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140903 THOM

KIRKE MECHEM

BLOW YE THE TRUMPET

TTBB Chorus and Piano
(organ or orchestra optional)

Ed-3893

G. SCHIRMER, Inc.

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BLOW YE THE TRUMPET*

Blow ye the trumpet, blow.
Sweet is Thy work, my God, my King.
I'll praise my Maker with all my breath.
O happy is the man who hears.
Why should we start, and fear to die,
With songs and honors sounding loud.
Ah, lovely appearance of death.

COMPOSER'S NOTE

"Blow Ye The Trumpet," from my opera *John Brown* , was the name of Brown's favorite hymn. A number of different hymn tunes and verses have this same title; as I have been unable to discover which version Brown knew, I have chosen the text I found most beautiful and appropriate—indeed, prophetic—for his life and death. It seems to prophesy both the day of jubilee and the martyr's death which Brown knew would hasten the destruction of slavery. None of the existing hymn tunes seemed to me to do justice to these words, however, so I gave them a new melody in the style of early American folk music.

— K.M.

* As quoted in Stephen B. Oates, *To Purge This Land With Blood: A Biography of John Brown,* New York, 1970.

***Blow Ye The Trumpet* is also available in a version for SATB chorus, order no. 50481534**

Performance material is available on rental from the publisher.
Orchestration: 3333 4331 Timp., 1 Perc., Harp, Strings

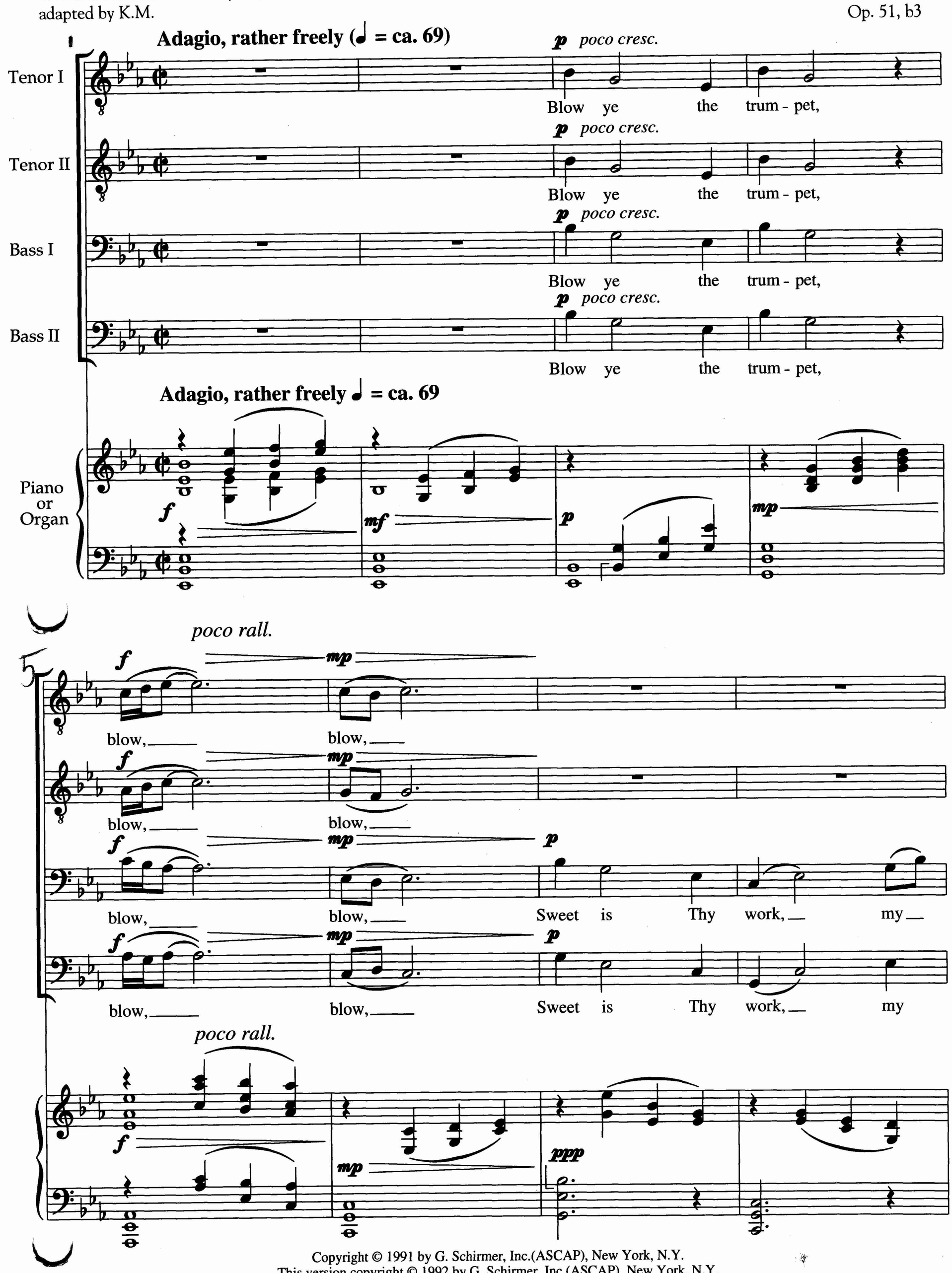
The TTBB version was commissioned by The Turtle Creek Chorale, Dallas, Texas
Dr. Timothy Seelig, Artistic Director

BLOW YE THE TRUMPET

Duration: 7 min.

Words from a traditional hymn,
adapted by K.M.

Kirke Mechem
Op. 51, b3



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1

Poco più animato (ma non troppo)

♩ = ♩

mp *cresc. poco a poco* *f*

I'll praise my Mak - er with all my breath. O

mp *cresc. poco a poco* *f*

I'll praise my Mak - er with all my breath. O

mp *cresc. poco a poco* *f*

God, my King. I'll praise my Mak - er with all my breath. O

mp *cresc. poco a poco* *f*

God, my King. I'll praise my Mak - er with all my breath. O

Poco più animato (ma non troppo)

♩ = ♩

mp *cresc. poco a poco*

13

mp *cresc. poco a poco*

hap - py the man who hears. Why should we start and

mp *cresc. poco a poco*

hap - py the man who hears. Why should we start and

mp *cresc. poco a poco*

hap - py the man who hears. Why should we start and

mp *cresc. poco a poco*

hap - py the man who hears. Why should we start and

f *poco arpegg.* *p* *p* *poco arpegg.*

16

poco rall.

mf *cresc.* *f*

fear to die? With songs and hon - ors sound-ing loud.

mf *cresc.* *f*

fear to die? With songs and hon - ors sound-ing loud.

mf *cresc.* *f*

fear to die? With songs and hon - ors sound-ing loud.

mf *cresc.* *f*

fear to die? With songs and hon - ors sound-ing loud.

poco rall.

mf *cresc.* a poco *f*

19

2 **Adagio**

mf *p*

Blow, blow;

mf *p*

Blow, blow;

p *mf* *p* *pp*

Blow ye the trum-pet, Blow, blow; Love-ly ap -

p *mf* *p* *pp*

Blow ye the trum-pet, Blow, blow; Love-ly ap -

Adagio

pp *mf* *p* *pp*

pear - ance of death, of death.

pear - ance of death, of death.

ppp *pp* *ppp* *p* *espr.*

3

Poco più mosso

molto rit.

mf *cresc.* *f* *ff*

Blow ye the trum - pet, Blow, blow,

mf *cresc.* *f* *ff*

Blow ye the trum - pet, Blow, blow,

mf *cresc.* *f* *ff*

Blow ye the trum - pet, Blow, blow,

mf *cresc.* *f* *ff*

Blow ye the trum - pet, Blow, blow,

Poco più mosso

molto rit.

mf

(small notes for rehearsal only)

33

Poco meno mosso

p — ye the trum - pet, blow.

ppp — Sweet is Thy work,

p — ye the trum - pet, blow.

pp espr. — Sweet is Thy work, O

p — ye the trum - pet, blow.

mp espr. — Sweet is Thy work, O

p — ye the trum - pet, blow.

p espr. — Sweet is Thy work, O

Poco meno mosso

4

38

ritenuto

Più animato

mf — f — I'll praise my Mak - er with

God, my King,

f — I'll praise, I'll

God, my King, my King.

f — I'll

God, my King, my King.

f — I'll

ritenuto

Più animato

mf

41

mf

all my breath. O hap - py the man who hears.

ff

non dim.

praise with all my breath. O hap - py the man who hears.

praise with all my breath. O hap - py the man who hears.

più f

Why

praise my God. O hap - py the man who hears.

più f

Why

sf

poco rall.

ossia *

44

f

ff

Why fear to die? With songs and hon - ors sound-ing

f

ff

Why should we fear to die? With songs and hon - ors sound-ing

ff

should we start and fear to die? With songs and hon - ors sound-ing

f

ff

should we start and fear to die? With songs and hon - ors sound-ing

poco rall.

* The ossia may be substituted for the tenor 1 part but should not be used in addition to it.

5

Tempo I

f *mf*

loud. Blow ye,

f *mf*

loud. Blow ye,

p *poco cresc.*

loud. Blow ye the trum-pet,

p *poco cresc.*

loud. Blow ye the trum-pet,

Tempo I

f *mf* *p* *mp*

poco rall.

f *mp*

blow, blow,

f *mp*

blow, blow,

mp *pp*

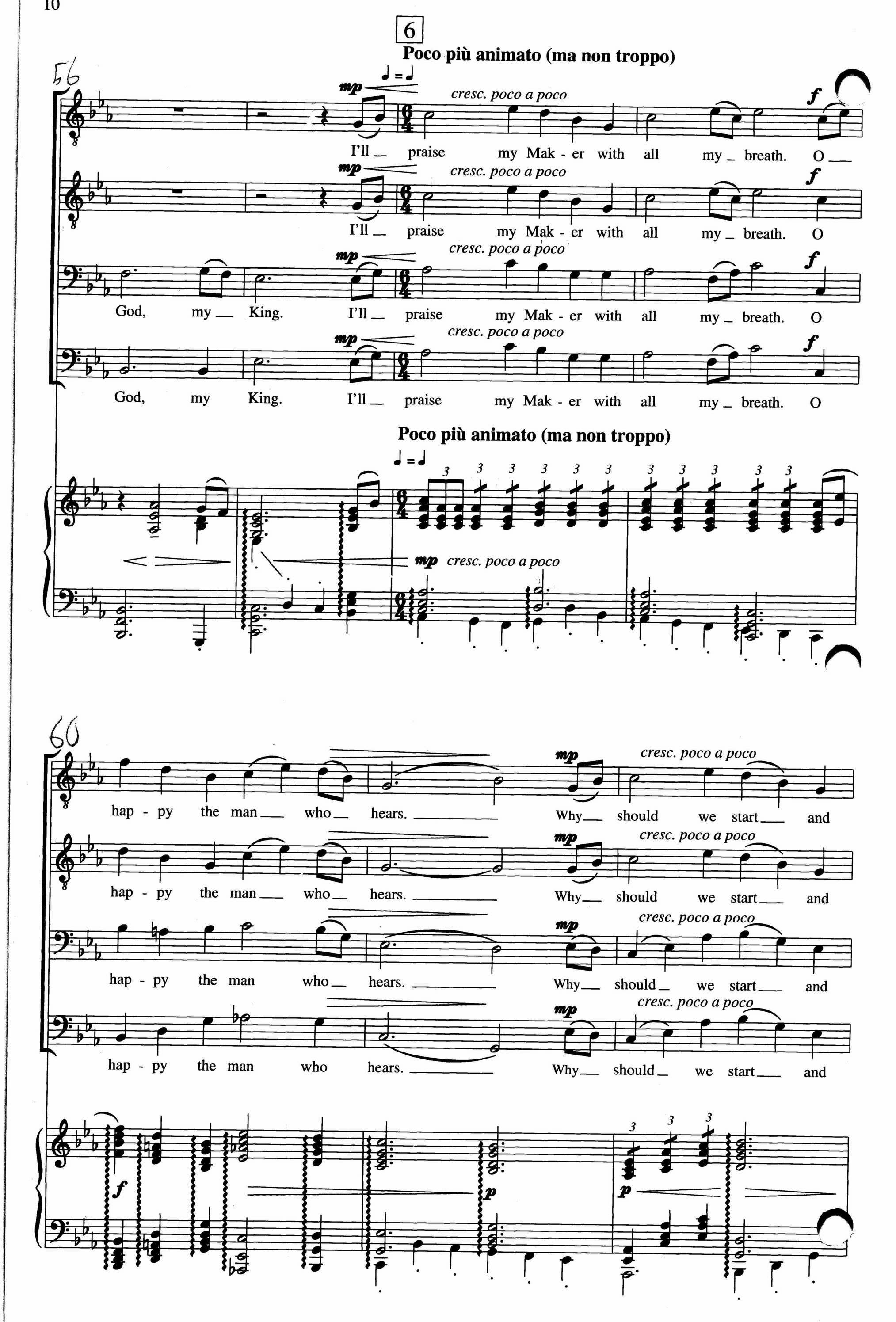
blow, blow, Sweet is Thy work, my

f *mp* *pp*

blow, blow, Sweet is Thy work, my

poco rall.

f *mp* *ppp*


6
Poco più animato (ma non troppo)
56
mp
cresc. poco a poco
f
I'll praise my Mak - er with all my breath. O
God, my King. I'll praise my Mak - er with all my breath. O
God, my King. I'll praise my Mak - er with all my breath. O
Poco più animato (ma non troppo)
60
hap - py the man who hears. Why should we start and
hap - py the man who hears. Why should we start and
hap - py the man who hears. Why should we start and
hap - py the man who hears. Why should we start and
p

63

poco rall.

mf cresc. f

fear to die? With songs and hon - ors sounding loud.

mf cresc. f

fear to die? With songs and hon - ors sounding loud.

mf cresc. f

fear to die? With songs and hon - ors sounding loud.

mf cresc. f

fear to die? With songs and hon - ors sounding loud.

poco rall.

mf cresc. f

66 7 **Adagio**

mf p

Blow, blow;

mf p ppp

Blow, blow; Love - ly ap -

p mf p p espr.

Blow ye the trum - pet, Blow, blow; Love - ly ap -

p mf p

Blow ye the trum - pet, Blow, blow;

Adagio

pp mf p pp

71

pp p

Love - ly ap - pear - ance of

p mp p

pear - ance of___ death, Love - ly ap - pear - ance of___

mp p

pear - ance of___ death, Love - ly ap - pear - ance of

mp p

Love - ly ap - pear - ance of

ppp pp ppp

75 *rit.*

pp

death, of___ death.

pp

death, of___ death.

pp

death, of death, of death.

pp

death,___ of death, of death.

rit.

ppp ppp

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