Foreword

Christmas comes but once a year. Yet when the season is over, I still haven't listened to nearly all of my Christmas CDs or played through all of my favorite arrangements. I can't get enough of Christmas music! That's why it was such a joy to arrange this book. I purposely chose some lesser-known carols to mix with time-tested favorites.

Like *Mark Hayes: Hymns for the Intermediate Pianist* (70/1554L), these carol settings sound advanced, but are very accessible to play. Dare I say, many of you could sightread these and be ready for a performance. We all need "ready to go" music at our disposal that sounds like we've been practicing for weeks!

Here are some of the features of the arrangements in this collection:

- Each arrangement is 3 minutes or less in length, meaning less pages to turn
- There are no chords that require a large hand spread. Anything over an octave can be rolled
- The same great harmonies, modulations and rhythms as my advanced music, just made simpler
- Perfect for young pianists or for those with limited practice time
- The arrangements sound difficult, but are easy to play
- Lush, rich chords with fewer notes in each hand

These pieces may be played in worship settings, Christmas concerts, candlelight services and student recitals. May your Christmas season be enriched by these new arrangements. I hope you experience the same joy performing them that I experienced creating them.

—Mark Hayes

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Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming	3	55
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Level Descriptions

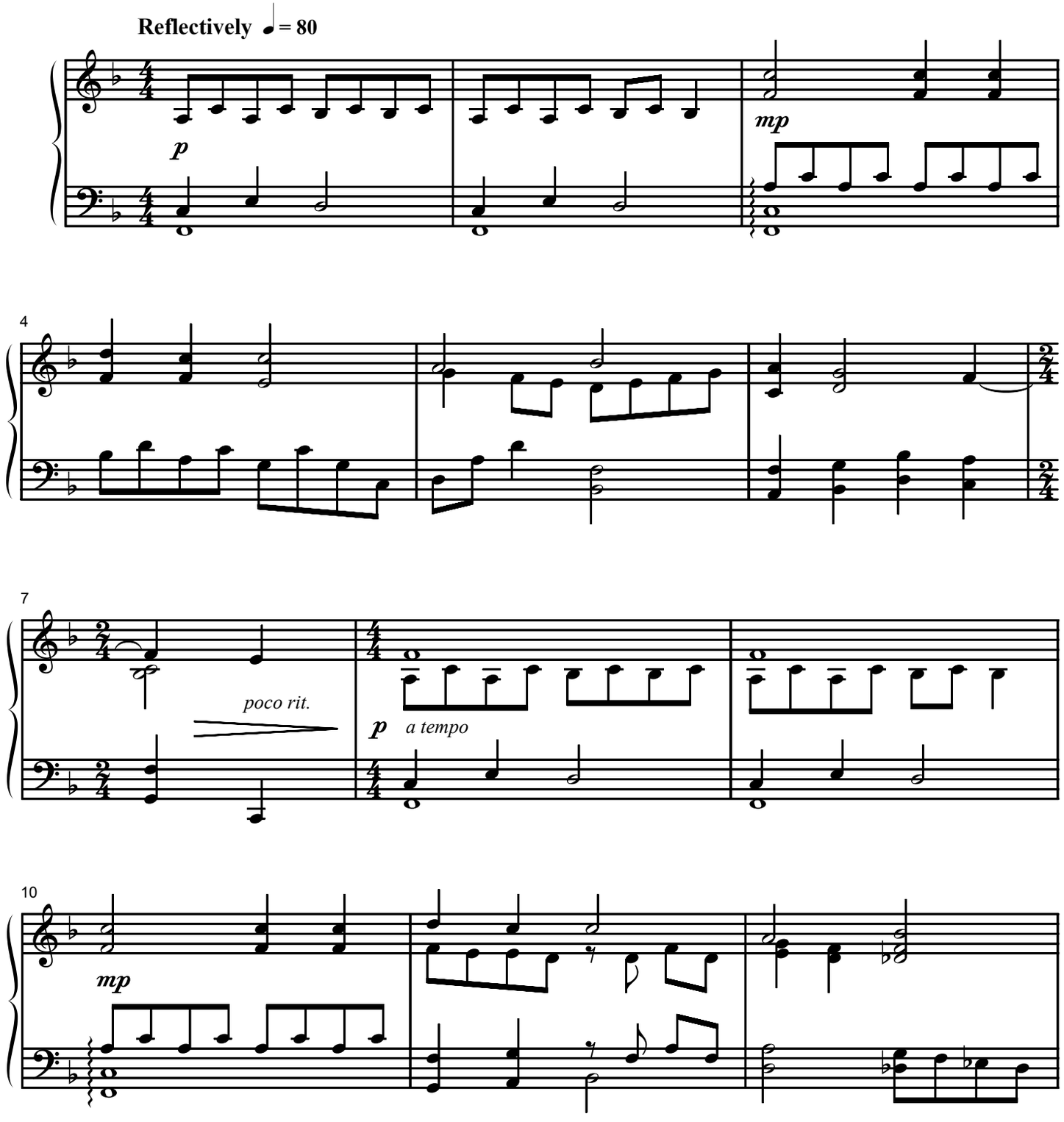
Level 1: Easy to moderately easy rhythmically and in technical demands; hands mostly in the middle of the keyboard

Level 2: Intermediate to moderate difficulty with a variety of musical styles; expanded range and more rhythmically demanding

Level 3: Advanced musically and in technical demands; use of full keyboard, scale and arpeggio passages, and stylistically demanding

Lyrics on page 55

Arranged by Mark Hayes
Music: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1599;
Harmony: Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621



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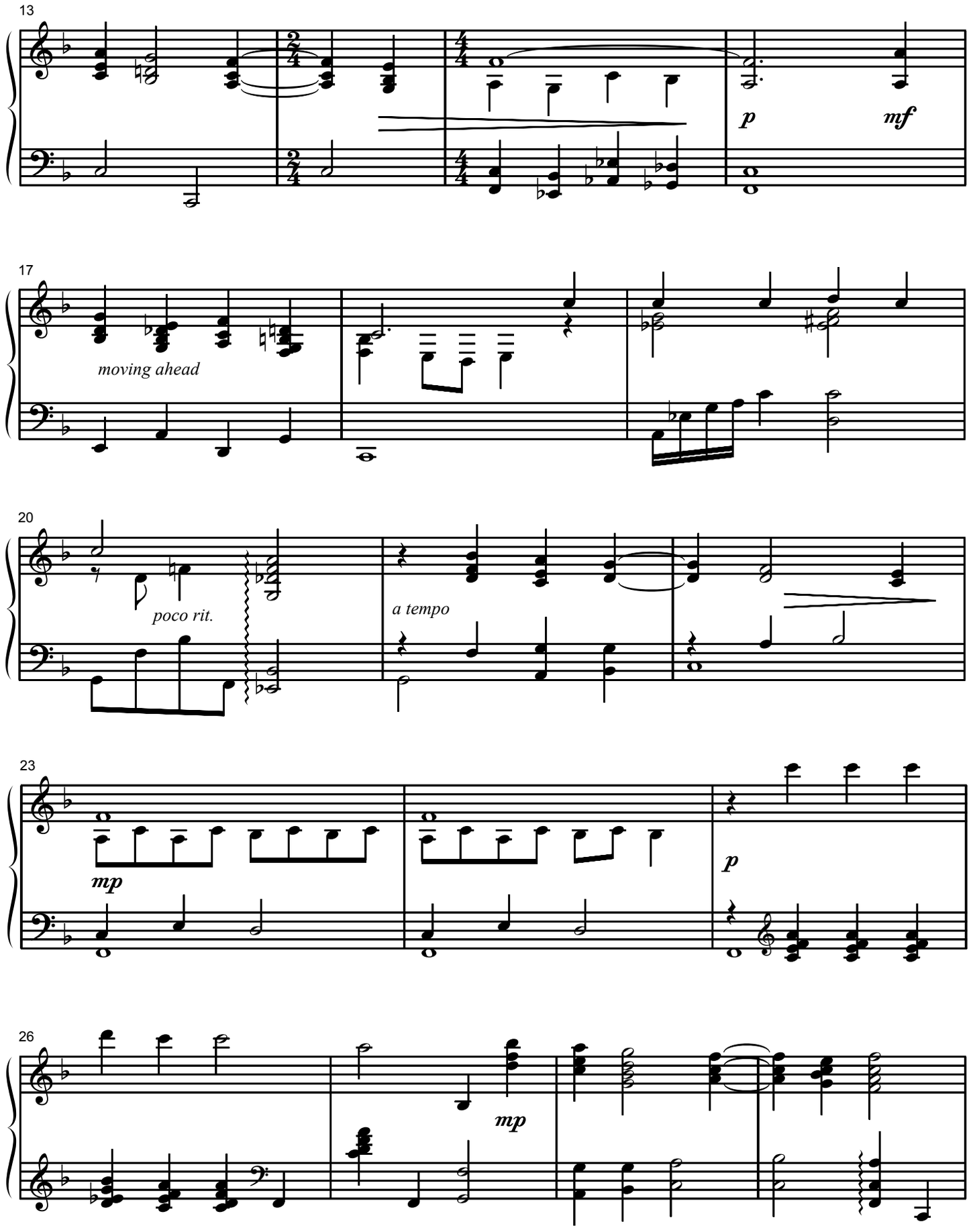
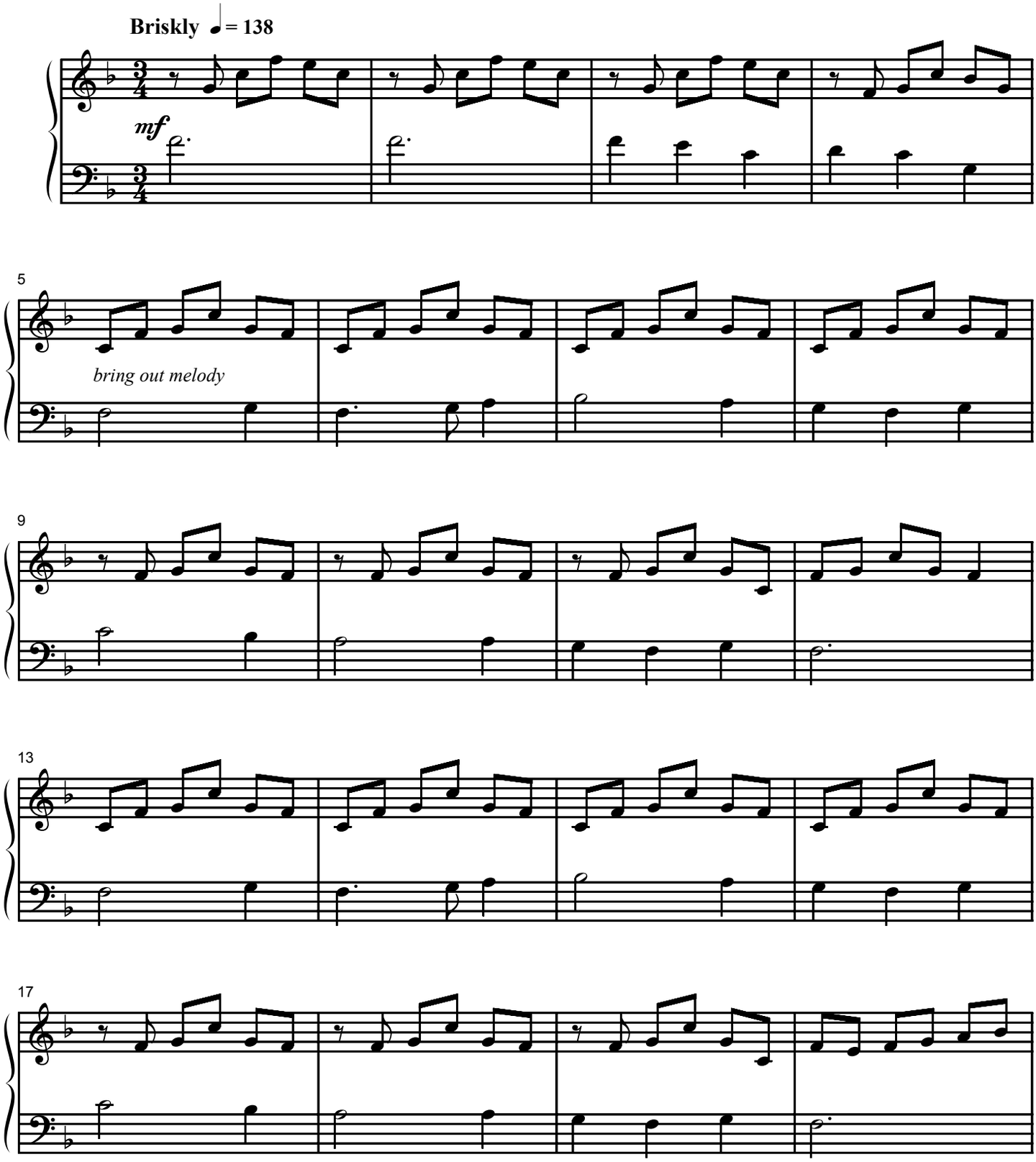

13
p
mf
17
moving ahead
20
poco rit.
a tempo
23
mp
p
26
mp

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Lyrics on page 56

Arranged by Mark Hayes
Music by Rowland H. Prichard



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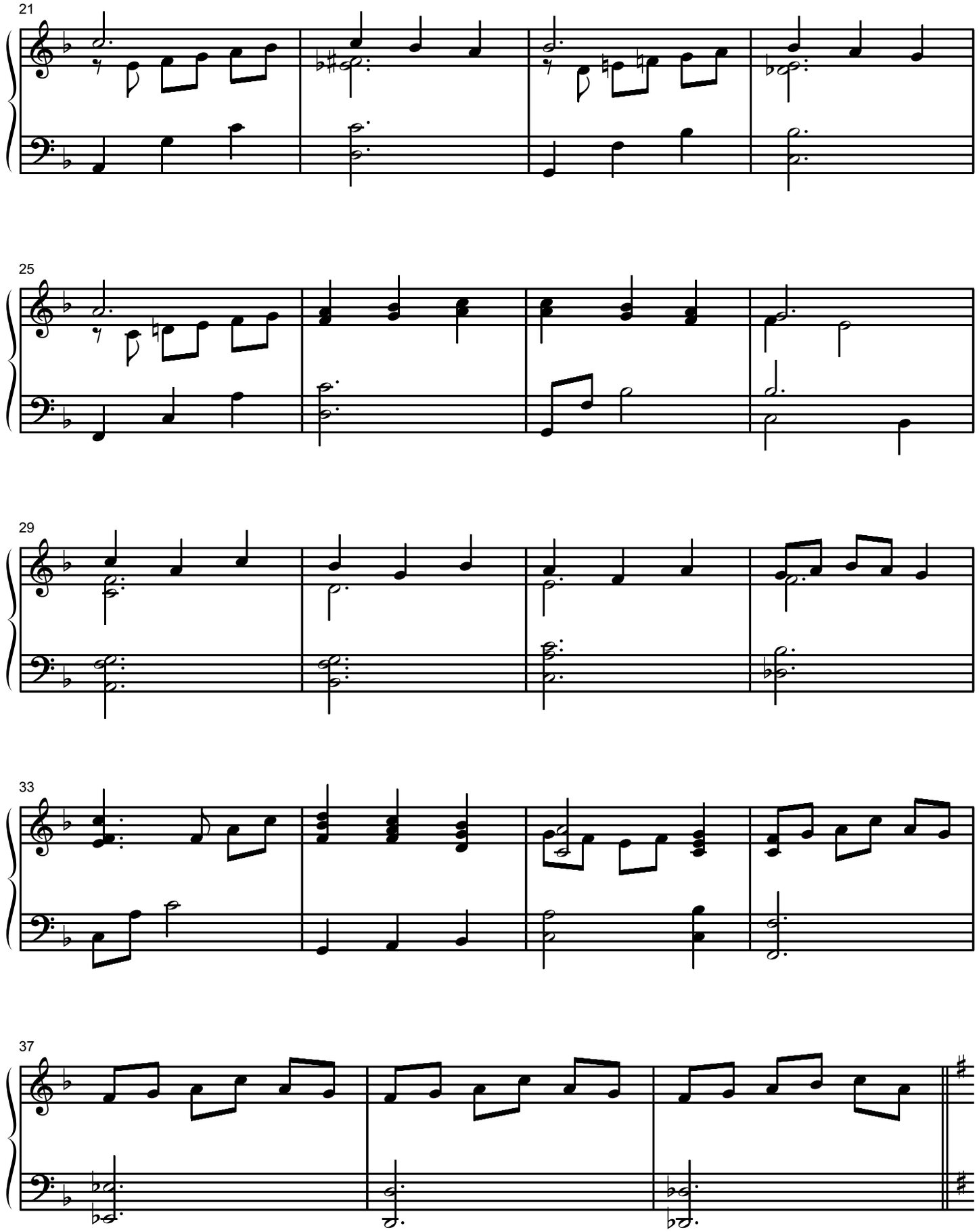
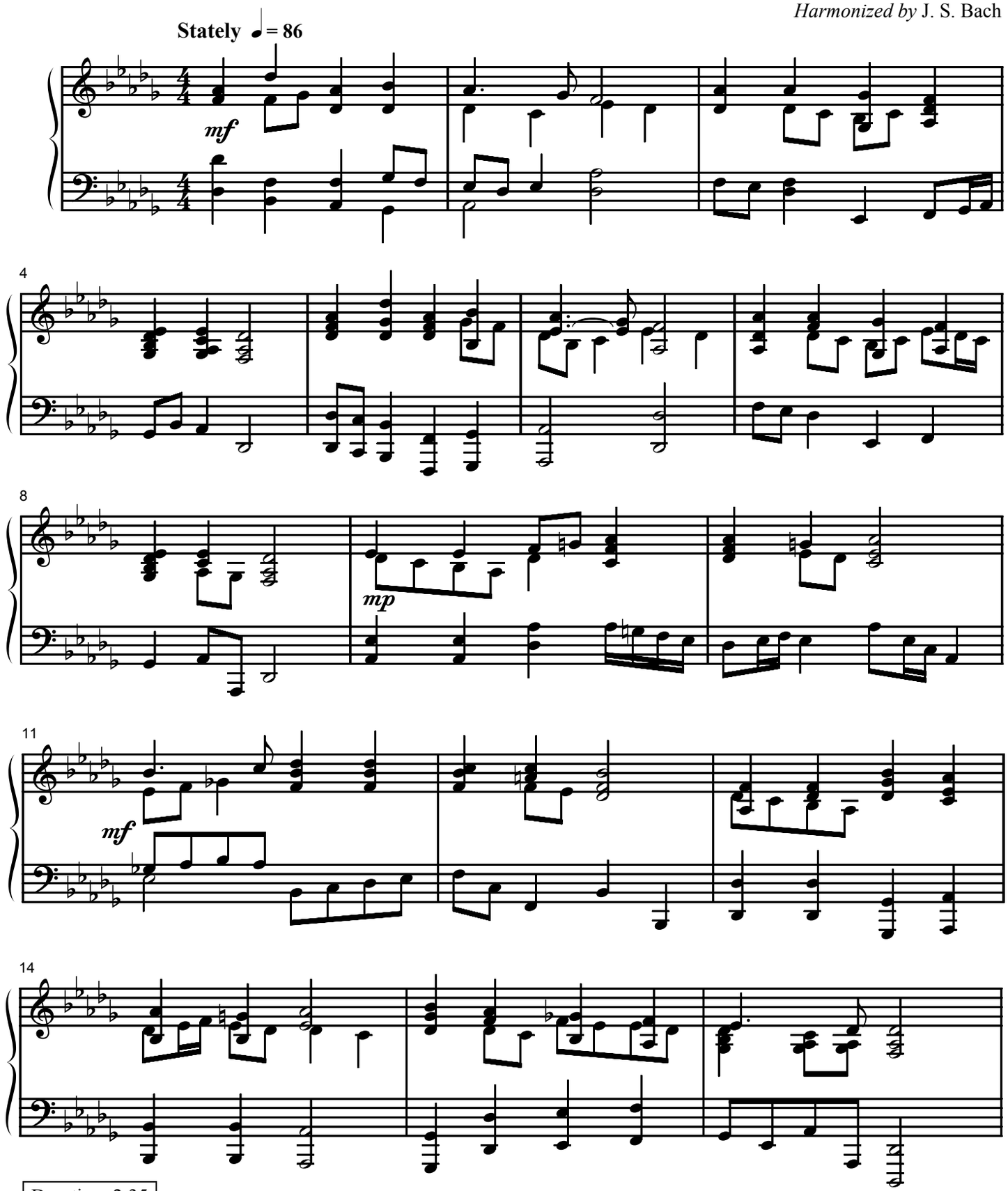

21
25
29
33
37

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

Lyrics on page 56

Arranged by Mark Hayes
Music attributed to Jakob Hintze (1622-1702)
Harmonized by J. S. Bach



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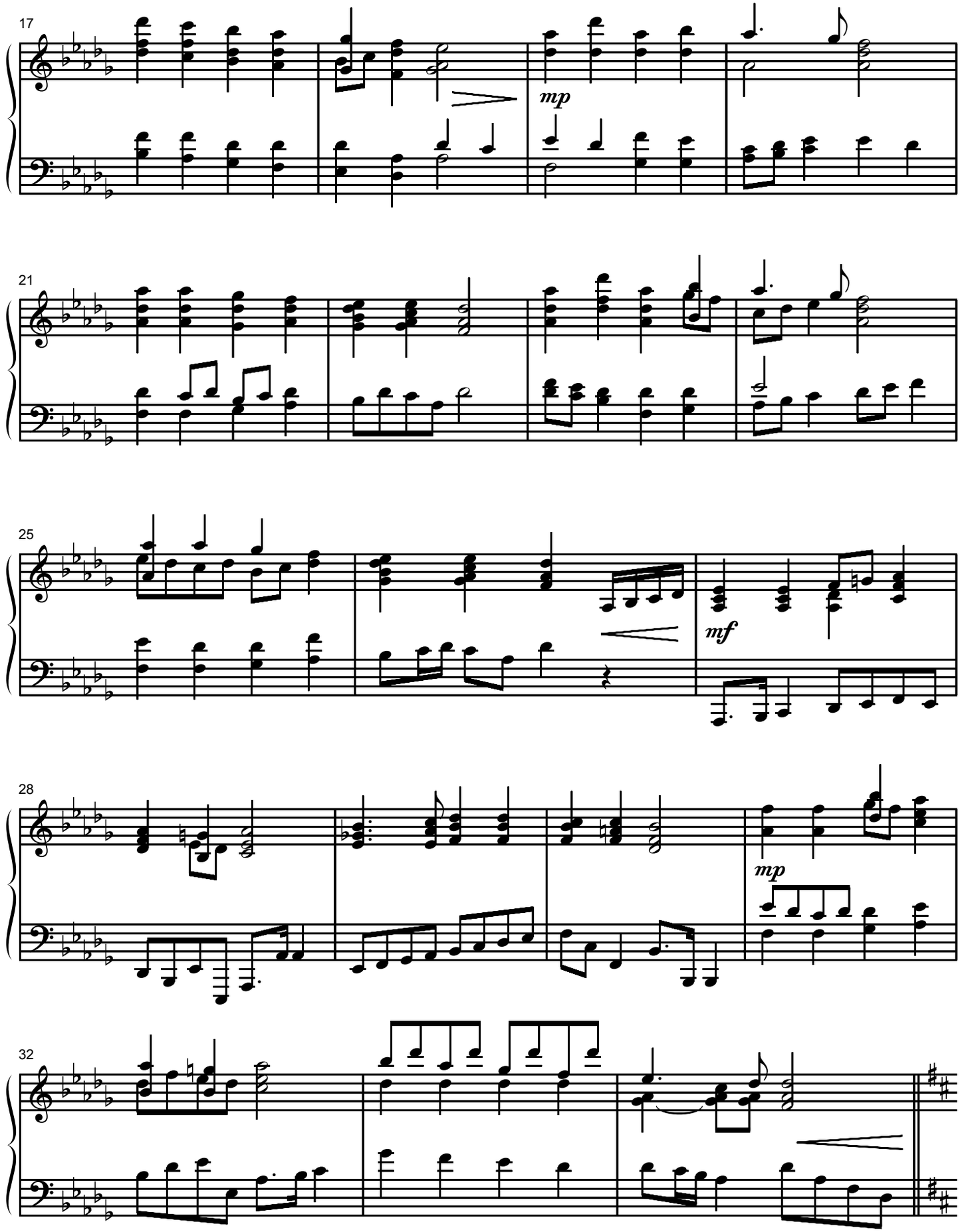
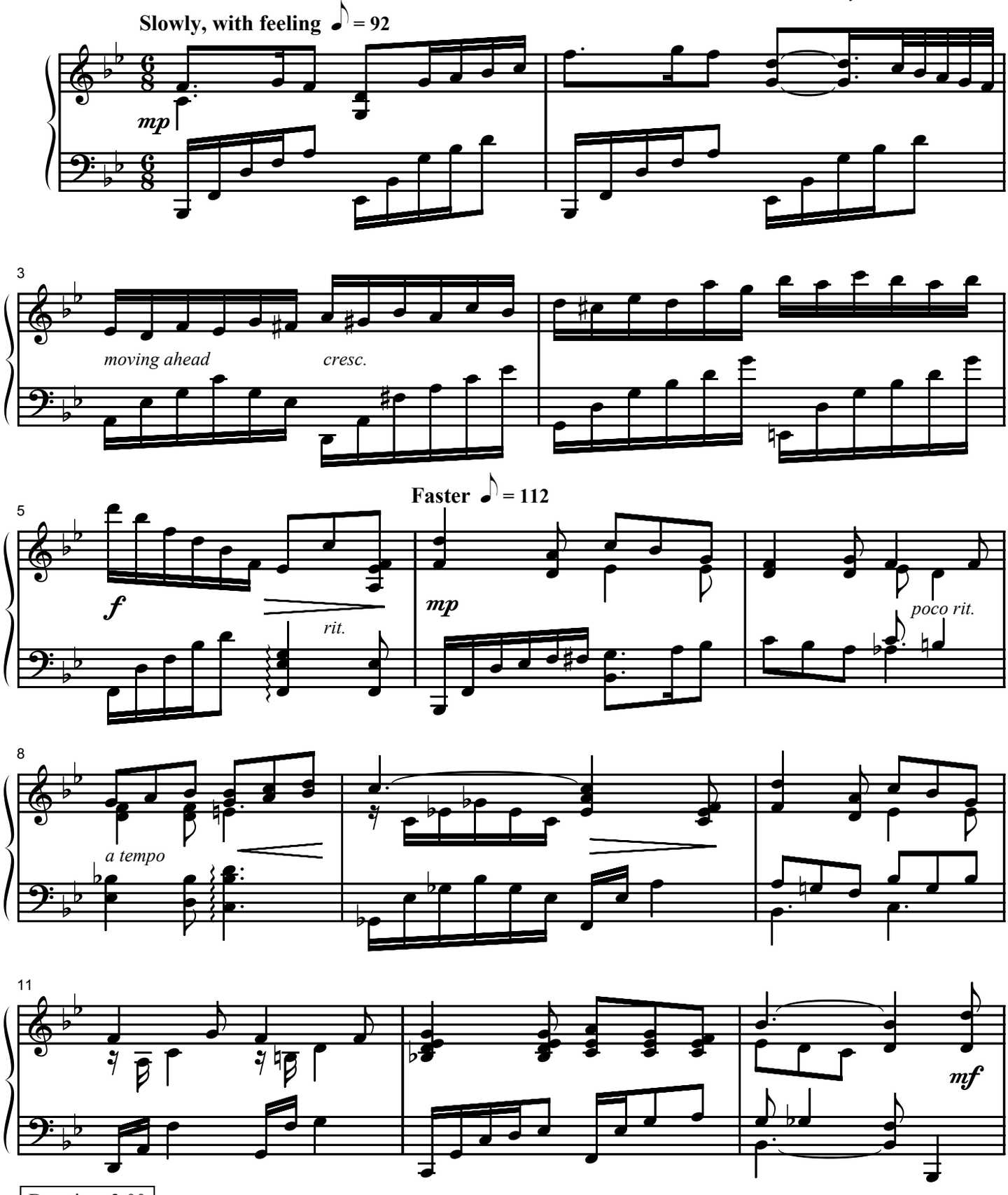

17
mp
21
25
mf
28
mp
32

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Lyrics on page 57

Arranged by Mark Hayes
Music by Richard S. Willis



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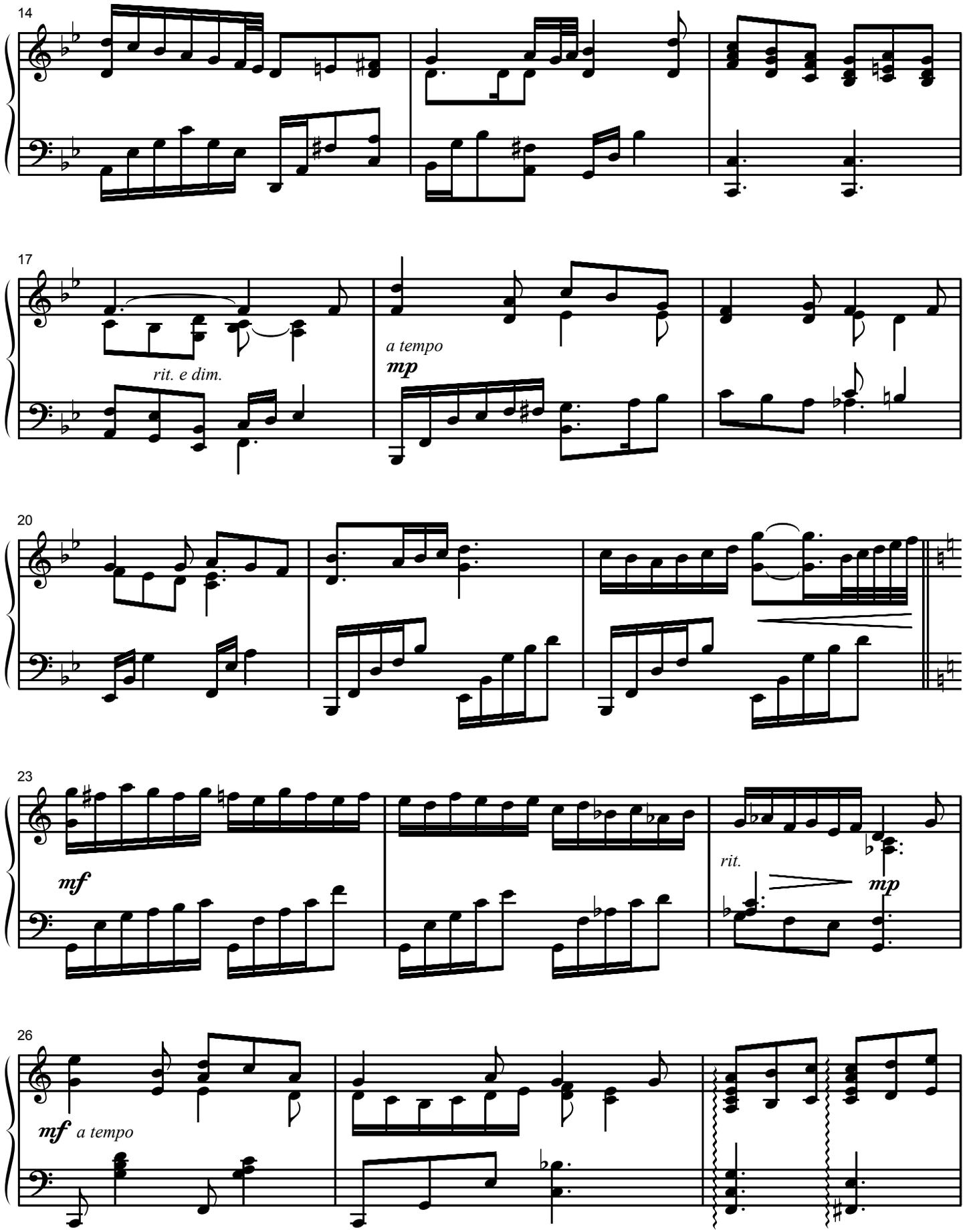
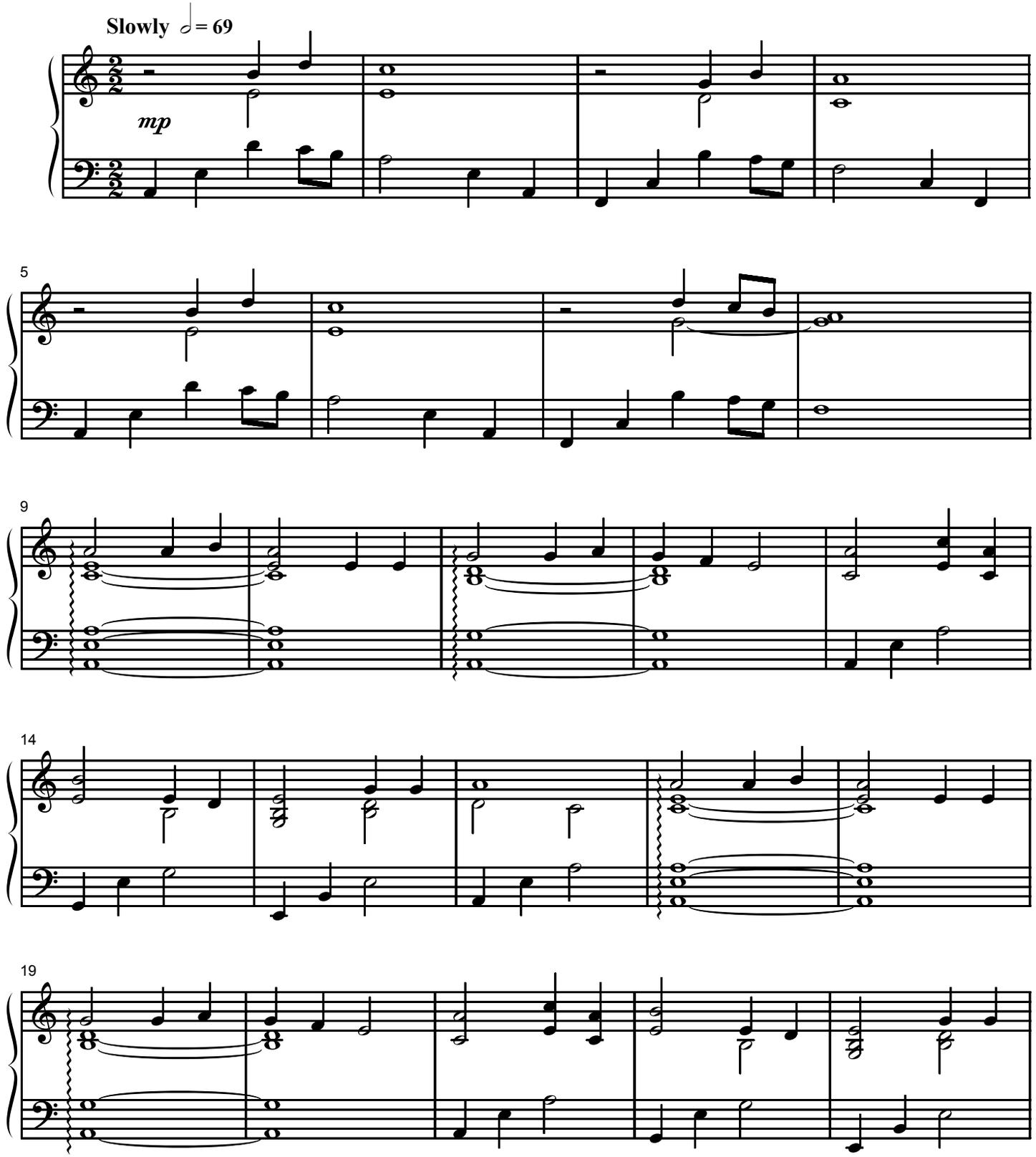

14
17
rit. e dim.
a tempo
mp
20
23
mf
rit.
mp
26
mf a tempo

Brightest and Best

Lyrics on page 58

Arranged by Mark Hayes
Music: American Folk Hymn



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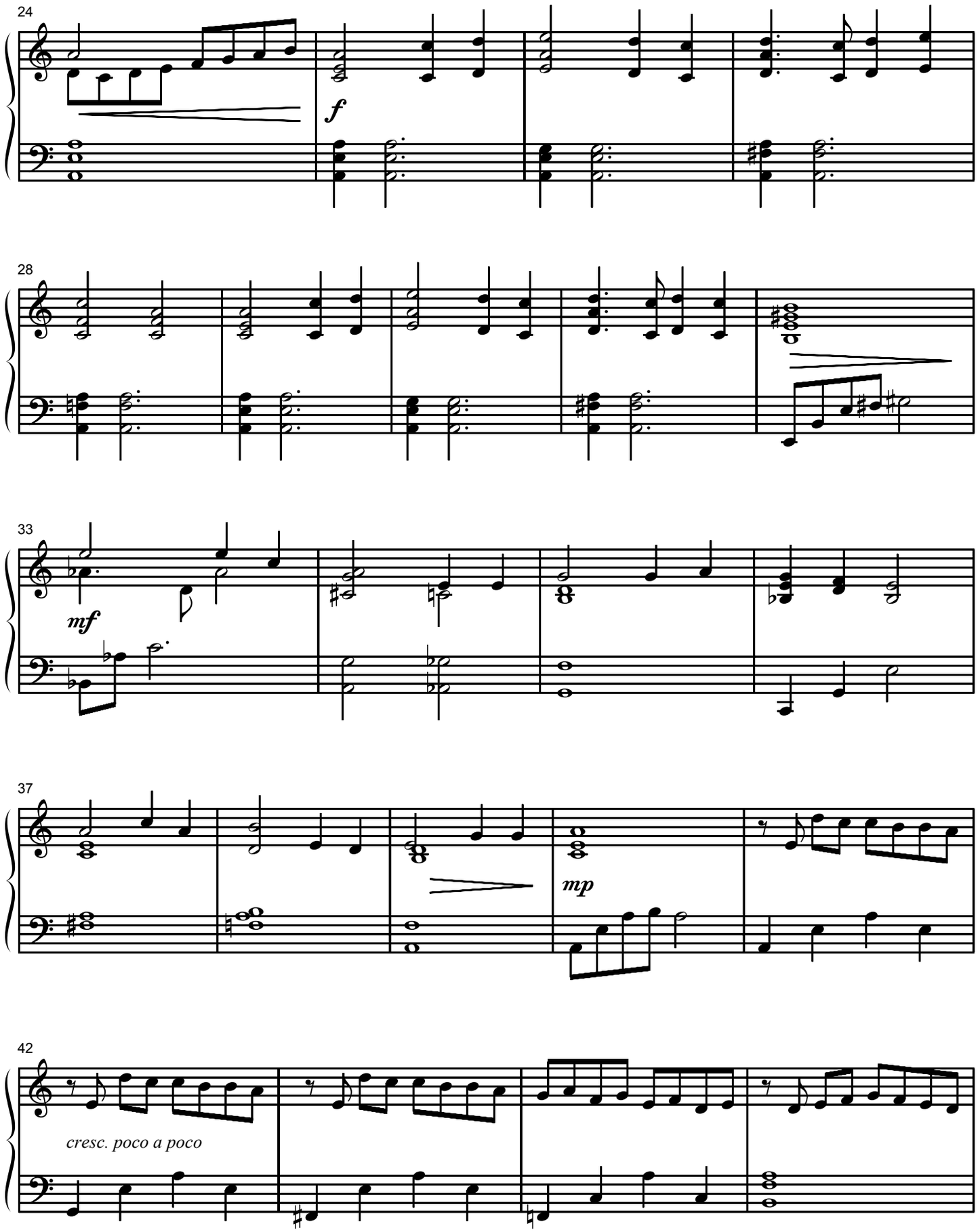
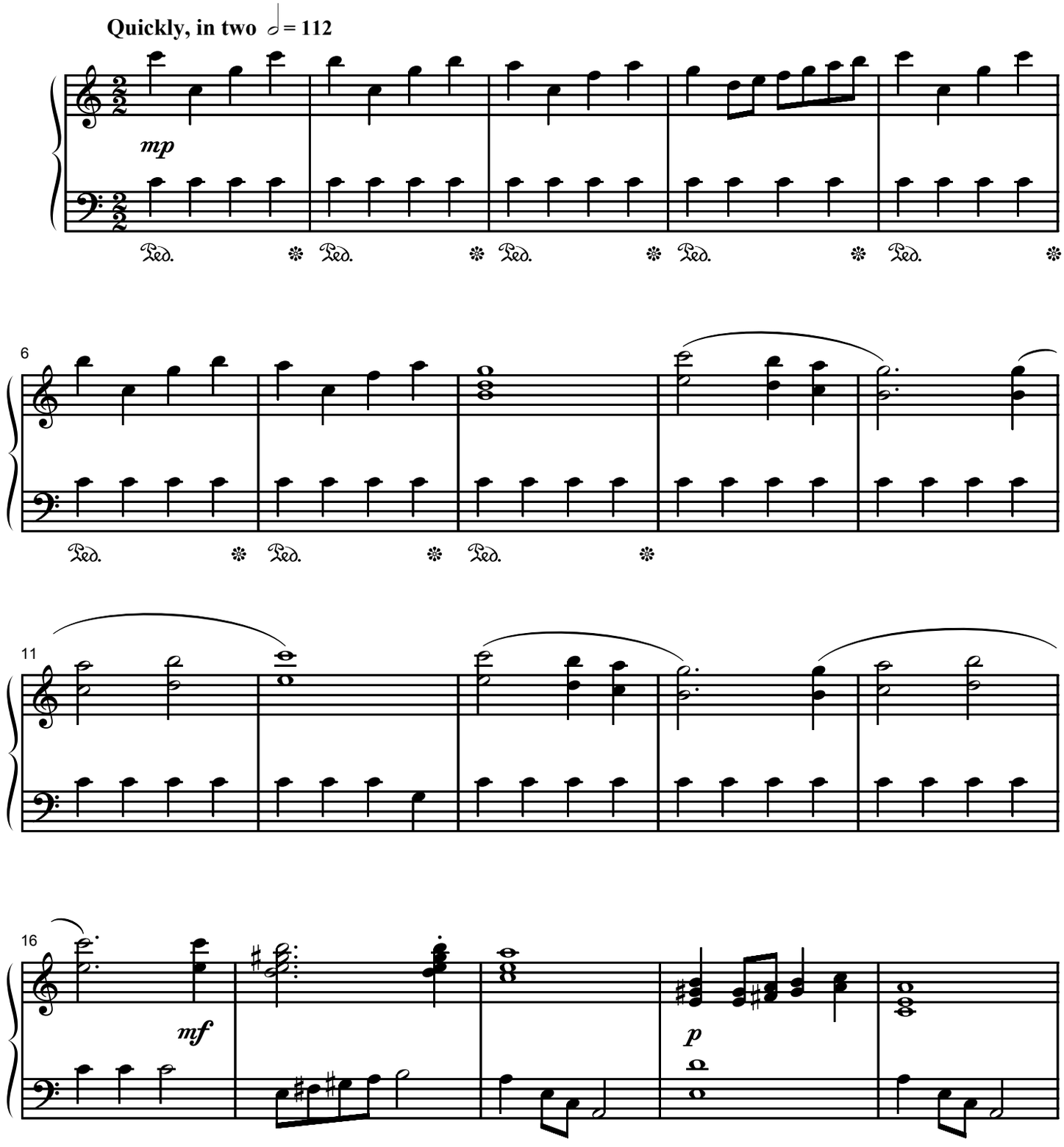

24
f
28
33
mf
37
mp
42
cresc. poco a poco

While By My Sheep

Lyrics on page 58

Arranged by Mark Hayes
Traditional German Carol



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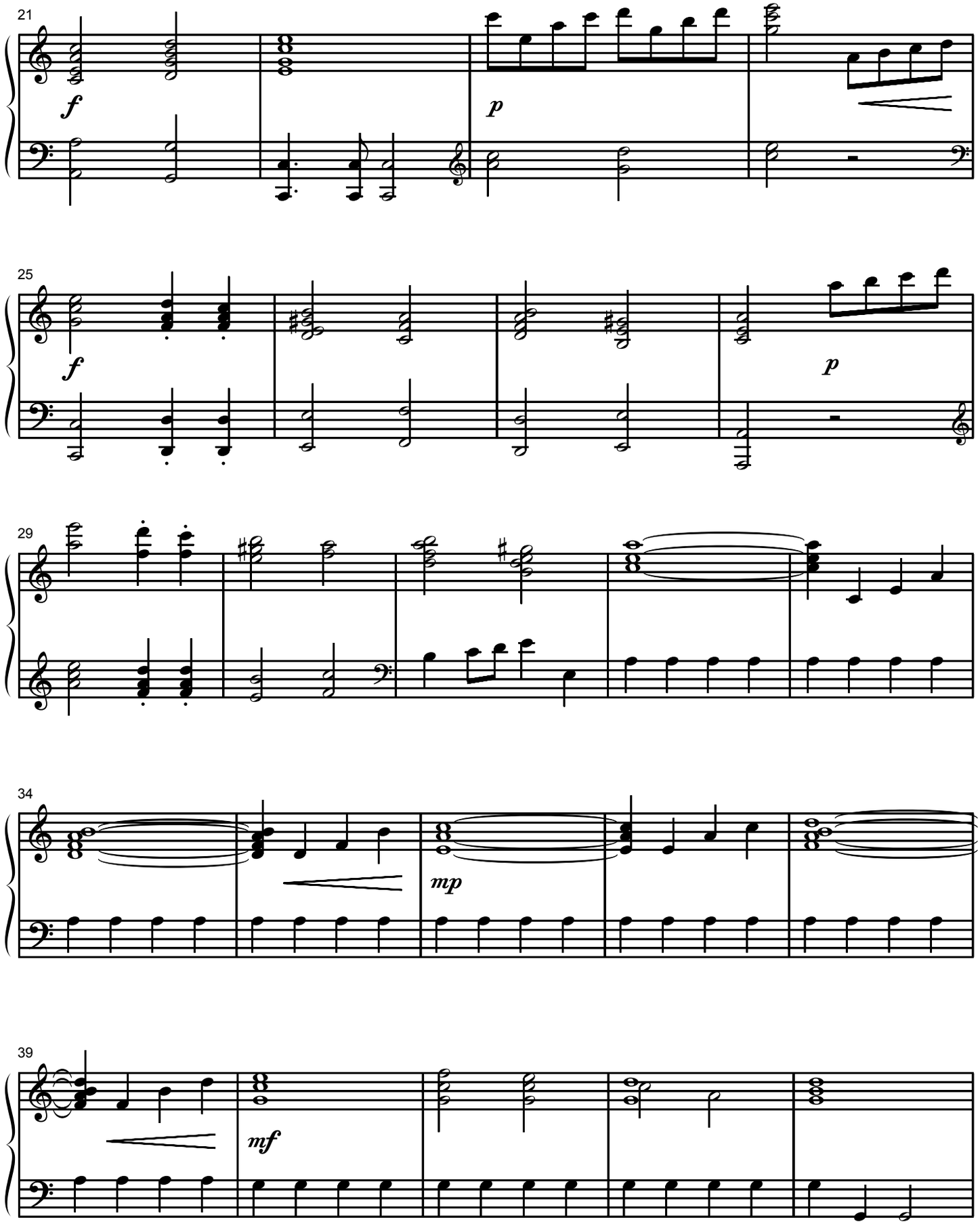
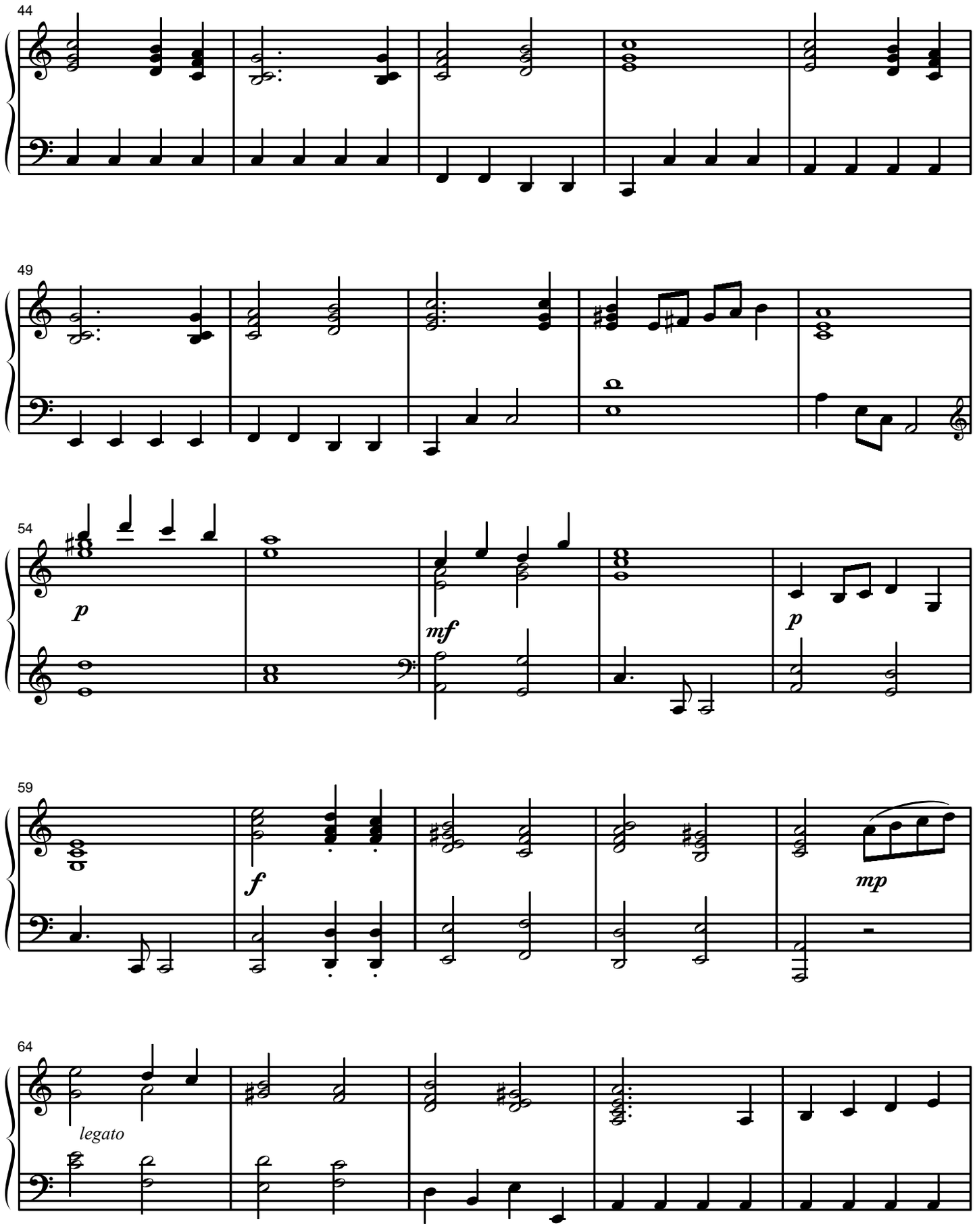
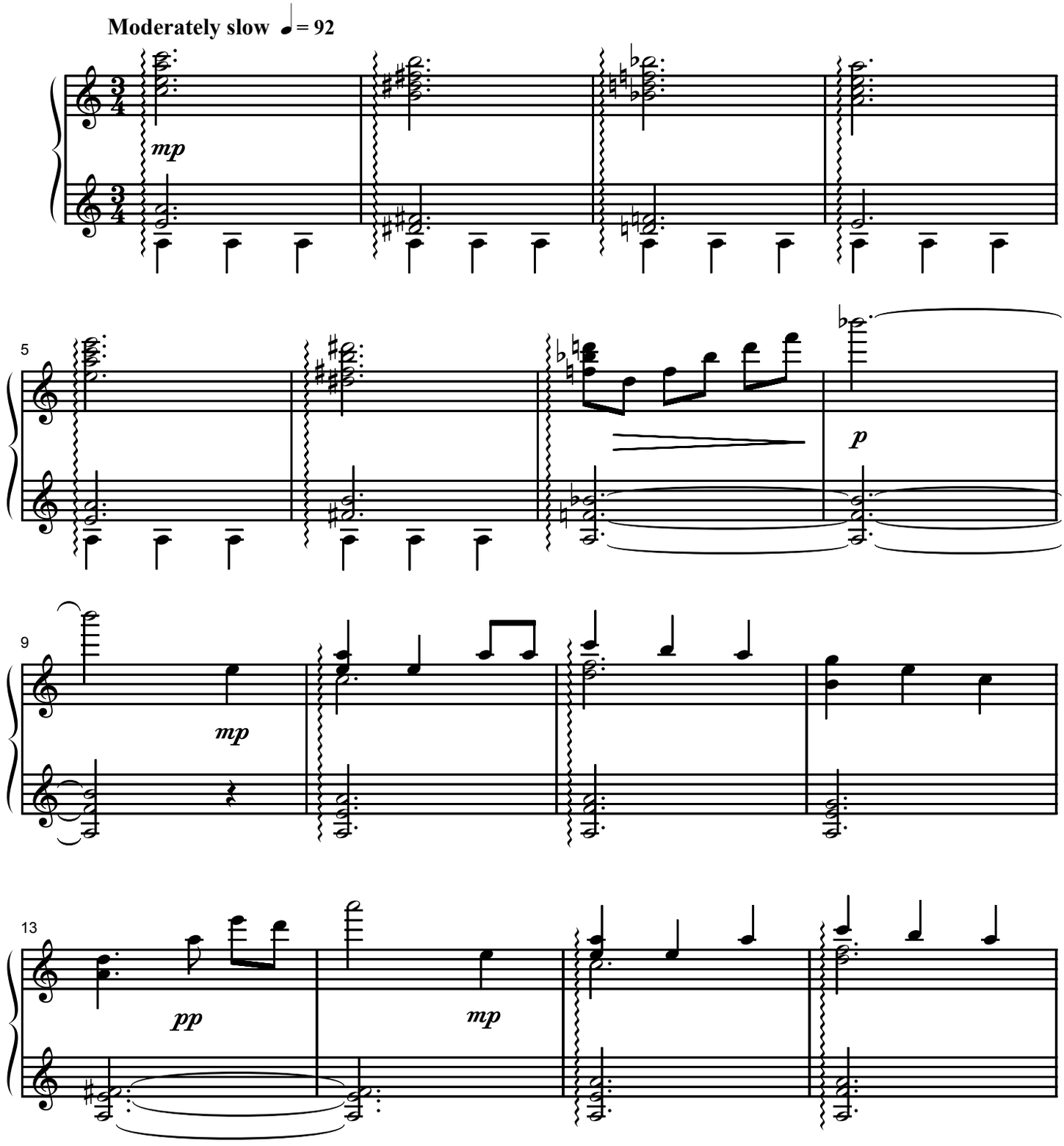

21
f
p
25
f
p
29
34
mp
39
mf


44
49
54
p
mf
p
59
f
mp
64
legato

I Wonder As I Wander

Lyrics on page 59

Arranged by Mark Hayes
Traditional Appalachian Melody



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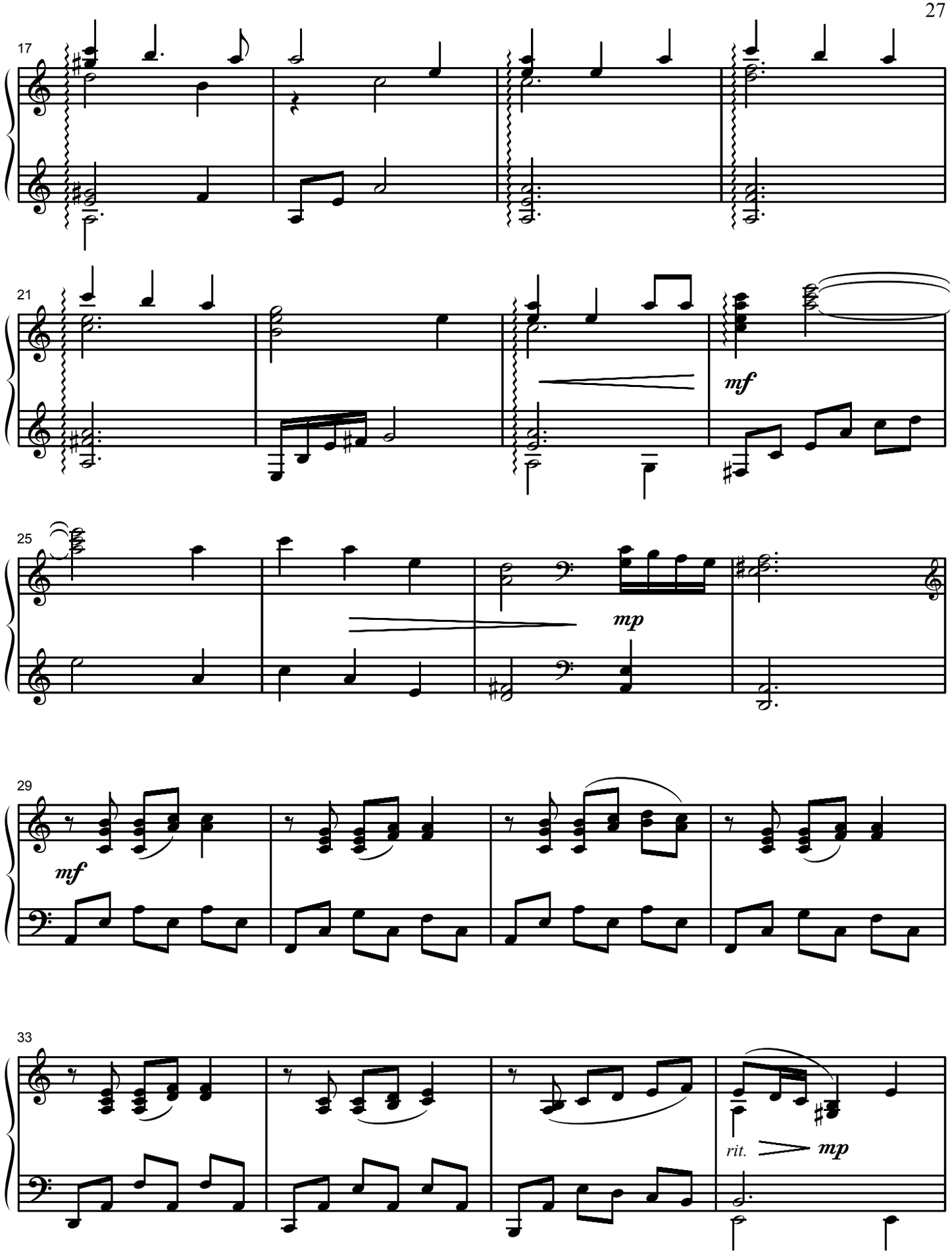
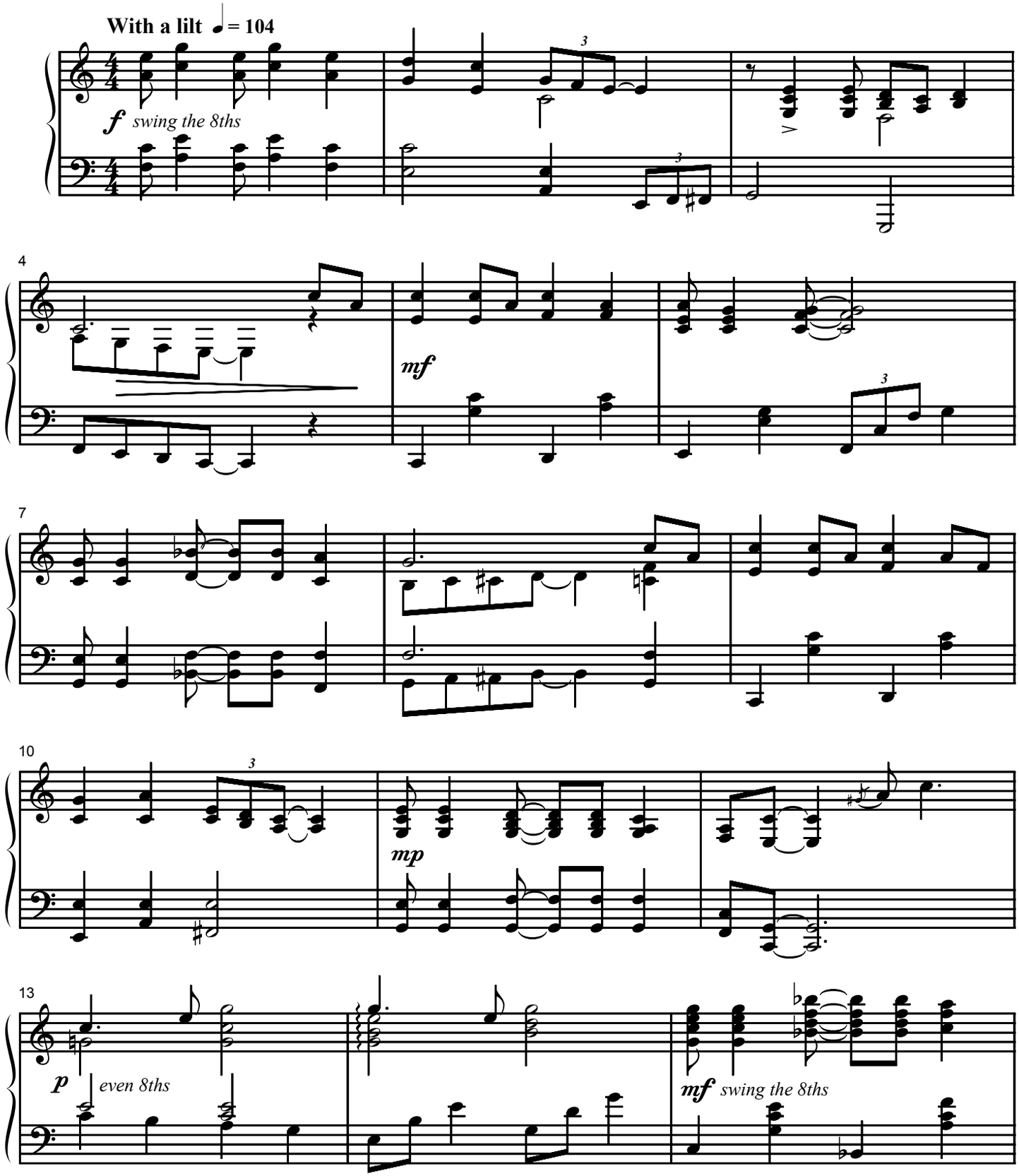

17
21
mf
25
mp
29
mf
33
rit.
mp

Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow

Lyrics on page 59

Arranged by Mark Hayes
Traditional Spiritual



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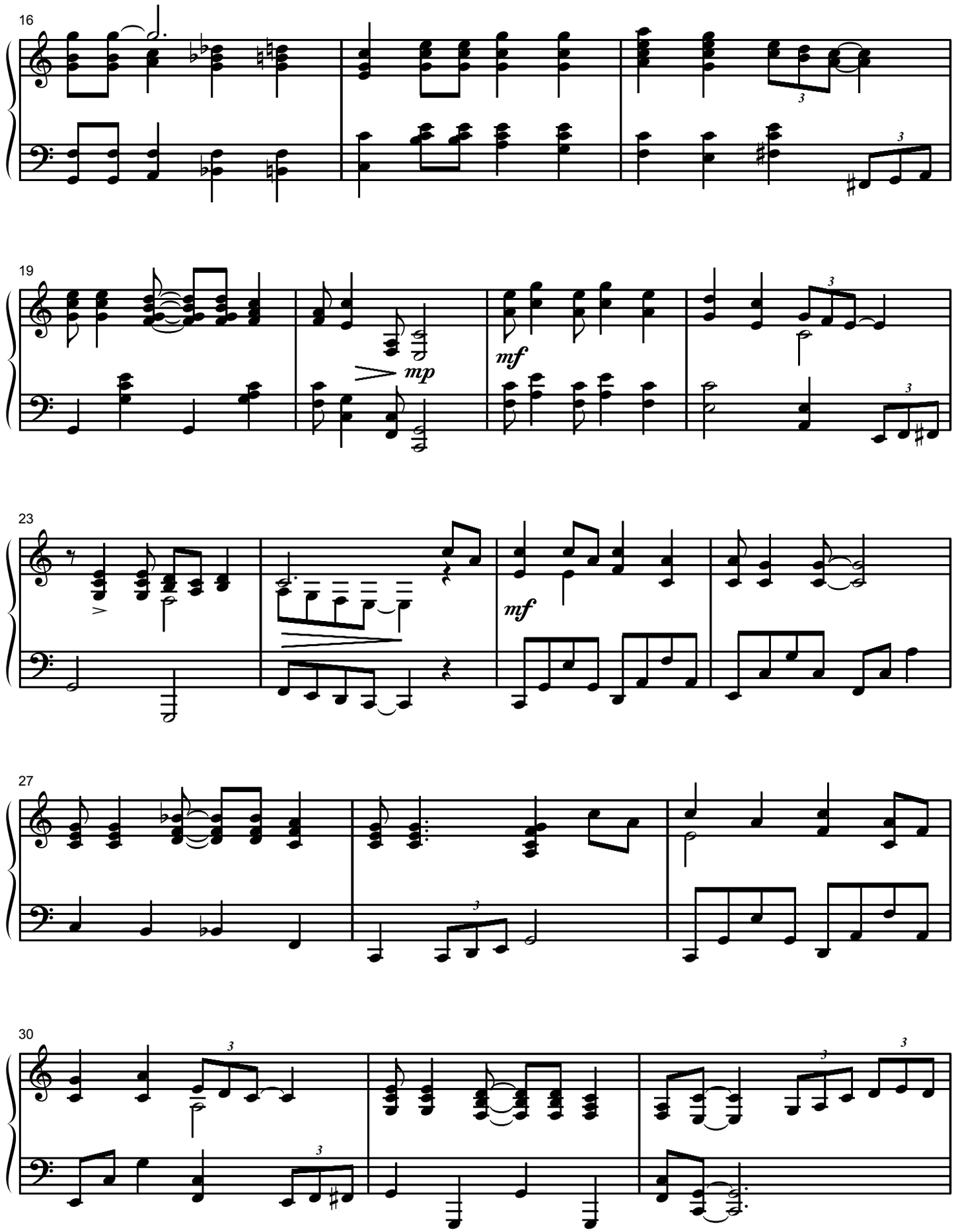
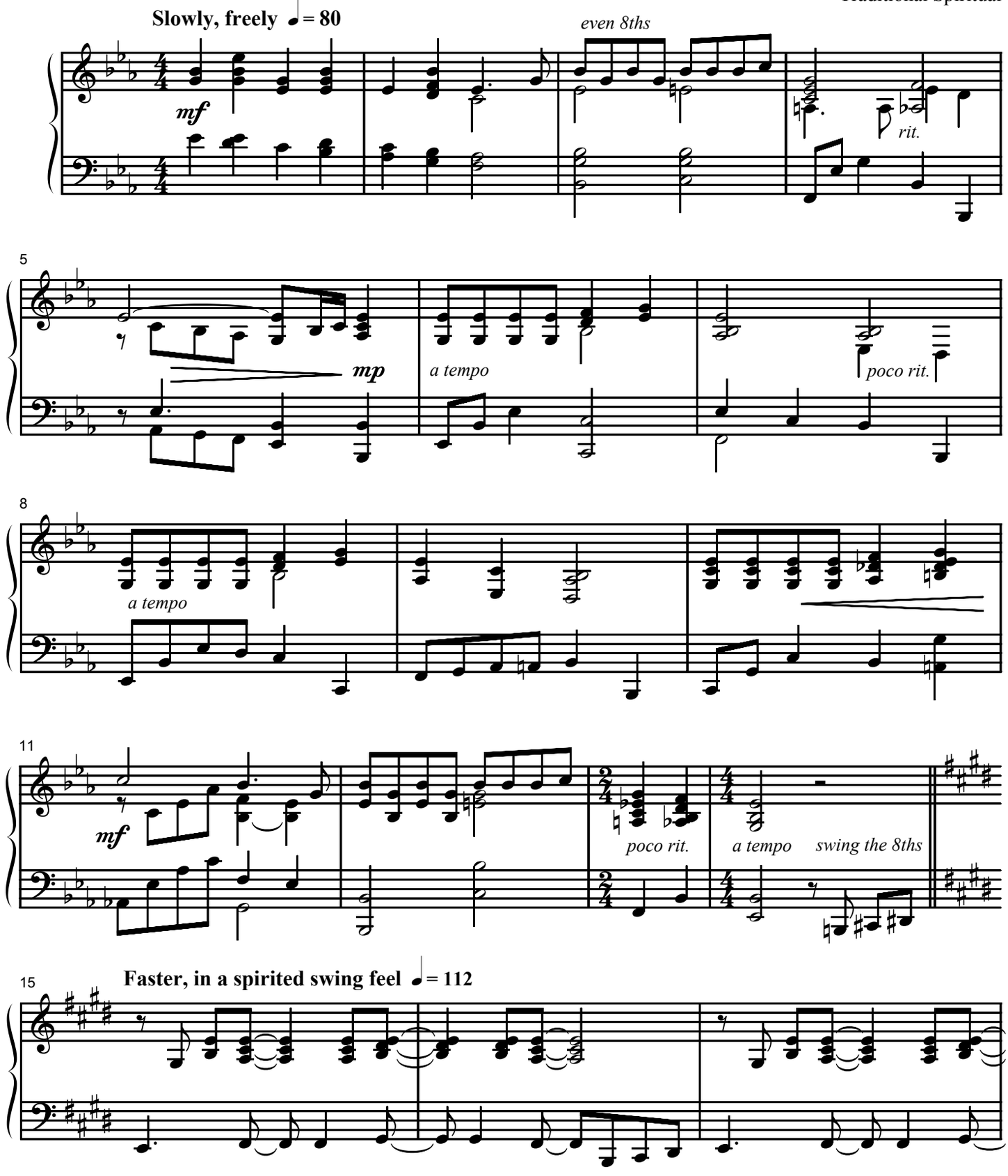

16
19
mp
mf
23
mf
27
30

Mary Had a Baby

Lyrics on page 60

Arranged by Mark Hayes
Traditional Spiritual



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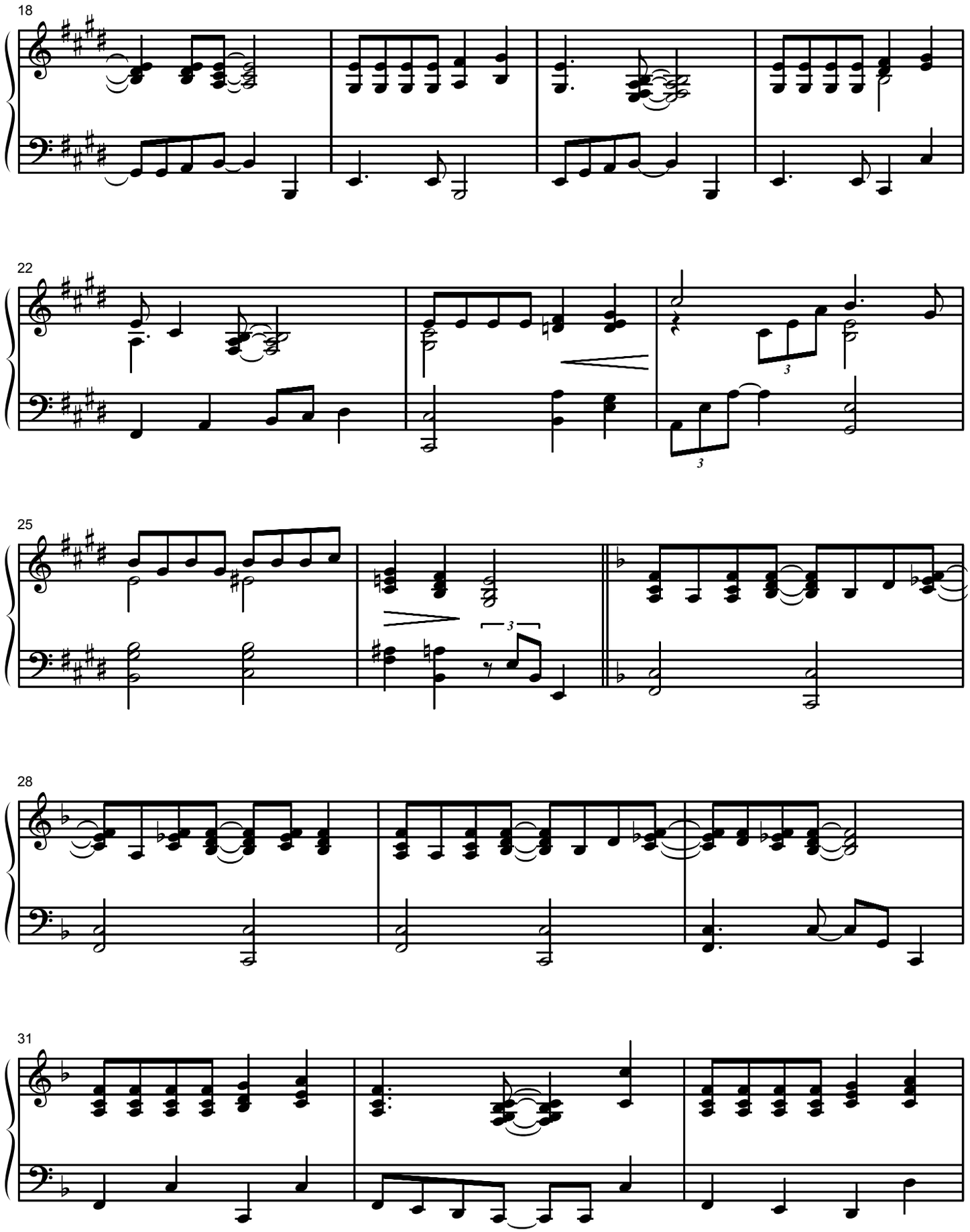
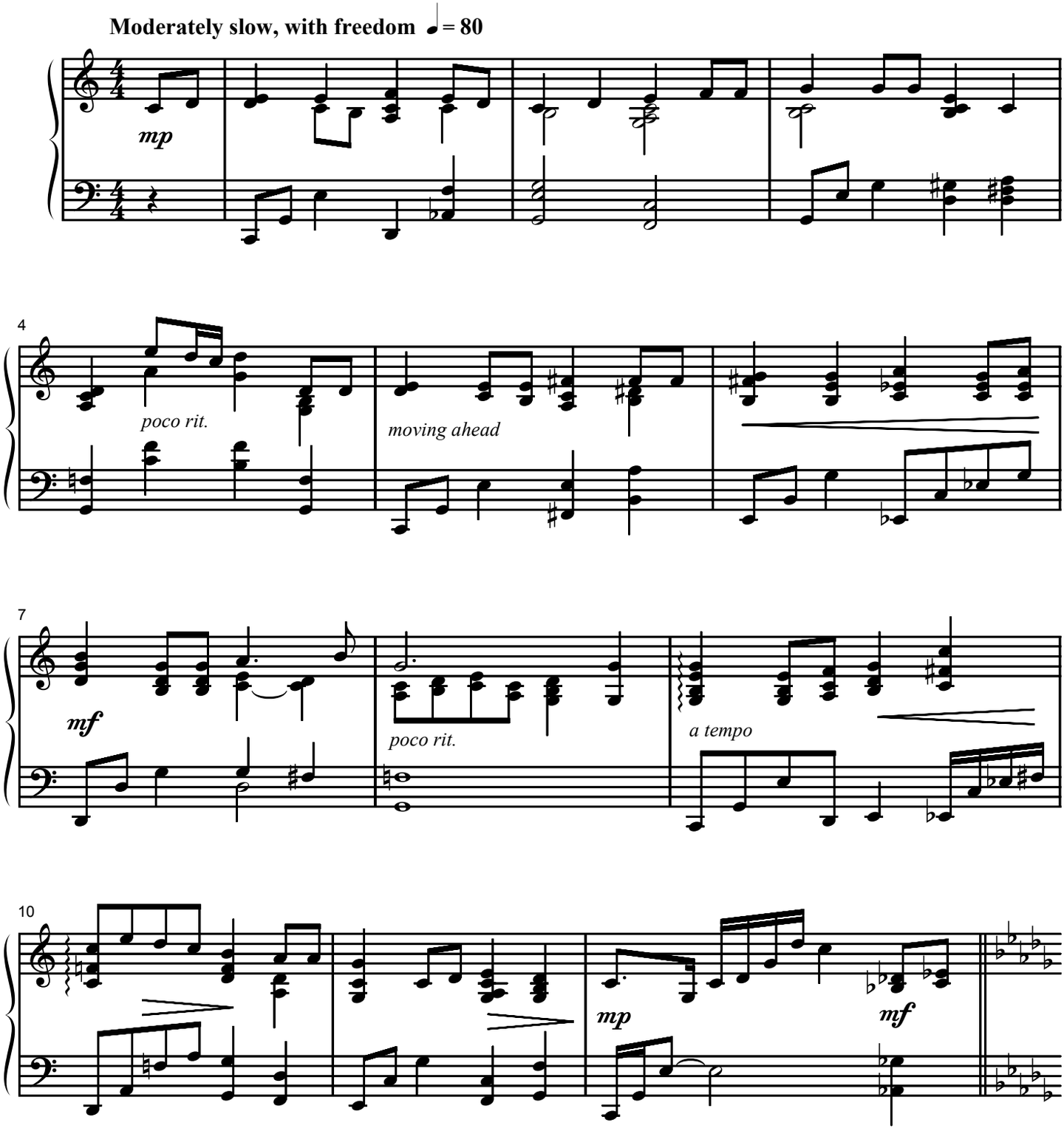

18
22
25
28
31

Lyrics on page 61

Arranged by Mark Hayes
Music by Timothy R. Matthews



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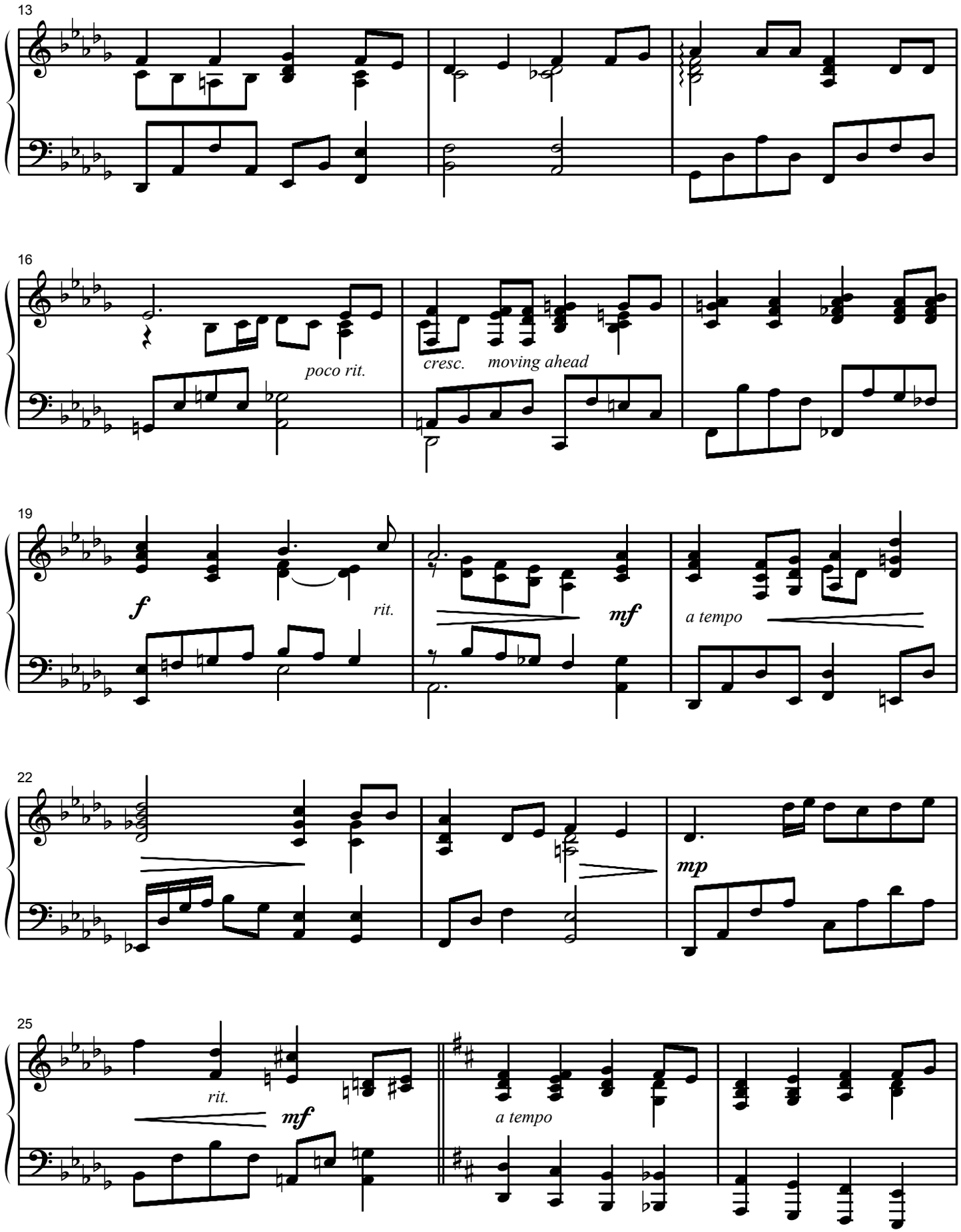
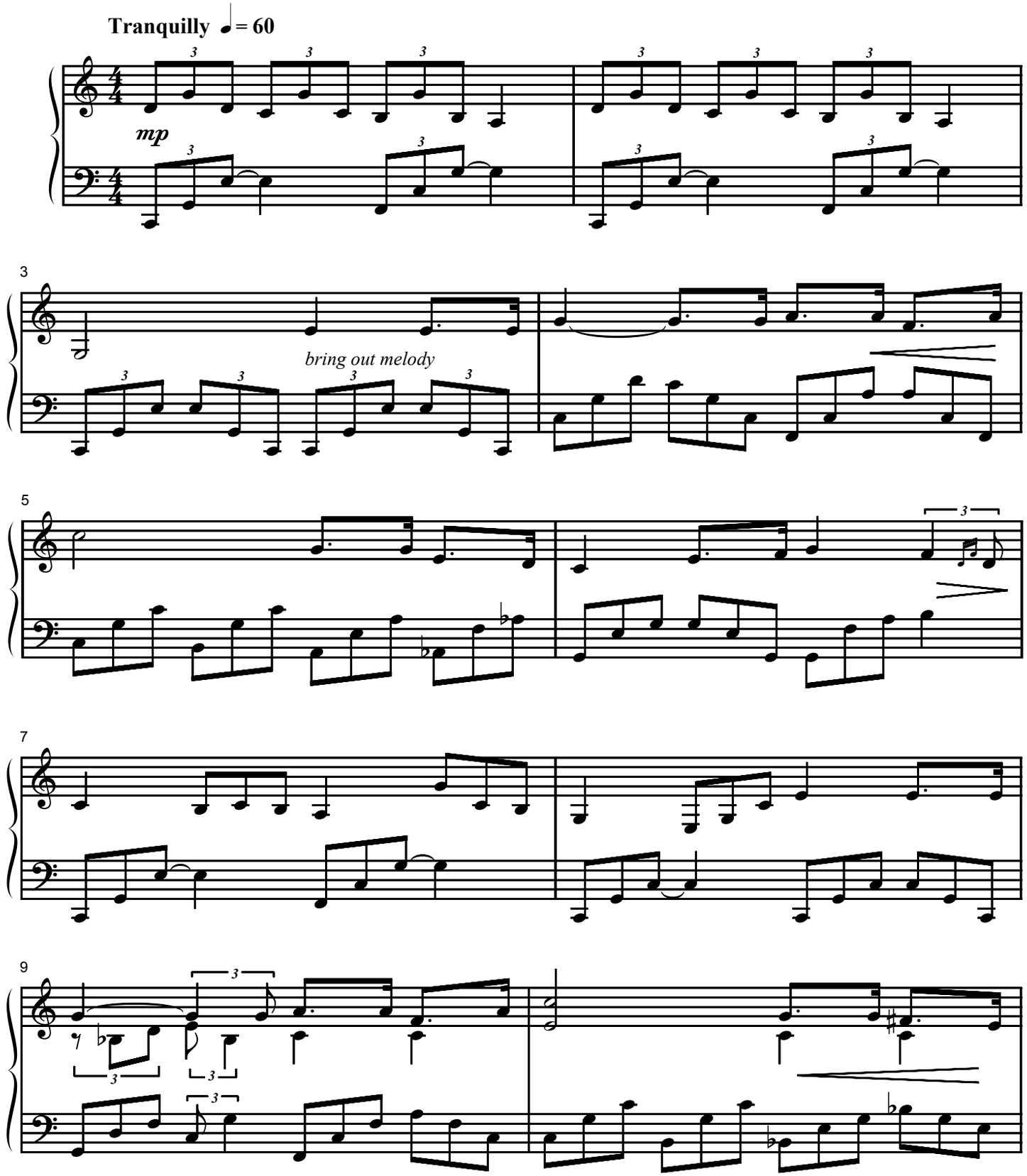

13
16
poco rit.
cresc.
moving ahead
19
f
rit.
mf
a tempo
22
mp
25
rit.
mf
a tempo

O Holy Night

Lyrics on page 62

Arranged by Mark Hayes
Music by Adolphe Charles Adam



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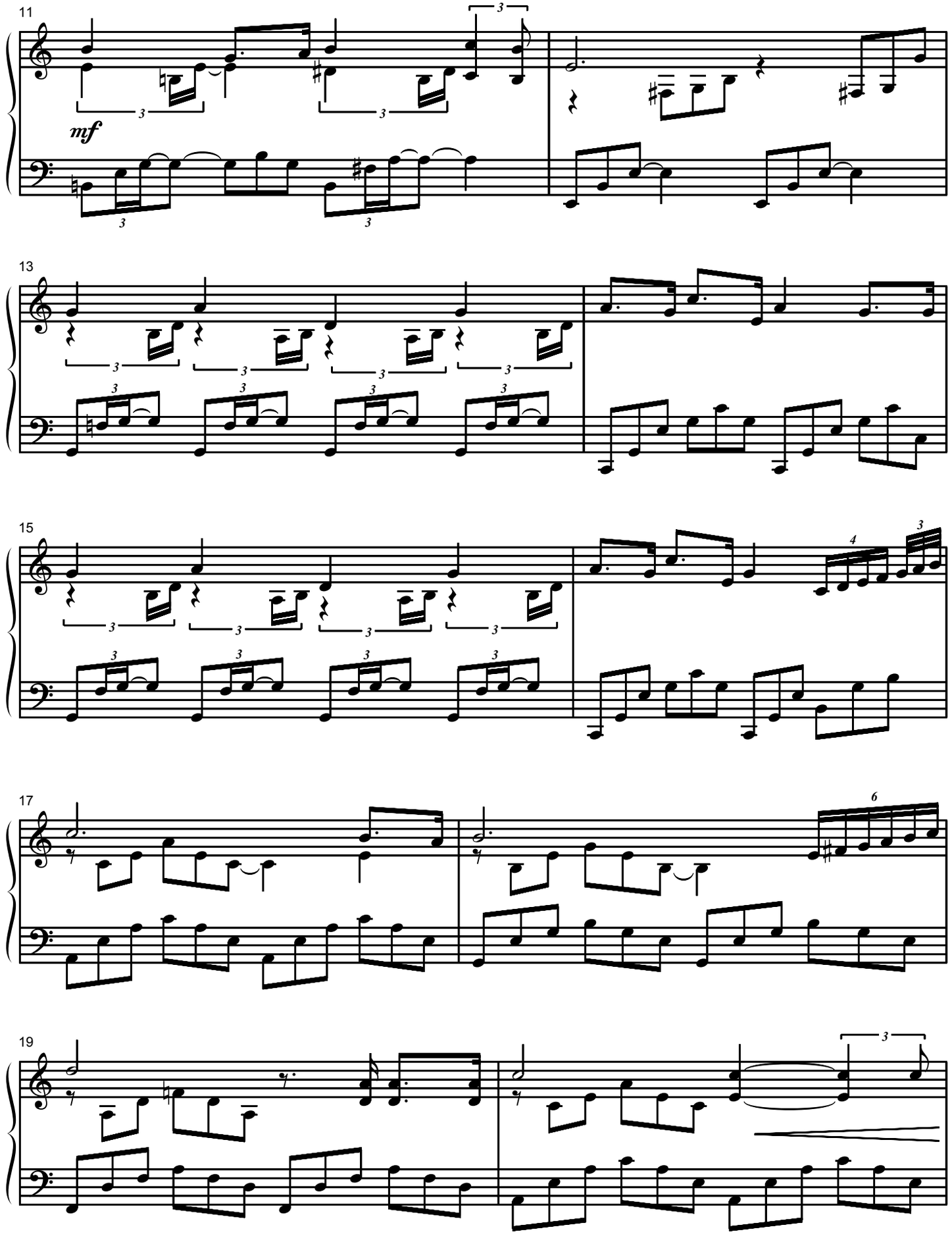
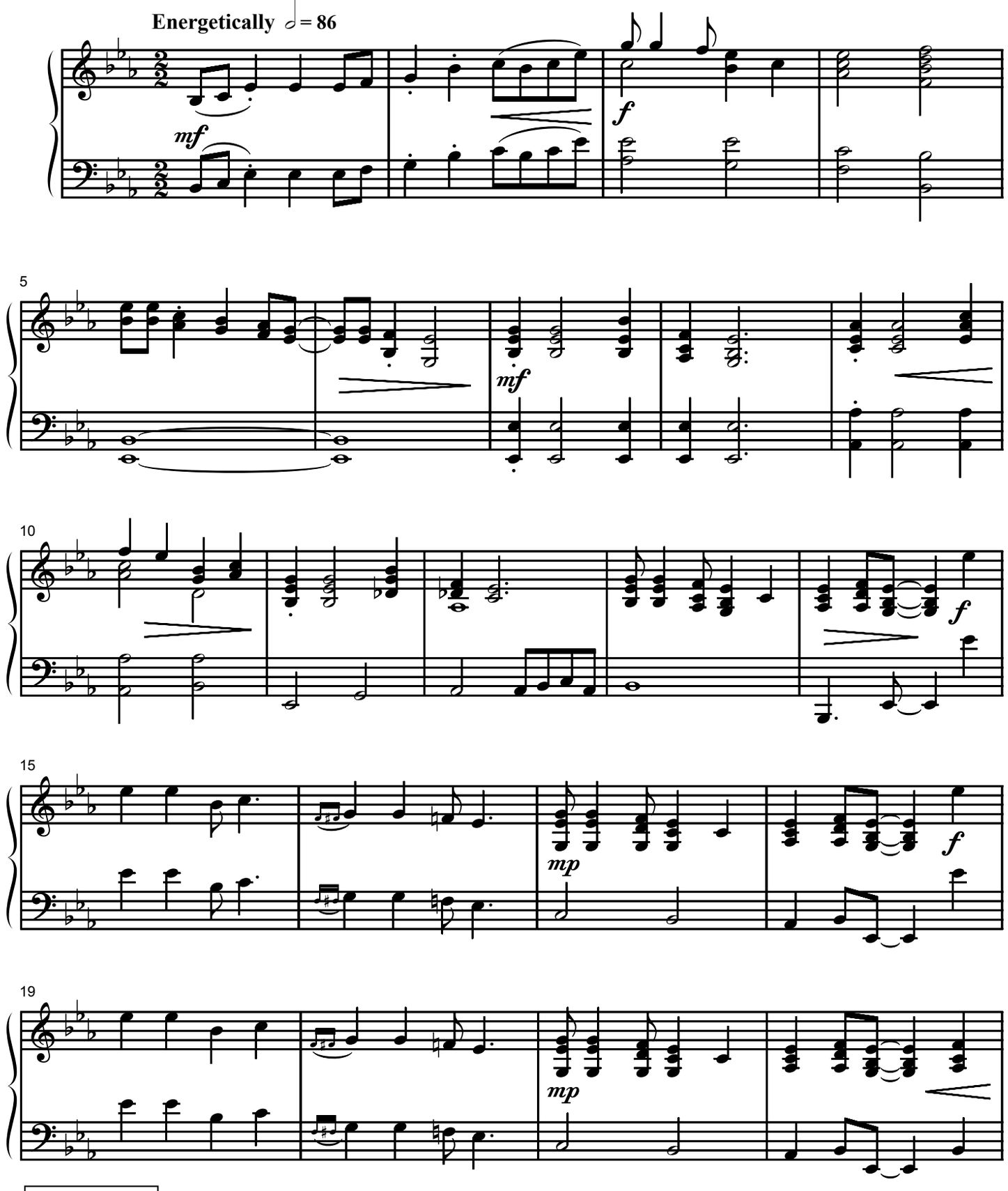

11
mf
13
15
17
19

Behold That Star

Lyrics on page 62

Arranged by Mark Hayes
Music by Thomas W. Talley



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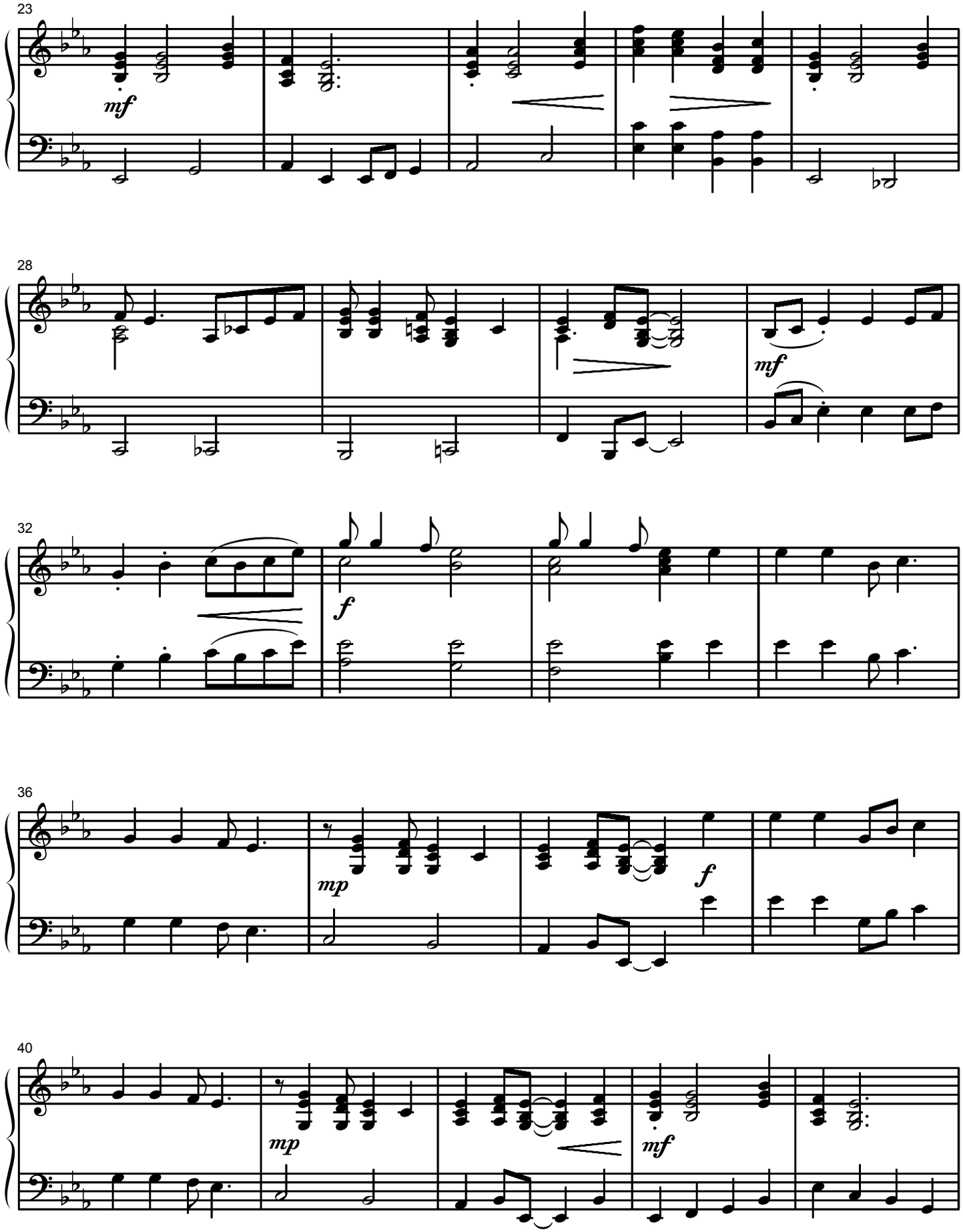
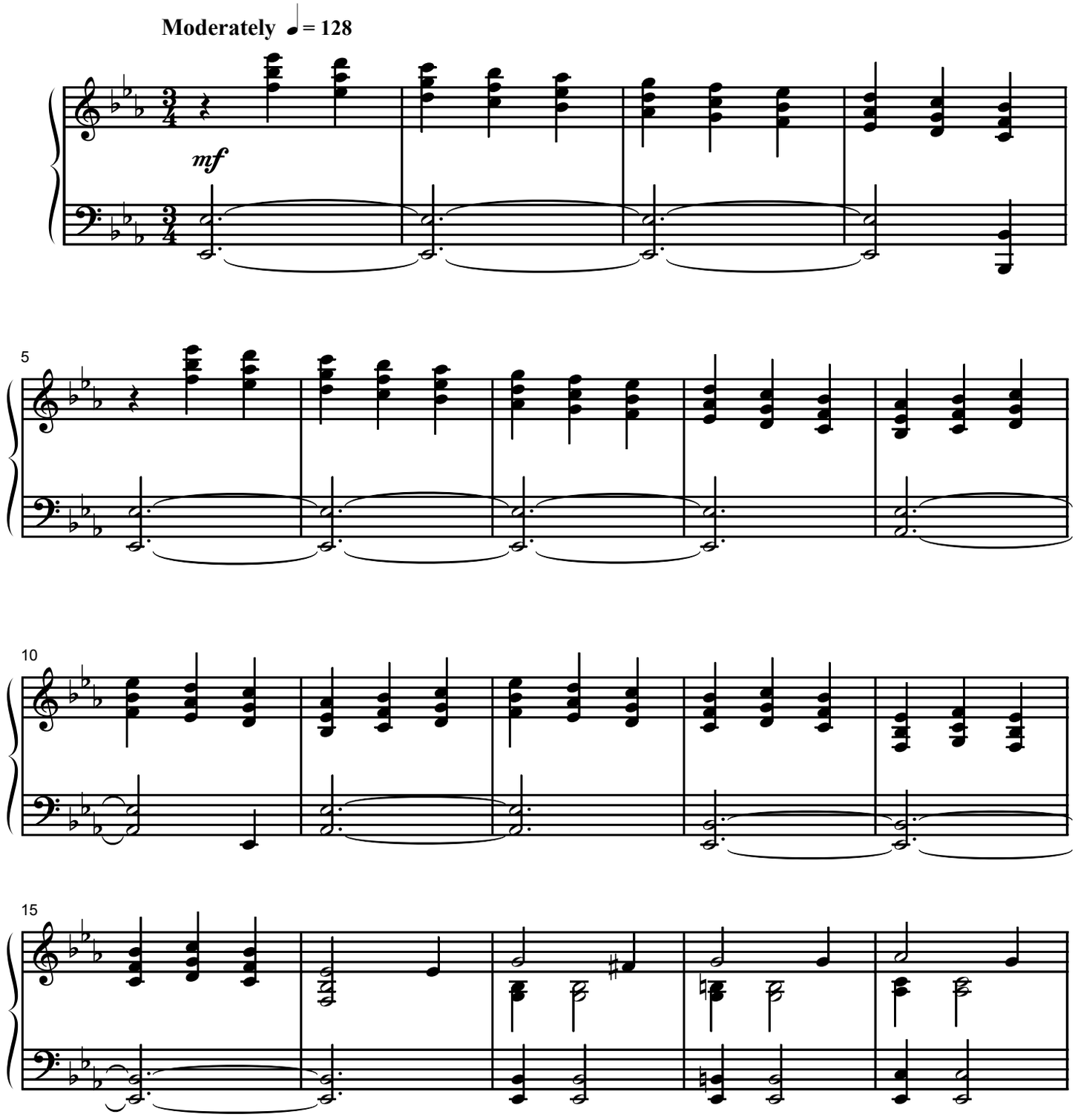

23
mf
28
mf
32
f
36
mp
f
40
mp
mf

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

Lyrics on page 63

Arranged by Mark Hayes
Music by Jean Baptiste Calkin



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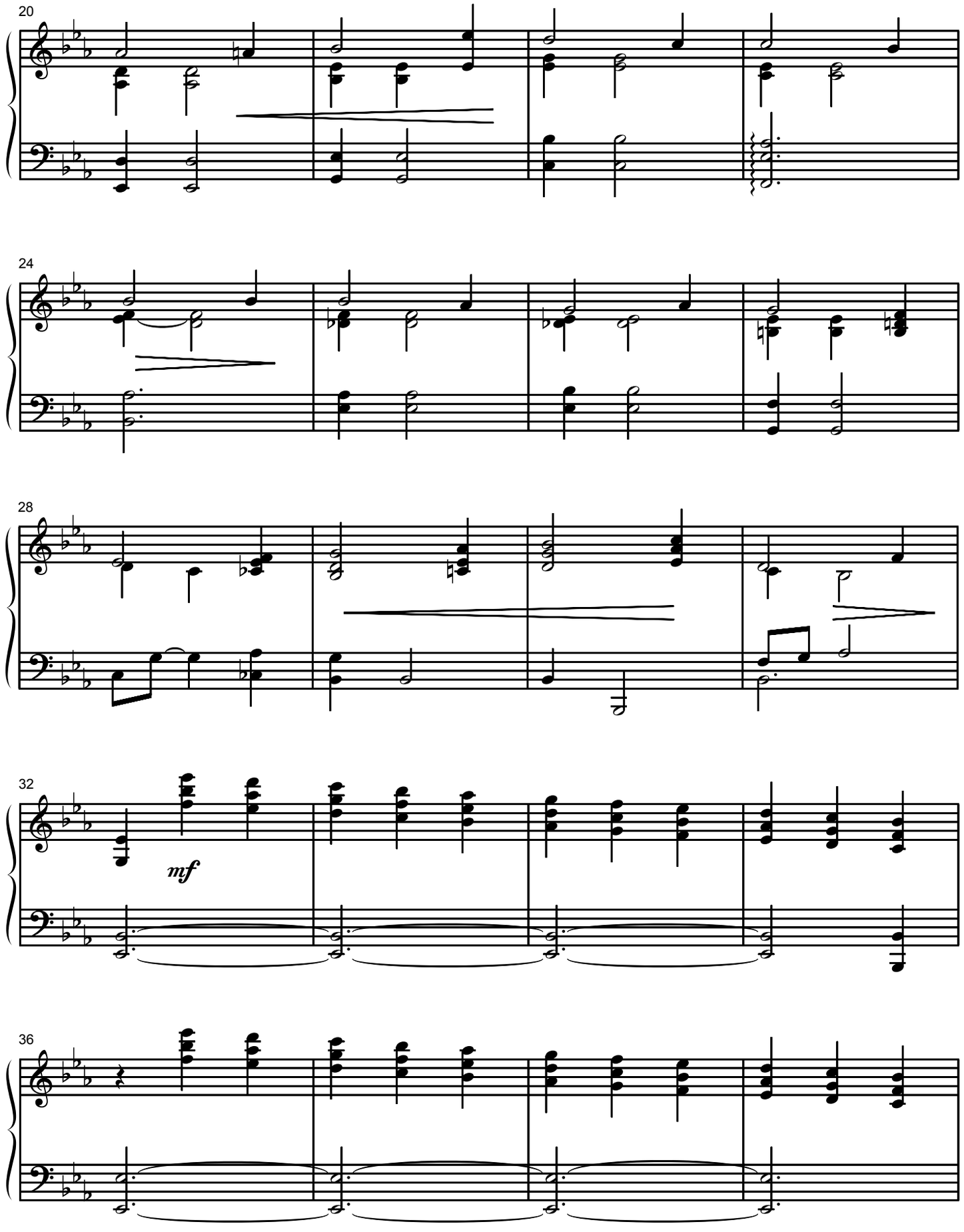
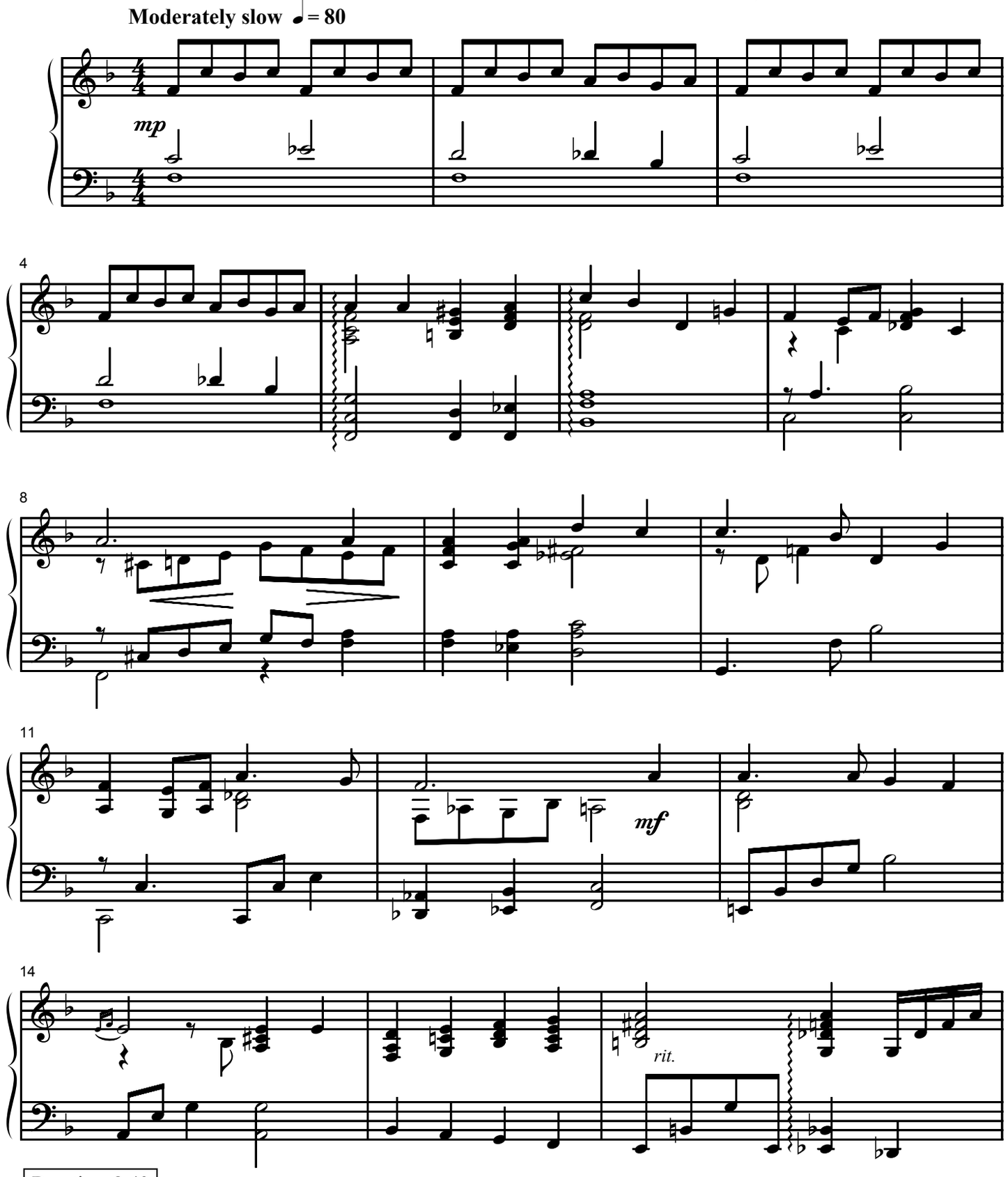

20
24
28
32
mf
36

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Lyrics on page 64

Arranged by Mark Hayes
Music by Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908



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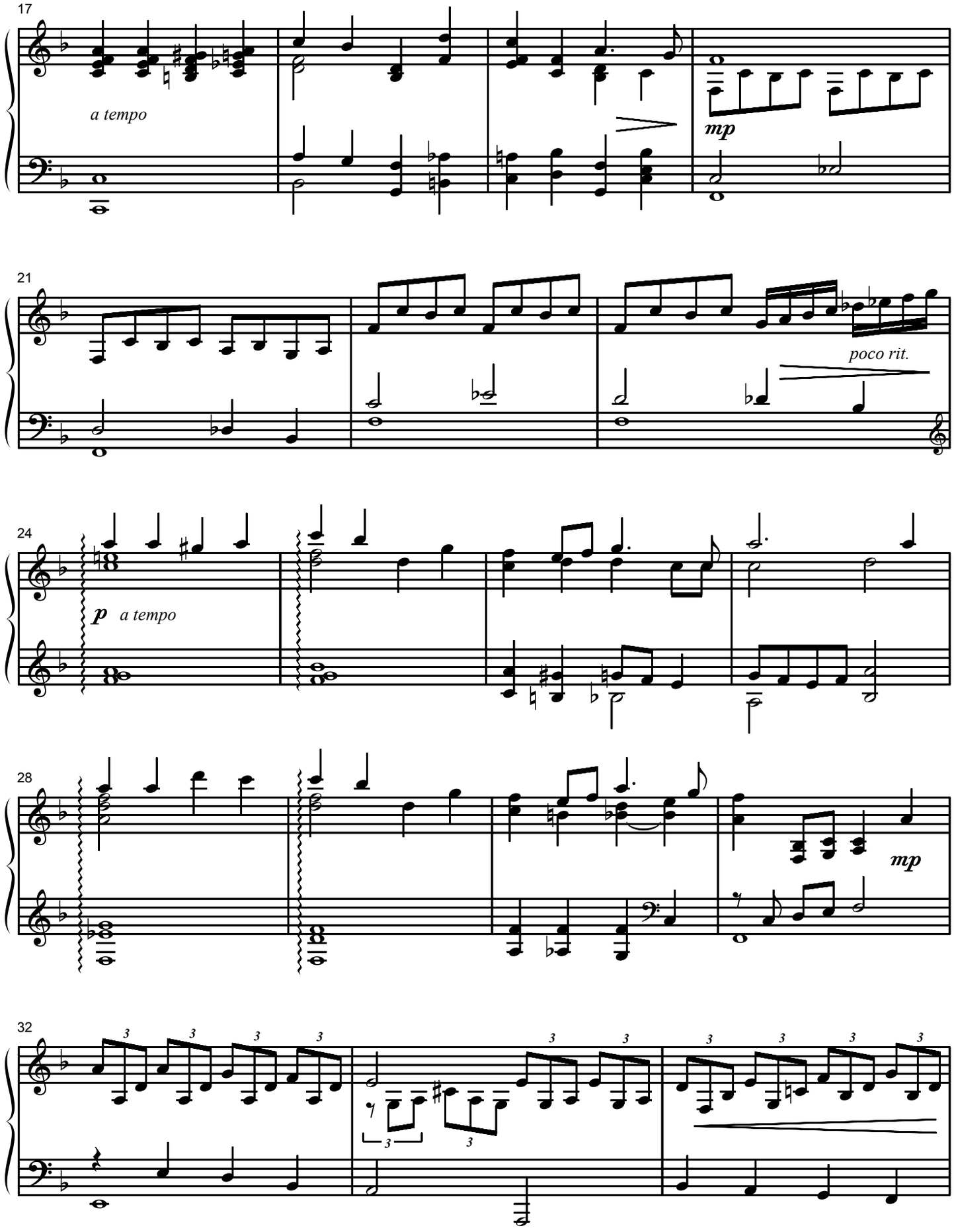
17
a tempo
mp
21
poco rit.
24
p a tempo
28
mp
32