Missa Festiva

By

John Leavitt

Revised Edition

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Kyrie 4

Gloria 10

Credo 21

Sanctus 25

Agnus Dei 35

SATB (39676)
SAB (39677)
SSA (39678)
TTB (39679)
2-part (39680)
SoundTrax CD (39681)
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About the Work

Missa Festiva began in 1987 with the commission of a festival piece for the International Choral Symposium in Kansas City, Missouri. The *Sanctus* ("Festival Sanctus") of this Mass was the result of that commission. Other parts of the Ordinary followed—the *Kyrie* and *Agnus Dei*. The *Gloria* was finished in the fall of 1990. The *Credo*, the centerpiece of the Mass which weds the work together, was completed in the spring of 1991. At that time, the separate movements were assembled and orchestrated. More recently, on the 20th anniversary of "Festival Sanctus," I began working on a new orchestration for the work. The result of that effort also yielded several new voicings of the various movements.

The outer movements, *Kyrie* and *Agnus Dei*, are set in a lyric, neo-romantic style that features modal inflection. The inner movements, *Gloria* and *Sanctus*, are set in a rhythmic, ebullient style, featuring mixed meters and syncopation. The middle movement, *Credo*, uses ancient chants to distinguish the three persons of the Trinity.

While this work does not purport to be a liturgical Mass, it uses texts from the Ordinary, both altered and unaltered, to conscribe to musical considerations. These Latin texts, time honored through many centuries, are embraced for their richness and provide a vehicle for excellent choral singing.

About the Composer

John Leavitt currently serves as Director of Choral Activities and Professor of Music at MidAmerica Nazarene University. An extraordinary composer, performer, and clinician for church and school music literature, Dr. Leavitt continues to teach, lecture, and guest conduct numerous workshops, festivals, and symposia. He has served as a regular guest conductor in major venues throughout the United States, including New York's Carnegie Hall and Washington DC's Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Dr. Leavitt's compositions are represented in nearly every major music catalog. His music is regularly featured on public radio stations and has been performed in more than 30 countries across the world.

In March of 2003, Dr. Leavitt received the Kansas Artist Fellowship Award from the Kansas Arts Commission for his contributions to music composition. In 2010, he was the recipient of a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts' American Masterpieces, which partnered with the Kansas Arts Commission and the Kansas Music Educators Association to commission a new choral work by Dr. Leavitt in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the State of Kansas. He was honored with the MNU Presidential Award, Faculty Member of the Year for 2011, an award voted upon by his peers. Dr. Leavitt was also honored with the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music Alumni of the Year Award for 2012.

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Translation

Kyrie

Kyrie eleison,	Lord have mercy,
Christe eleison (Alleluia),	Christ have mercy (Alleluia),
Kyrie eleison (Alleluia).	Lord have mercy (Alleluia).

Gloria

Gloria in excelsis Deo.	Glory to God in the highest.
Et in terra pax	And on earth peace
hominibus bonae voluntatis.	to all those of good will.
Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.	We praise you. We bless you.
Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.	We worship you. We glorify you.
Gratias agimus tibi	We give thanks to you
propter magnam gloriam tuam.	because of your great glory.

Credo

Credo in unum Deum,	I believe in one God,
Patrem omnipotentem,	the Father Almighty,
factorem coeli et terrae.	maker of heaven and earth.
Et in unum Dominum Jesum Christum,	And I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
Filium Dei unigenitum.	the only begotten Son of God.
Et in Spiritum Sanctum,	And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
Dominum et vivificantem.	the Lord and Giver of life.

Sanctus

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,	Holy, Holy, Holy,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.	Lord God of Hosts.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.	Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
(Hosanna Deo), Hosanna in excelsis.	(Hosanna to God), Hosanna in the highest.
Benedictus qui venit	Blessed is He who comes
in nomine Domini (Dei).	in the name of the Lord (God).

Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei,	Lamb of God,
qui tollis peccata mundi:	who takes away the sins of the world:
miserere nobis (Amen).	have mercy upon us (Amen).
Agnus Dei,	Lamb of God,
qui tollis peccata mundi:	who takes away the sins of the world:
miserere nobis (Amen).	have mercy upon us (Amen).
Agnus Dei,	Lamb of God,
qui tollis peccata mundi:	who takes away the sins of the world:
dona nobis pacem (Amen).	grant us peace (Amen).

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KYRIE

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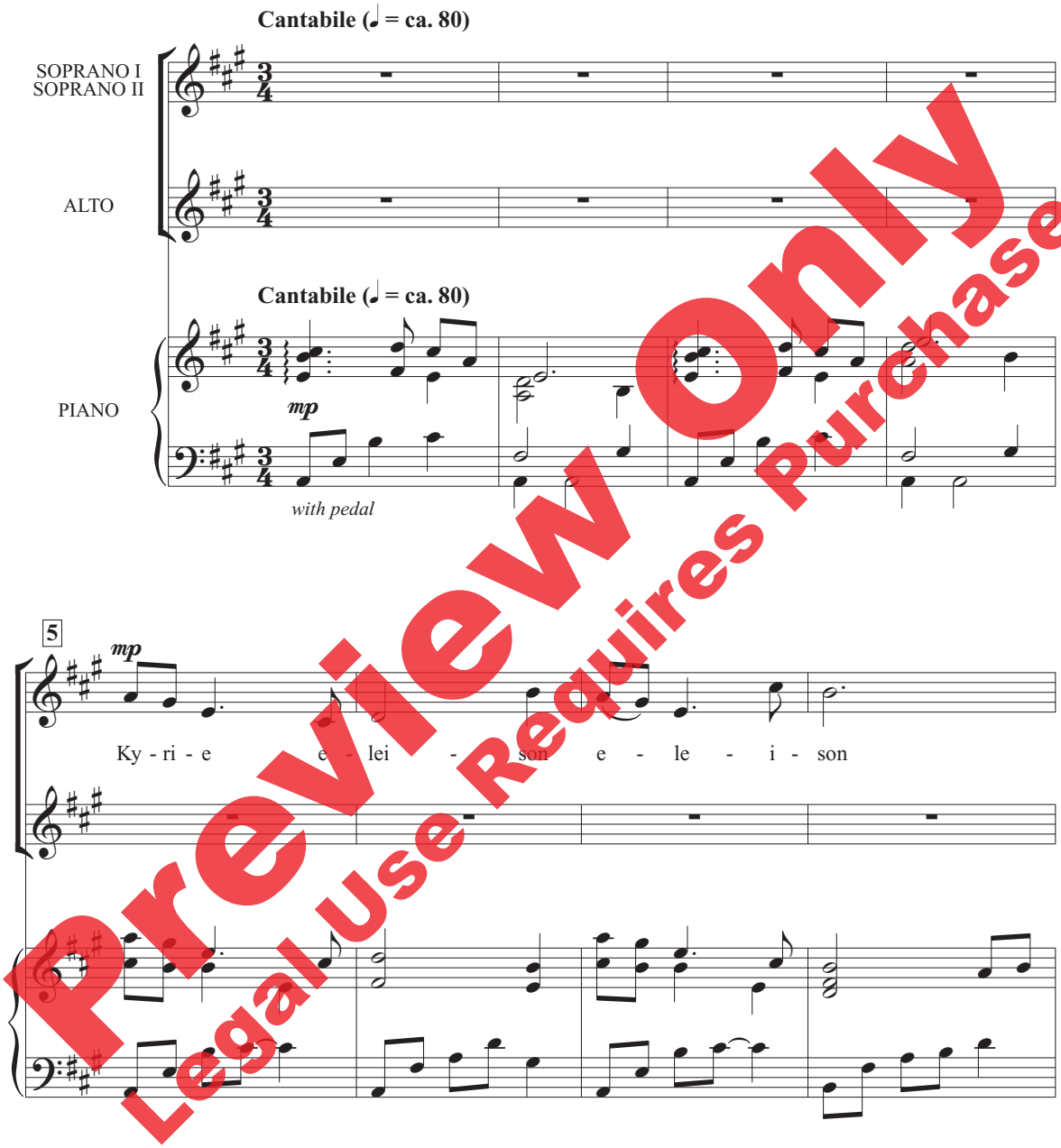

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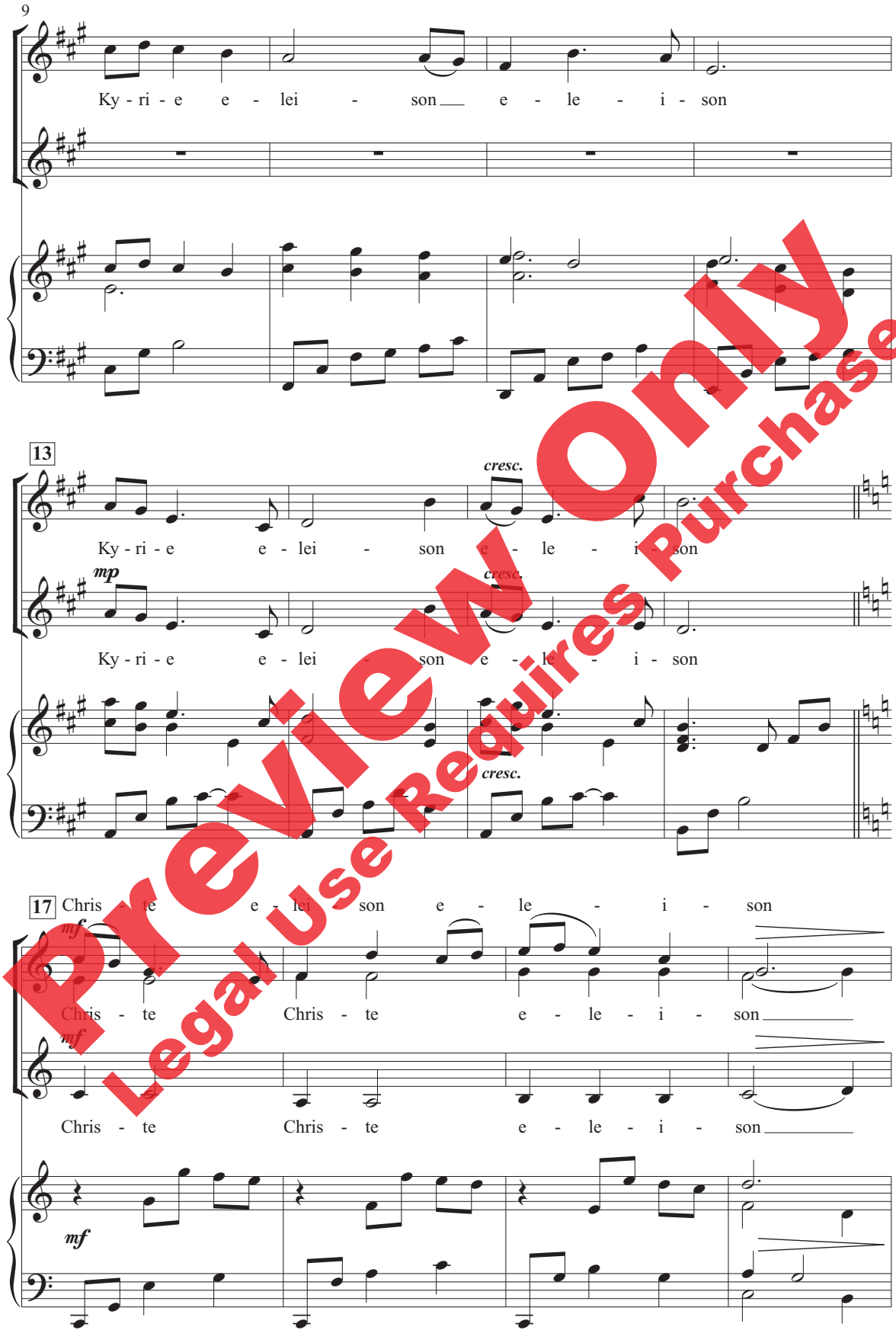

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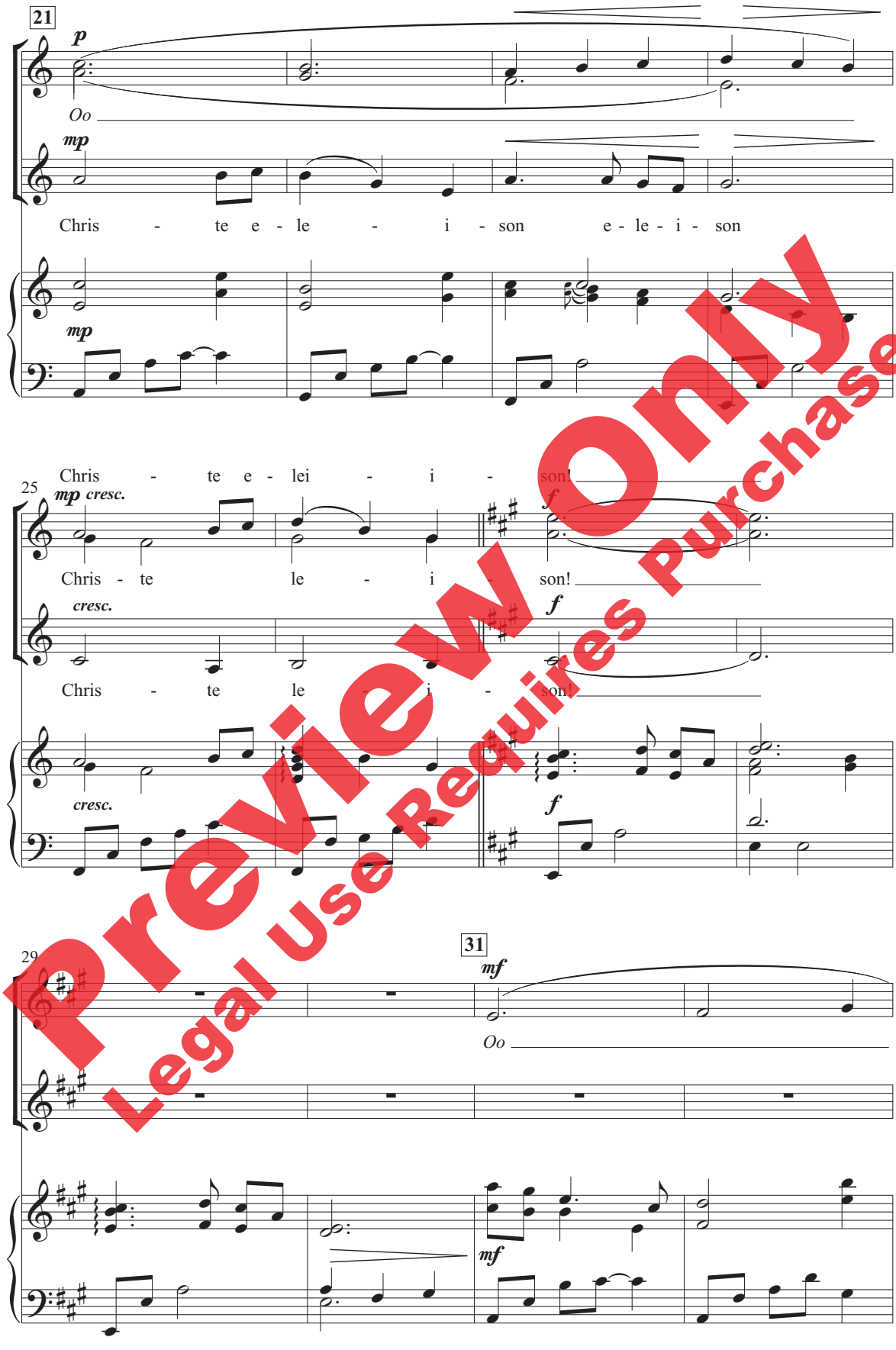

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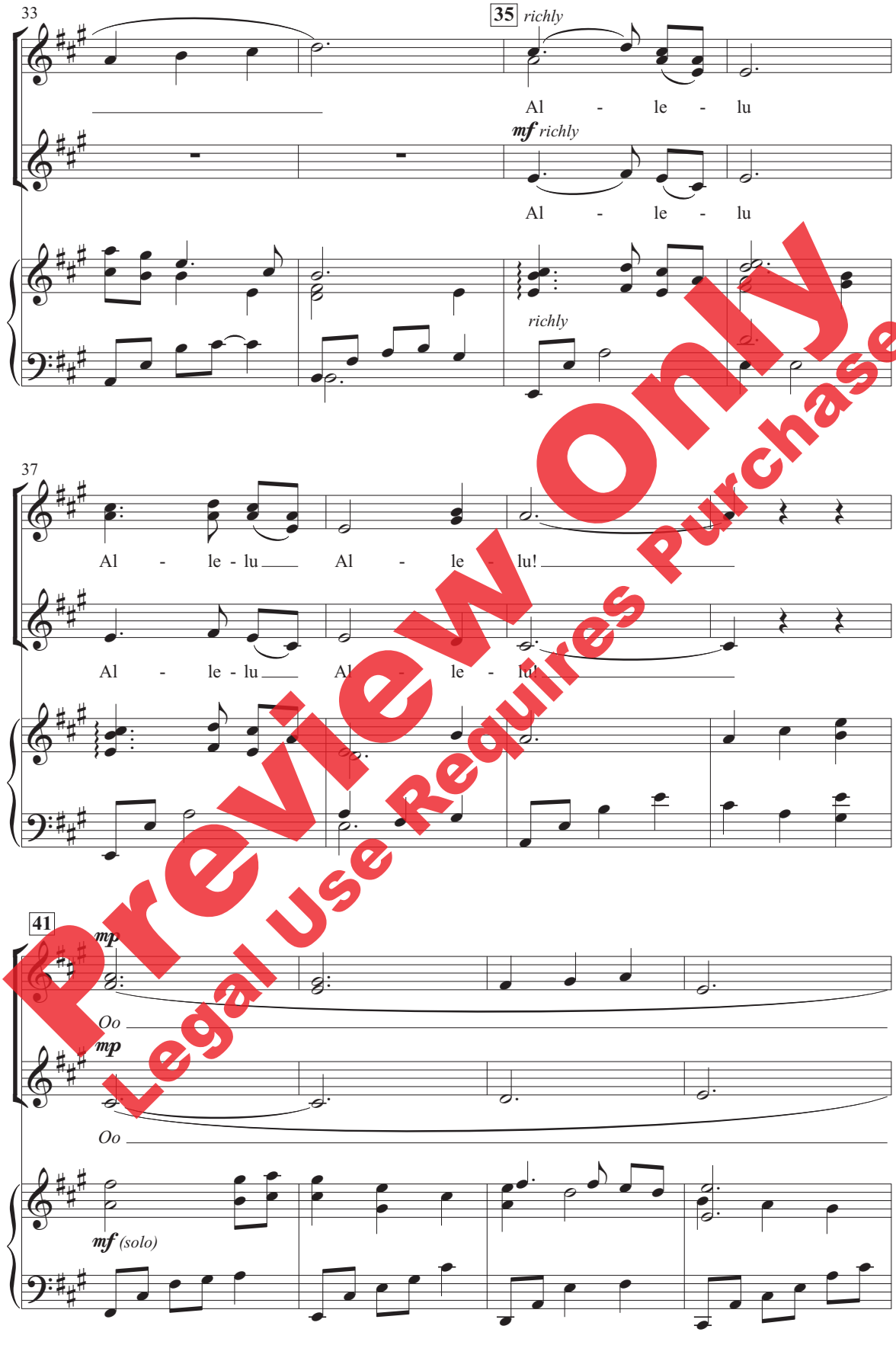

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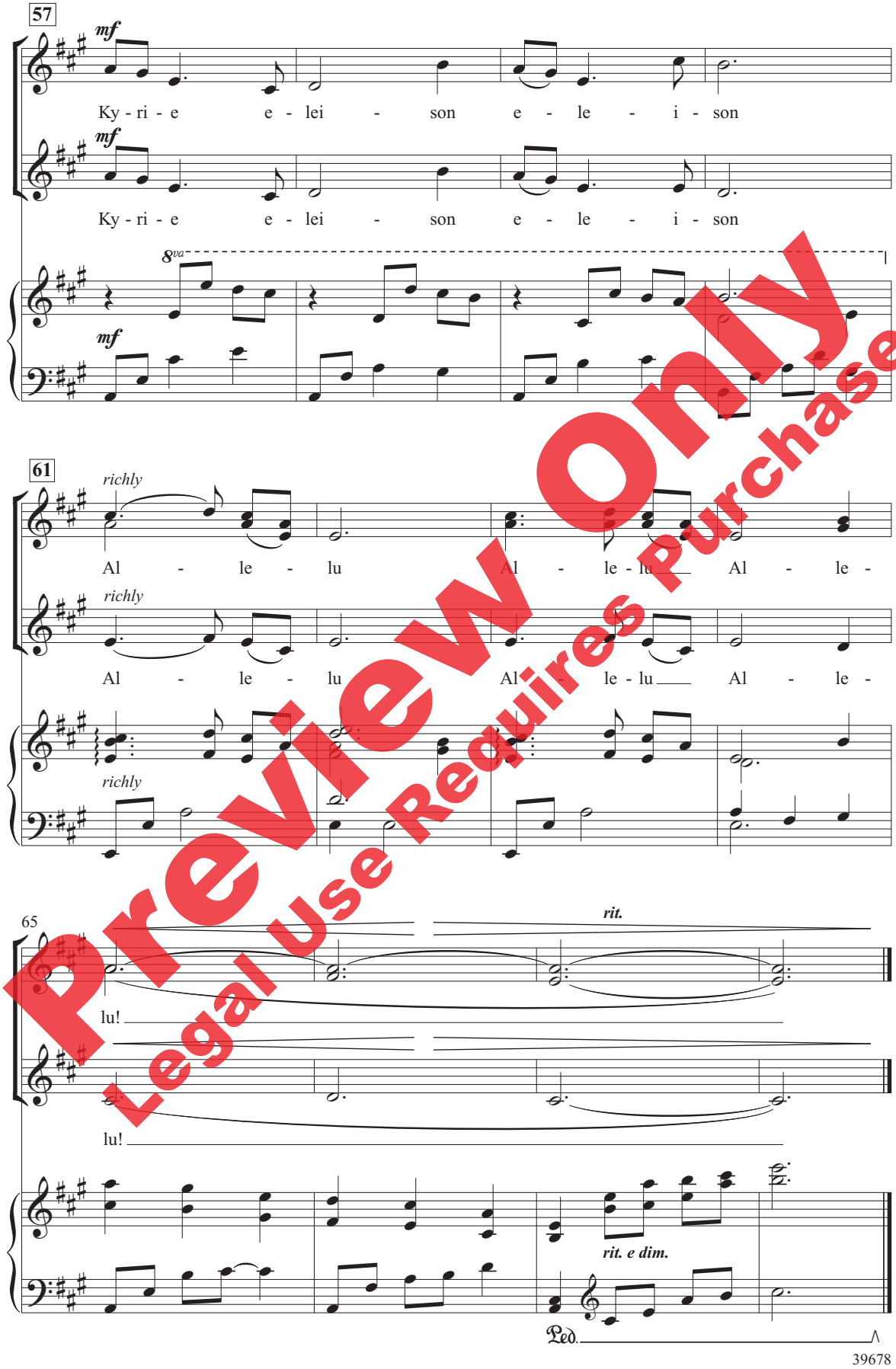

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GLORIA

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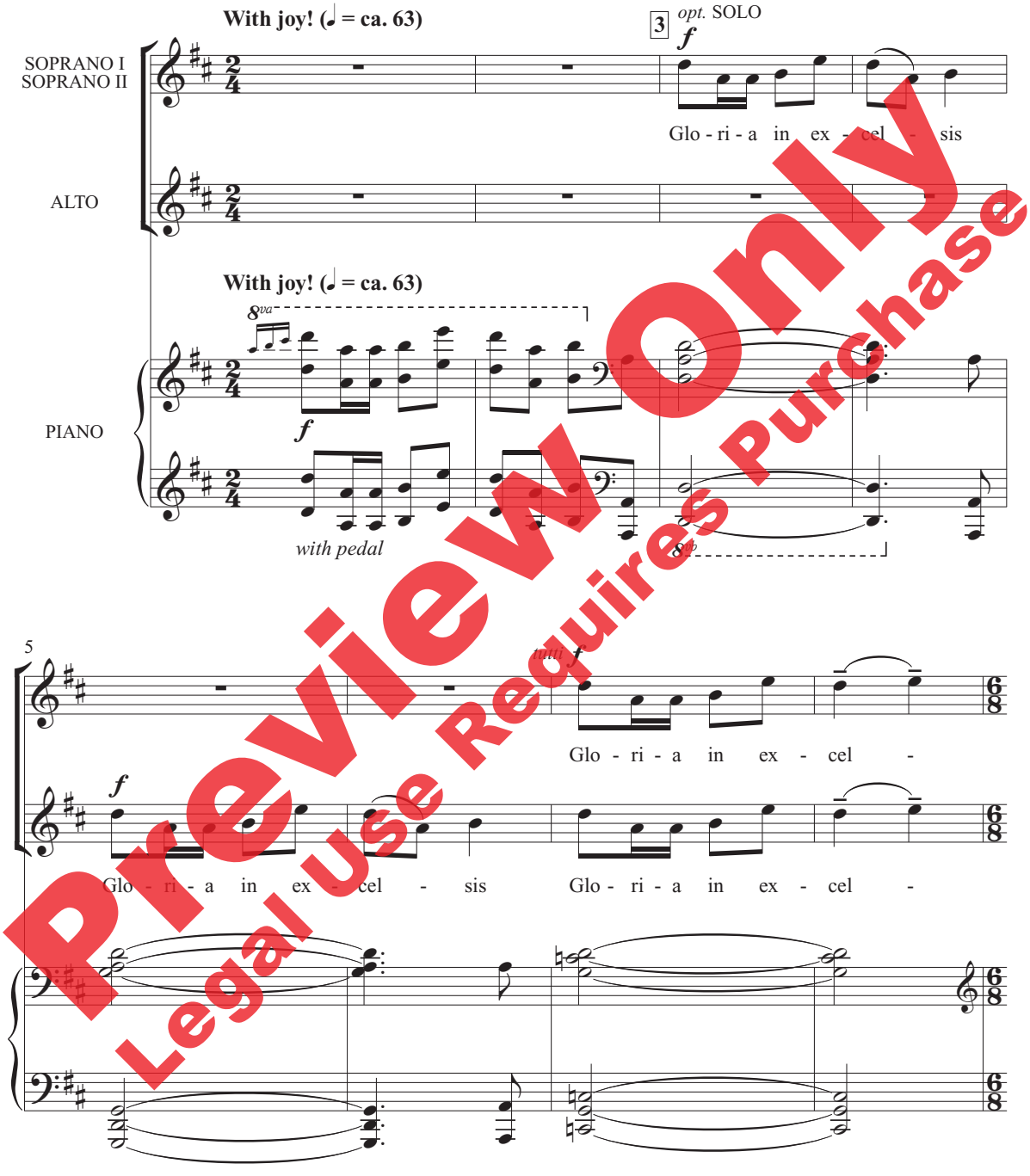

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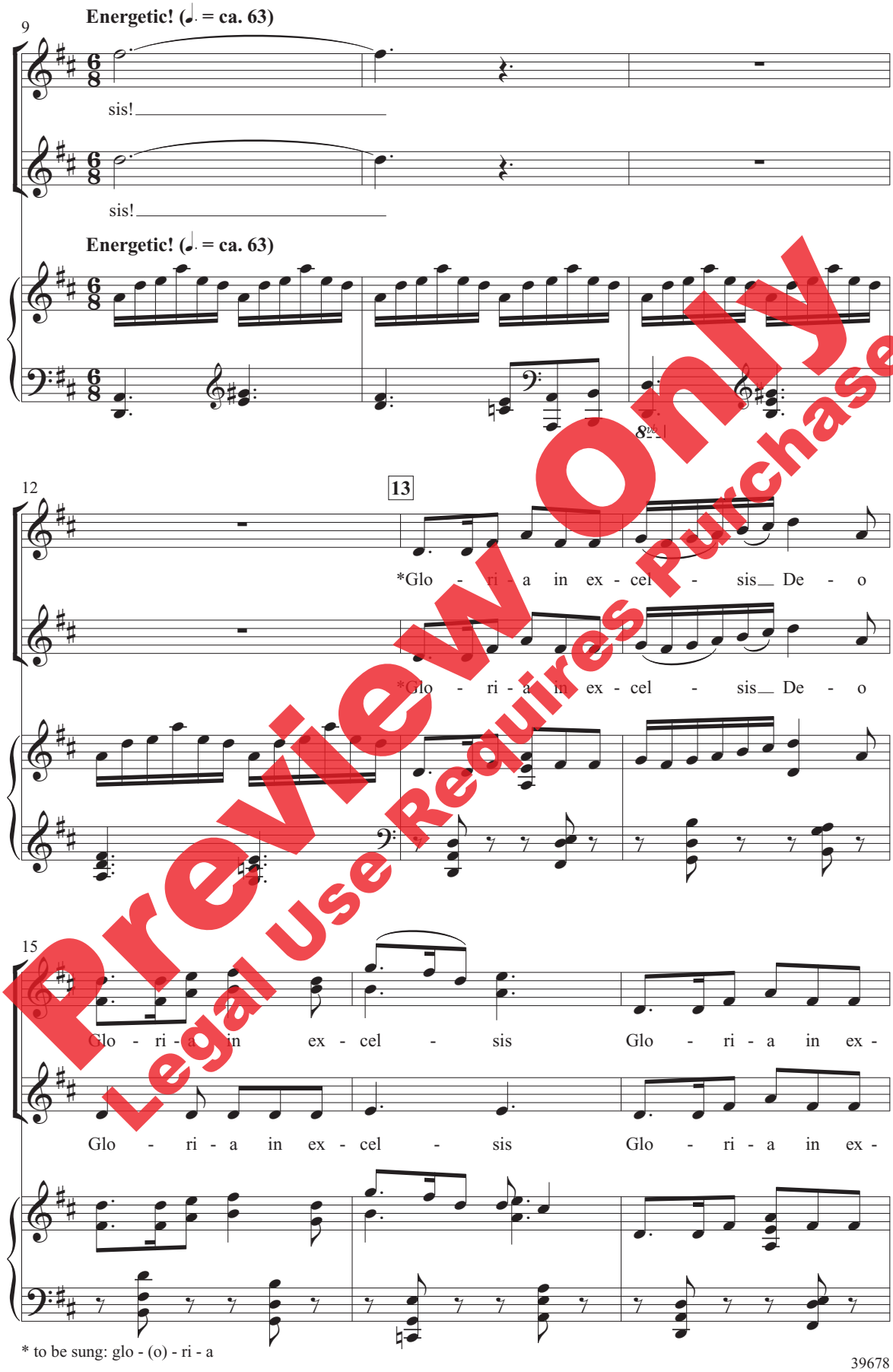

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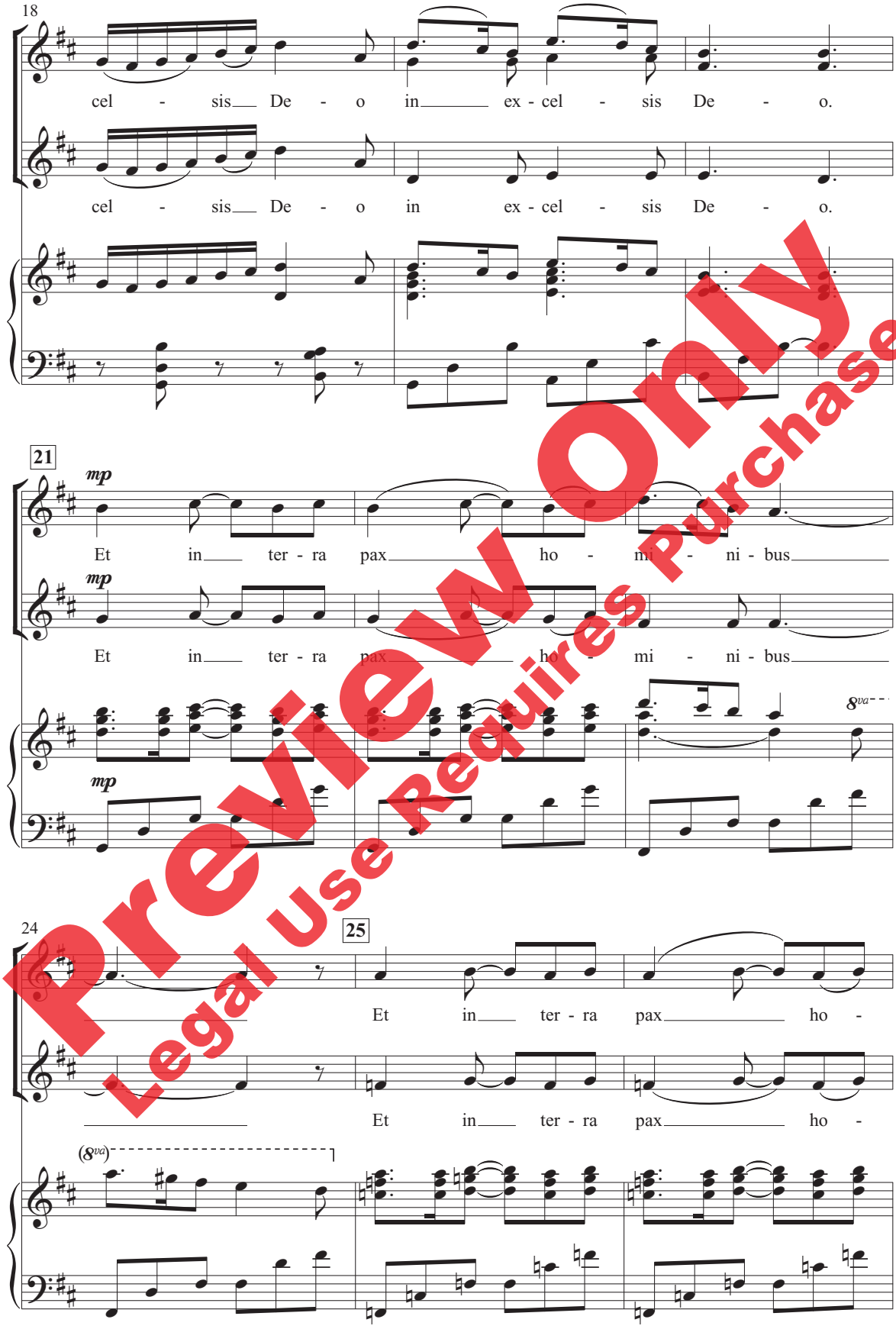

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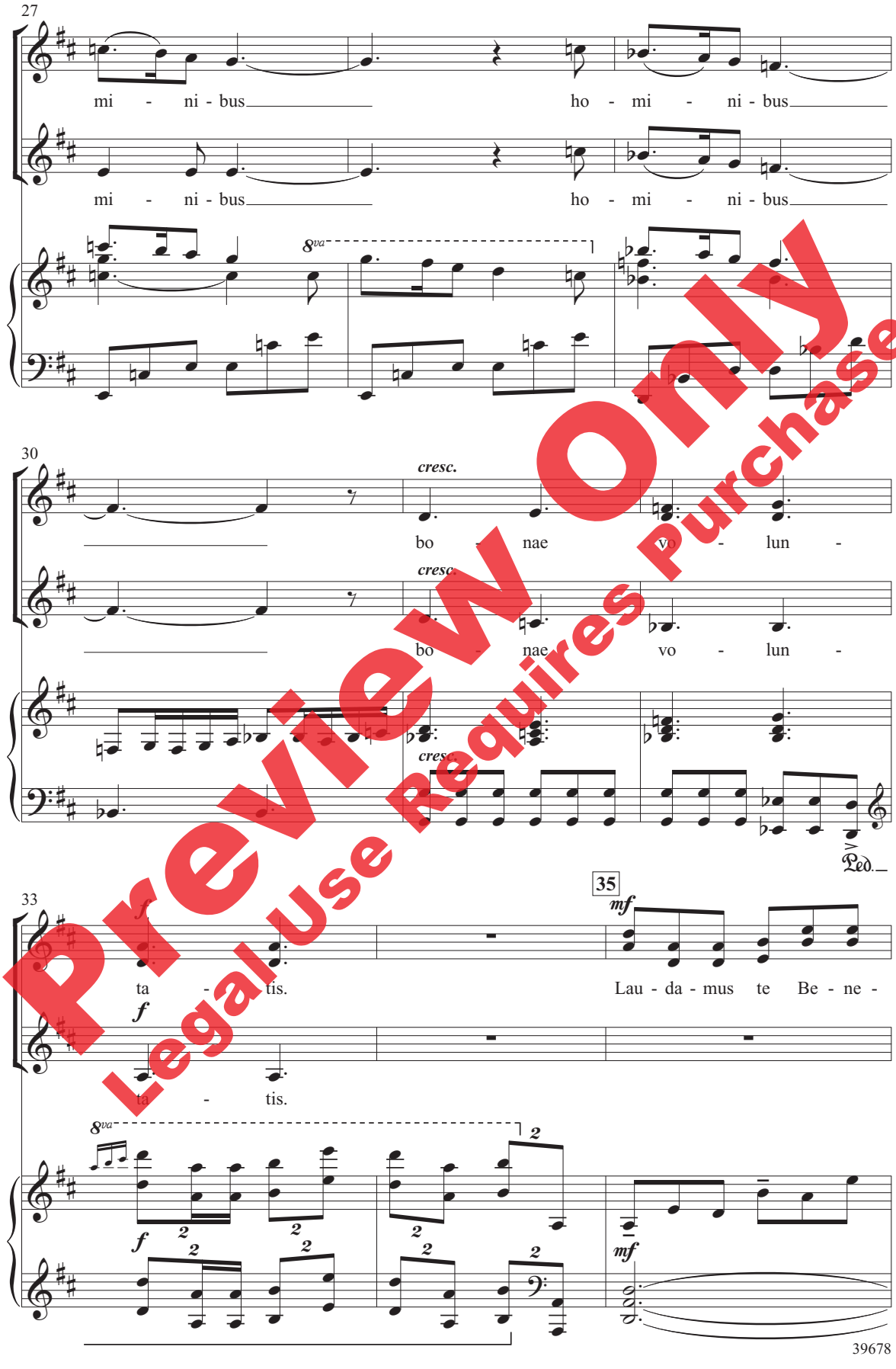

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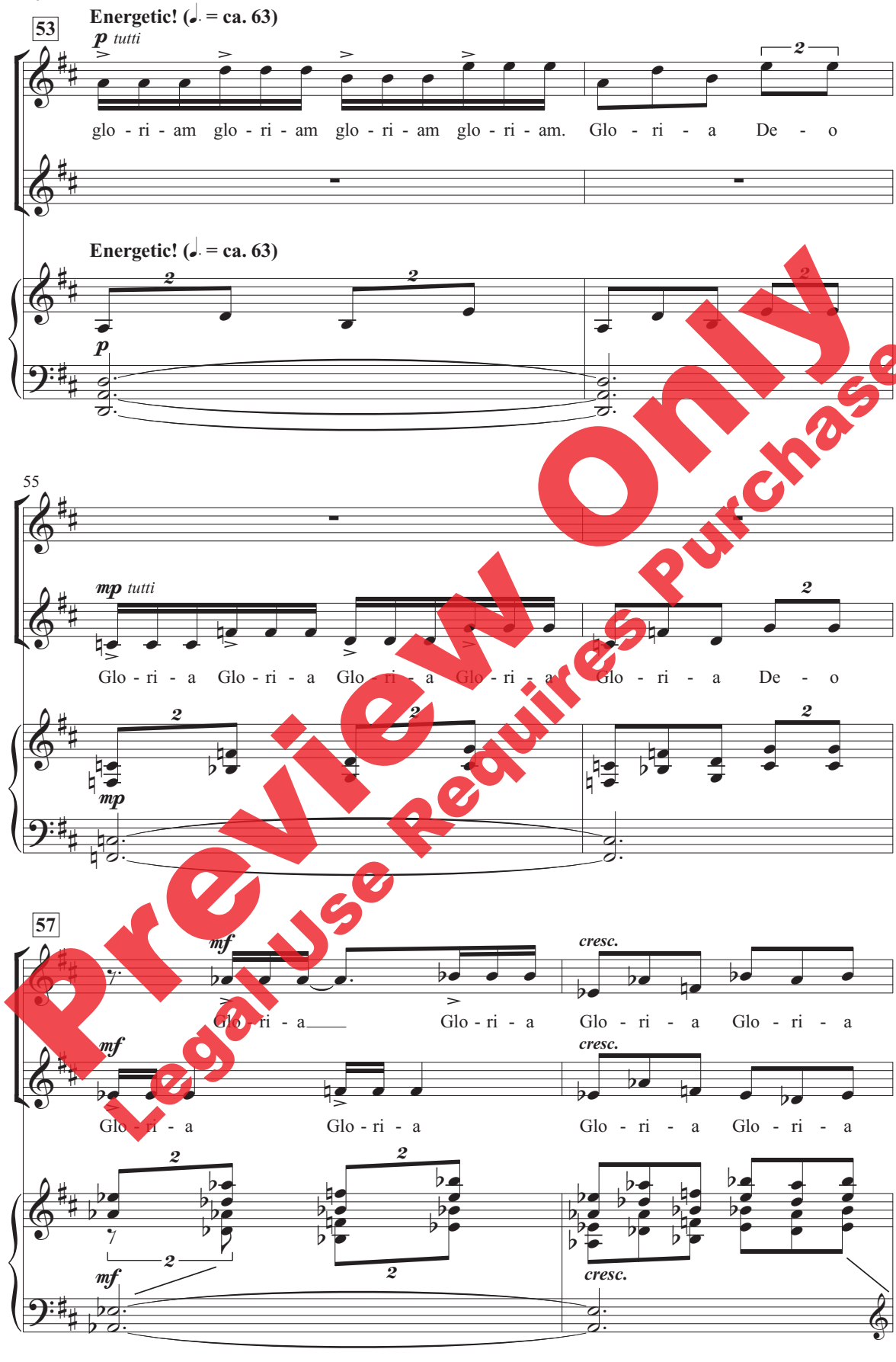

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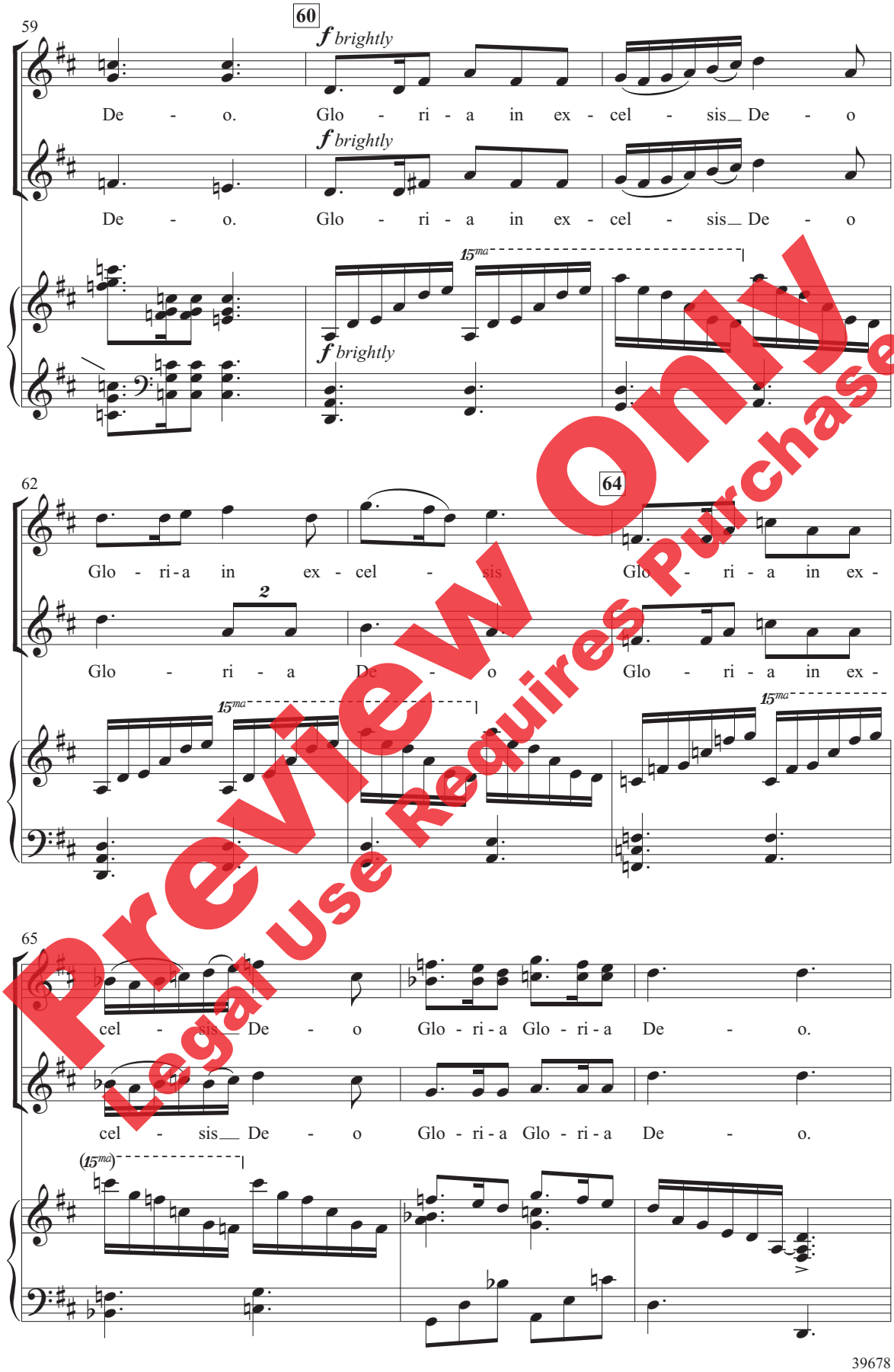

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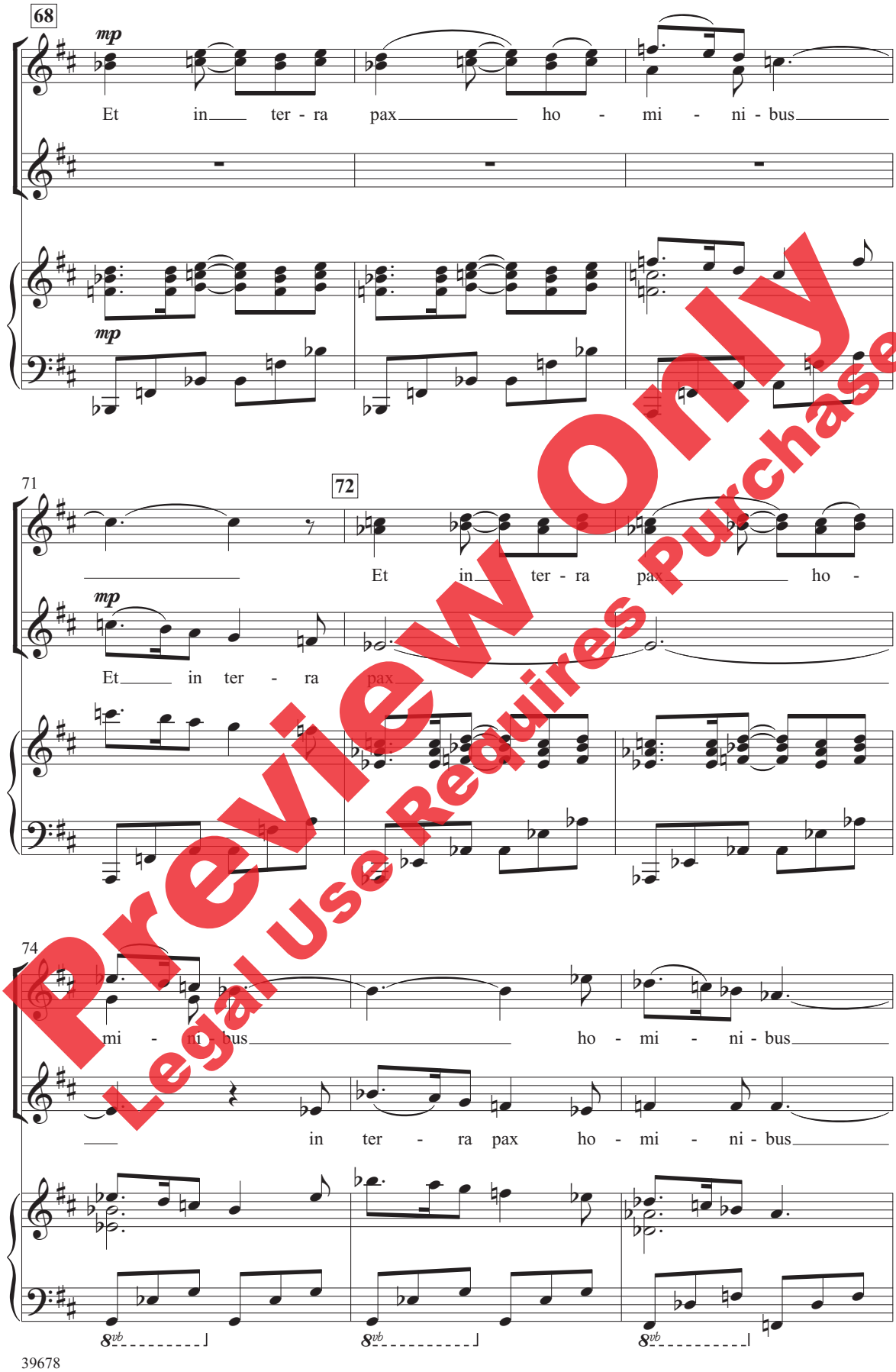

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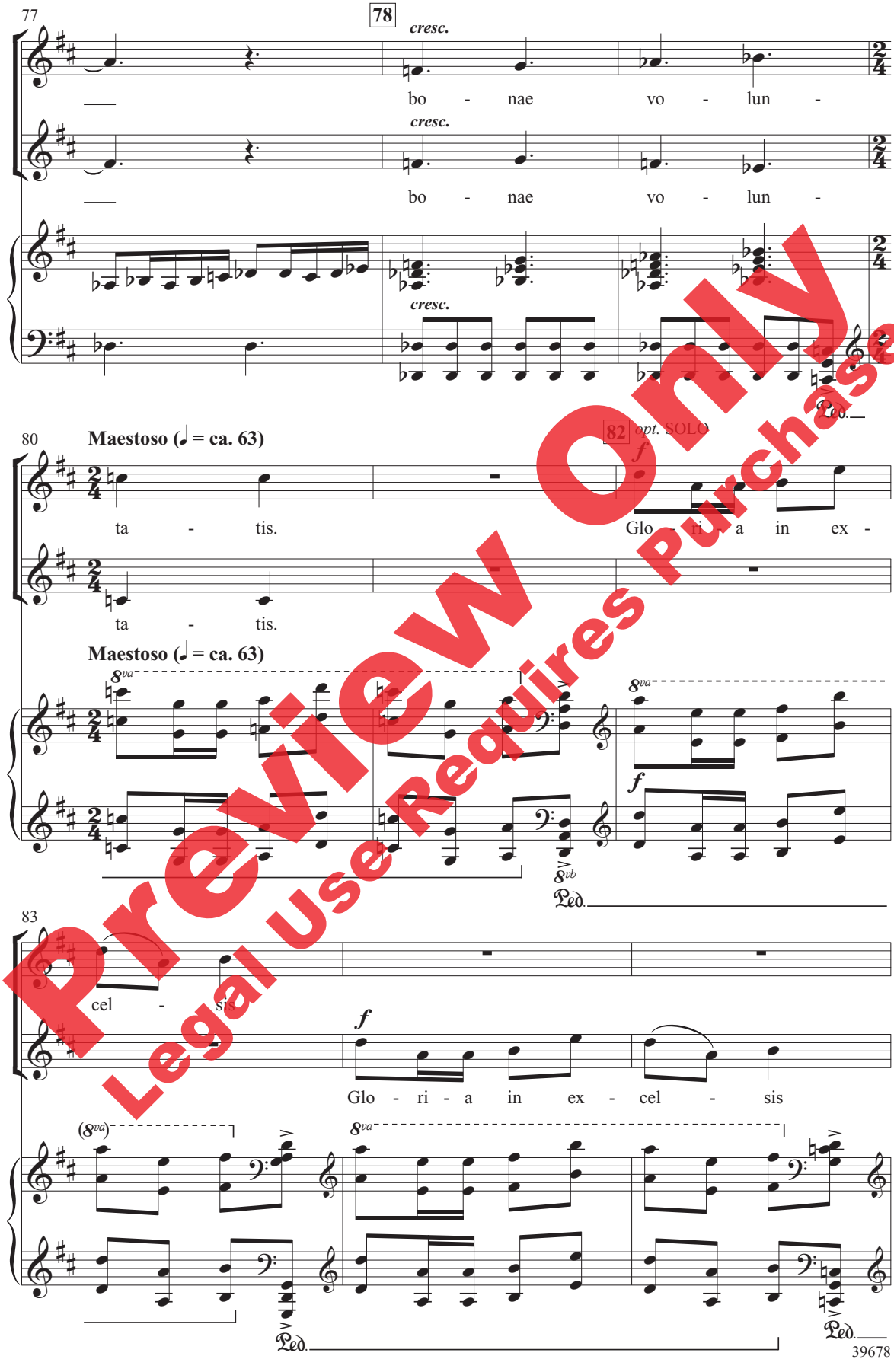

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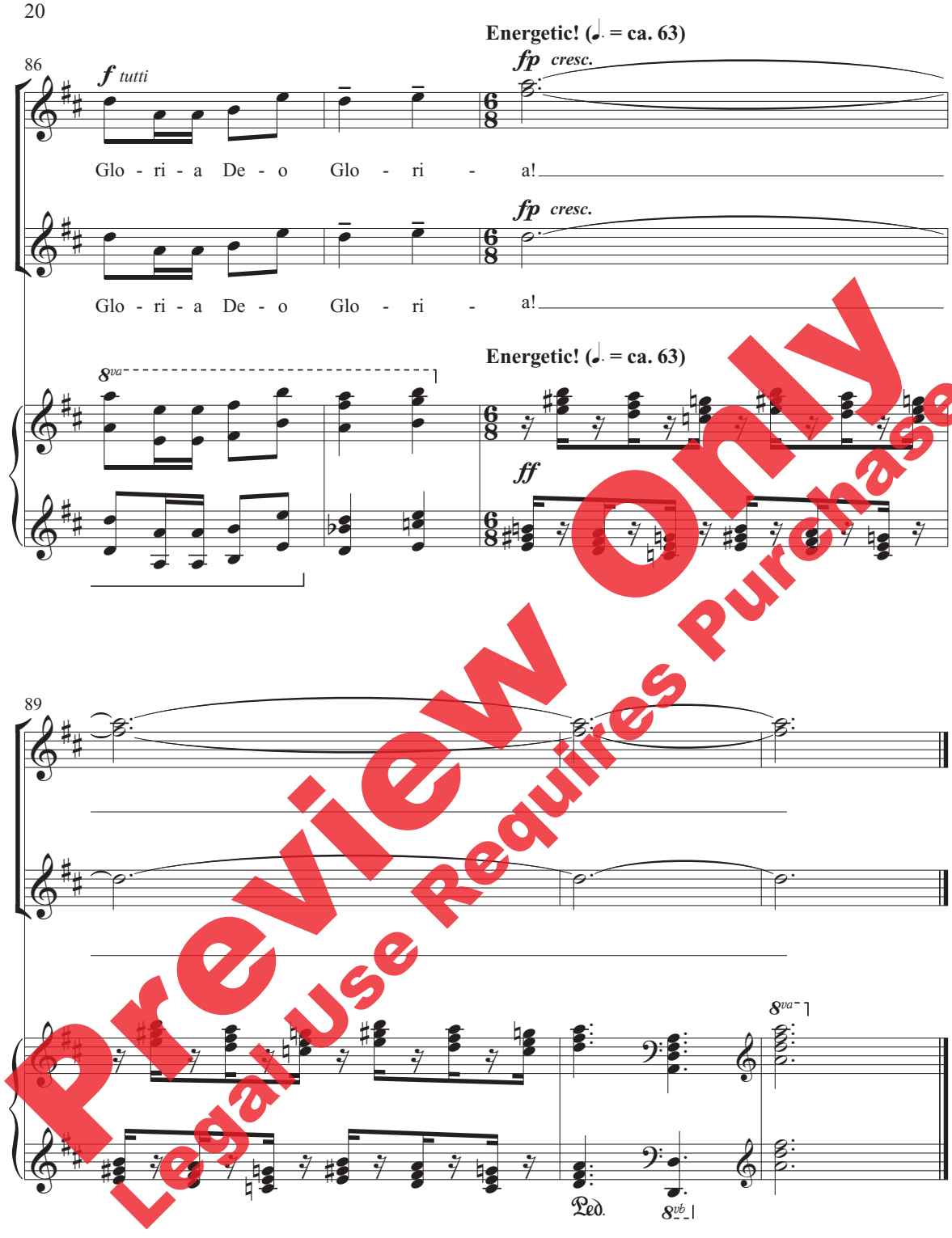

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CREDO

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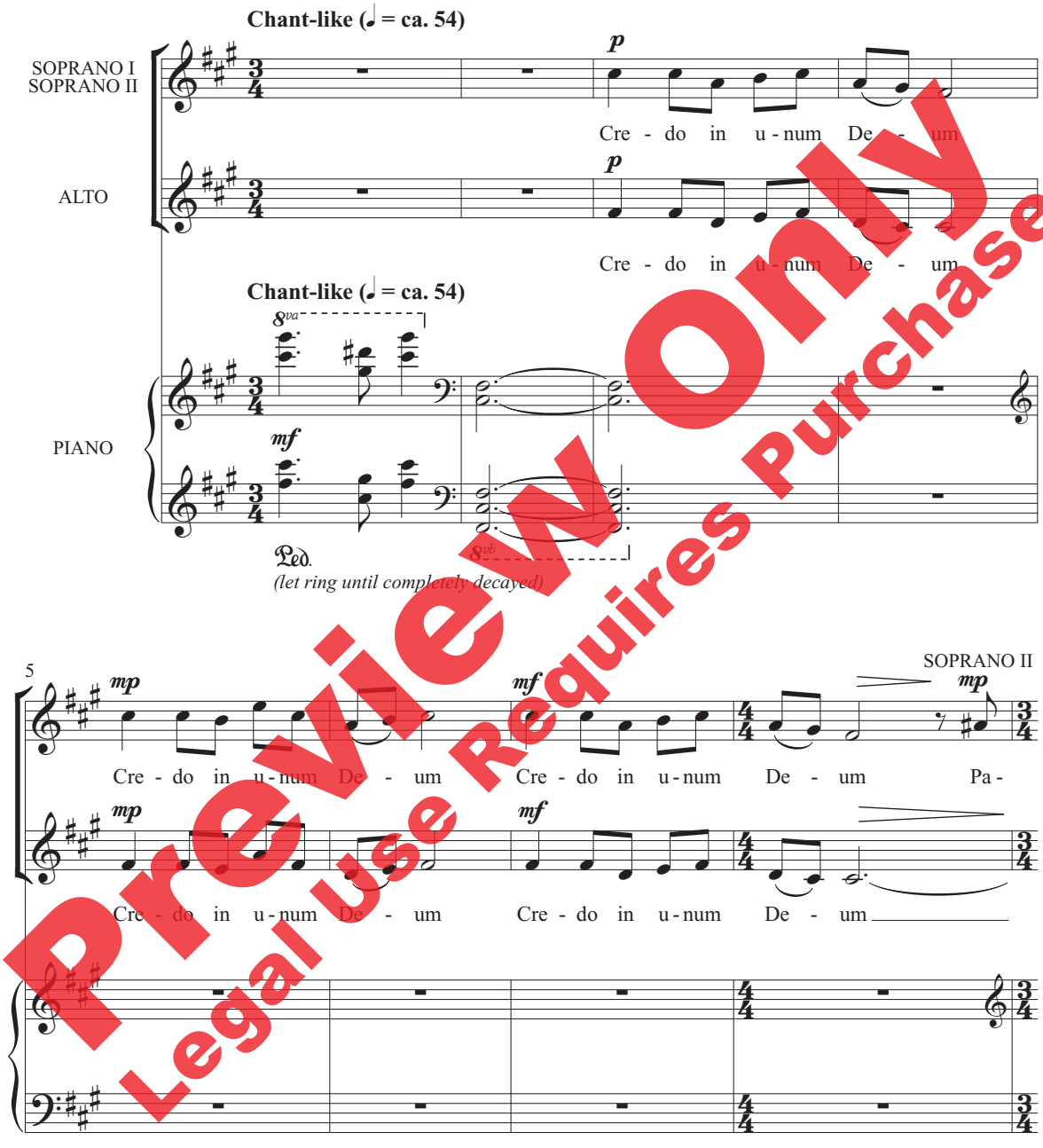

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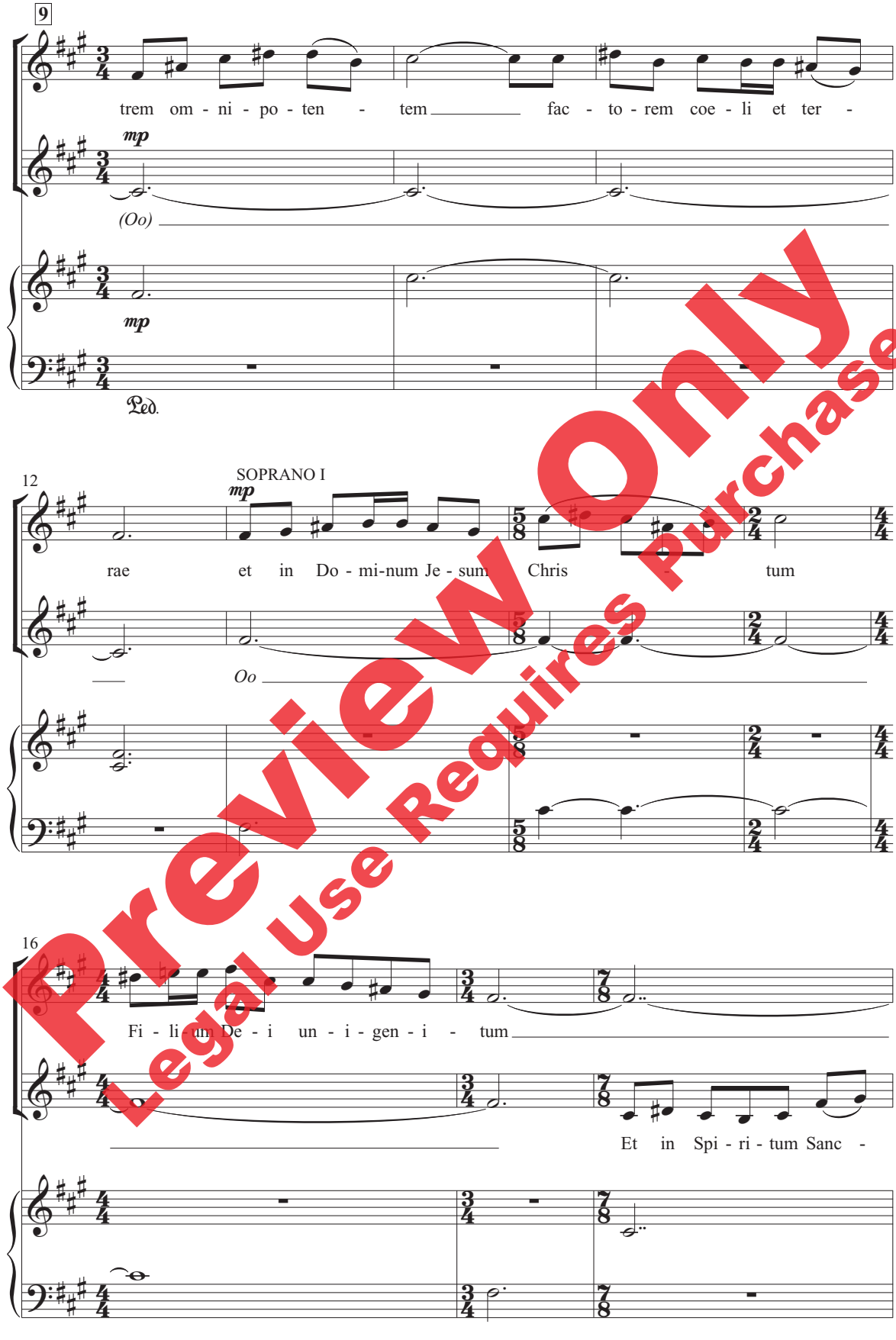

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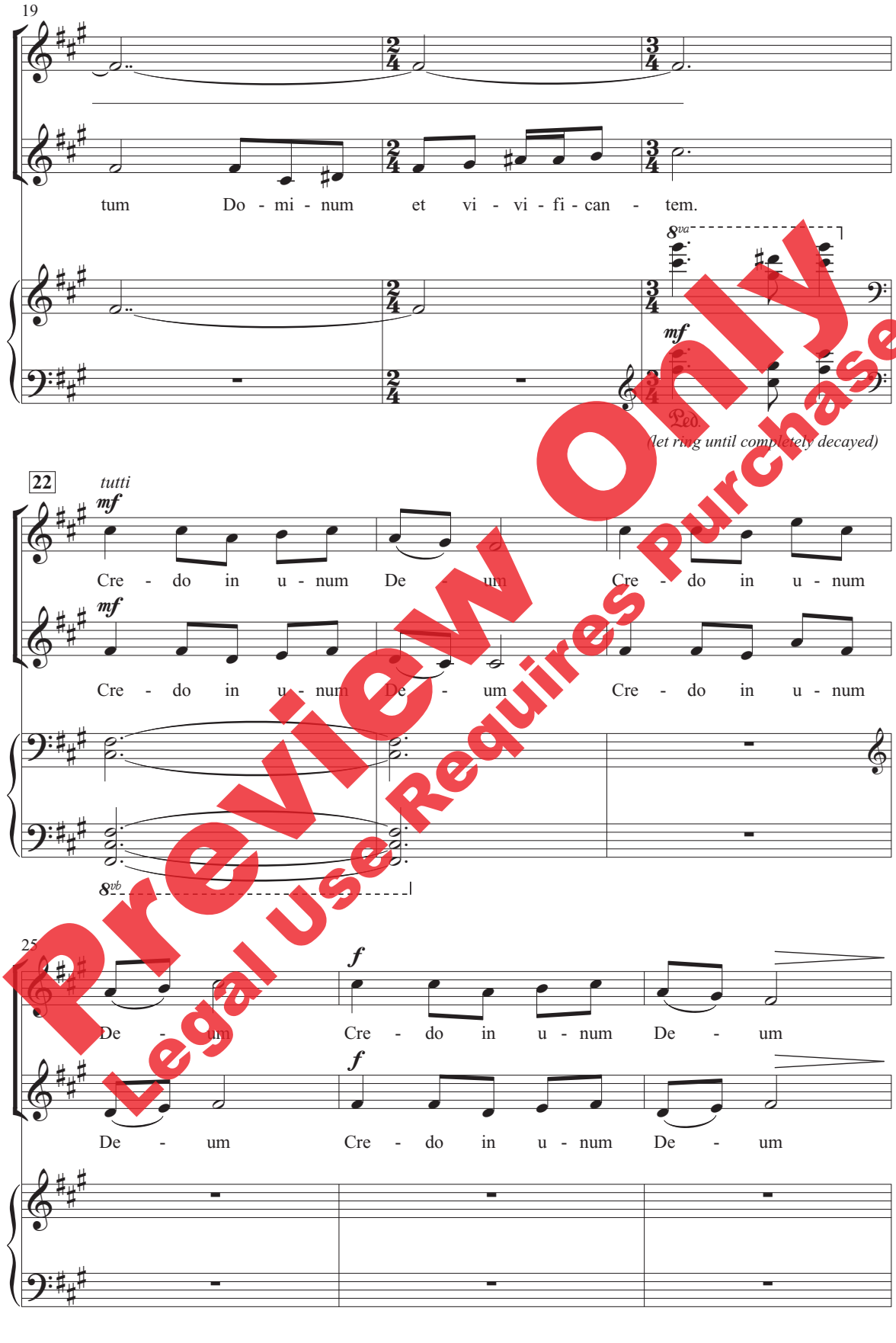

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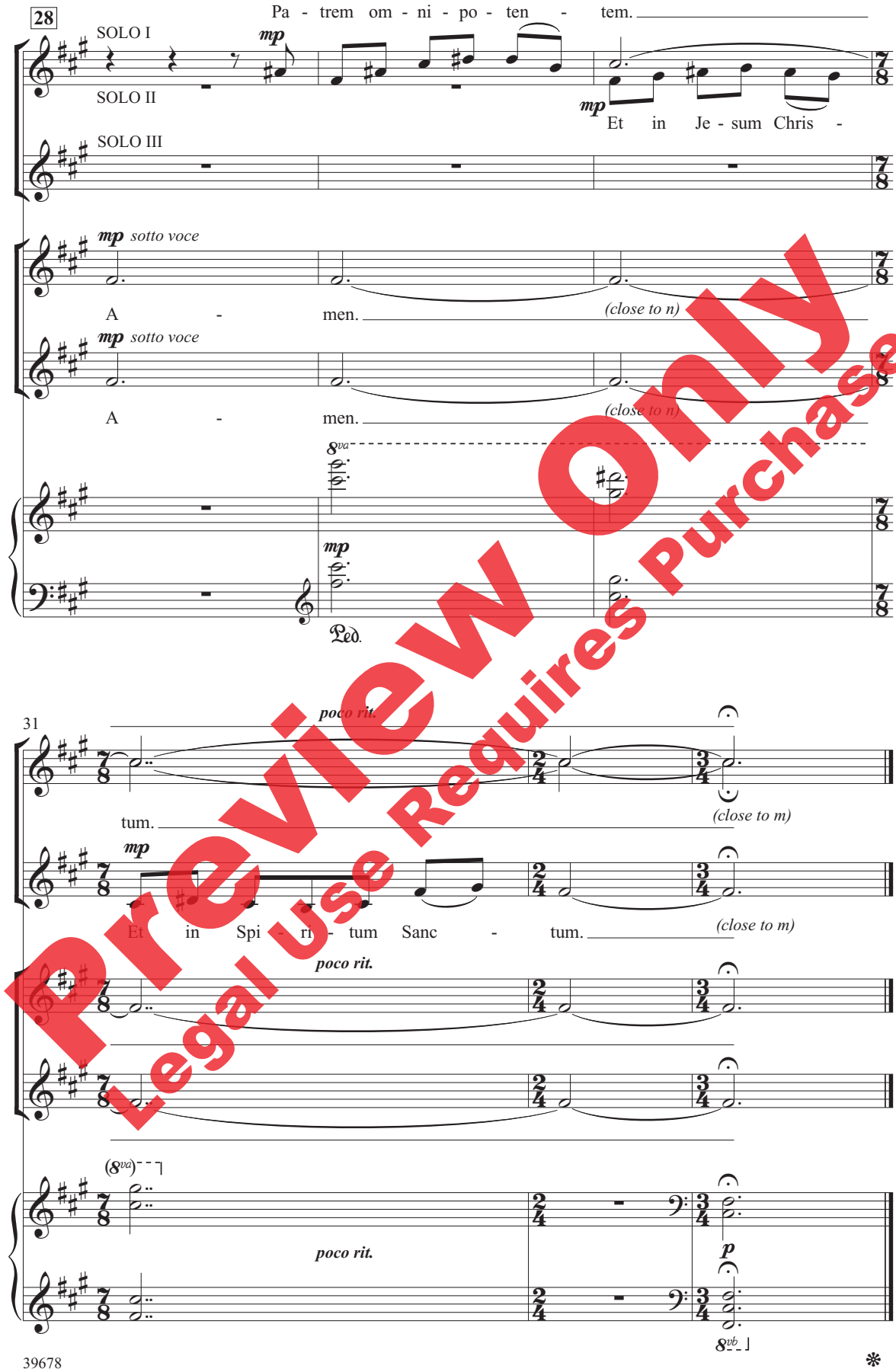

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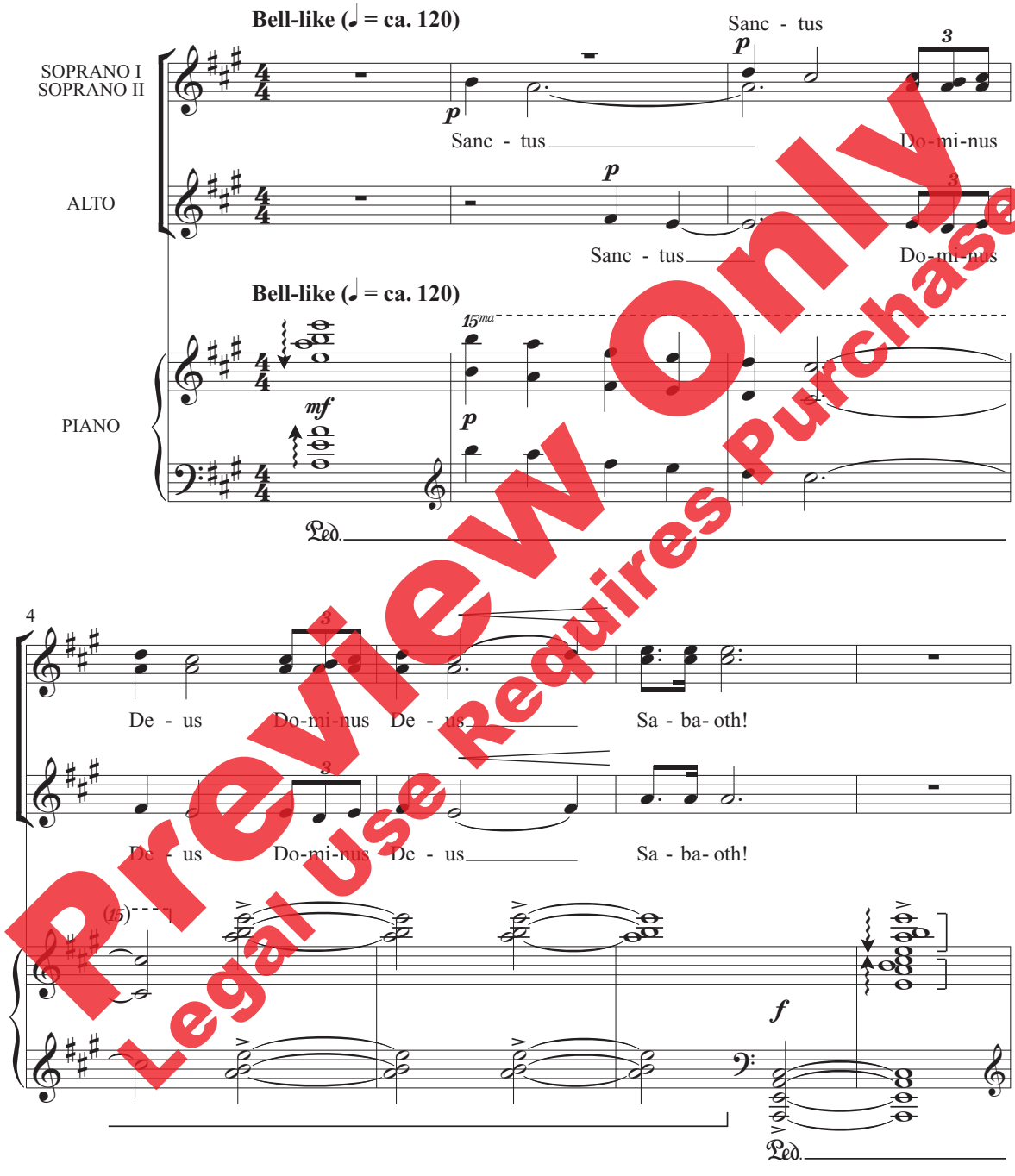

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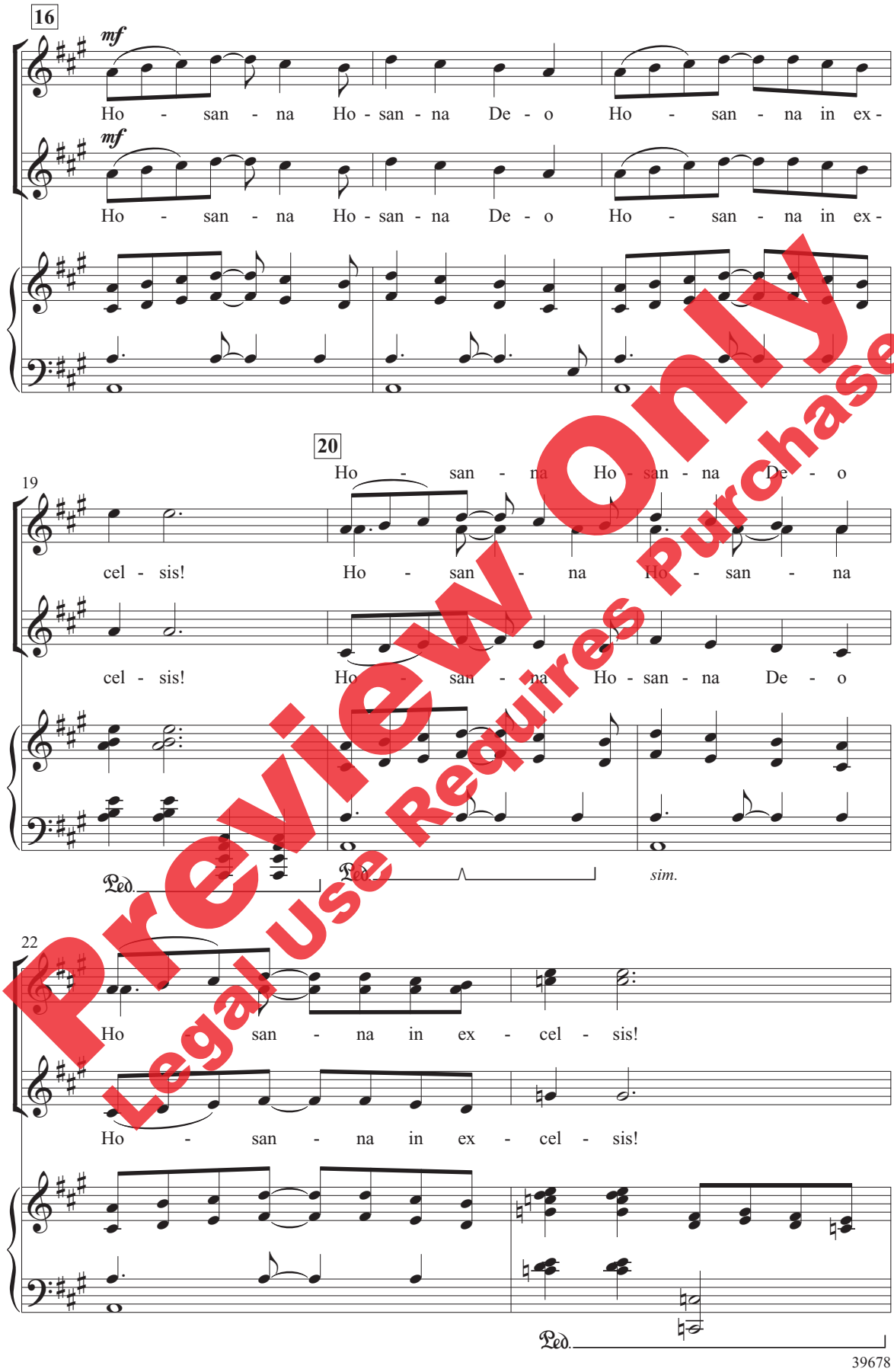

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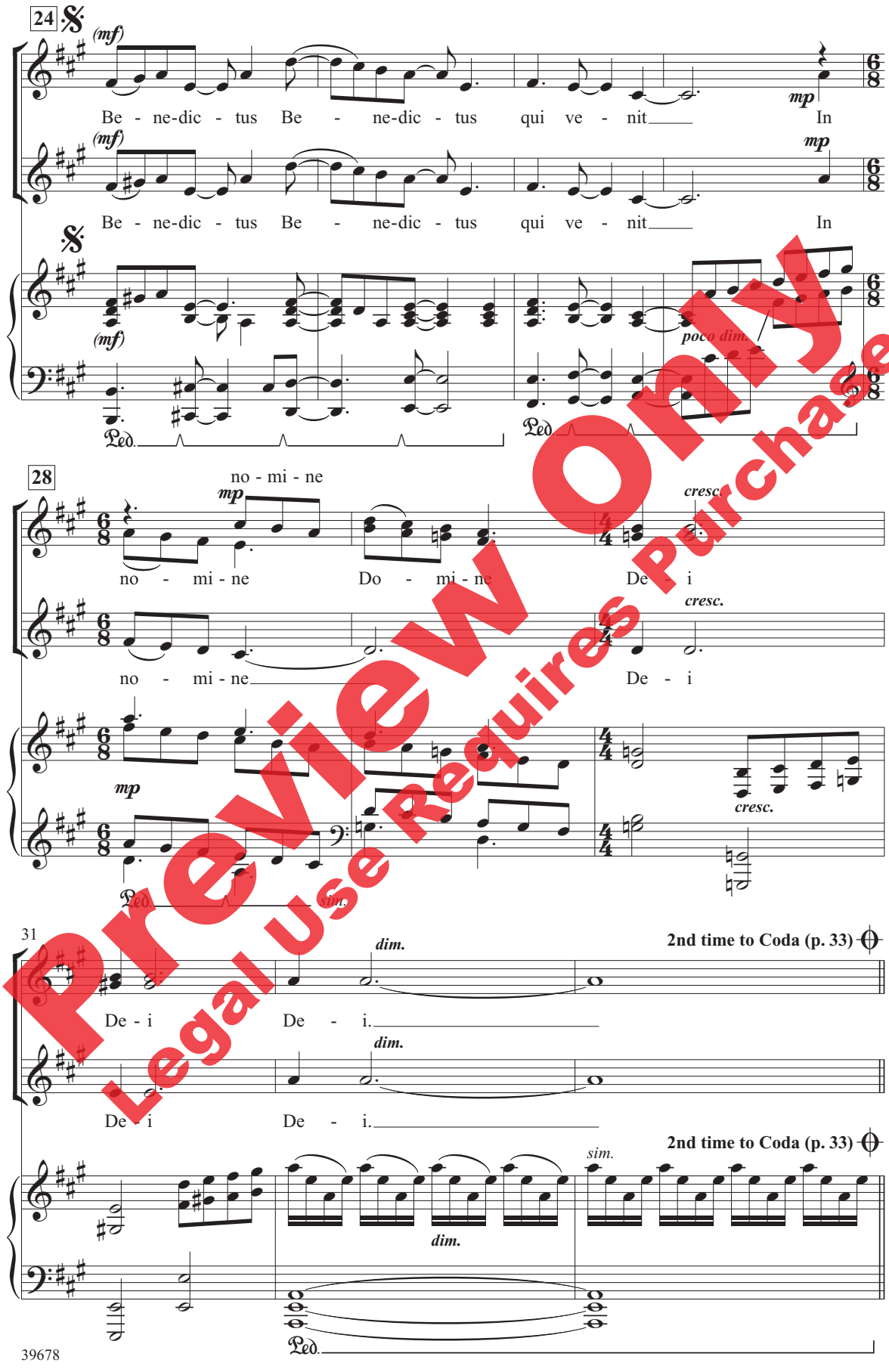

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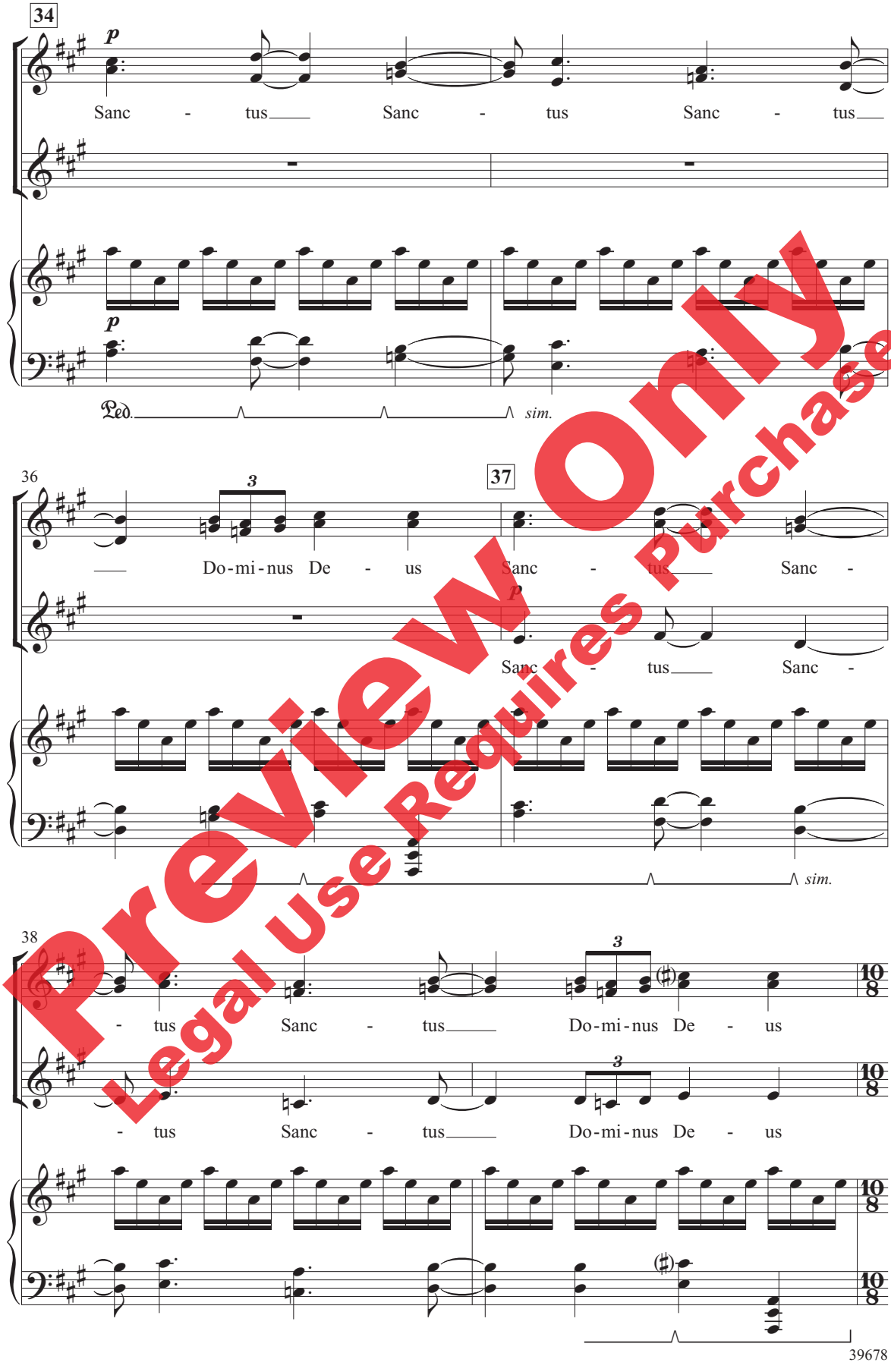

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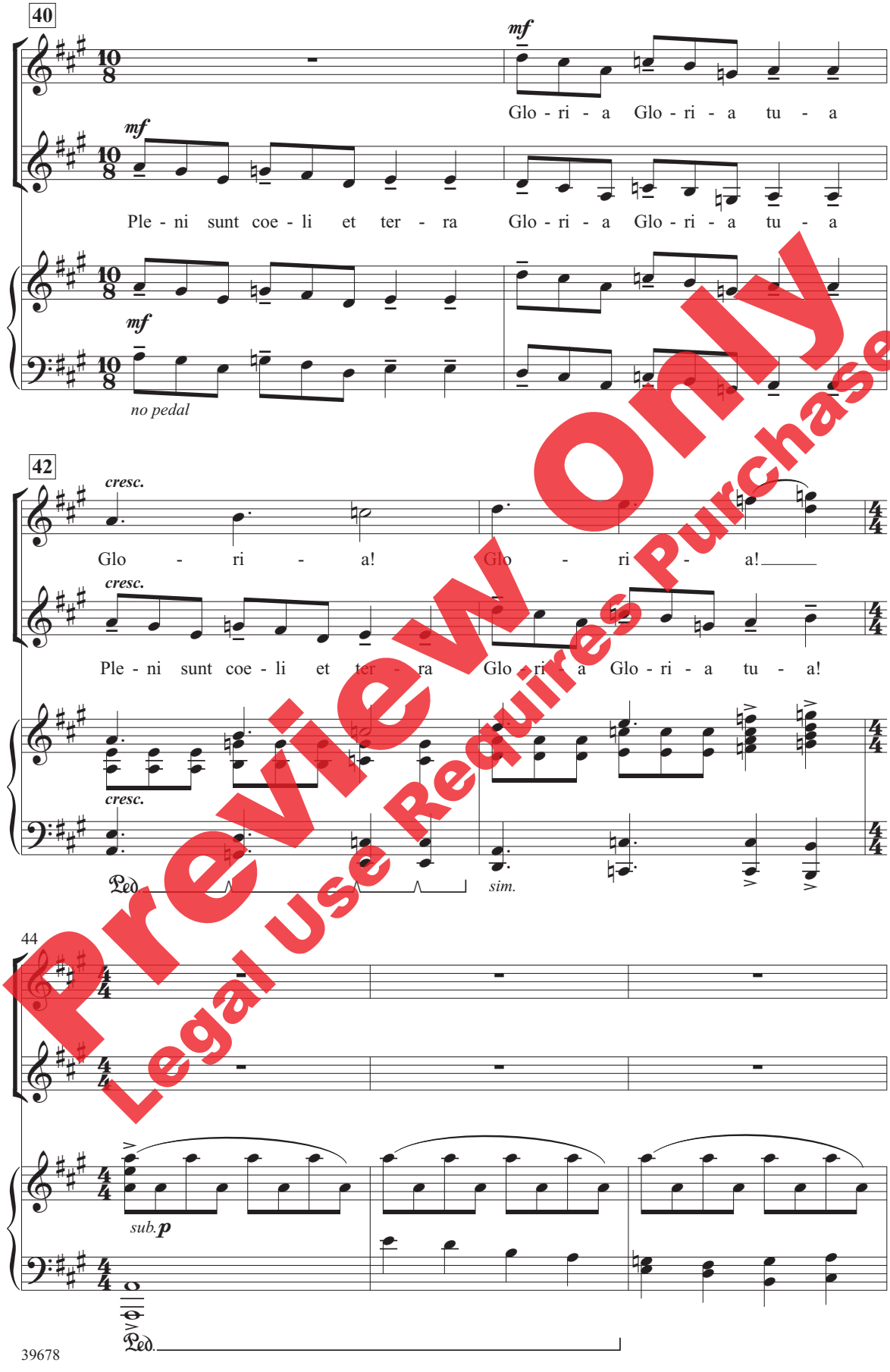

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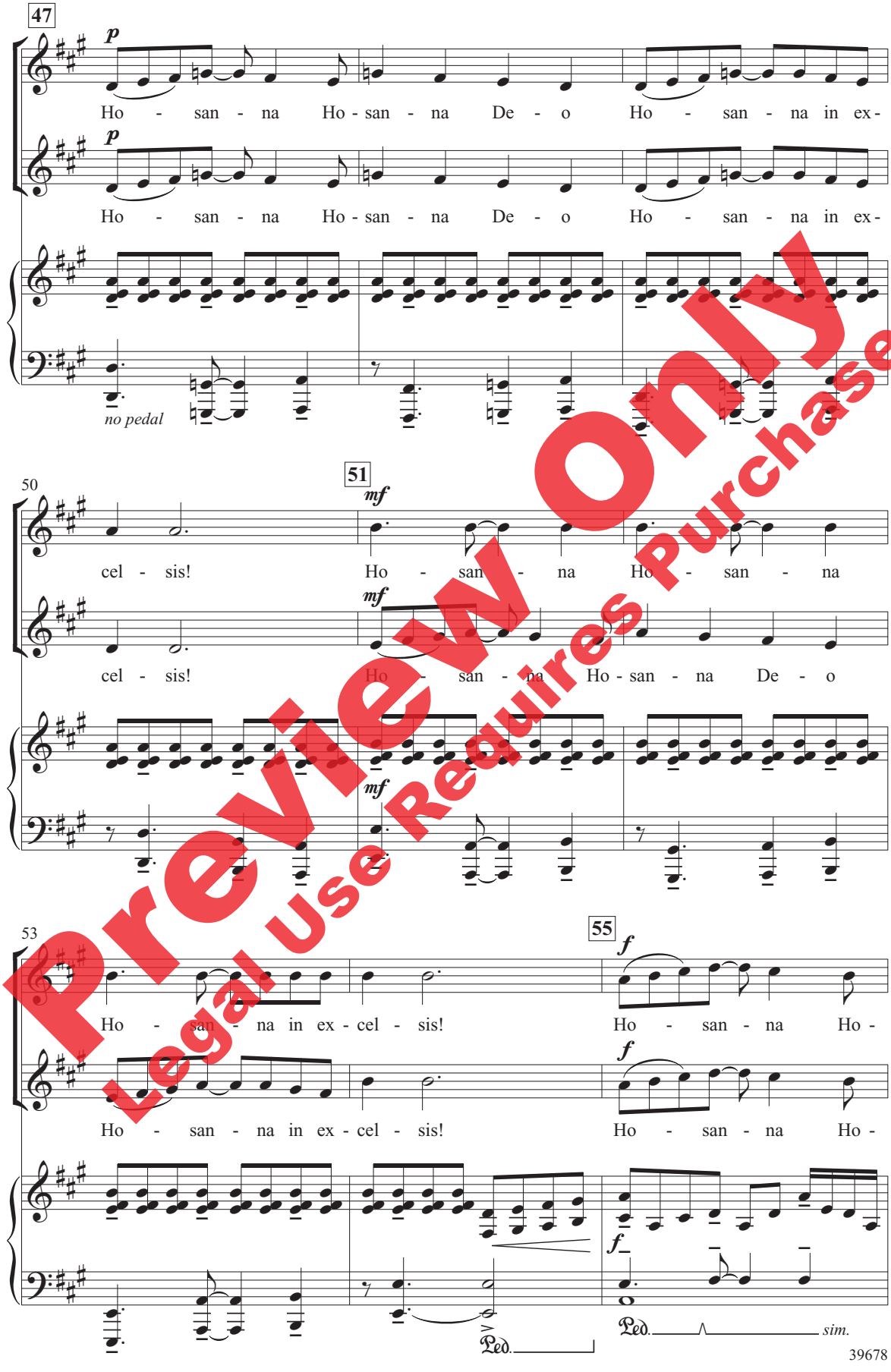

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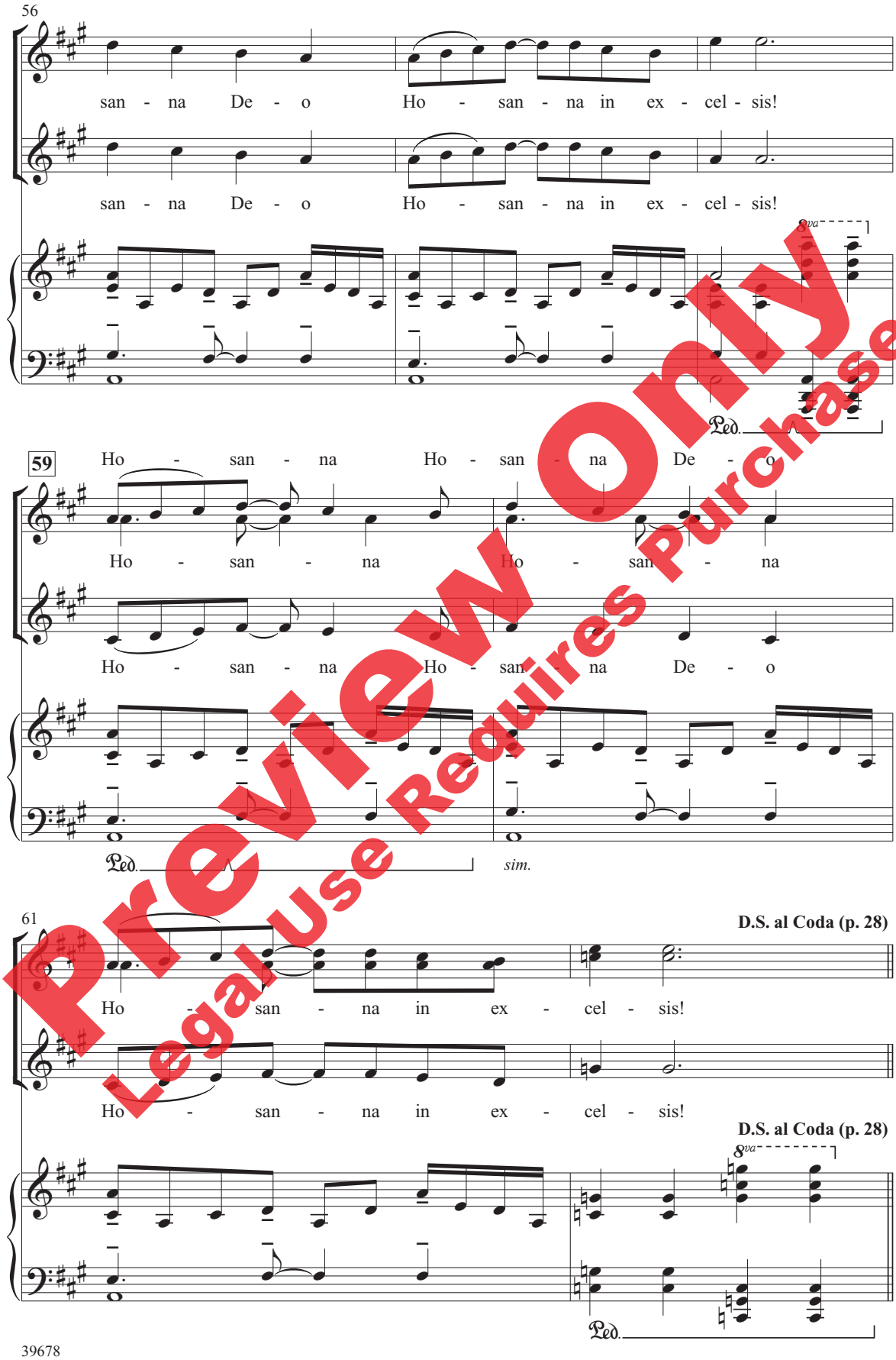

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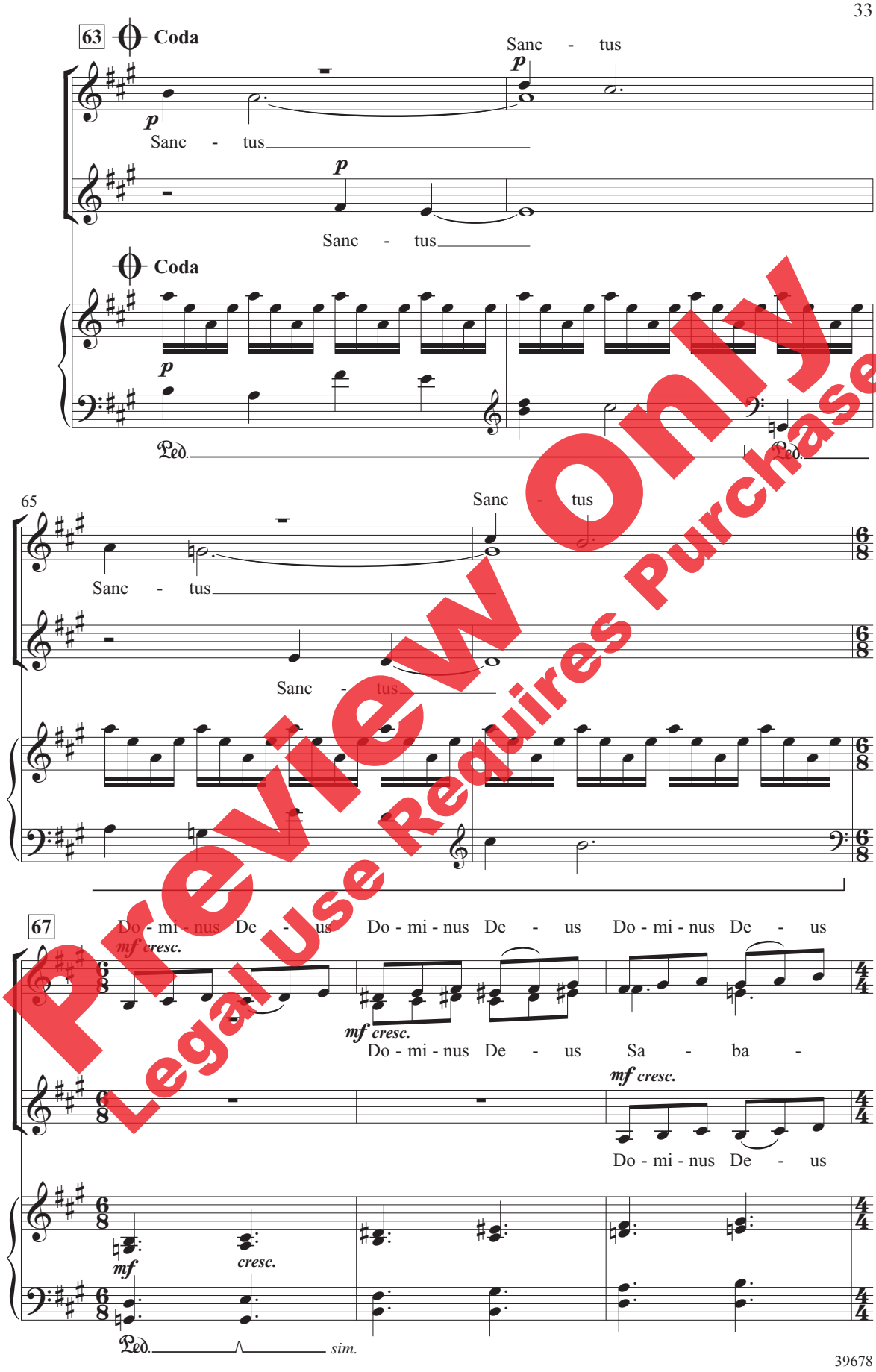

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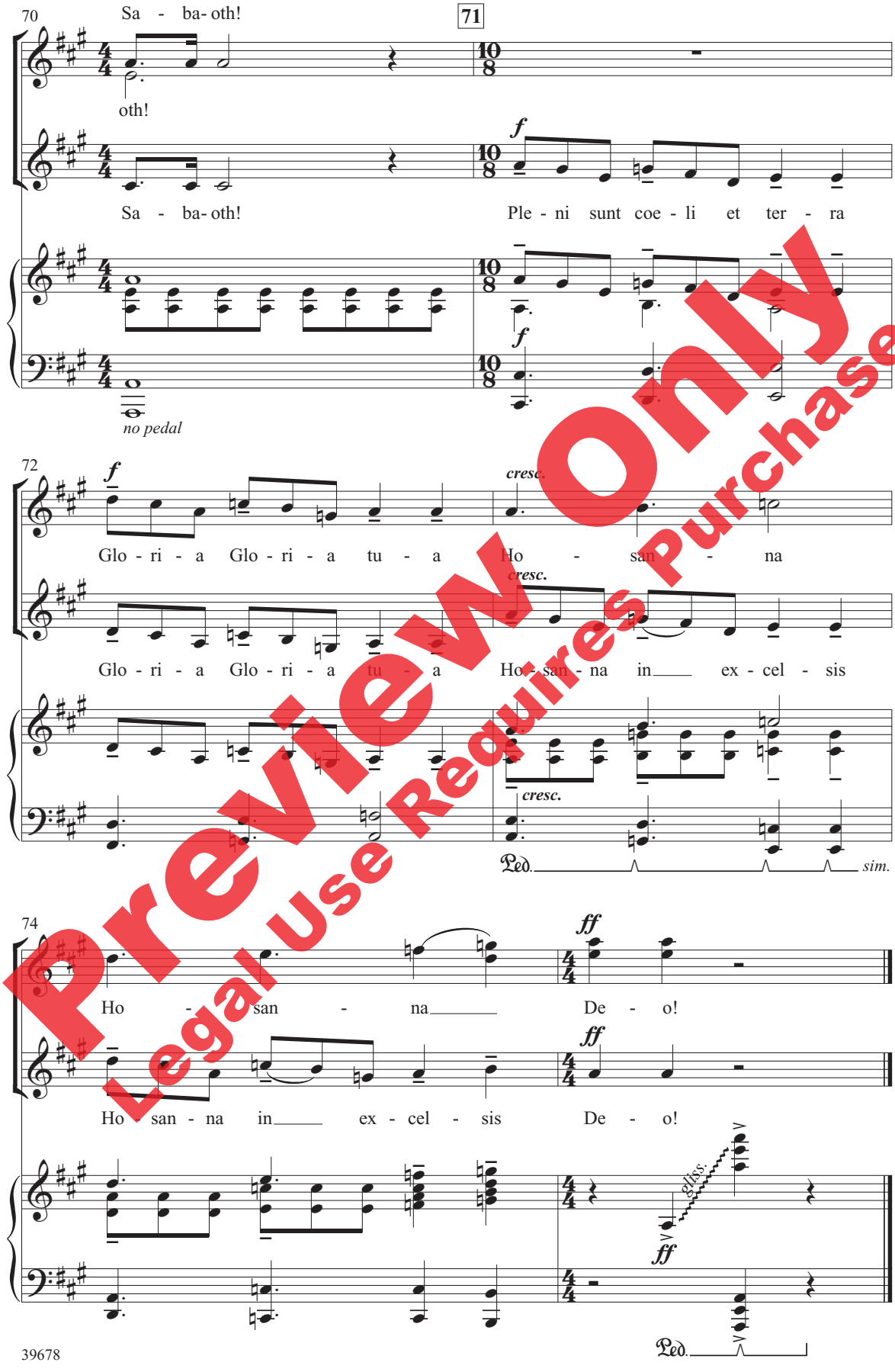

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AGNUS DEI

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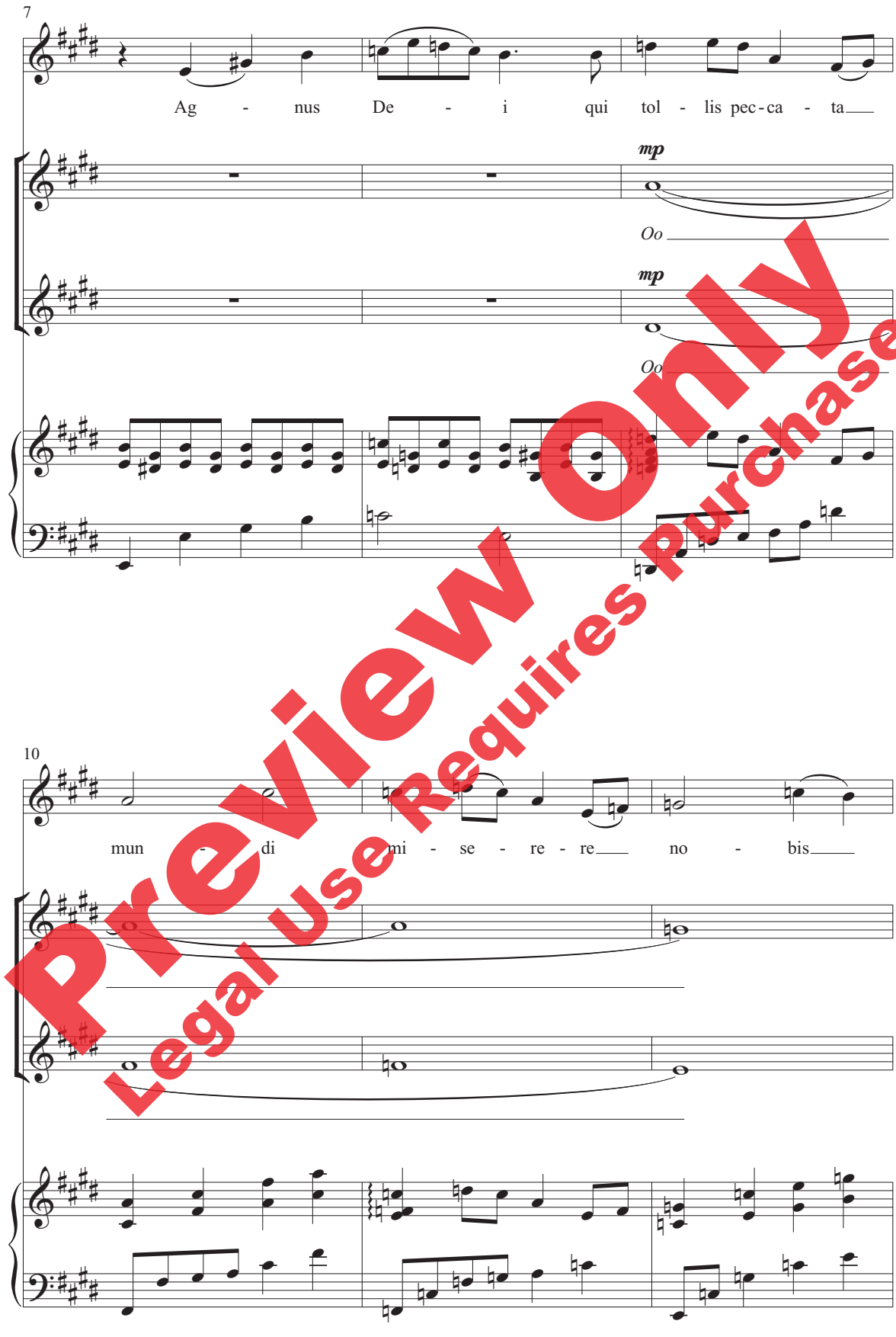

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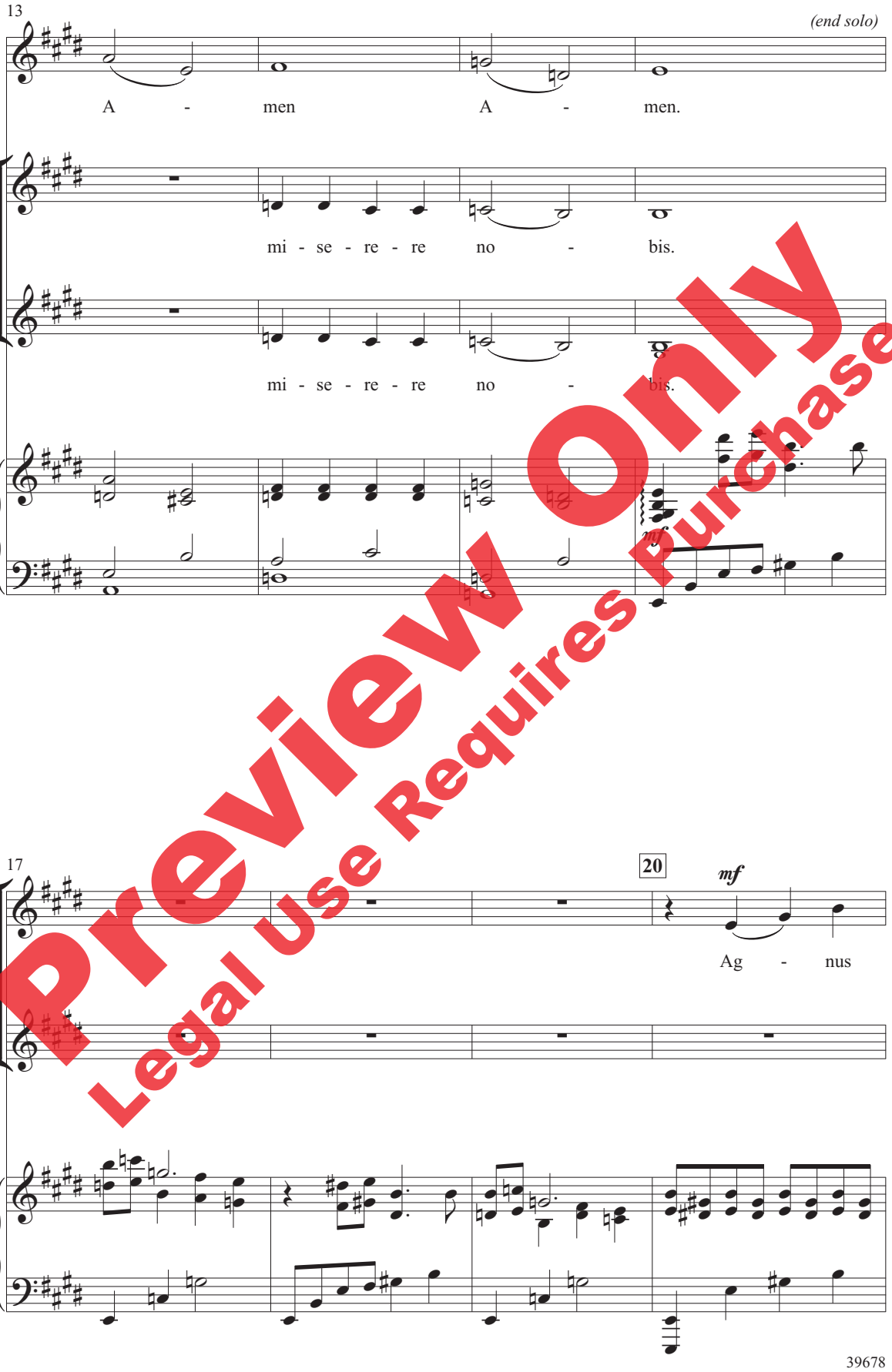

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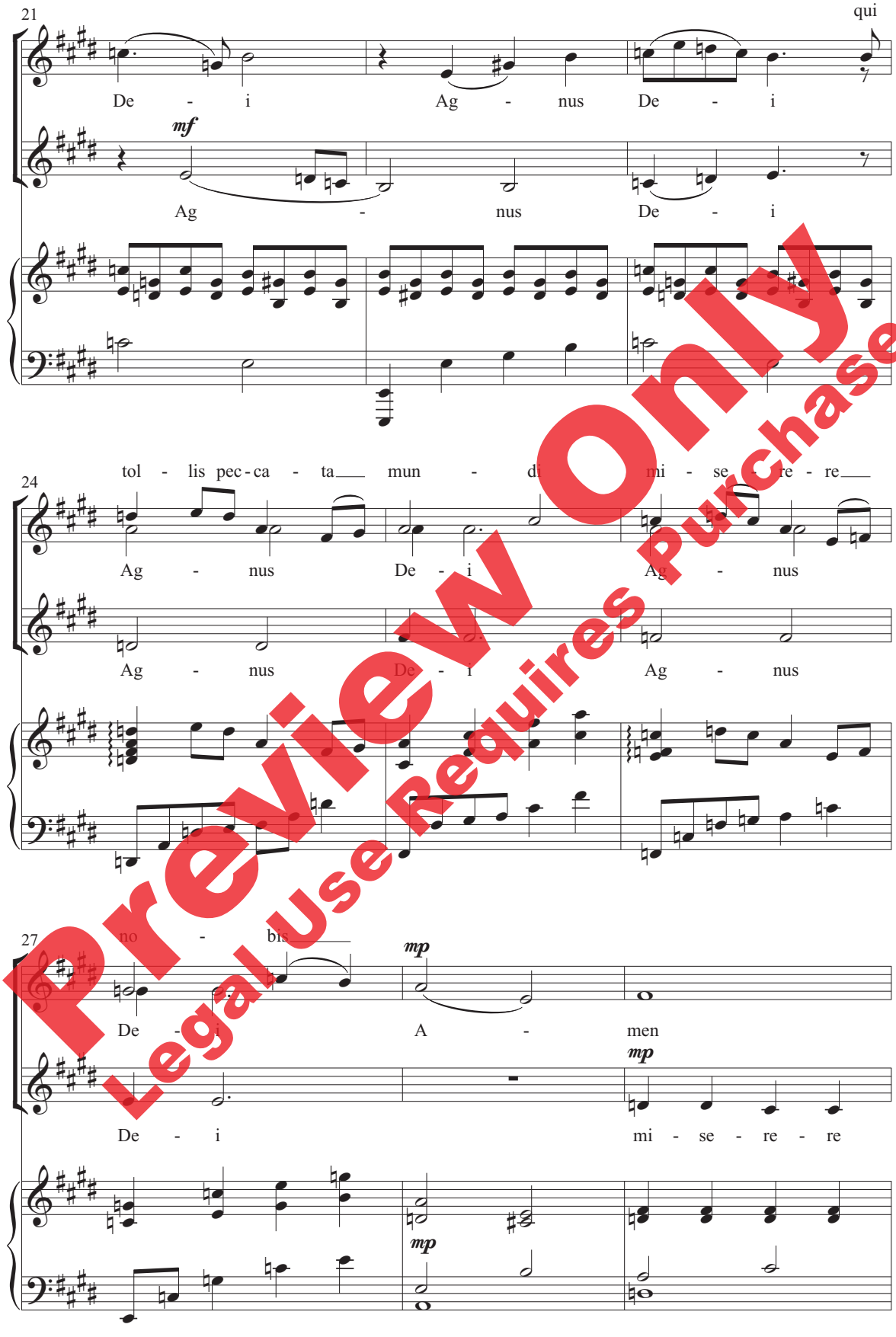

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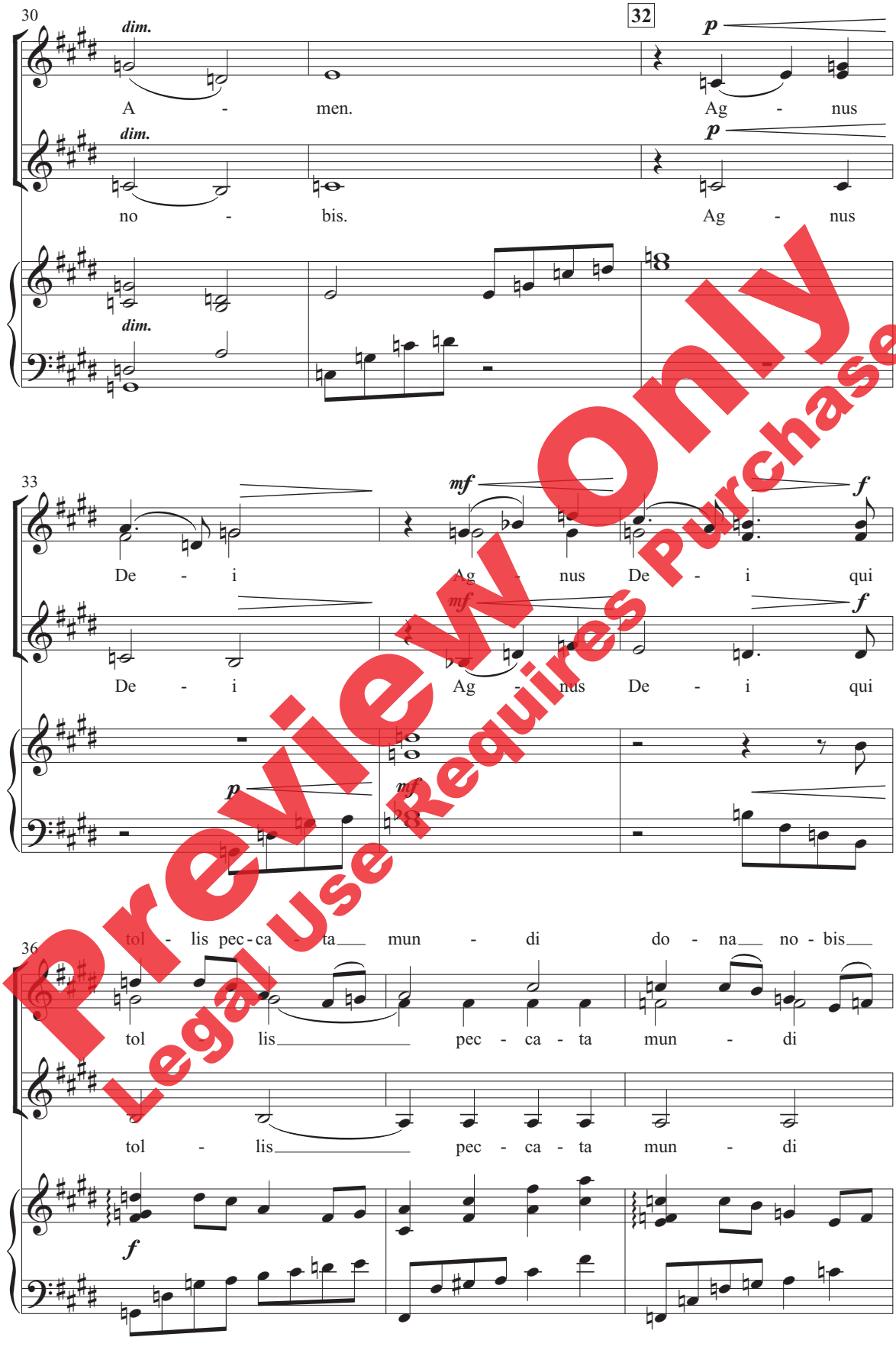

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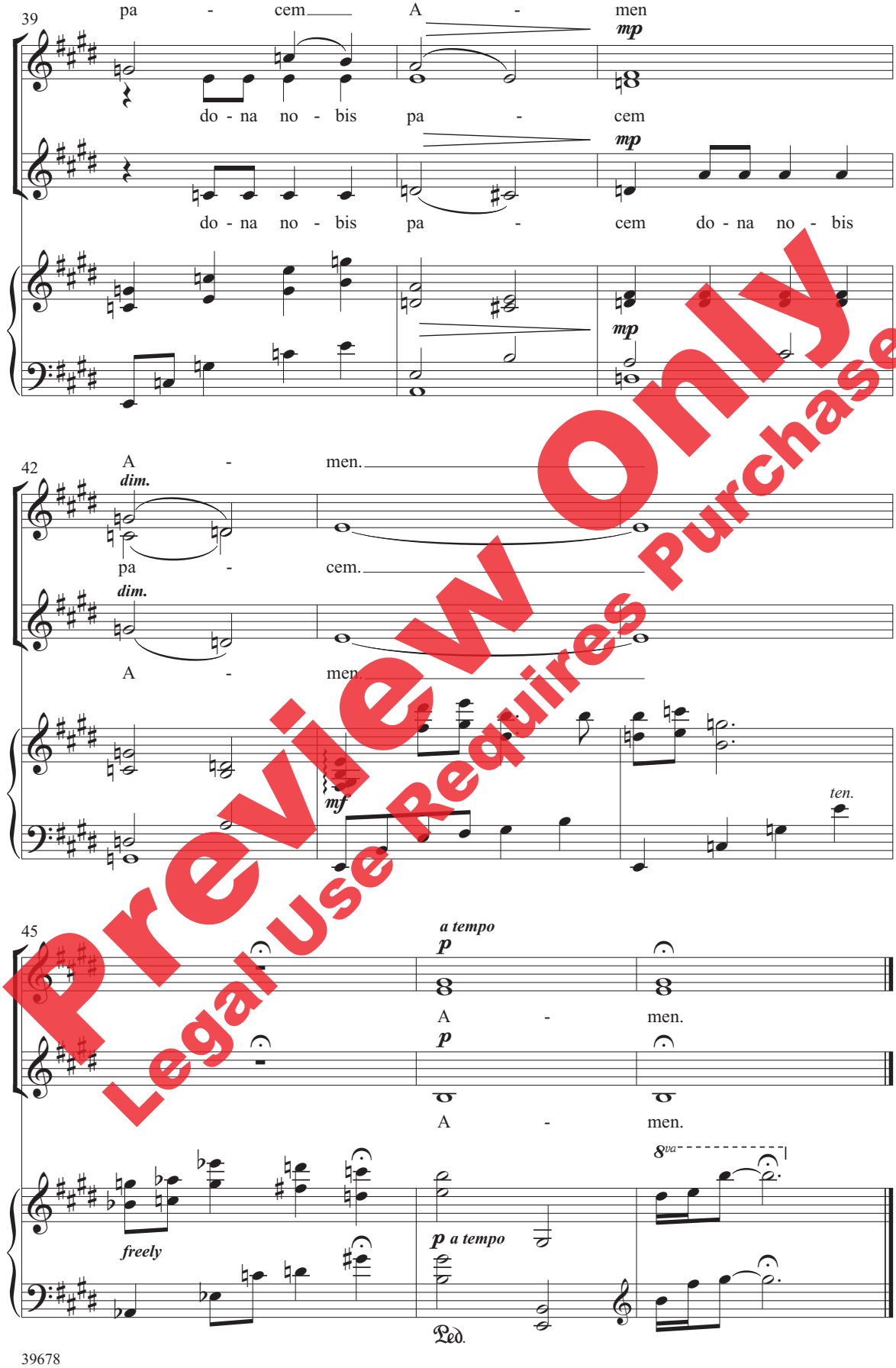

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