Editor's Note

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) was one of the most significant composers of the Viennese Classical style and is revered today as one of the greatest composers of all time. Mozart was a tremendously talented composer in the many forms of the Classical era, including operas, symphonies, concertos, chamber works, sonatas, choral works, arias, and songs. His works are highly revered today for their beautiful melodies and rich harmonies.

Born in Salzburg, Austria, Mozart's genius was apparent at a very early age. He became a well-known performer in many European cities by his early teens, eventually serving as concertmaster for the Archbishop of Salzburg. In 1781, after becoming discontented with his low salary and the lack of opportunity for more opera composition in Salzburg, Mozart quit the position and settled in Vienna.

Achieving many successes in Vienna, he became known as the finest keyboardist in the city, and he completed a variety of works, including piano concertos and operas. Although he became famous for a while, Mozart's career and finances gradually declined. He spent his remaining years without the security of a permanent position while struggling for recognition and commissions.

"Viva!" is the final number of *Il re pastore* (The Shepherd King), which Mozart composed in 1775 in Salzburg when he was just 19 years old. Based on the 1751 libretto of Pietro Metastasio, this two-act work is often referred to as a "seranata," because it is a shortened version of an opera seria (serious opera) with a small cast of performers and it was originally presented with very limited staging. It was commissioned by Archbishop Colloredo to honor the visit of Archduke Maximilian Franz (the youngest son of Empress Maria Theresa) to Salzburg. The opera was first performed in The Knights' Hall of the Archbishop's Palace on April 23, 1775.

The heraldic and tuneful "Viva!" celebrates the crowning of Aminta as the rightful king of the city of Sidon. Although Aminta originally wants to work as an unknown shepherd, he struggles with the demands of love against the demands of kingship until finally ascending to the throne.

The source for this edition is W.A. Mozart's *Sämtliche Werke,* V, published by Breitkopf and Härtel (1876-1905). Scored originally for five solo voices with an accompaniment of oboes, trumpets, strings, and continuo, this arrangement includes a piano reduction of the instrumental parts as the accompaniment. Modern clefs, dynamics, the tempo indication, and optional English words have also been added by the editor.

This triumphant chorus should be performed very energetically while closely following the suggested dynamics and emphasizing the normally stressed syllables. Those syllables are underlined in the following pronunciation guide.

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Italian Pronunciation Guide and Translation

Viva!
Long live!
[vi-va]

Viva l'invitto duce!
Long live the invited leader!
[vi-va lin-vit-to du-tʃe]

Viva del Cielo il dono più caro al nostro cor!
Long live the gift from heaven most dear to our hearts!
[vi-va del tʃɛ-lo il do-no pju ka-ro al nɔ-stro kor]

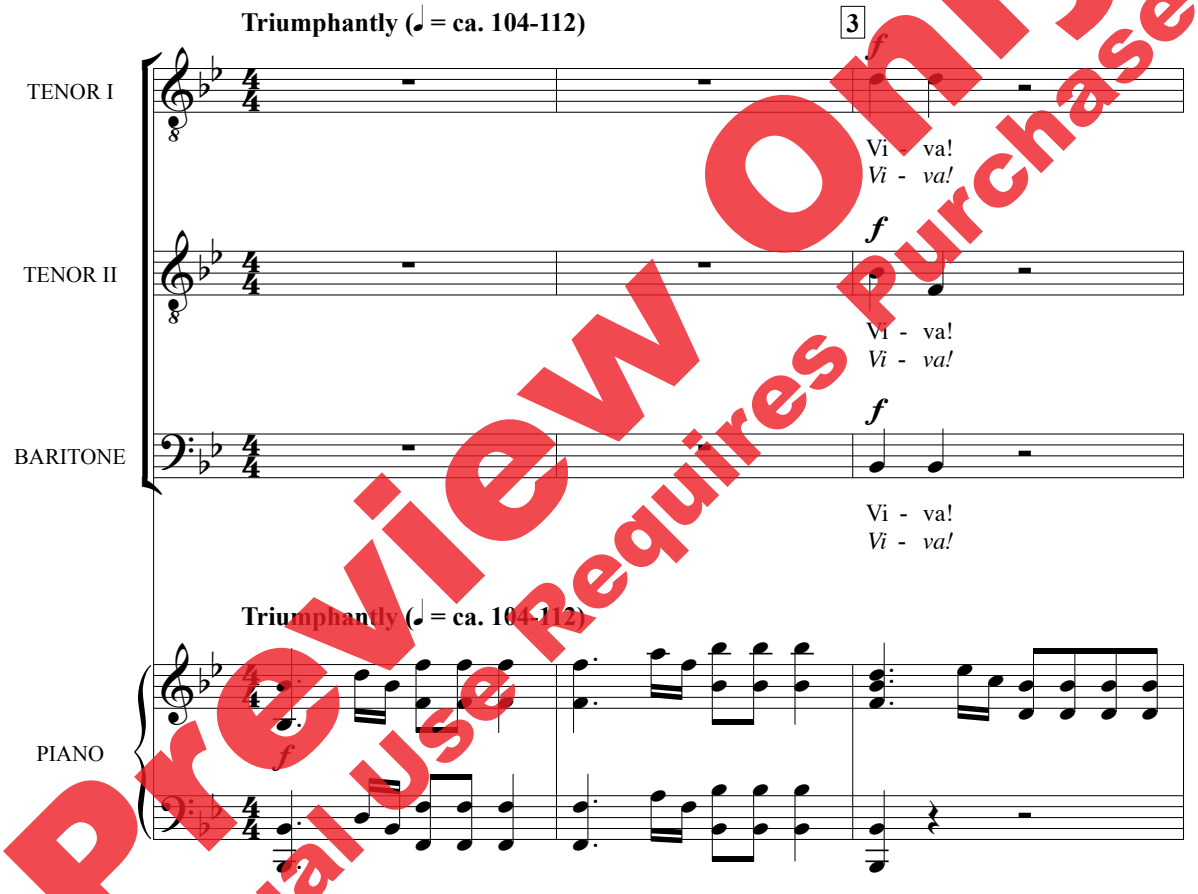
Please see *Alfred's IPA Made Easy* (42789) for further explanation of the International Phonetic Alphabet.

VIVA!

from *Il re pastore*

for T.T.B. voices and piano
with optional PianoTrax*

Music by
WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (1756-1791)
Edited and Arranged, with English Words, by
PATRICK M. LIEBERGEN



* Also available for S.A.T.B. (45601), S.A.B. (45602), and S.S.A. (48453).
PianoTrax 9 accompaniment CD available (45595). Visit *alfred.com* for digital scores and audio.

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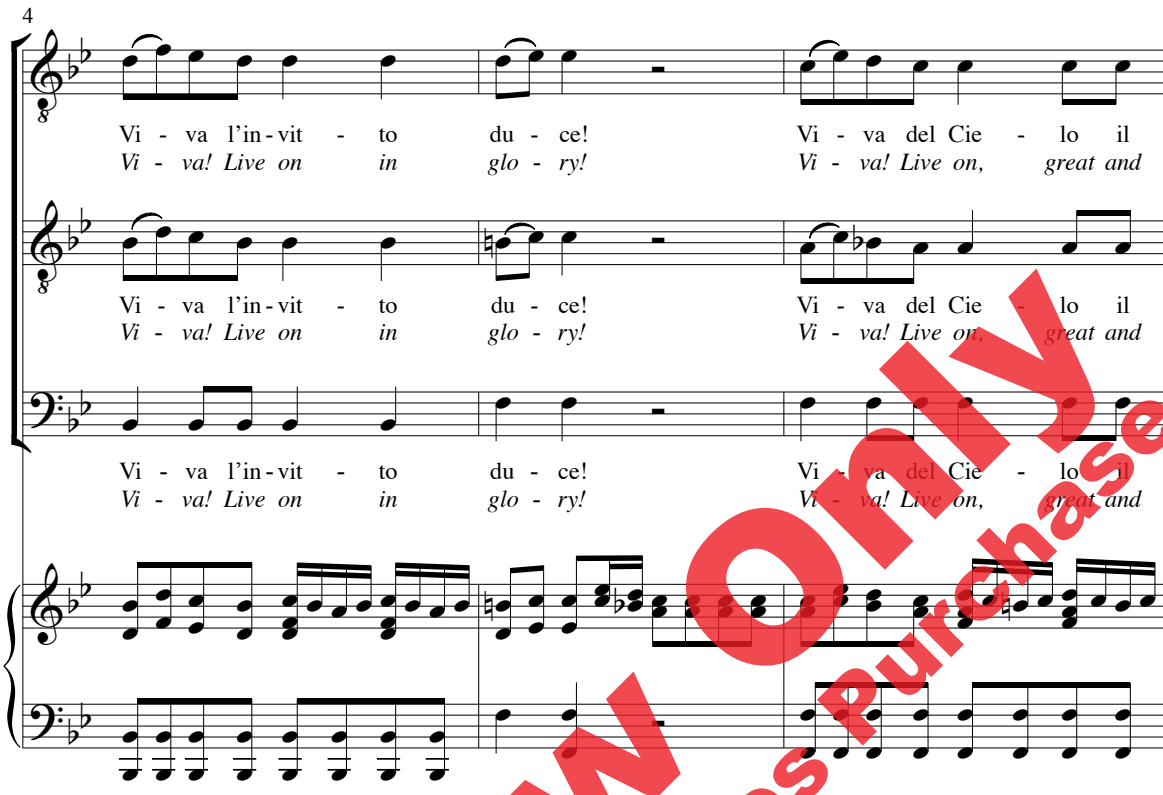

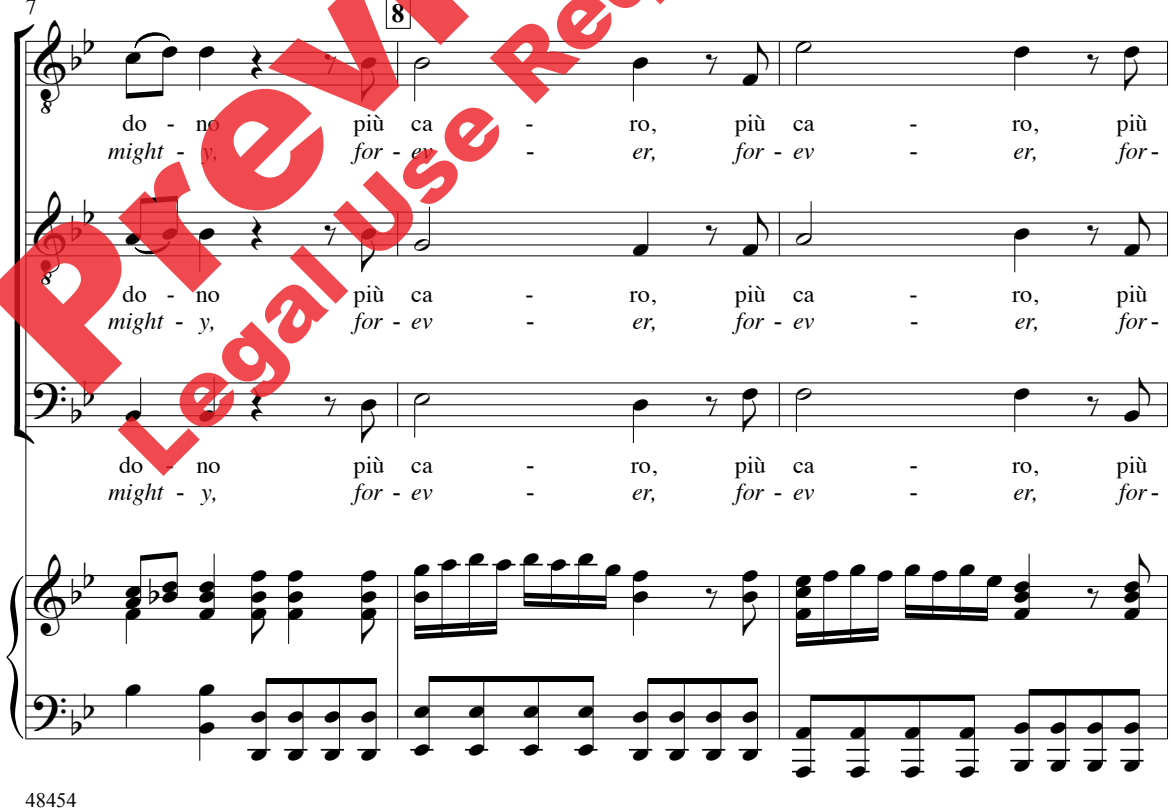

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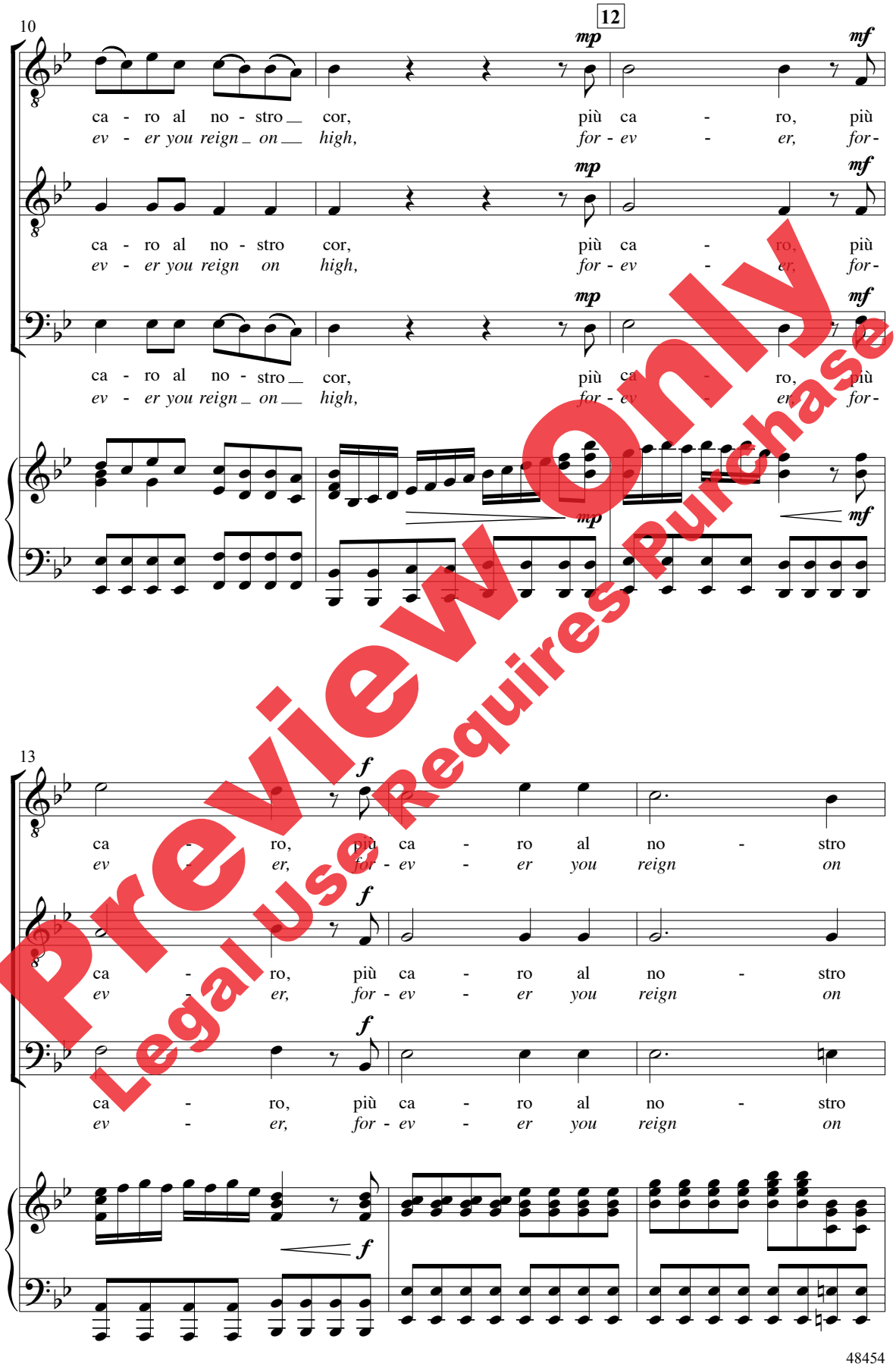

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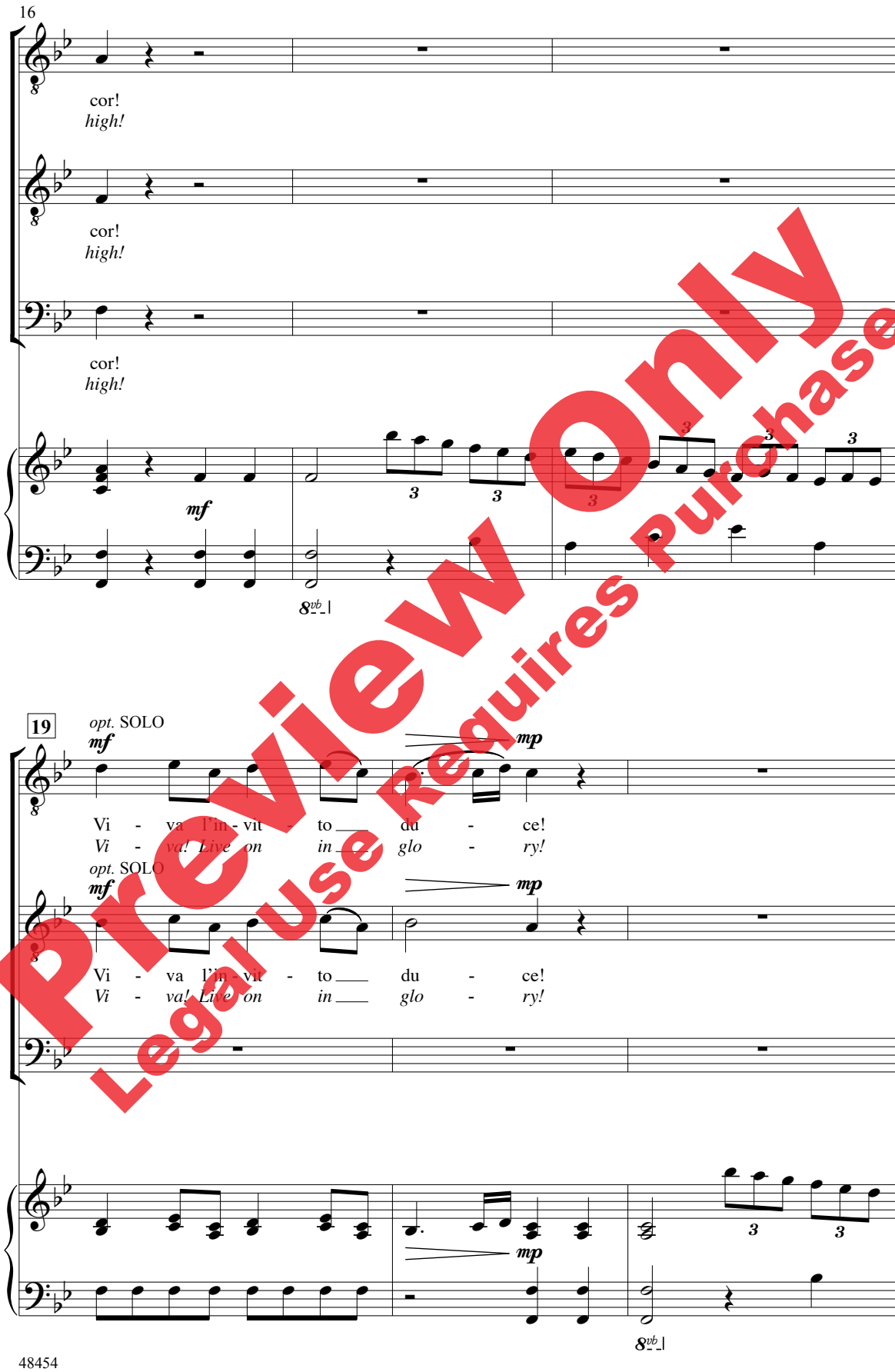

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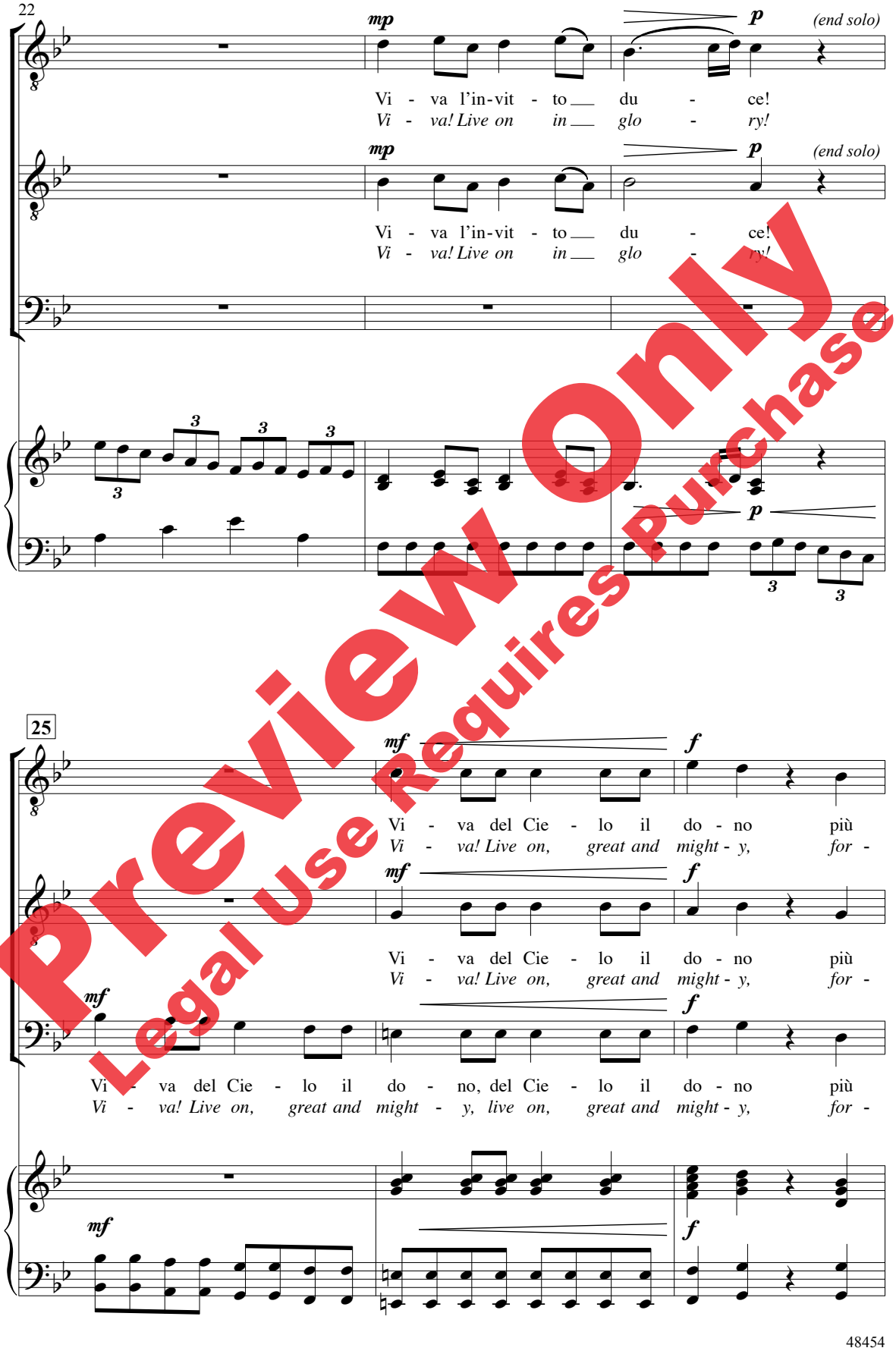

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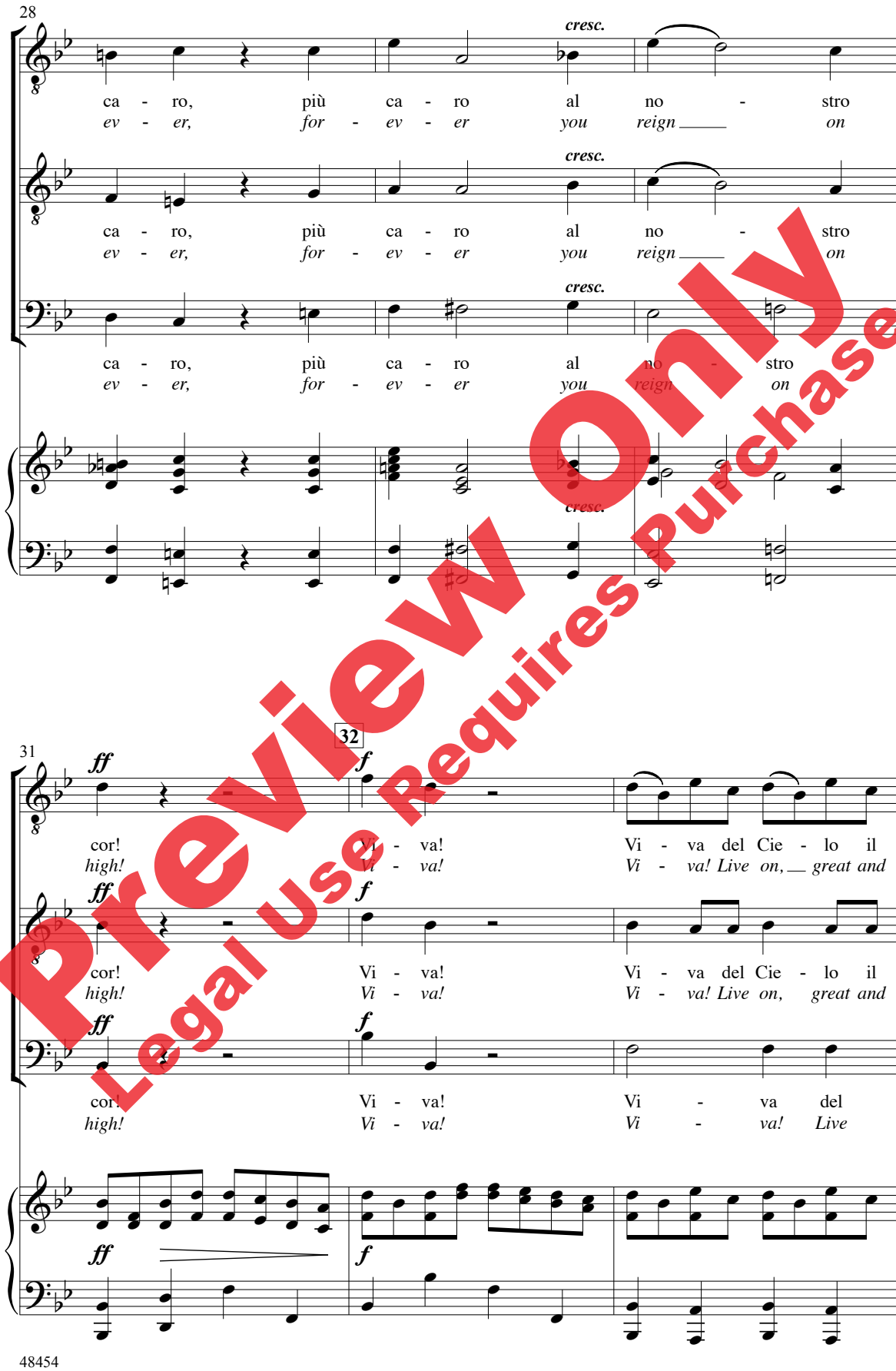

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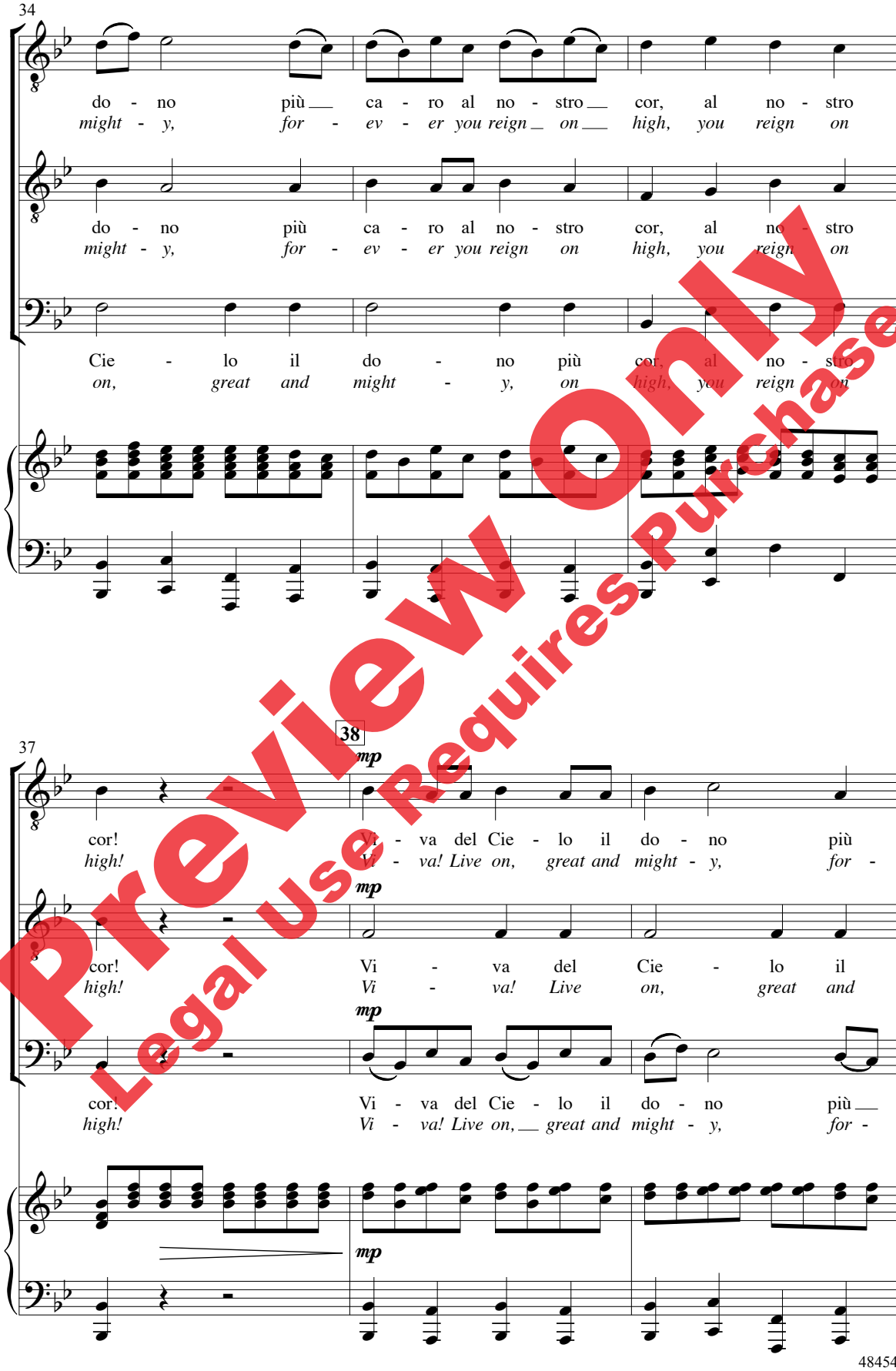

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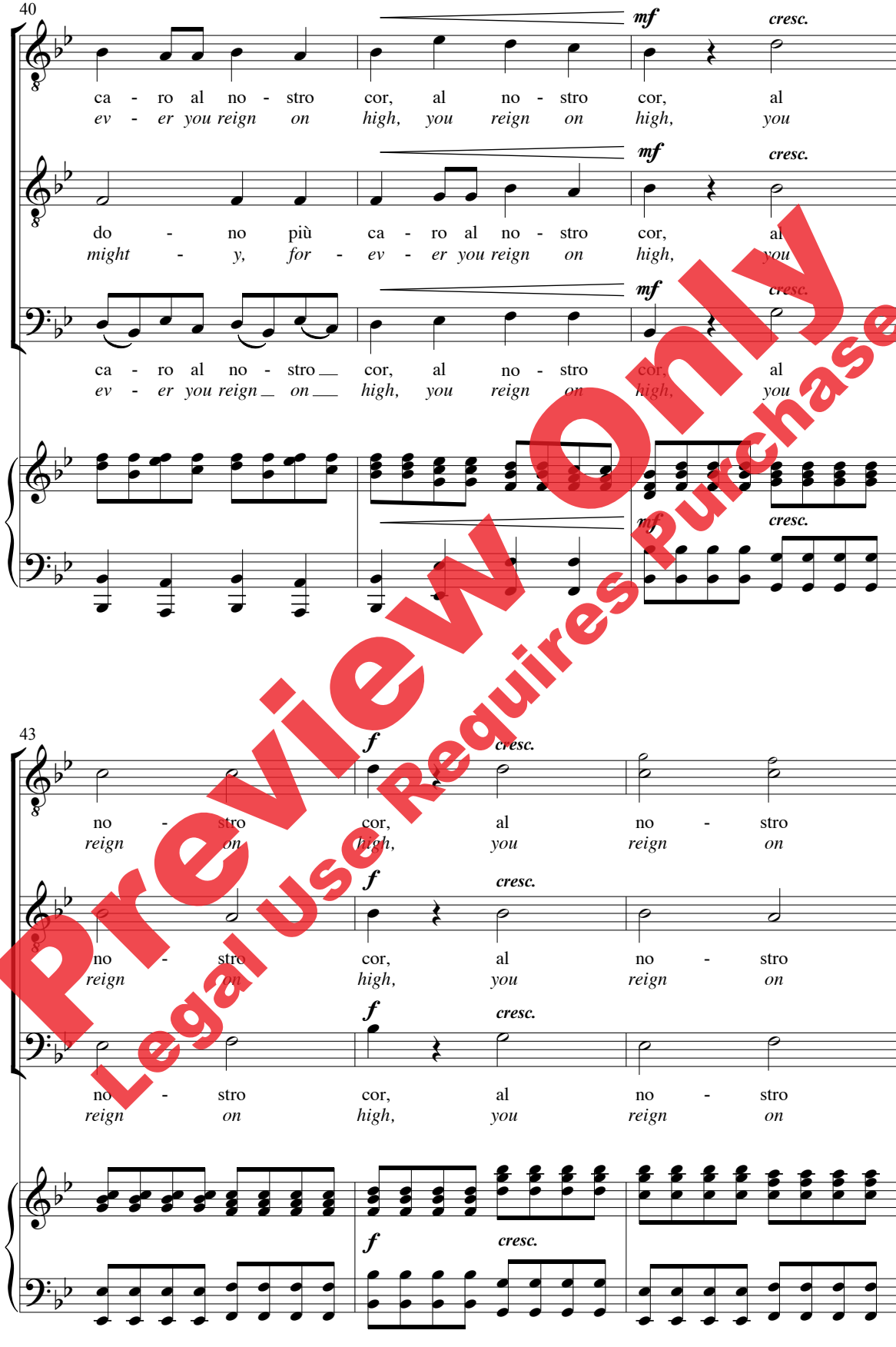

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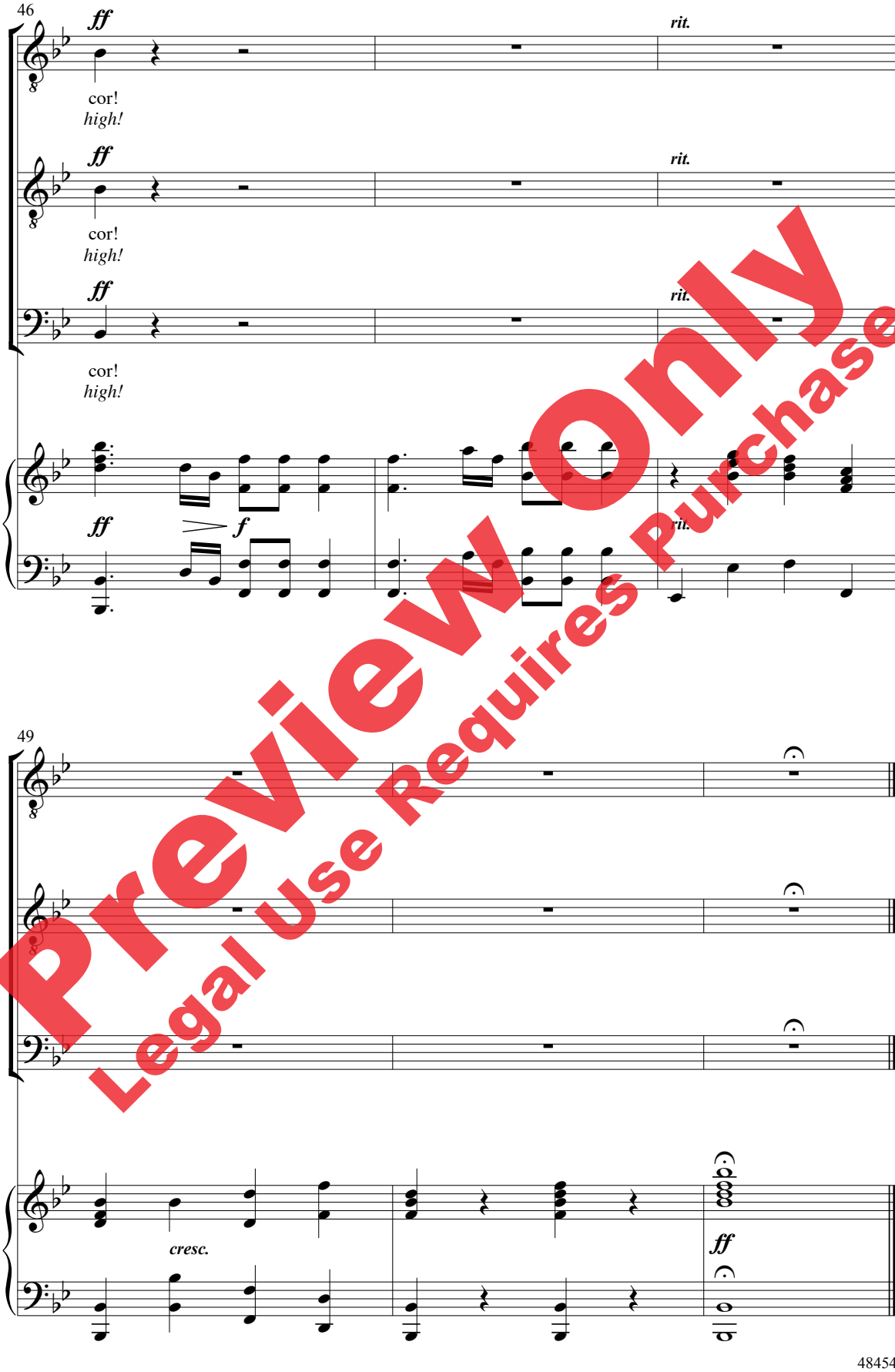

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