for Stephen Cleobury and
the choir of King's College, Cambridge

What sweeter music

*Words by
Robert Herrick
(1591–1674)

JOHN RUTTER



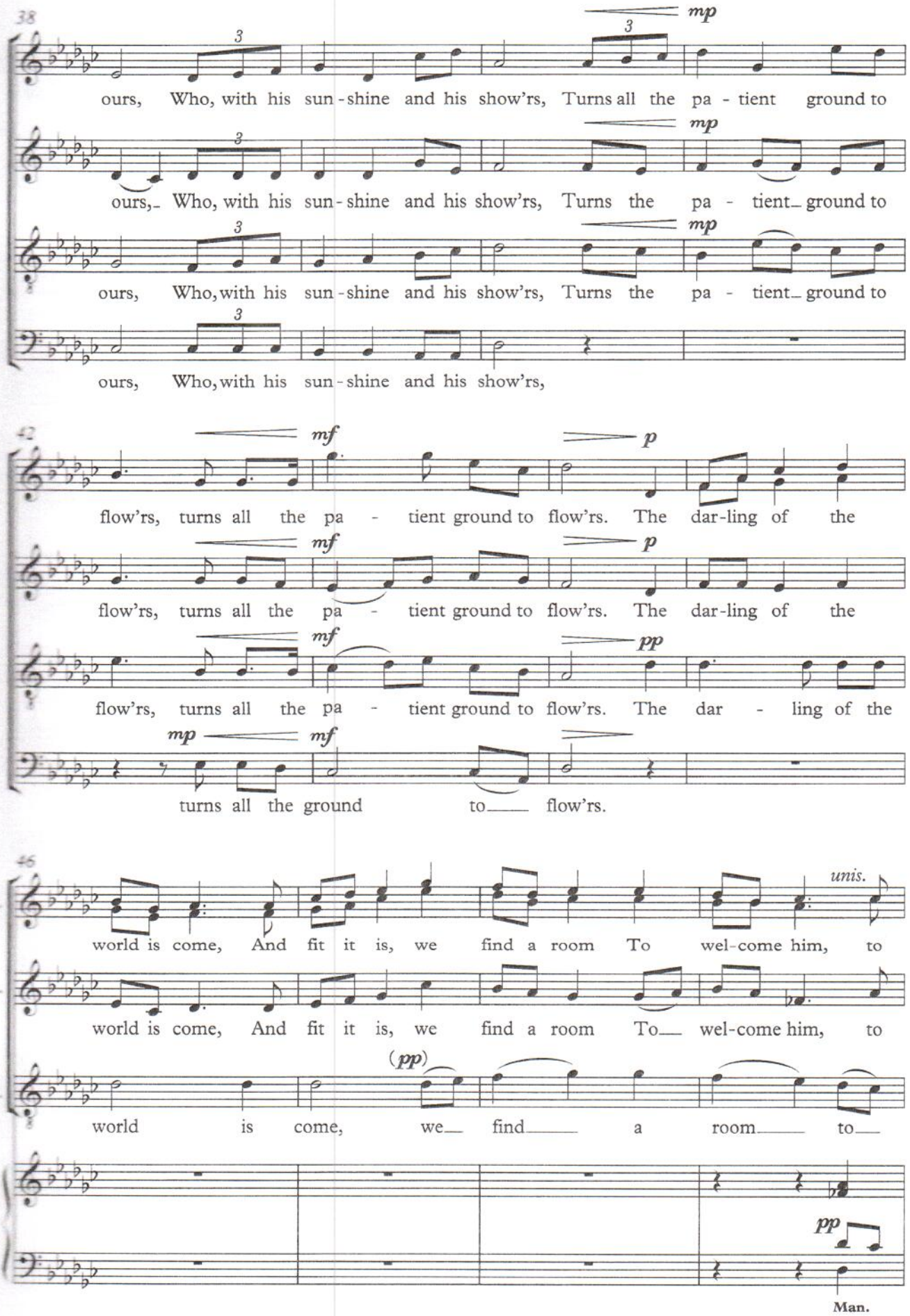
*Slightly abridged and altered

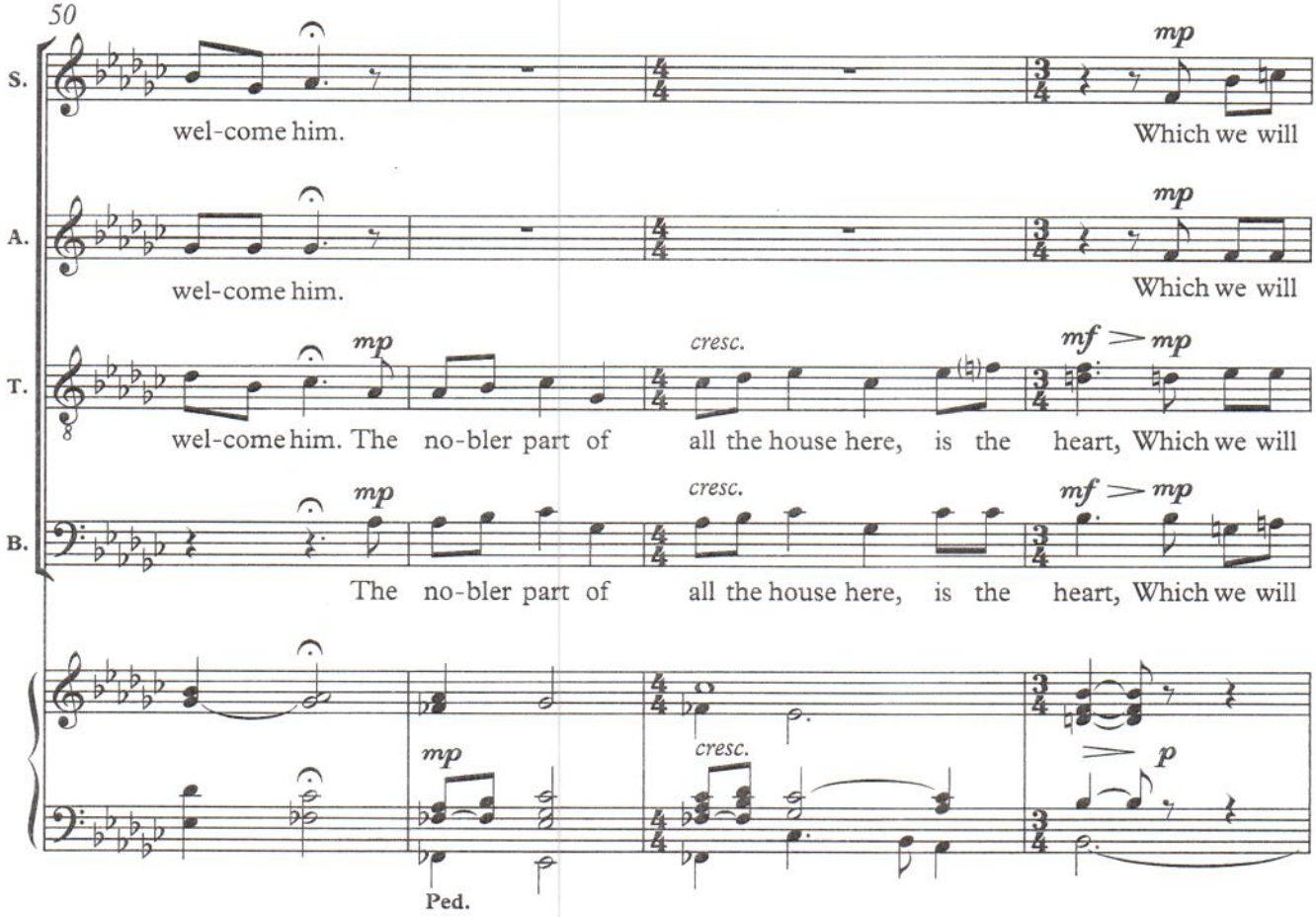
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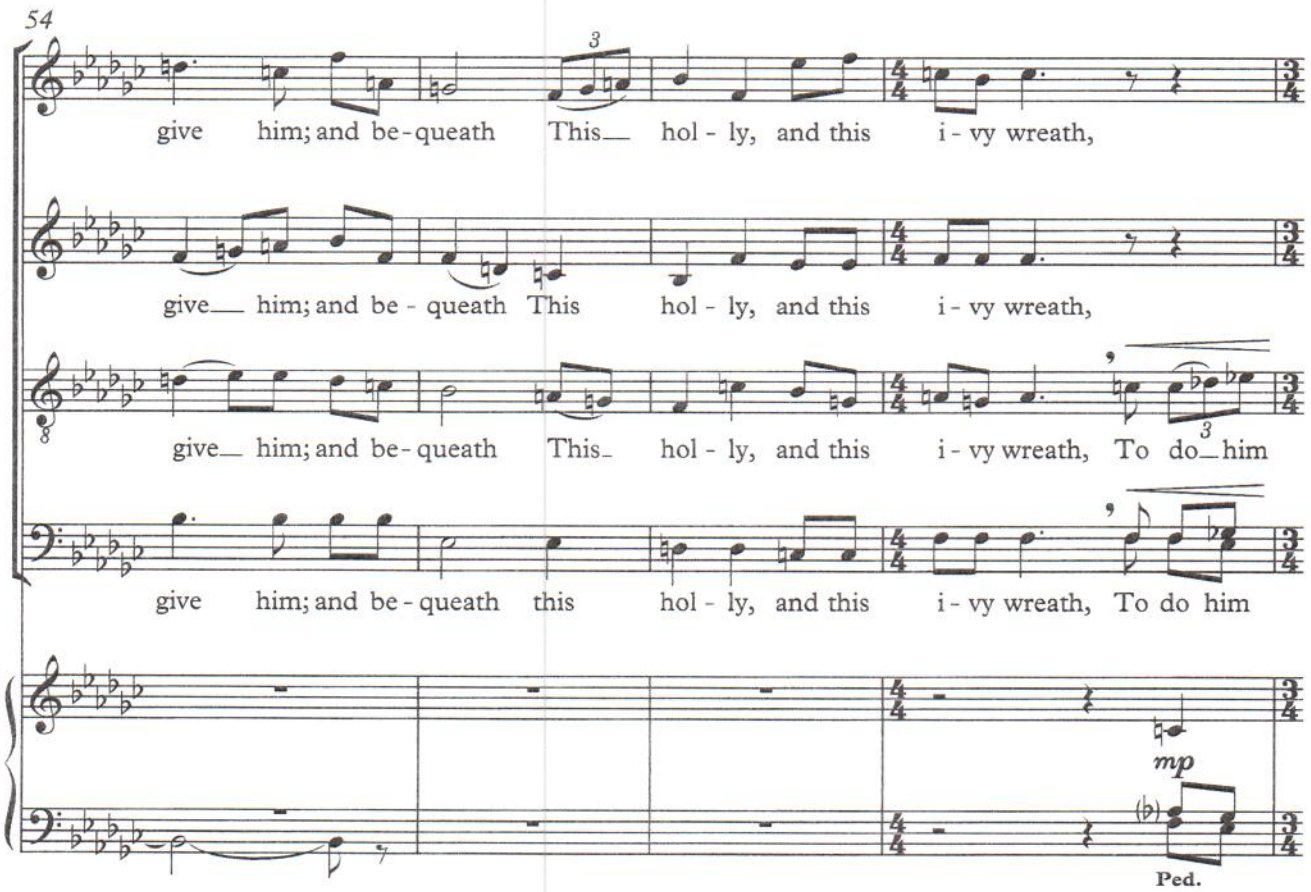
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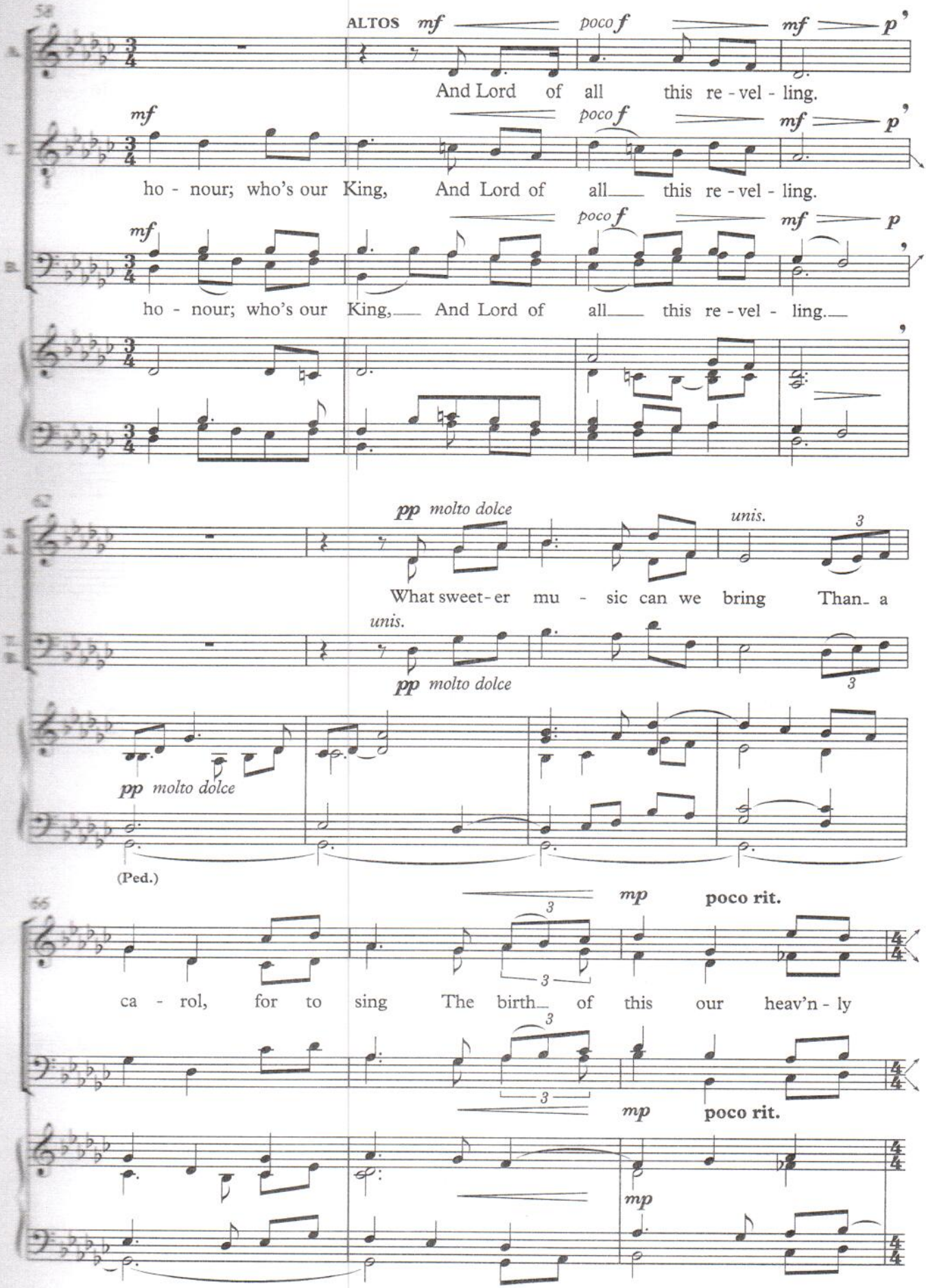

poco meno mosso
dim.
14
T.
B.
-way, And give the ho - nour to this day That sees De - cem - ber turn'd to
dim.
poco rit.
18
pp
a tempo ♩ = 66
S.
A.
That sees De - cem - ber turn'd to May.
p
pp
mp cantabile
unis.
T.
B.
May,
Why does the chill - ing win - ter's
poco rit.
a tempo ♩ = 66
p
mp
Ped.
22
mf
T.
B.
morn Smile, like a field be - set with corn? Or smell like a mea - dow new - ly
mf
f dolce
mp
26
shorn Thus on the sud - den? Come and see The cause, why things thus fra - grant
mp


30
SOPRANOS
div.
mp
mf
'Tis he is born, whose quick-'ning birth Gives life and lu - stre,- pub-lic
ALTOS
mp
mf
'Tis he is born, whose quick-'ning birth Gives- life and lu - stre,- pub-lic
T.
B.
be:
Fl.
Man.
(Man.)
34
S.
mp
p molto legato
unis.
mirth,— To hea-ven and the un-der-earth. We see him come, and know him
A.
mp
p molto legato
mirth, To hea-ven and the un-der-earth. We see him come,— and know him
T.
p molto legato
We see him come,— and know him
B.
p molto legato
We see him come, and know him
p
(Organ tacet)


38
mp
ours, Who, with his sun - shine and his show'rs, Turns all the pa - tient ground to
mp
ours, Who, with his sun - shine and his show'rs, Turns the pa - tient ground to
mp
ours, Who, with his sun - shine and his show'rs, Turns the pa - tient ground to
ours, Who, with his sun - shine and his show'rs,
42
mf
p
flow'rs, turns all the pa - tient ground to flow'rs. The dar - ling of the
mf
p
flow'rs, turns all the pa - tient ground to flow'rs. The dar - ling of the
mf
pp
flow'rs, turns all the pa - tient ground to flow'rs. The dar - ling of the
mp
mf
turns all the ground to flow'rs.
46
S.
unis.
world is come, And fit it is, we find a room To wel - come him, to
A.
world is come, And fit it is, we find a room To wel - come him, to
T.
(pp)
world is come, we find a room to
pp
Man.


50
S.
wel-come him.
mp
Which we will
A.
wel-come him.
mp
Which we will
T.
mp
wel-come him. The no-bler part of
cresc.
all the house here, is the
mf > mp
heart, Which we will
B.
mp
The no-bler part of
cresc.
all the house here, is the
mf > mp
heart, Which we will
mp
cresc.
p
Ped.


54
give him; and be-queath
3
This hol - ly, and this i - vy wreath,
give him; and be - queath This hol - ly, and this i - vy wreath,
give him; and be - queath This hol - ly, and this i - vy wreath, To do him
give him; and be - queath this hol - ly, and this i - vy wreath, To do him
mp
Ped.


58
ALTOS
mf
poco f
mf
p
And Lord of all this re - vel - ling.
ho - nour; who's our King, And Lord of all this re - vel - ling.
ho - nour; who's our King, And Lord of all this re - vel - ling.
62
pp molto dolce
unis.
What sweet - er mu - sic can we bring Than a
(Ped.)
66
mp
poco rit.
ca - rol, for to sing The birth of this our heav'n - ly


69
poco meno mosso
rit.
S.
p
dim.
King, the birth of this our hea - ven - ly
A.
p
dim.
King. (Hum)
T.
p
dim.
King. (Hum)
B.
p
div.
dim.
King. (Hum)
poco meno mosso
rit.
dim.
72
a tempo
rit.
pp
King.
pp
pp
pp
a tempo
rit.
pp
(Ped.)