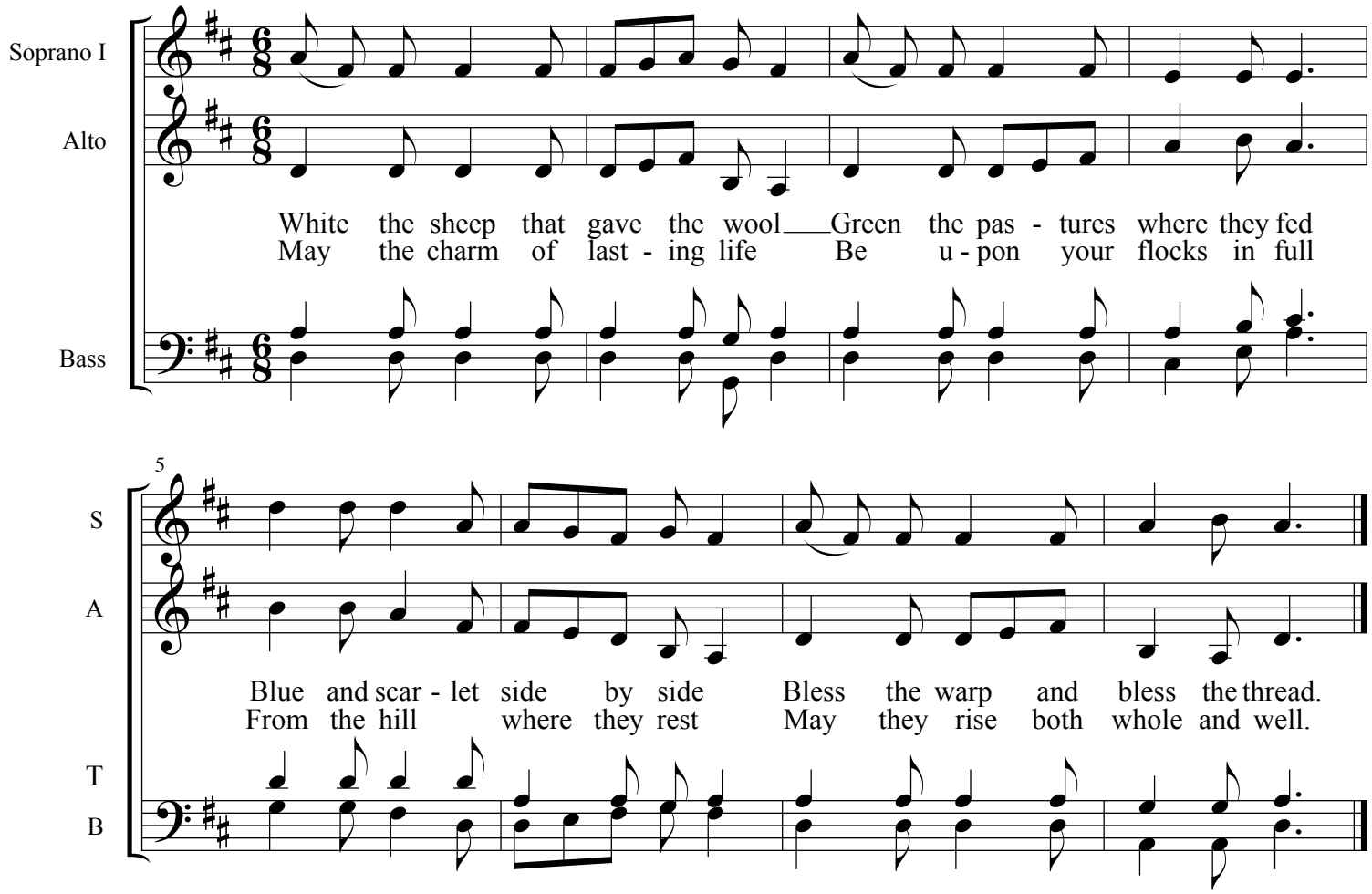
A Winter Charm

Scottish waulking tune



Bless the man who wears this cloth
May he wounded never be
From the bitter cold and frost
May the cloth protection be

Now is waulked the web we spun
Winter storms may rage in vain
Bless the work by which we won
Comfort from the wind and rain.

Waulking is the technique of finishing a newly-woven tweed by soaking it and thumping it rhythmically to shrink and soften it - all done by hand in the past. Waulking songs serve to keep the rhythm and lighten the work.