Befiehl dem Herrn deine Wege!

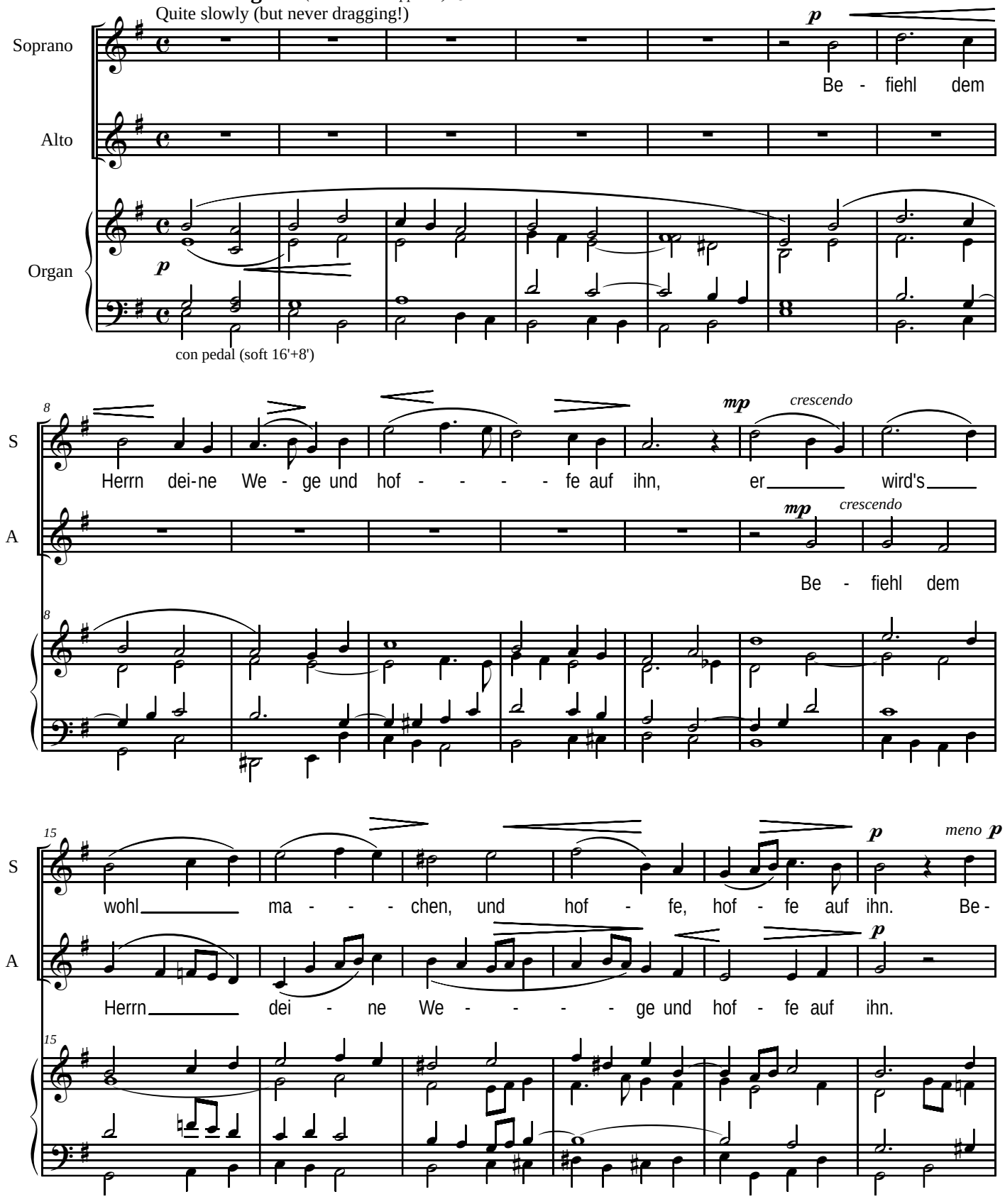
Psalm 37:5

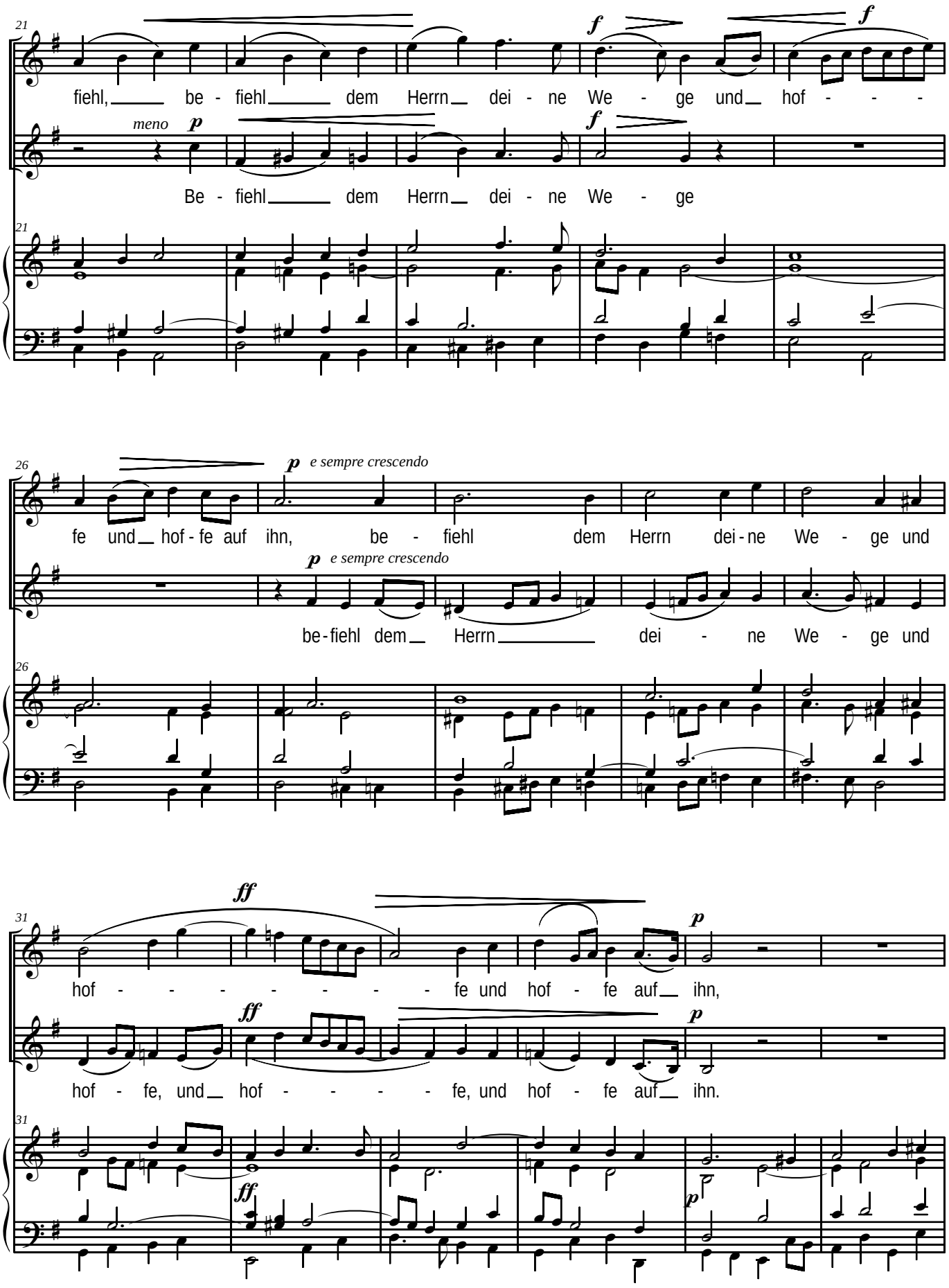
Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him, and he shall bring it to pass

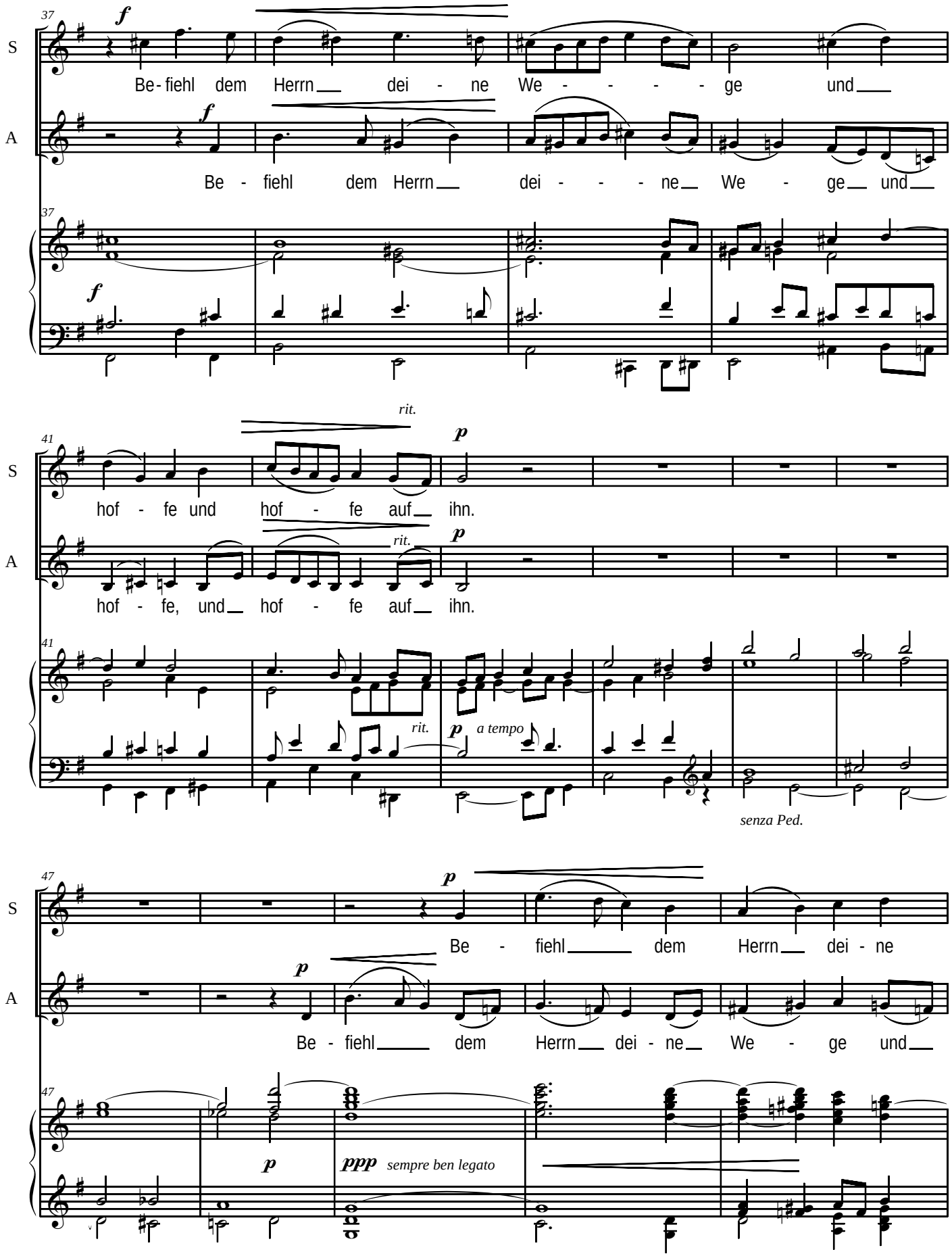
Max Reger, 1902

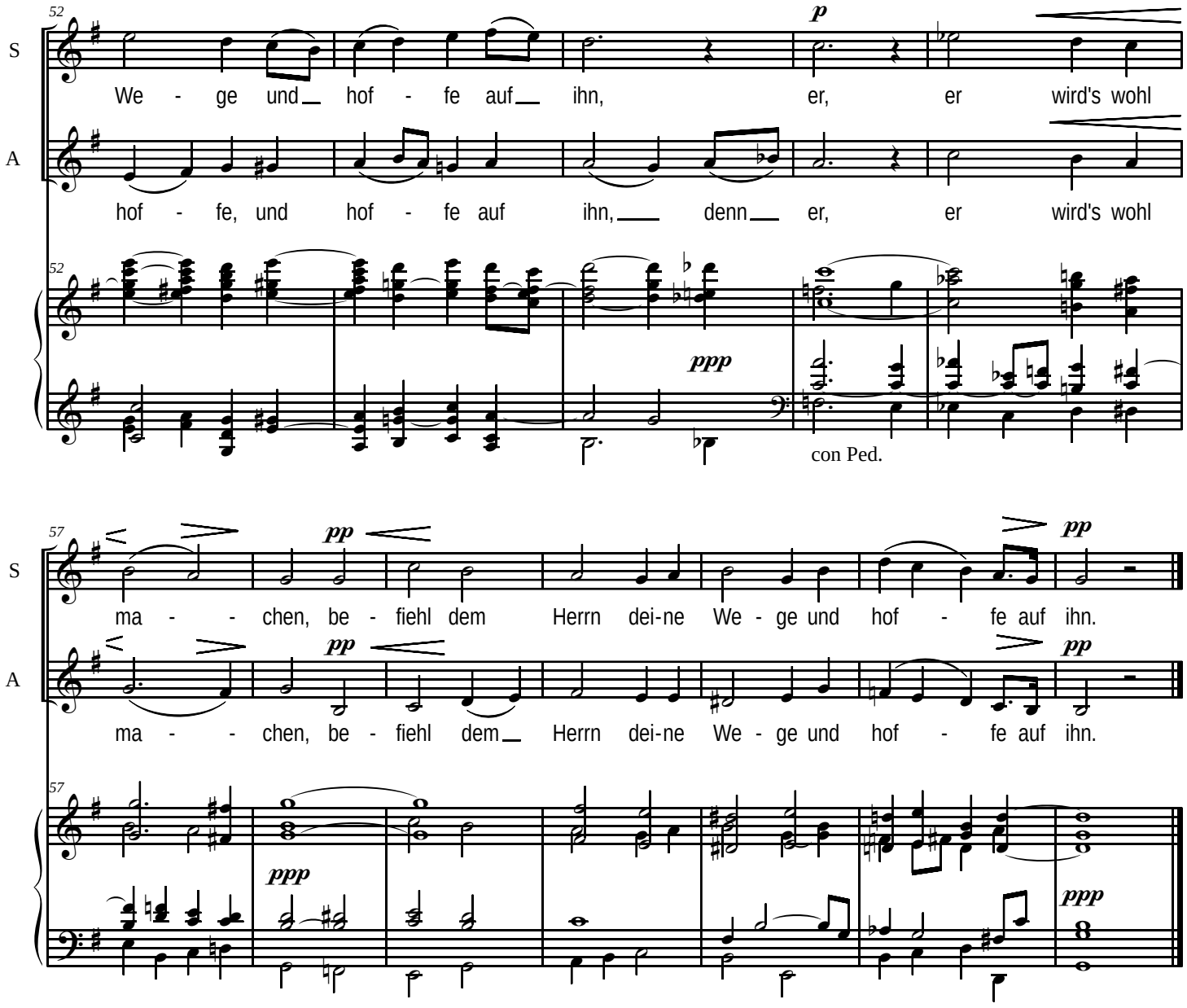
Ziemlich langsam *(Doch nie schleppend!)* ♩ = 120

Quite slowly (but never dragging!)




21
S
fiehl, be - fiehl dem Herrn dei - ne We - ge und hof - - -
A
meno p
Be - fiehl dem Herrn dei - ne We - ge
f
f
26
S
fe und hof - fe auf ihn, be - fiehl dem Herrn dei - ne We - ge und
A
p e sempre crescendo
be - fiehl dem Herrn dei - ne We - ge und
31
S
hof - - - - - - - fe und hof - fe auf ihn,
A
hof - fe, und hof - - - - fe, und hof - fe auf ihn.
ff
p


37
S
A
f
Be - fiehl dem Herrn dei - ne We - - - - ge und
Be - fiehl dem Herrn dei - - - - ne We - ge und
41
rit.
p
hof - fe und hof - fe auf ihn.
hof - fe, und hof - fe auf ihn.
a tempo
senza Ped.
47
Be - fiehl dem Herrn dei - ne
Be - fiehl dem Herrn dei - ne We - ge und
ppp
sempre ben legato



NOTE:

The score contains the following remark: "This also can be done with Soprano alone, with the organ or harmonium accompaniment."

Written in 1902, this short and charming work is subtitled "Trauungslied" ("Wedding Song")
It was dedicated to Mrs. Elsa von Bercken and Baronesse B. von Seckendorff
Reger married Elsa von Bercken same year, and this work might have been as well connected to the event.
Reger was a Catholic, and Elsa was a divorced Protestant. They met in 1899 and he courted her since then; she, however, was reluctant to reciprocate, remembering his history of alcohol abuse in the earlier years. In 1902, she agreed to marry him, but as a divorced Protestant, she wasn't welcome in his family; his marriage to her later caused his excommunication from the Roman Catholic Church.

The work has no opus number. Reger apparently thought of it as a mere trifle. It is worth mentioning that the same year, Berlin heard the premiere performance of Reger's Inferno Fantasy and Fugue, which was trashed in the press as "a personification of the ugly in music." The latter composition is probably the most avanguard of all Reger's works.