Míttit ad vírginem Non quem vis ángelum,
Sed fortitúdinem, Súum archángelum,
Amátor hóminis.
Fórtem expédiat Pro nóbis núntium,
Natúre fáciat Ut prejudícium
In pártu vírginis.
Natúram súperet Nátus rex glórie:
Régnet et ímperet, Et zýma scórie
Tóllat de médio.
Superbiéntium Térat fastígia,
Cólla sublímium Cálcans vi própria,
Pótens in prélio.
Fóras ejíciat Mundánum príncipem,
Matrémque fáciat Sécum partícipem
Pátris impérii.
Exi, qui mítteris Hec dóna dícere:
Revéla véteris Velámen líttere,
Virtúte núntii.

Accéde, núntia: Dic, áve, cóminus;
Dic, pléna grátia; Dic, técum dóminus;
Et dic, ne tímeas.
Vírgo suscípias Déi depósitum,
In quo perfícias Cásta propósitum,
Et vótum téneas.
Audit et súscipit Puélla núntium;
Crédit et cóncipit, Et párit fílium,
Sed admirábilem
Consiliárium Humáni géneris,
Et déum fórtium, Et pátrem pósteris,
In páce stábilem.
Qui nos sálvet
per ómnia seculórum sécula.
Amen.

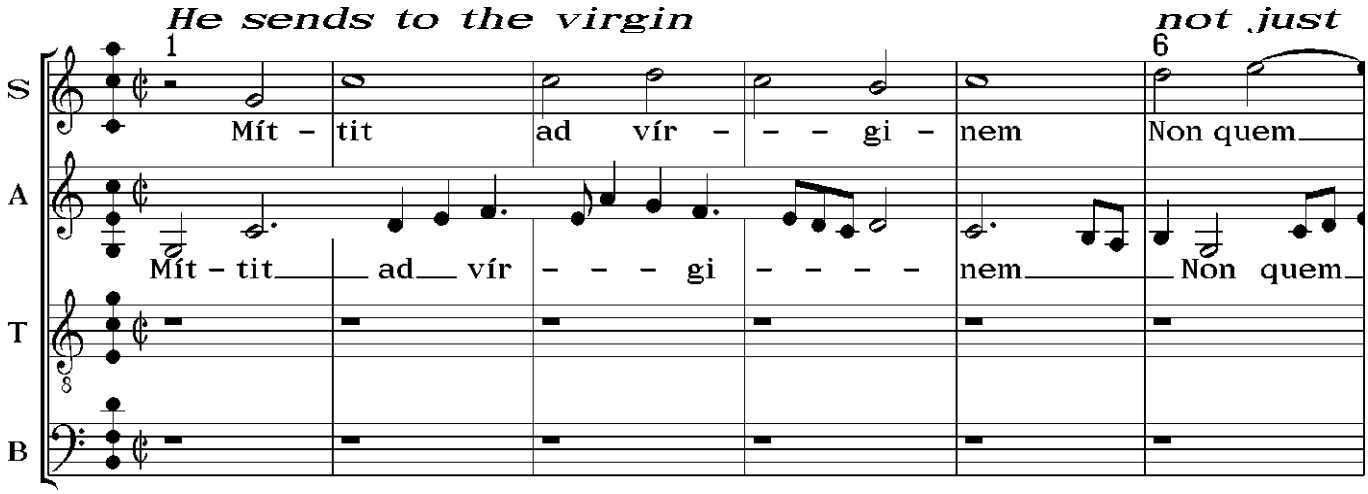
--Peter Abelard (1079–1142)

He sends to the virgin not just any angel,
but the strength, the archangel himself,
the lover of mankind.
May he declare for us the mighty message,
may he effect in nature the preordained
birth by a virgin.
May the born king of glory overcome nature:
May he reign and rule, and the weight of dross
may he remove from our midst.
May he frighten the highest of the proud,
treading upon the very necks of the exalted,
mighty in battle.
May he throw out the worldly prince,
and make his mother a partner with him
in his father's kingdom.
Go forth, you who send these gifts, to speak:
remove the veil from the ancient writings
by the strength of the news.

Come close, messenger, say "Hail" in person;
say "full of grace;" say "the Lord is with you;"
and say "fear not."
Virgin, may you take up what God has set down,
in which to accomplish your chaste intention
and keep your vow.
The maiden hears and accepts the message;
she believes and conceives and bears a son,
but a wondrous
Counselor of the human race,
and God of the strong, father of those to
come, and steadfast in peace.
Who heals us
through all ages of ages.
Amen.

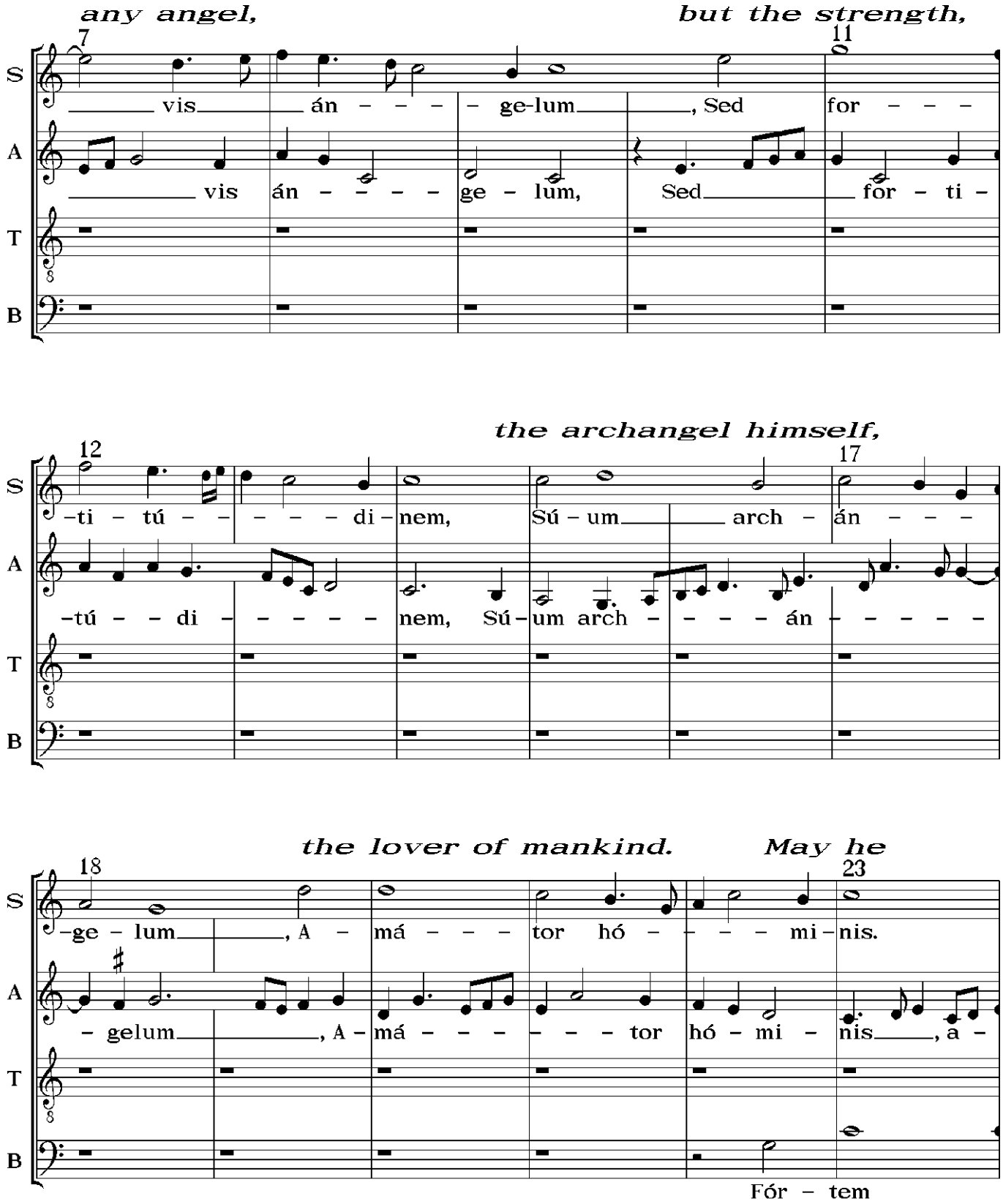
Mittit ad virginem

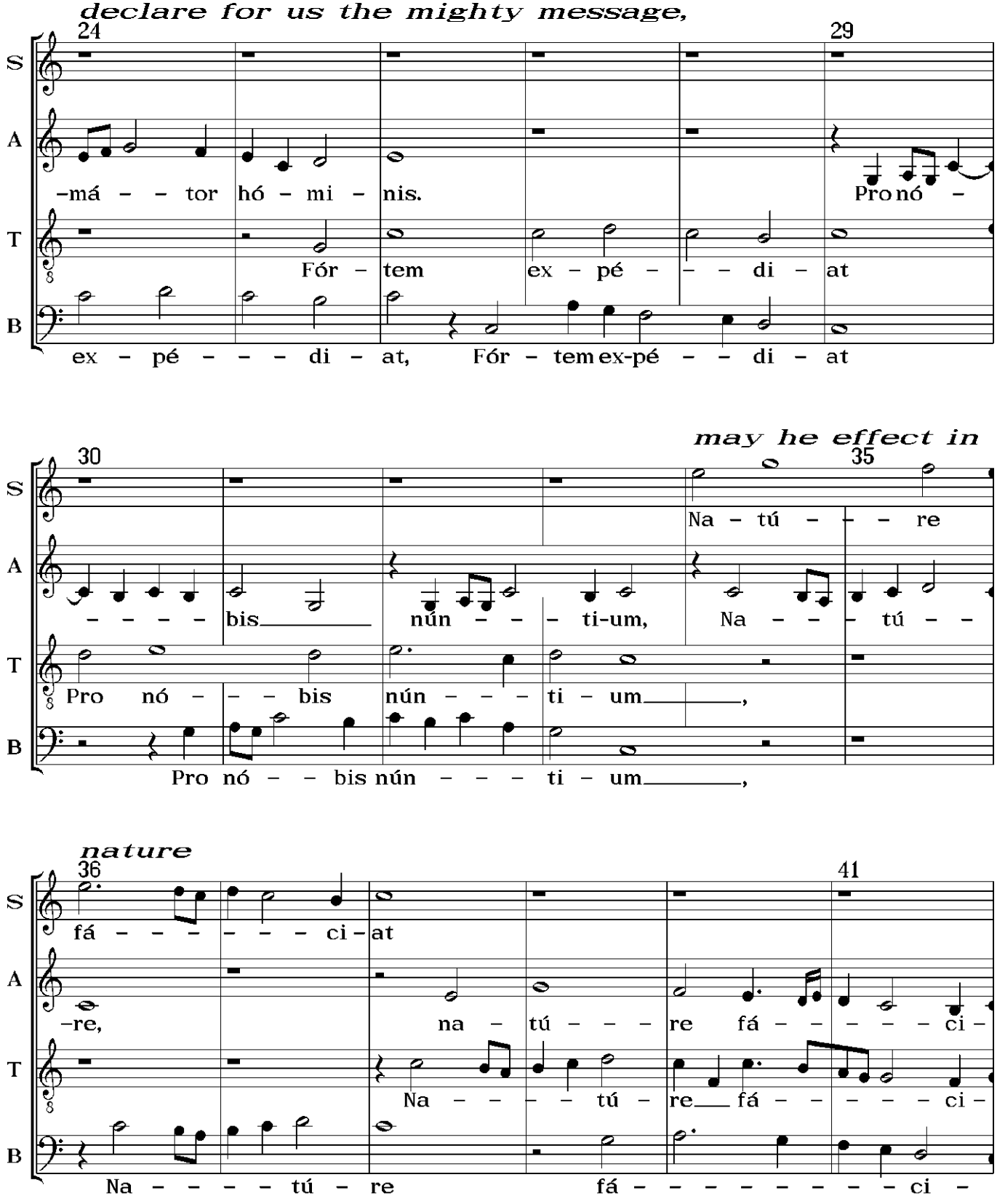
Josquin des Prez
French; c.1452–1521

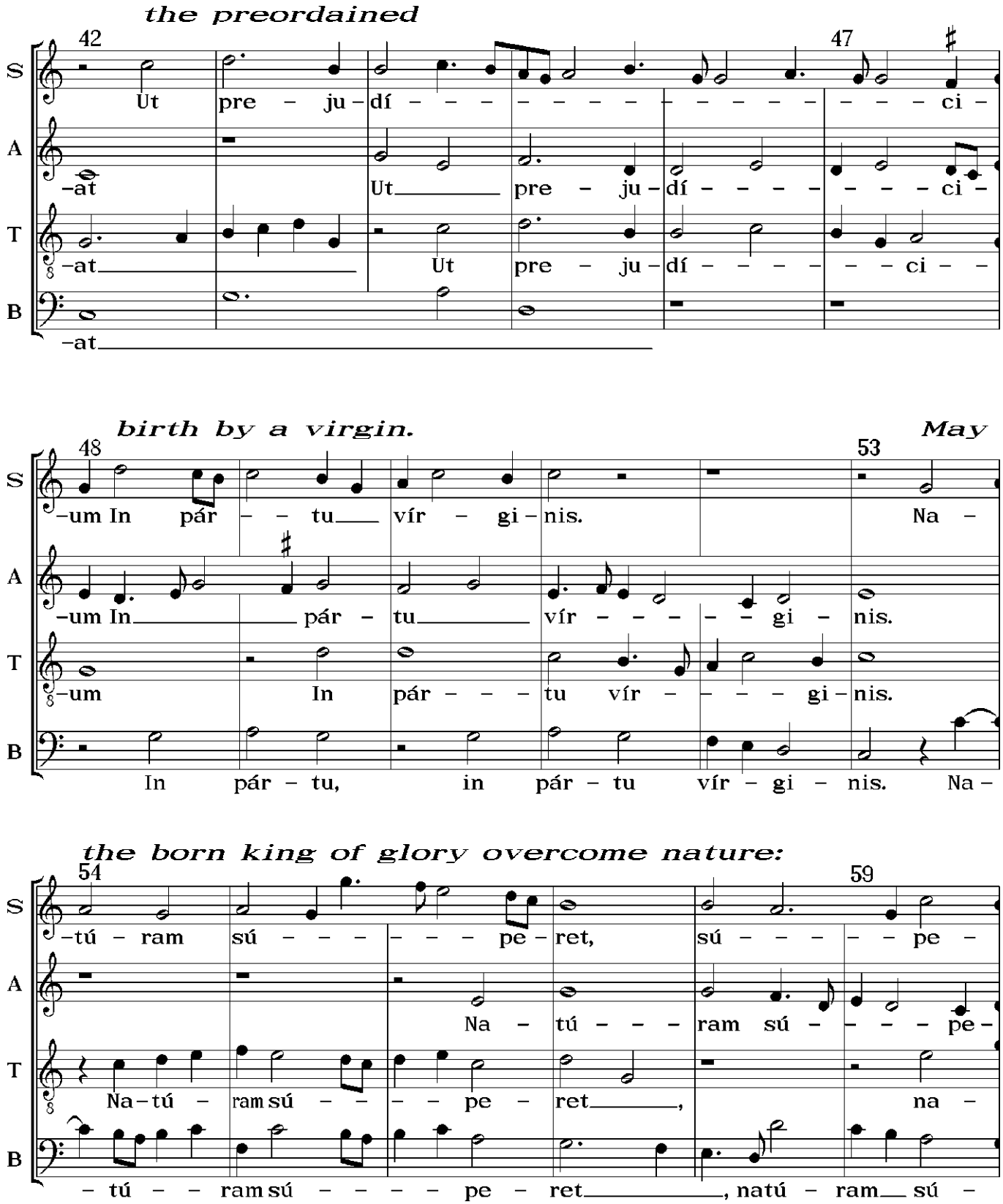


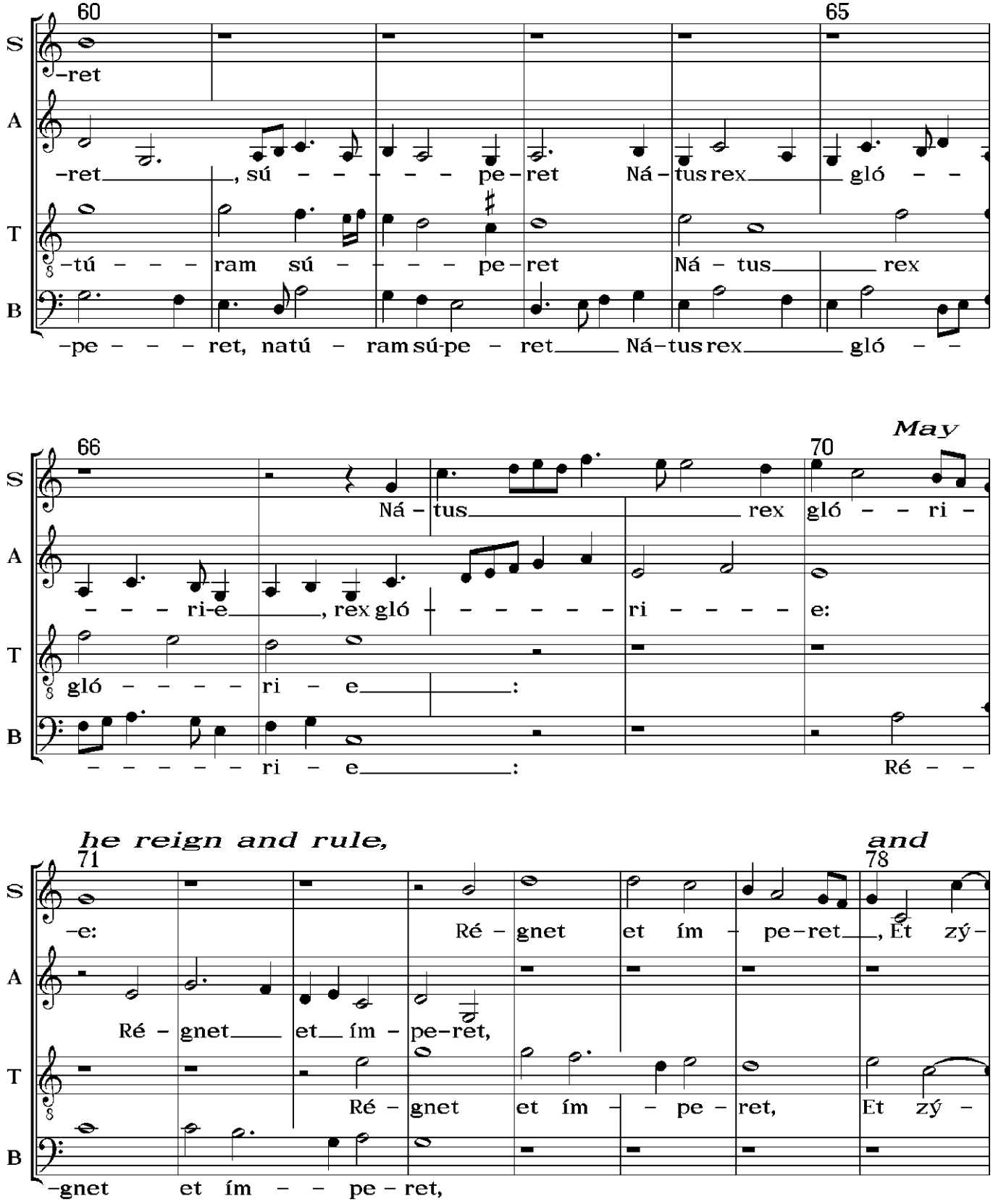
Source: *New Josquin Edition*, vol 24, ed. Willem Elders et al., KVvNM, 2007. Notation here is at the original pitch with time values halved. Translation, text underlay, editorial accidentals, and alterations (see last page) by John Hetland and the Renaissance Street Singers.

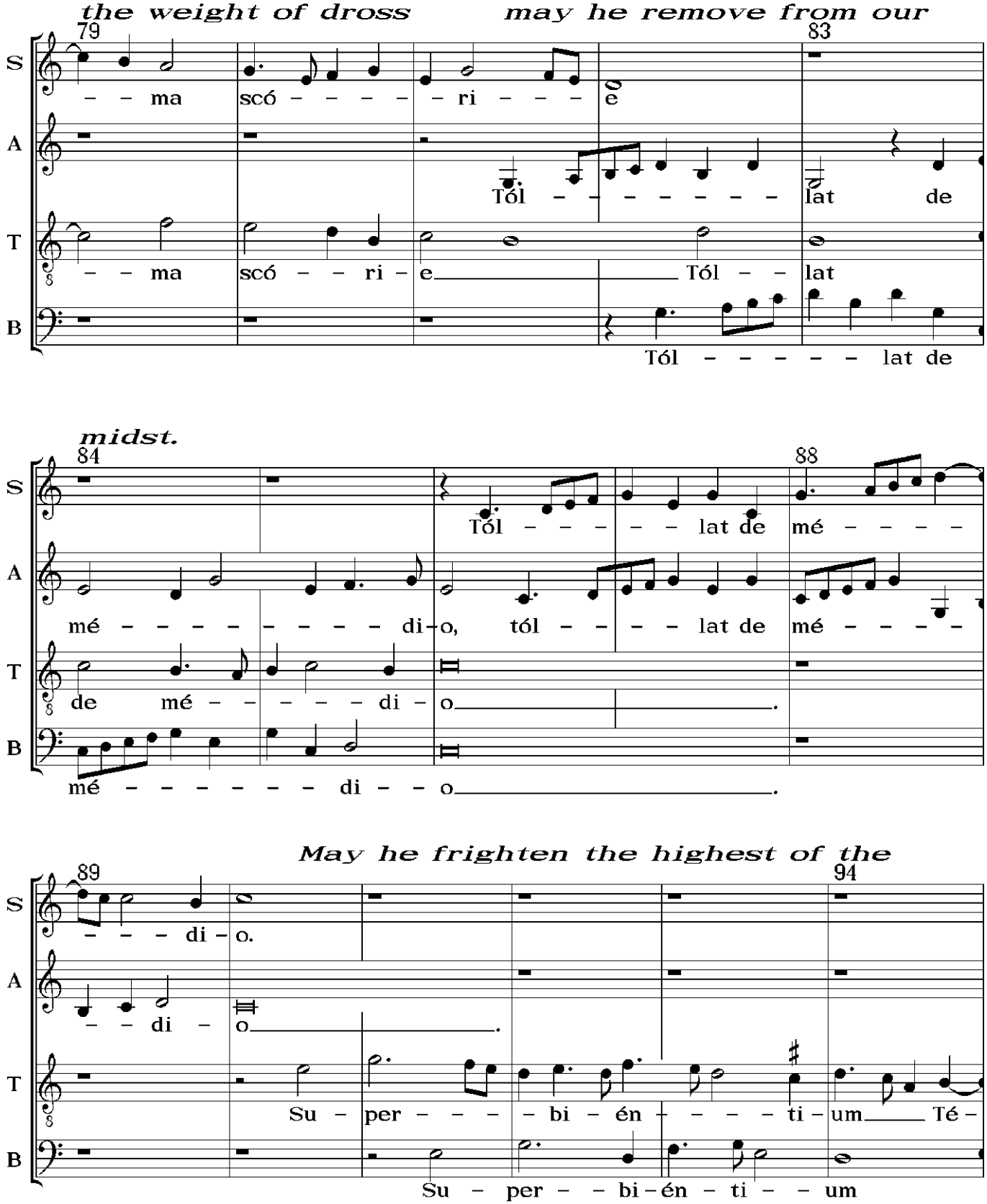
19 Mar 2021

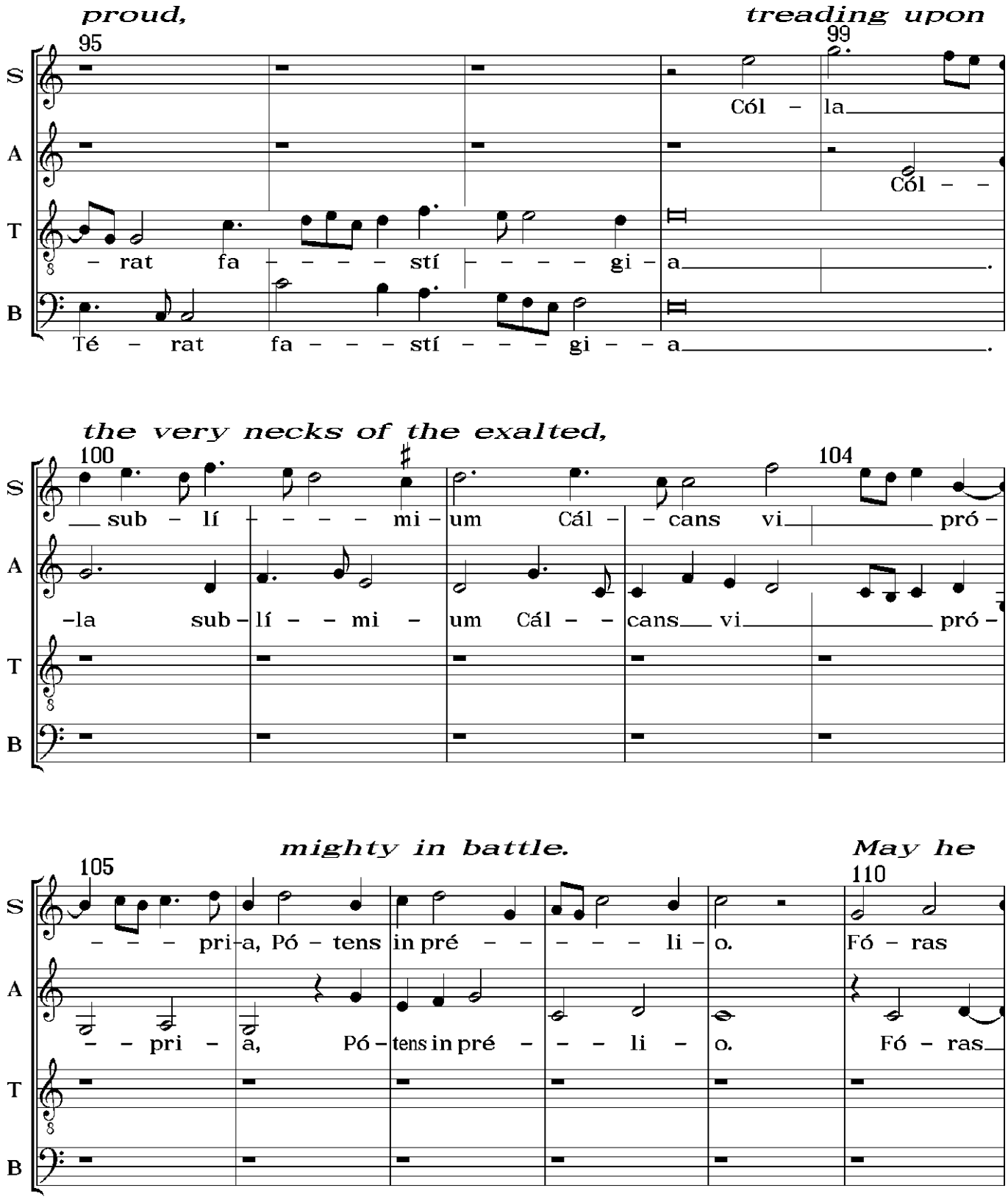

any angel,
but the strength,
7
11
S
A
T
B
vis án – – – – ge-lum, Sed for – – –
vis án – – – – ge – lum, Sed for – ti –
the archangel himself,
12
17
–ti – tú – – – – – di – nem, Sú – um arch – án – – –
–tú – – di – – – – – – nem, Sú – um arch – – – – án – – – – –
the lover of mankind.
May he
18
23
–ge – lum, A – má – – – tor hó – – – – mi – nis.
– gelum, A – má – – – – – – tor hó – mi – nis, a –
Fór – tem

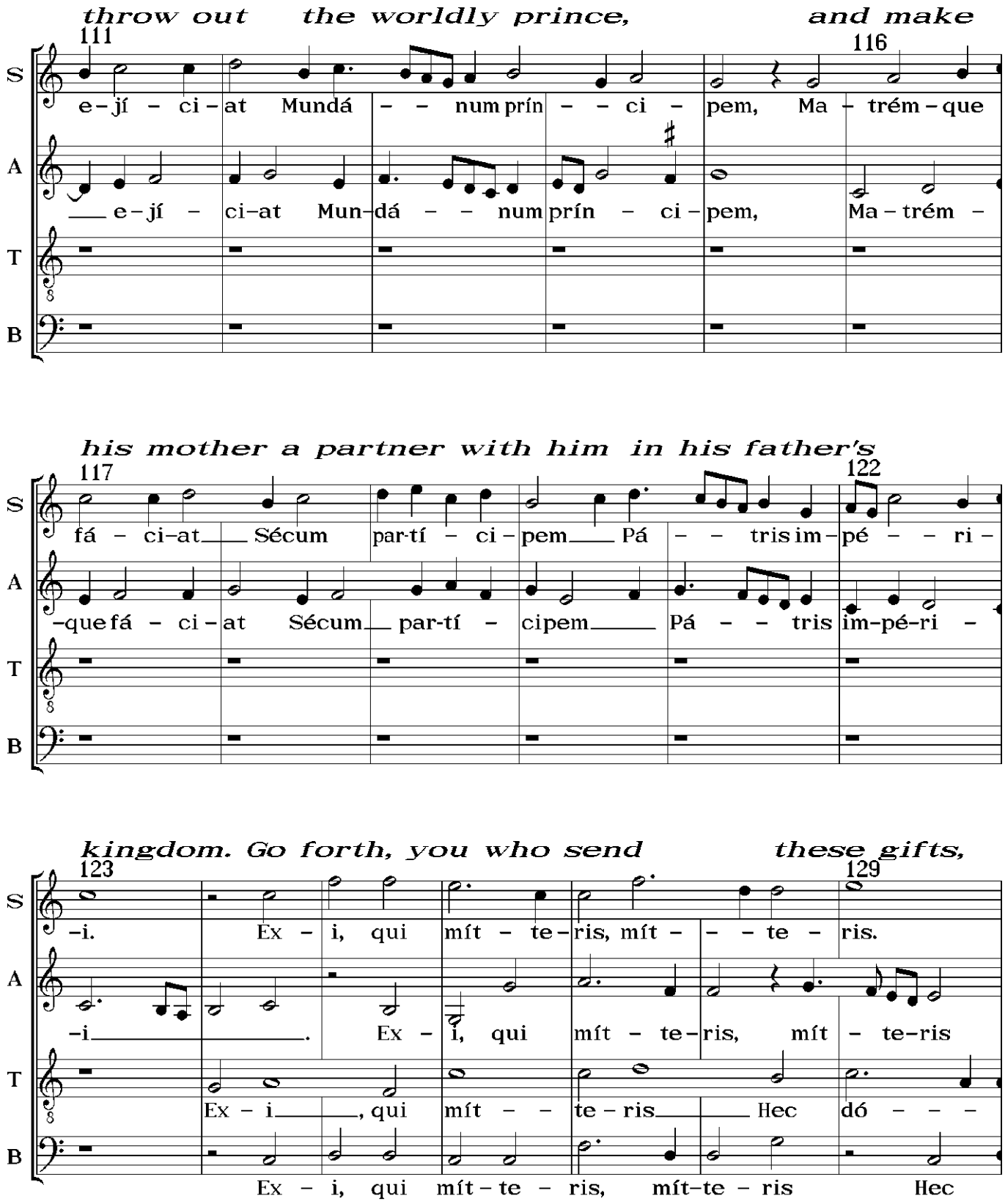

declare for us the mighty message,
24
29
S
A
T
B
–má – – tor hó – mi – nis.
Pro nó –
Fór – tem ex – pé – – – di – at
ex – pé – – – – di – at, Fór – tem ex-pé – – di – at
may he effect in
30
35
Na – tú – – – re
– – – – – bis nún – – – ti-um, Na – – – tú – –
Pro nó – – – bis nún – – – ti – um,
Pro nó – – bis nún – – – – ti – um,
nature
36
41
fá – – – – – – – – ci – at
–re, na – tú – – – re fá – – – – – – ci –
Na – – – – – tú – re fá – – – – – – – – – ci –
Na – – – – tú – re fá – – – – – – – – – ci –

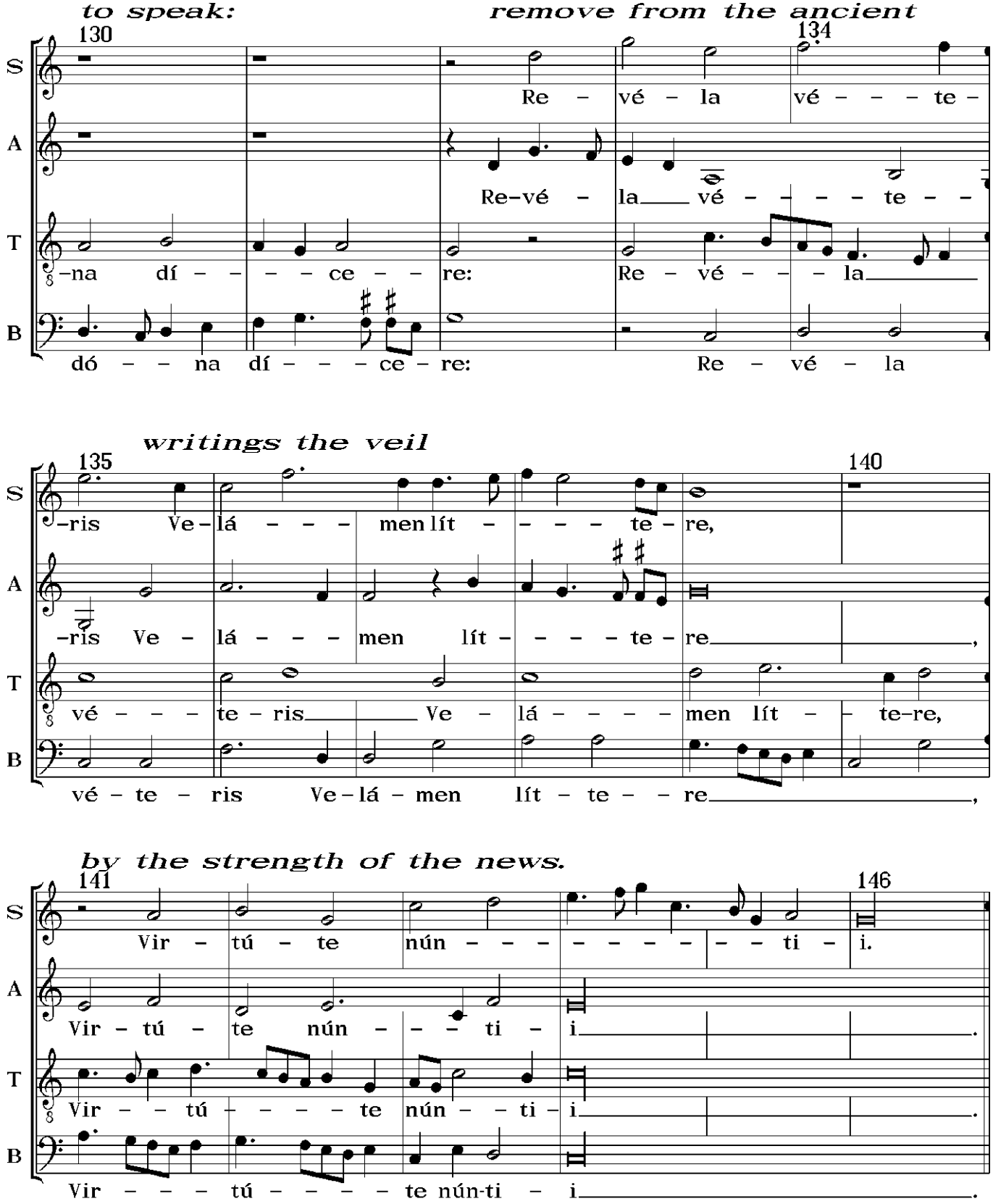

the preordained
42
47
S
A
T
B
Ut pre – ju – dí – – – – – – – – – – – – ci –
–at
Ut pre – ju – dí – – – – – – – – ci –
–at
Ut pre – ju – dí – – – – – – ci – –
–at
birth by a virgin.
May
48
53
–um In pár – – tu vír – gi – nis. Na –
–um In pár – tu vír – – – – – gi – nis.
–um In pár – – – tu vír – – – – gi – nis.
In pár – tu, in pár – tu vír – gi – nis. Na –
the born king of glory overcome nature:
54
59
–tú – ram sú – – – – – – pe – ret, sú – – – – – – pe –
Na – tú – – – ram sú – – – – pe –
Na – tú – ram sú – – – – pe – ret, na –
– tú – – – ram sú – – – – – pe – ret, natú – ram sú –


60
65
S
-ret
A
-ret, sú - - - - - - pe-ret Ná-tus rex gló - -
T
-tú - - - ram sú - - - - pe-ret Ná - tus rex
B
-pe - - - ret, natú - ram sú-pe - ret Ná-tus rex gló - -
66
70
May
S
Ná - tus rex gló - - ri -
A
- - - ri-e, rex gló - - - - - - - ri - - - - e:
T
gló - - - - ri - e:
B
- - - - - - ri - e: Ré - -
he reign and rule,
and
71
78
S
-e: Ré - gnet et ím - pe-ret, Et zý-
A
Ré - gnet et ím - pe-ret,
T
Ré - gnet et ím - - pe - ret, Et zý -
B
-gnet et ím - - pe - ret,


the weight of dross
may he remove from our
midst.
May he frighten the highest of the
79
83
84
88
89
94
S
A
T
B
– – ma scó – – – – – ri – – – e
Tól – – – – – – – – lat de
– – ma scó – – ri – e Tól – – lat
Tól – – – – – – lat de
Tól – – – – – lat de mé – – – –
mé – – – – – – – – di – o, tól – – – – lat de mé – – – –
de mé – – – – – di – o.
mé – – – – – – – di – – o.
– – – di – o.
– – di – o.
Su – per – – – – bi – én – – – – ti – um Té –
Su – per – – bi – én – ti – – um


proud,
treading upon
95
99
S
A
T
B
– rat fa – – – – stí – – – – gi – a
Té – rat fa – – – stí – – – gi – – a
Cól – la
Cól – –
the very necks of the exalted,
100
104
– sub – lí – – – – mi – um Cál – – cans vi – pró –
–la sub – lí – – mi – um Cál – – cans vi – pró –
mighty in battle.
May he
105
110
– – – pri – a, Pó – tens in pré – – – – – li – o. Fó – ras
– – pri – a, Pó – tens in pré – – – li – o. Fó – ras


throw out the worldly prince, and make
111
116
S
A
T
B
e – jí – ci – at Mundá – – num prín – – ci – pem, Ma – trém – que
– e – jí – ci – at Mun – dá – – num prín – ci – pem, Ma – trém –
his mother a partner with him in his father's
117
122
fá – ci – at Sécum par-tí – ci – pem Pá – – tris im – pé – – ri –
– que fá – ci – at Sécum par-tí – ci pem Pá – – tris im – pé – ri –
kingdom. Go forth, you who send these gifts,
123
129
– i. Ex – i, qui mít – te – ris, mít – – – te – ris.
– i. Ex – i, qui mít – te – ris, mít – te – ris
Ex – i, qui mít – – te – ris Hec dó – – –
Ex – i, qui mít – te – ris, mít – te – ris Hec

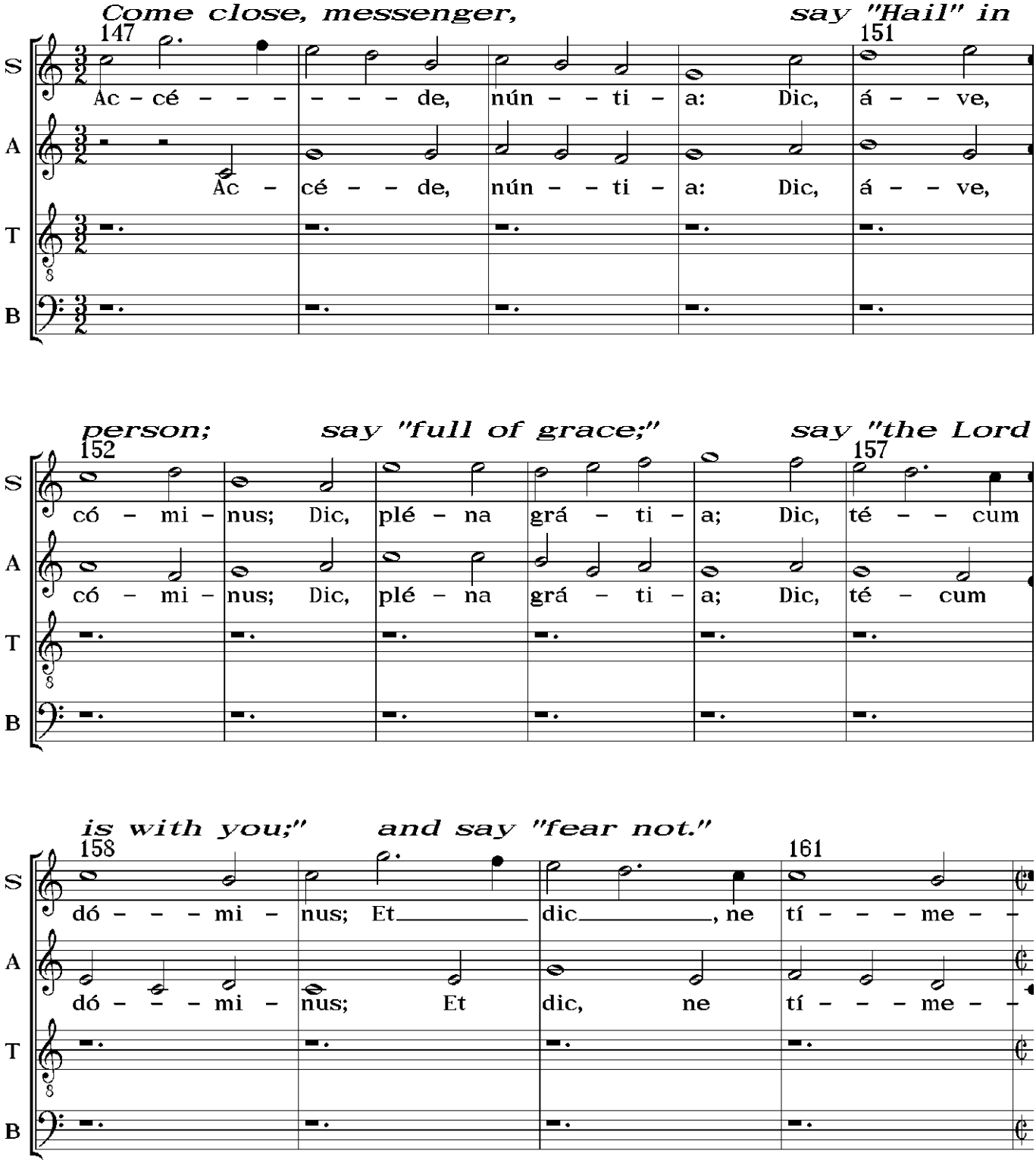

to speak: remove from the ancient

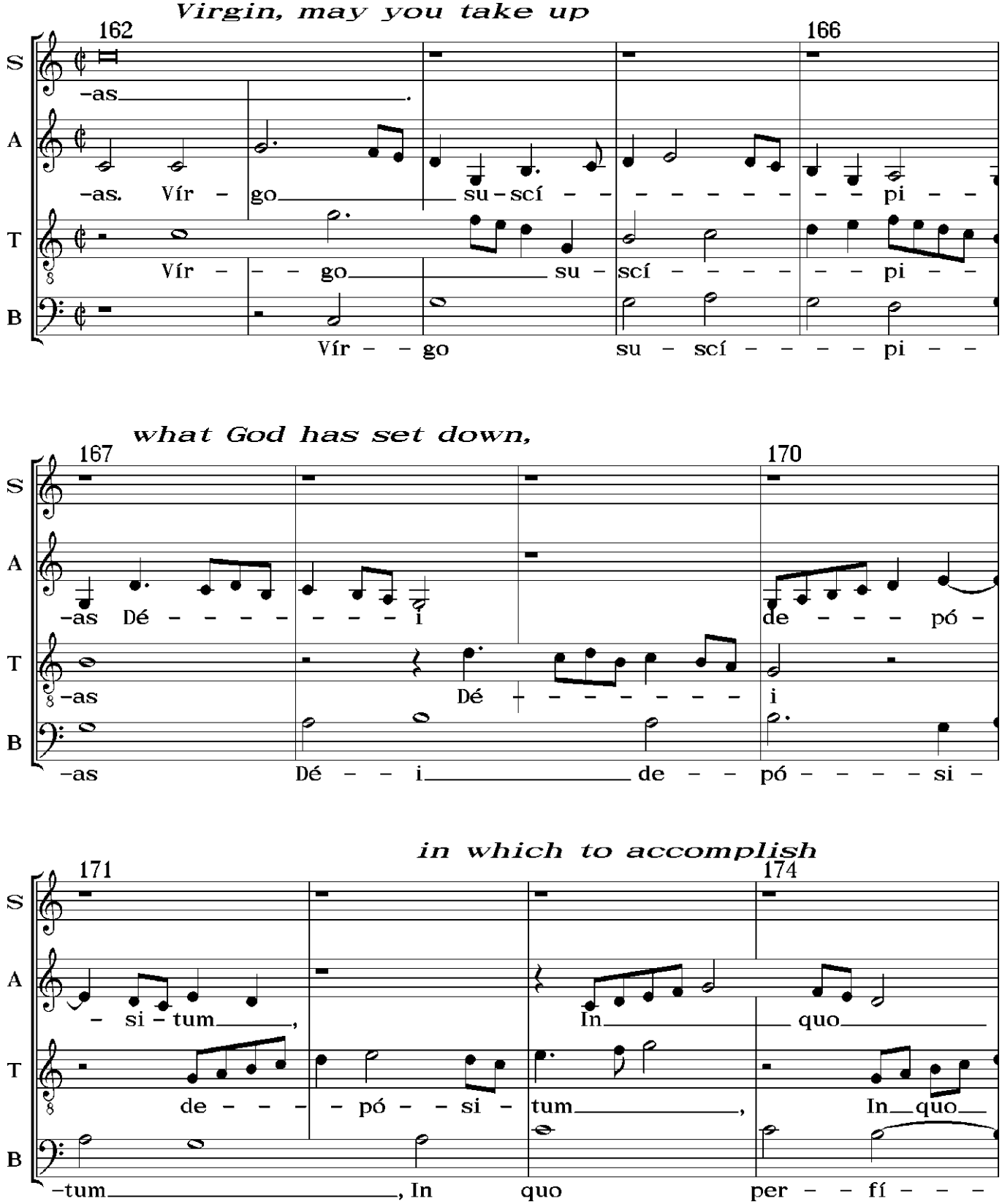
S
Re – vé – la vé – – – te –
A
Re–vé – la vé – – – – te – –
T
–na dí – – – – ce – – re: Re – vé – – – la
B
dó – – na dí – – – ce – re: Re – vé – la
writings the veil

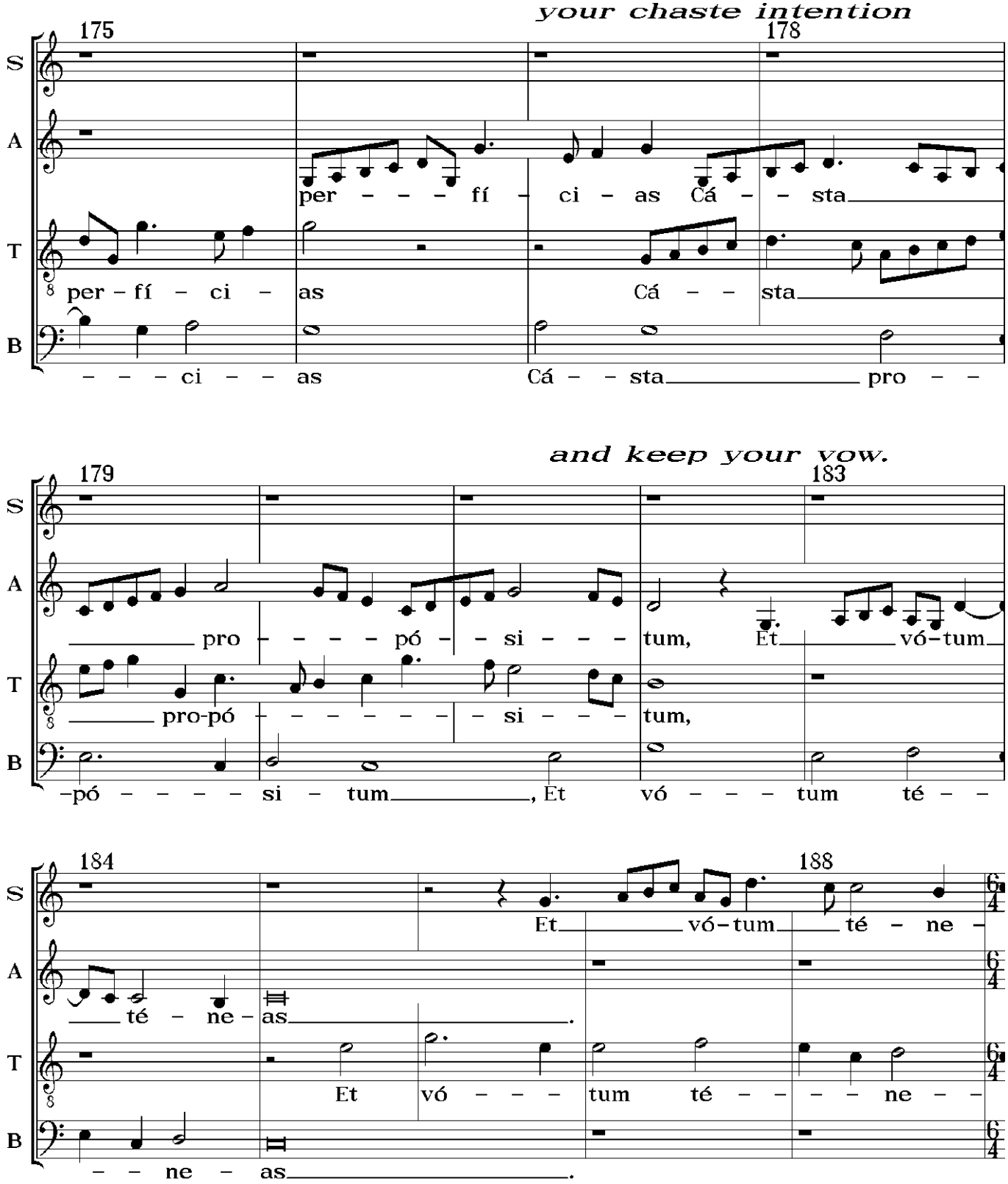
S
–ris Ve – lá – – – men lít – – – – te – re,
A
–ris Ve – lá – – – men lít – – – – te – re,
T
vé – – – te – ris Ve – lá – – – – men lít – – te–re,
B
vé – te – ris Ve – lá – men lít – te – – re,
by the strength of the news.

S
Vir – tú – te nún – – – – – – – – – ti – i.
A
Vir – tú – te nún – – – ti – i.
T
Vir – – tú – – – – te nún – – ti – i.
B
Vir – – – tú – – – – te nún-ti – i.

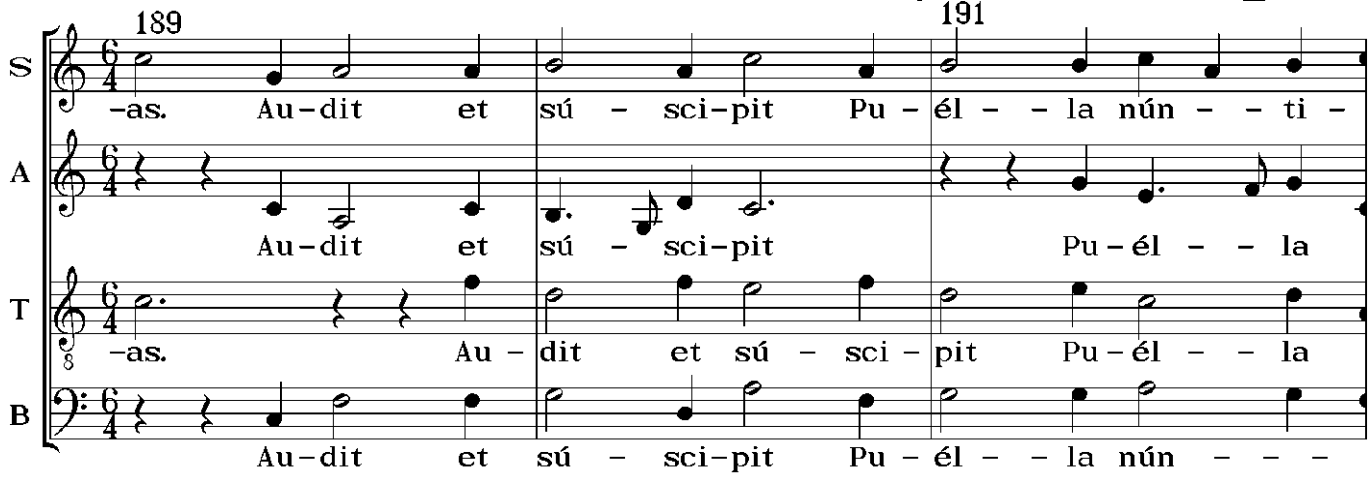
Secunda pars:



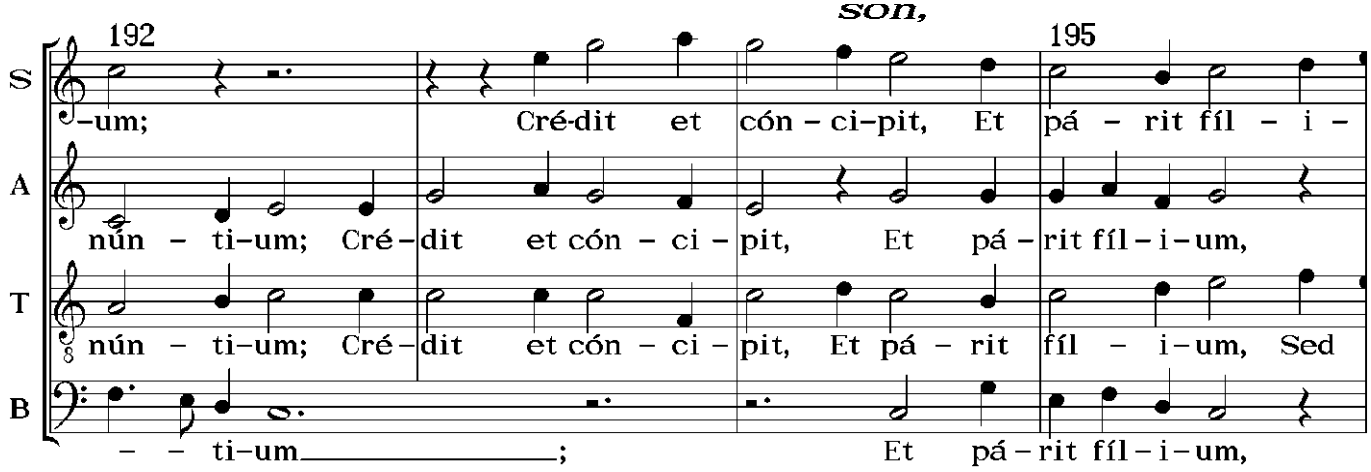

Virgin, may you take up
162
166
S
A
T
B
-as
-as. Vír - go su - scí - - - - - - - - pi - -
Vír - - go su - scí - - - - pi - -
Vír - - go su - scí - - - - pi - -
what God has set down,
167
170
-as Dé - - - - - - - - i de - - - pó -
-as Dé - - - - - - - - i
-as Dé - - i de - - pó - - - - si -
in which to accomplish
171
174
- si - tum, In quo
de - - - - pó - - si - tum, In quo
-tum, In quo per - - fí - - -


your chaste intention
175
178
S
A
T
B
per – – – – fí – ci – as Cá – – sta
per – fí – ci – as Cá – – sta
– – – ci – – as Cá – – sta pro – –
and keep your vow.
179
183
pro – – – – pó – – si – – – tum, Et vó – tum
pro-pó – – – – – – si – – – tum,
– pó – – – – – si – tum, Et vó – – – tum té – –
184
188
Et vó – tum té – ne –
té – ne – as.
Et vó – – – tum té – – – – ne – –
– – ne – as.

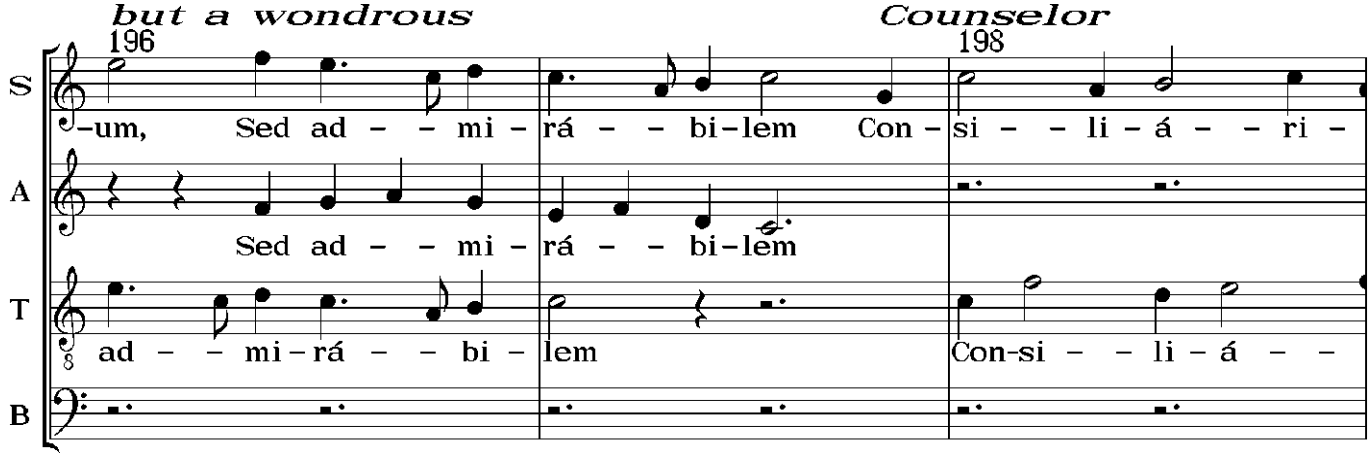
The maiden hears and accepts the message;

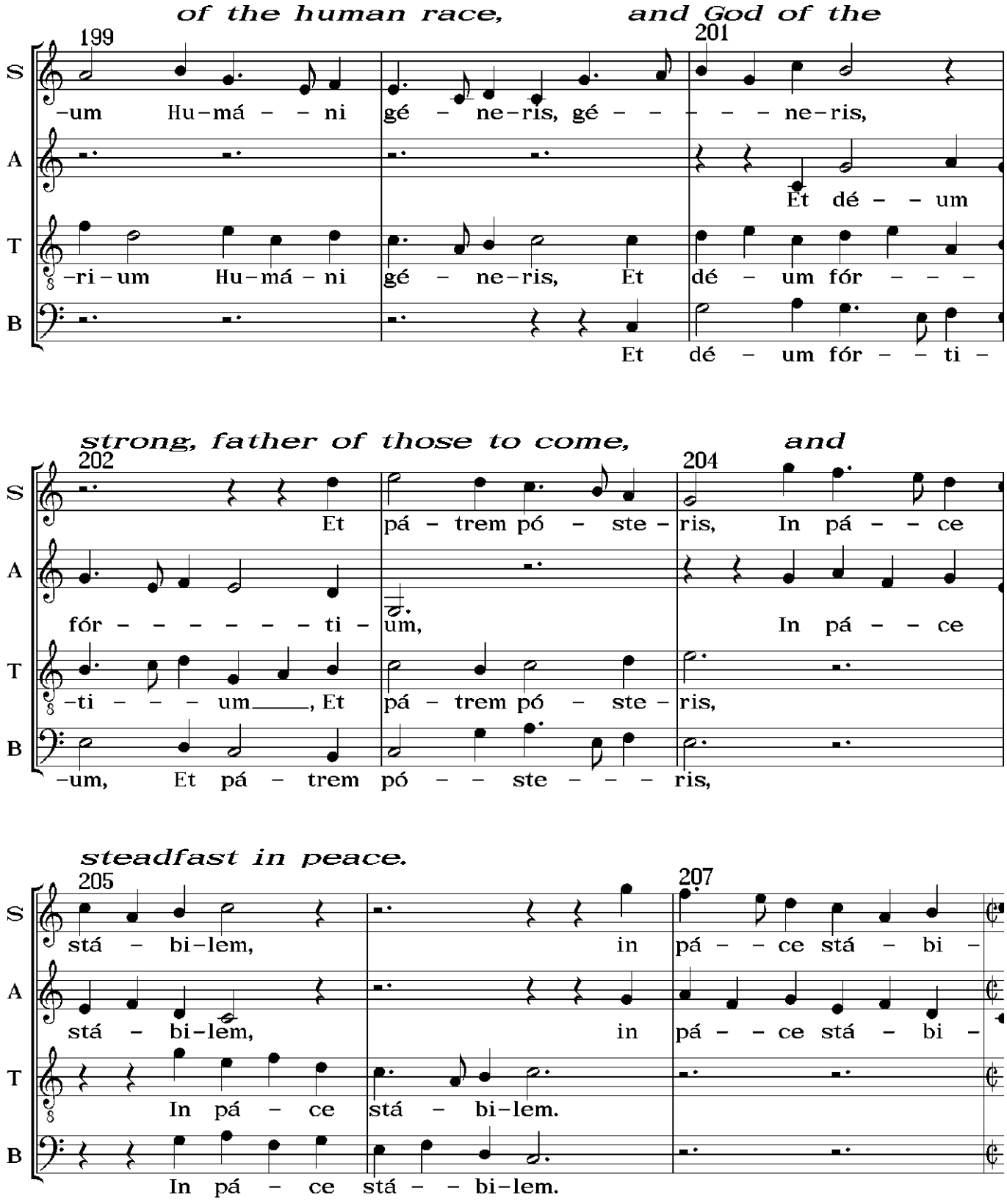


she believes and conceives and bears a son,

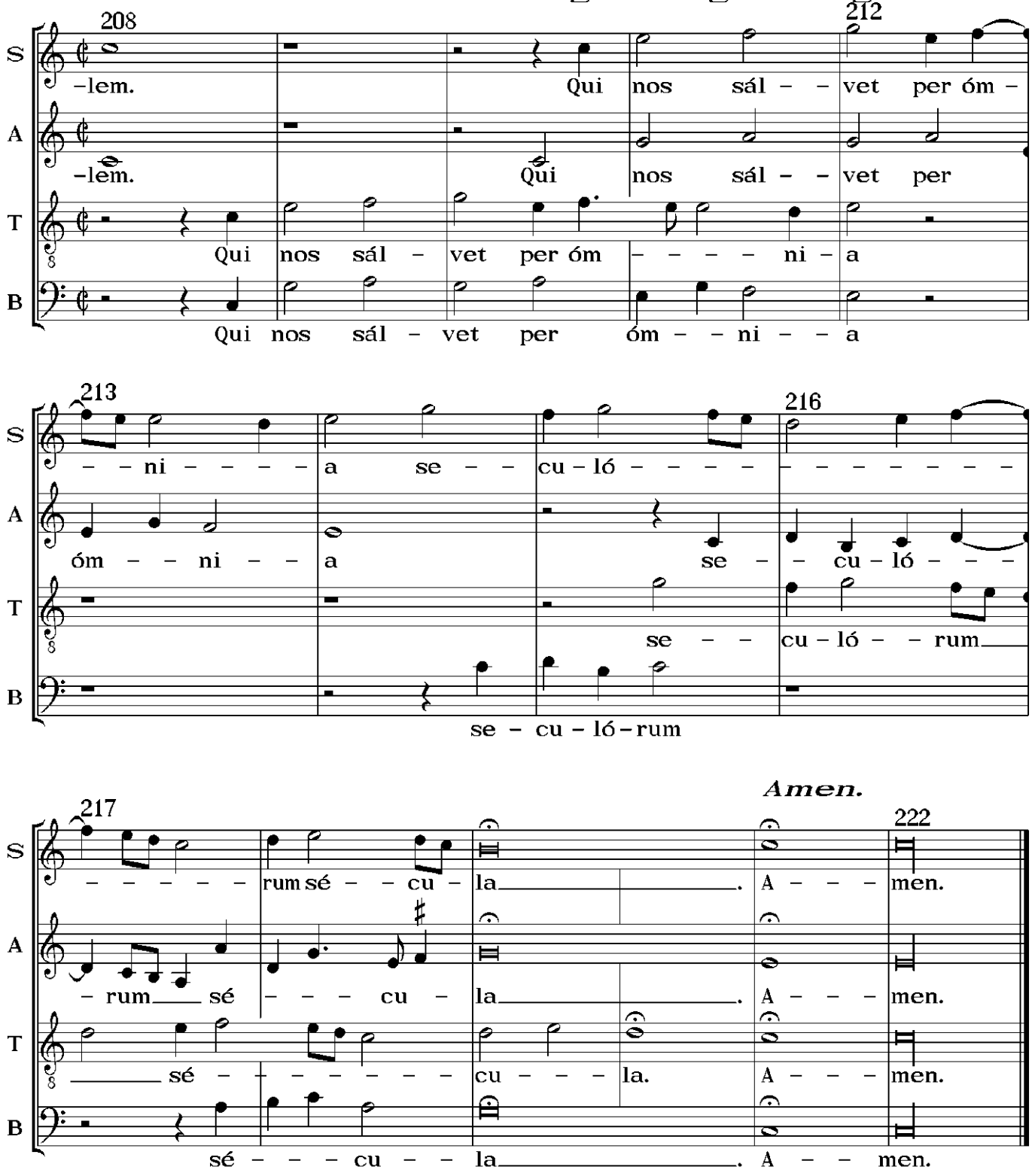


but a wondrous *Counselor*




of the human race, and God of the
199
201
S
A
T
B
-um Hu-má - - ni gé - ne-ris, gé - - - - - - ne-ris,
Et dé - - um
-ri-um Hu-má - ni gé - ne-ris, Et dé - um fór - - -
Et dé - um fór - - ti -
strong, father of those to come, and
202
204
Et pá - trem pó - ste - ris, In pá - - ce
fór - - - - - - - ti - um, In pá - - ce
-ti - - - um___, Et pá - trem pó - ste - ris,
-um, Et pá - trem pó - - ste - - - ris,
steadfast in peace.
205
207
stá - bi-lem, in pá - - ce stá - bi -
stá - bi-lem, in pá - - ce stá - bi -
In pá - ce stá - bi-lem.
In pá - ce stá - - bi-lem.

Who heals us through all ages of ages.



Alterations: To ease SATB performance, we exchanged alto and tenor parts in (bar.quarter) 38.1–43.4, 125.3–.4, 133.3–134.4, 147.1–162.2, 192.6–194.2, and 200.6–202.6.