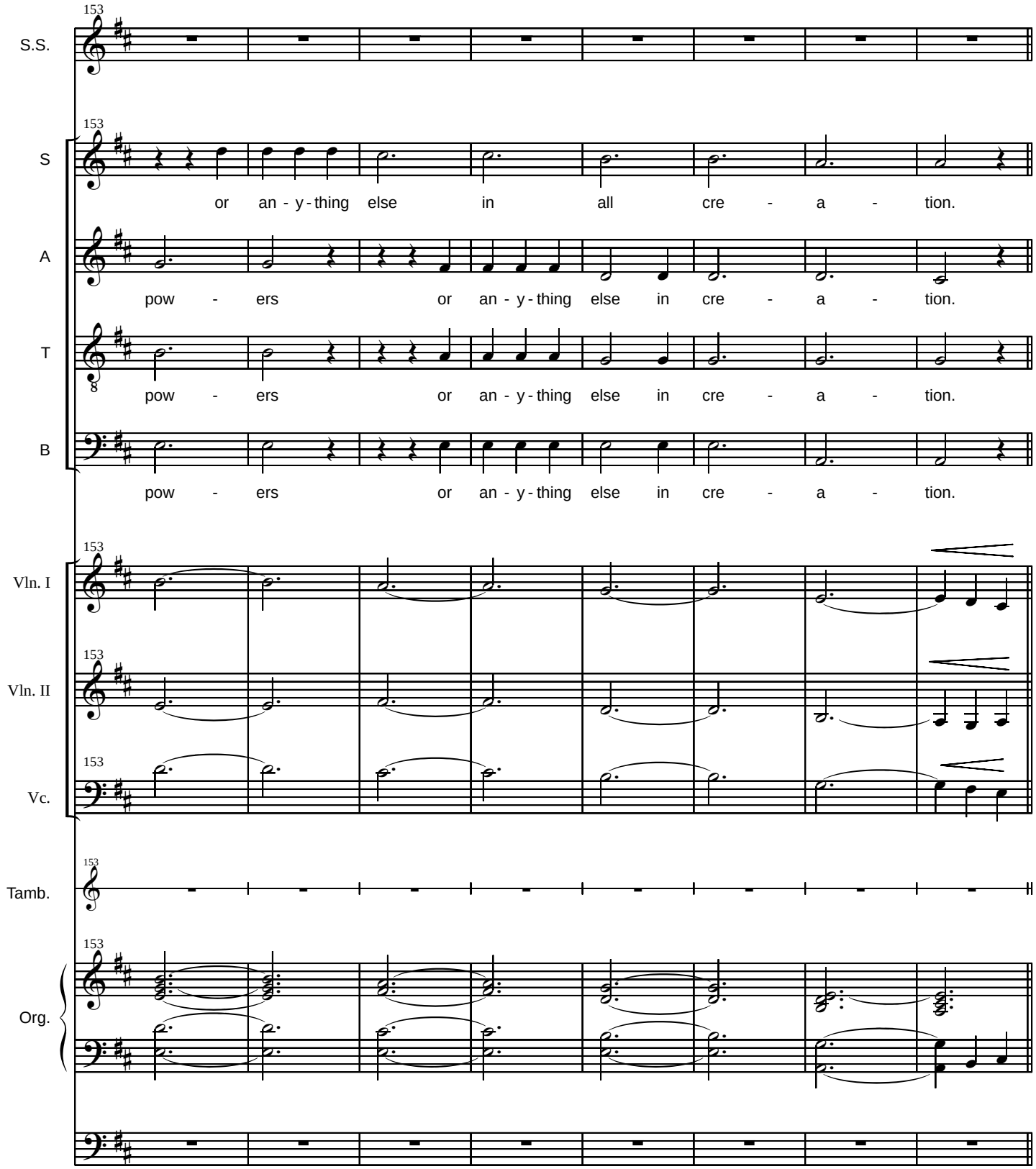

113
S.S.
F
mf
S
Nei-ther death, nor life; not an-gels or rul - ers;
A
Nei-ther death, nor life; not an-gels or rul - ers;
T
Nei-ther death, nor life; not an-gels or rul - ers;
B
Nei-ther death, nor life; not an-gels or rul - ers;
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.

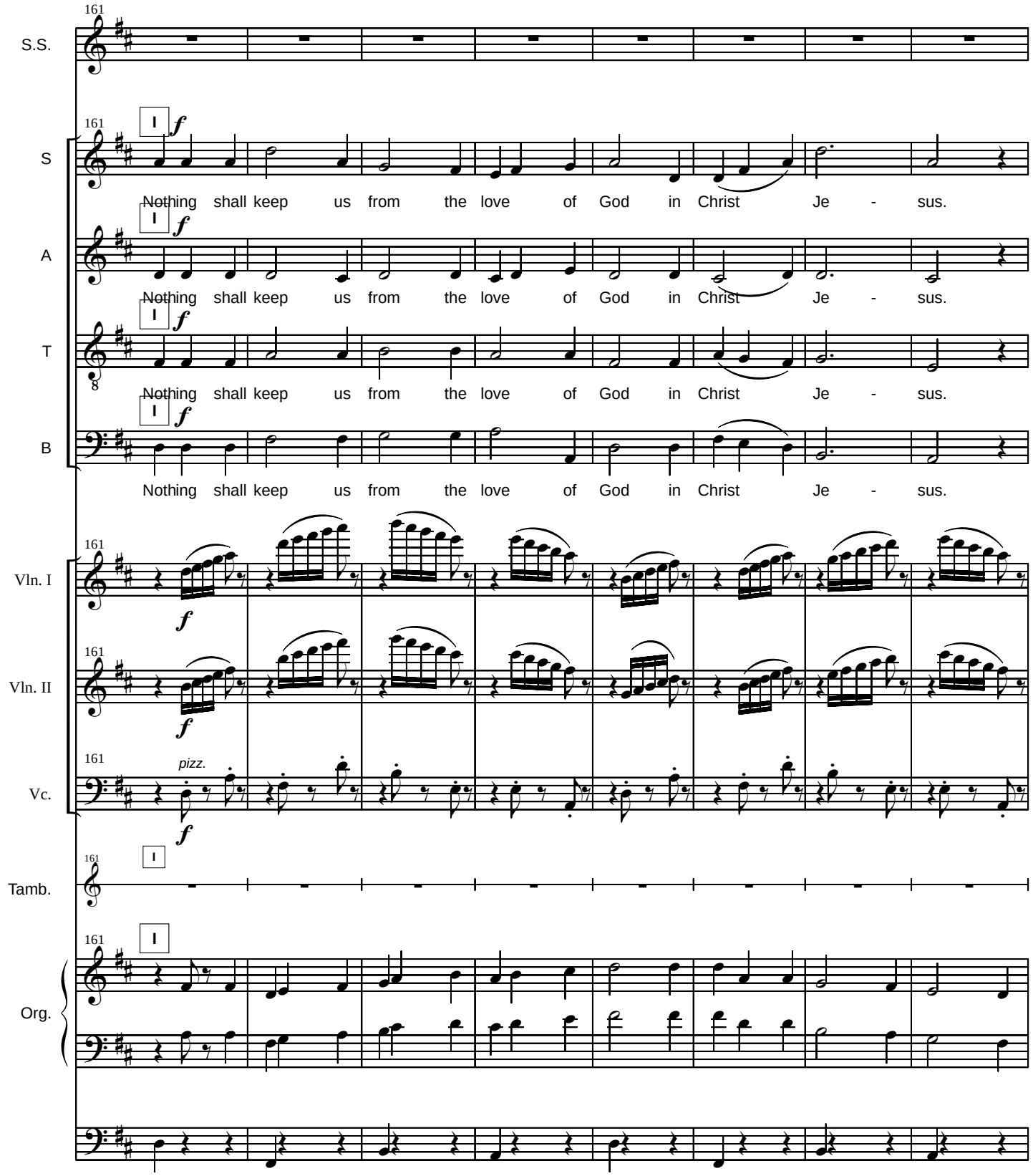

121
S.S.
121
S
mf
2
not pres - ent or fu - ture things.
A
mf
2
not pres - ent or fu - ture things.
T
8
mf
2
not pres - ent or fu - ture things.
B
mf
2
not pres - ent or fu - ture things.
121
Vln. I
121
Vln. II
121
Vc.
121
Tamb.
121
Org.

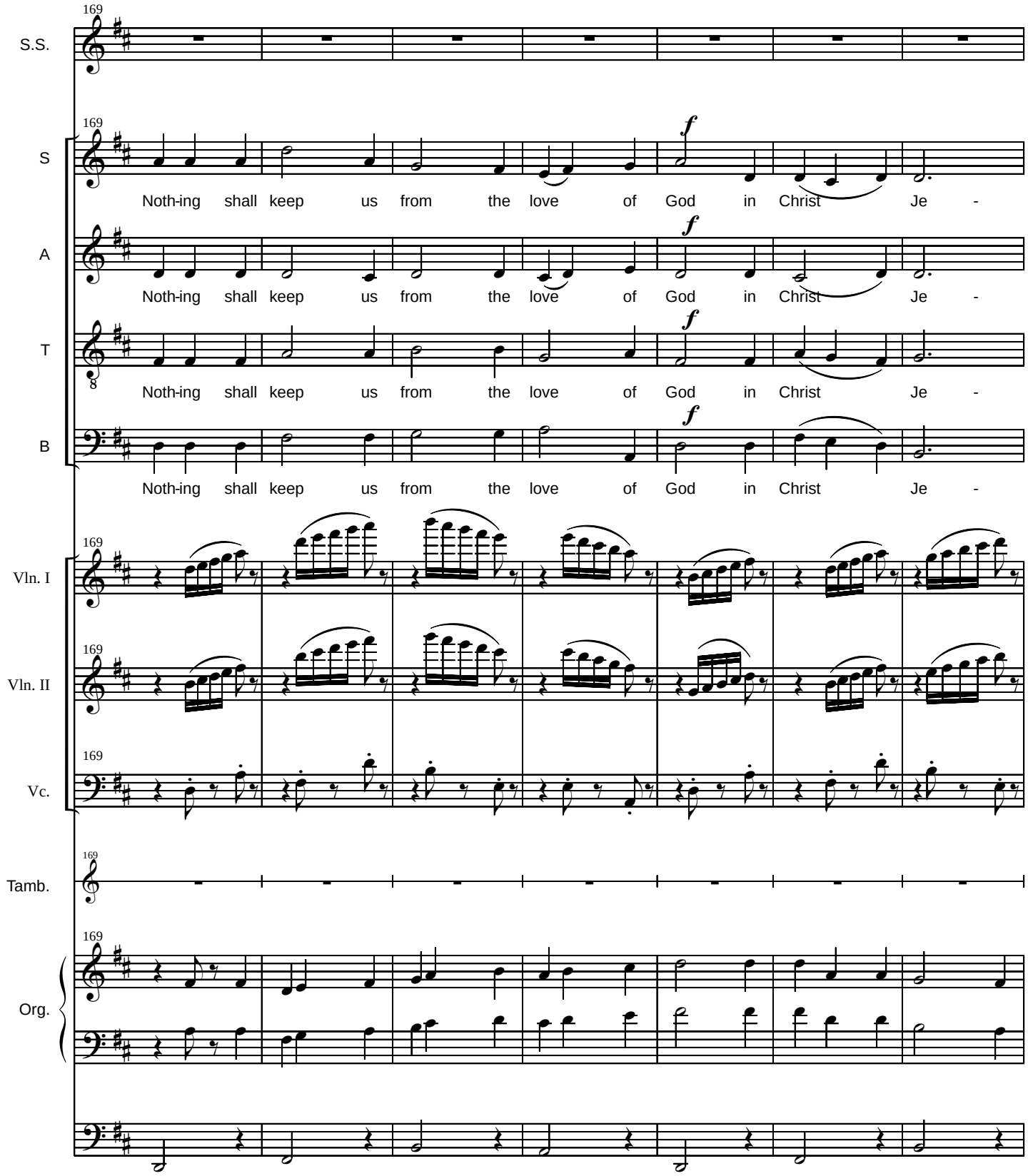

S.S.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.
129
G
f
Noth-ing shall keep us from the love of God in Christ Je - sus.

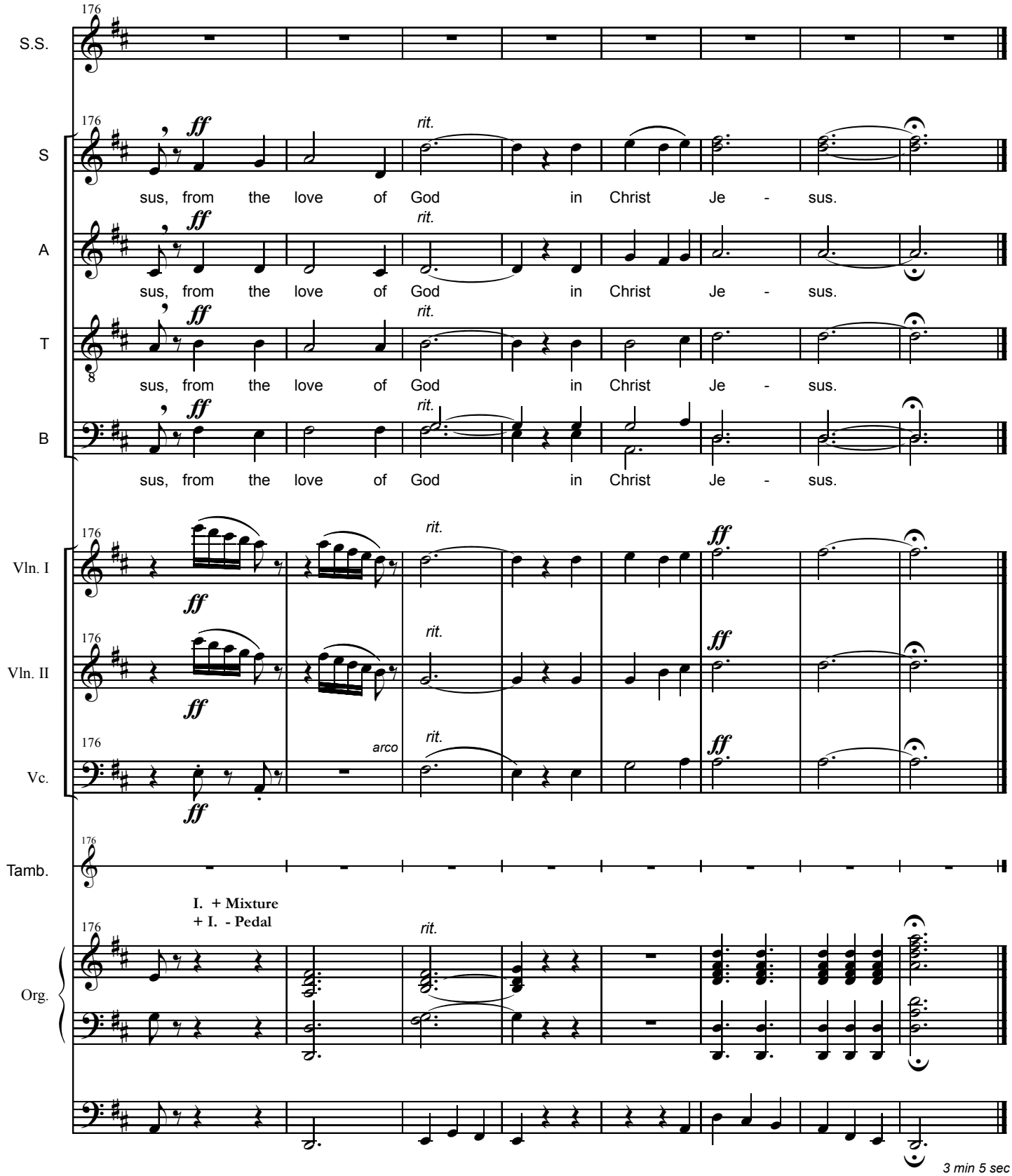

S.S.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.
137
f
Noth-ing shall keep us from the love of God in Christ Je - sus.


145
S.S.
145
H
mf
S
Nei - ther height nor depth; not pow - ers
H
A
mf
Nei - ther height nor depth; not
H
T
mf
8
Nei - ther height nor depth; not
H
B
mf
Nei - ther height nor depth; not
145
mf
Vln. I
145
mf
Vln. II
145
mf
Vc.
145
H
Tamb.
145
H
Org.


153
S.S.
153
S
or an - y - thing else in all cre - a - tion.
A
pow - ers or an - y - thing else in cre - a - tion.
T
8
pow - ers or an - y - thing else in cre - a - tion.
B
pow - ers or an - y - thing else in cre - a - tion.
153
Vln. I
153
Vln. II
153
Vc.
153
Tamb.
153
Org.


S.S.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.
161
I
f
Nothing shall keep us from the love of God in Christ Je - sus.
pizz.


169
S.S.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.
f
Noth-ing shall keep us from the love of God in Christ Je -


176
S.S.
S
A
T
B
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Tamb.
Org.
ff
rit.
sus, from the love of God in Christ Je - sus.
arco
I. + Mixture
+ I. - Pedal
3 min 5 sec
April 17, 2006