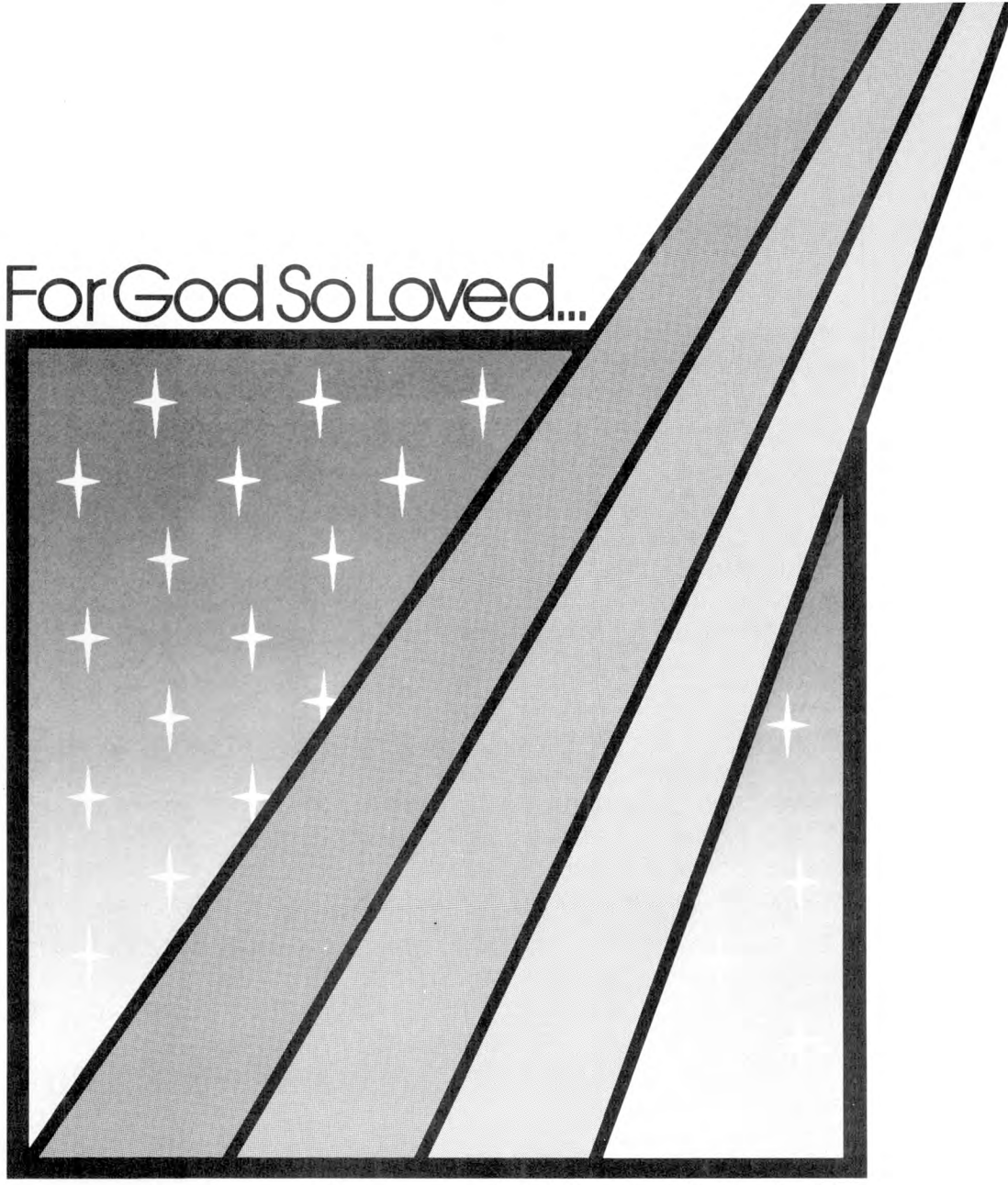
For God So Loved...



a celebration of Christ's birth

by Larry Mayfield and Derric Johnson

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FOREWORD

The world was lost in its own darkness. Political oppression weighed heavily worldwide. Spiritual depression was causing many to leave their faith. Through that night came a light of promise. . .the miracle of Christmas. . .the hinge of history.

FOR GOD SO LOVED. . .is a threefold musical view of Christmas, looking first at the men who received it; second, at the God who sent it; and third, at those who have it. Using the marvelous songs of Christmas tradition, with the added "new" of speech-choir narration, we have tried to convey the thrill and majesty of the message of the season.

FOR GOD SO LOVED. . .is intended to take us all beyond the manger. Sections One and Two deal with the history of Christmas, while Section Three tries to answer the contemporary question of "So What?" For Christmas to really live, there must be response in our hearts and action in our lives. Just a babe in Bethlehem is not Savior enough. These are songs about the Son of God Who became the Son of Man so that the sons of men might become the sons of God.

The world is lost in its own darkness. Political oppression weighs heavily worldwide. Spiritual depression is causing many to leave their faith. Through this night there still comes a light of promise. . .the miracle of Christmas.

LARRY MAYFIELD and DERRIC JOHNSON

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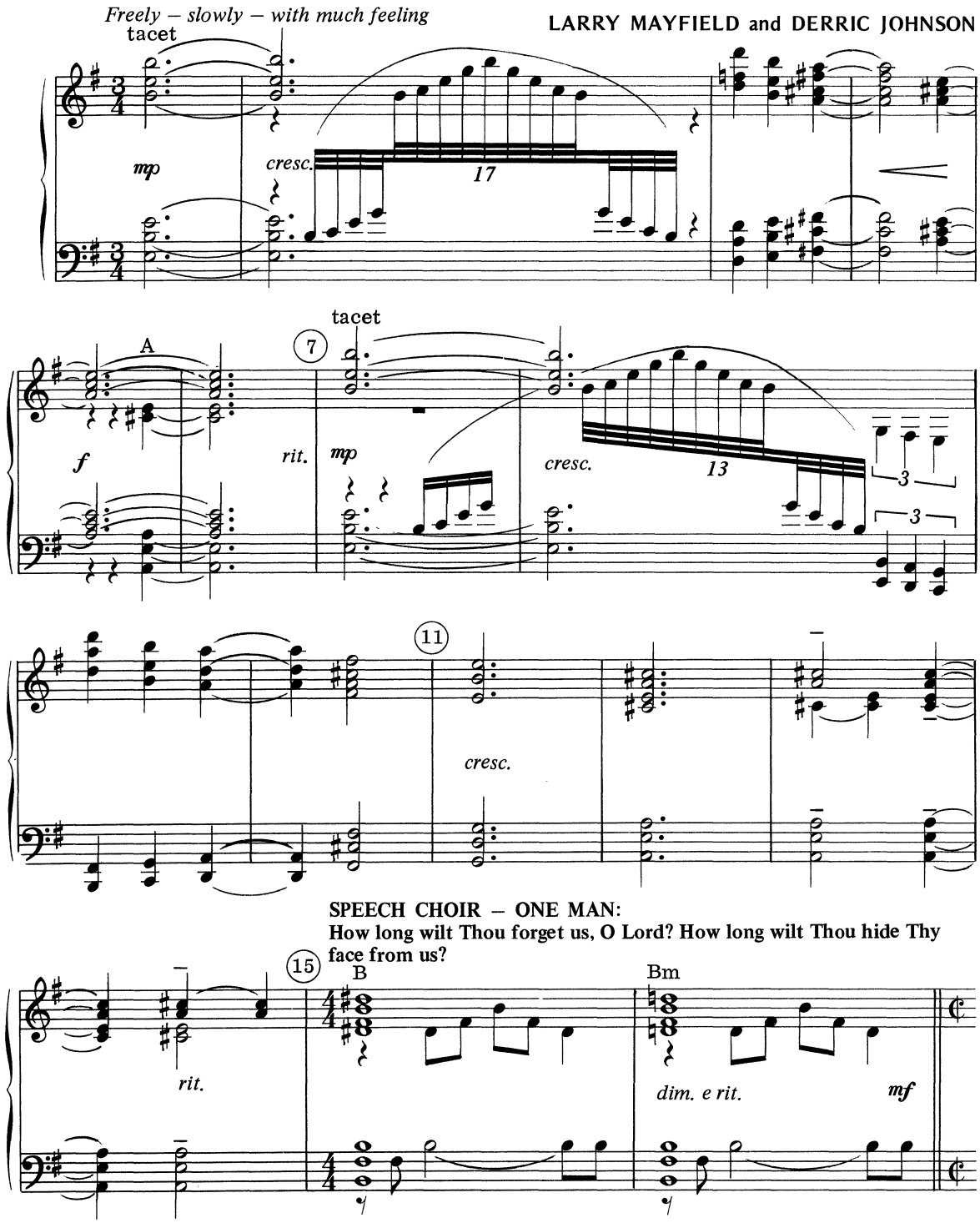
For God So Loved . . .

I

Man's View of Christmas



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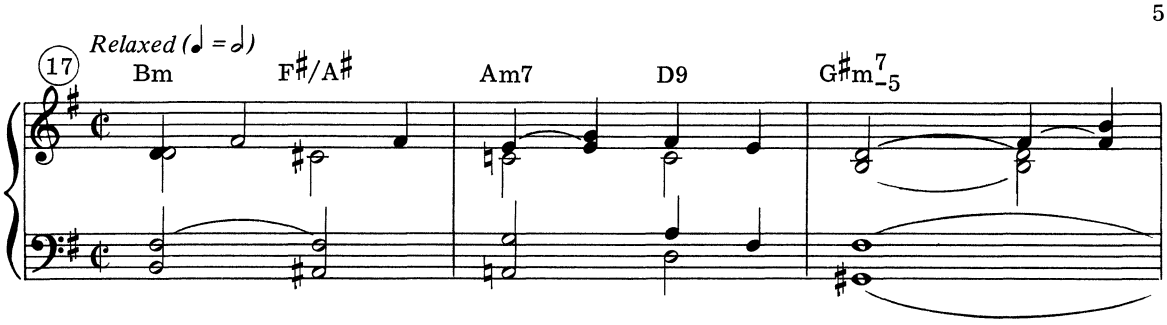
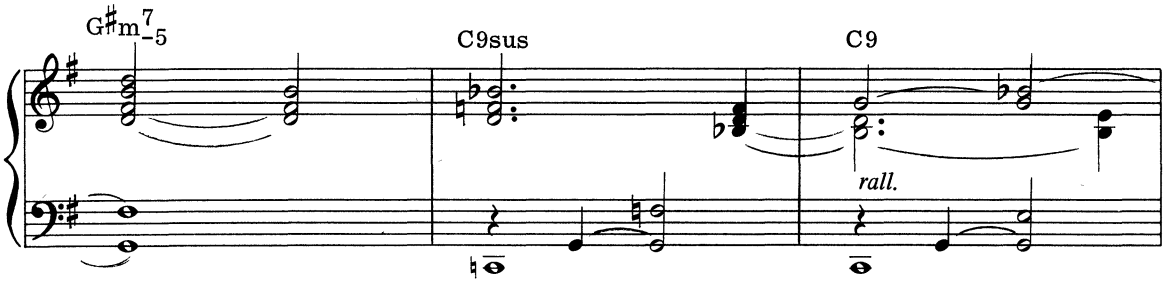
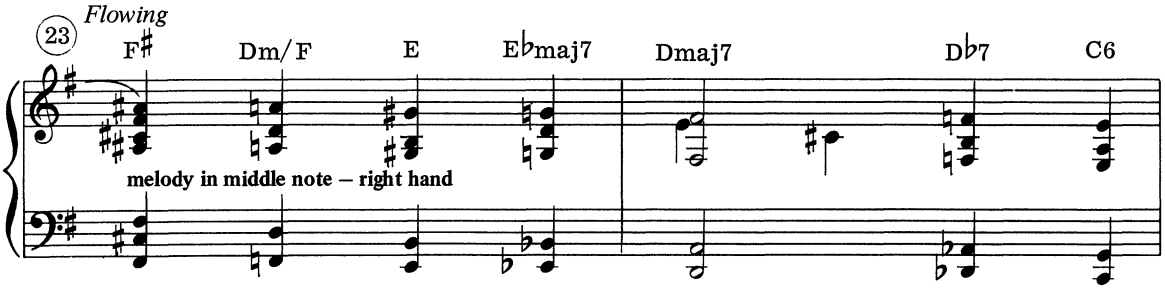
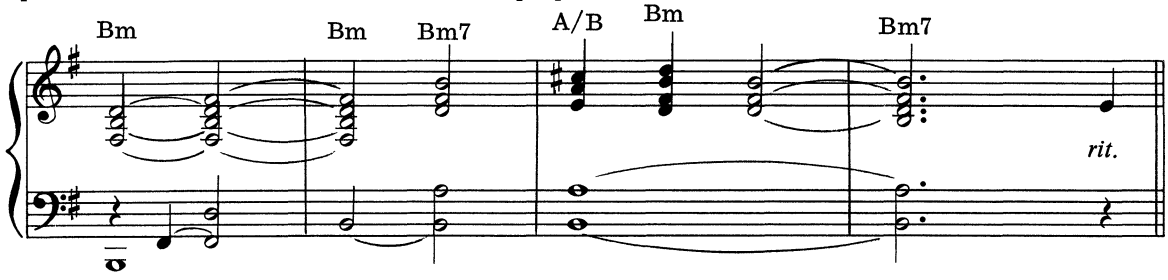


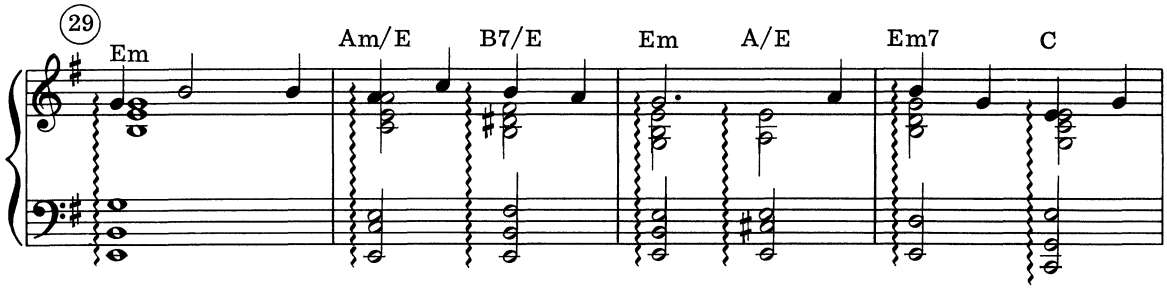
SPEECH CHOIR – ONE WOMAN:
How long shall the sorrow of our hearts be multiplied?



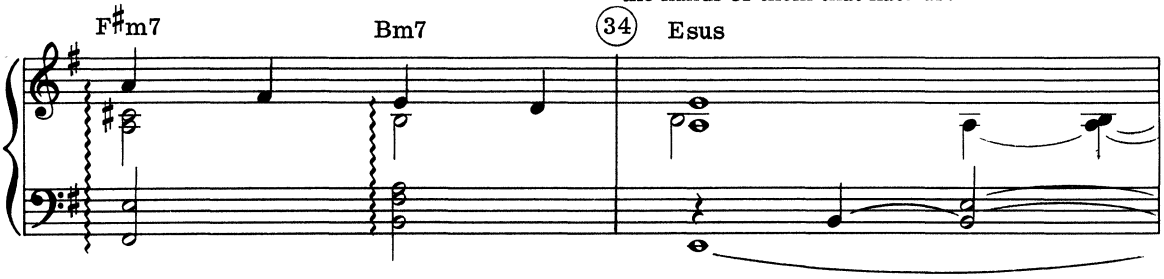


SPEECH CHOIR – THREE ALTOS:
Thy words, O Lord, are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou hast promised a redeemer; when shall He visit His people?

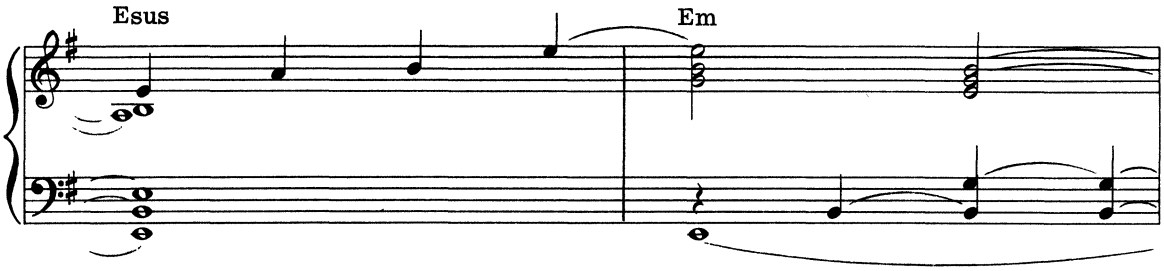




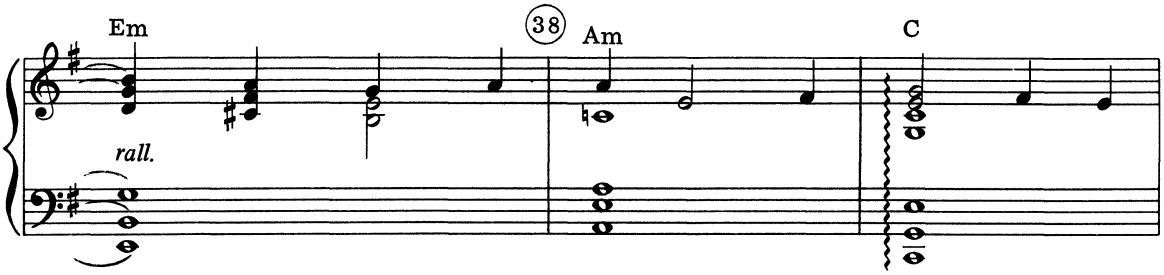
SPEECH CHOIR – ALL MEN:
When shall we be saved from our enemies and from the hands of them that hate us?

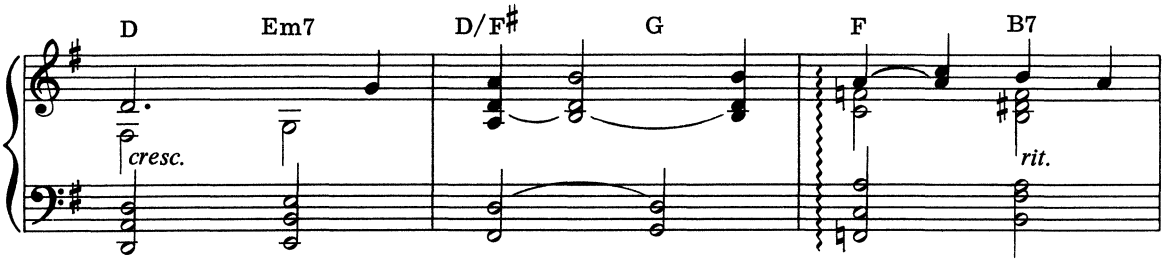
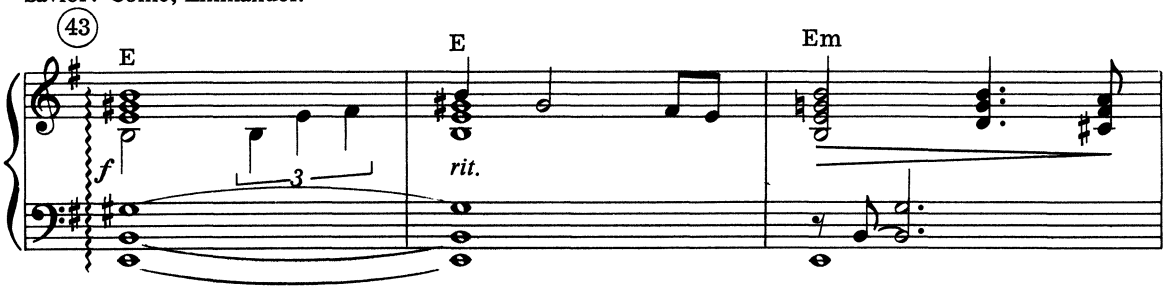


ALL LADIES:
Our souls are in deep waters where the flood doth overflow. Wilt Thou not help us?



ALL CHOIR: *(pensively)*
When shall be performed the mercy promised our fathers?





SPEECH CHOIR – ALL CHOIR:
When shall be remembered the holy covenant sworn to Abraham? When shall we see the coming of our Savior? Come, Emmanuel!