The Star-Spangled Banner

arranged for SATB *a cappella* choir by

Craig Courtney

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The Star-Spangled Banner

by Francis Scott Key

Francis Scott Key wrote the words to the Star-Spangled Banner while being detained on a British ship during the War of 1812. It was on that ship he witnessed the bombardment of Fort McHenry. The fort, under the command of Major George Armistead, withstood the attack. The sight of the American flag flying at dawn inspired Key's now immortal verses on his trip back to shore. The poem gained in popularity as sung to the tune "Anacreon in Heaven", most likely written by John Stafford Smith, a British composer.

The Star-Spangled Banner was adopted as the official national anthem in 1931 by an act of congress.

Oh say! Can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
O say, does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore dimly seen throughout the mists of the deep
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes
What is that which the breeze o'er the towering steep
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam
In full glory reflected now shines on the stream.
'Tis the Star-Spangled Banner, Oh long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

And where is that band who so hauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion
A home and country, shall leave us no more?
Their blood was washed out their foul foot steps pollution
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From terror of flight or the gloom of the grave.
And the Star-Spangled Banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Oh thus be it e'er when free men shall stand
Between their lov'd homes and war's desolation!
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n rescued land
Praise the Pow'r that has made and preserved us a nation
And conquer we must when our cause is just
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."
And the Star-Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

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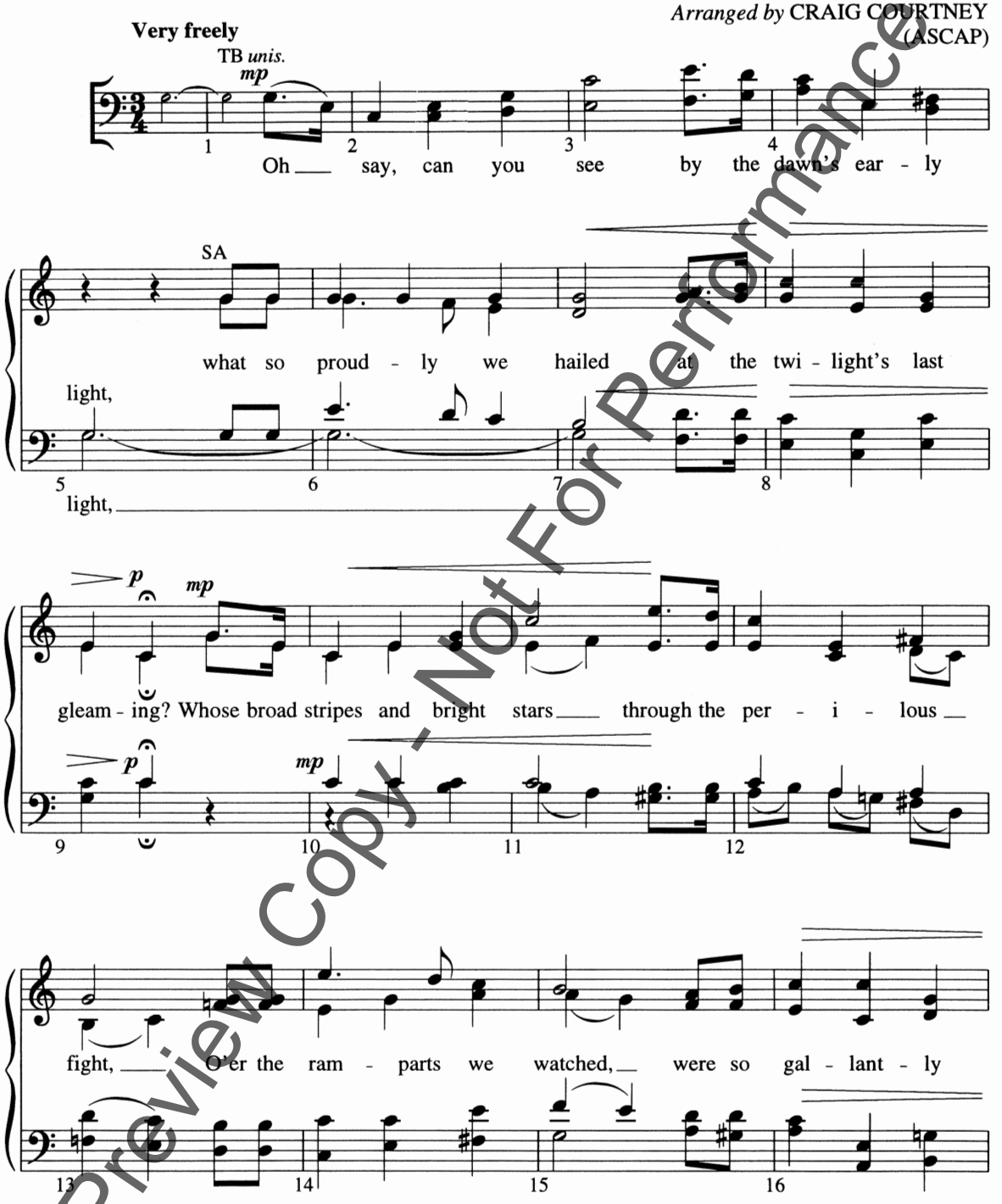
The Star-Spangled Banner

For A Cappella SATB* (SSATBB) Choir
May be performed with Concert Band arrangement (CB1)**

Francis Scott Key

John Stafford Smith
Arranged by CRAIG COURTNEY
(ASCAP)



* Although this anthem may be sung in its entirety, measures 1-33 may be performed alone as an SATB setting. An SSATTB voicing may be performed by beginning at the third beat of measure 37.

** Full Score and Parts for Concert Band (CB1) are available for purchase.

BP1640-3

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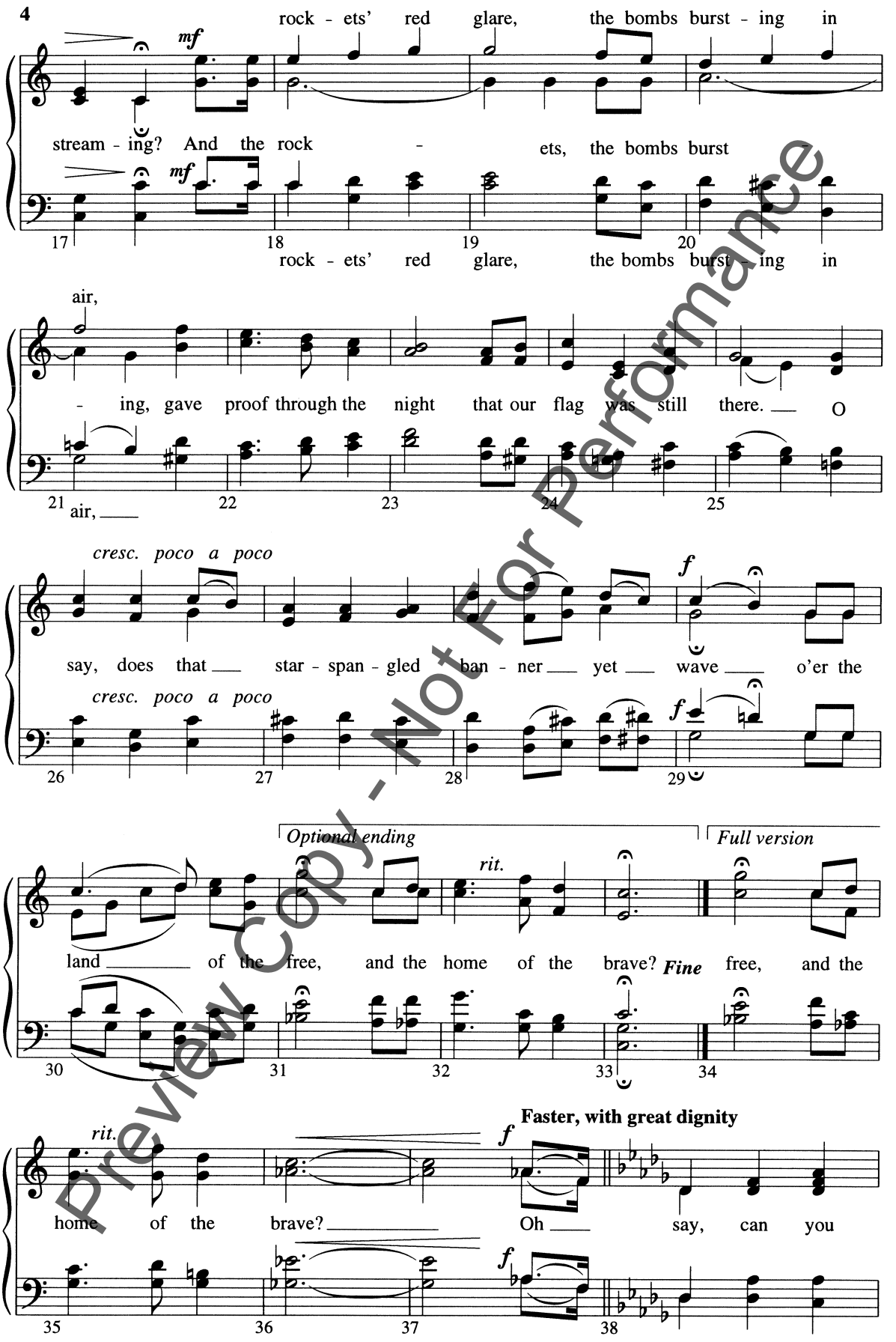

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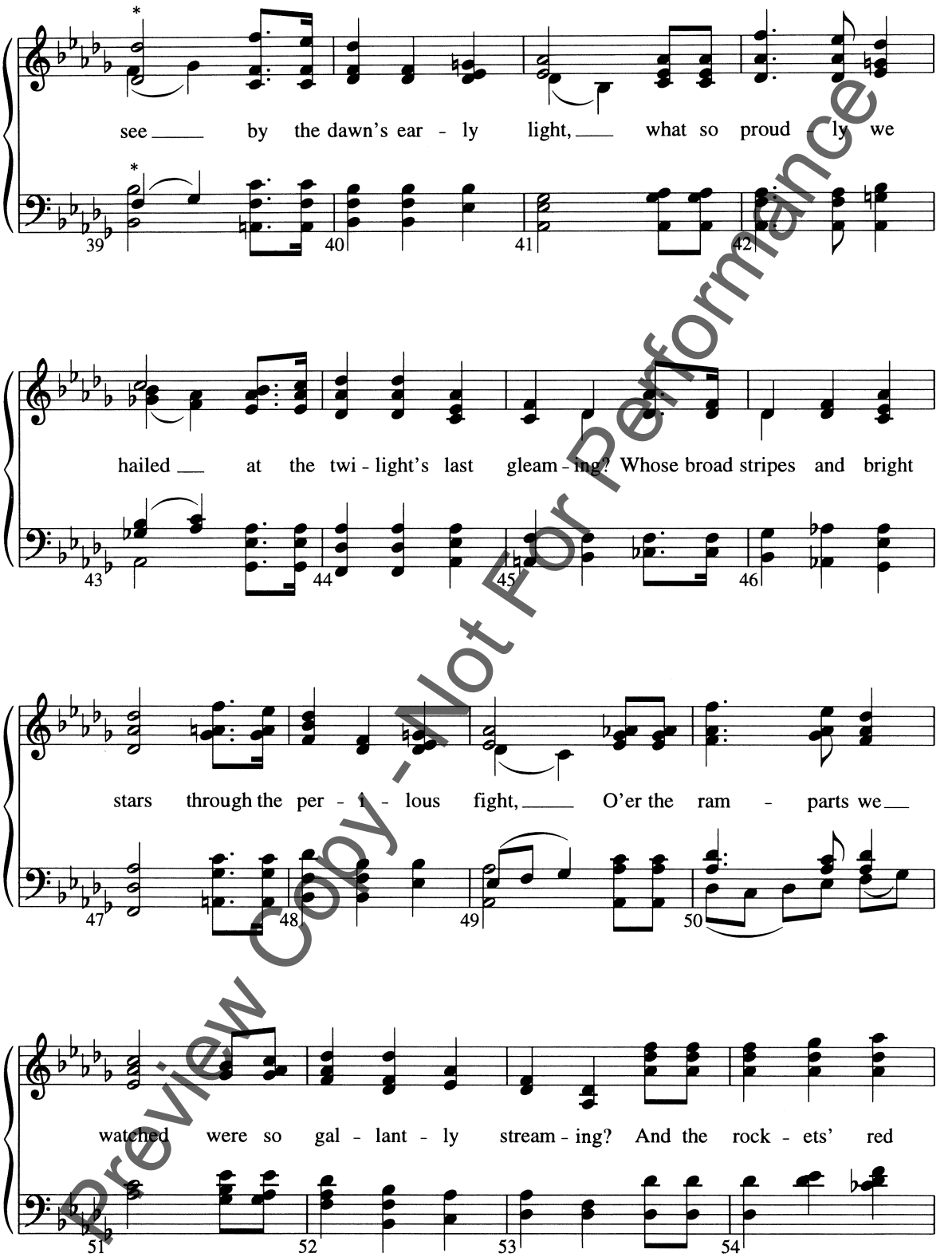

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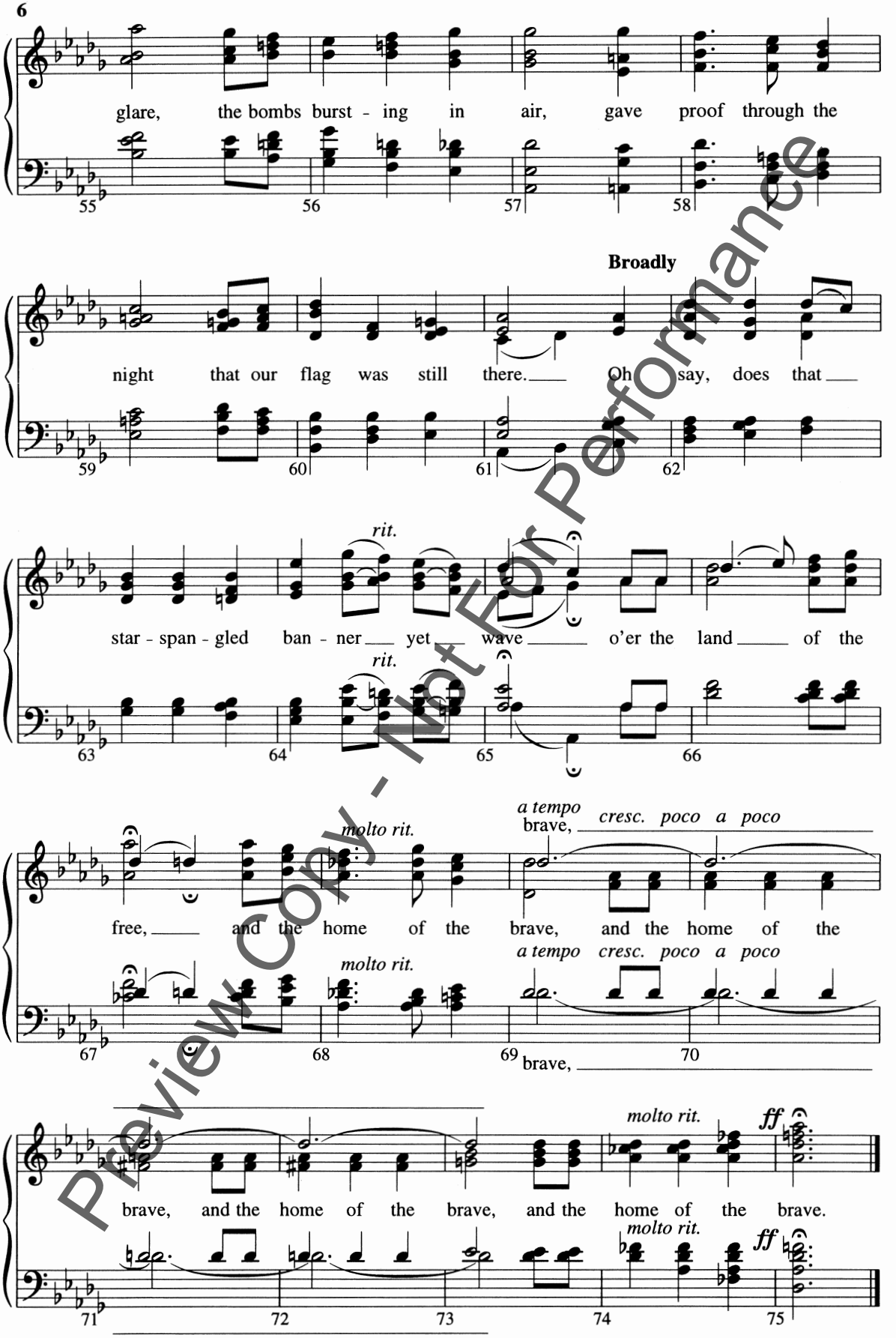
* Throughout, vocal division is determined by pitch rather than by stem direction, i.e., top note sop.I and ten.; middle note sop.II and baritone; bottom note alto and bass.



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the seasonal choral music of Craig Courtney

All Saints' Day	
Blessed Are You (BP1538)	SATB
Canticle of Heaven (BP1475)	SATB
There Is a Time (BP1463)	SATB
We Would See Jesus (BP1502)	SATB
Christ the King/Transfiguration	
Coronation (BP1273)	SATB
Crown Him With Many Crowns (BP1325)	SATB
Hark, Ten Thousand Harps and Voices (BP1498)	SATB
Rejoice, the Lord Is King (BP1476)	SATB
Christmas	
Away in a Manger (BP1333)	2-Part
Child of the Manger, Child of the Cross (BP1283)	SATB
Christmas Choral Fantasy (BP1308)	SATB
I Miss You Most at Christmastime (BP1443)	SATB
Lullabies for the Christ Child (BP1503)	SATB
O Holy Night (BP1332)	SATB
Silent Night (BP1366)	SATB
Where Shepherds Lately Knelt (BP1480)	SATB
Communion	
How Beautiful (BP1639)	SATB
Let Us Break Bread Together (BP1435)	SATB
Easter	
Awake, Awake! (BP1381)	SATB
Coronation (BP1273)	SATB
Crown Him With Many Crowns (BP1325)	SATB
Hark, Ten Thousand Harps and Voices (BP1498)	SATB
Hymn of Gladness (BP1429)	SATB
I Know That My Redeemer Lives (BP1563)	SATB
Sing, Ye Faithful, Sing with Gladness (BP1454)	SATB
Tomb Stands Open Wide, The (BP1297)	SATB
Lent	
Behold the Lamb of God (BP1420)	SATB
Cross, The (BP1526)	SATB
He Was Wounded (BP1272)	SATB
Let This Mind Be In You (BP1411)	SATB
None Other Lamb (BP1301)	SATB
Passacaglia of Praise (BP1357)	SATB
Thy Will Be Done (BP1263)	SATB
Who Is the One? (BP1300)	SATB
Maundy Thursday	
View From the Upper Room (BP1567)	SATB
Palm Sunday	
Hosanna! (BP1386)	SATB
Hosanna to Jesus (BP1452)	SATB
Procession and Hymn for Palm Sunday (BP1536)	SATB
Patriotic	
Rejoice, the Lord Is King (BP1476)	SATB
Star-Spangled Banner, The (BP1640)	SATB
Pentecost	
Be Filled With the Spirit (BP1548)	SATB
Hymn to the Holy Spirit (BP1559)	SATB
Invocation (BP1274)	3-Part
Thanksgiving	
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come (BP1401)	SATB
For the Beauty of the Earth (BP1533)	SATB
Give Thanks to God (BP1311)	SATB
Great Is Thy Faithfulness (BP1522)	SATB
Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above (BP1489)	SATB

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