FOREWORD

The early American hymns that stand as an essential part of our musical heritage surely have great intrinsic merit, for they have withstood the test of time. We owe a debt of gratitude to those who gathered and published numerous collections in the first half of the nineteenth century, such as John Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, William Walker's *Southern Harmony and Musical Companion*, and *The Sacred Harp* of 1844. In general terms, we refer to these melodies as Shape Note tunes, because the noteheads were printed in distinct shapes to assist with finding the correct pitch. As is often the case, probing further into this broad description reveals many complexities, contradictions and subtleties, which I invite you to explore at your leisure. Many surprises await. For example, the Shaker song that we know today as Simple Gifts was intended to be sung as an accompaniment to dancing, hence the express instruction "To turn, turn will be our delight, Till by turning, turning we come 'round right."

Setting aside considerations of historical discovery, the tunes of this era are ideal material for new arrangements—strong, memorable and highly melodic. I hope these settings find favor wherever the resources are available for duets featuring piano and organ.

This collection is dedicated to my duet partner of many years, Valetta Fellenbaum.

John S. Dixon
Norfolk, Virginia

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BEACH SPRING

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SIMPLE GIFTS

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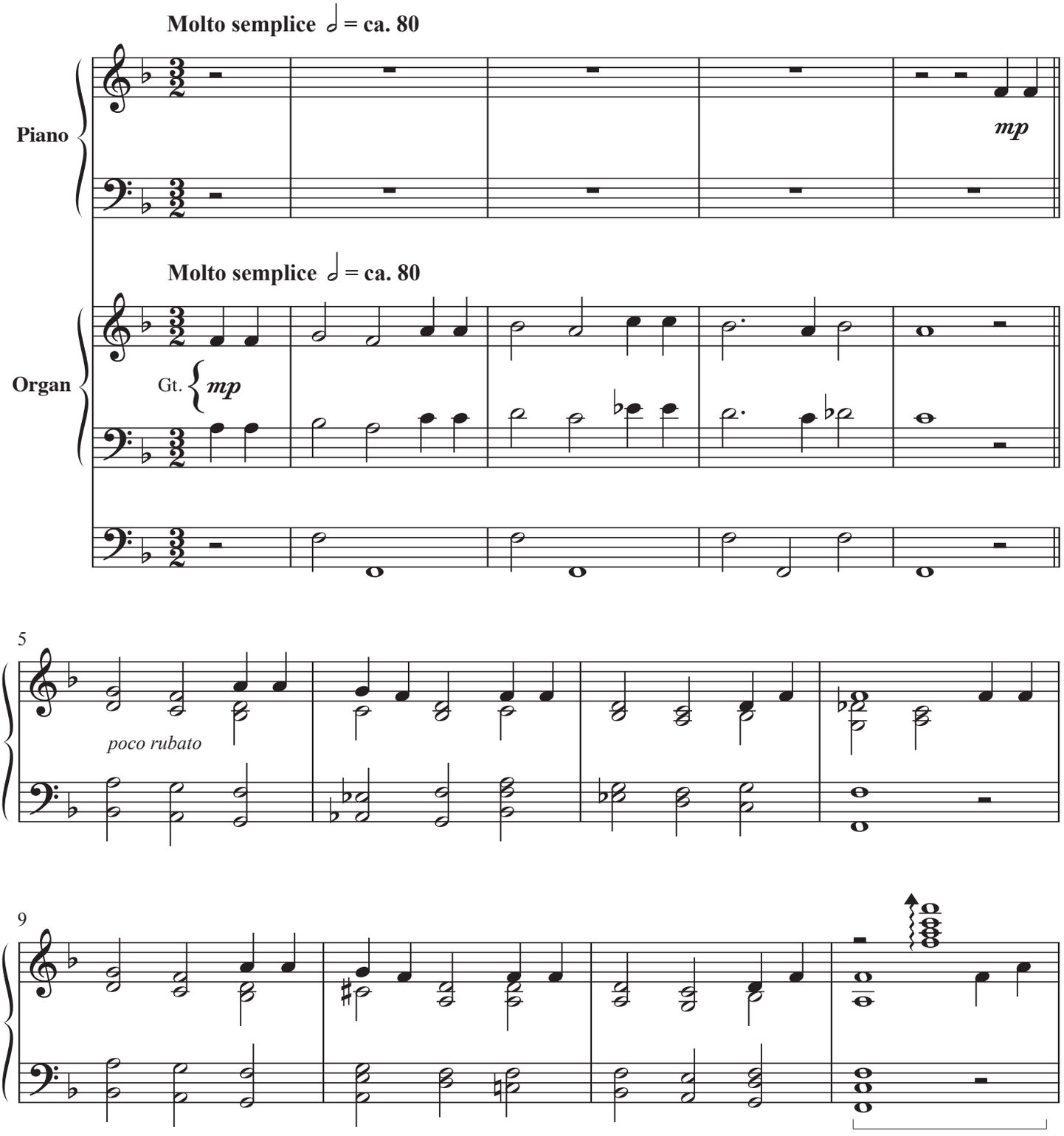
HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

Morning Song 50
MORNING SONG

Beach Spring

Sw. Soft Reed 8
Gt. Flutes 8, 2
Ch. Strings 8, 4
Ped. Flutes 16, 8

John S. Dixon
Tune: **BEACH SPRING**
from *The Sacred Harp*, 1844



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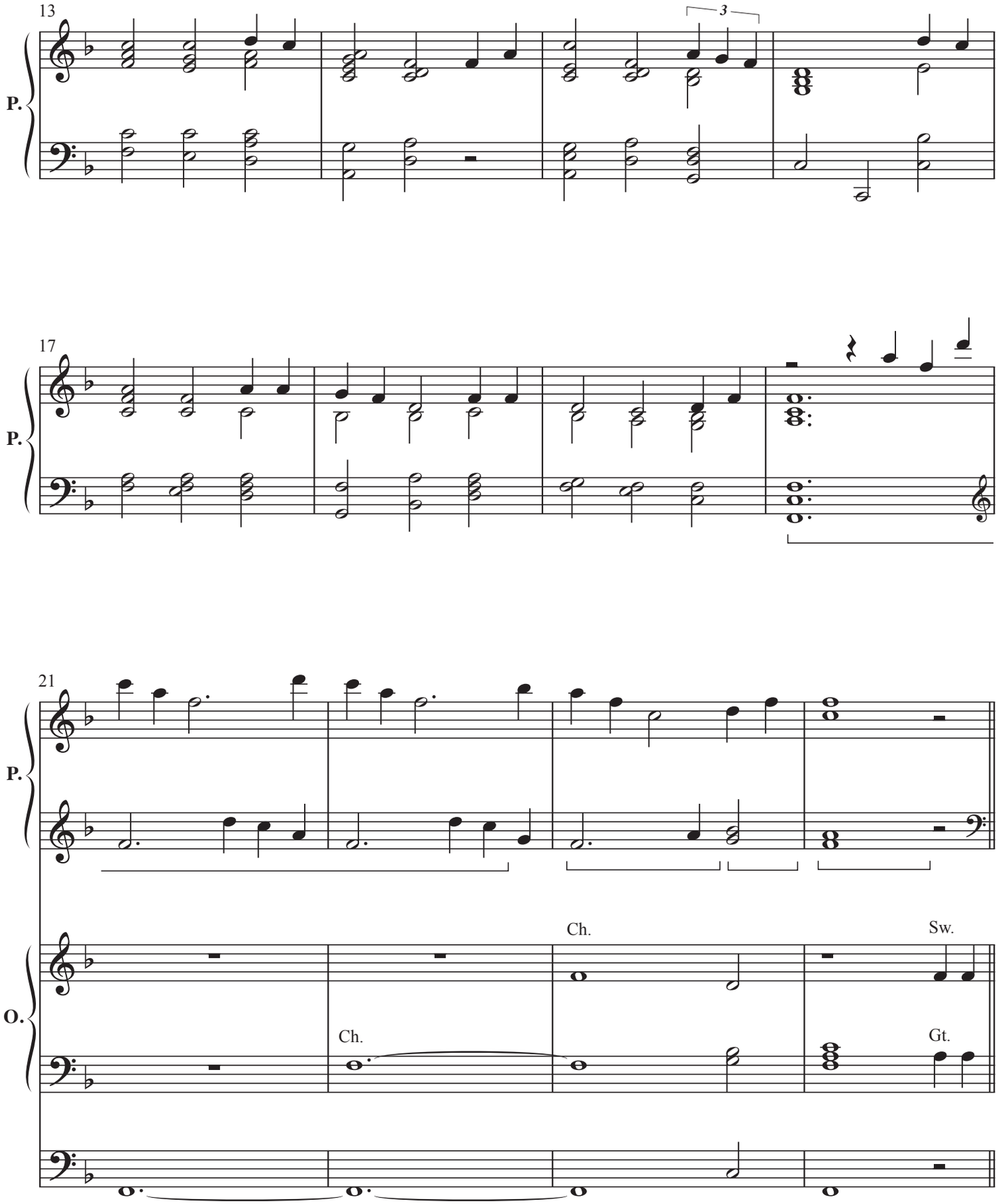
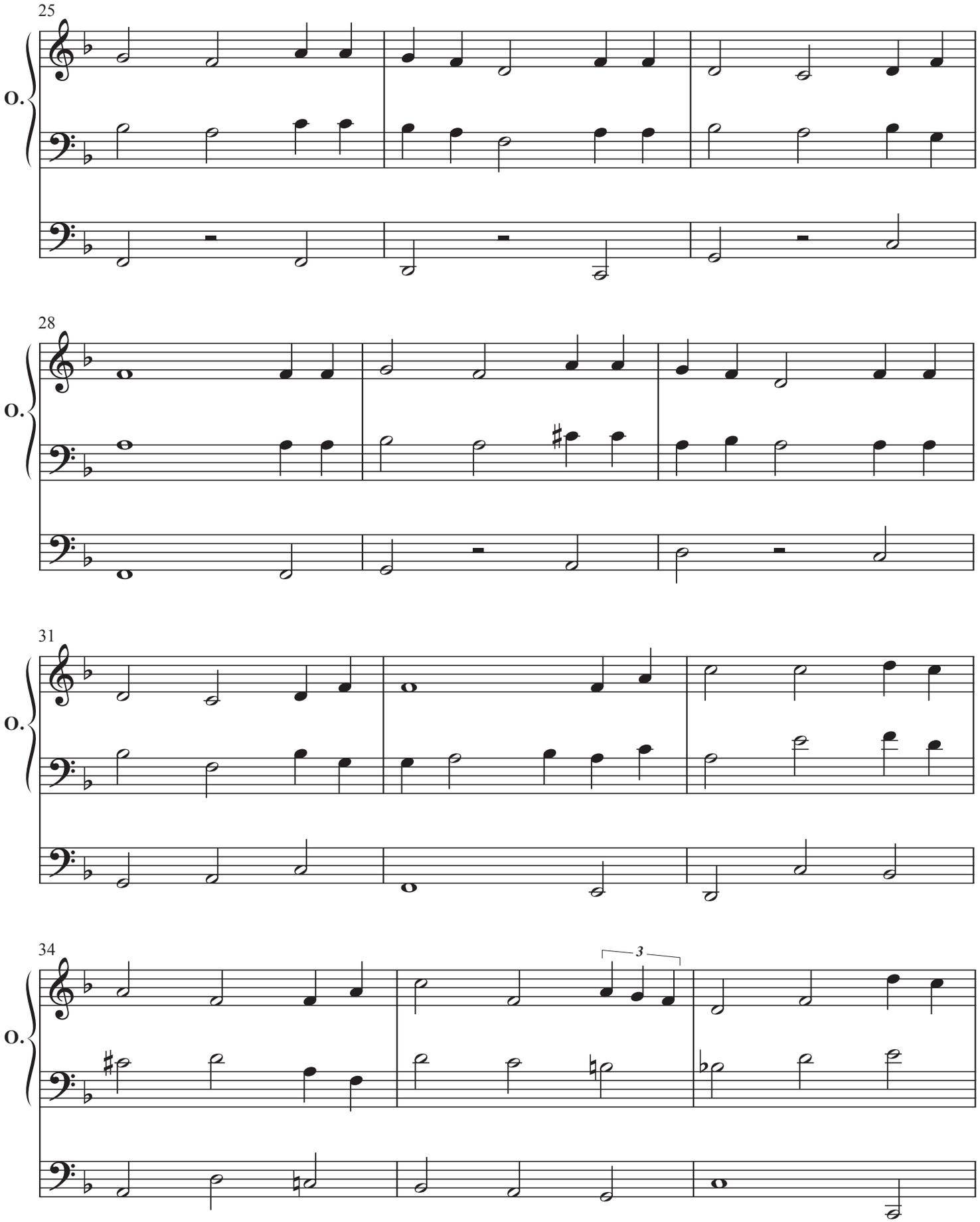
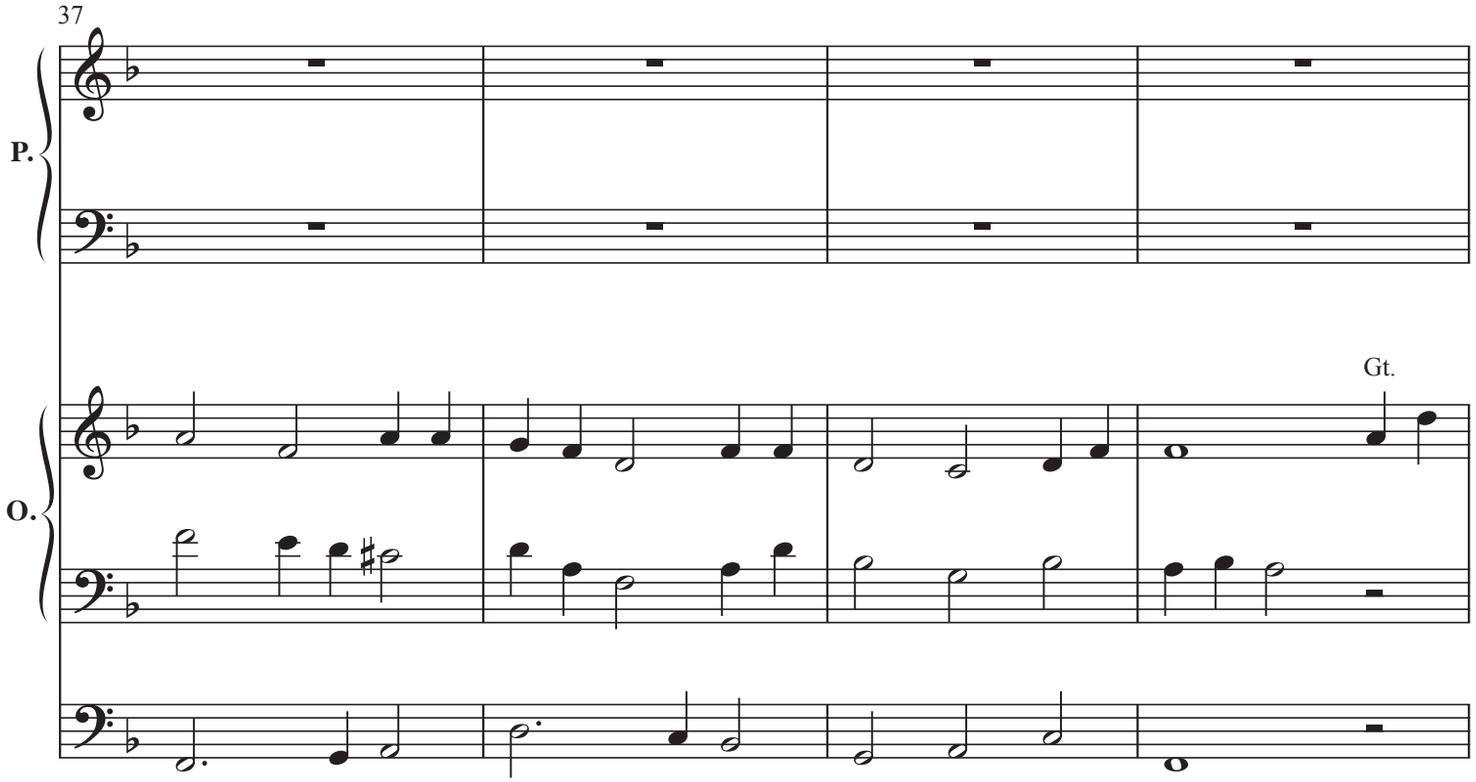
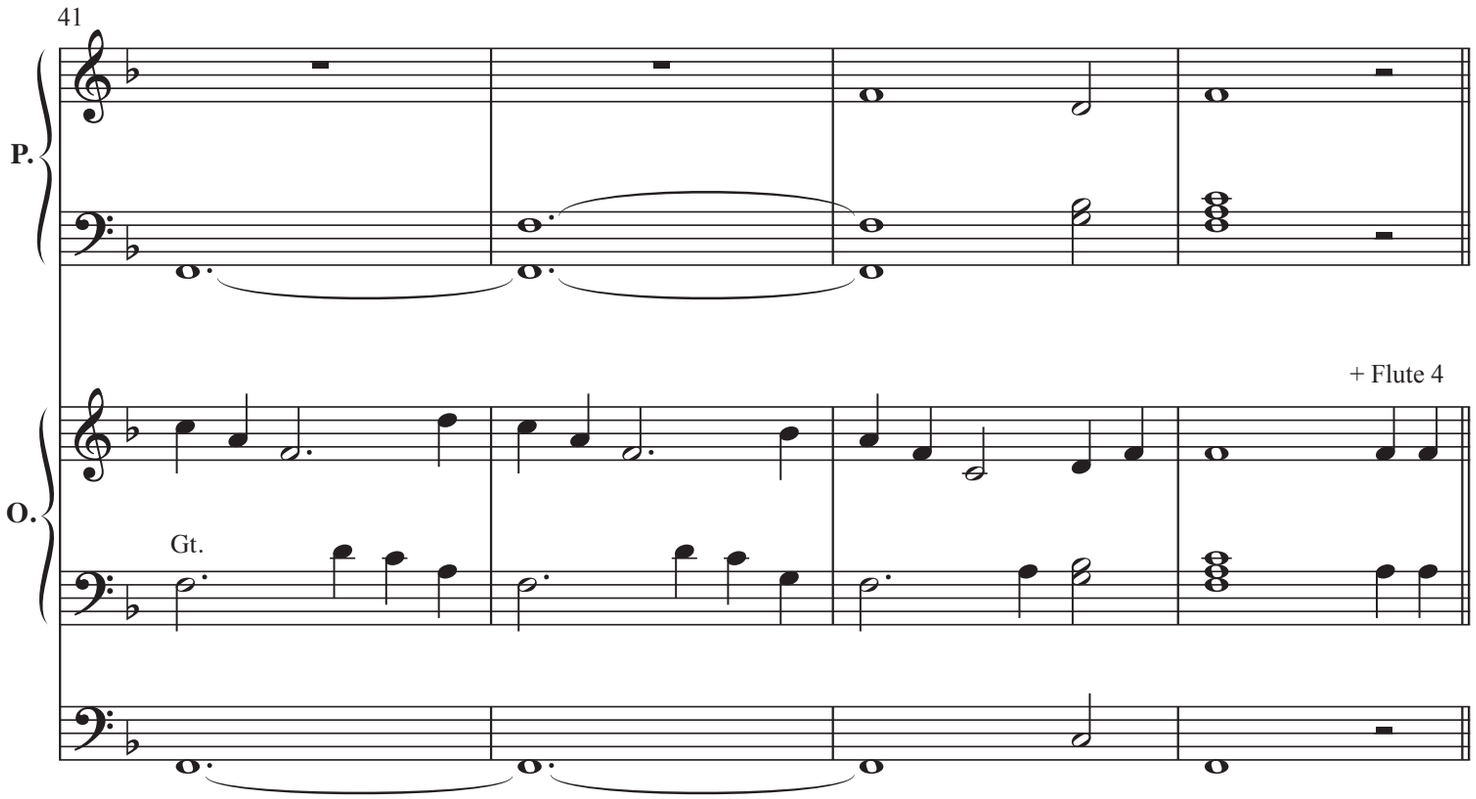
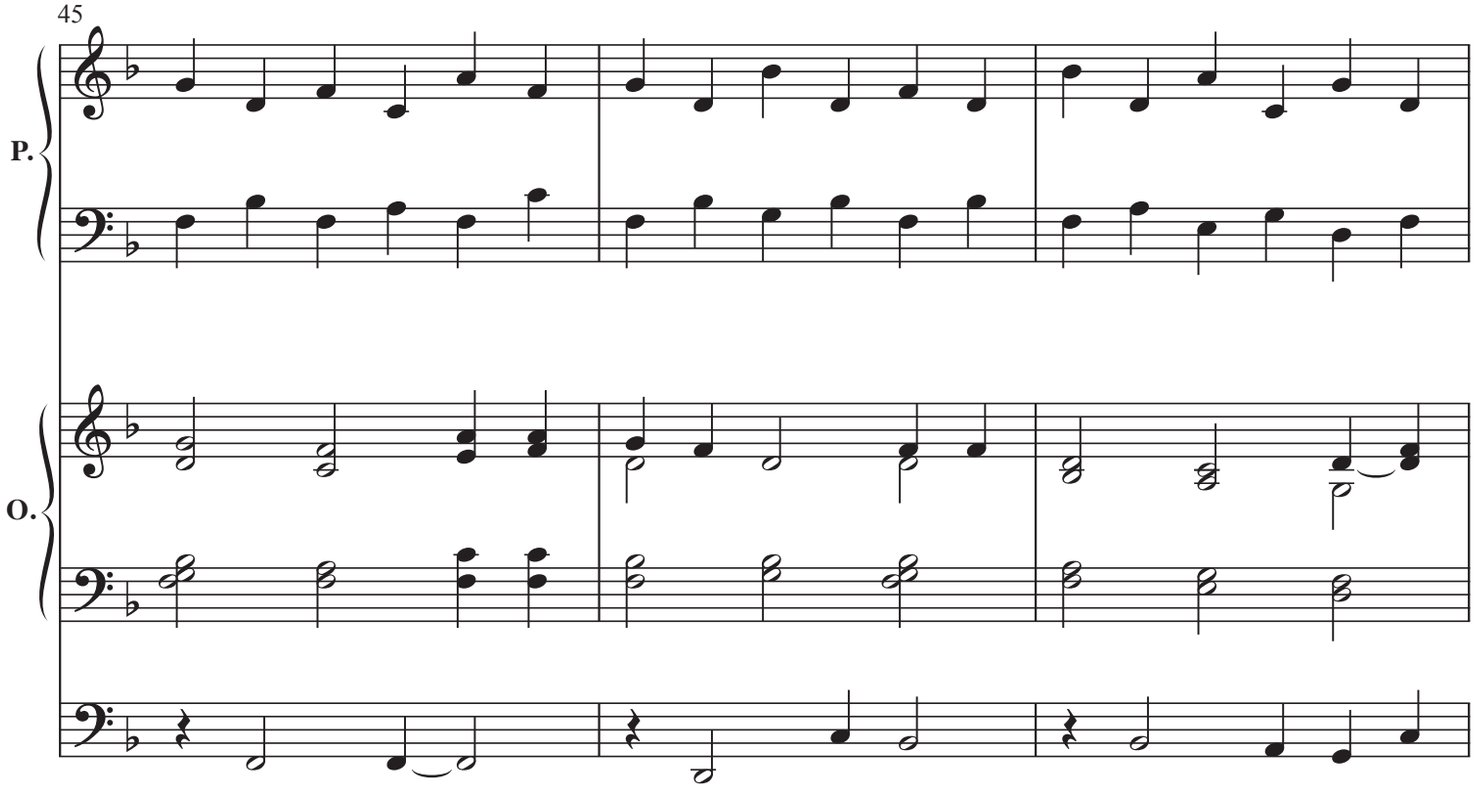

13
3
P.
17
P.
21
P.
O.
Ch.
Sw.
Ch.
Gt.


25
O.
28
O.
31
O.
34
3
O.


37
P.
O.
Gt.


41
P.
O.
+ Flute 4
Gt.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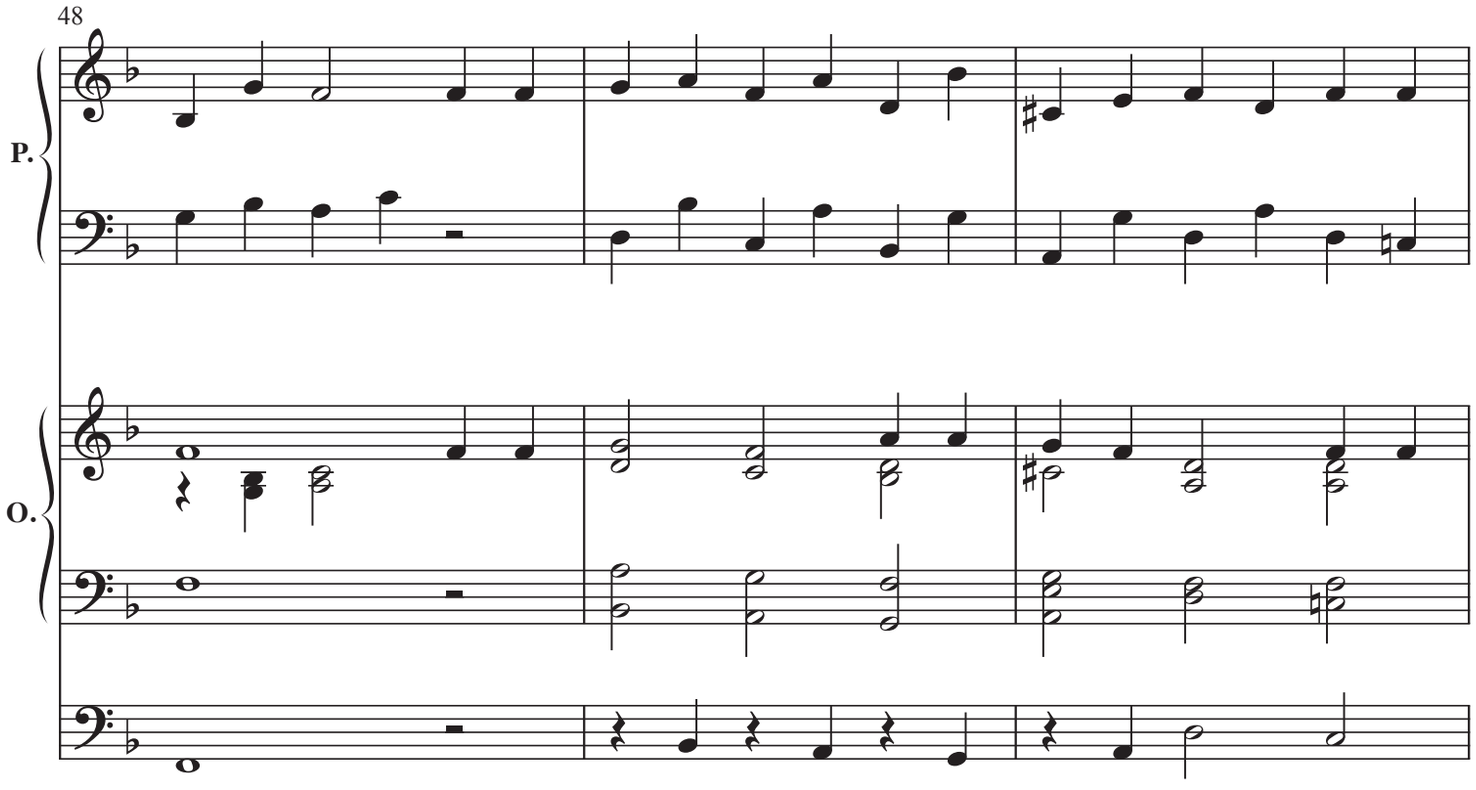
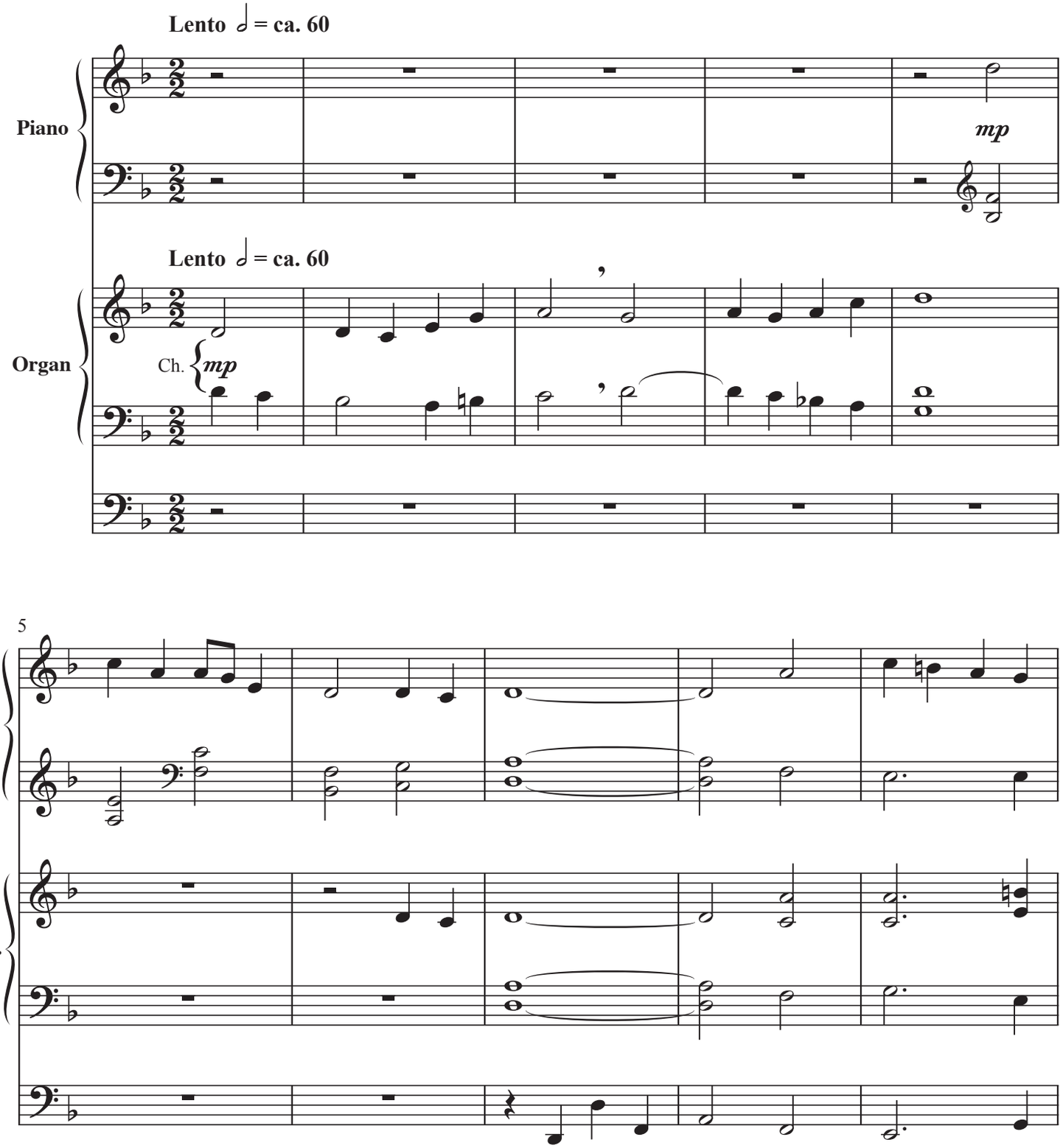

48
P.
O.

What Wondrous Love Is This

Sw. Soft Reed 8, Trem.
Gt. Flutes 8, 4, 2
Ch. Flutes 8, 4
Ped. Flutes 16, 8, Sw. to Ped.

John S. Dixon
Tune: **WONDROUS LOVE**
from *Southern Harmony*, 1835



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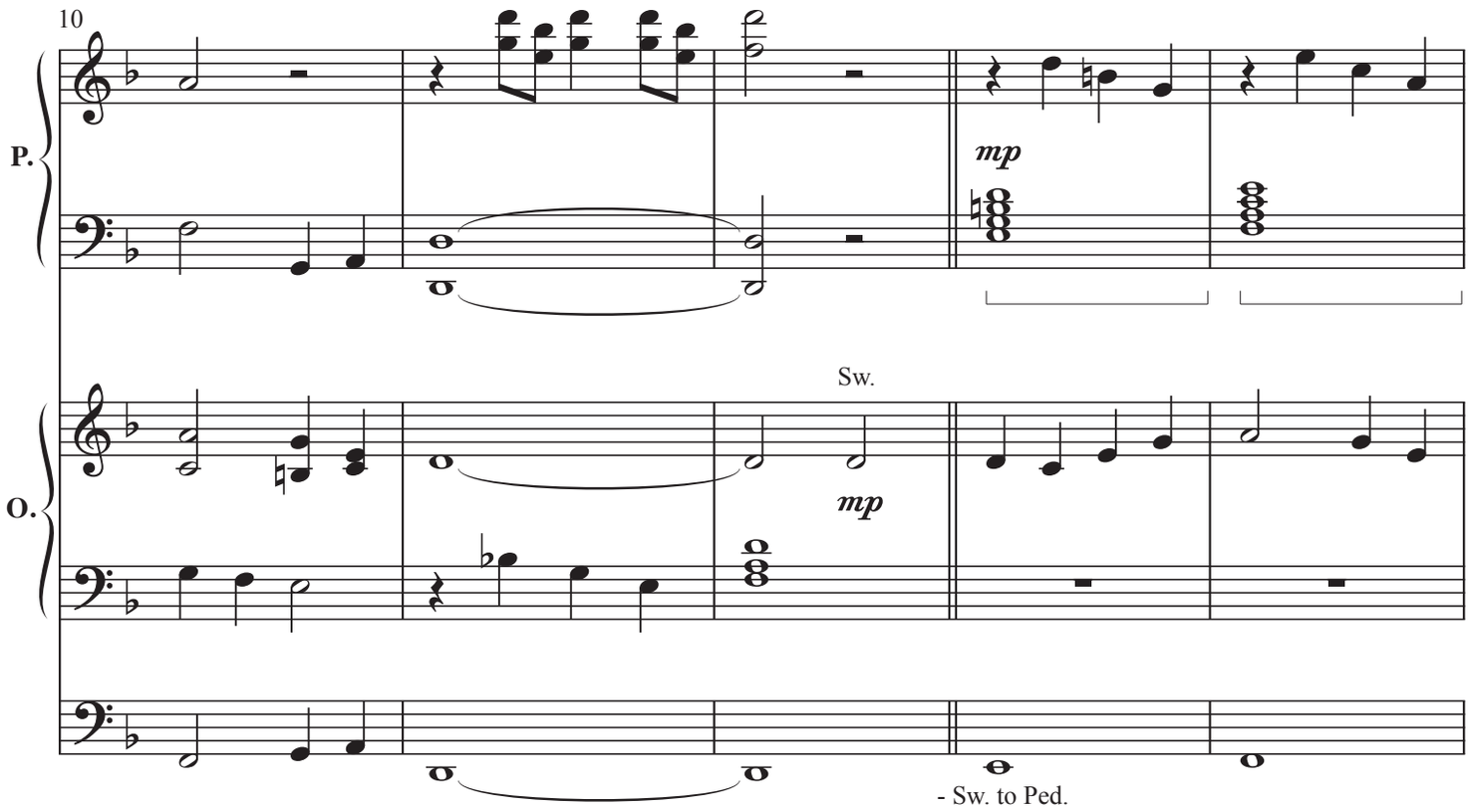
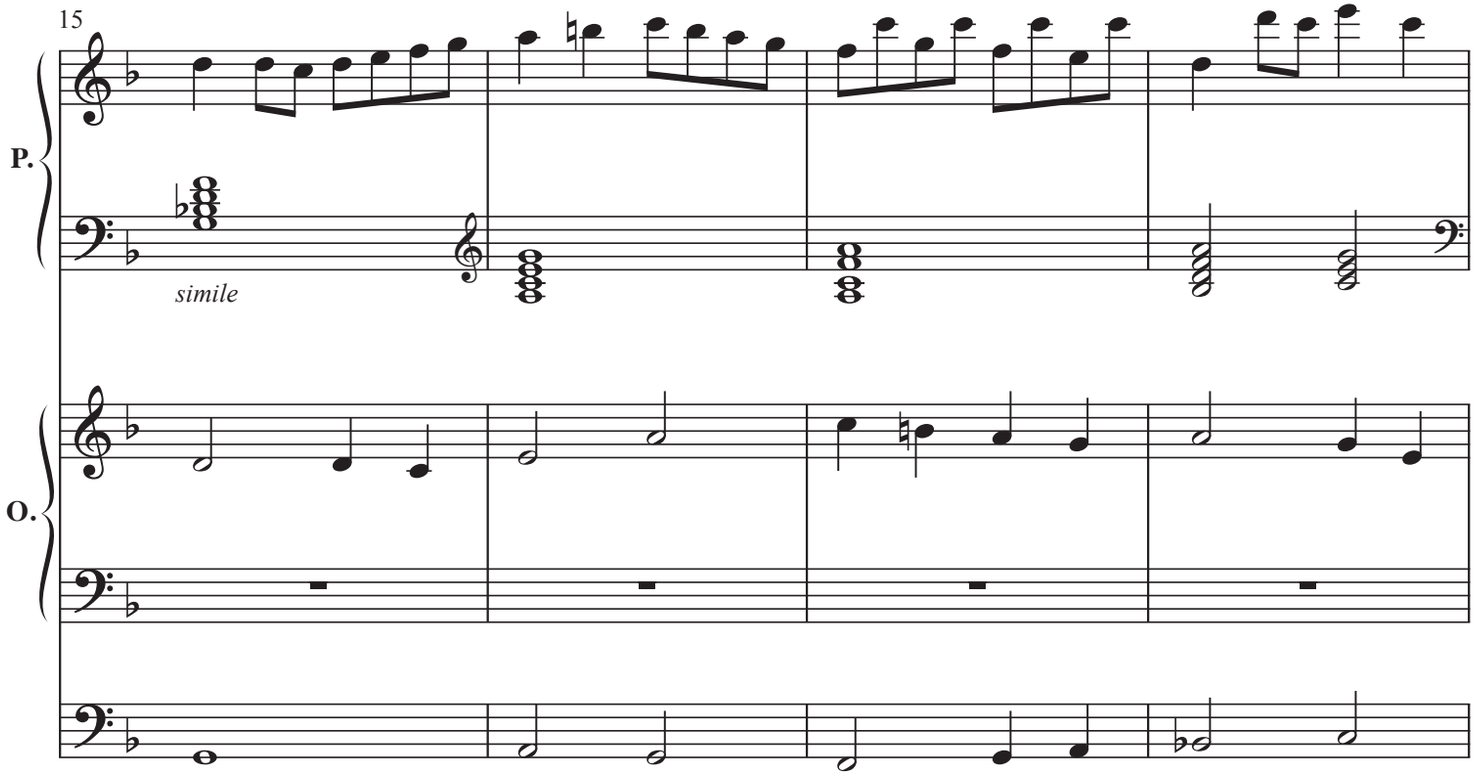

10
P.
mp
Sw.
O.
mp
- Sw. to Ped.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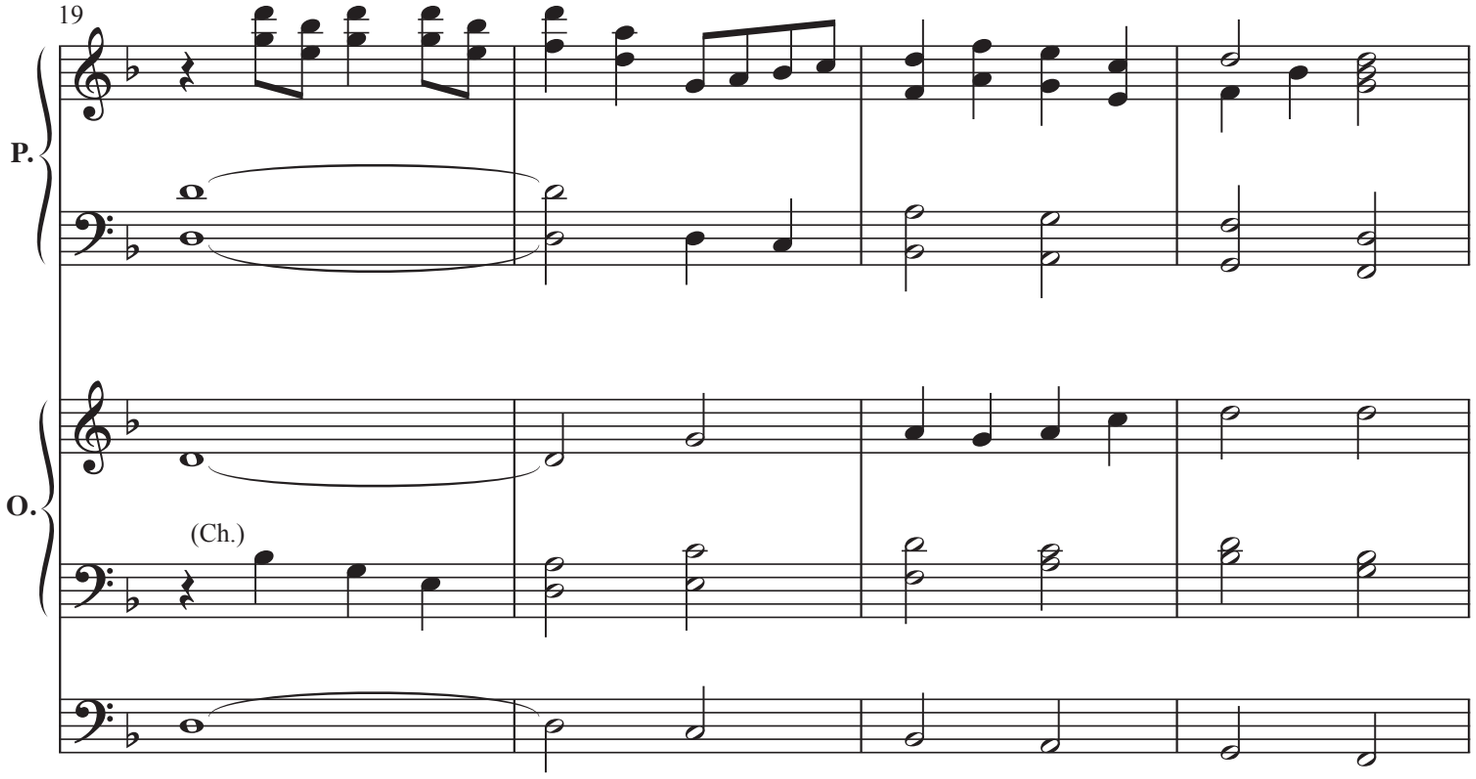
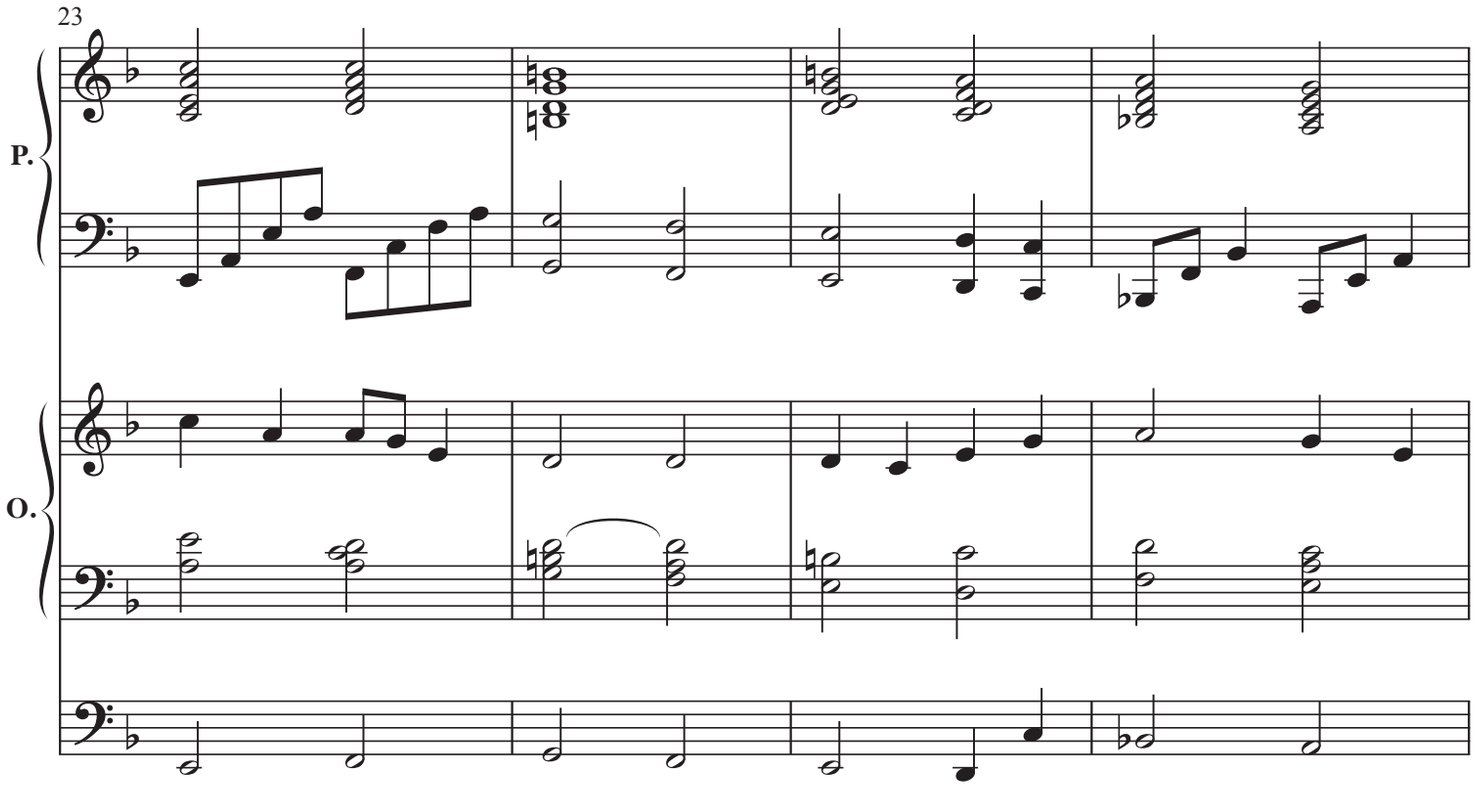
P.
simile
O.


19
P.
O.
(Ch.)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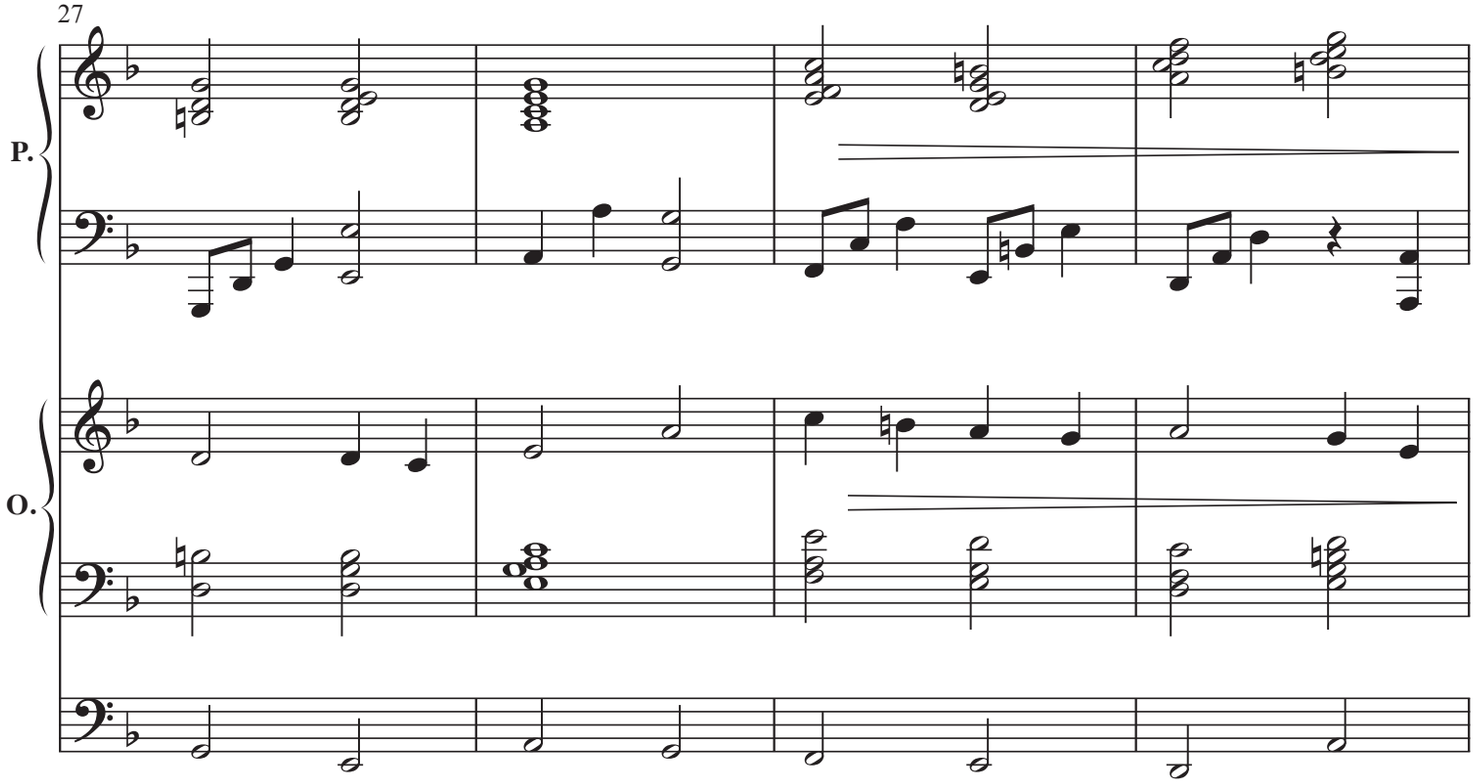
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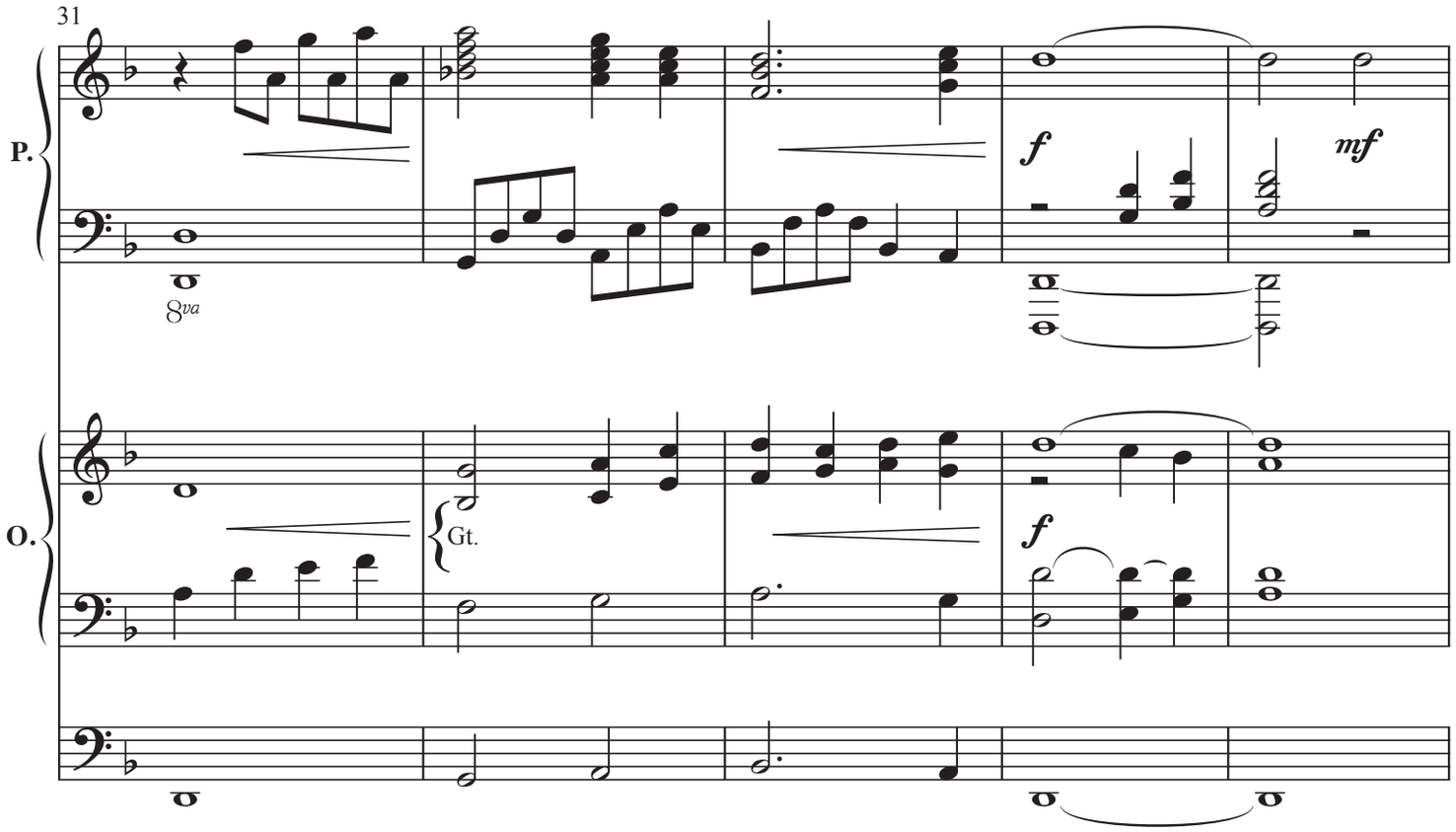
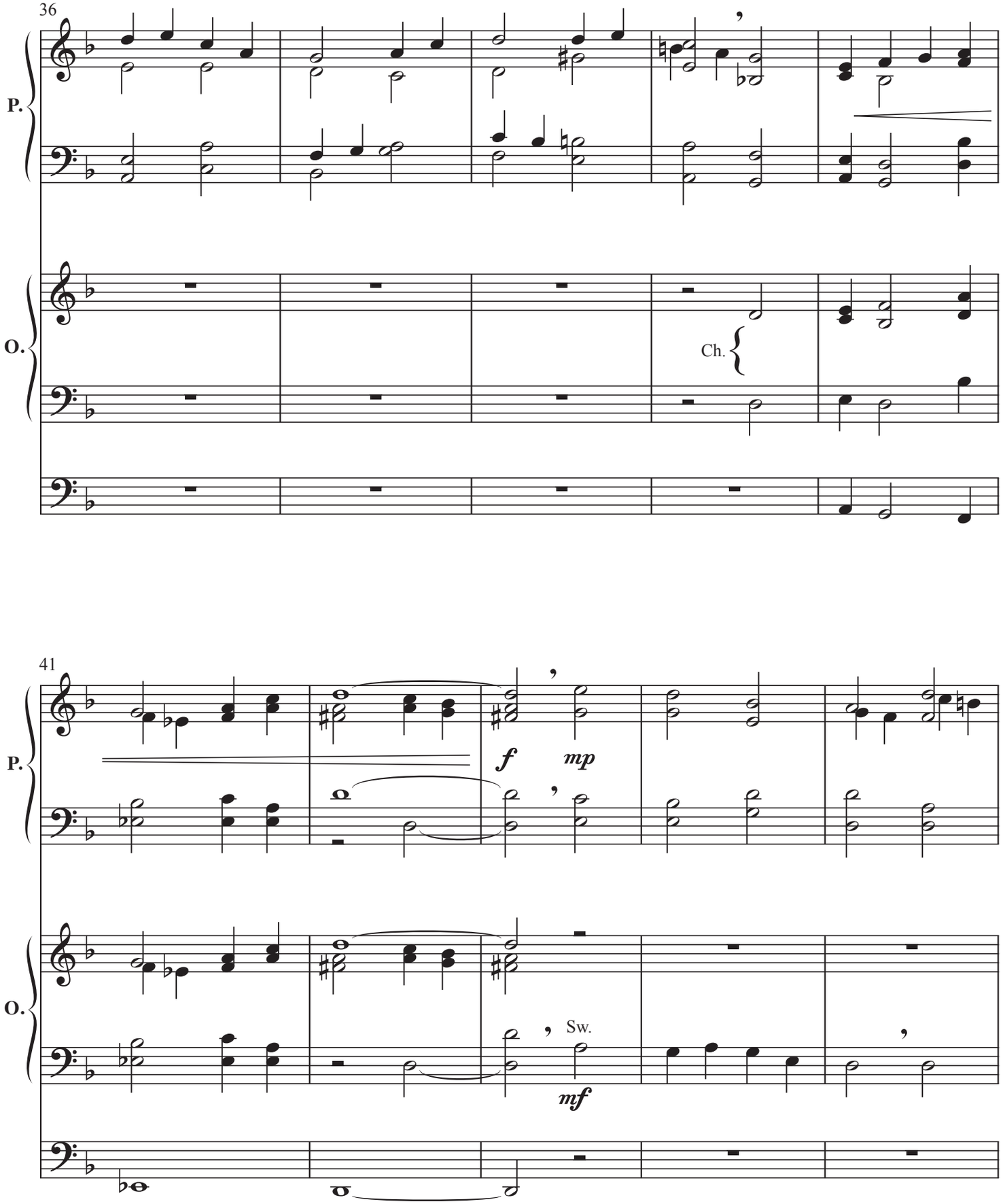
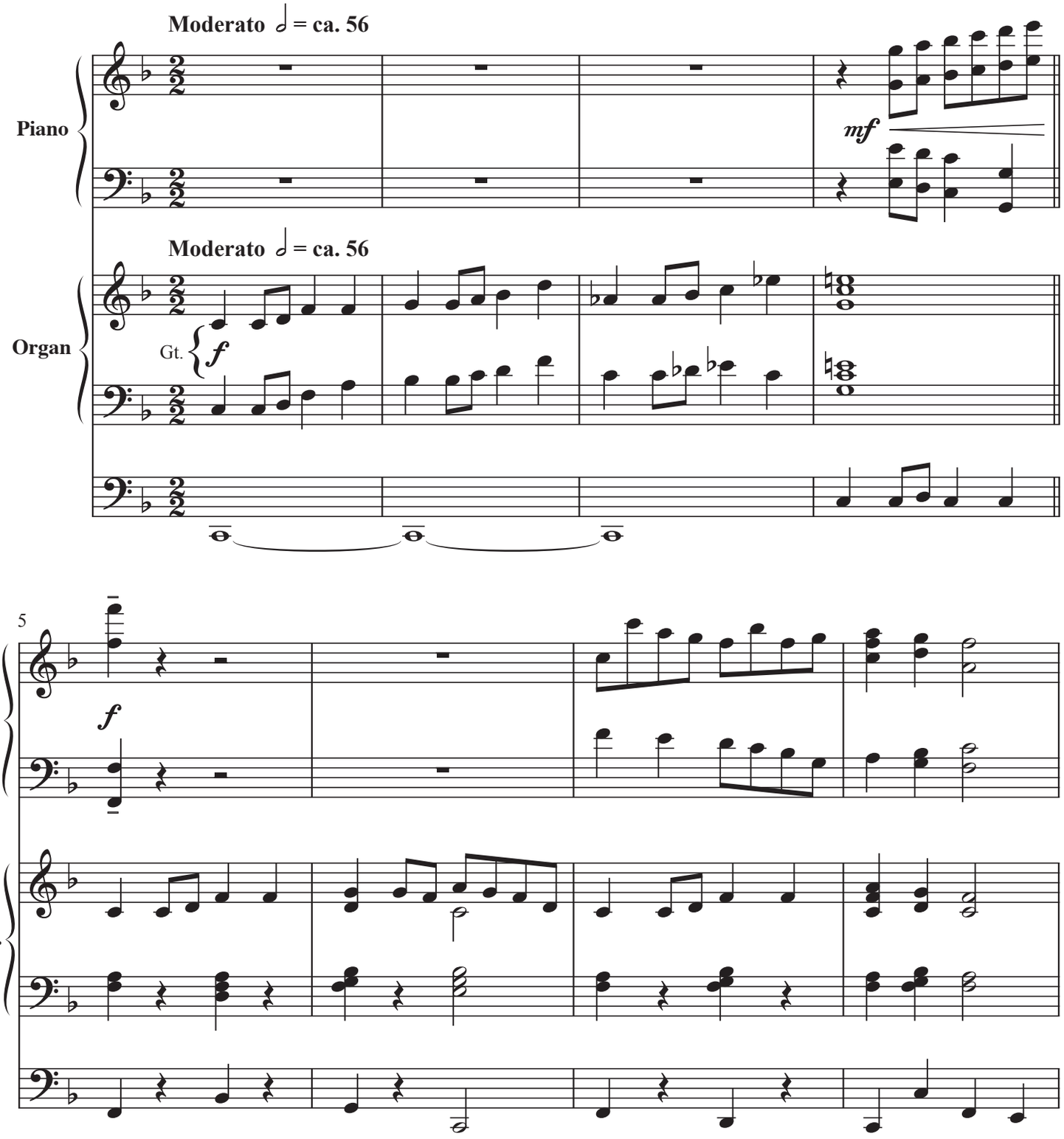

31
P.
8va
f
mf
O.
Gt.
f


36
P.
O.
Ch.
41
P.
O.
f
mp
Sw.
mf

Holy Manna

Sw. Strings 8, 4
Gt. Principals 8, 4, 2
Ch. Flutes 8, 4
Ped. Flutes 16, 8

John S. Dixon
Tune: **HOLY MANNA**
from W. Moore's *Columbian Harmony*, 1829



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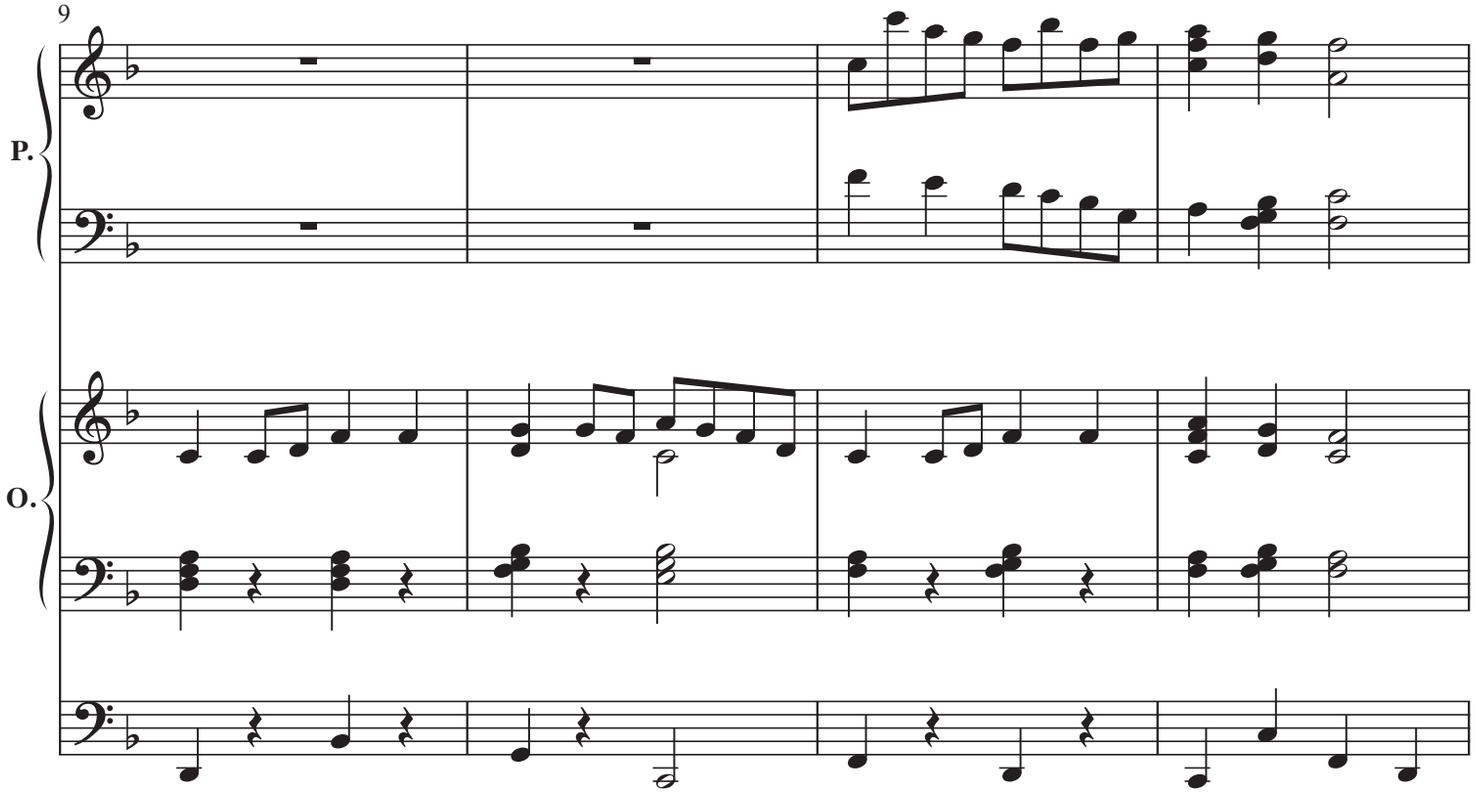
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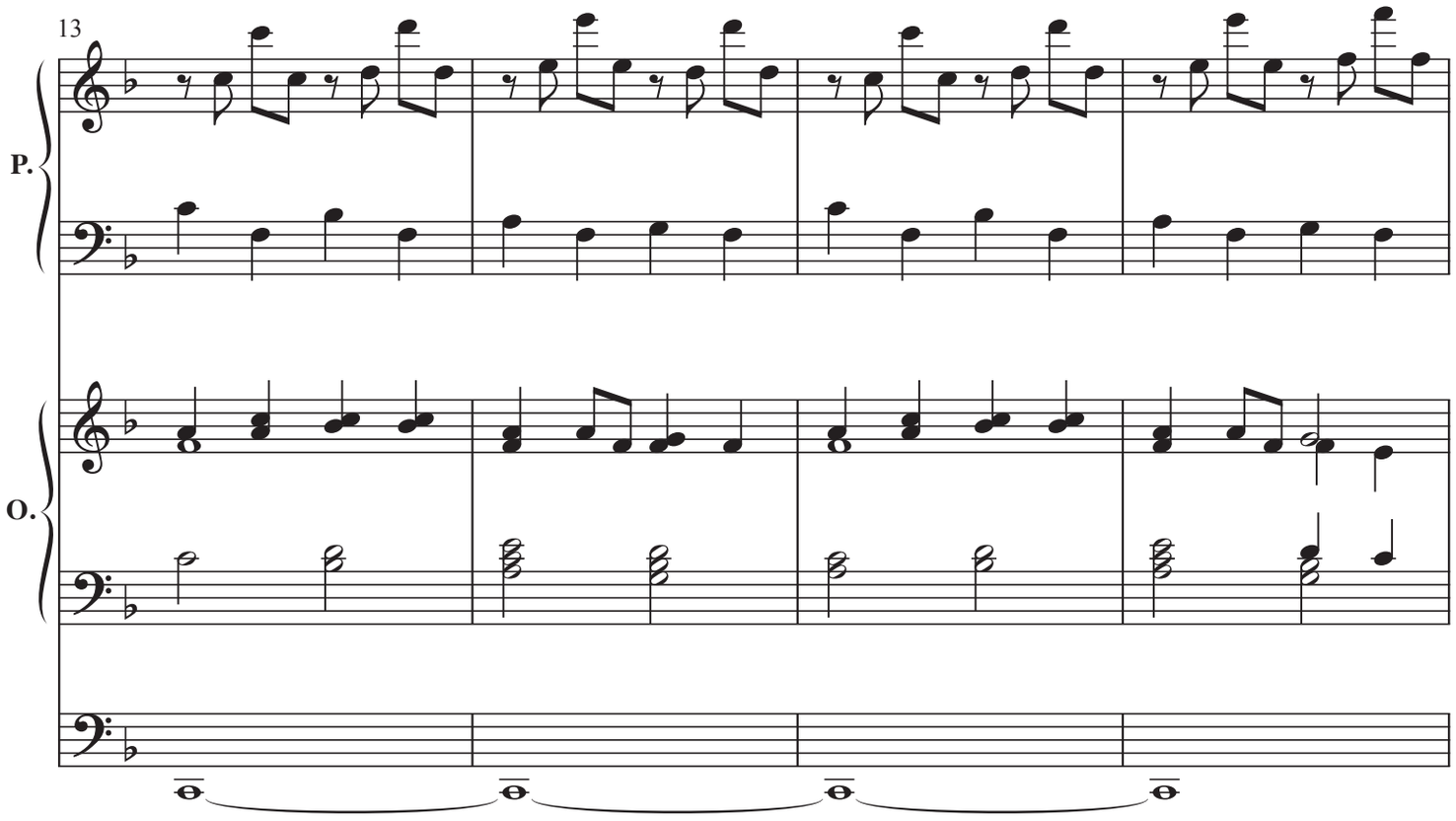
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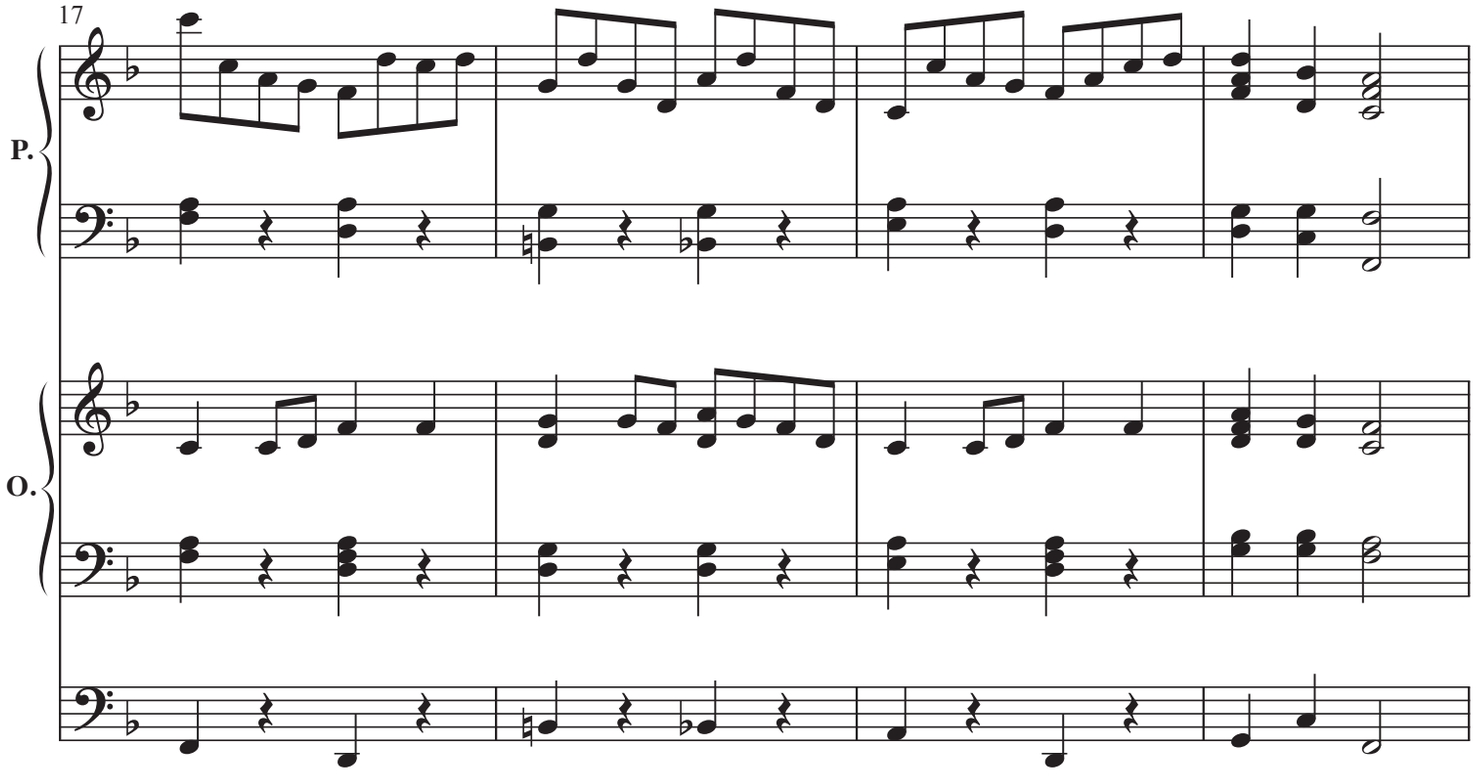
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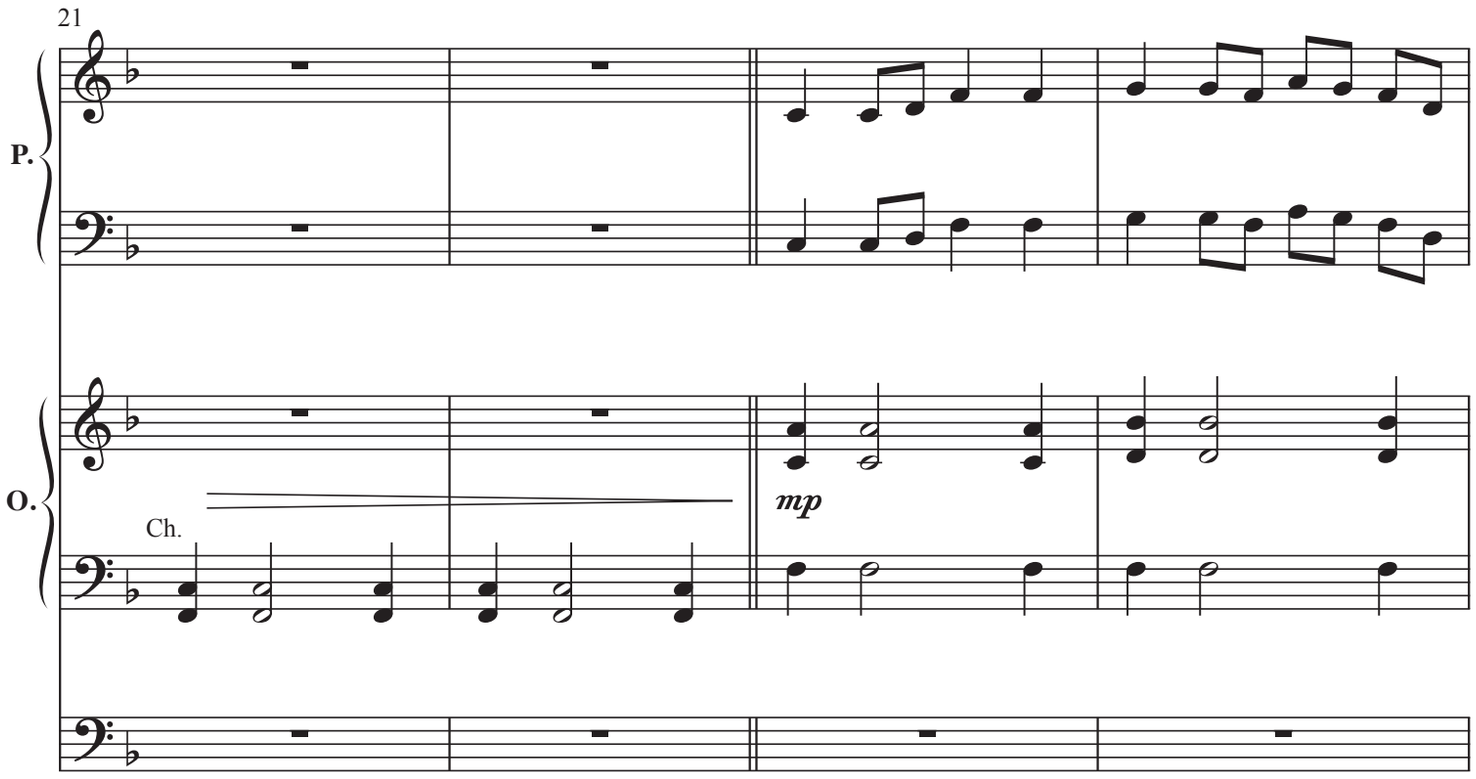
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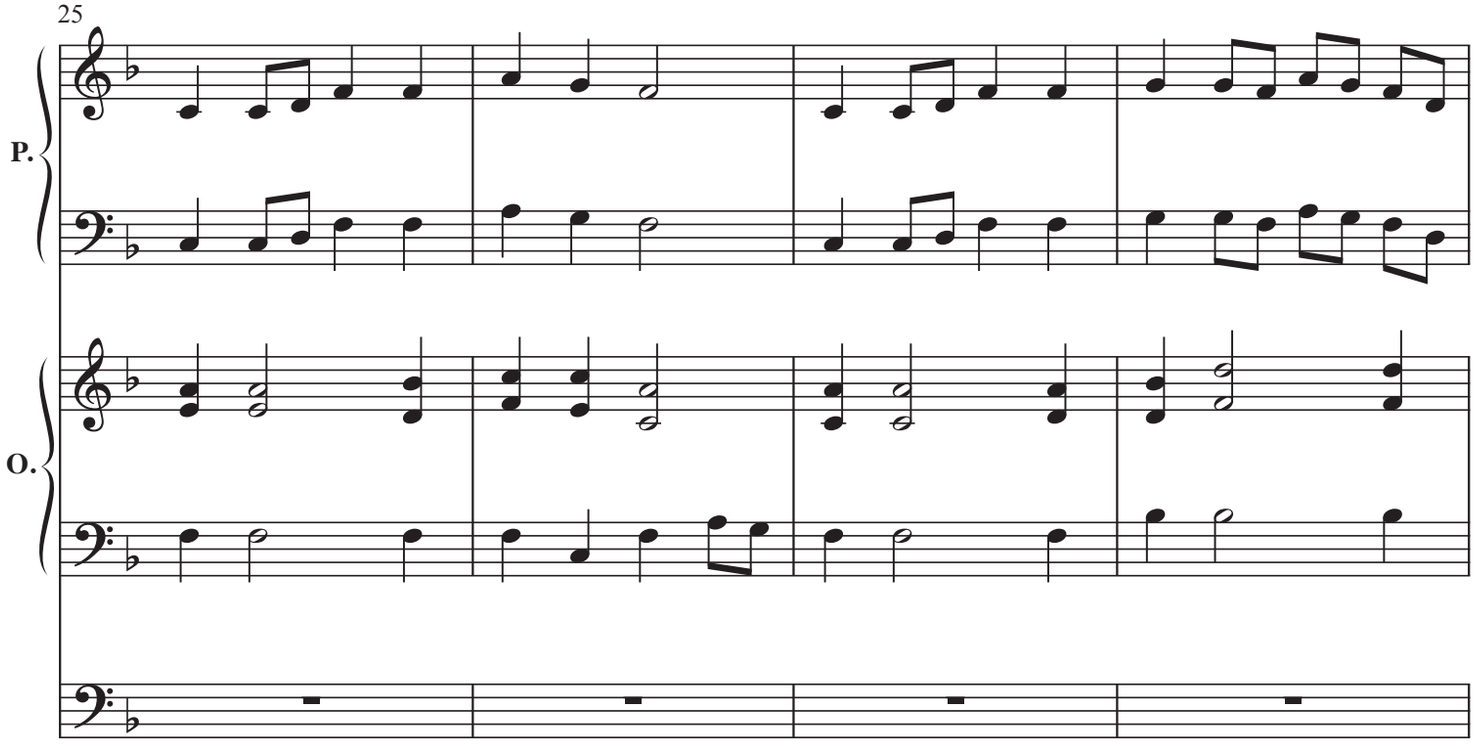
P.
O.
Ch.
mp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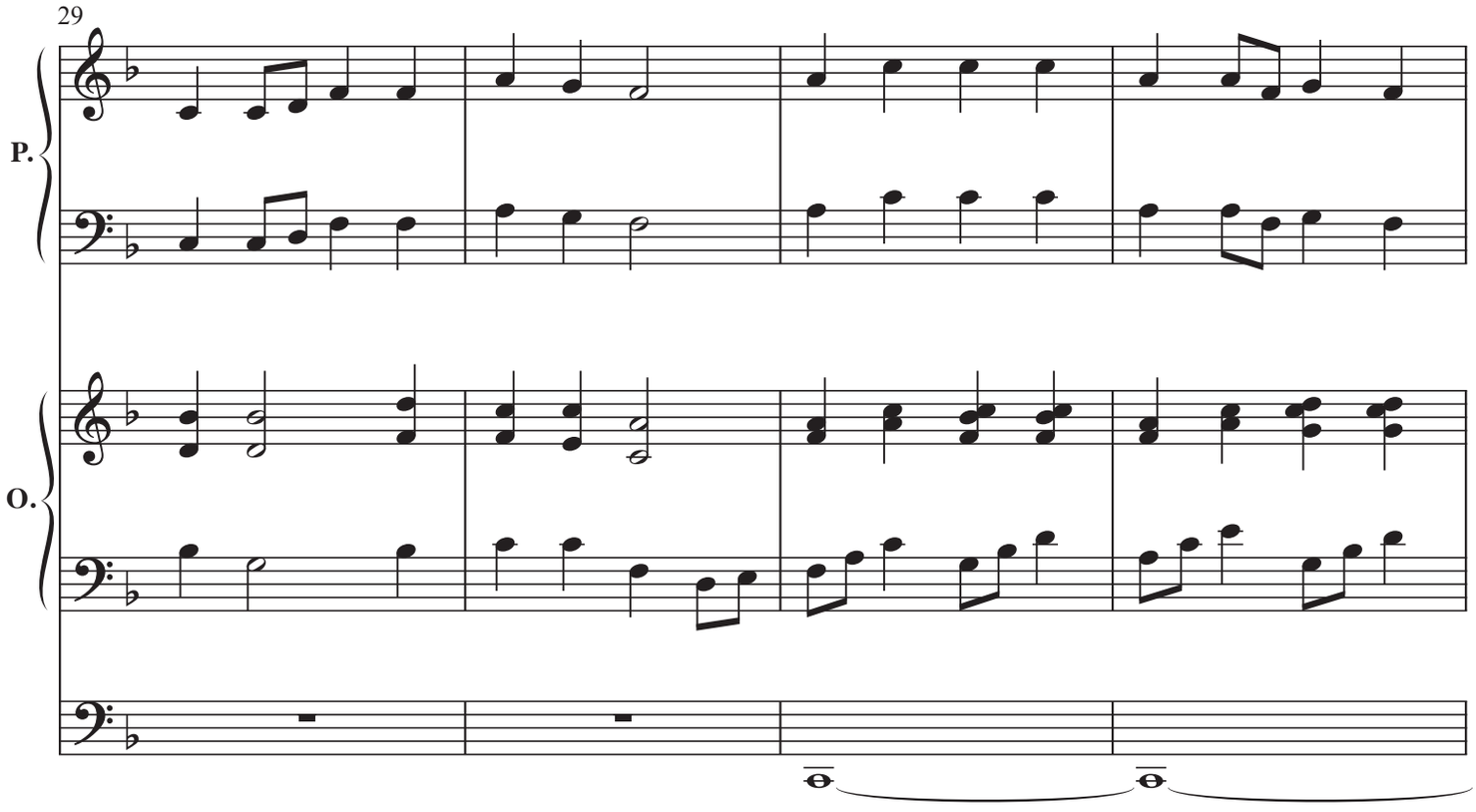
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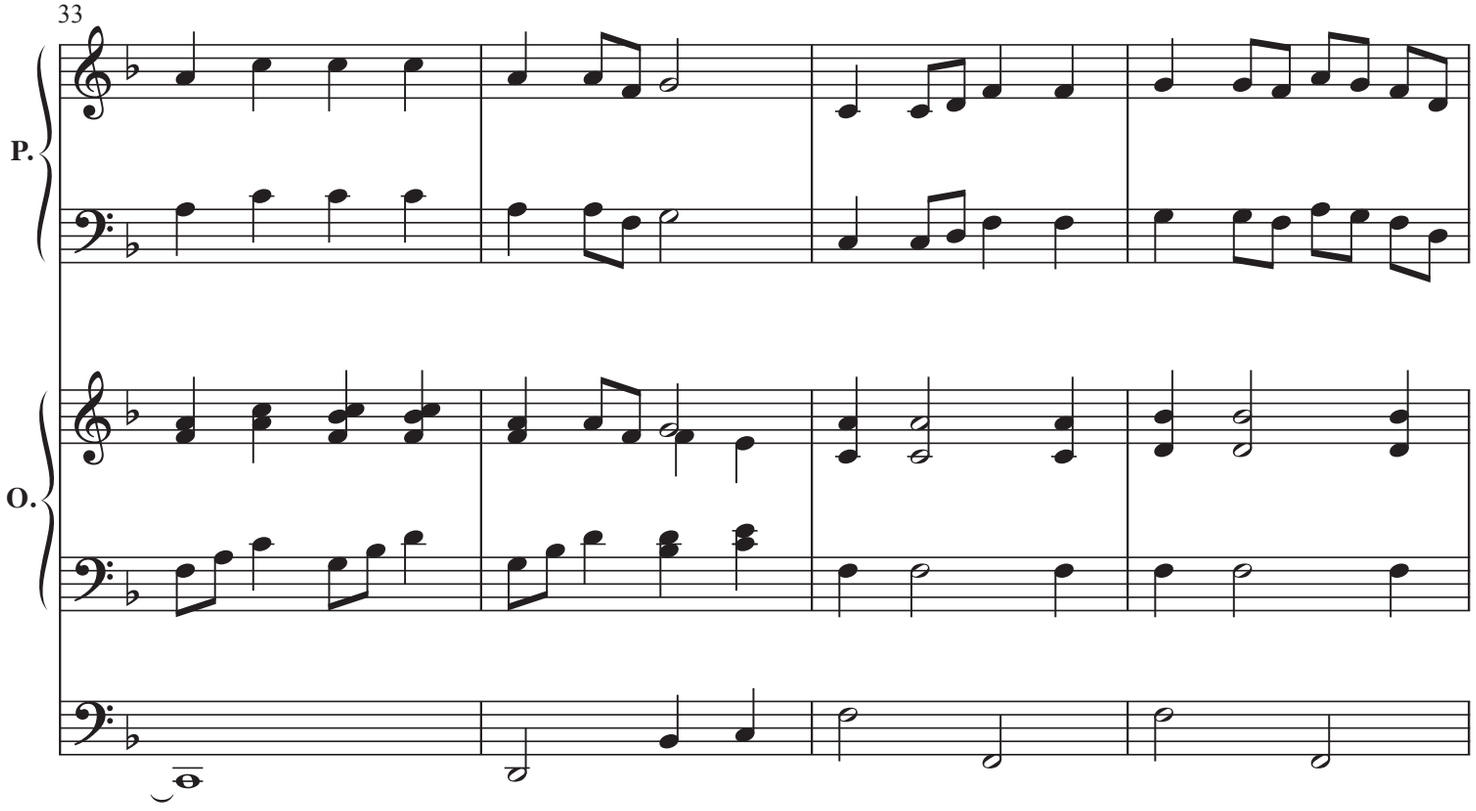
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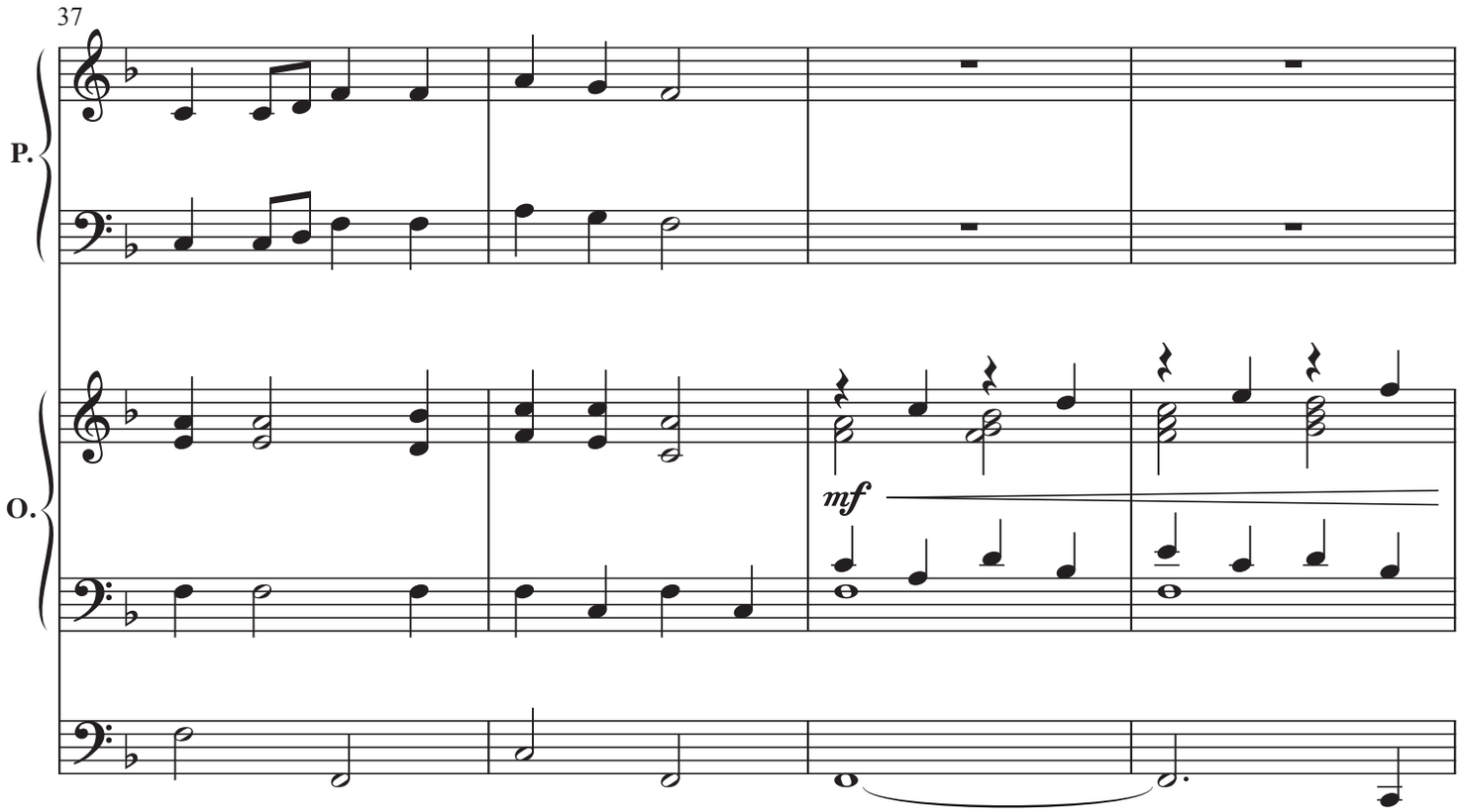
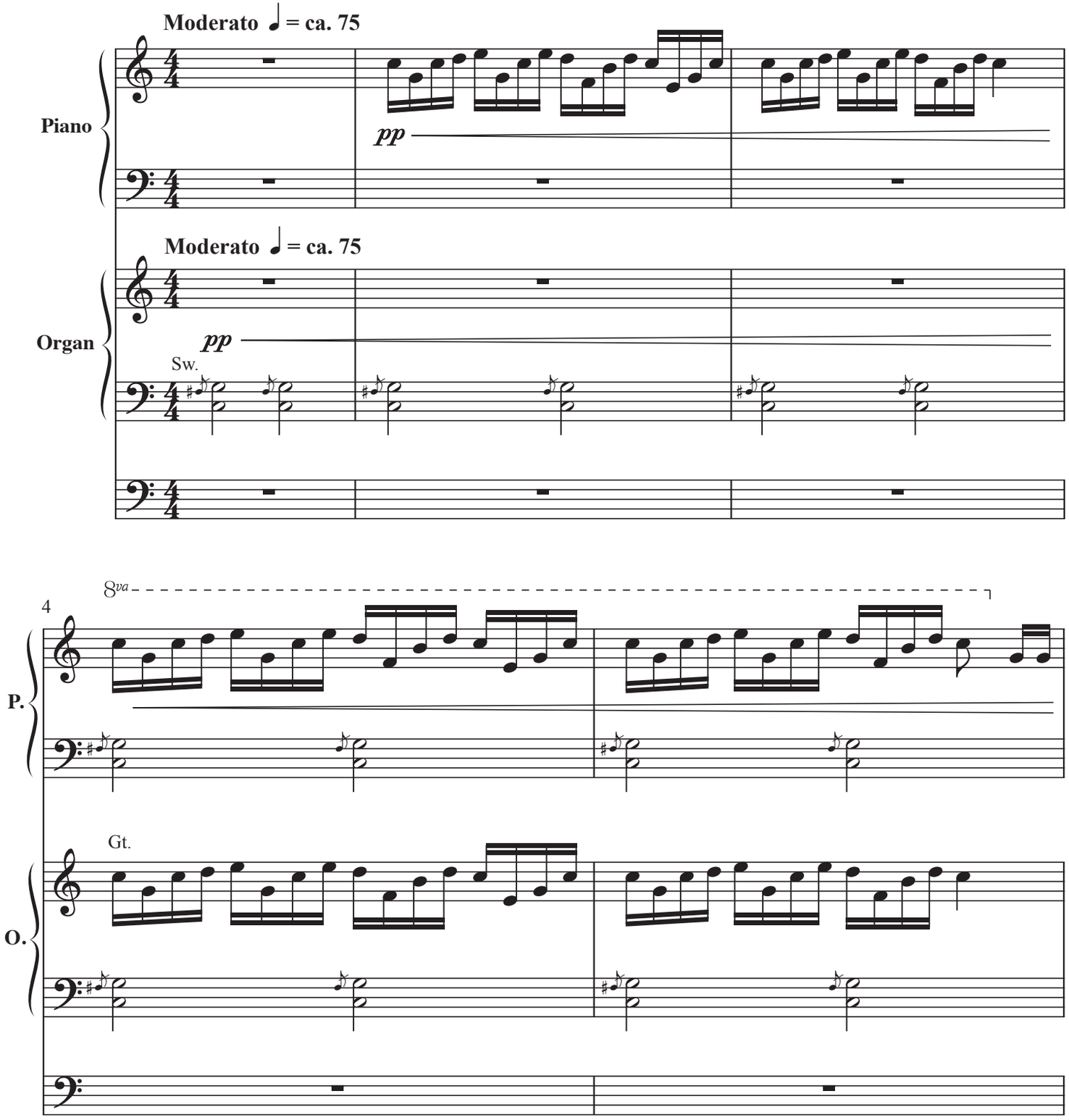

37
P.
O.
mf

Simple Gifts

Sw. Soft Reed 8
Gt. Flutes 8, 2
Ped. Flutes 16, 8

John S. Dixon
Tune: **SIMPLE GIFTS**
by **Joseph Brackett, Jr.**, 1848



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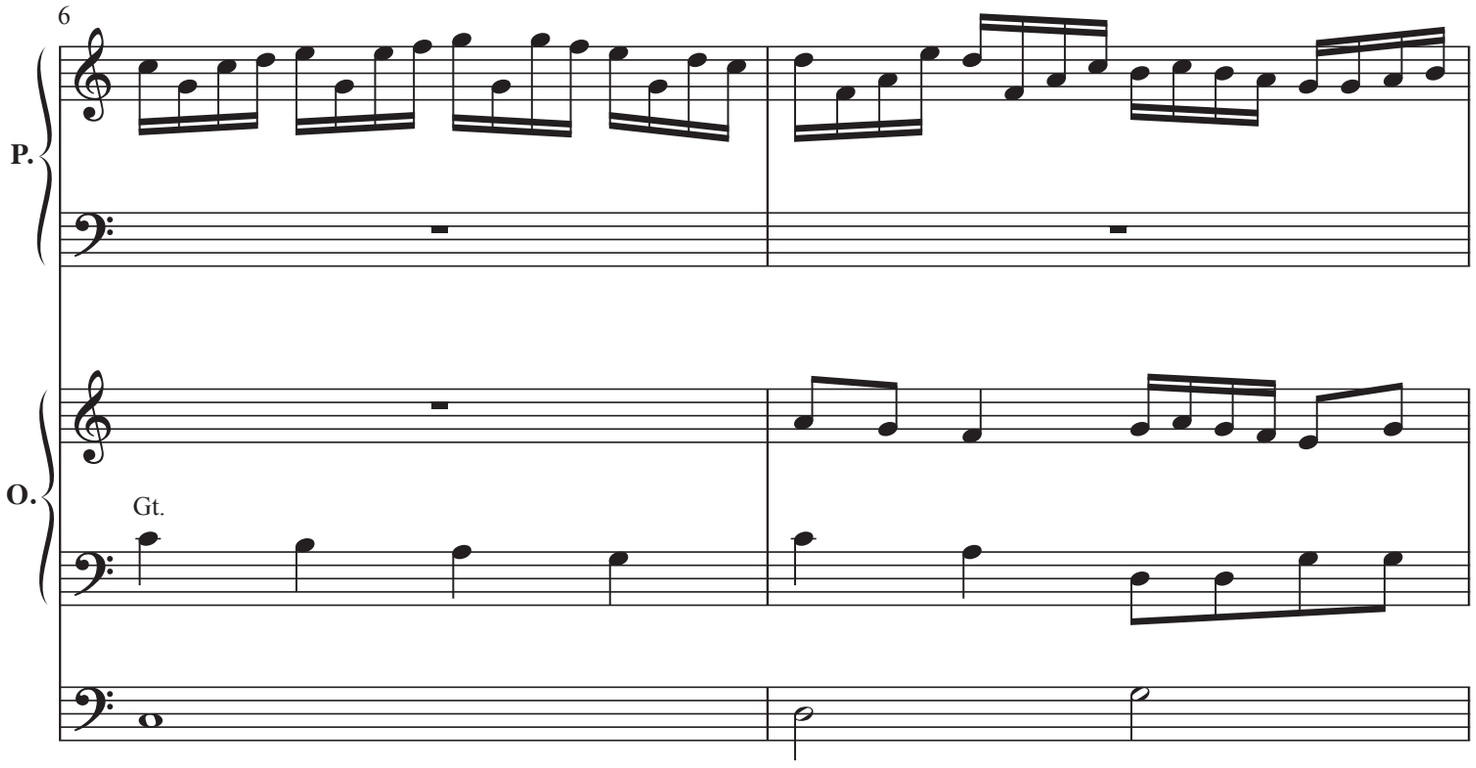
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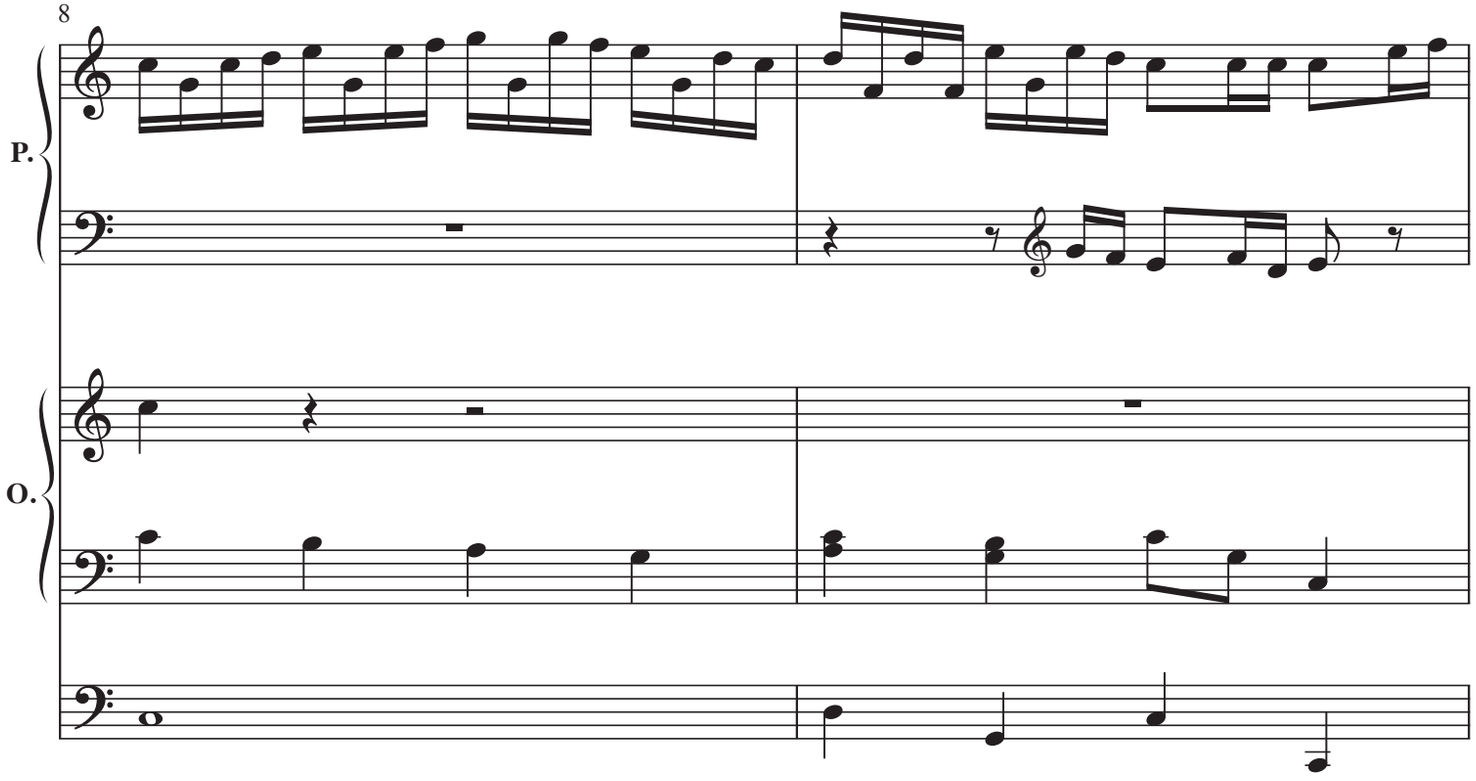
P.
O.
Gt.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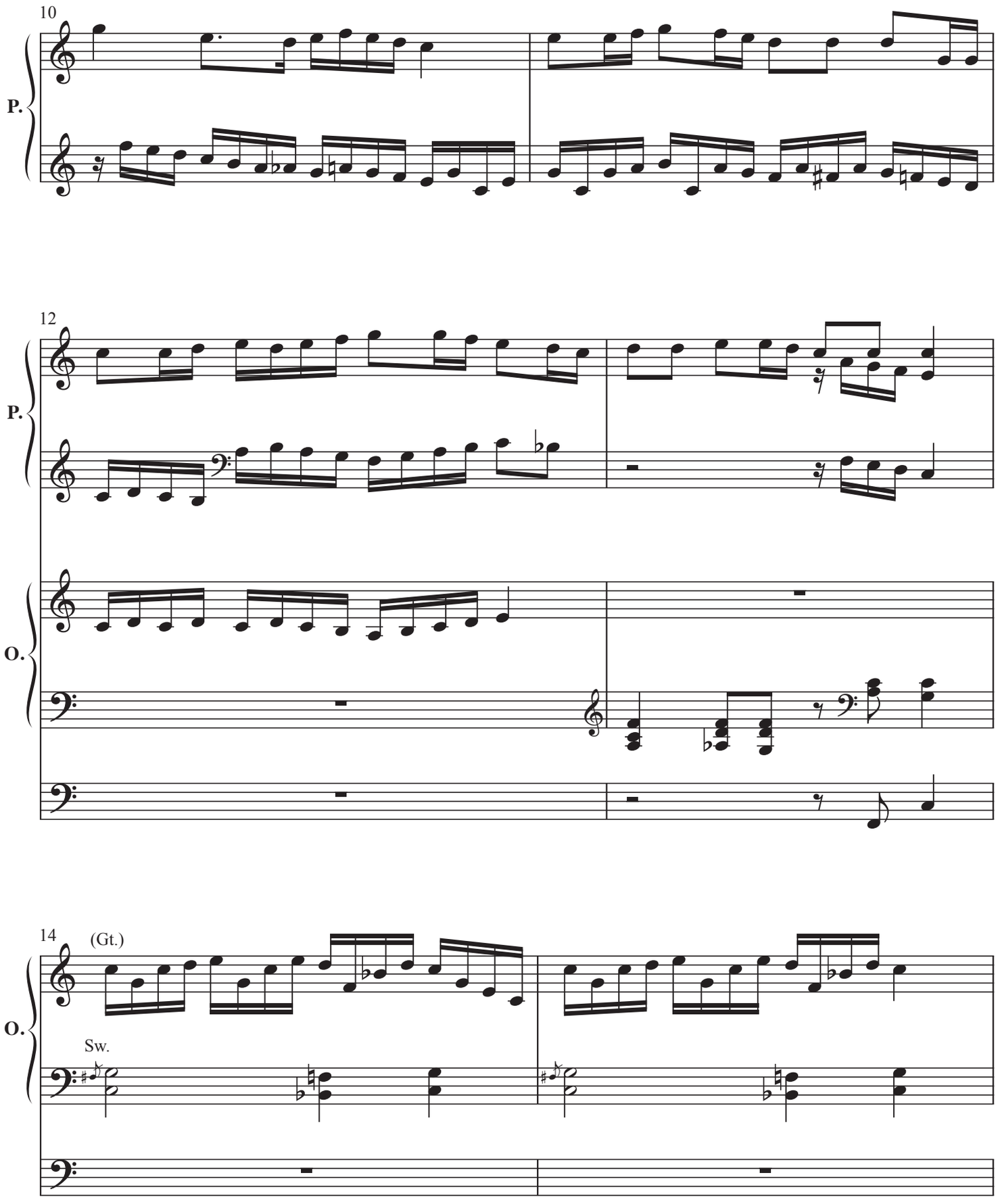
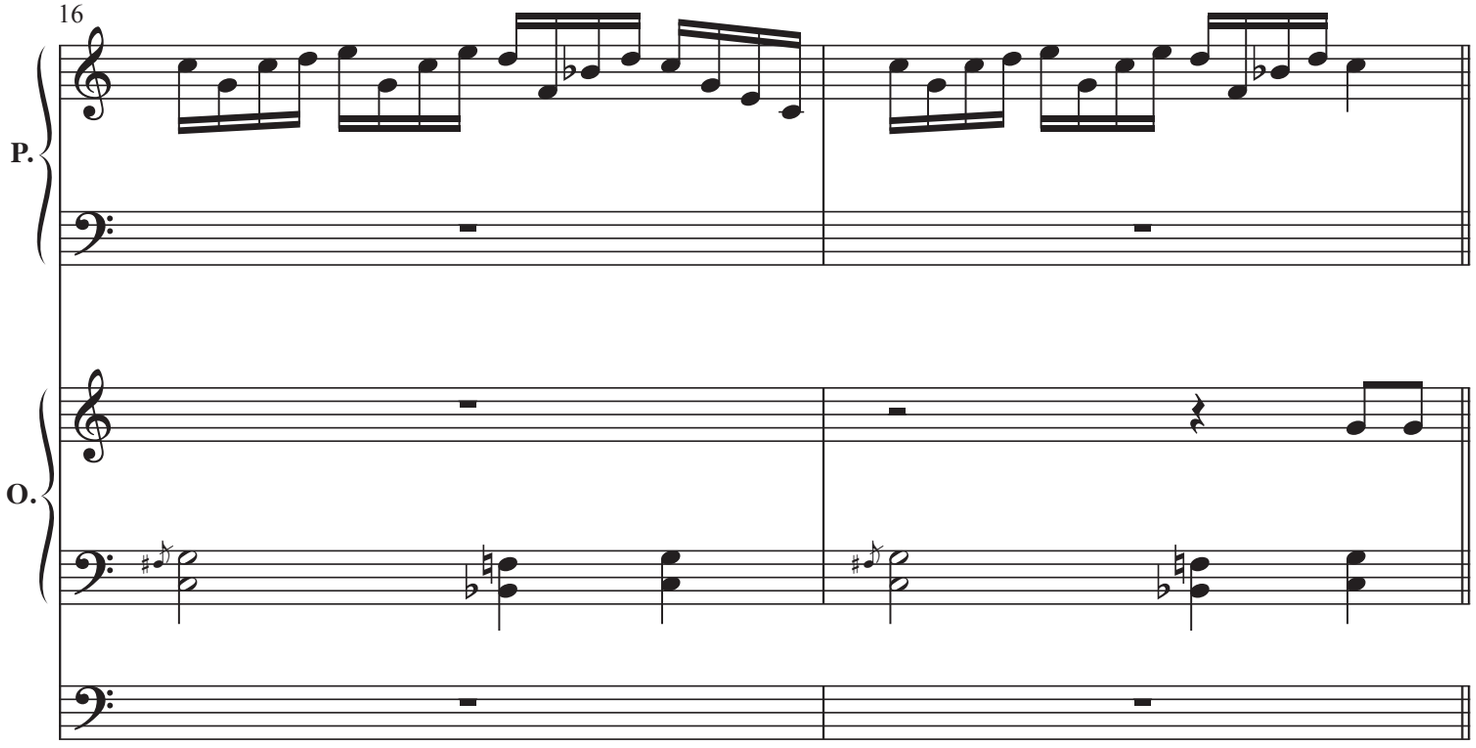

10
P.
12
P.
O.
14
(Gt.)
O.
Sw.

16



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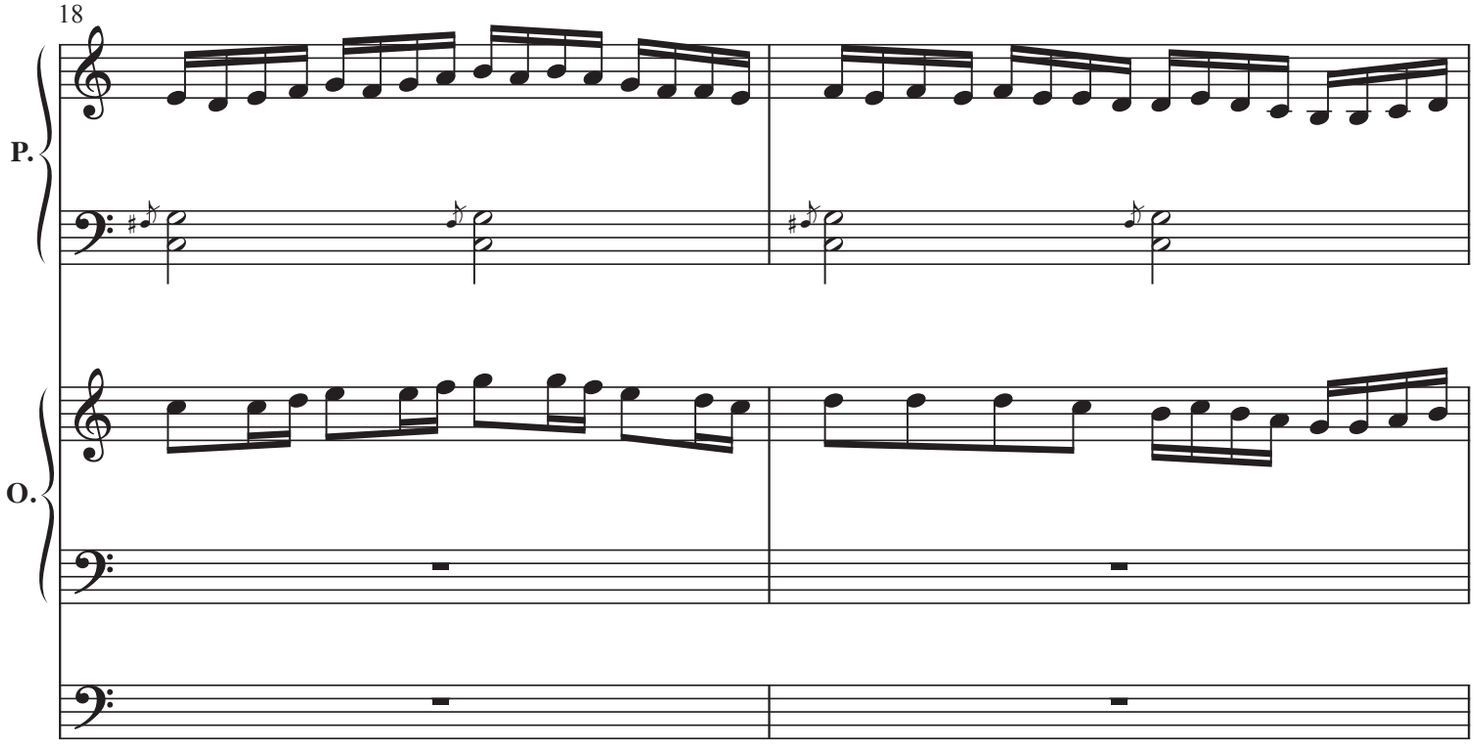

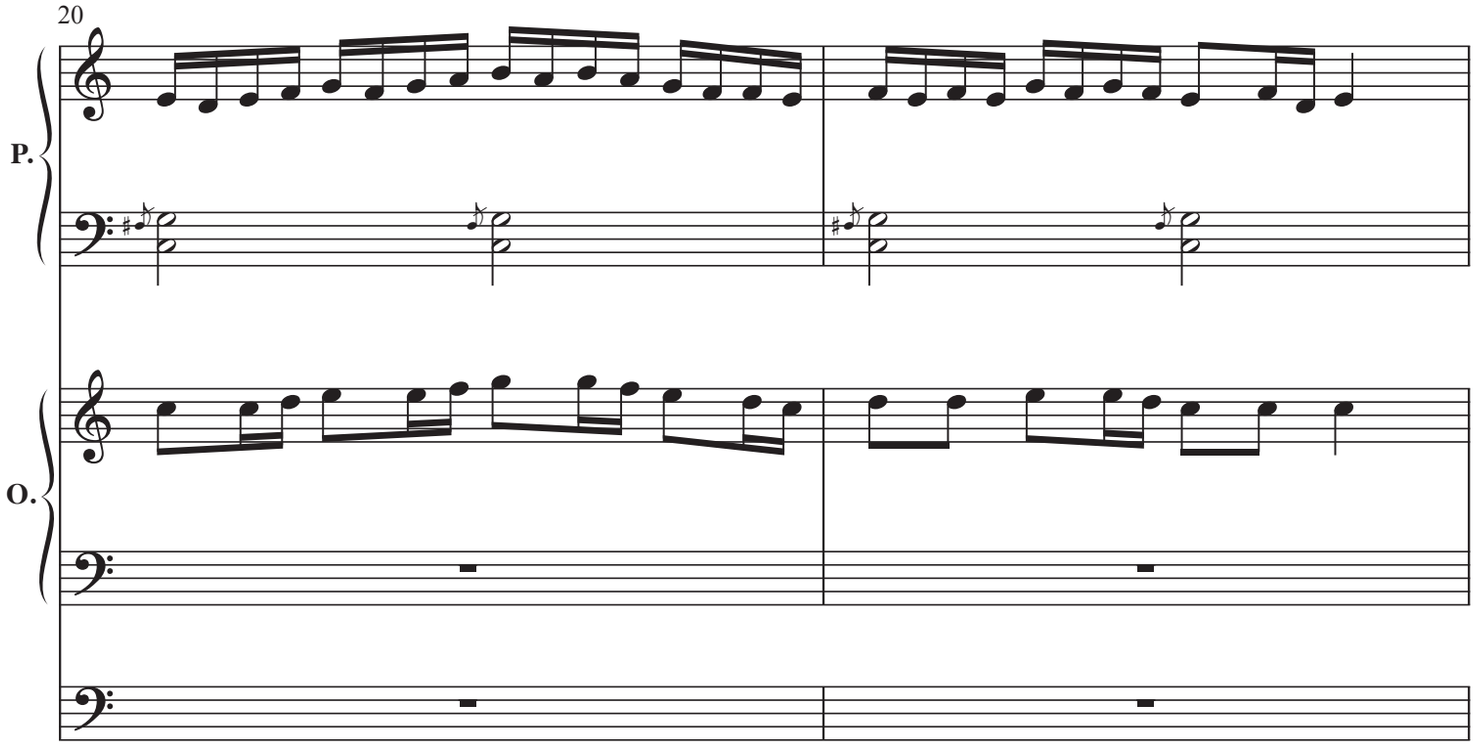
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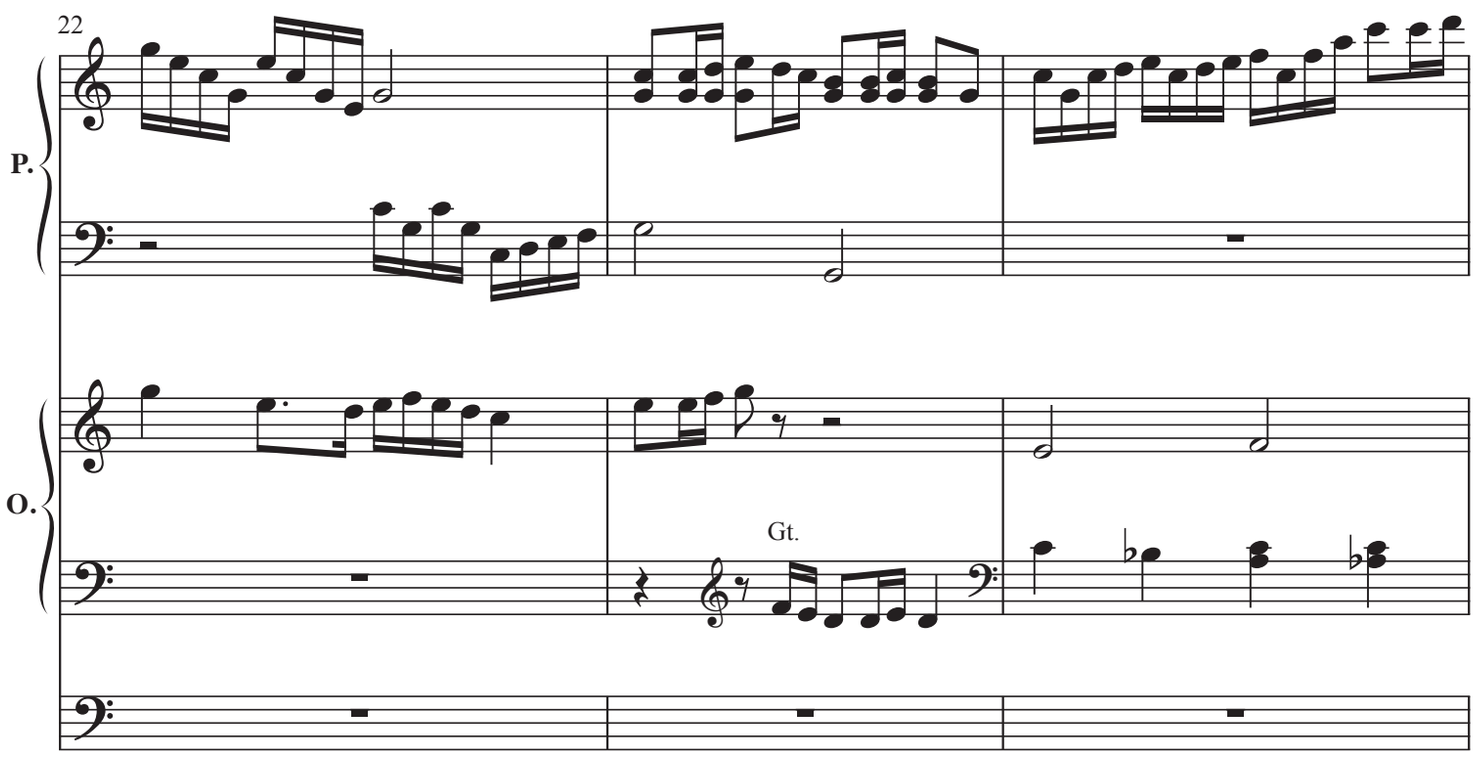
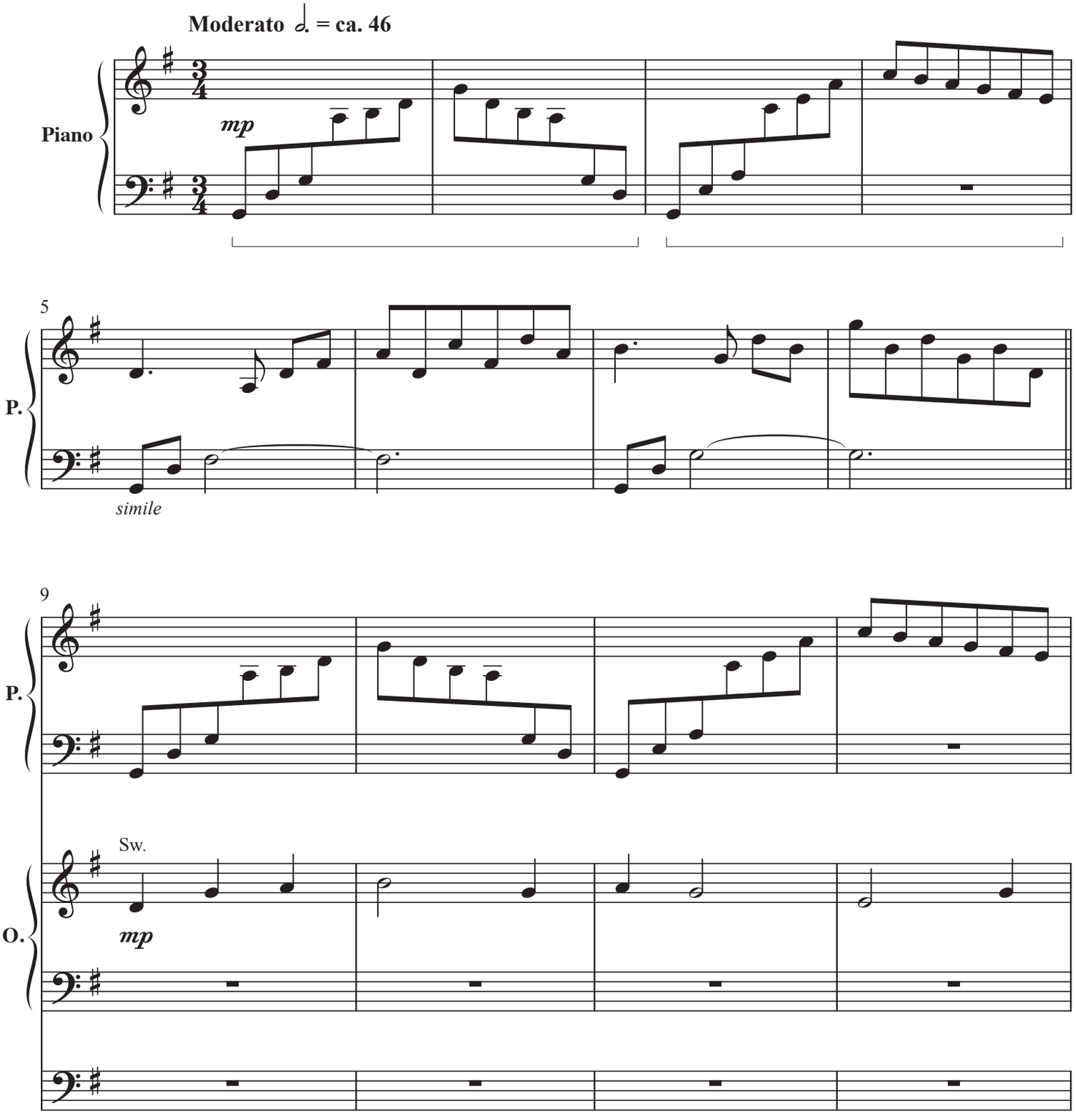

22
P.
O.
Gt.

How Can I Keep from Singing?

Sw. Soft Reed 8
Gt. Flutes 8, 4, 2
Ch. Strings 8, 4
Ped. Flutes 16, 8

John S. Dixon
Tune: **HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING**
by **Robert Lowry**, 1869



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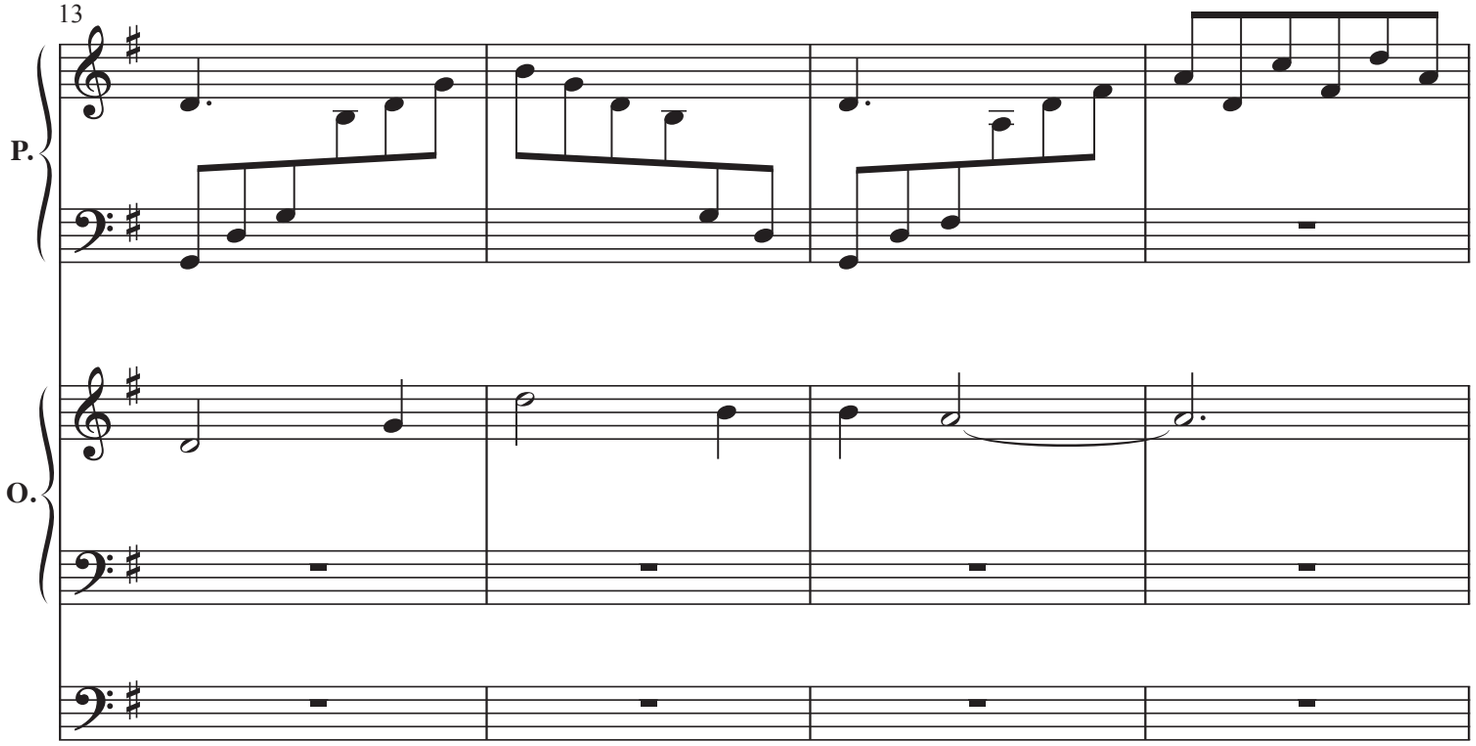
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P.
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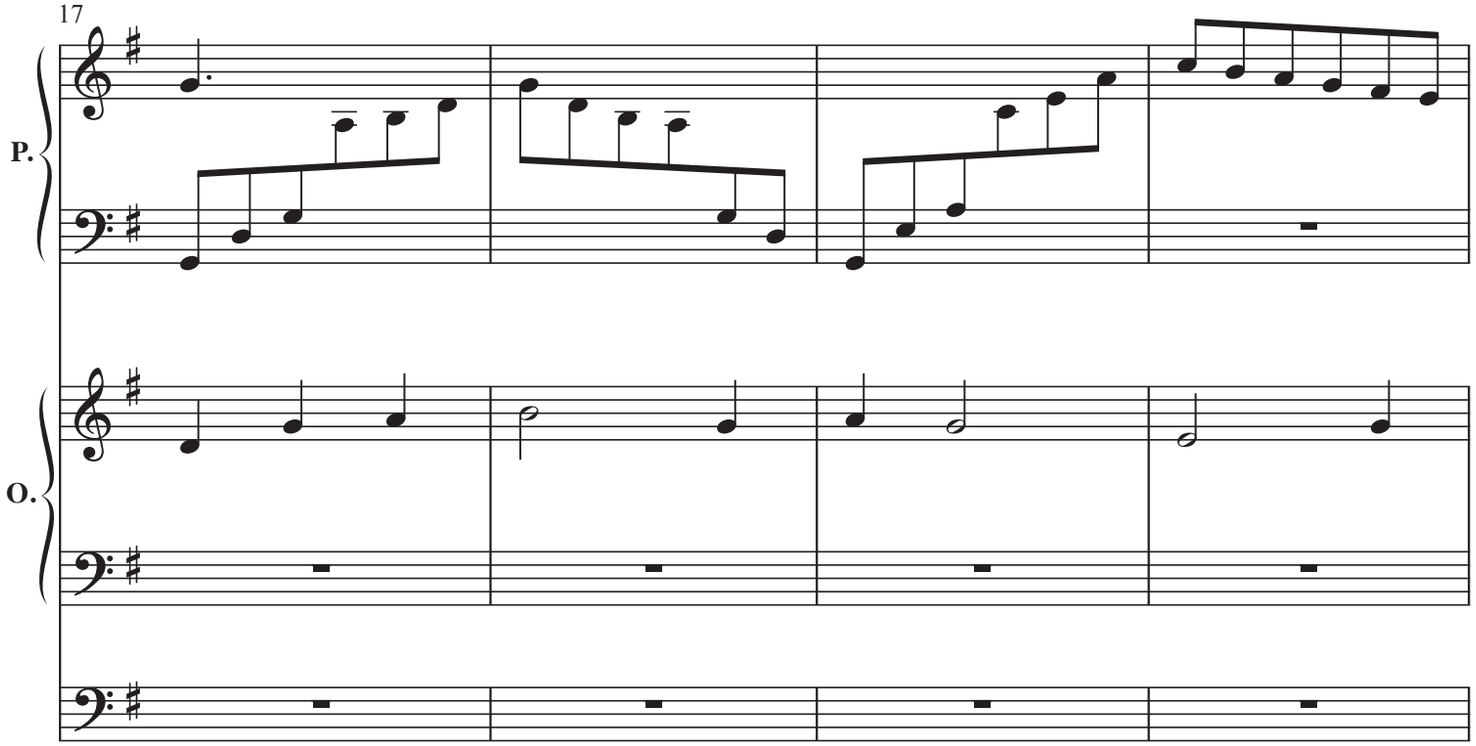
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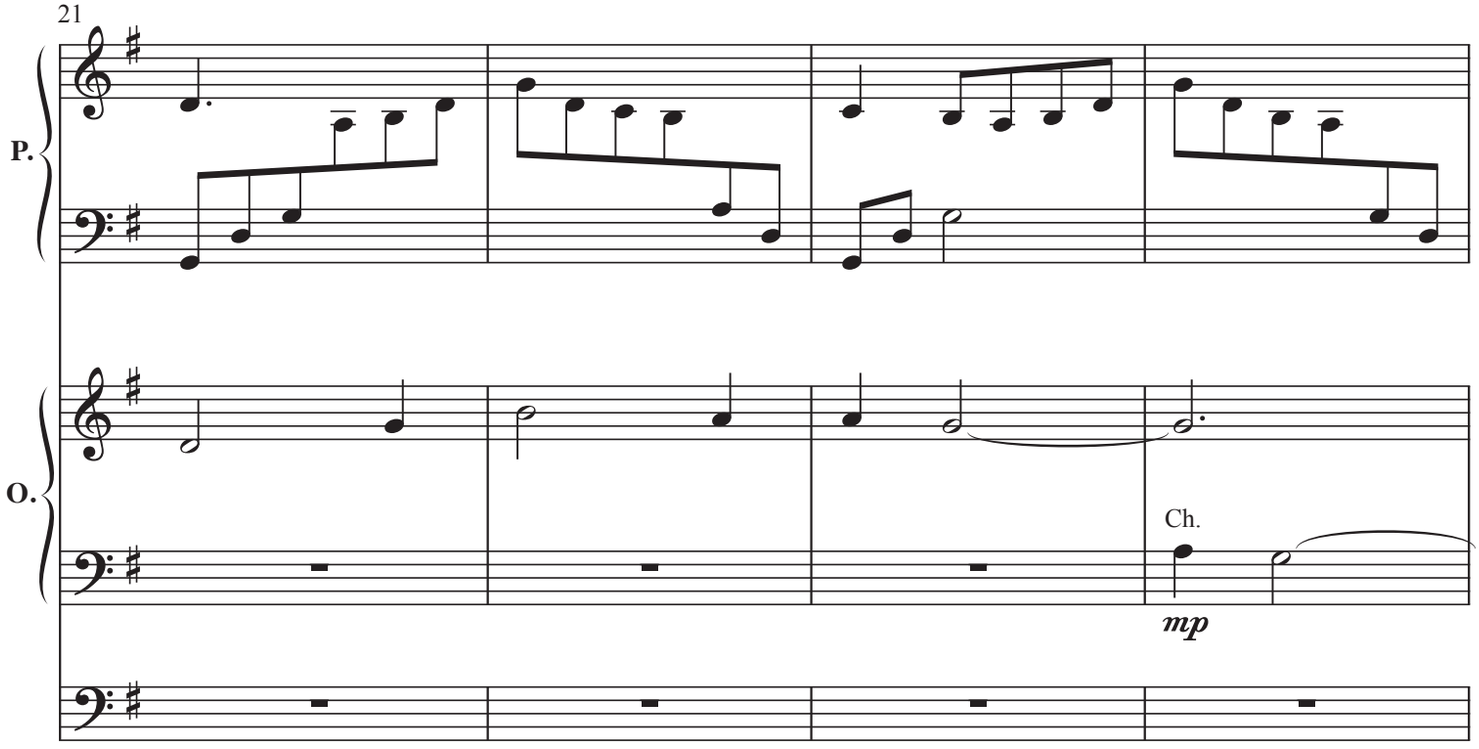
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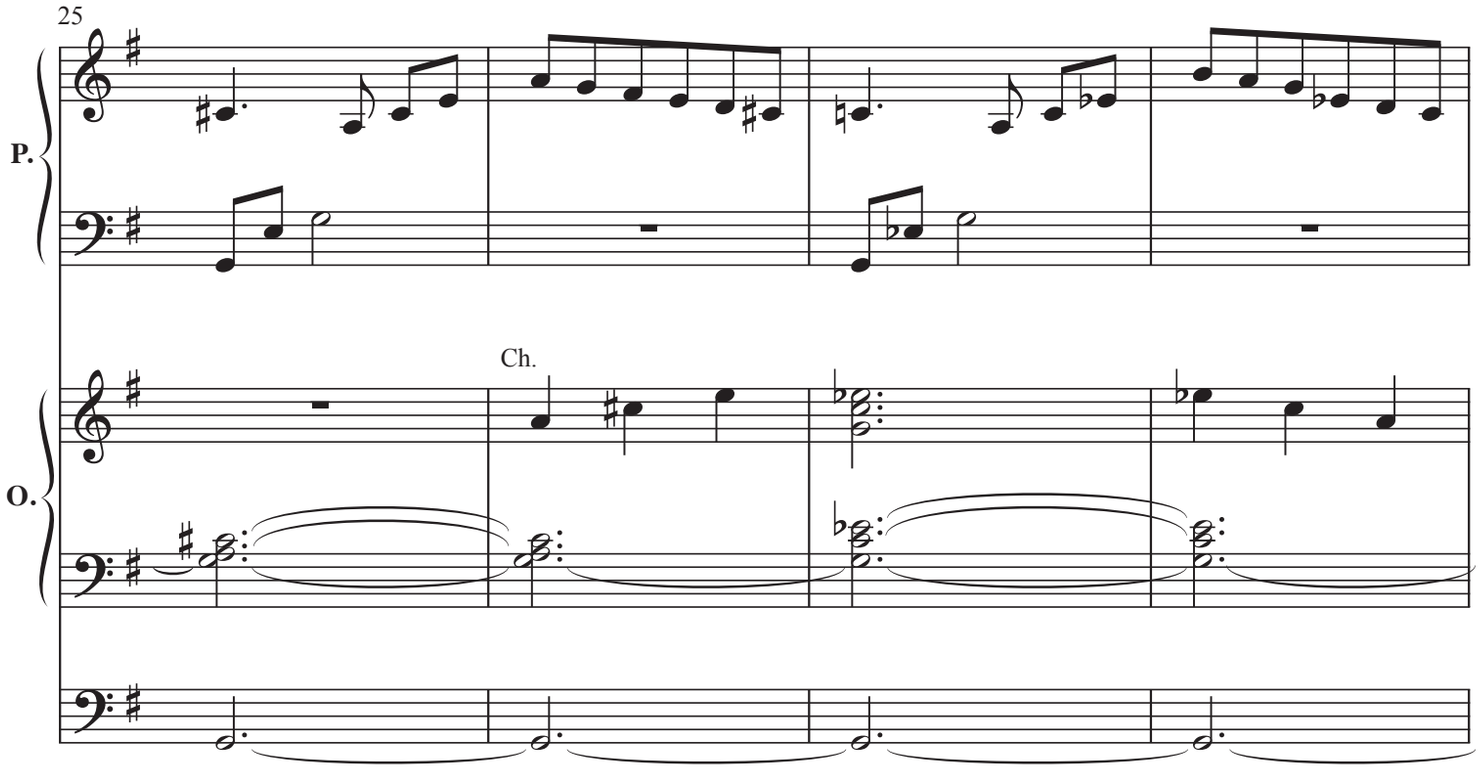
P.
O.
Ch.
mp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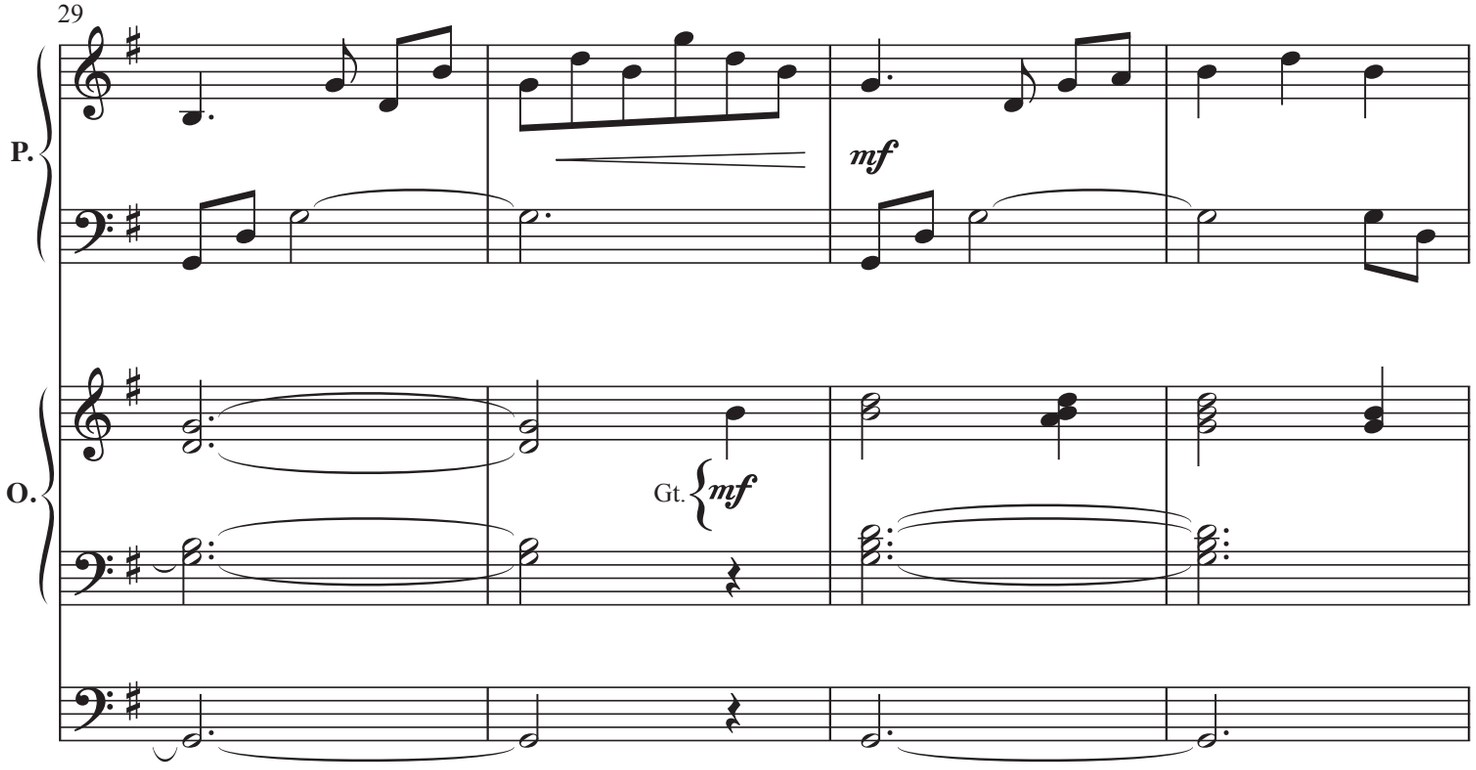
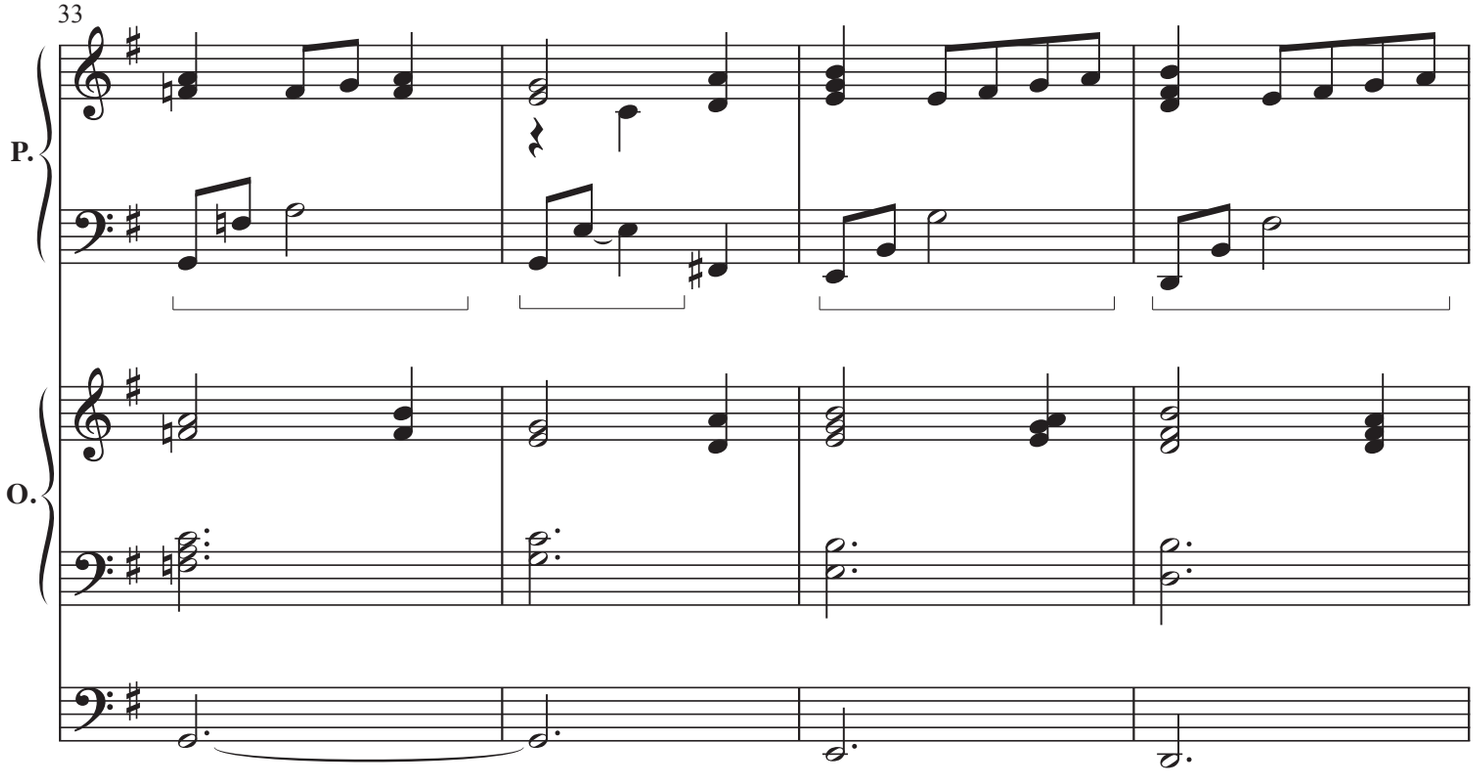
O.
Ch.


29
P.
mf
O.
Gt.
mf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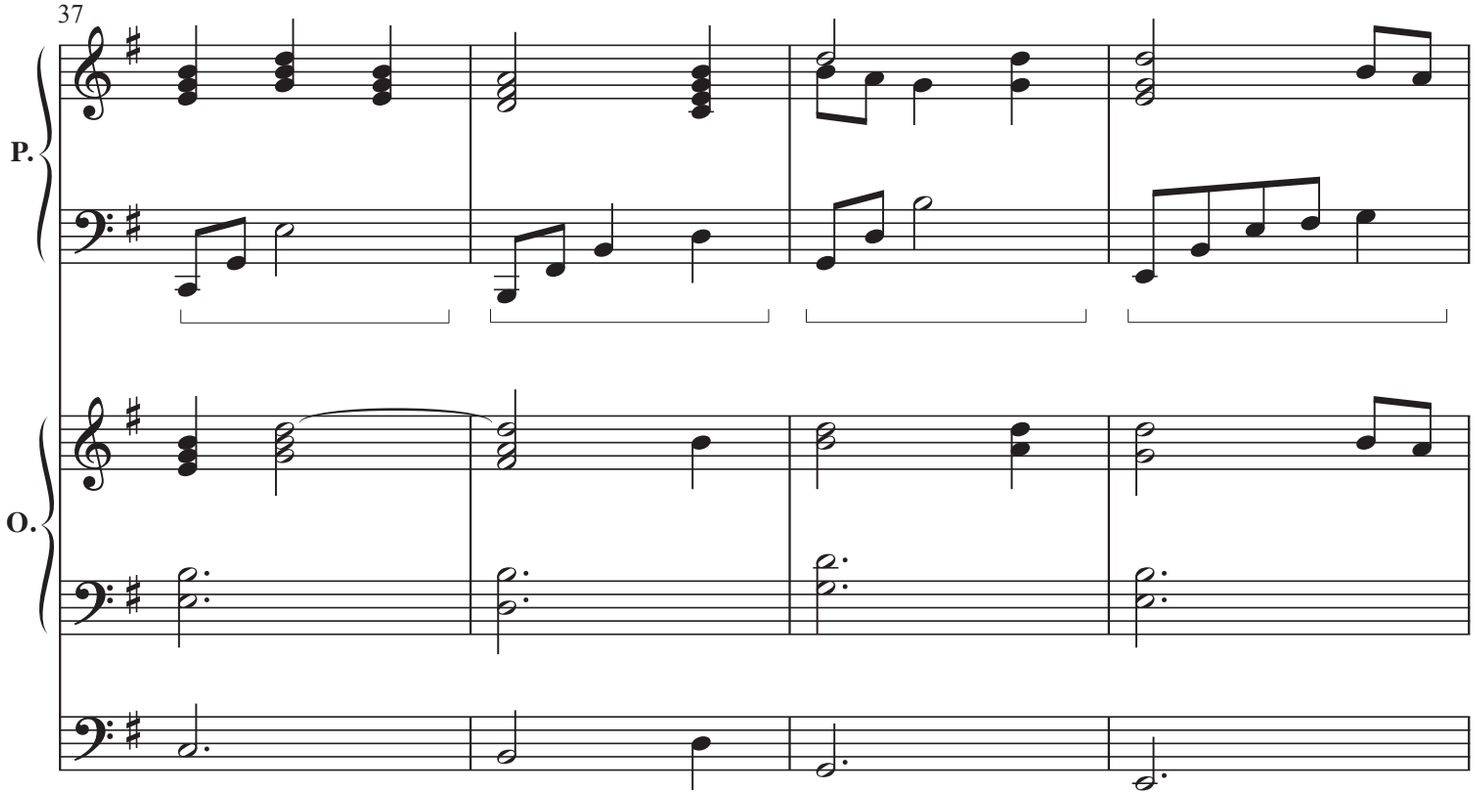
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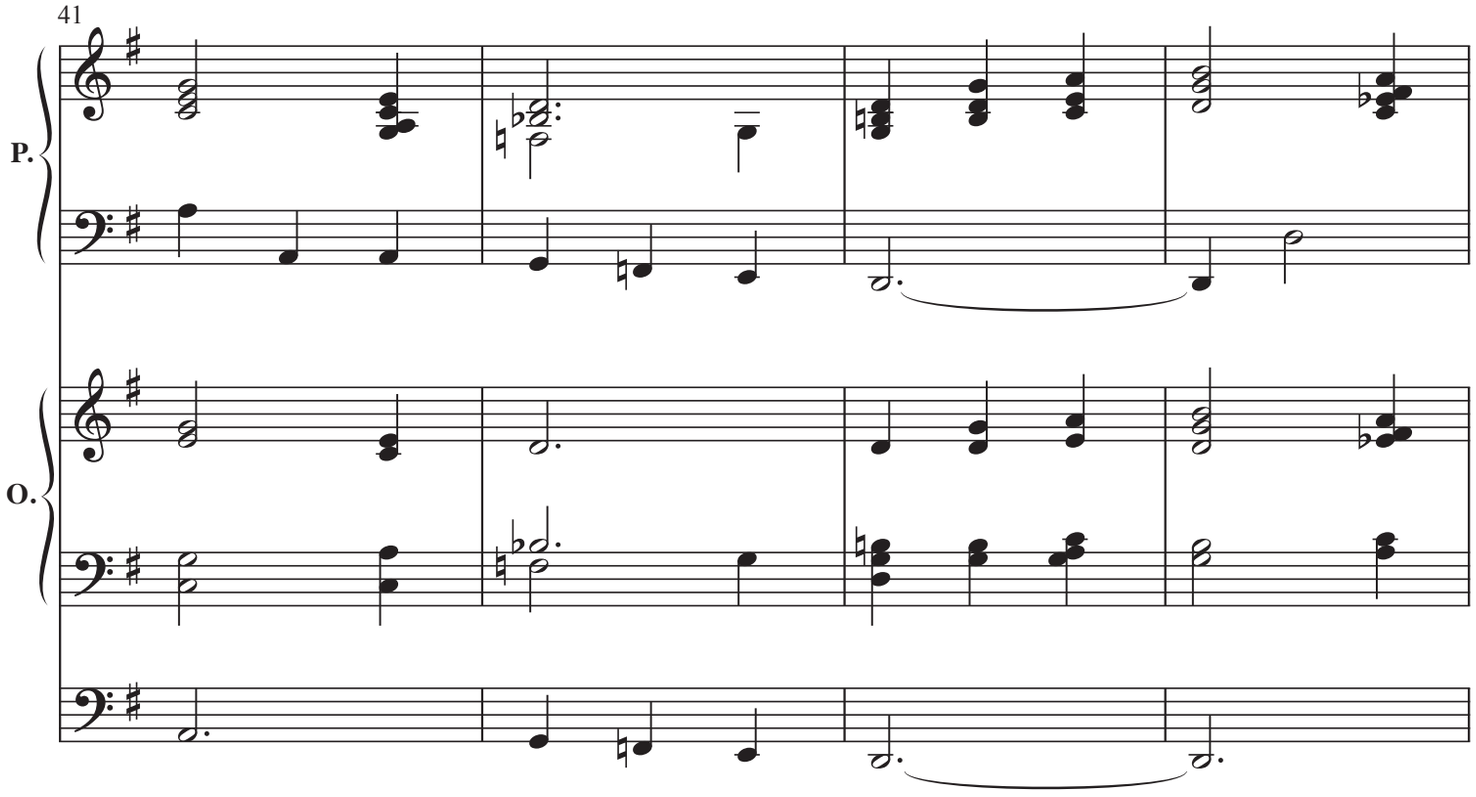
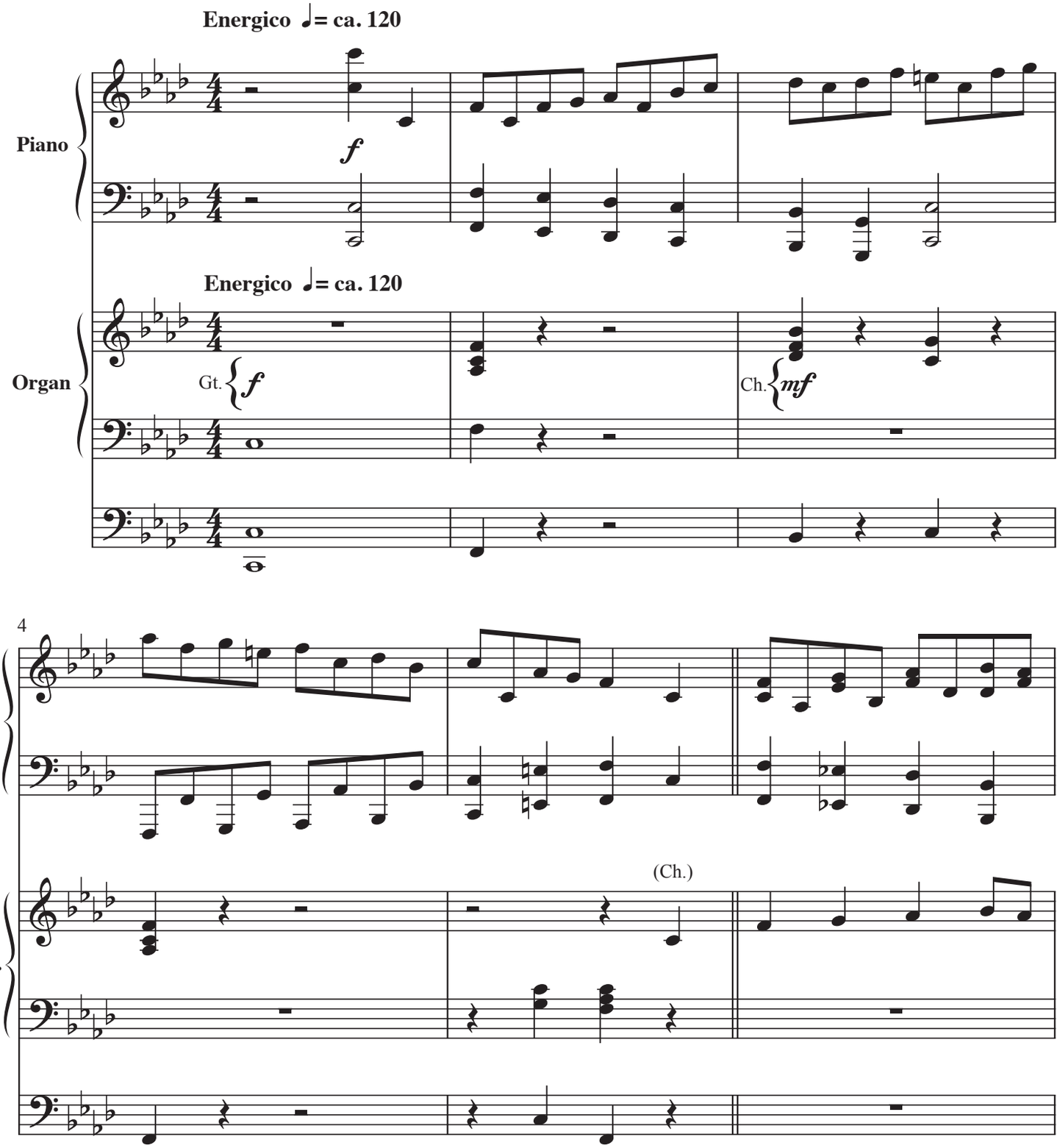

41
P.
O.

Morning Song

Sw. Soft Reed 8
Gt. Flutes 8, 4, 2
Ch. Strings 8, 4
Ped. Flutes 16, 8

John S. Dixon
Tune: **MORNING SONG**
from Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, 1813



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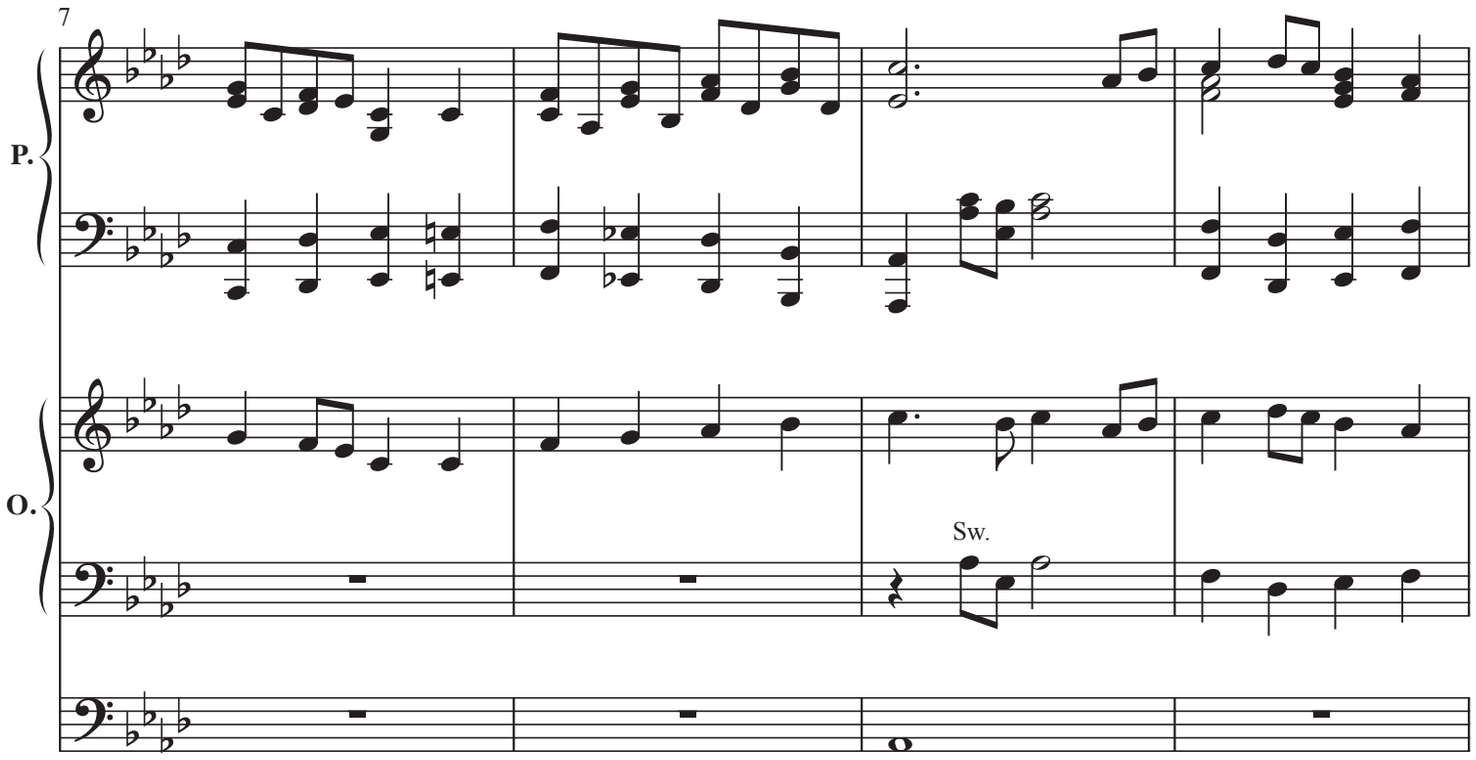
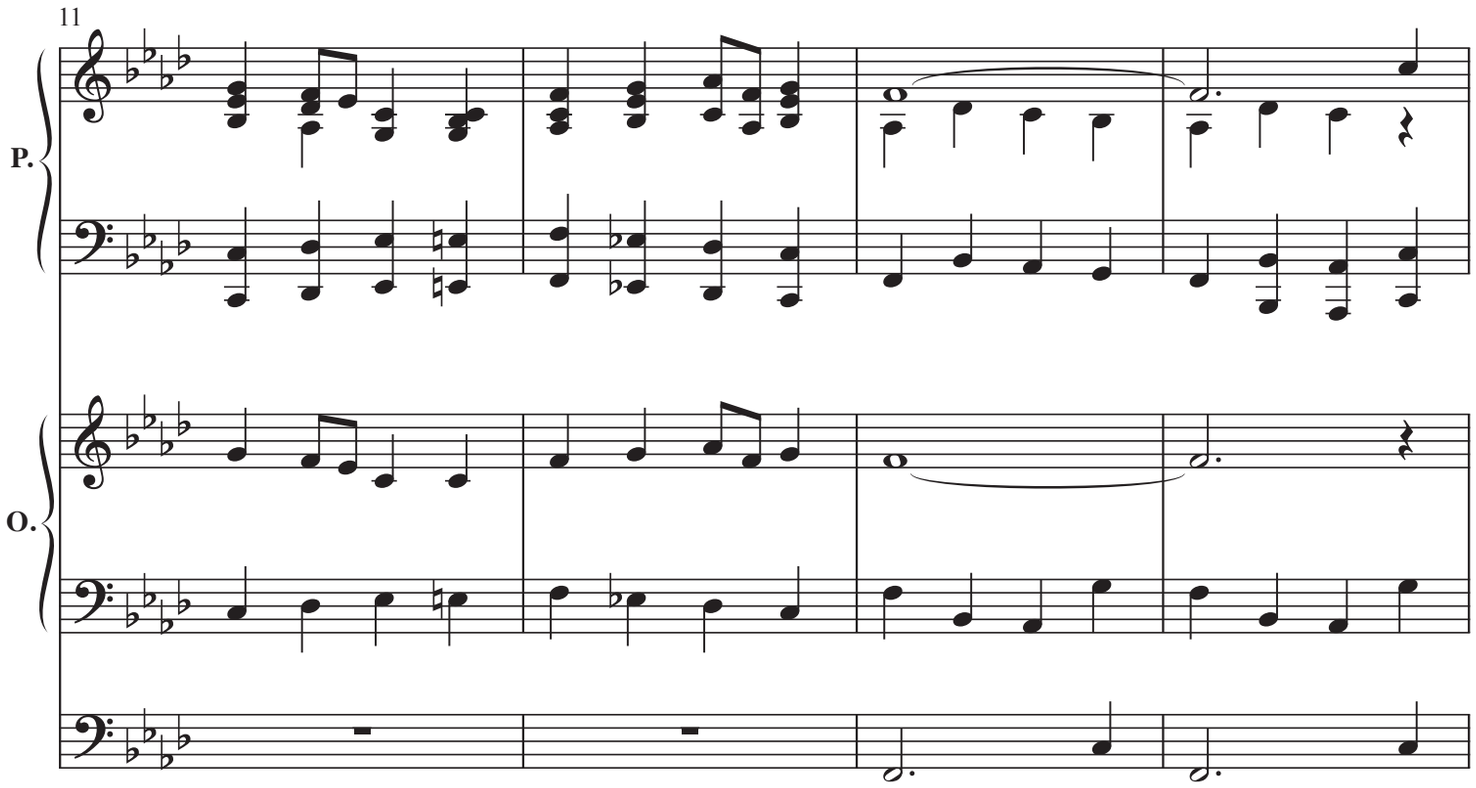

7
P.
O.
Sw.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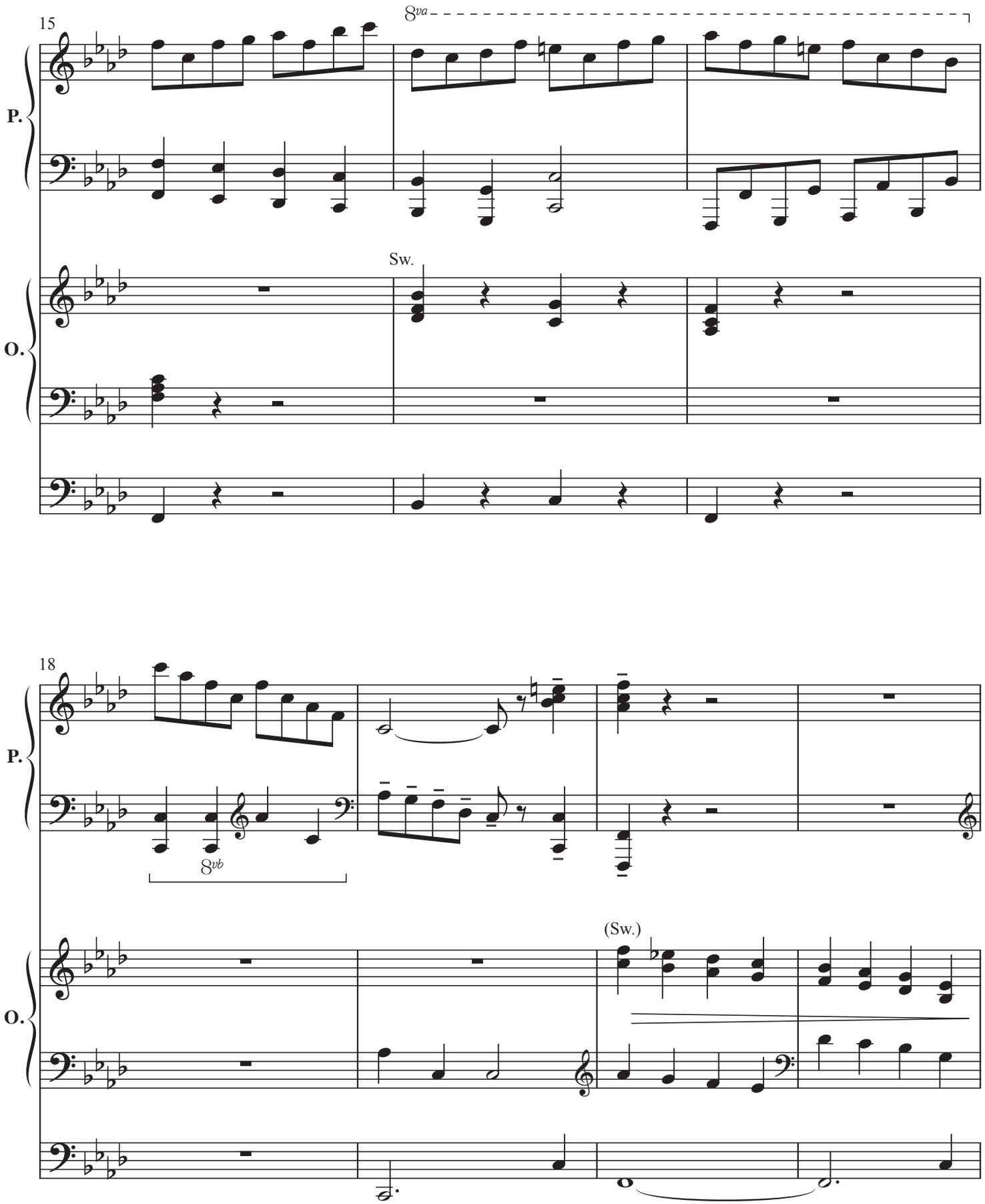
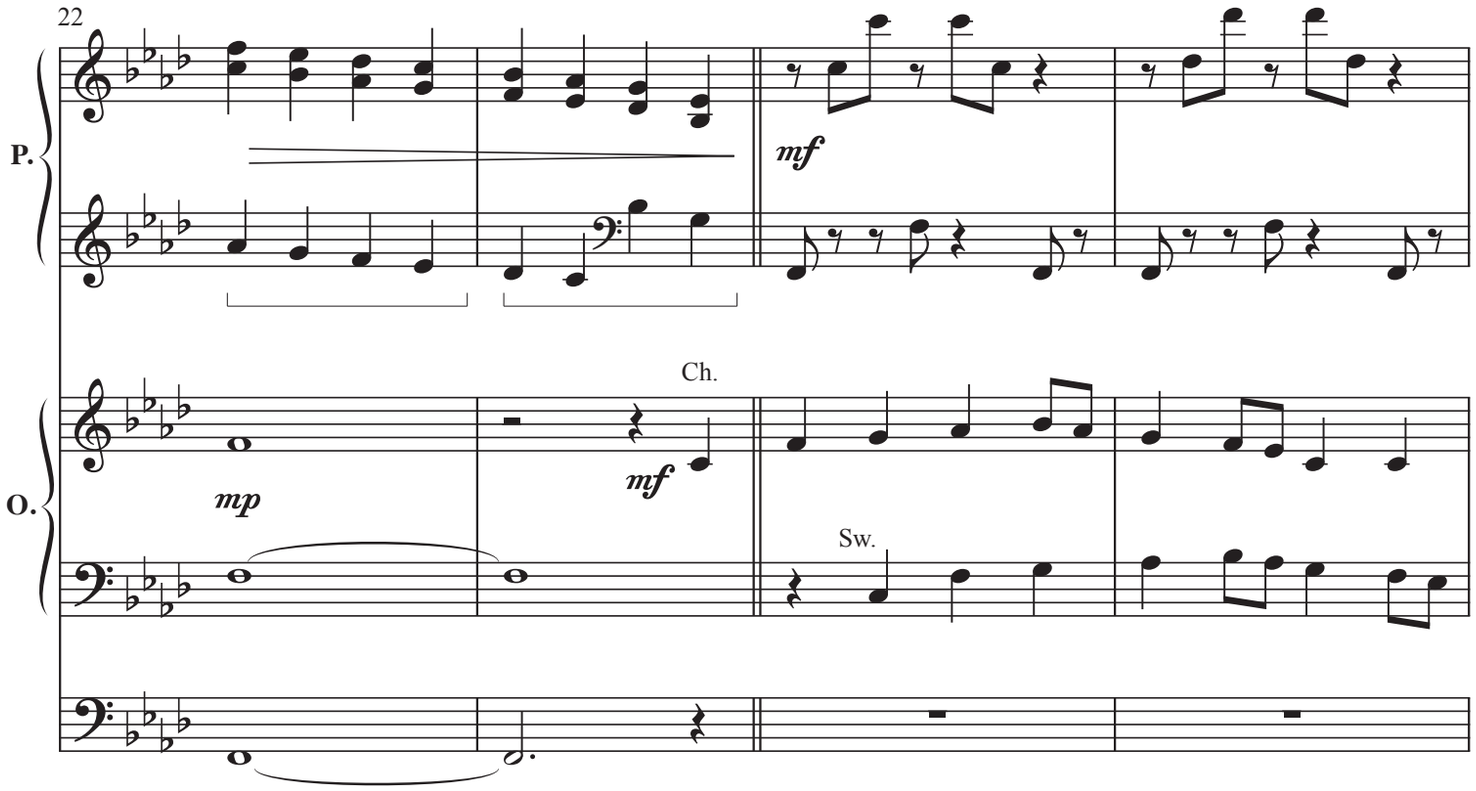
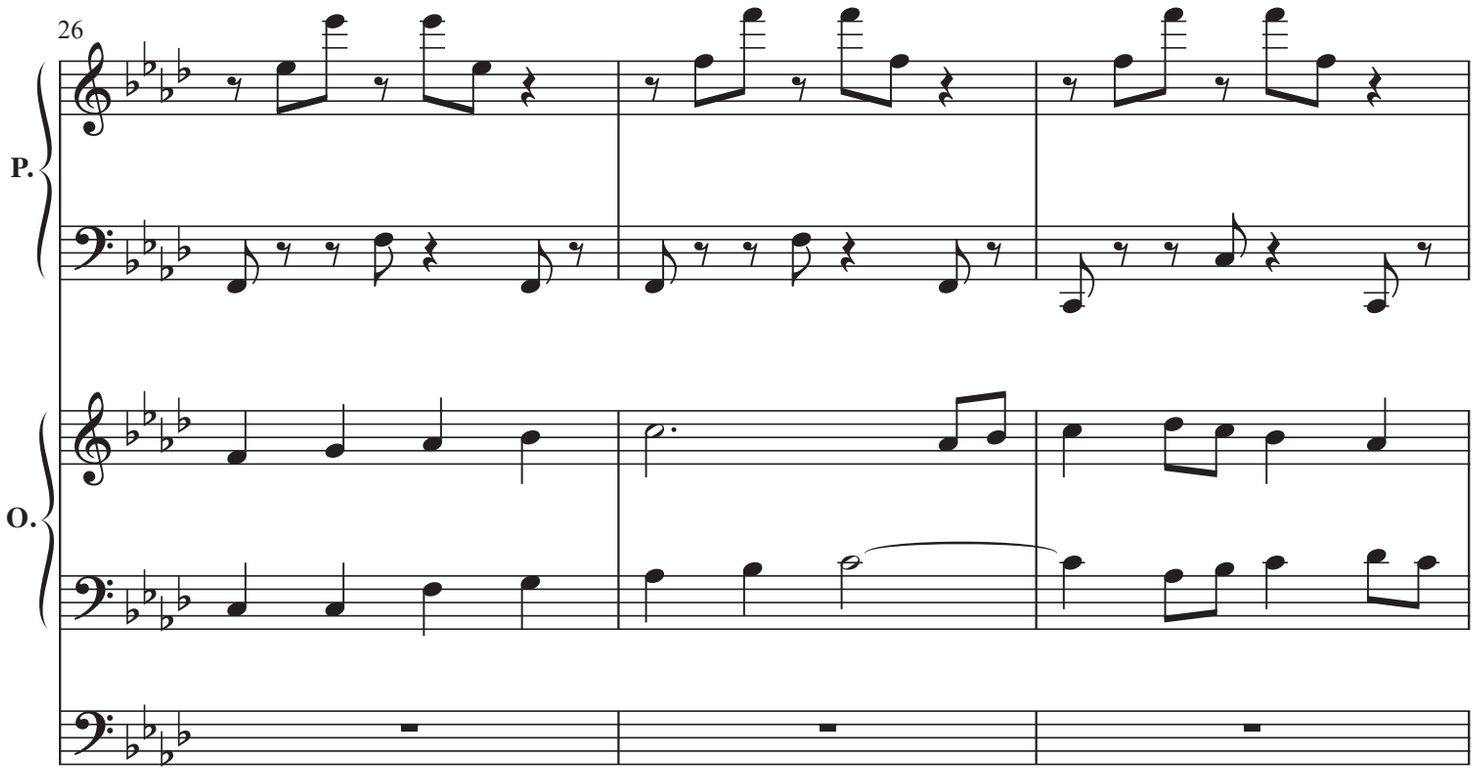
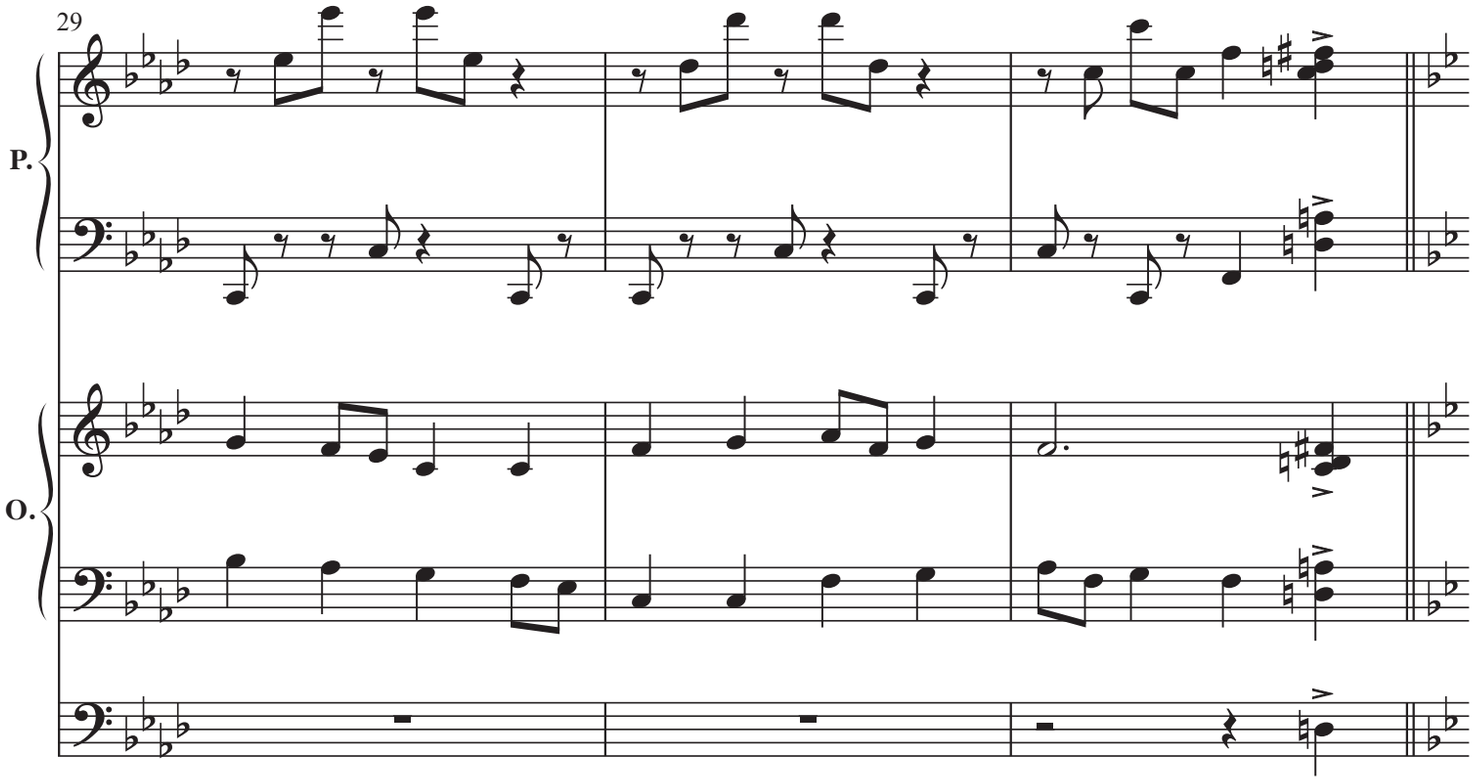
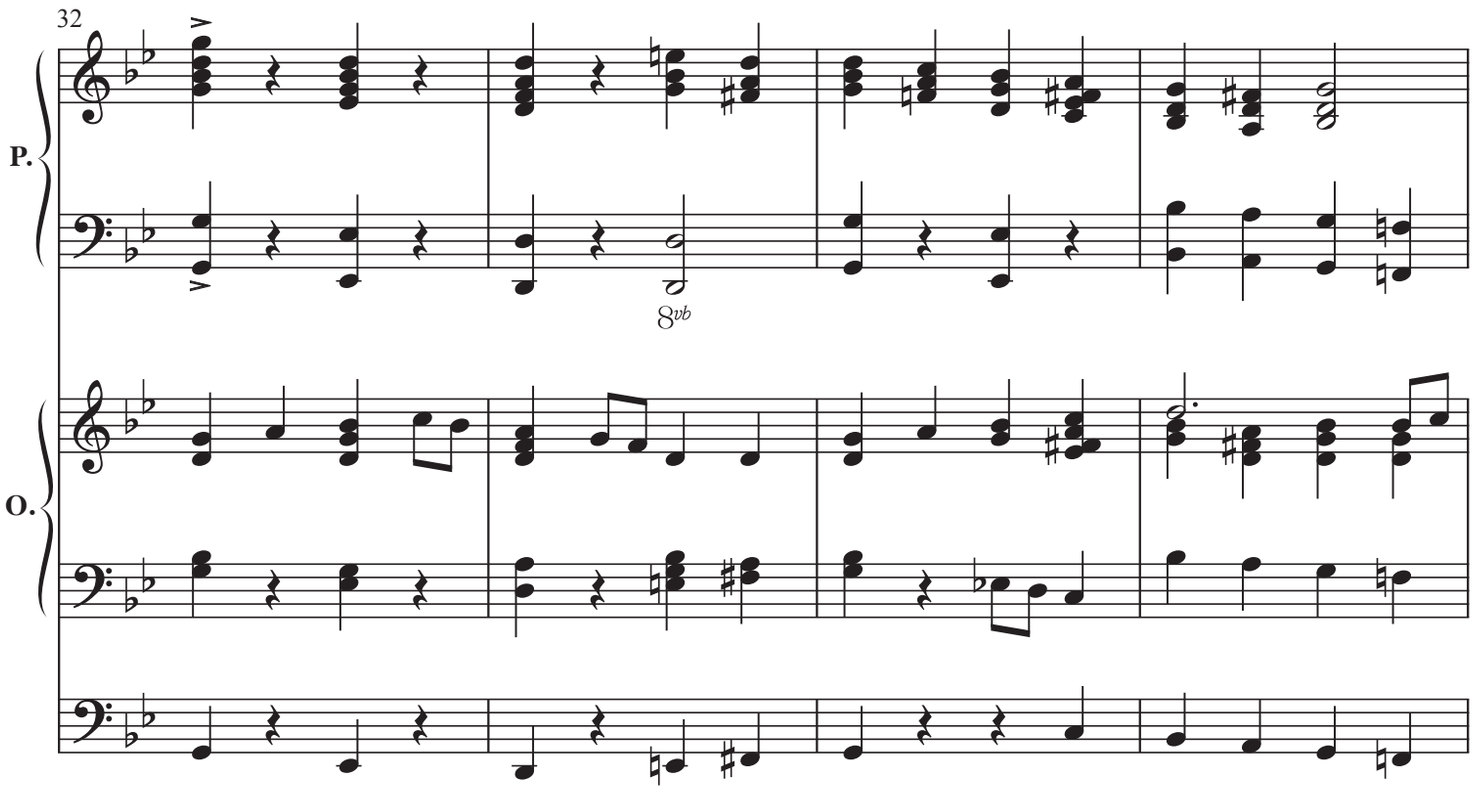
P.
O.


15
8va
P.
O.
Sw.
18
P.
8vb
O.
(Sw.)


22
P.
mf
O.
Ch.
mp
mf
Sw.


26
P.
O.


29
P.
O.


32
P.
O.
8vb