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 tremendously talented 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.

"Alleluia" is from the fourth and final movement of Mozart's *Regina Coeli*, K. 108. Written in Salzburg in May, 1771, it is the first of his three *Regina Coeli* settings. Mozart completed it when he was just fifteen years old, two months after he returned from his first visit to Italy. It was on that Italian tour that Mozart went to Bologna to study composition with Padre Martini. This *Regina Coeli* is one of the products of that visit, reflecting the secular Italian influence.

Mozart's settings of *Regina Coeli* were originally intended for performance between Easter and Pentecost, when services dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary were regularly held in Salzburg. The text in praise and devotion of the Blessed Virgin Mary (*Regina coeli, laetare*-Queen of heaven, rejoice) is one of the four Marian Antiphons traditionally sung at the conclusion of Compline and Vespers services during that time of year.

The source for this edition is *W. A. Mozart's Sämtliche Werke*, III, published by Breitkopf and Härtel (1876-1905). Scored originally for S.A.T.B. voices and soprano soloist with an accompaniment of oboes, trumpets, trombones, strings, continuo, organ, and timpani, this arrangement includes only the S.A.T.B. vocal parts and a piano reduction of the instrumental parts as the accompaniment. Modern clefs, dynamics, and the metronomic marking have been added by the editor.

This joyous setting should be performed very energetically, always emphasizing the normally stressed syllable "lu" of the word "alleluia." An accent mark is indicated over that syllable in the following pronunciation guide.

Latin Pronunciation Guide

Al-le-lu-ia.
Ahl-leh-loó-yah.

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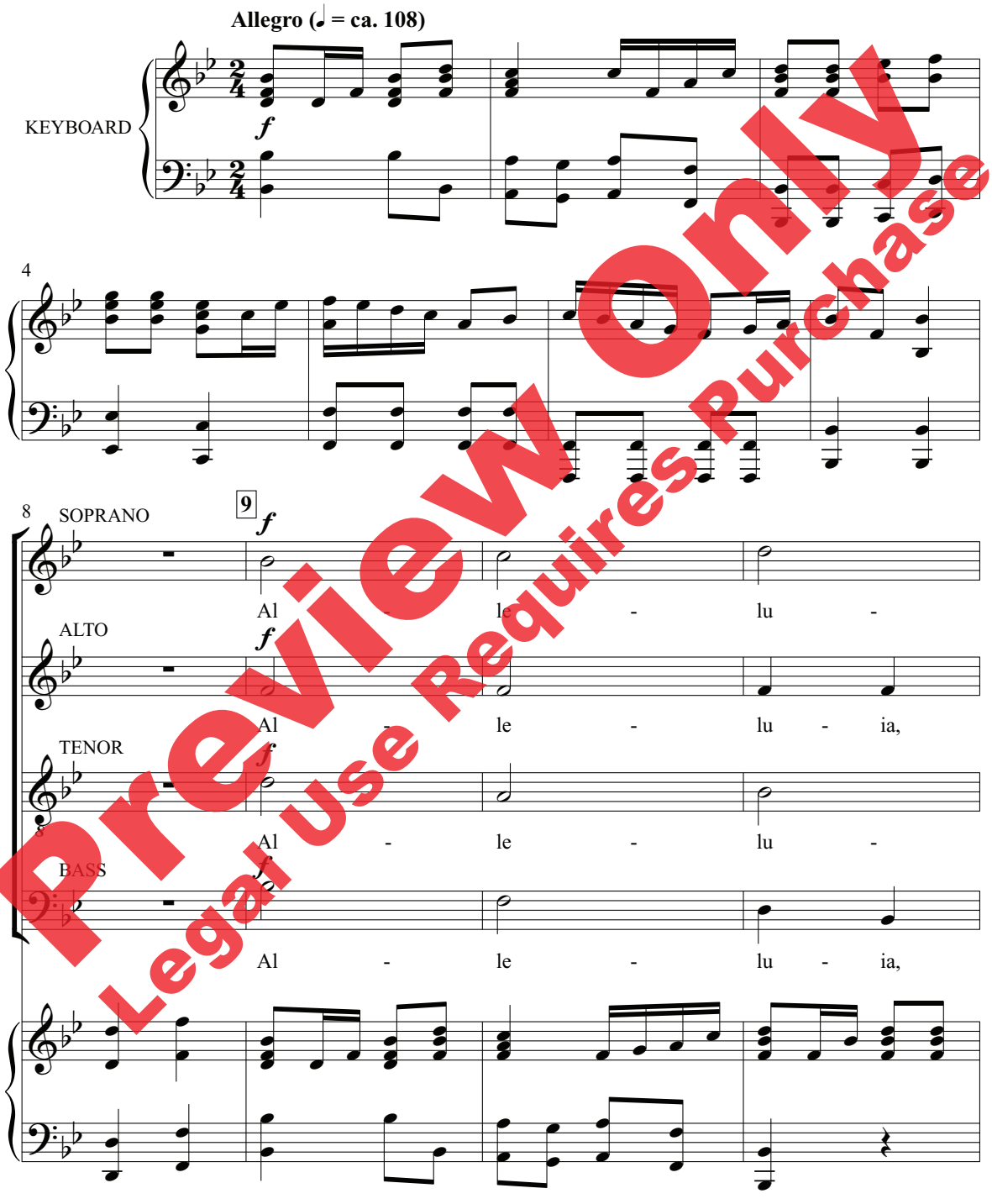
ALLELUIA

from *Regina Coeli*, K. 108

for S.A.T.B. voices and keyboard
with optional PianoTrax CD*

Edited and Arranged by
PATRICK M. LIEBERGEN

Music by
WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (1756-1791)



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* PianoTrax 3 Accompaniment CD available (34744).

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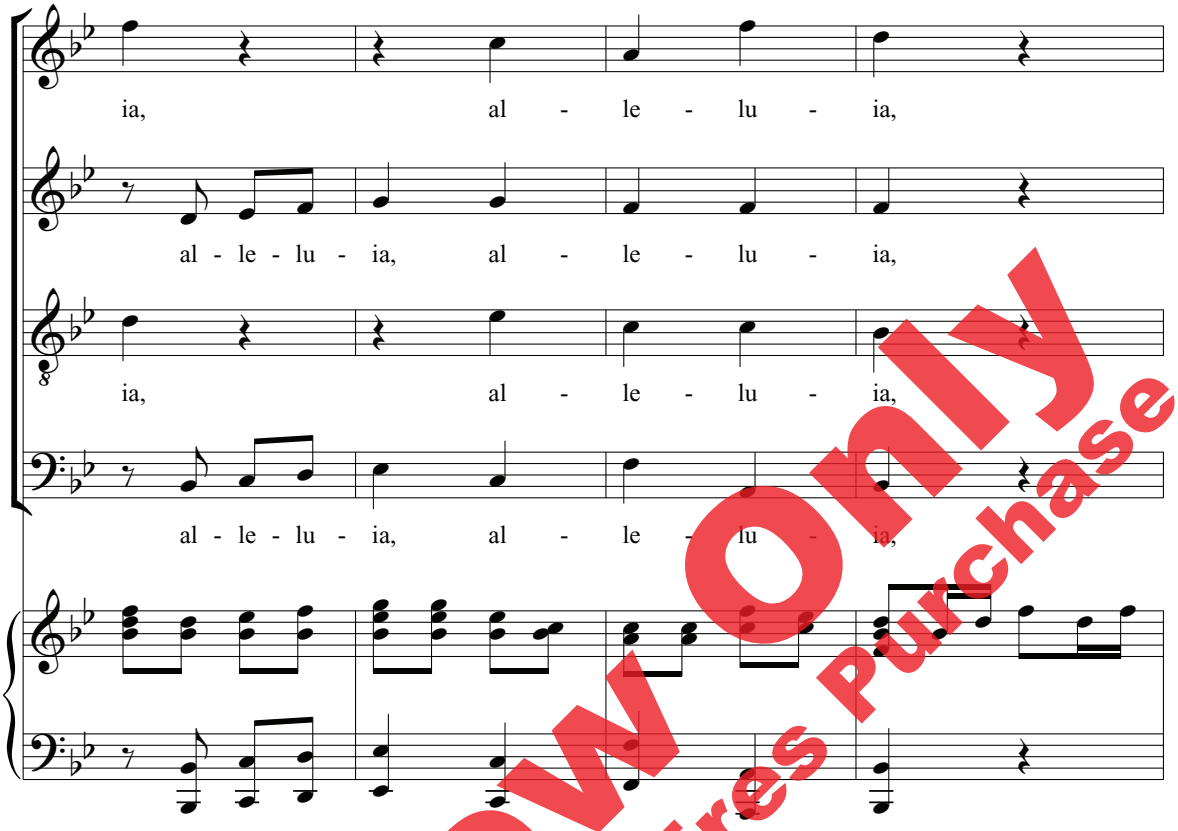

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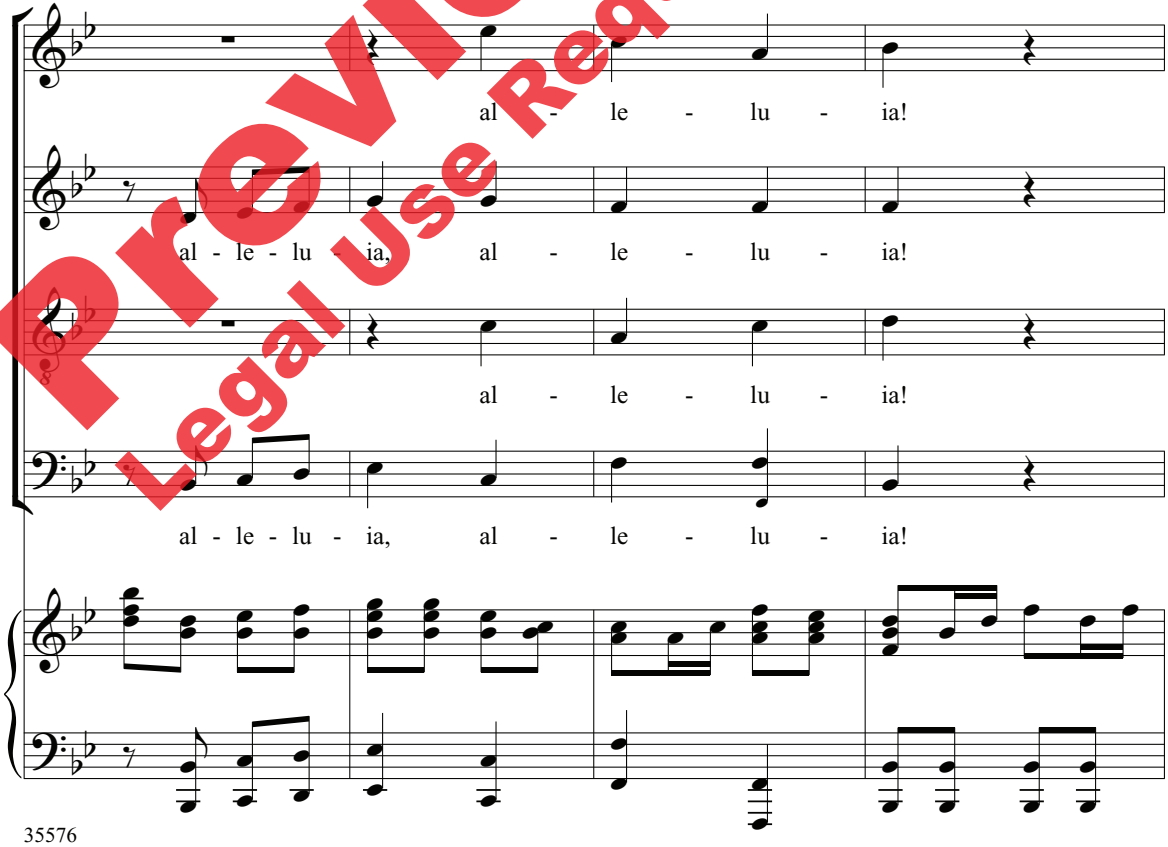

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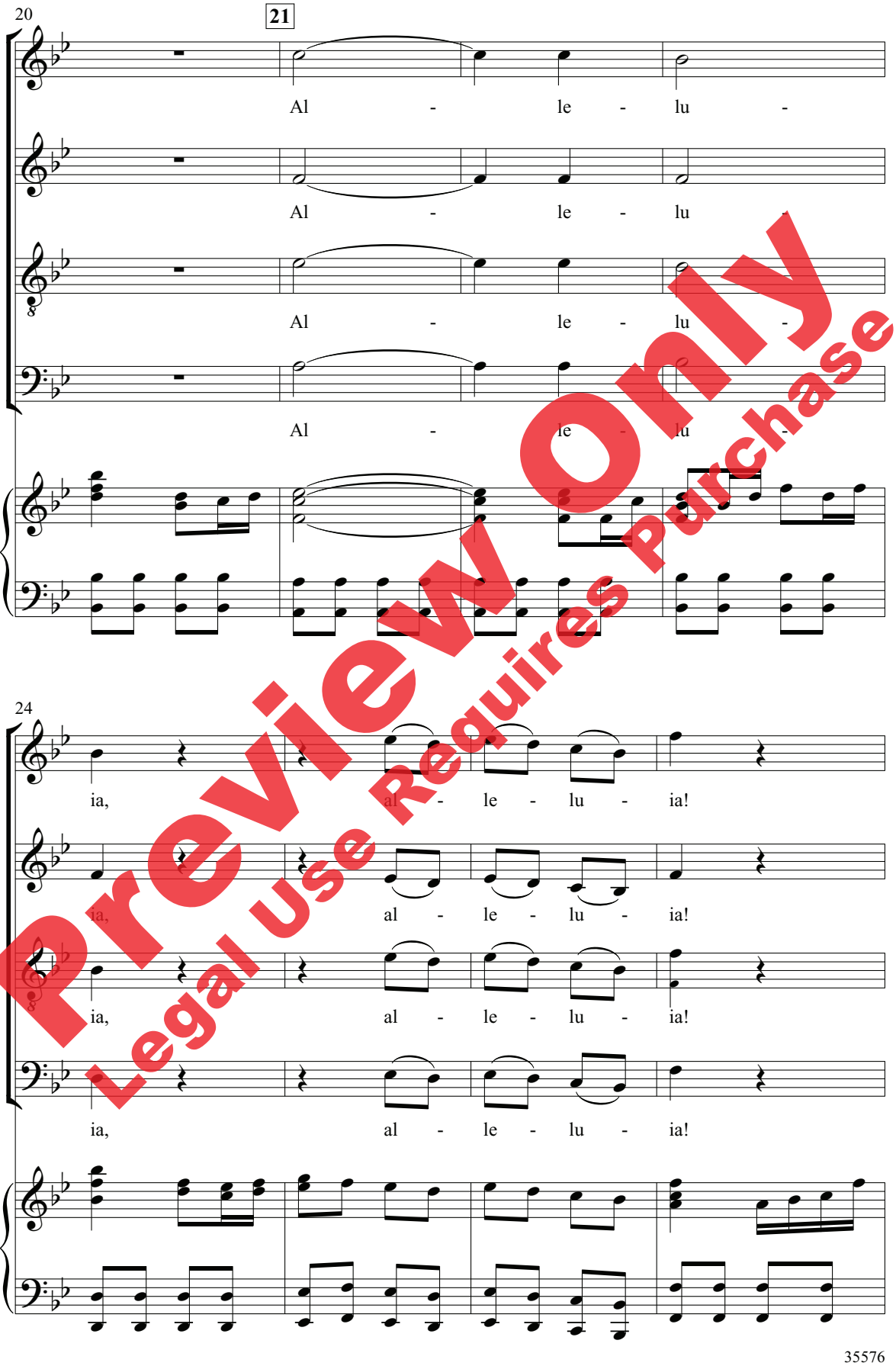

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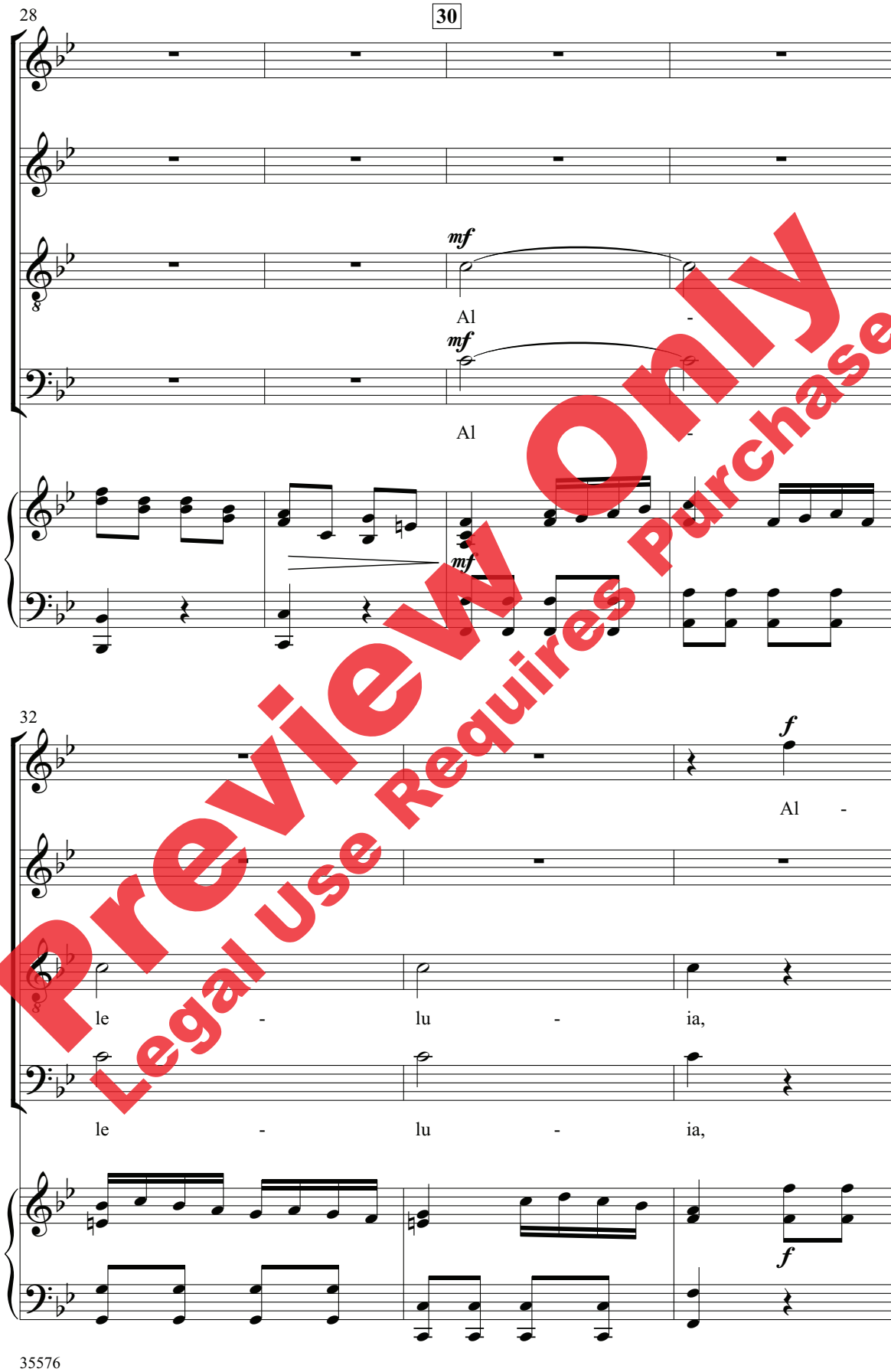

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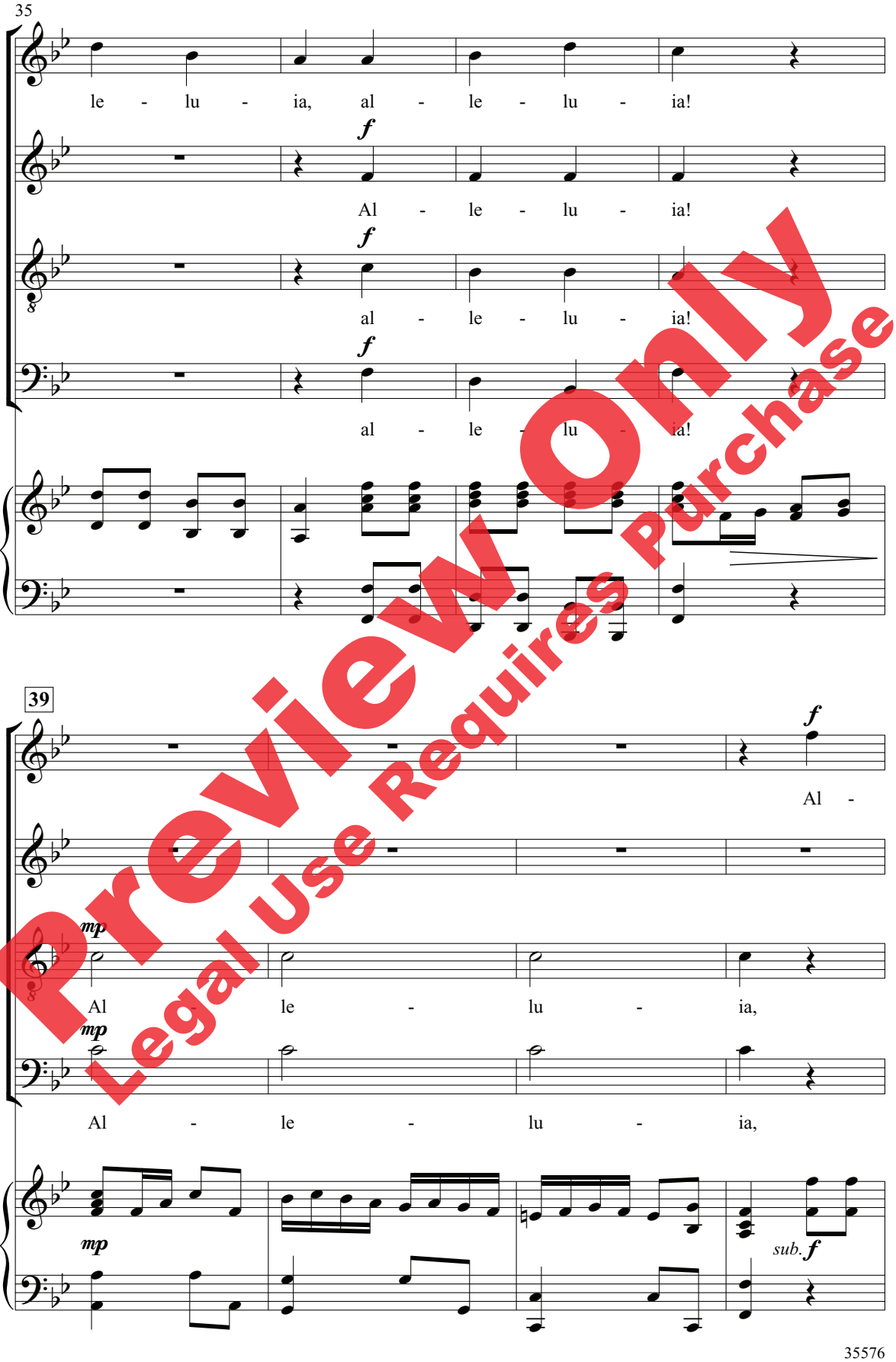

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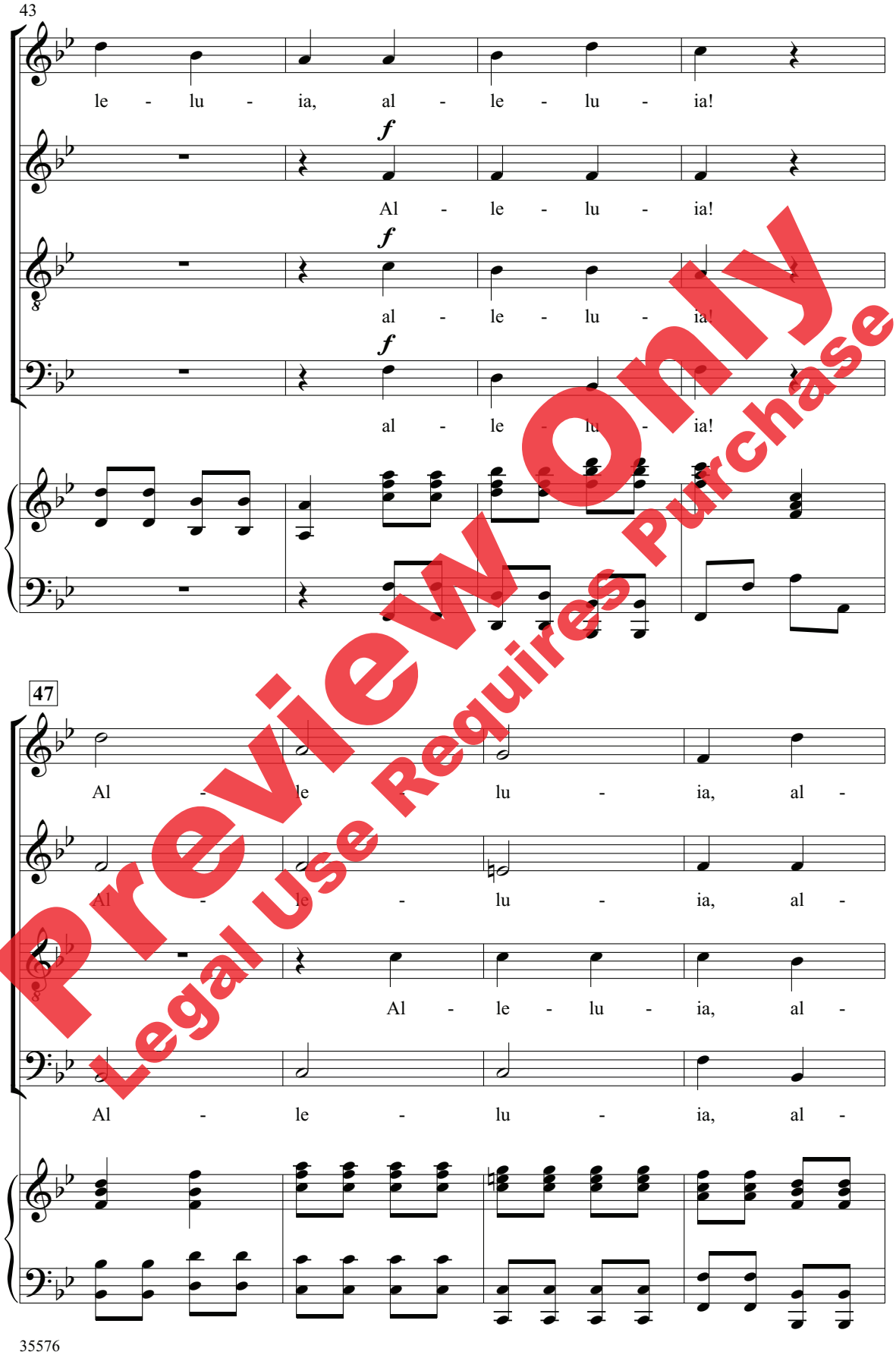

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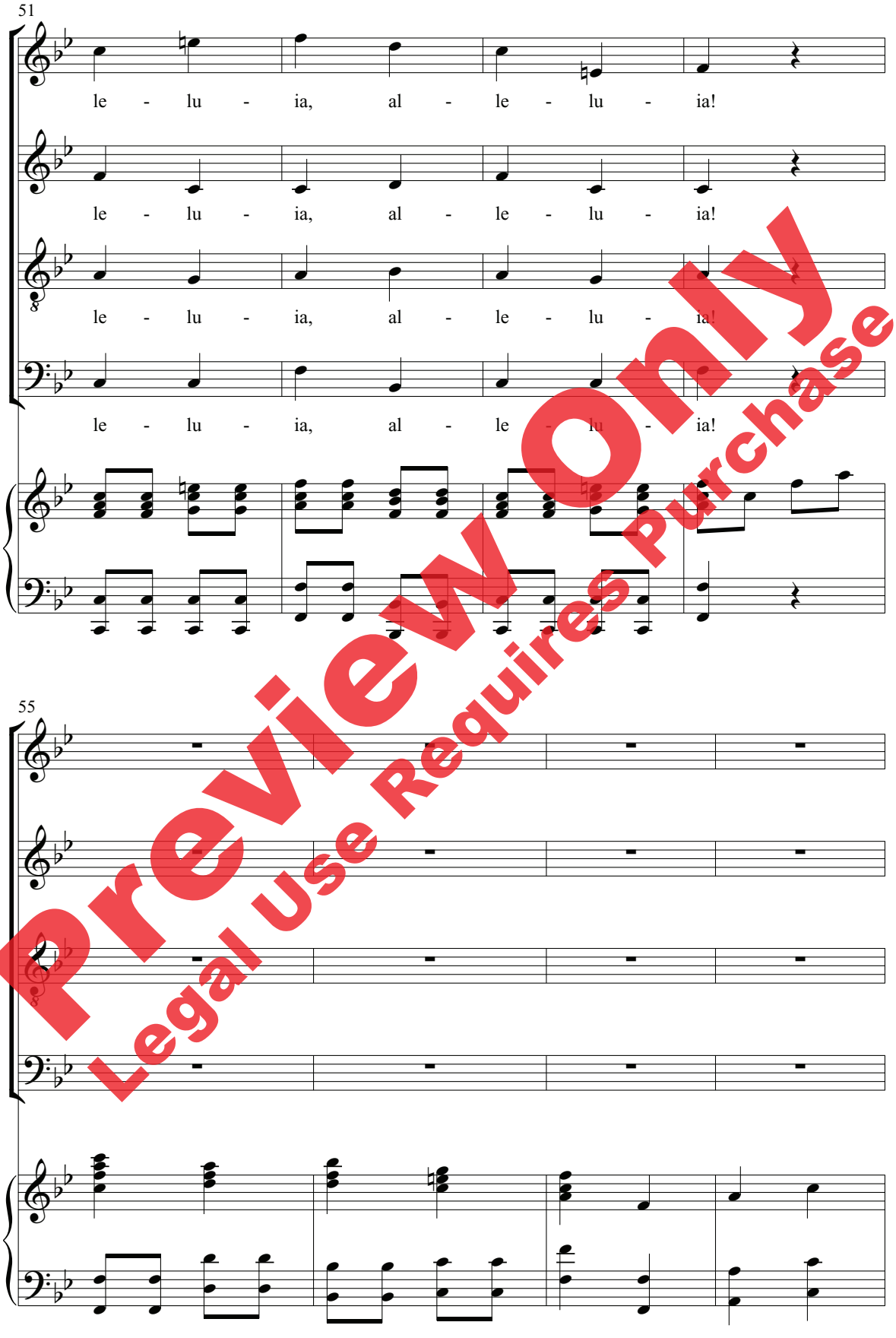

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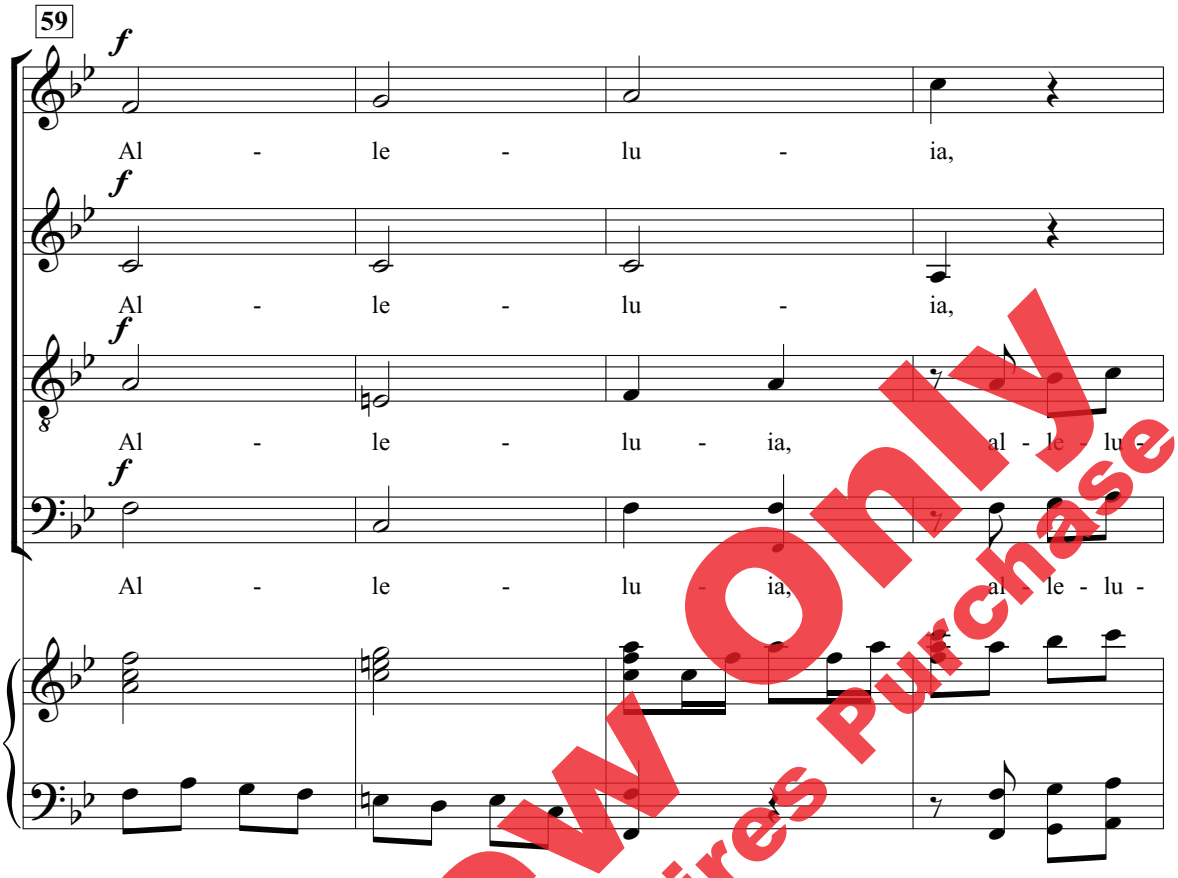

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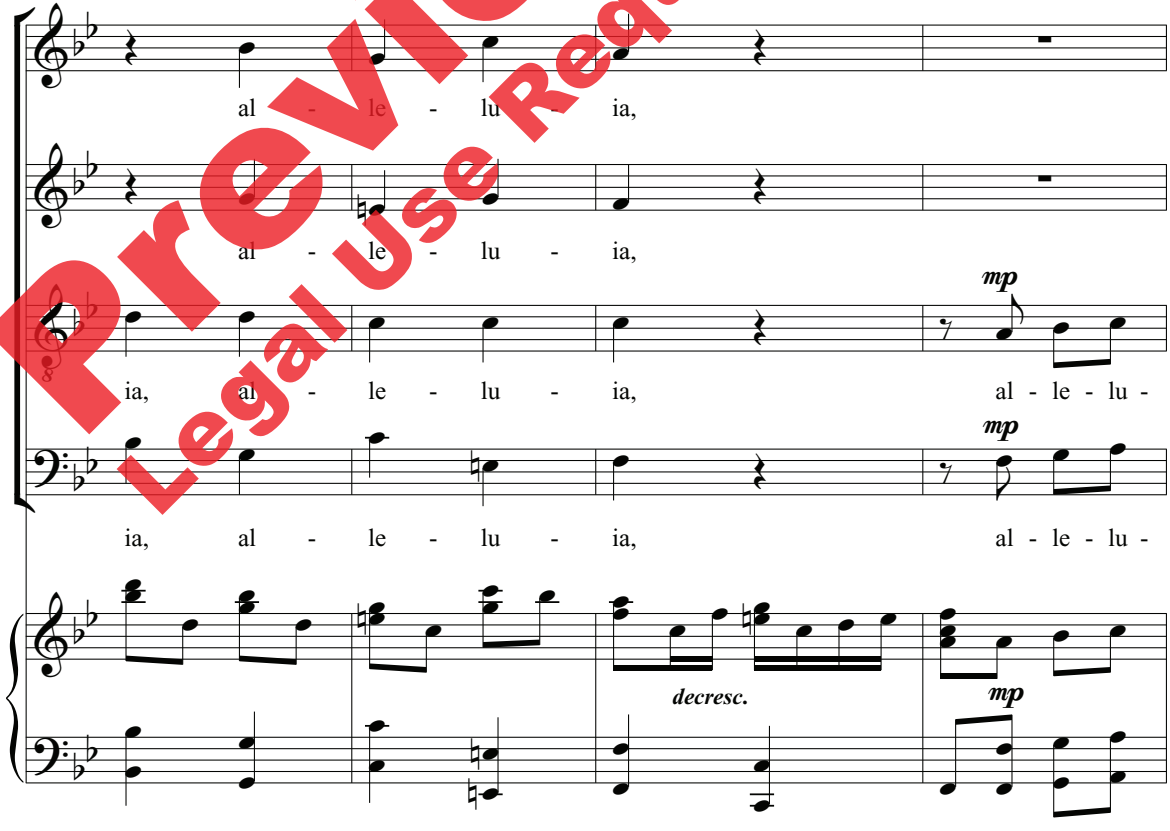

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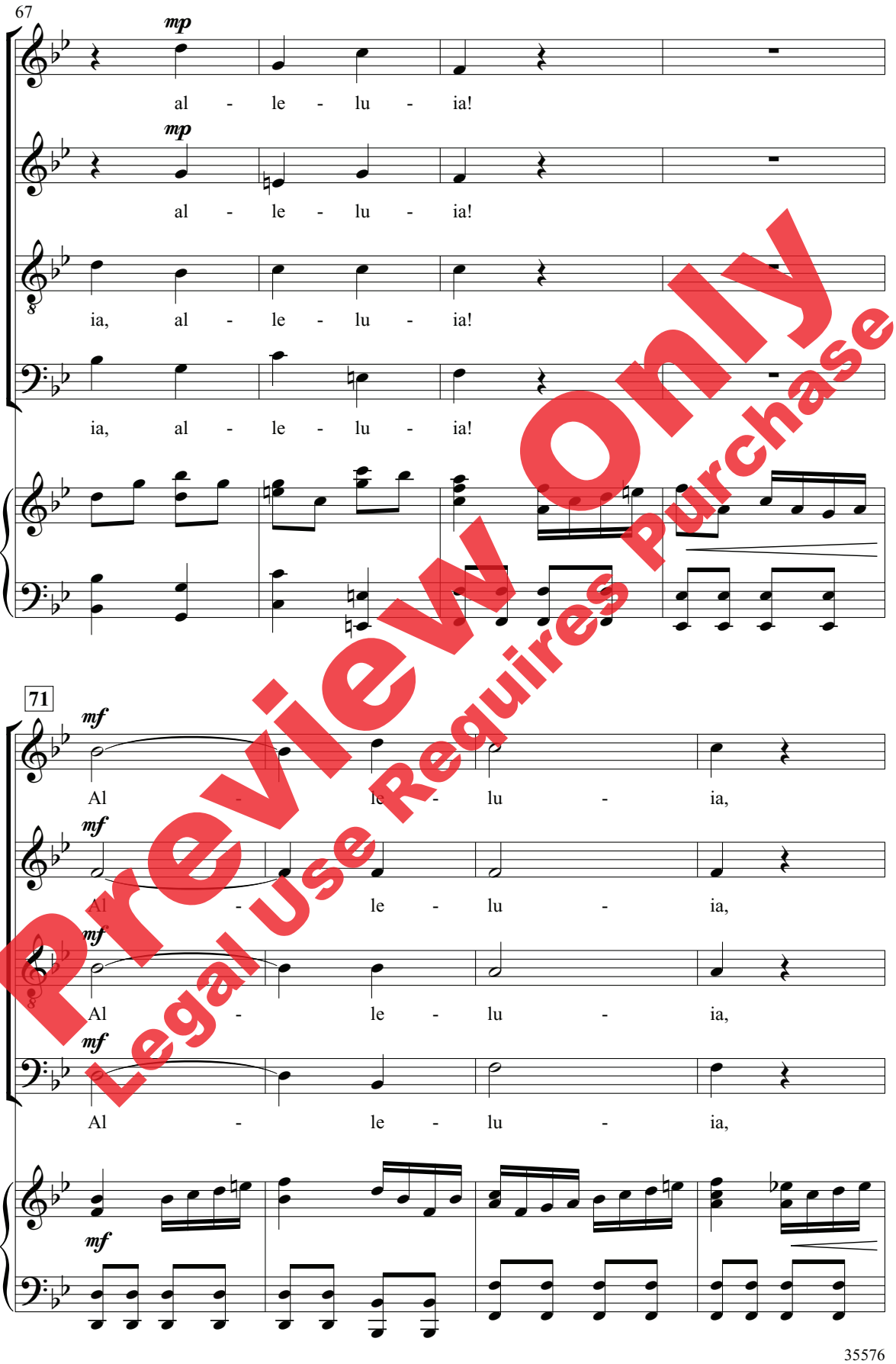

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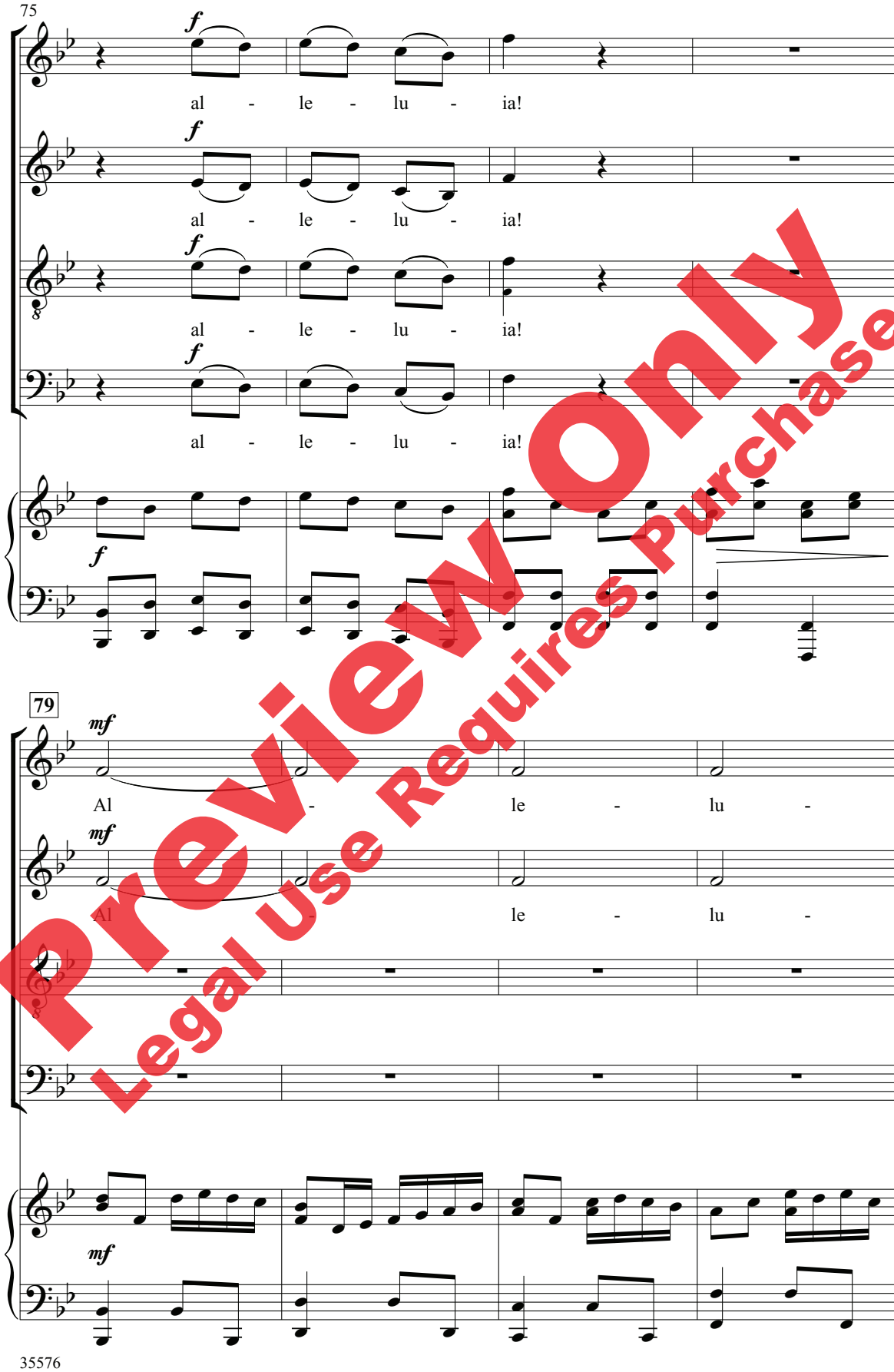

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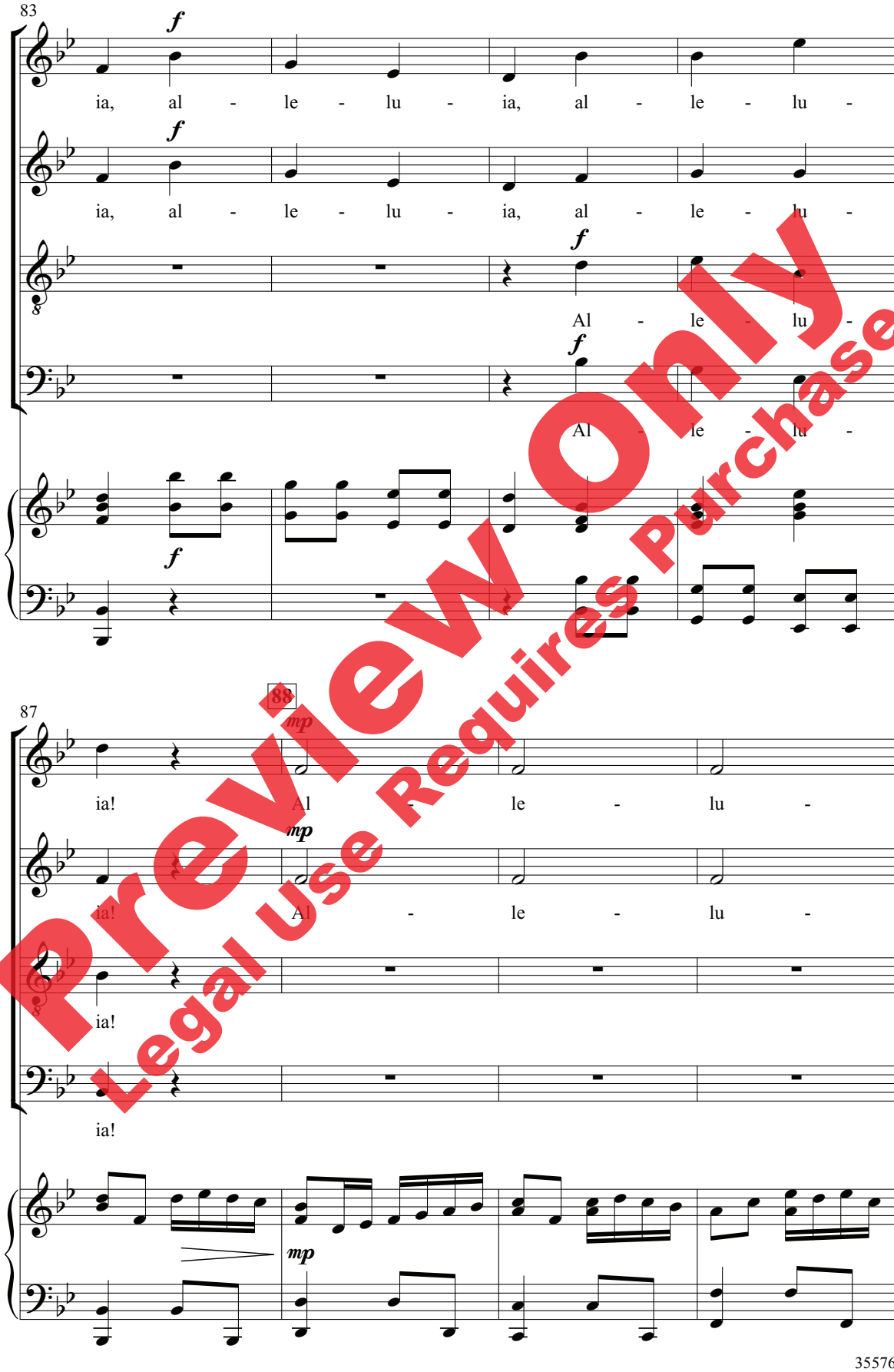

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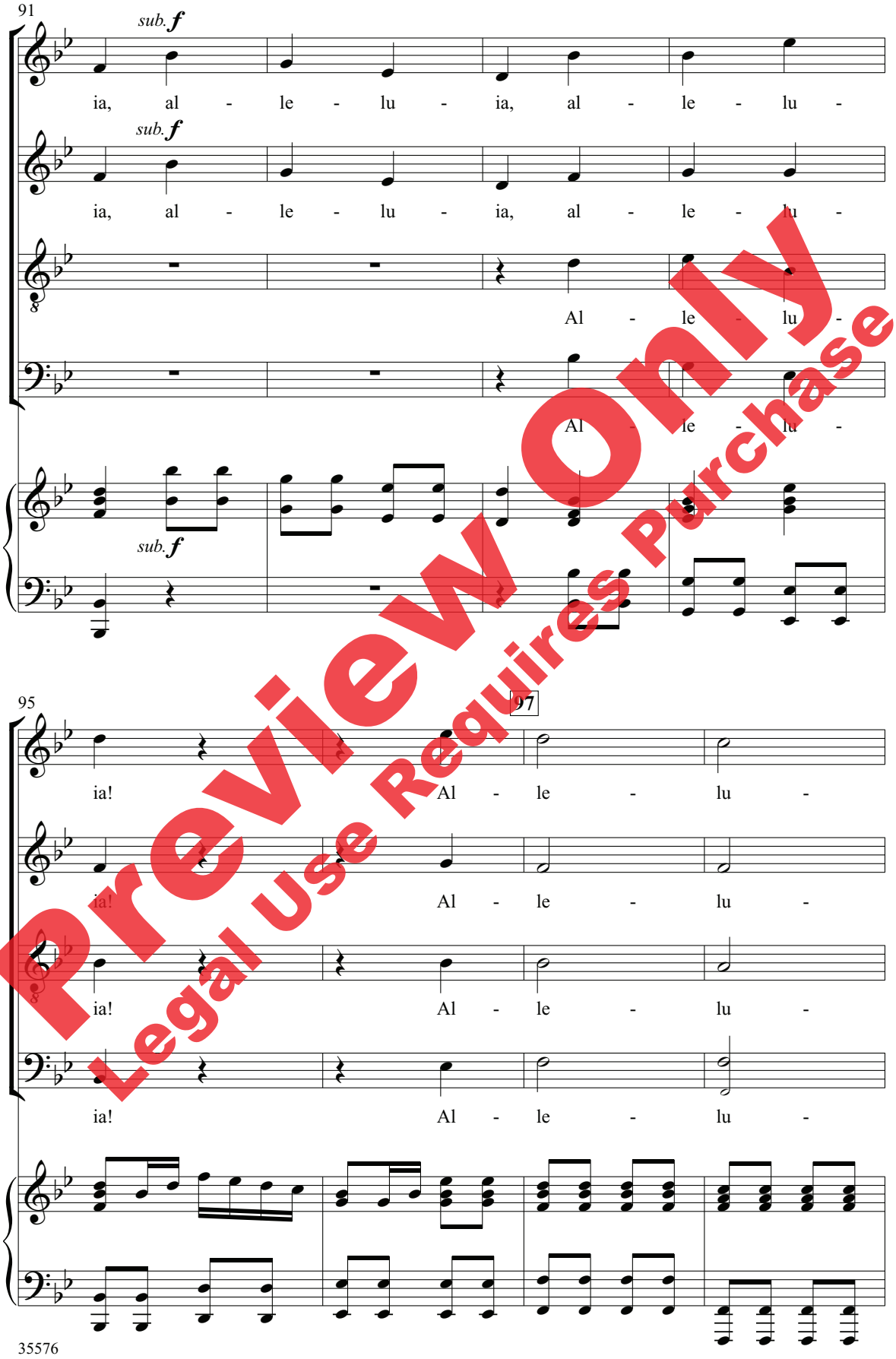

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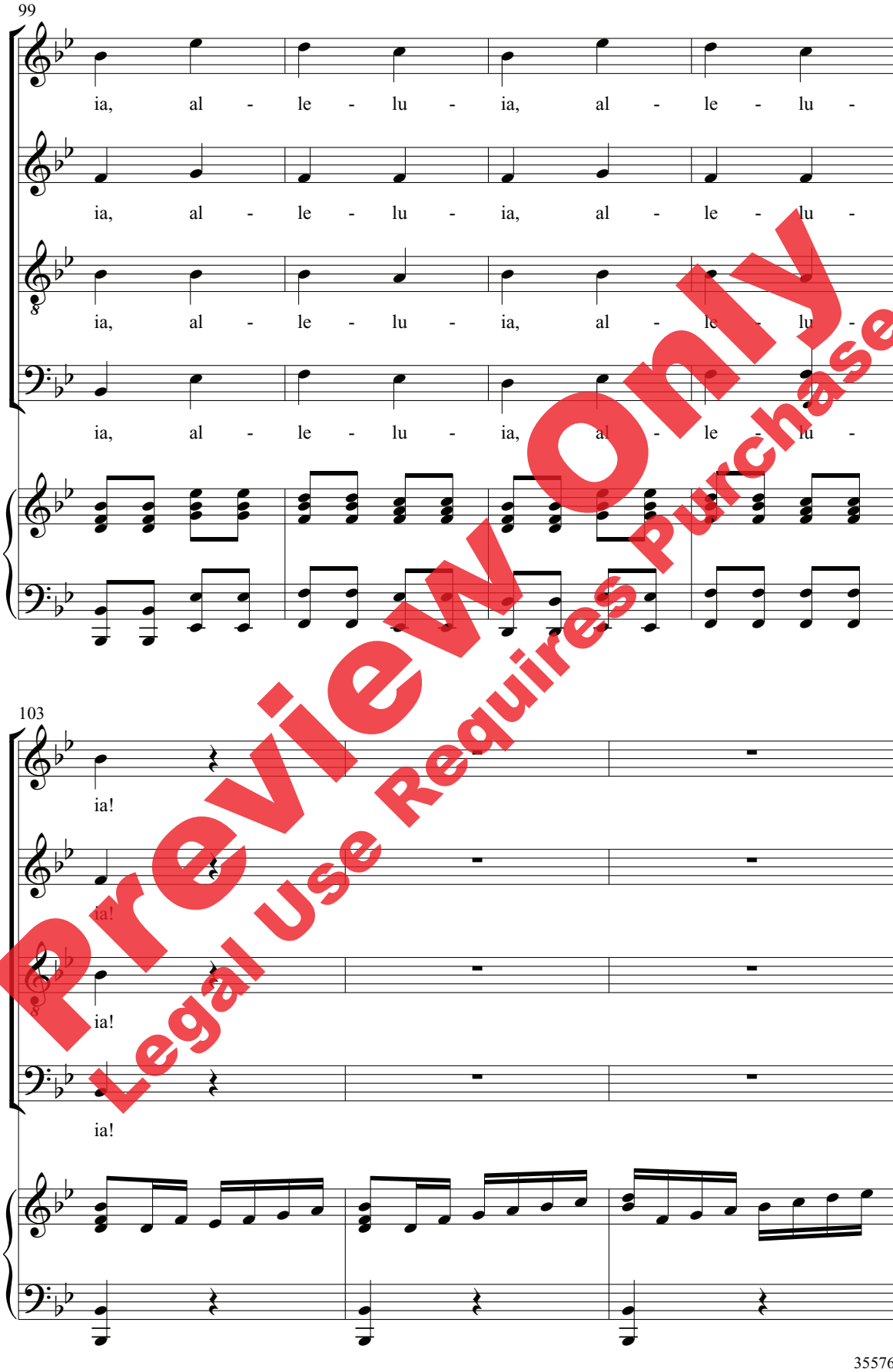

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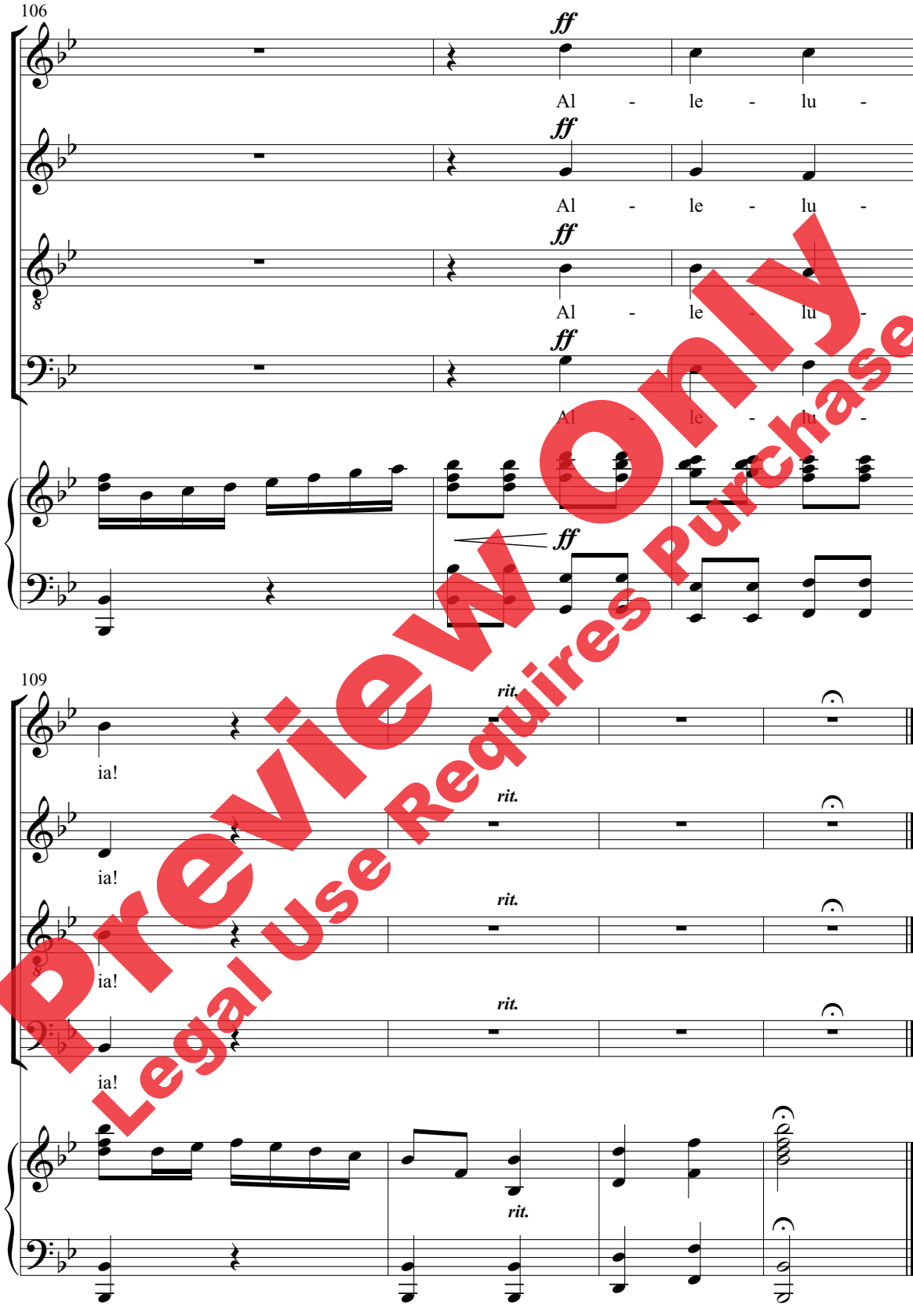

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