Score

GWYNETH WALKER

The Tree of Peace

for SSAA Chorus and Orchestra

The Tree of Peace

Duration: 5'30"

Instrumentation:

2 Flutes
Oboe
B♭ Clarinet
Bassoon
2 Horns in F
2 Trumpets in C
Trombone
Percussion (one player):
Timpani, Suspended Cymbal,
Glockenspiel, High Bongo
Strings

The text for The **Tree of Peace** has been adapted from the Quaker poem, *O Brother Man*, by John Greenleaf Whittier (1807–1892). This contemporary adaptation of the poem broadens the scope of the original with more inclusive language, opening with, "O, my sister and my brother, all who walk upon this earth, fold to your hearts each other."

A new text fragment, "Listen, listen to one another," is introduced into the poem, and serves as an interlude between the stanzas. The final sentence of the original poem becomes the focal point of this work, returning many times. "Love shall tread out the fire of anger, and in its ashes plant a tree of peace."

The musical setting reflects the dual nature of the title, *Tree* (strength) and *Peace* (tenderness). The work opens with accented chords in the strings, clarinet, bassoon, and timpani. These chords are marked "with strength." This is the conviction of the Tree of Peace.

The tender aspects are introduced in the arpeggio patterns in the strings and winds. These are marked "flowing." The related choral phrases refer to humanity, "O, my brother and my sister," to mercy and to the peace of the Lord. Passages of tenderness alternate and intertwine with passages of strength to form a confluence of the message–a prayer for peace.

–Notes by the composer

Widely performed throughout the country, the music of American composer **Gwyneth Walker** is beloved by performers and audiences alike for its energy, beauty, reverence, drama, and humor. Dr. Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947) is a graduate of Brown University and the Hartt School of Music. She holds B.A., M.M. and D.M.A. degrees in Music Composition. A former faculty member of the Oberlin College Conservatory, she resigned from academic employment in 1982 in order to pursue a career as a full-time composer. For nearly 30 years, she lived on a dairy farm in Braintree, Vermont. She now divides her time between her childhood hometown of New Canaan, Connecticut and the musical communities of Sarasota, Florida and Randolph, Vermont.

Gwyneth Walker has been a proud resident of Vermont for many years. She is the recipient of the Year 2000 "Lifetime Achievement Award" from the Vermont Arts Council as well as the 2008 "Athenaeum Award for Achievement in the Arts and Humanities" from the St. Johnsbury (VT) Athenaeum. In 2012, she was elected as a Fellow of the Vermont Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Walker's catalog includes over 300 commissioned works for orchestra, chamber ensembles, chorus, and solo voice. A special interest has been dramatic works that combine music with readings, acting, and movement. The music of Gwyneth Walker is published by E. C. Schirmer (choral and vocal music) and Lauren Keiser Music (orchestral and instrumental music).

Further information concerning Gwyneth Walker and her works is available at **www.gwynethwalker.com**

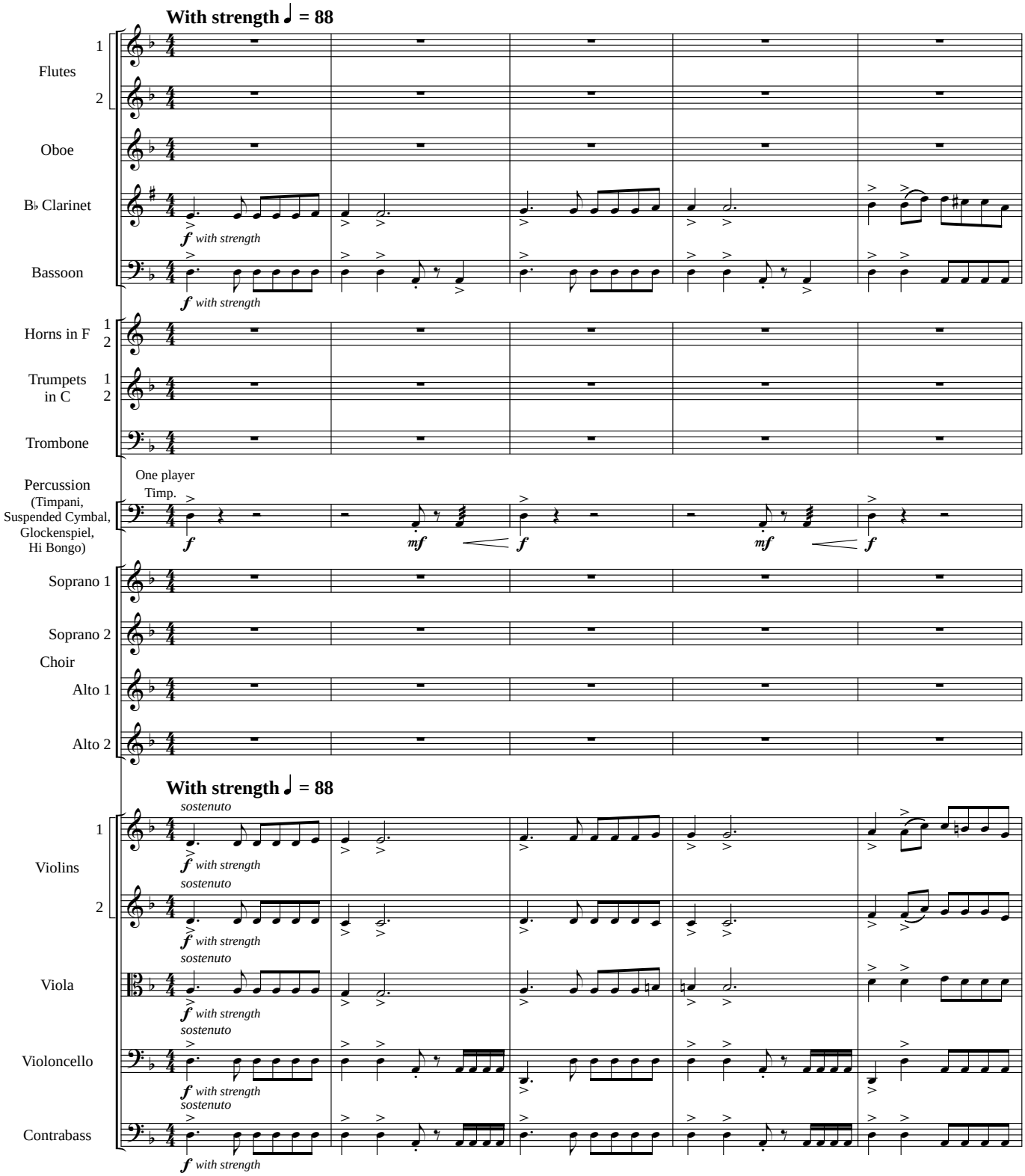
Catalog No. 8115

The Tree of Peace

for SSAA Chorus and Orchestra

Lyrics by Gwyneth Walker
Adapted from the poem *O Brother Man*
by John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892)

Gwyneth Walker



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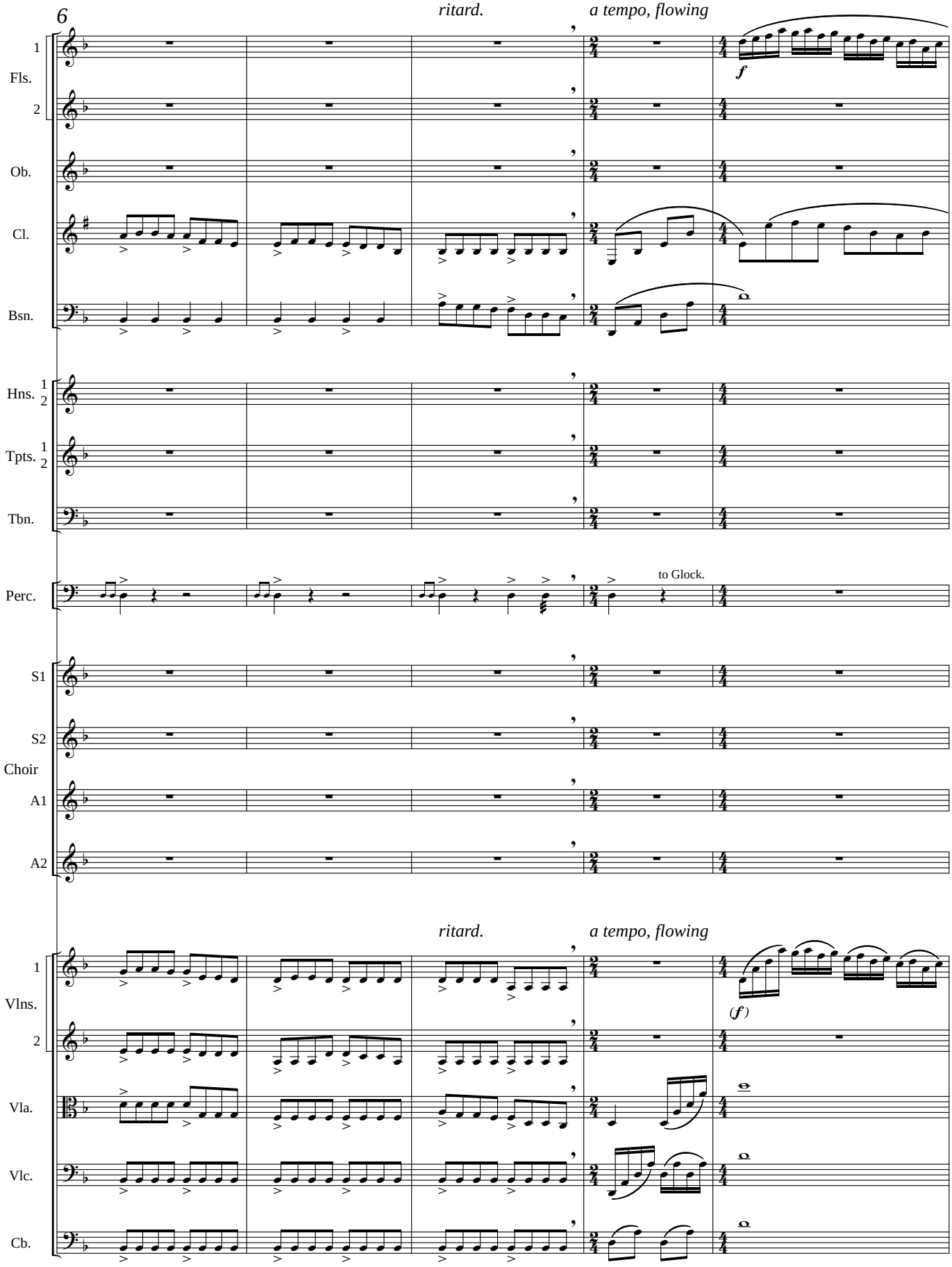
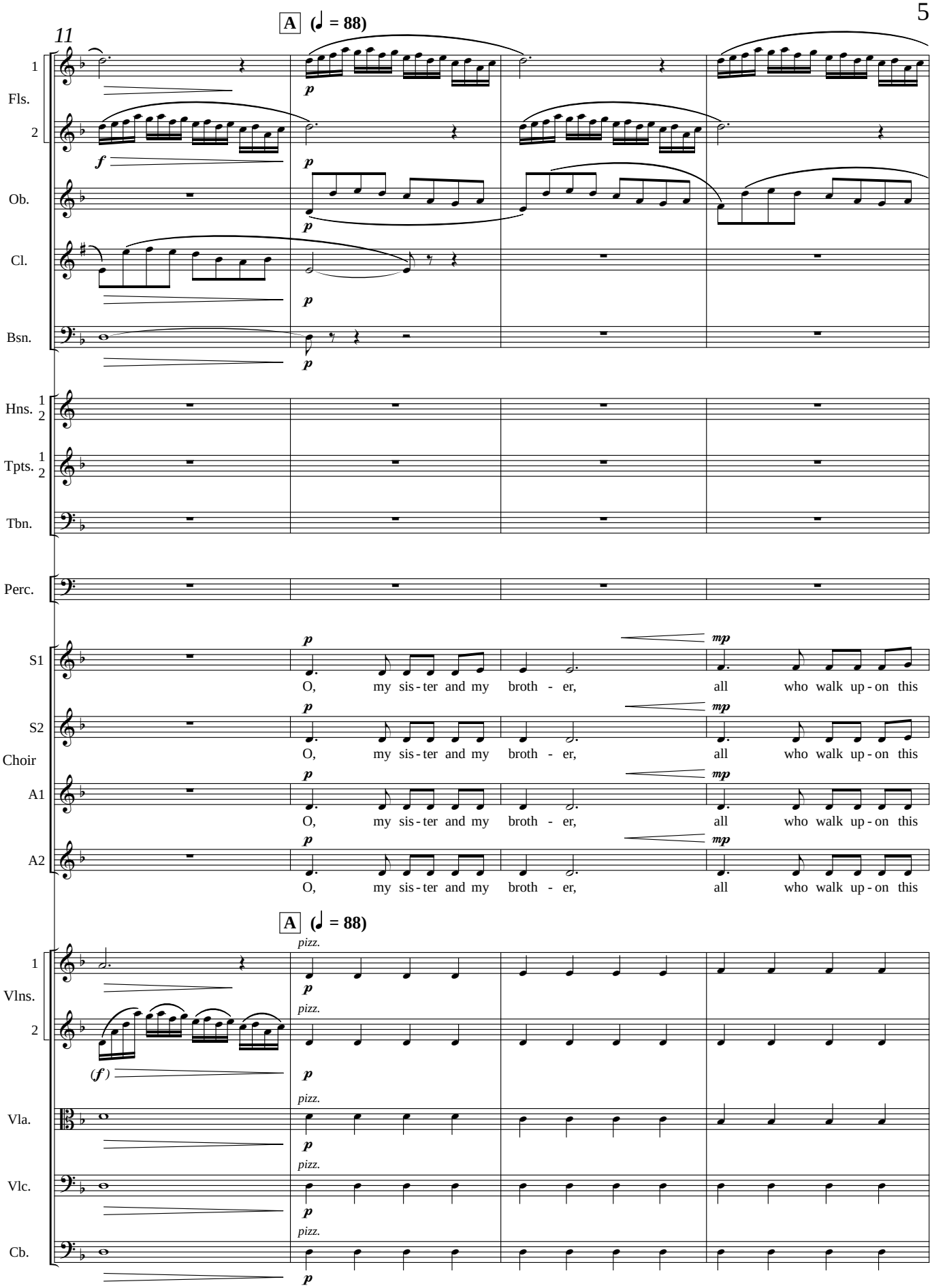
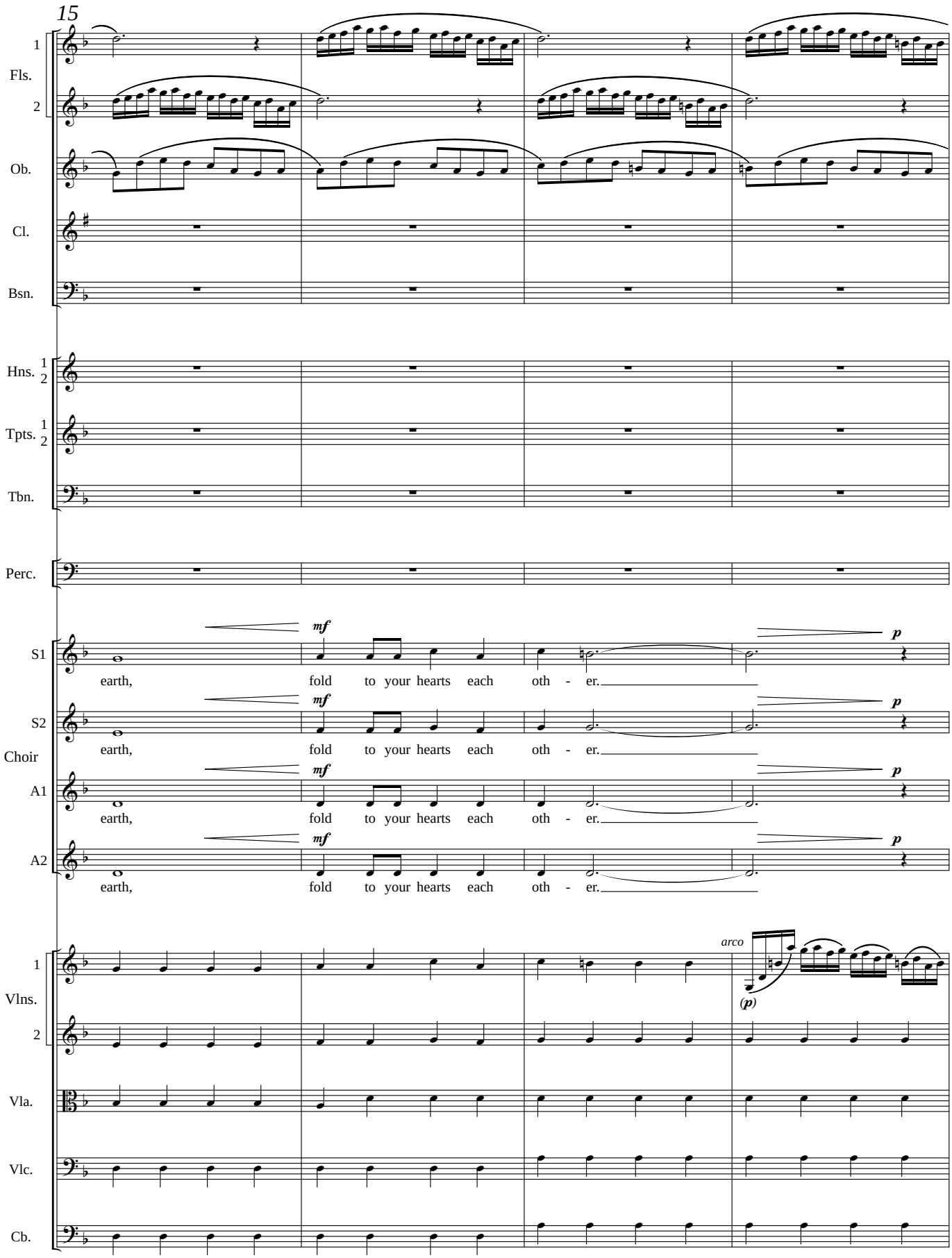
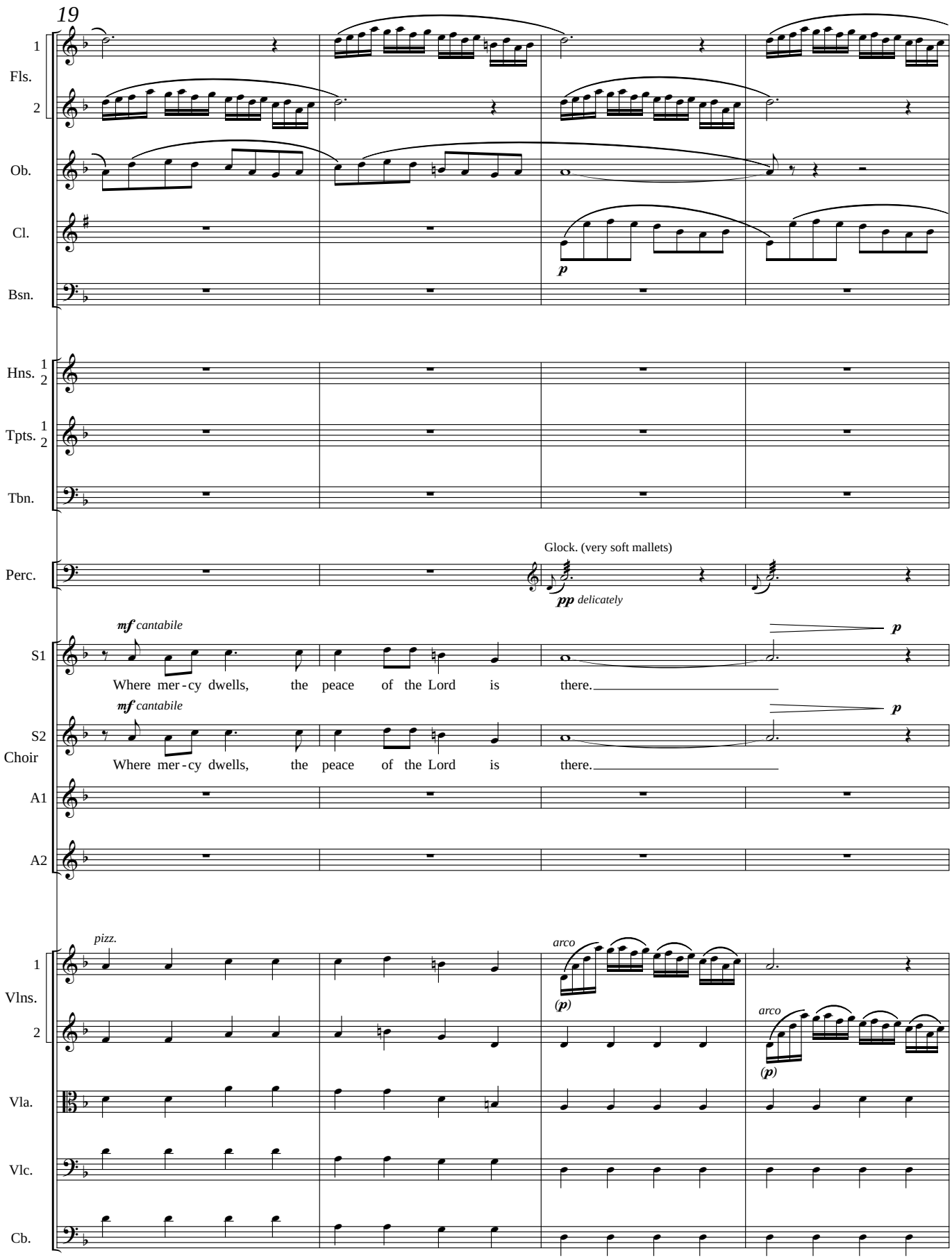
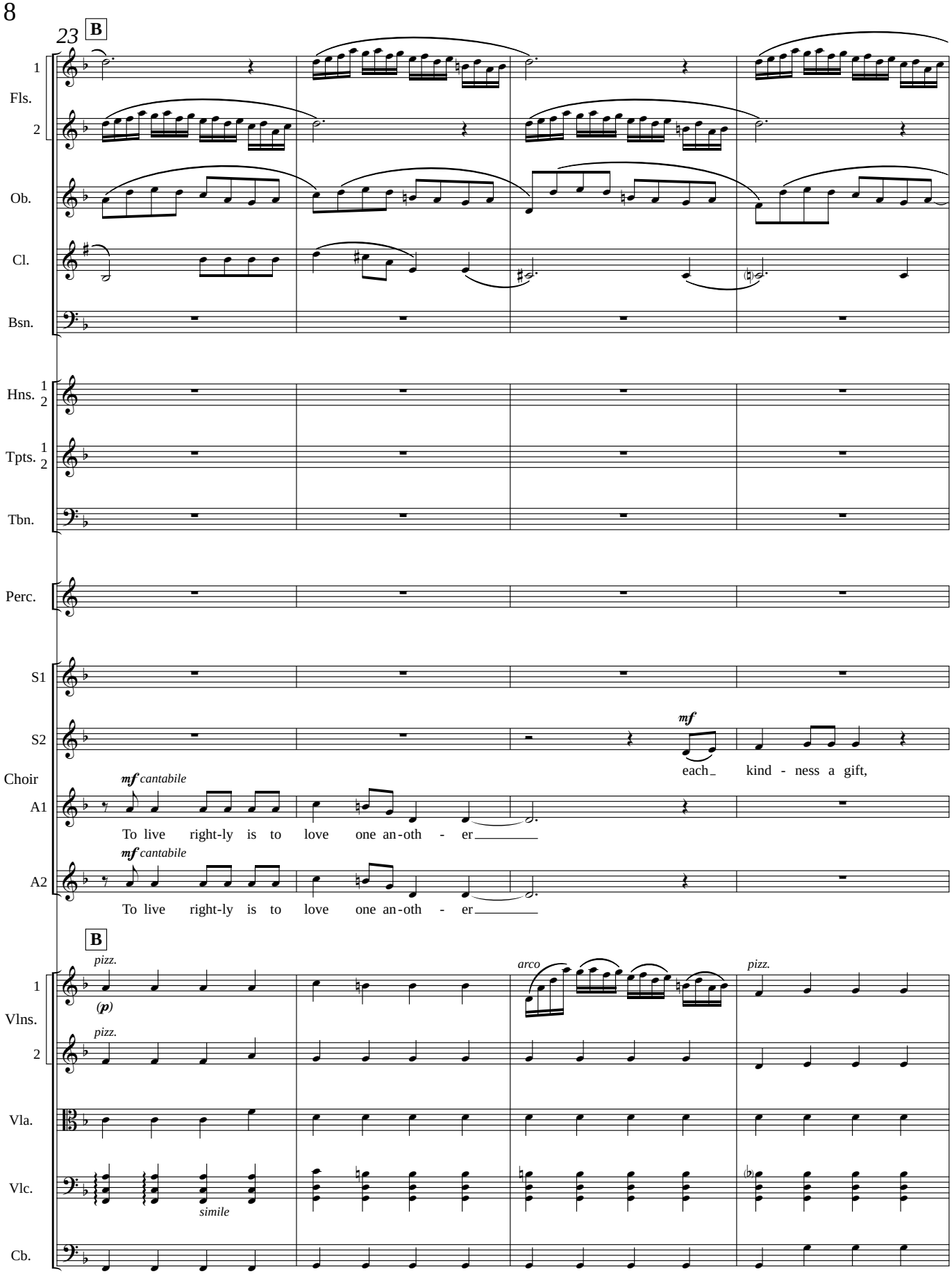
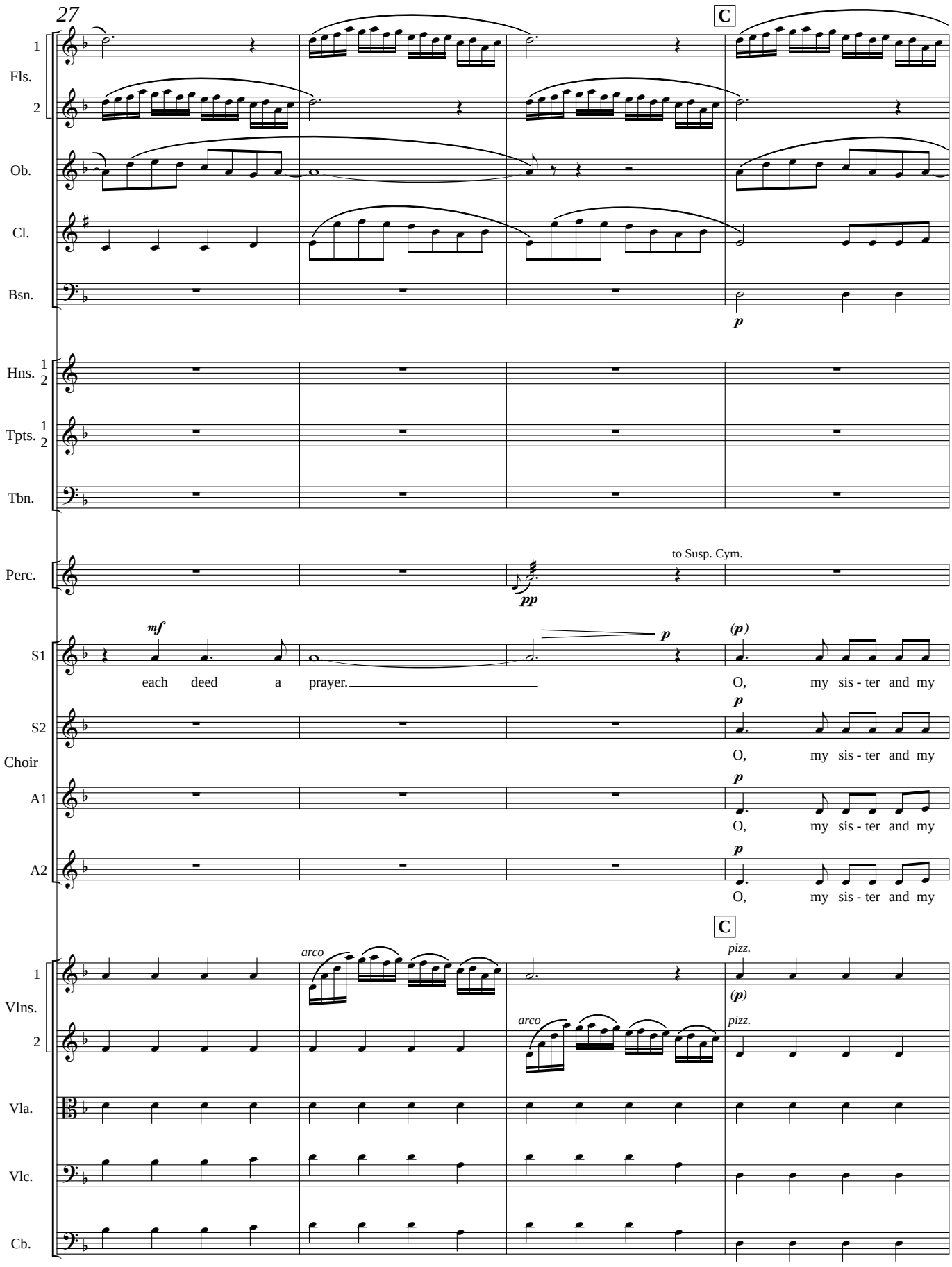

6
ritard.
a tempo, flowing
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
to Glock.
S1
S2
Choir
A1
A2
ritard.
a tempo, flowing
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.

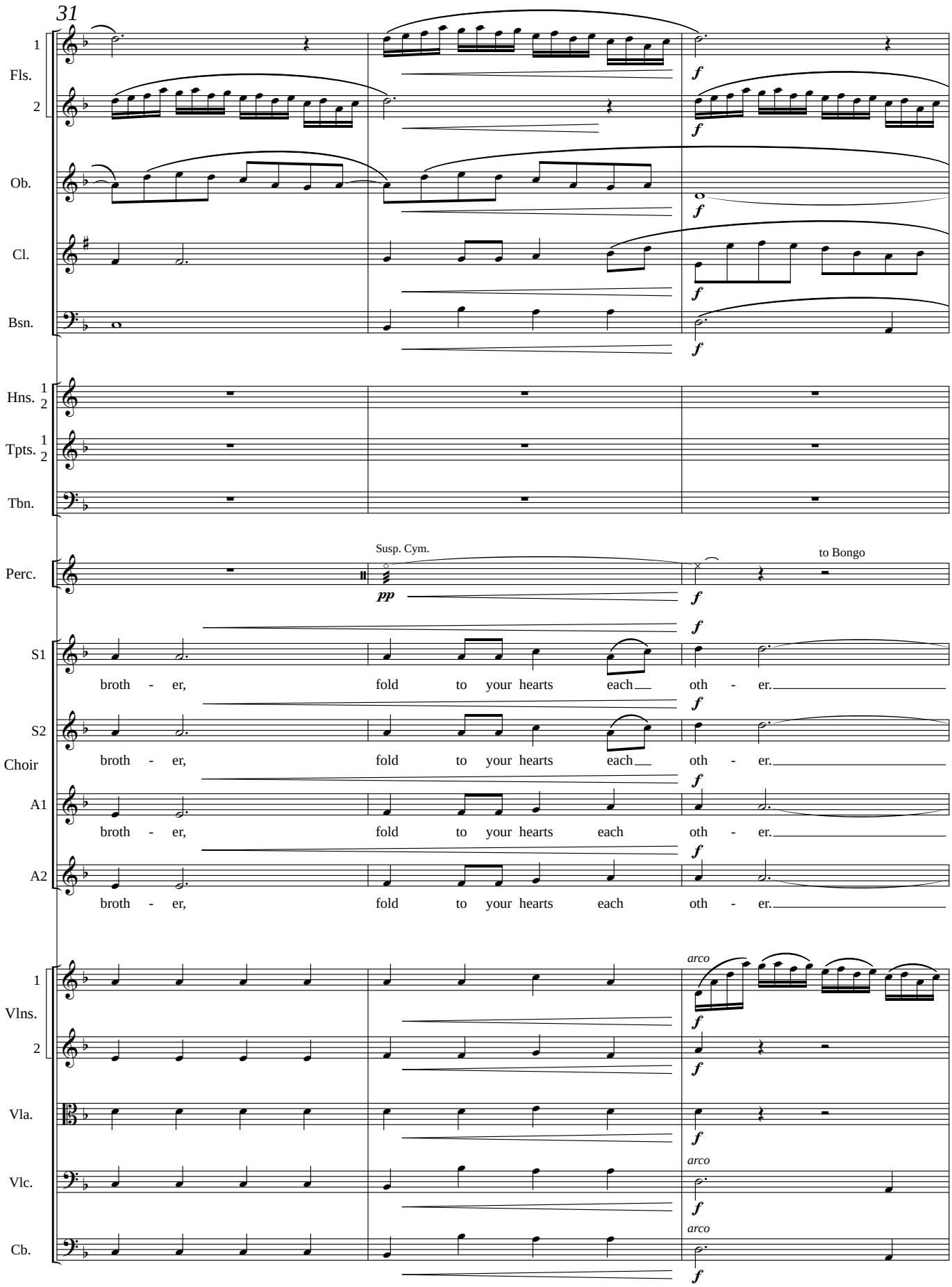

11
A (♩ = 88)
Fls.
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns.
Tpts.
Tbn.
Perc.
S1
S2
Choir
A1
A2
O, my sis - ter and my broth - er, all who walk up - on this
A (♩ = 88)
pizz.
Vlns.
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.

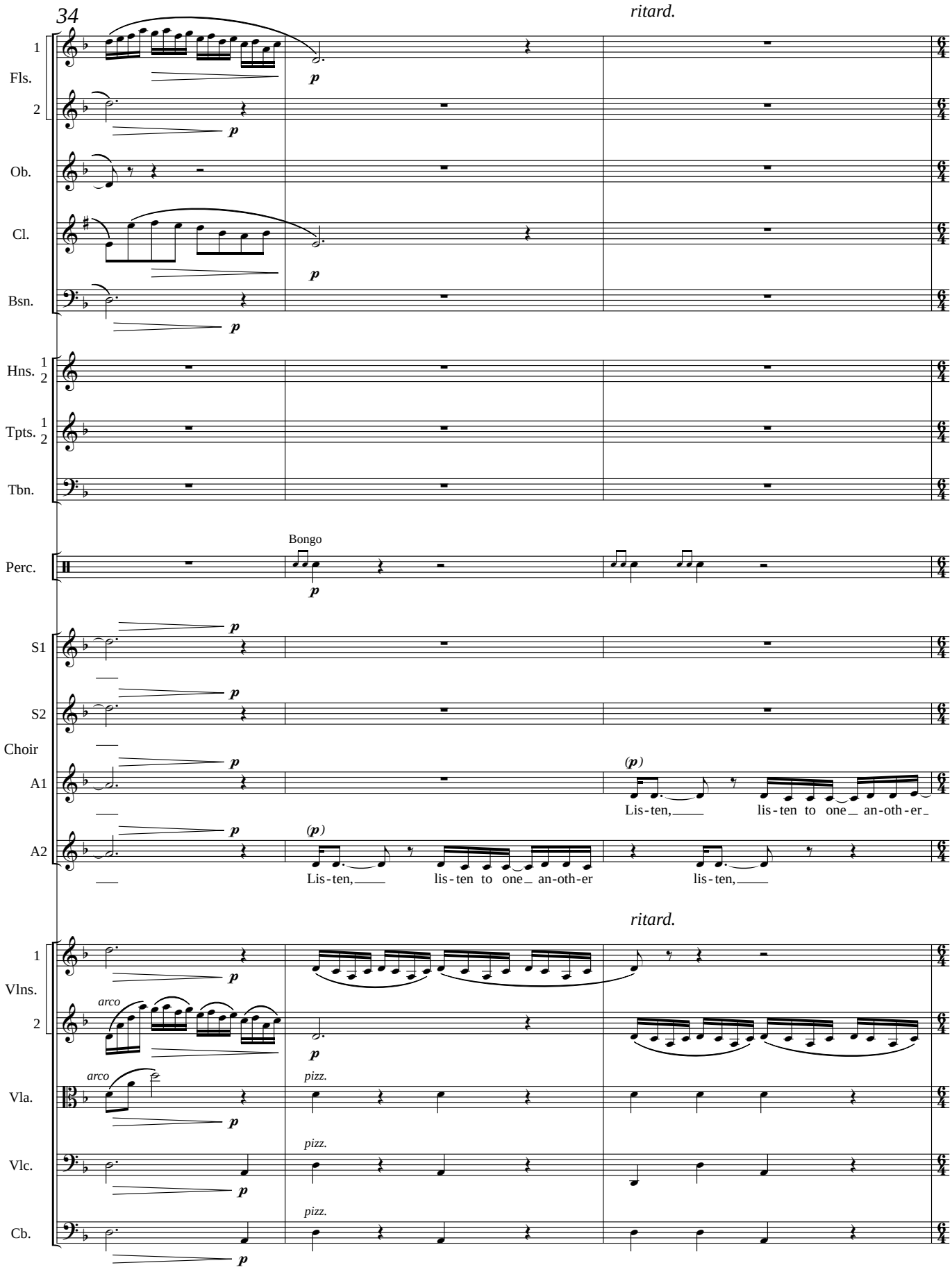

15
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
S1
S2
Choir
A1
A2
mf
p
earth, fold to your hearts each oth - er.
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
arco
(p)

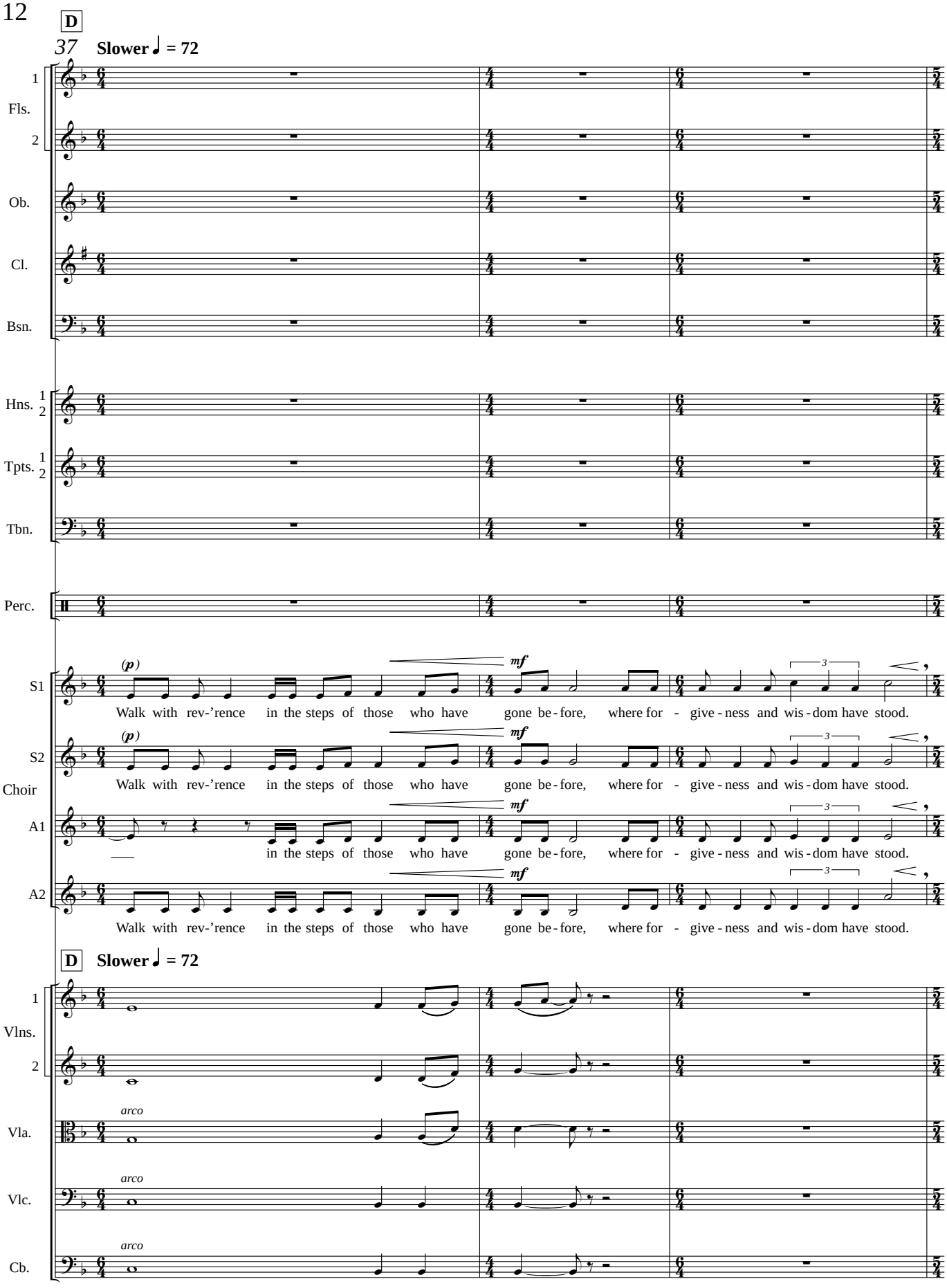

19
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
p
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
Glock. (very soft mallets)
pp delicately
mf cantabile
p
S1
Where mer - cy dwells, the peace of the Lord is there.
mf cantabile
p
S2
Choir
Where mer - cy dwells, the peace of the Lord is there.
A1
A2
pizz.
arco
(p)
1
Vlns.
2
arco
(p)
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.

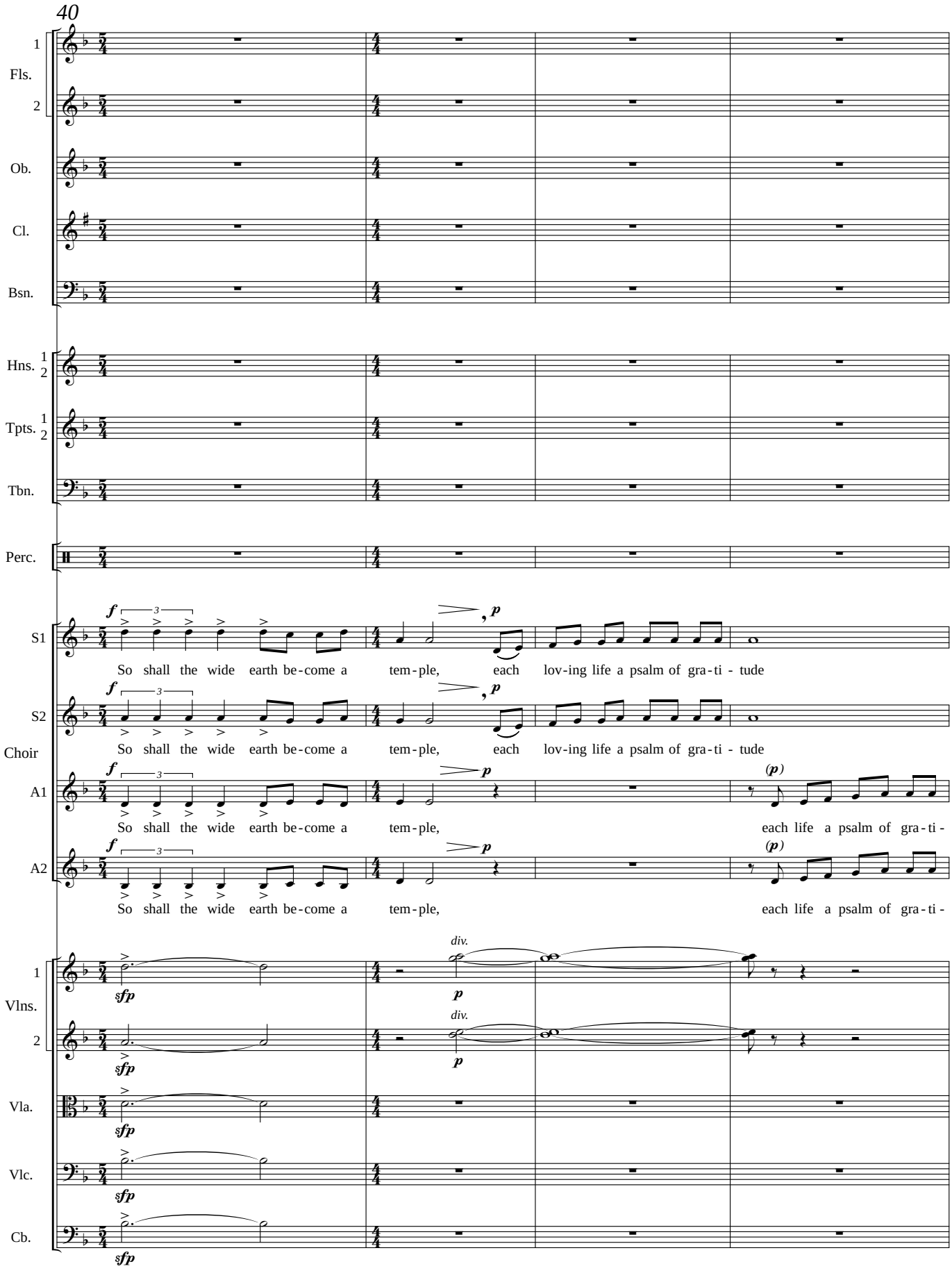

23
B
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
S1
S2
mf
each_ kind - ness a gift,
Choir
mf cantabile
A1
To live right-ly is to love one an-oth - er_
mf cantabile
A2
To live right-ly is to love one an-oth - er_
B
pizz.
(p)
1
Vlns.
pizz.
2
arco
pizz.
Vla.
Vlc.
simile
Cb.

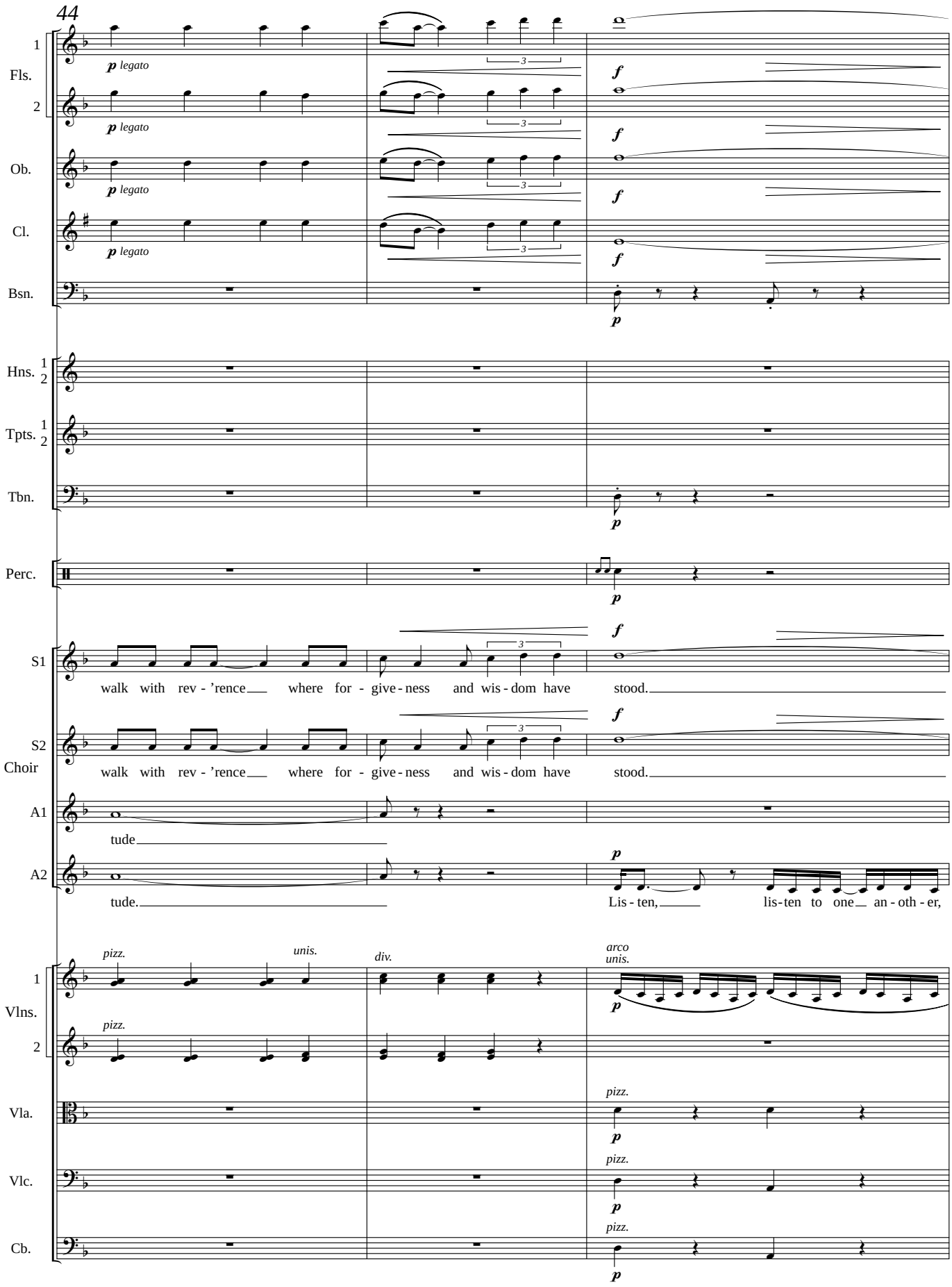

27
C
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
p
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
to Susp. Cym.
pp
mf
p
(p)
S1
each deed a prayer.
O, my sis - ter and my
S2
Choir
A1
A2
C
arco
pizz.
(p)
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.

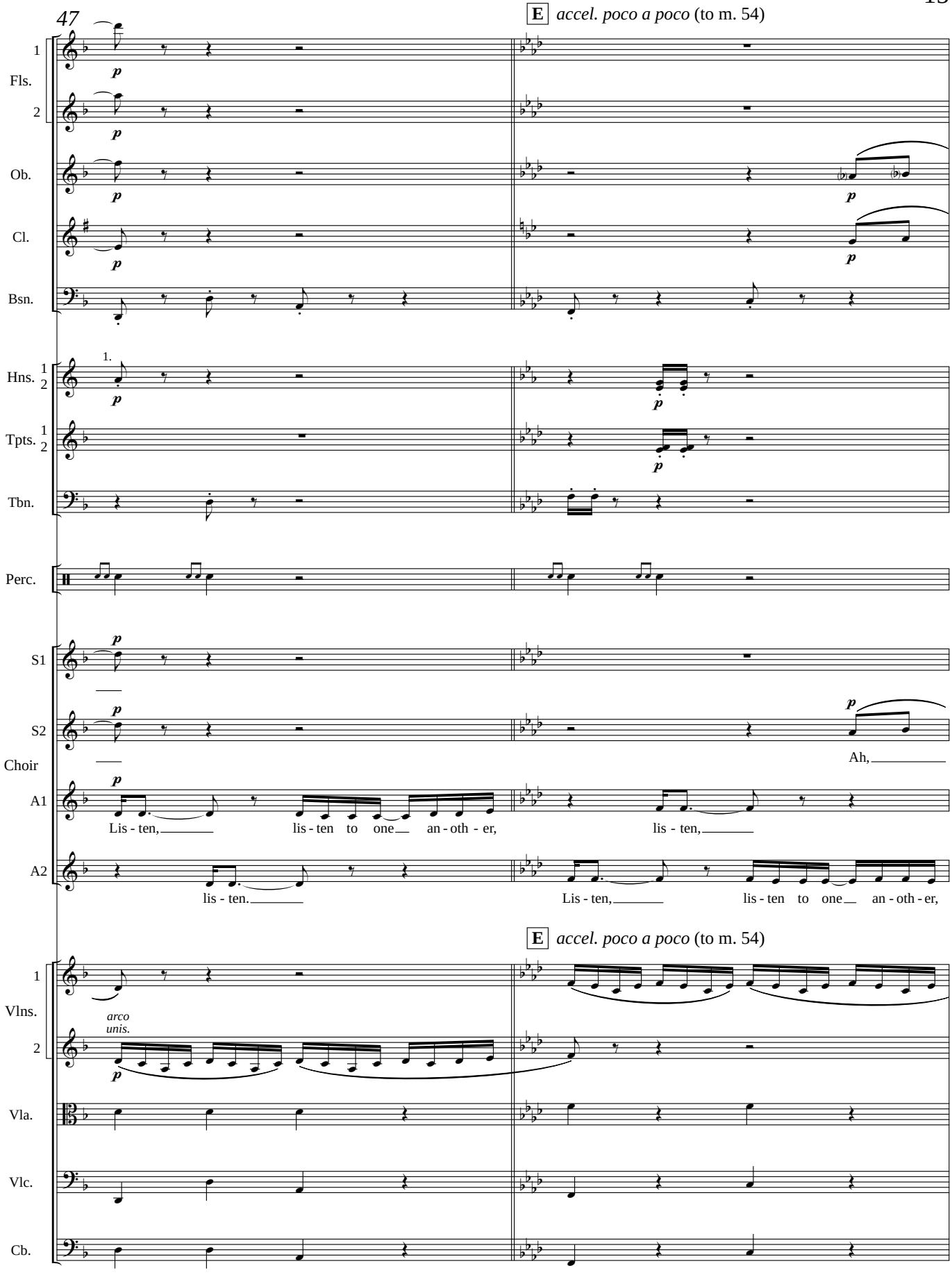

31
Fls. 1
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
Susp. Cym.
pp
to Bongo
S1
S2
Choir
A1
A2
broth - er, fold to your hearts each oth - er.
Vlns. 1
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
arco
f

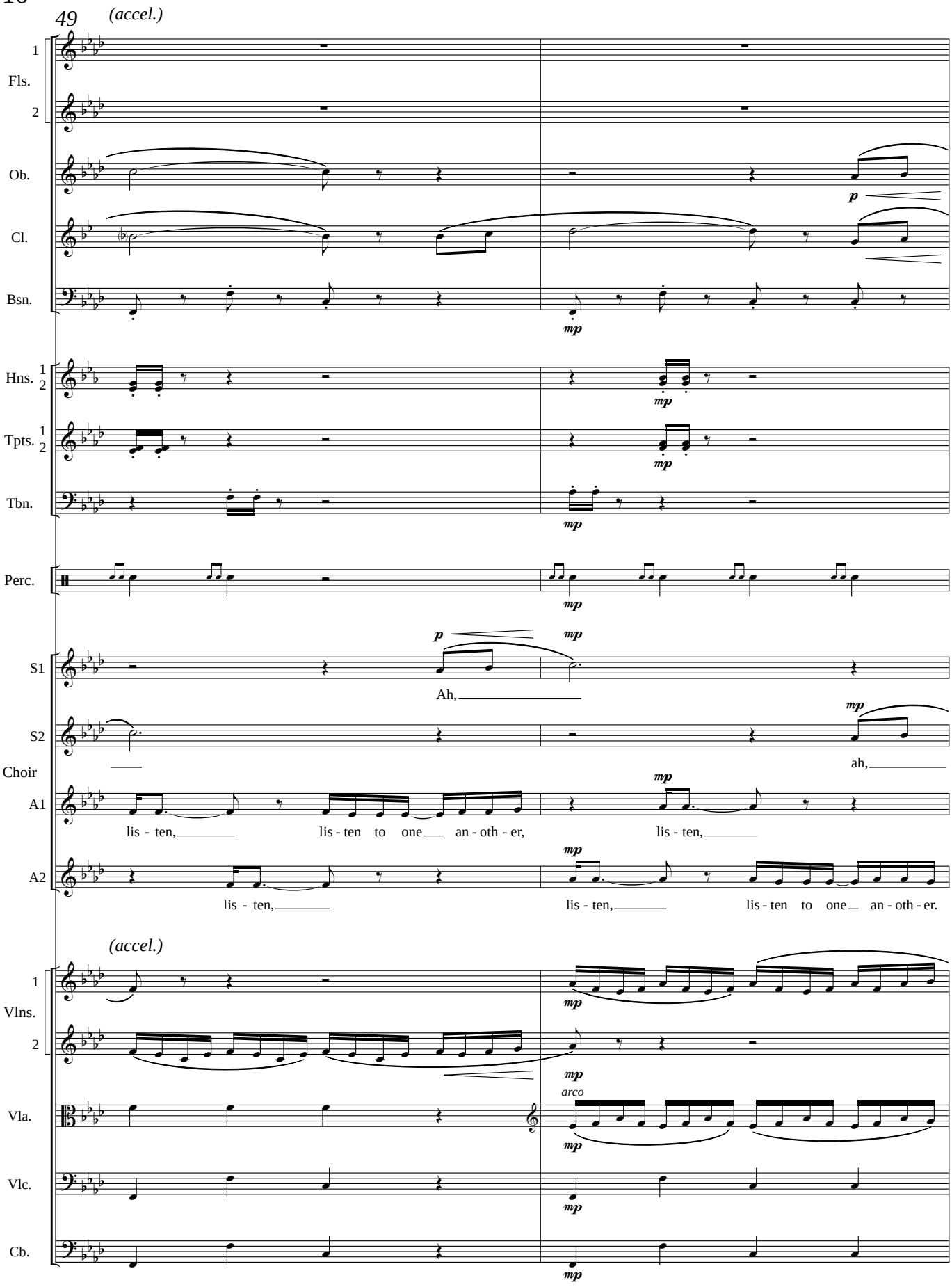

34
ritard.
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Bongo
Perc.
S1
S2
Choir
A1
A2
(p)
Lis-ten, lis-ten to one an-oth-er
Lis-ten, lis-ten to one an-oth-er
lis-ten,
ritard.
1
Vlns.
2
arco
pizz.
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.

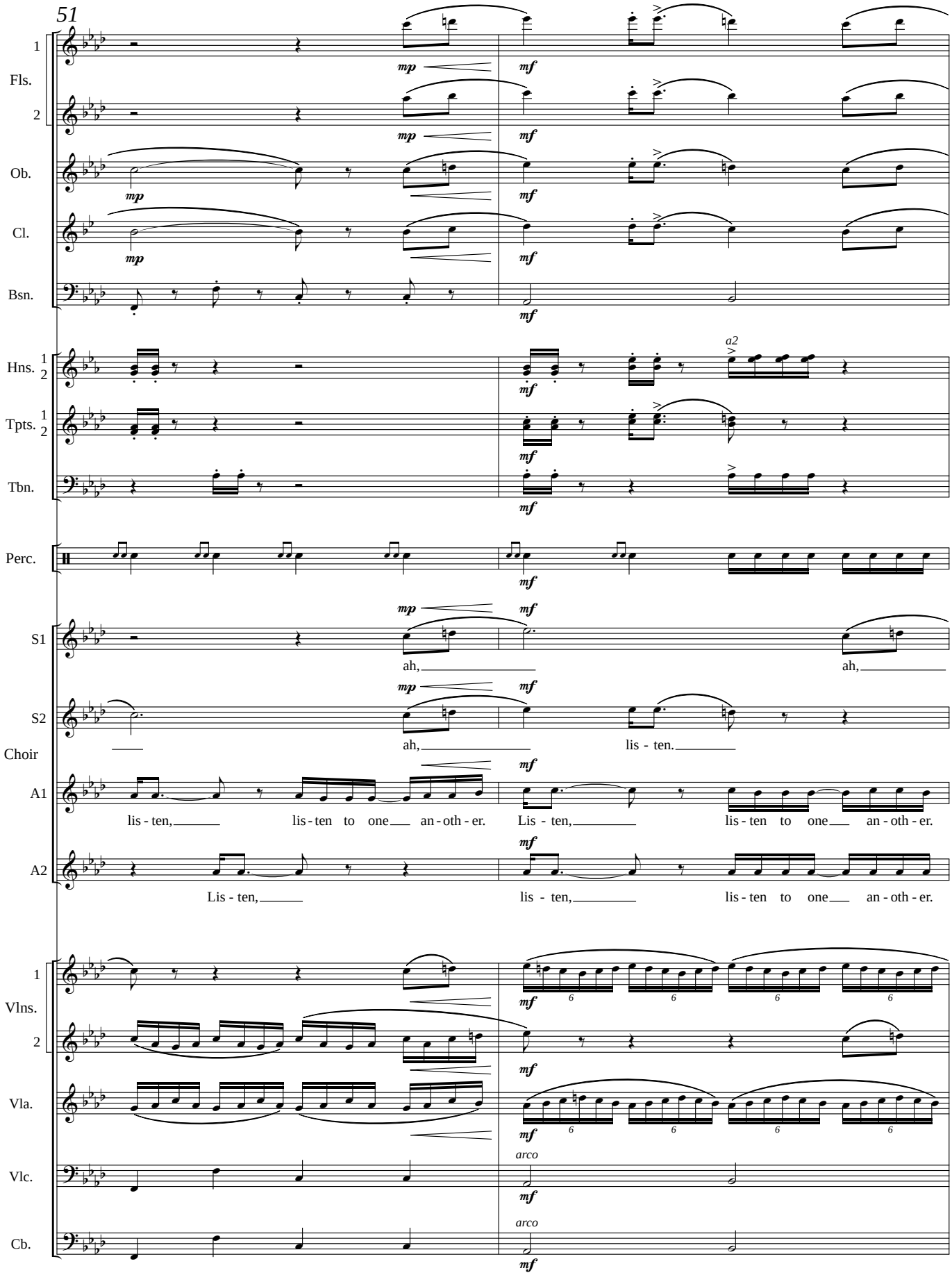

D
37
Slower ♩ = 72
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
(p)
mf
S1
Walk with rev-'rence in the steps of those who have gone be-fore, where for - give-ness and wis-dom have stood.
S2
Choir
A1
in the steps of those who have gone be-fore, where for - give-ness and wis-dom have stood.
A2
Walk with rev-'rence in the steps of those who have gone be-fore, where for - give-ness and wis-dom have stood.
D
Slower ♩ = 72
1
Vlns.
2
arco
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.

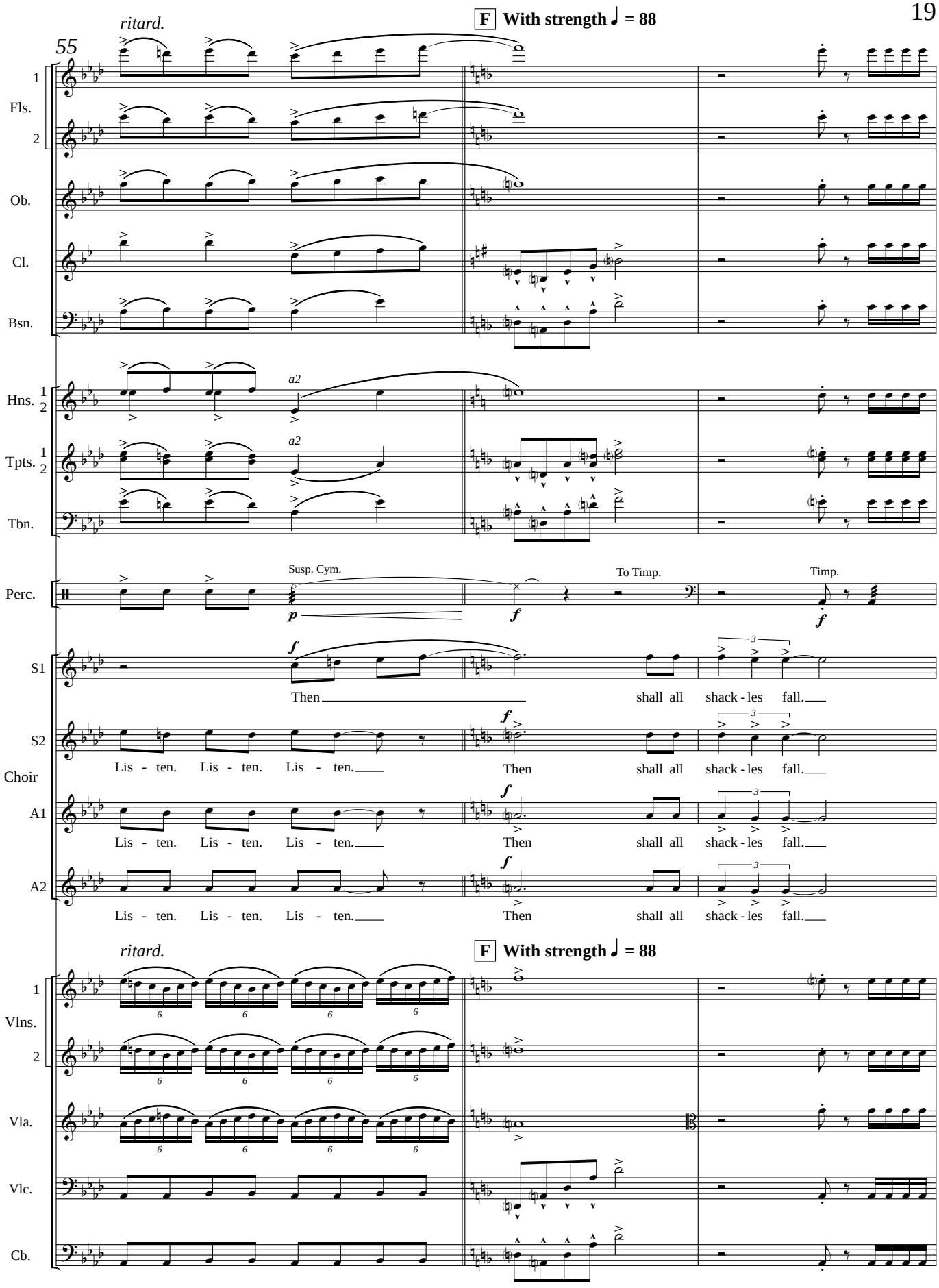

40
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
S1
So shall the wide earth be-come a tem-ple, each lov-ing life a psalm of gra-ti - tude
S2
So shall the wide earth be-come a tem-ple, each lov-ing life a psalm of gra-ti - tude
Choir
A1
So shall the wide earth be-come a tem-ple, each life a psalm of gra-ti -
A2
So shall the wide earth be-come a tem-ple, each life a psalm of gra-ti -
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
div.

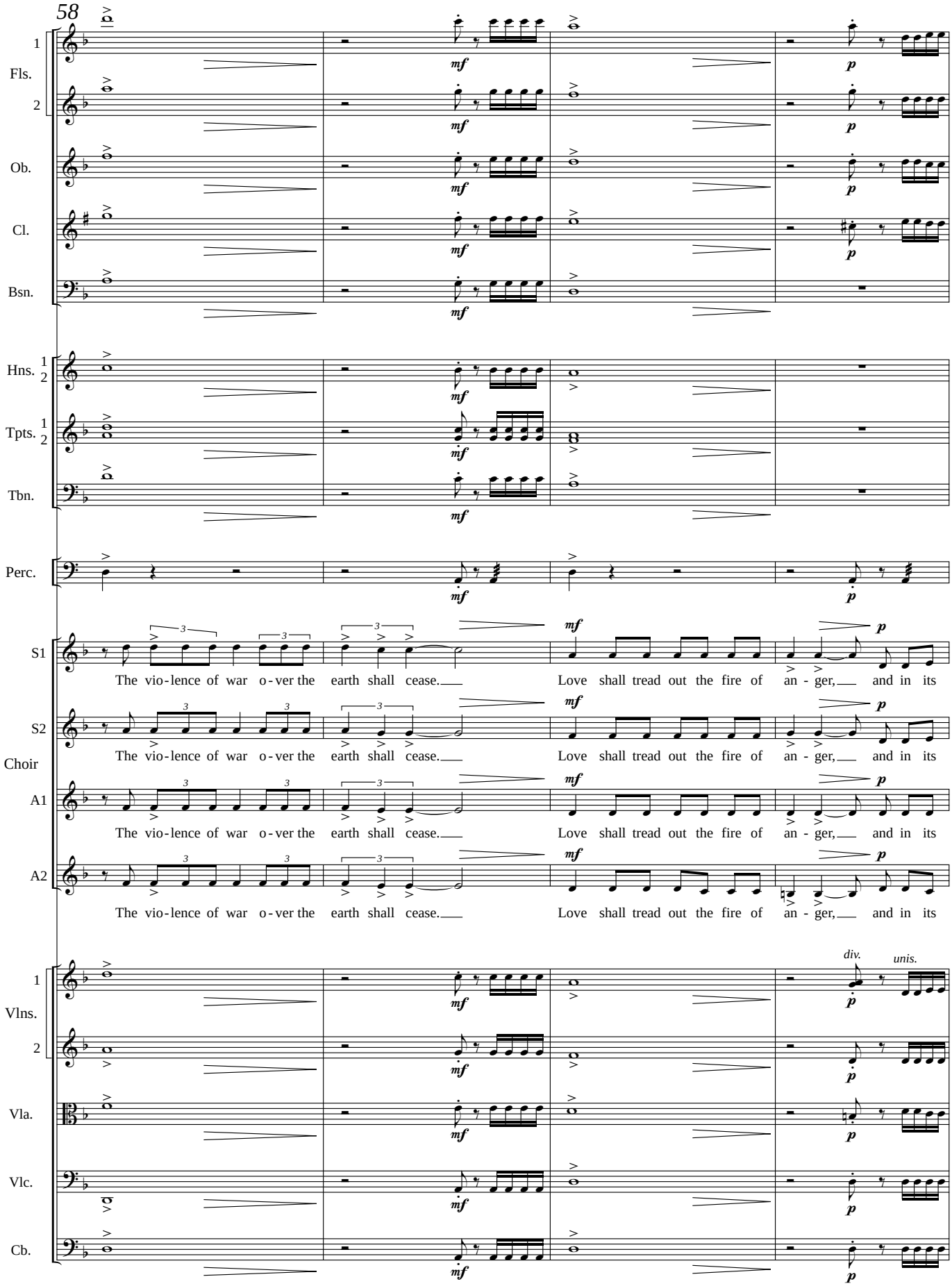

44
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
S1
S2
Choir
A1
A2
Vlns. 1
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
p legato
f
p
walk with rev - 'rence where for - give - ness and wis - dom have stood.
tude
tude.
Lis - ten, lis - ten to one an - oth - er,
pizz.
unis.
div.
arco
unis.

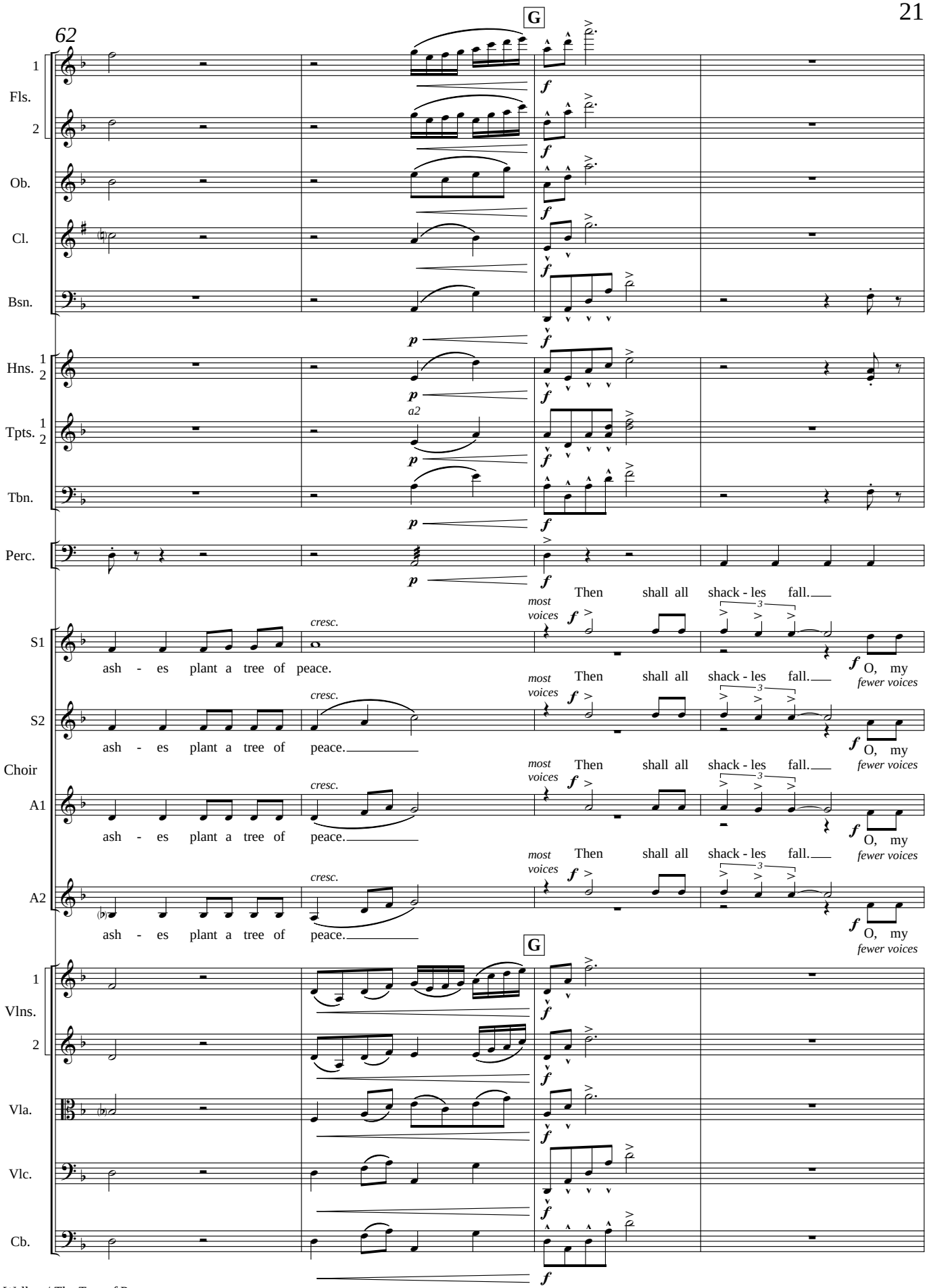

47
E accel. poco a poco (to m. 54)
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
1.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
S1
S2
Choir
A1
A2
Ah,
Lis - ten, lis - ten to one an - oth - er, lis - ten,
lis - ten. Lis - ten, lis - ten to one an - oth - er,
E accel. poco a poco (to m. 54)
1
Vlns.
2
arco
unis.
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.

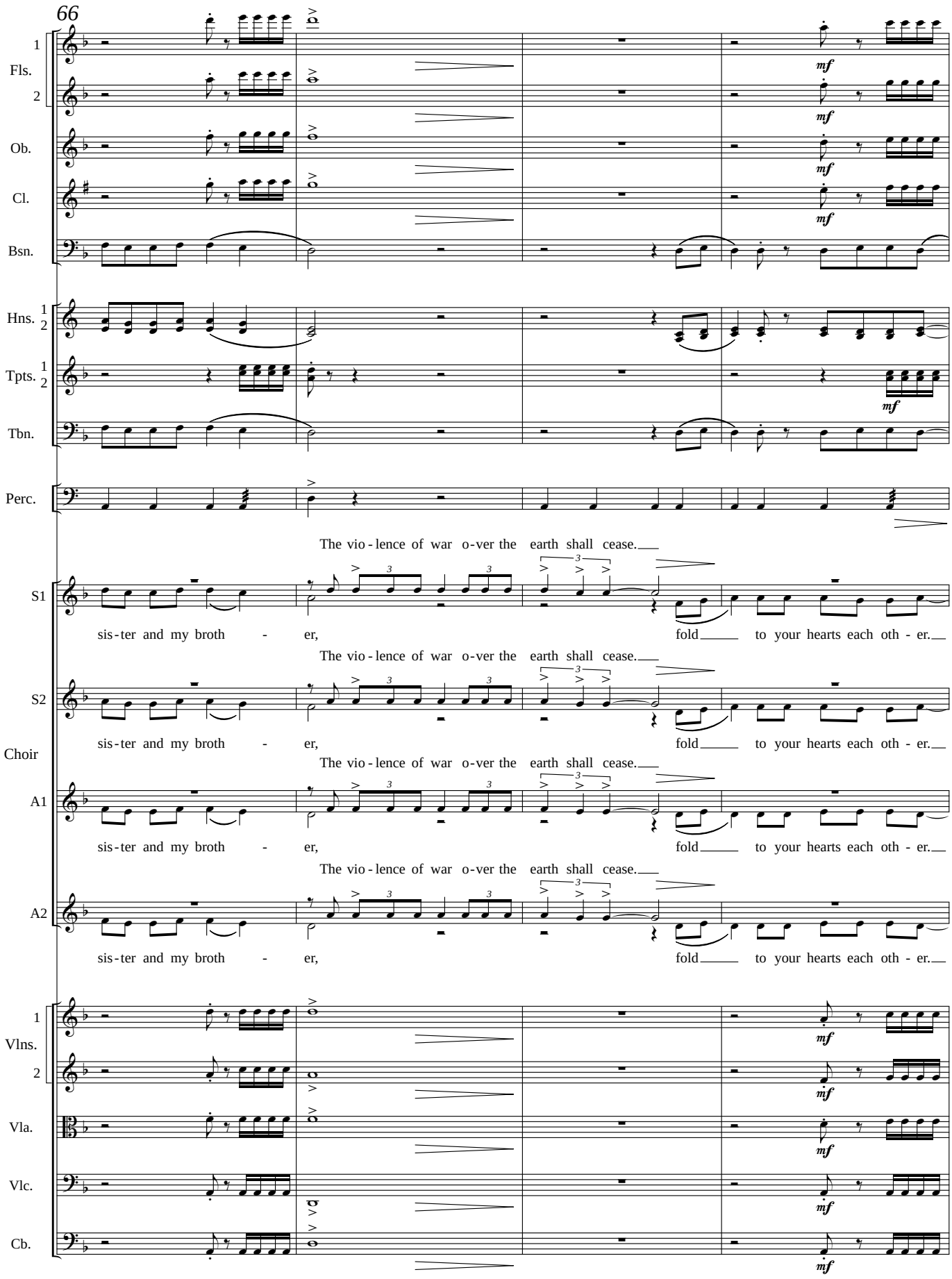

49
(accel.)
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
S1
S2
Choir
A1
A2
p
mp
Ah,
ah,
lis - ten, lis - ten to one an - oth - er, lis - ten,
lis - ten, lis - ten, lis - ten to one an - oth - er.
(accel.)
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
arco

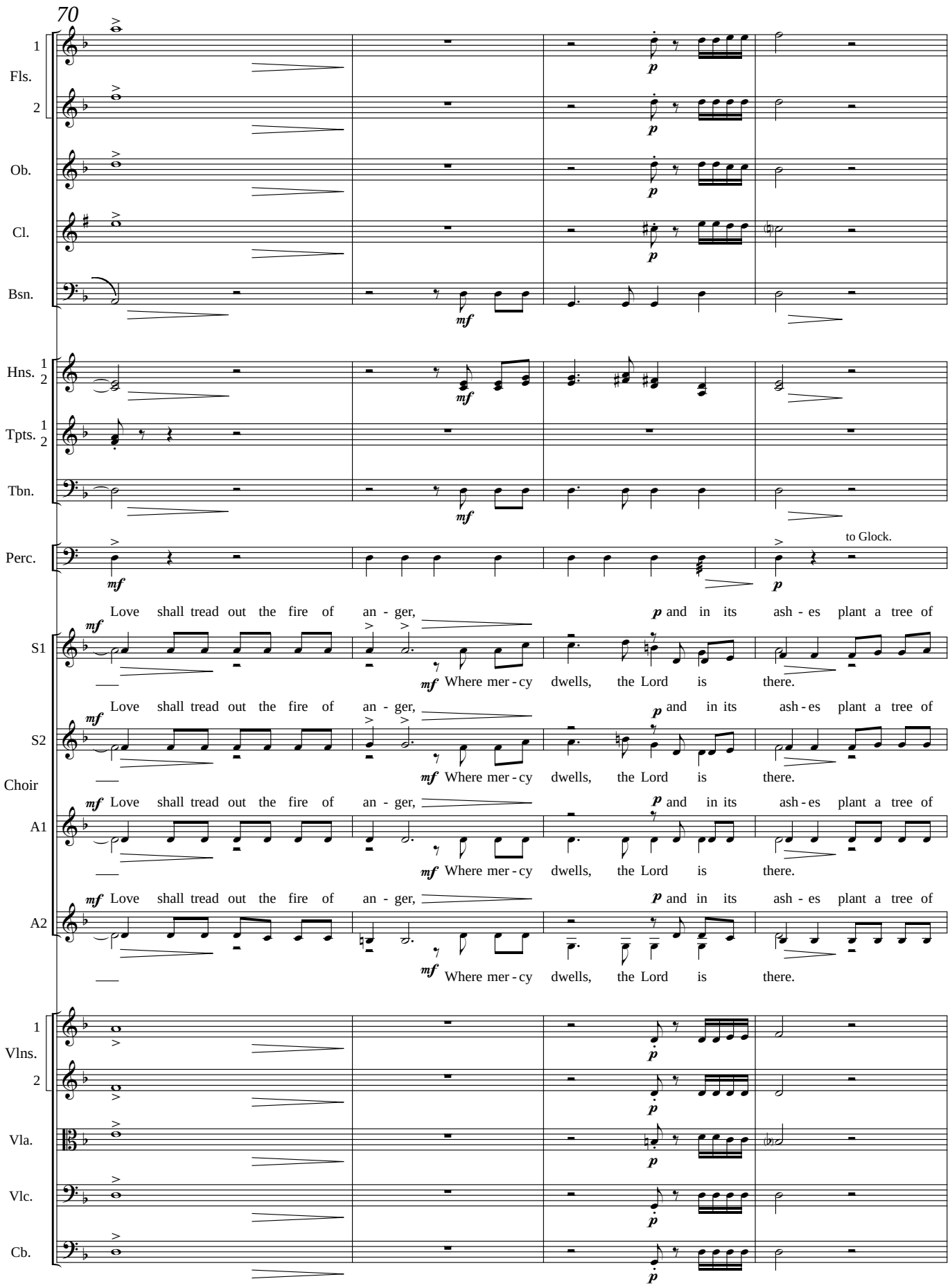

51
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
S1
S2
Choir
A1
A2
Vlns. 1
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
mp
mf
a2
arco
ah,
lis - ten.
lis - ten, lis - ten to one an - oth - er.
Lis - ten, lis - ten to one an - oth - er.
Lis - ten, lis - ten, lis - ten to one an - oth - er.

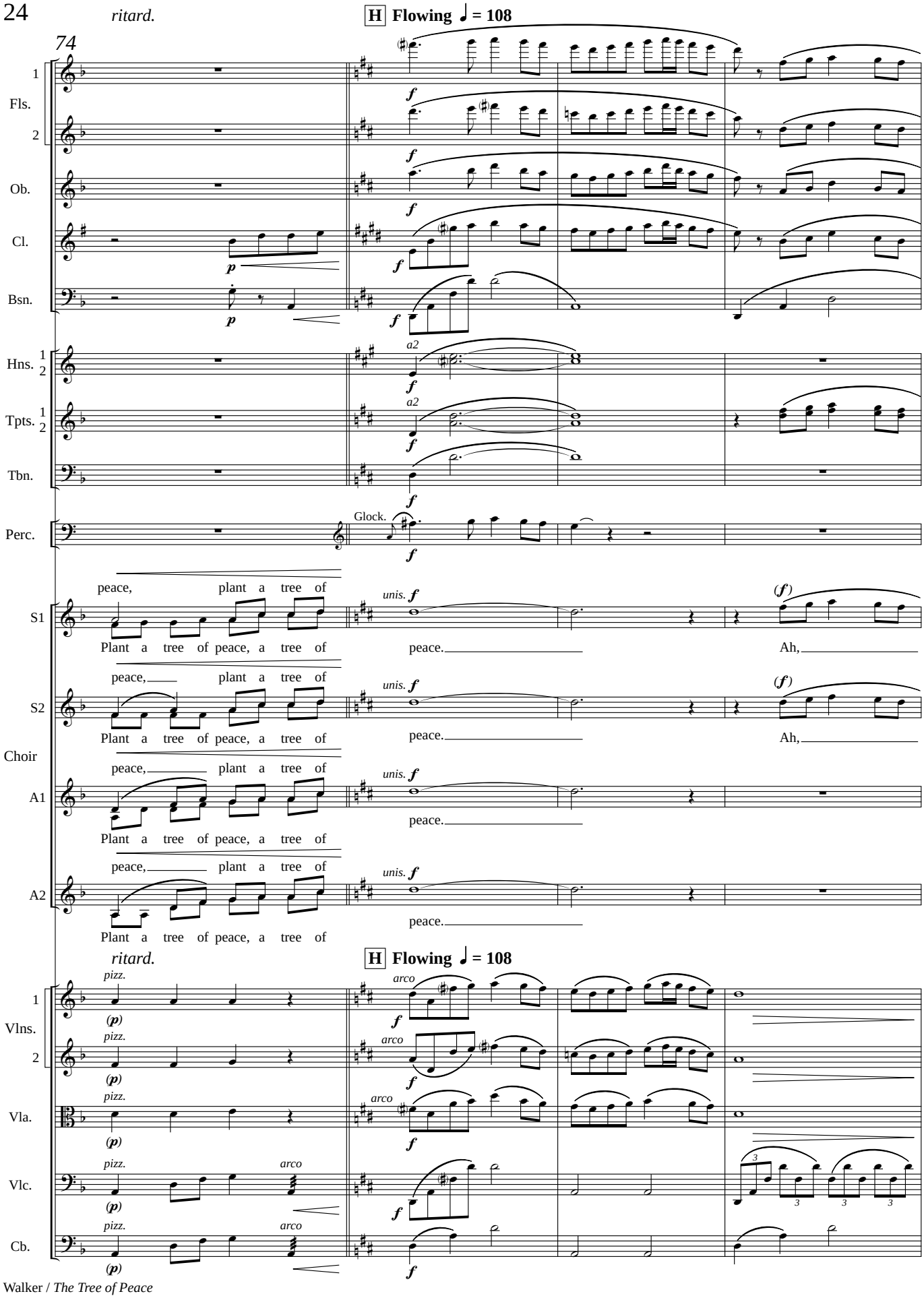

ritard.
55
F With strength ♩ = 88
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
a2
Tpts. 1 2
a2
Tbn.
Susp. Cym.
To Timp.
Timp.
Perc.
S1
Then shall all shack - les fall.
S2
Lis - ten. Lis - ten. Lis - ten.
Then shall all shack - les fall.
Choir
A1
Lis - ten. Lis - ten. Lis - ten.
Then shall all shack - les fall.
A2
Lis - ten. Lis - ten. Lis - ten.
Then shall all shack - les fall.
ritard.
F With strength ♩ = 88
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.

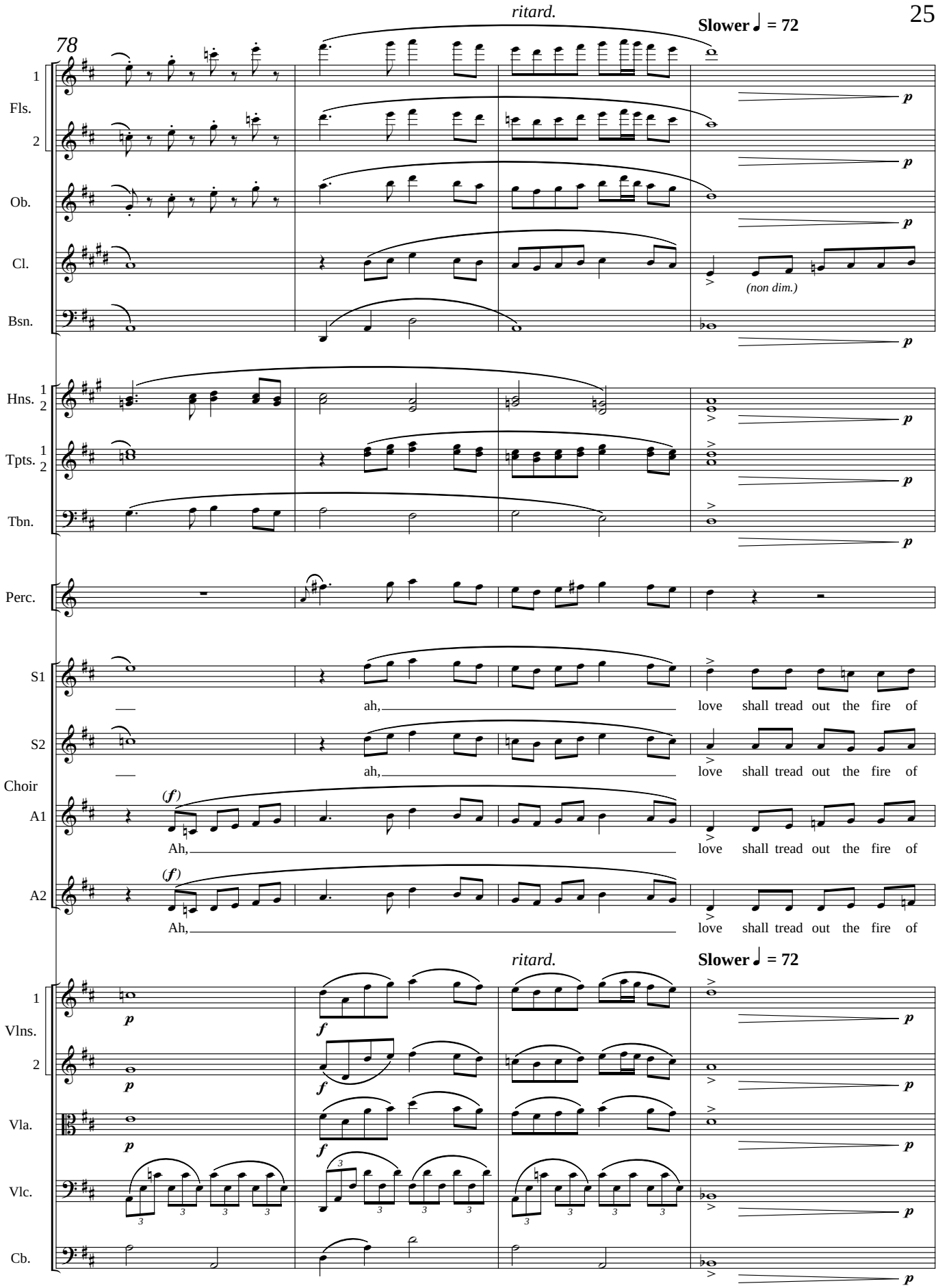

58
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
S1
S2
Choir
A1
A2
The vio-lence of war o-ver the earth shall cease.
Love shall tread out the fire of an-ger, and in its
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
div.
unis.

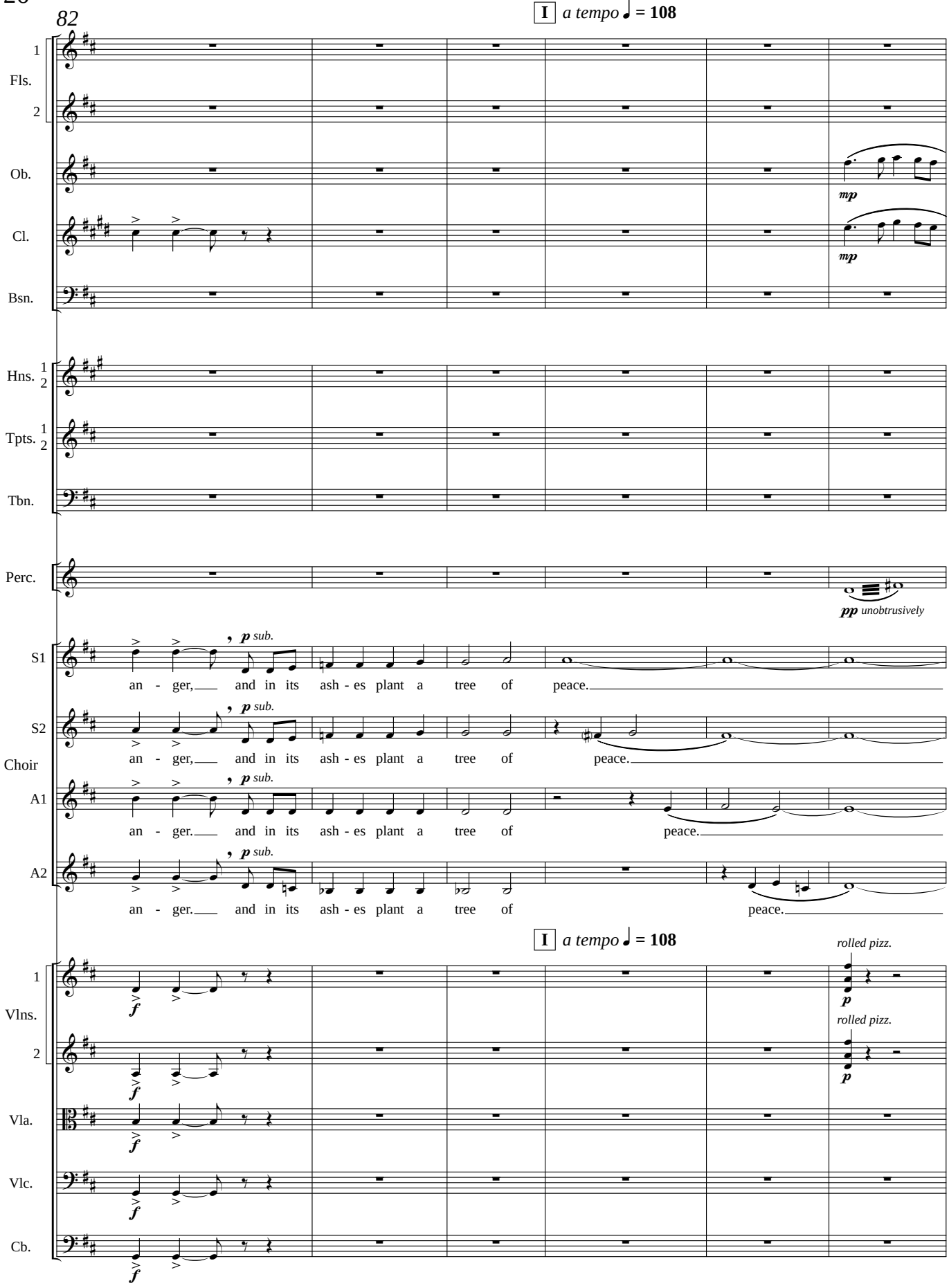

62
G
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
a2
S1
S2
Choir
A1
A2
cresc.
ash - es plant a tree of peace.
most voices
Then shall all shack - les fall.
O, my
fewer voices
G
Vlns. 1
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.

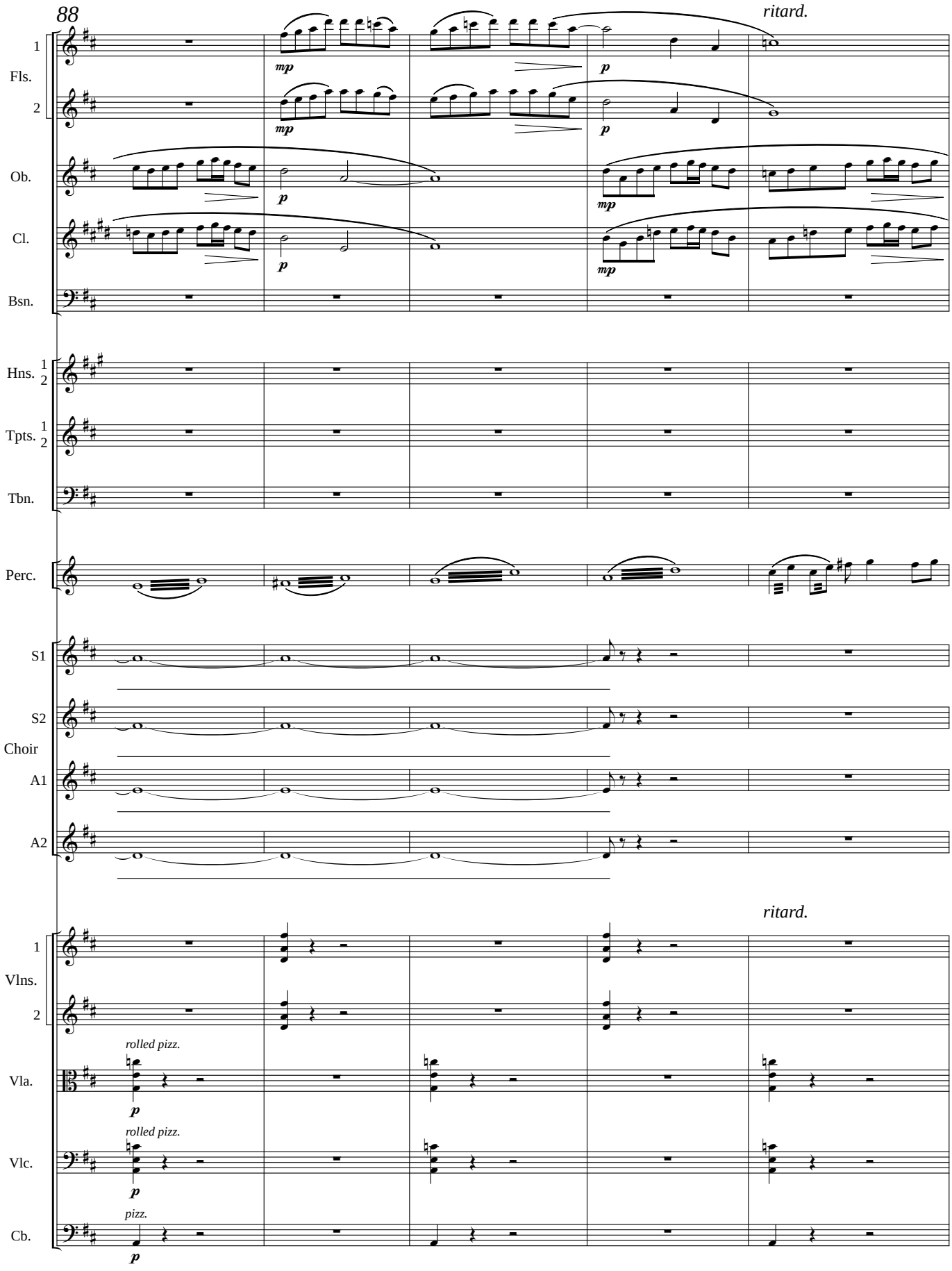

66
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns.
1
2
Tpts.
1
2
Tbn.
Perc.
mf
The vio - lence of war o-ver the earth shall cease.
S1
sis - ter and my broth - er, fold to your hearts each oth - er.
The vio - lence of war o-ver the earth shall cease.
S2
sis - ter and my broth - er, fold to your hearts each oth - er.
Choir
The vio - lence of war o-ver the earth shall cease.
A1
sis - ter and my broth - er, fold to your hearts each oth - er.
The vio - lence of war o-ver the earth shall cease.
A2
sis - ter and my broth - er, fold to your hearts each oth - er.
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.

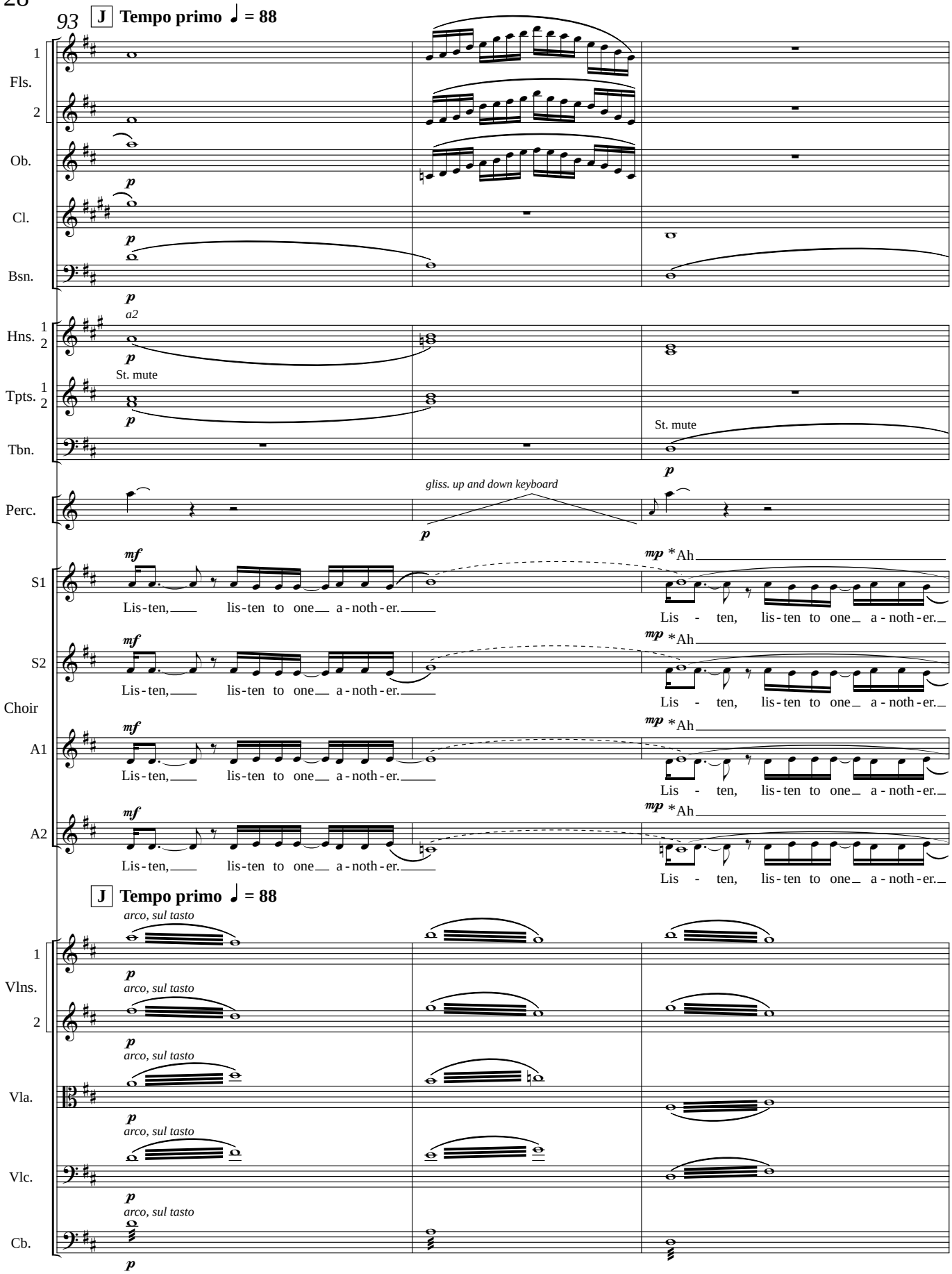

70
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
to Glock.
Love shall tread out the fire of an - ger,
and in its ash - es plant a tree of
Where mer - cy dwells, the Lord is there.
S1
S2
Choir
A1
A2
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.


ritard.
H Flowing ♩ = 108
74
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
Glock.
peace, plant a tree of
Plant a tree of peace, a tree of
unis.
peace.
(f)
Ah,
S1
S2
Choir
A1
A2
ritard.
H Flowing ♩ = 108
pizz.
arco
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.

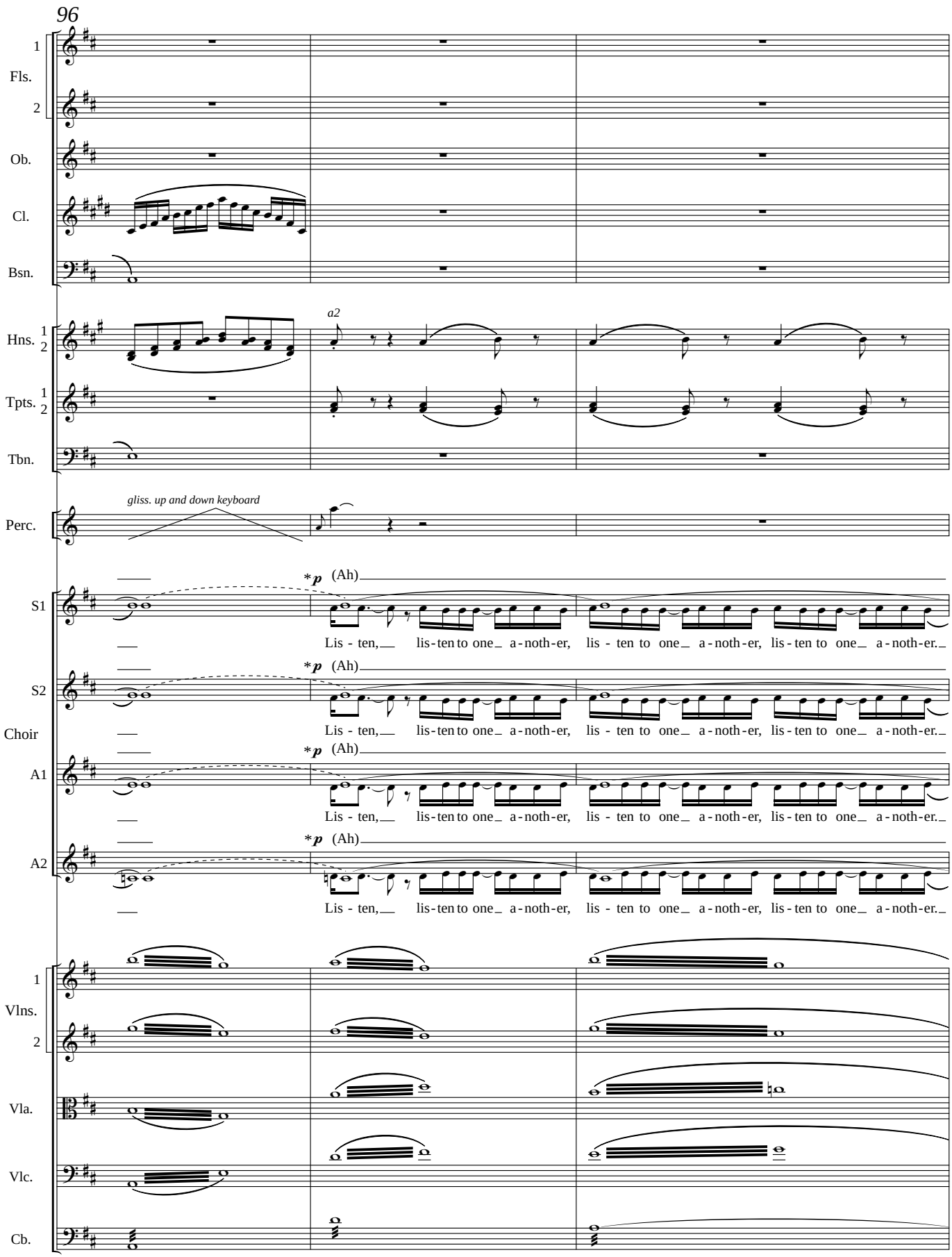

ritard.
Slower ♩ = 72
78
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
(non dim.)
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
S1
ah,
love shall tread out the fire of
S2
ah,
love shall tread out the fire of
Choir
A1
(f)
Ah,
love shall tread out the fire of
A2
(f)
Ah,
love shall tread out the fire of
ritard.
Slower ♩ = 72
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.


82
I a tempo ♩ = 108
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
mp
mp
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
pp unobtrusively
S1
S2
Choir
A1
A2
p sub.
an - ger, and in its ash - es plant a tree of peace.
an - ger. and in its ash - es plant a tree of peace.
I a tempo ♩ = 108
Vlns. 1
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
f
rolled pizz.
p

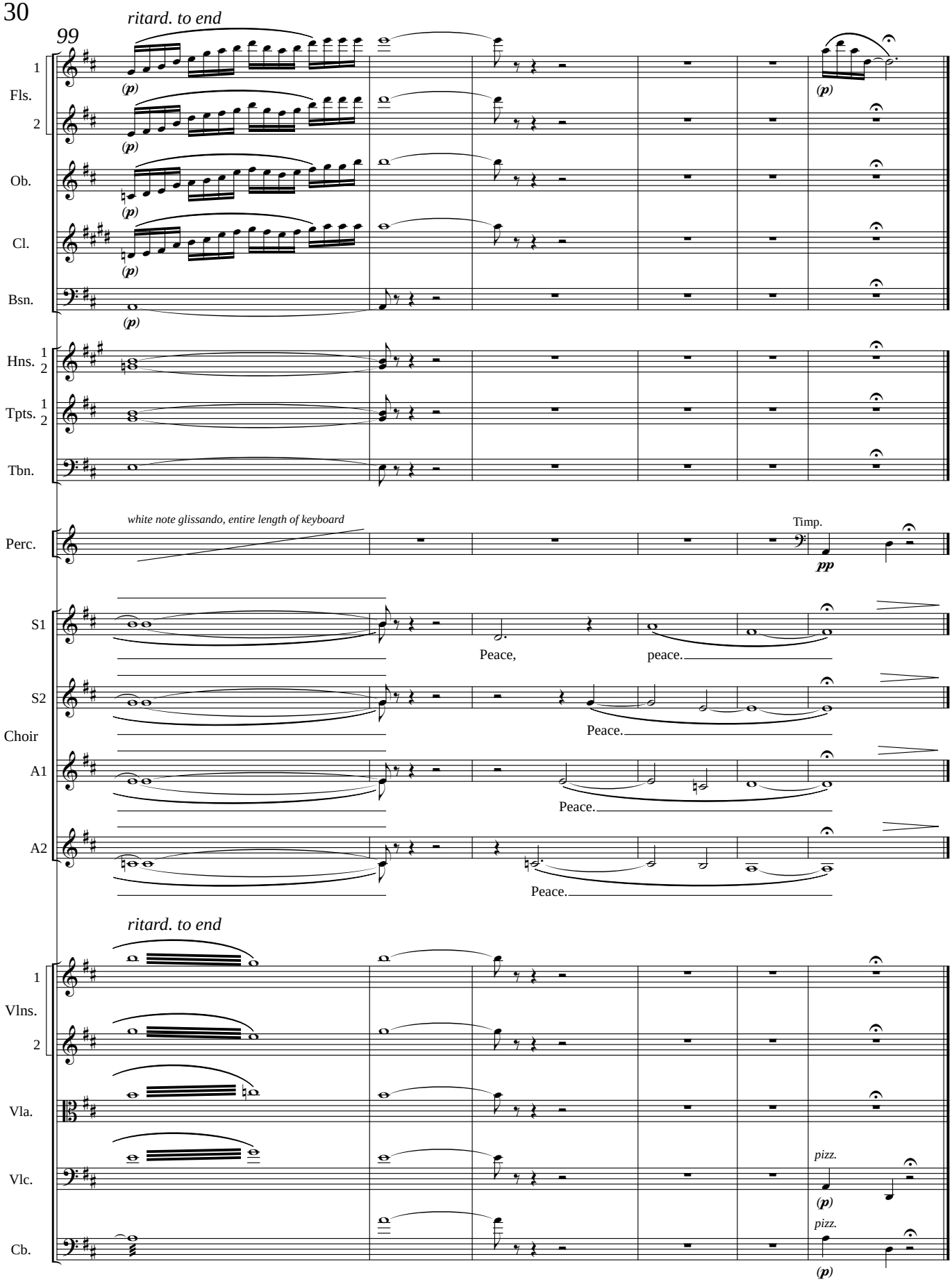

88
ritard.
1
Fls.
2
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.
Hns. 1 2
Tpts. 1 2
Tbn.
Perc.
S1
S2
Choir
A1
A2
ritard.
1
Vlns.
2
rolled pizz.
Vla.
rolled pizz.
Vlc.
pizz.
Cb.



*A few voices hold pitch on "Ah," most voices sing the pattern.



*A few more voices join the held "Ah." A few less sing the pattern.



Duration: 5'30"
March 19, 2014
Baton Rouge, Louisiana