Foreword

The volumes in this series may serve several purposes for the violinist:

Use

First, the settings may be used as sources of solo or duet literature, with one added advantage: since each is fashioned according to a hymn melody, the melody itself may be performed by any instrument while the violin (or flute) plays the obbligato. Second, each may serve as an etude, with one important advantage: once learned, it may be used to enhance congregational singing in church.

Design

The melody always appears first, with the obbligato second. If the two are used as a duet, the melody should be played as written. If played with a group, the melody should be played *8va*.

Range

When the pitch exceeds D above the treble staff, there are optional notes. The music is designed for mature players, but even then alternatives are provided.

Accompaniment

There are no accompaniments provided. The obbligatos fit standard harmonies, and so the keyboardist merely plays from the hymnal.

Additional Instructions

It should be noted that there are no dynamics except for occasional *crescendo* or *decrescendo* indications. The sensitive violinist will know how loudly to play relative to the music or worship setting. The sporadic inclusion of brackets (⌐¯¯) is an indication of the beginning of the refrain when such is present.

—Douglas Smith

Acknowledgements

Several violinists have assisted in bringing this project to fruition. Nancy Evans of Tonbridge, England, and William Robinson of Maryville, Tennessee, both string specialists and church musicians, have contributed valuable principles of string writing.

Additionally, three gifted violin artists, each with vested interests in hymnody, played and critiqued every single obbligato and offered suggestions that were incorporated into the published volumes.

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Amy Isbell, former Concert Master of the University of Louisville Symphony Orchestra, has taught both strings and harp at various levels. Her study at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary has focused her artistry toward the area of missions.

Esther Crookshank, a graduate of Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory and The University of Michigan (Ph.D. in Musicology), serves as Professor of Hymnology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. She also coordinates the Seminary's string program and hosts the summer string camp.

Also available

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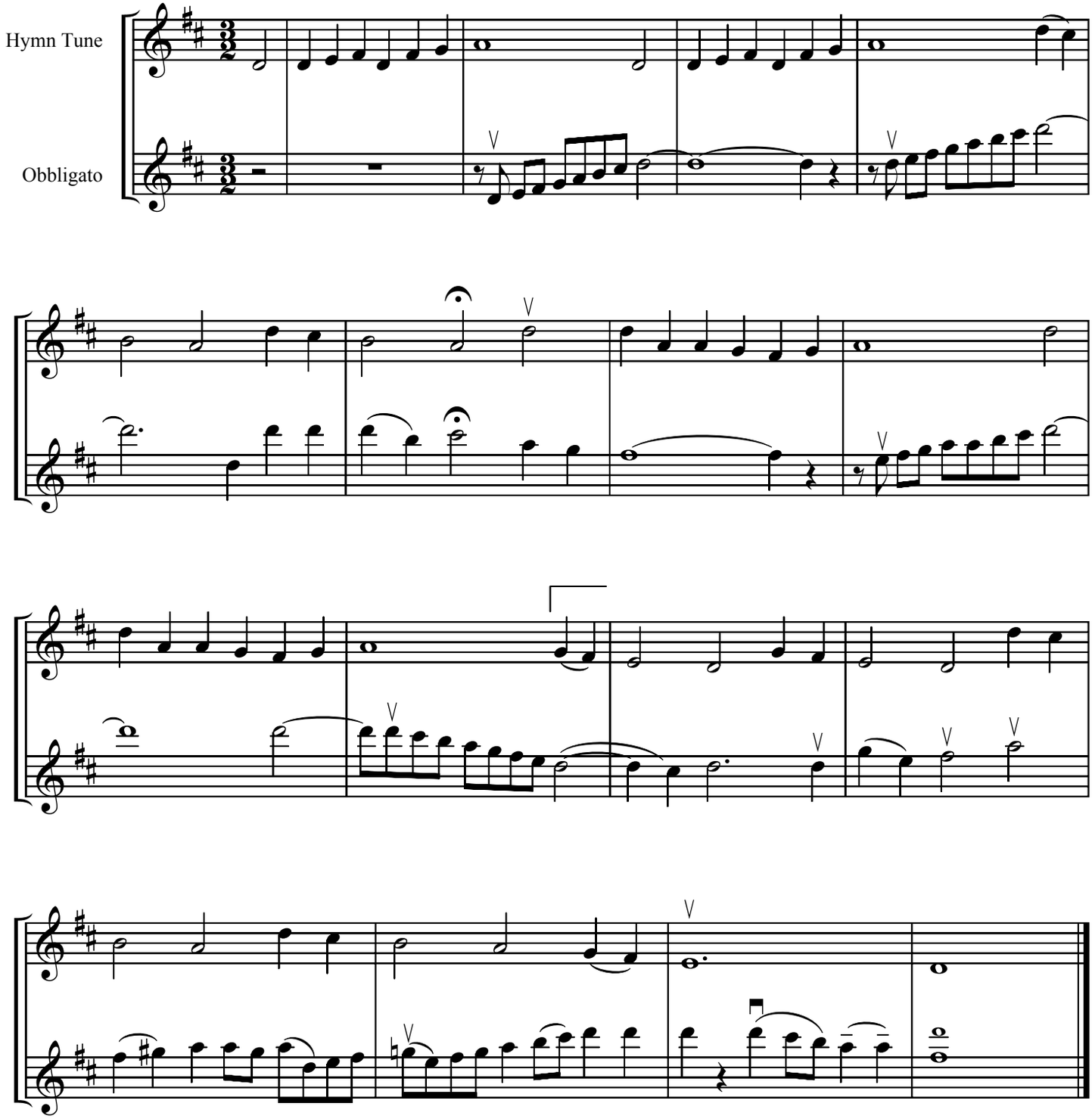
to Amy Isbell

All Creatures of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623
Obbligato by Douglas Smith



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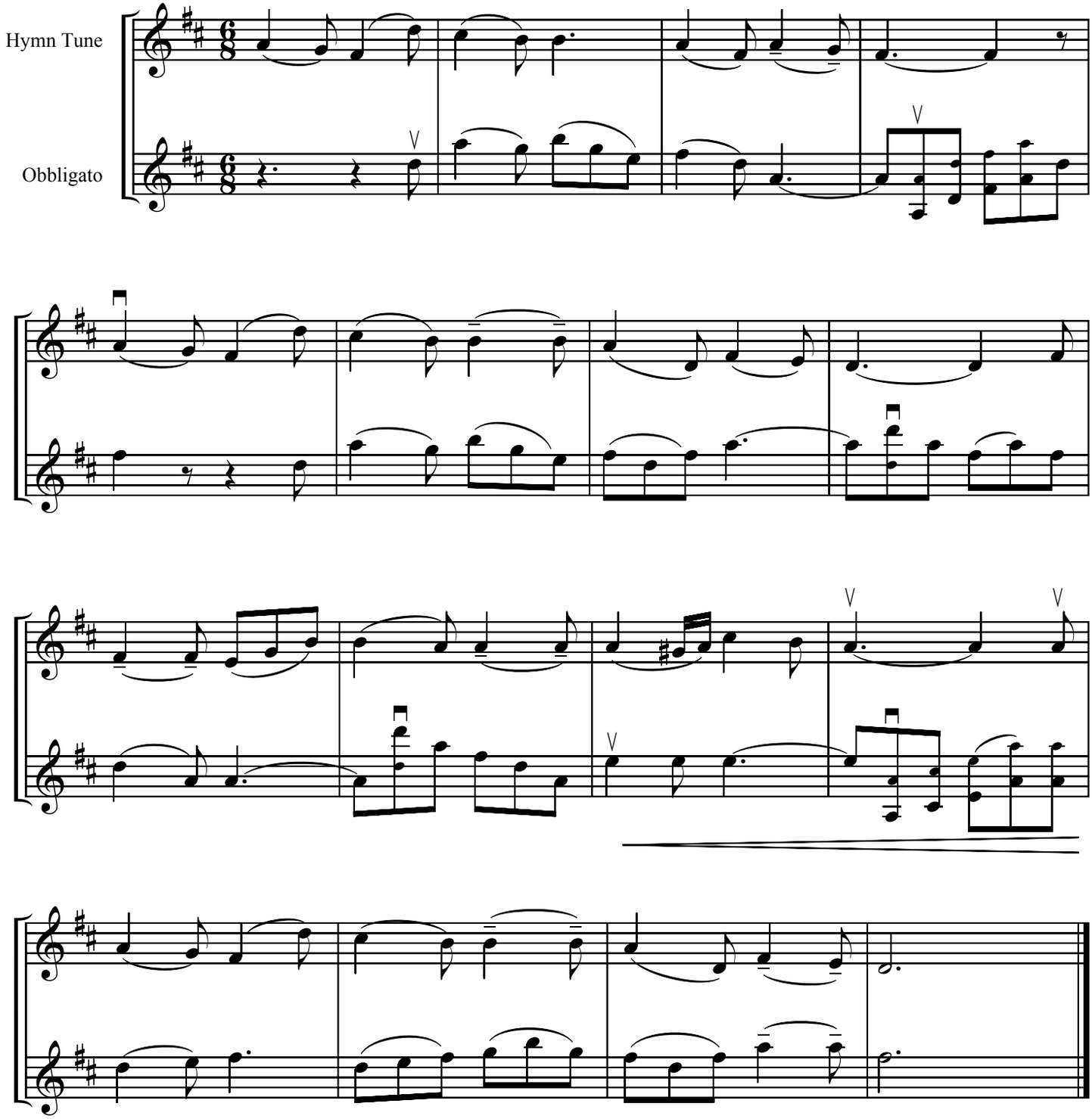
to Cara Lee Smith

All Things Bright and Beautiful

SPOHR

German Melody
Obbligato by Douglas Smith



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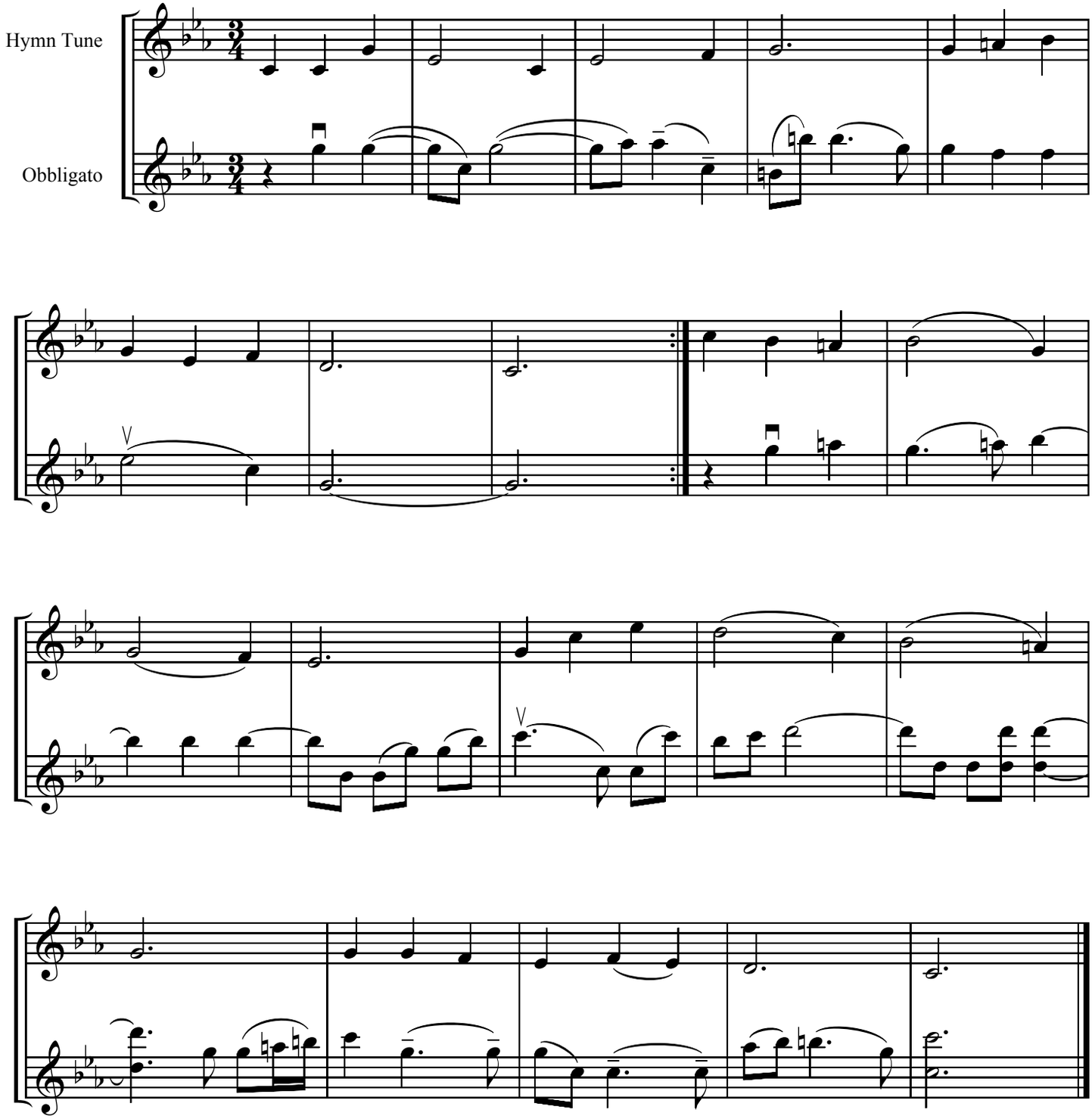
to Clayton Nance

Built on the Rock

KIRKEN

Ludwig M. Lindeman (1812-1887)
Obbligato by Douglas Smith



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to Mary Beth Mueller

Christian Hearts, in Love United

CASSELL

German Melody
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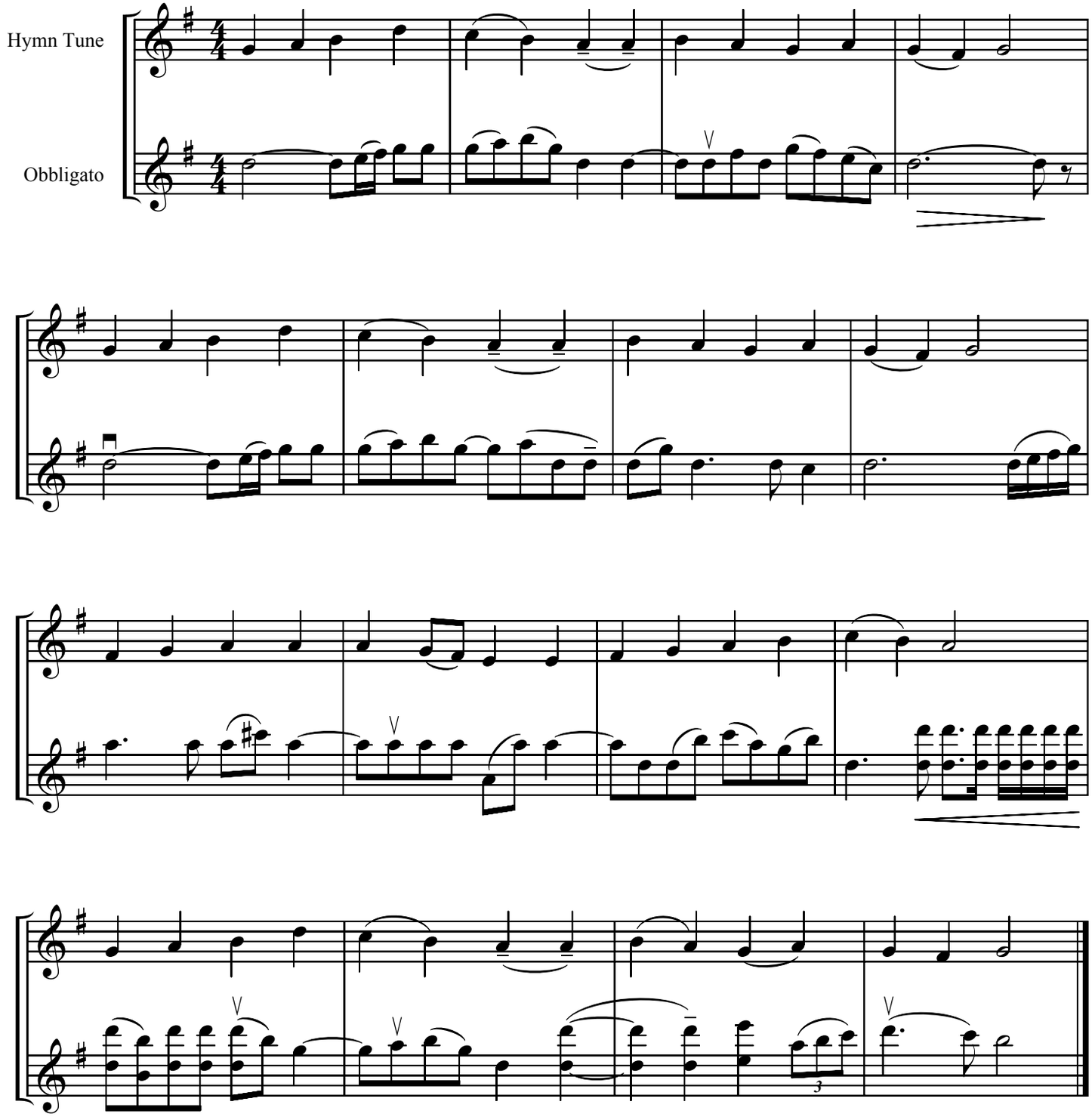

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to Jay-Martin Pinner

Faith of Our Fathers

ST. CATHERINE

Henri F. Hemy (1818-1888)
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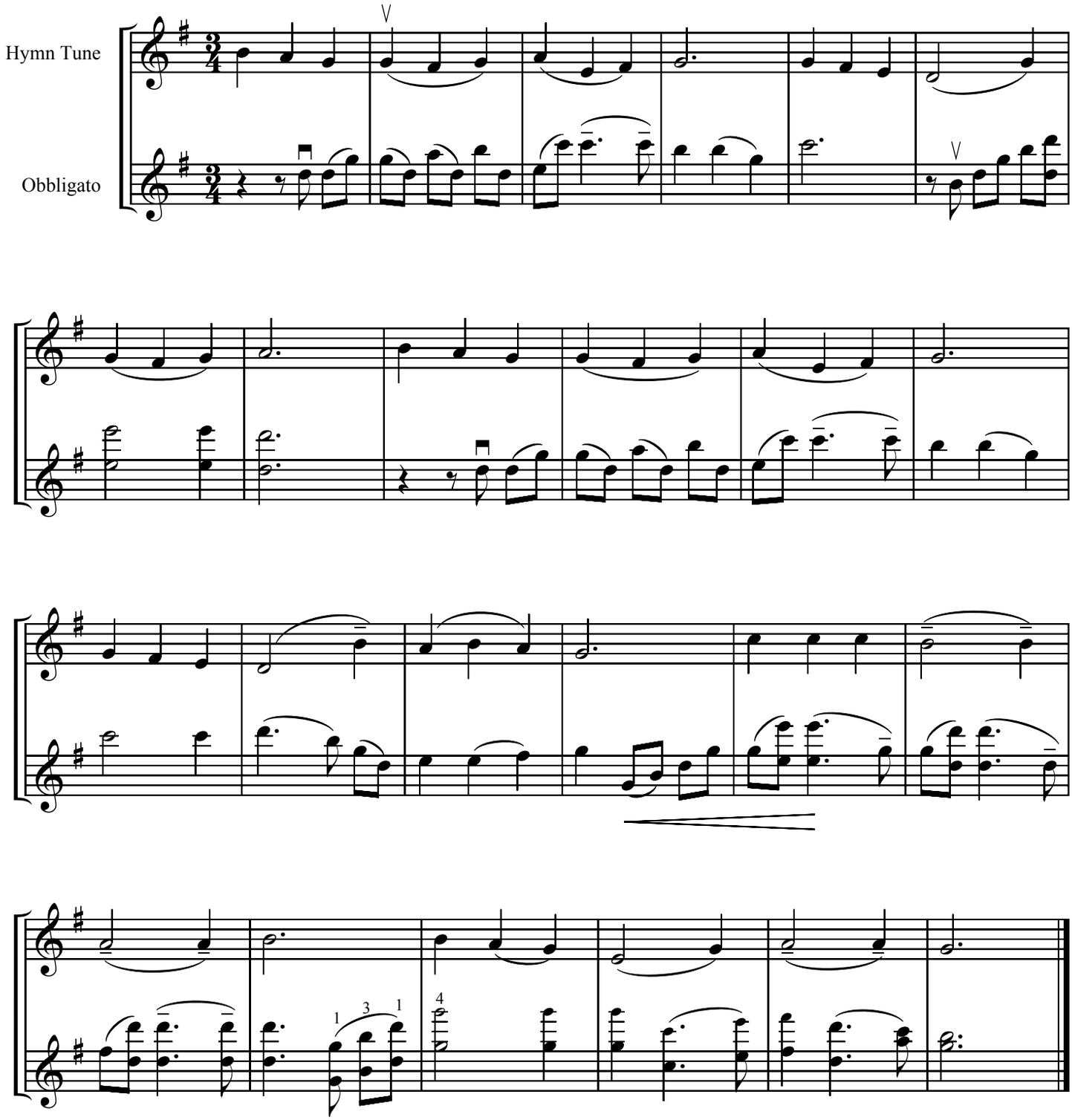

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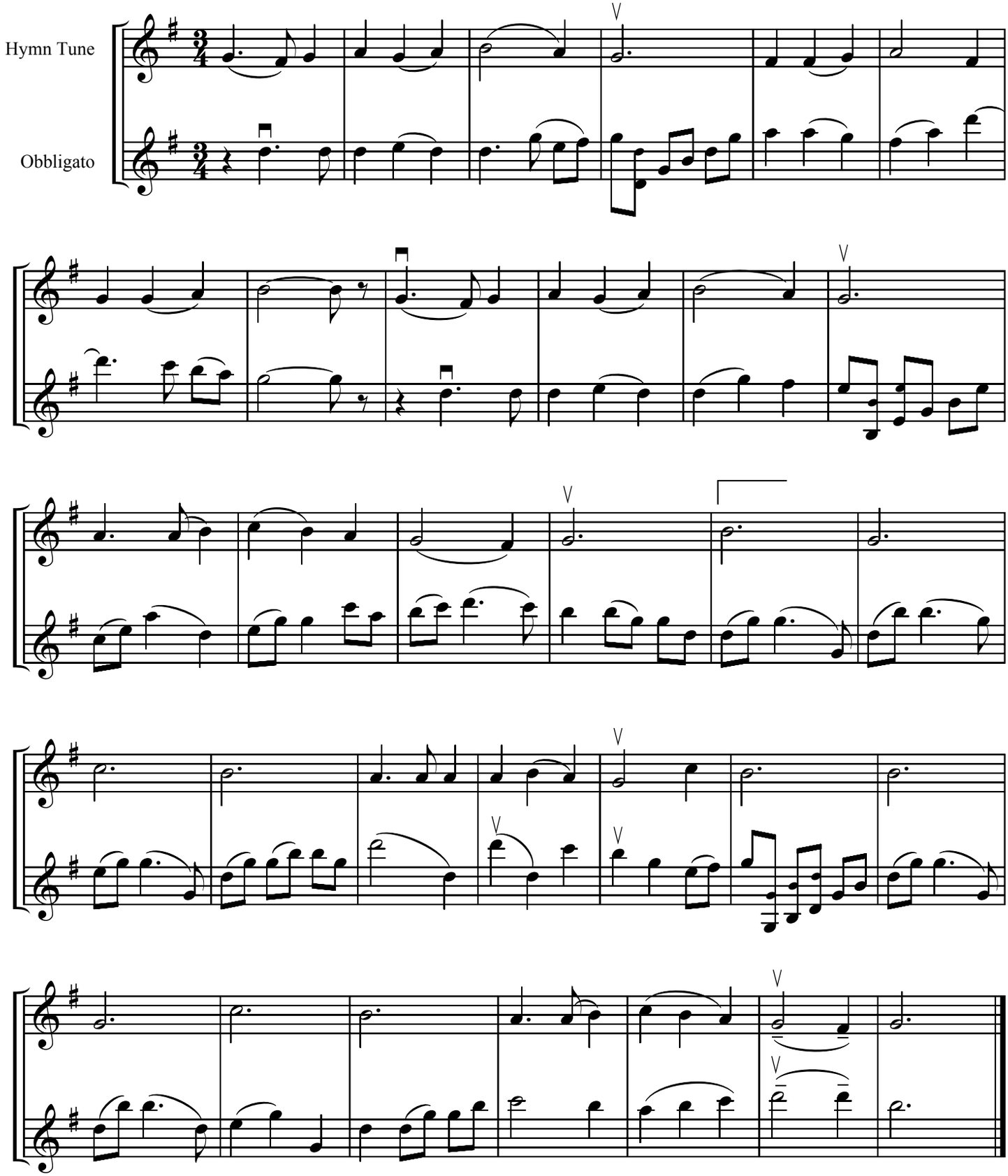
to Katherine Granillo

Grace Greater than Our Sin

MOODY

Daniel B. Towner (1850-1919)
Obbligato by Douglas Smith



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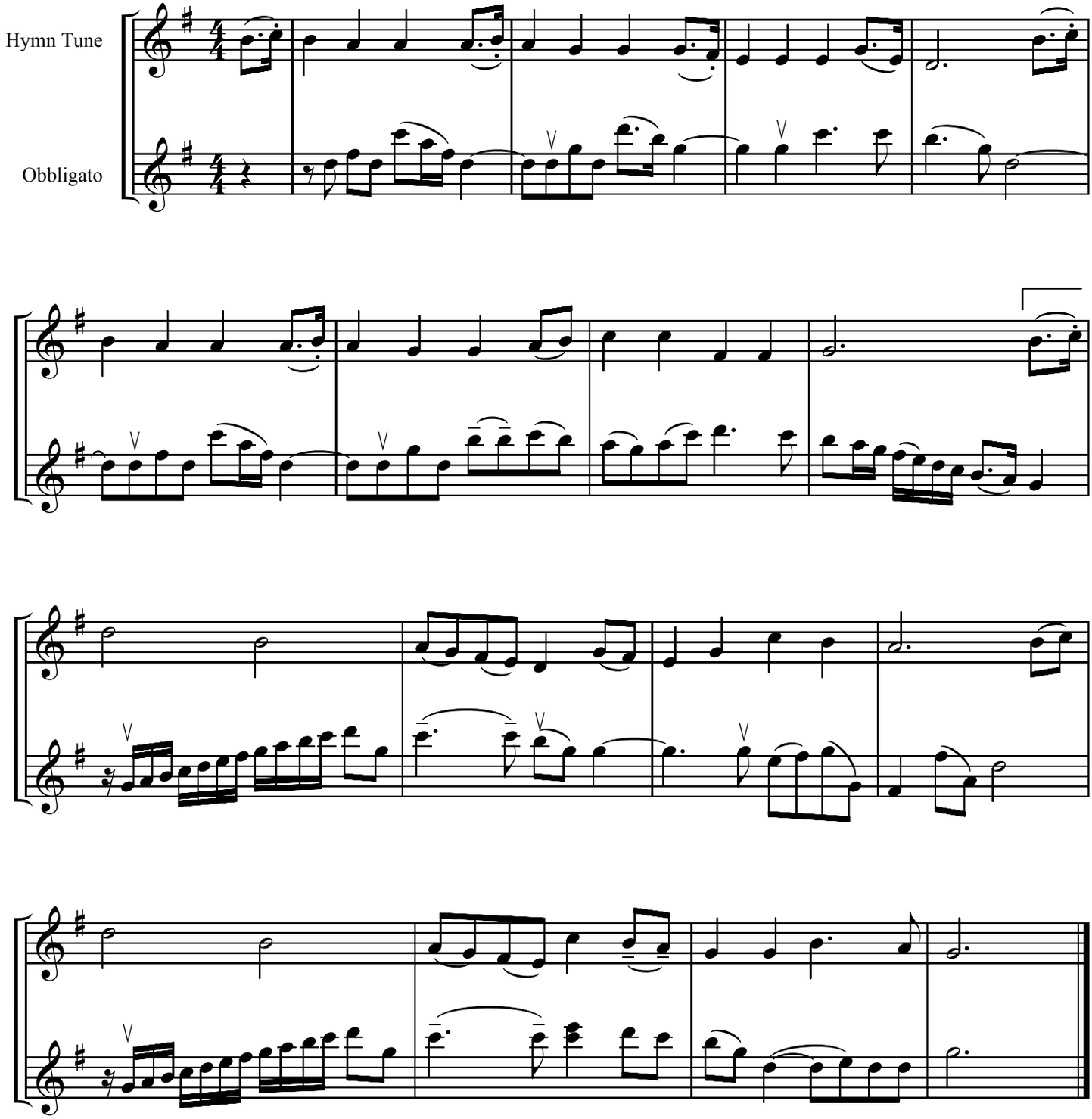
to Rachel Borengasser

I Am Thine, O Lord

I AM THINE

William H. Doane (1832-1915)
Obbligato by Douglas Smith



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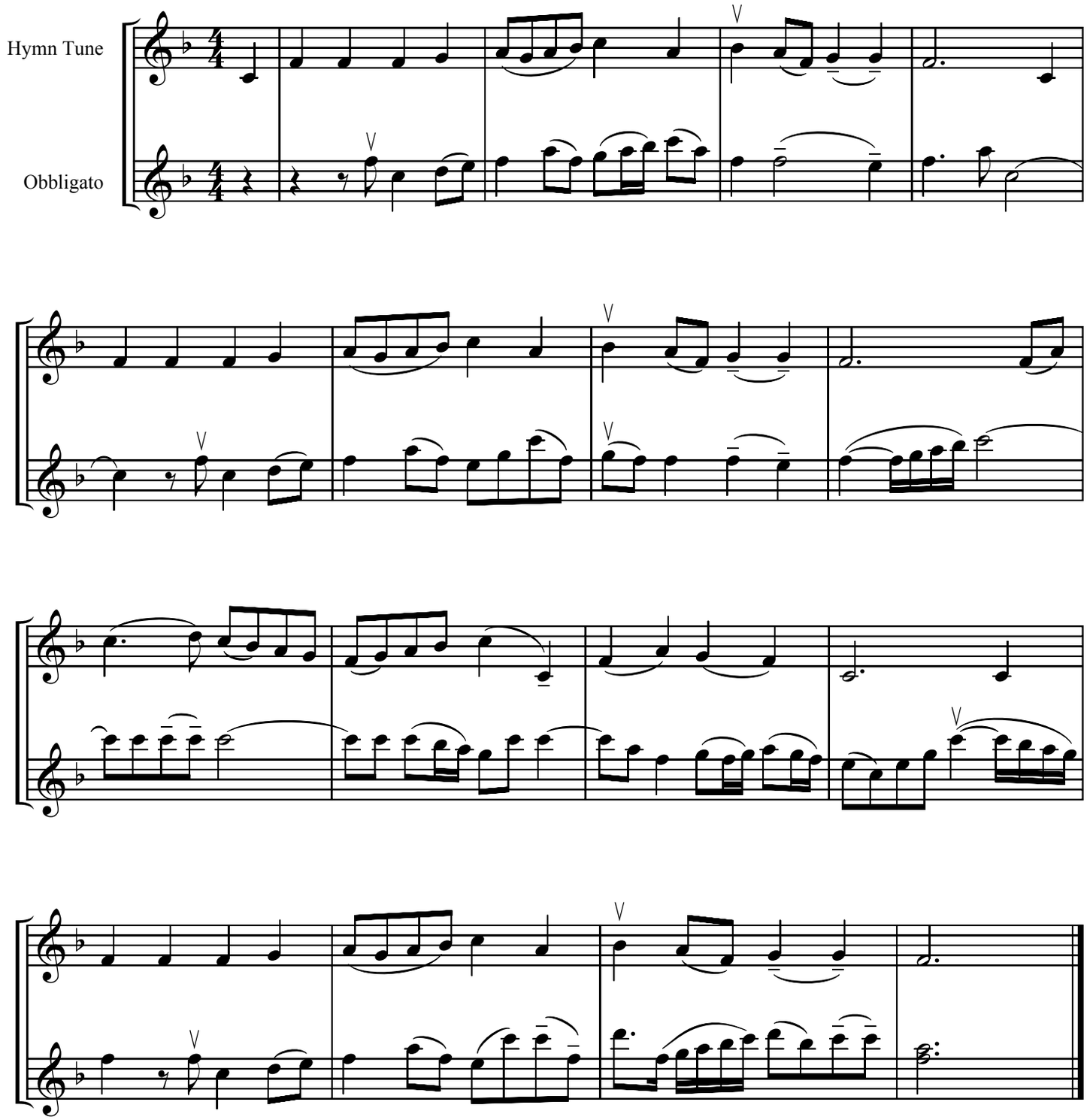
to Valerie Patton

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

FOREST GREEN

English Melody
Obbligato by Douglas Smith



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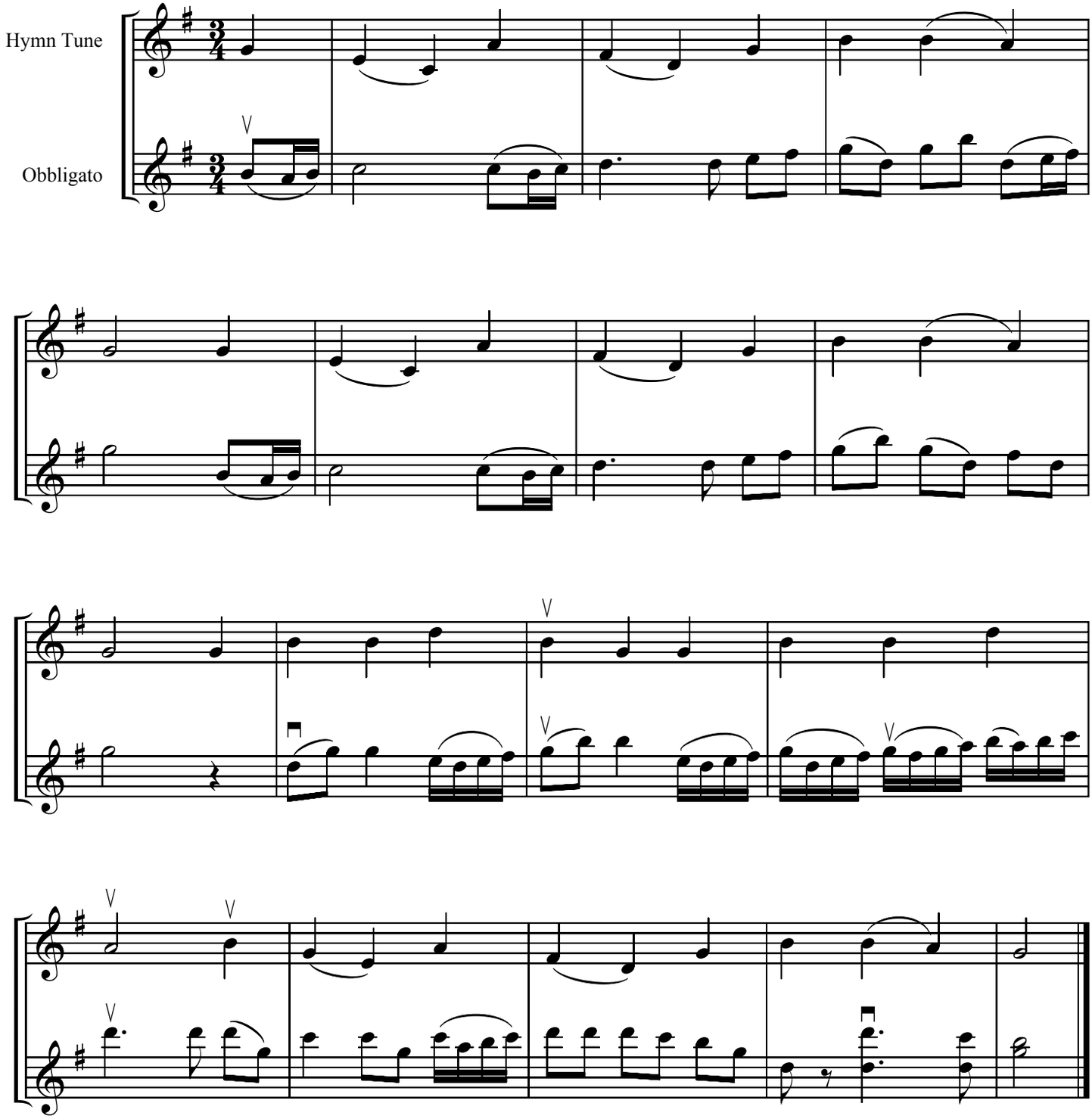
to Richard Amoroso

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST. DENIO

Welsh Melody
Obbligato by Douglas Smith



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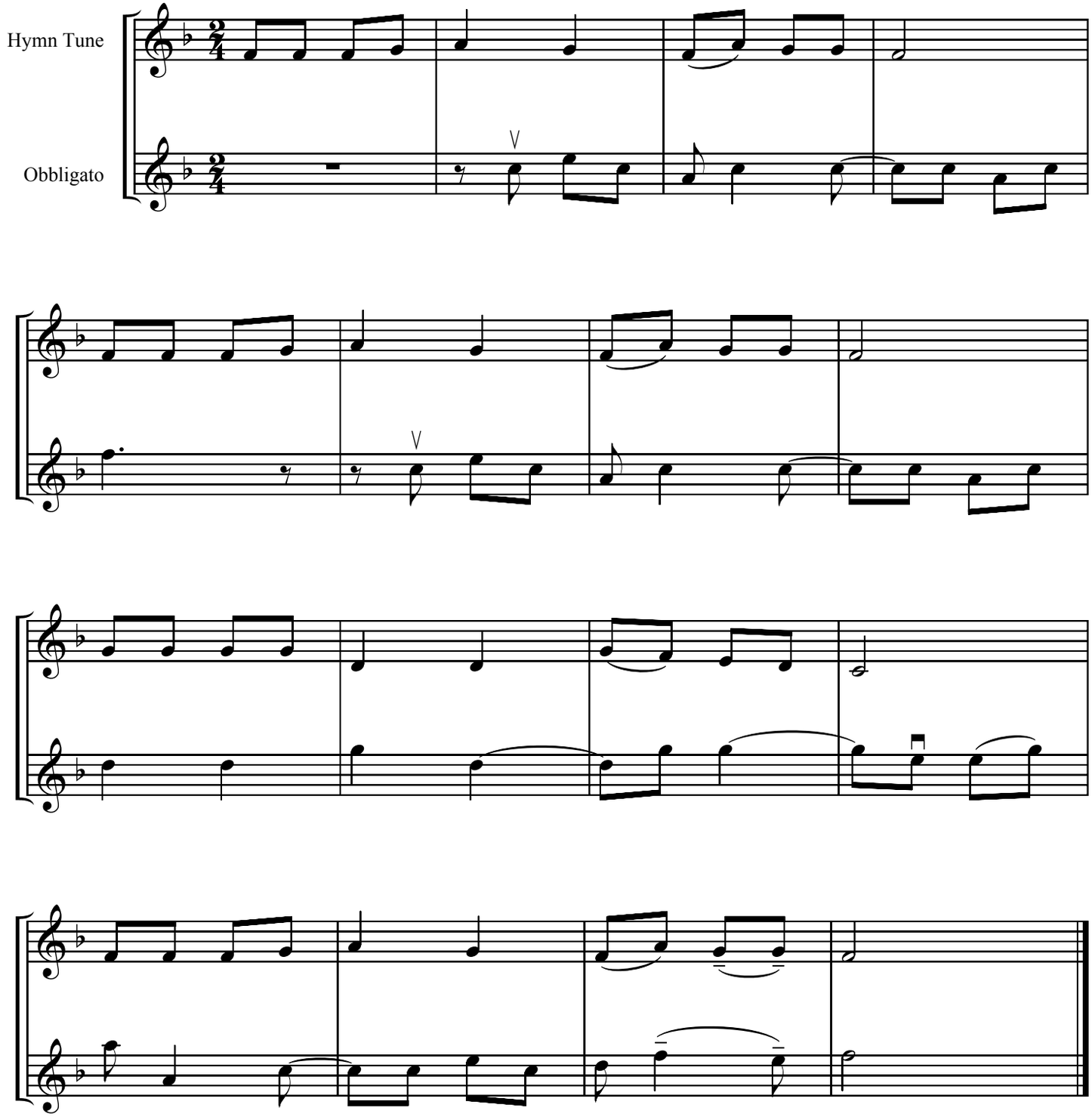
to Sandy Young

Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands

AU CLAIR DE LA LUNE

French Melody
Obbligato by Douglas Smith



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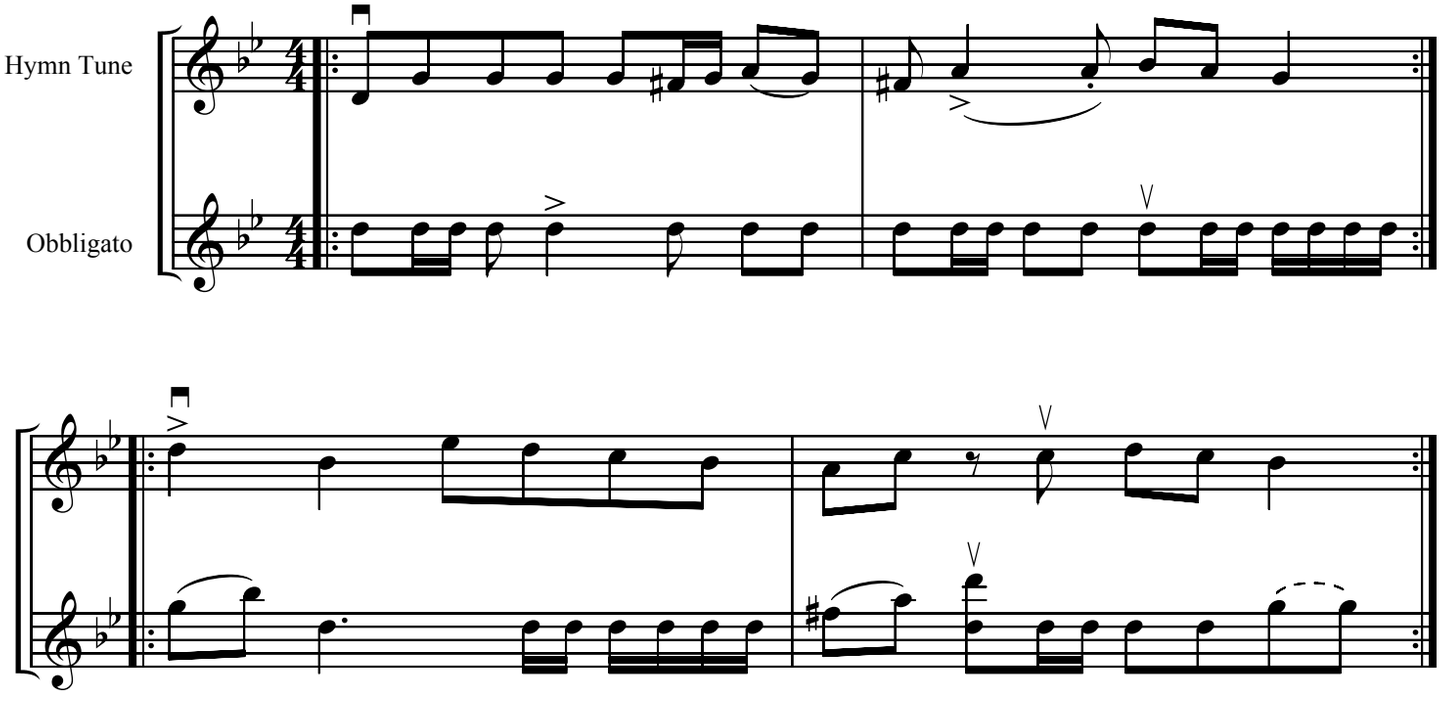
to Matthew, Patrick and Elliot Lane

King of Kings

KING OF KINGS

Hebrew Melody
Obbligato by Douglas Smith



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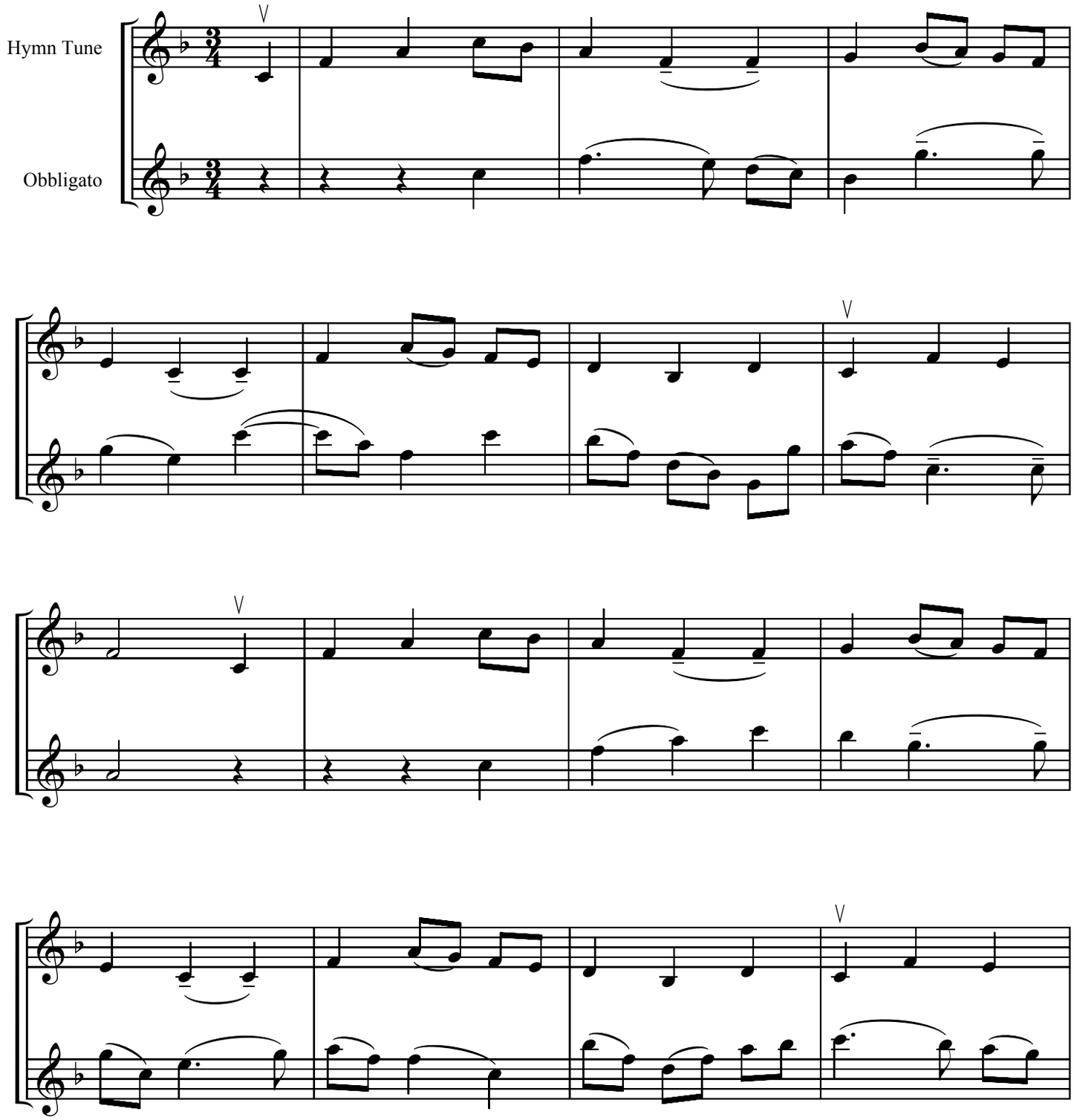
to Anne Yang

Let All Things Now Living

ASH GROVE

Welsh Melody
Obbligato by Douglas Smith



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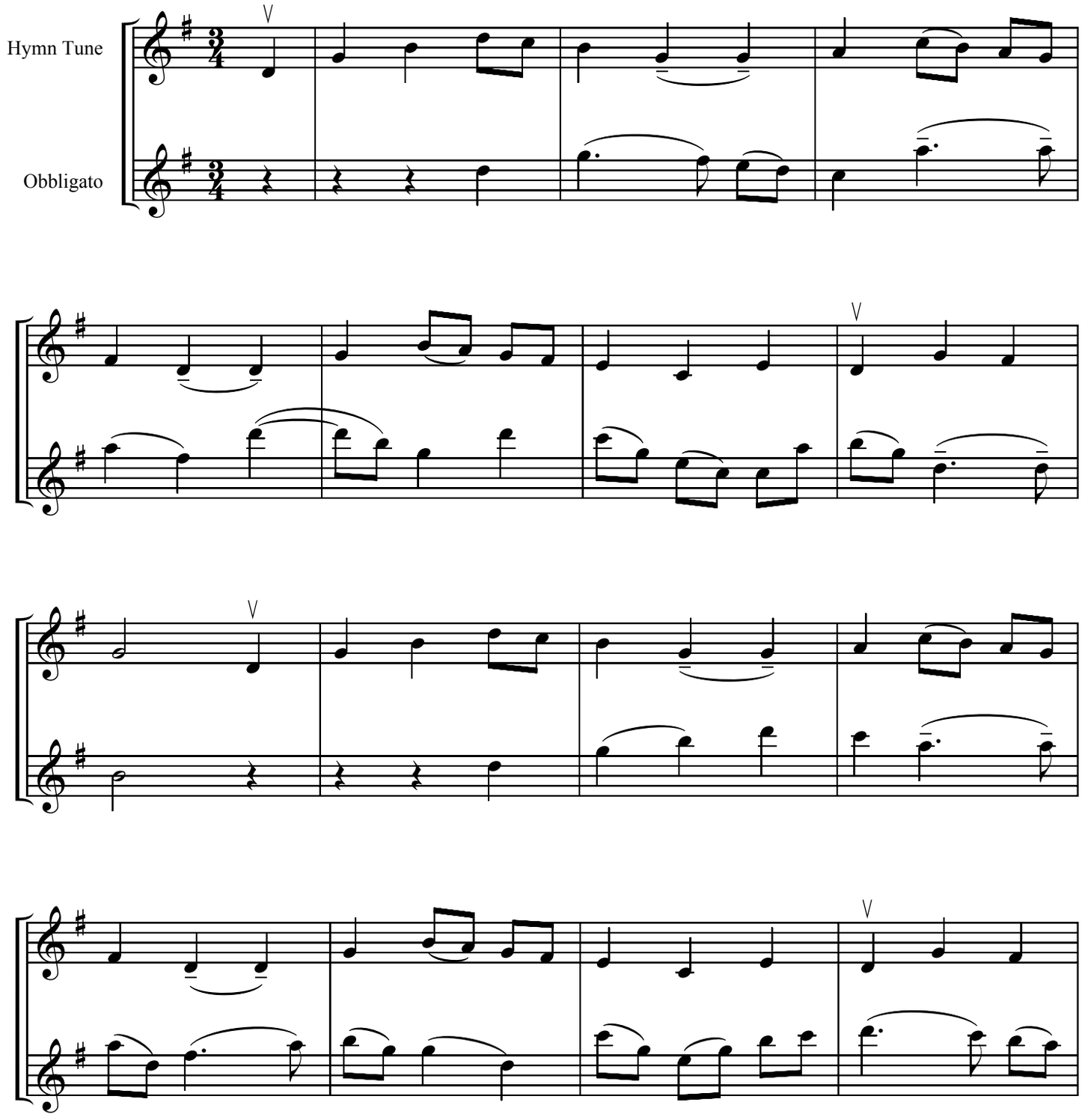
to Ingri Fowler

Let All Things Now Living

ASH GROVE

Welsh Melody
Obbligato by Douglas Smith



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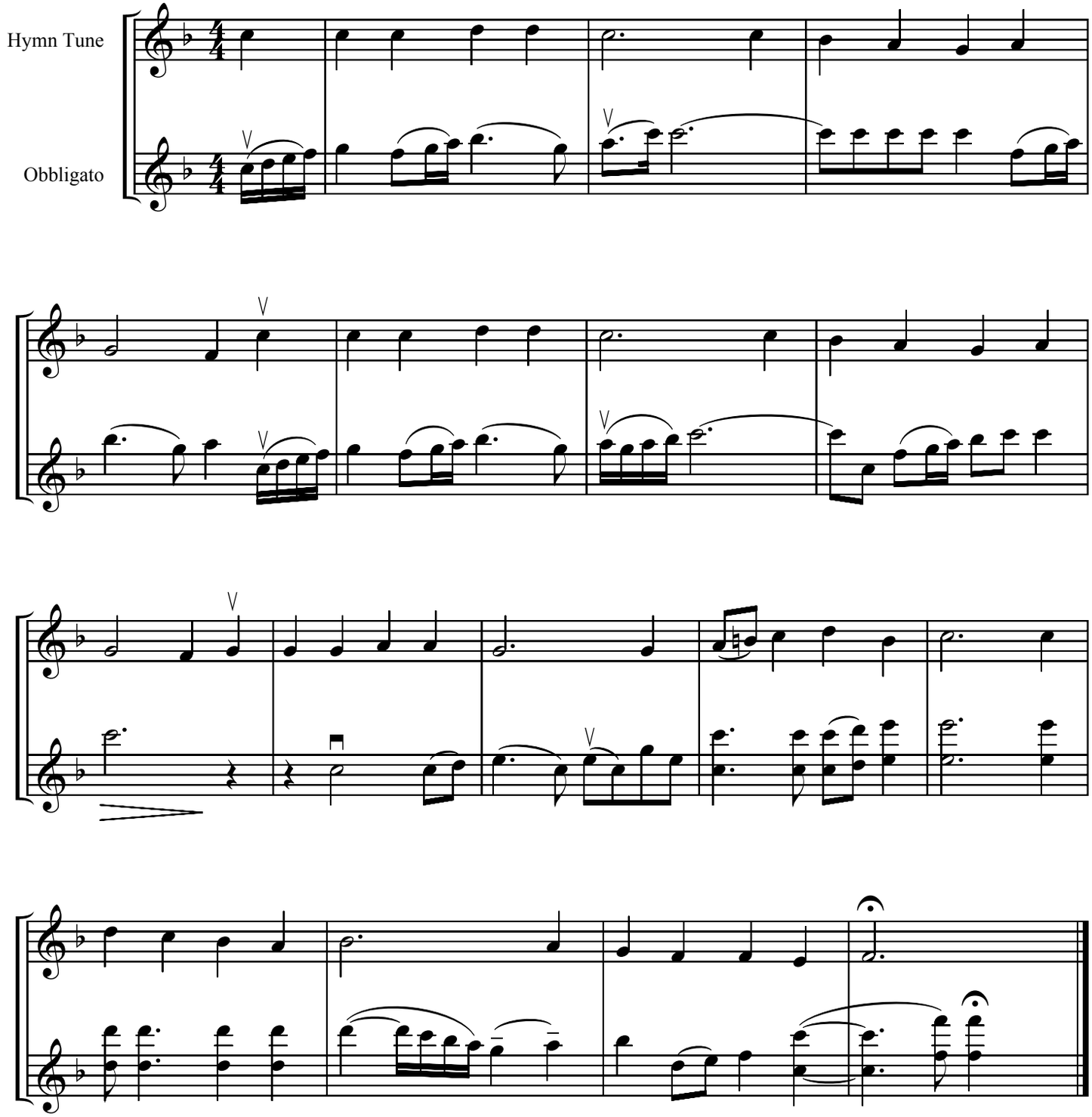
to Carla Trynchuk

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET

Johann Crüger (1598-1662)
Obbligato by Douglas Smith



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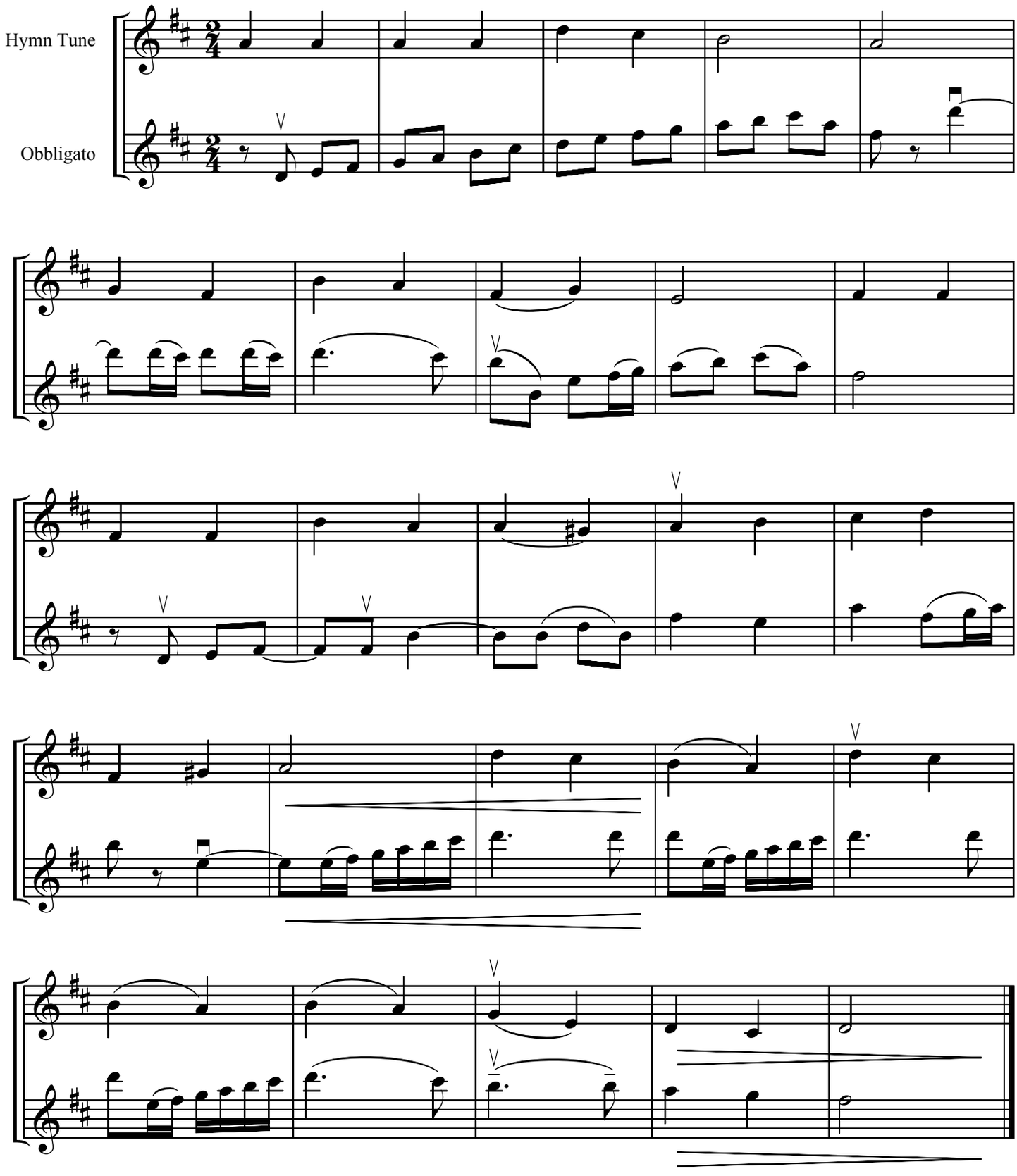
to Helga Lumbrix

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

LAUDA ANIMA

John Goss (1800-1880)
Obbligato by Douglas Smith



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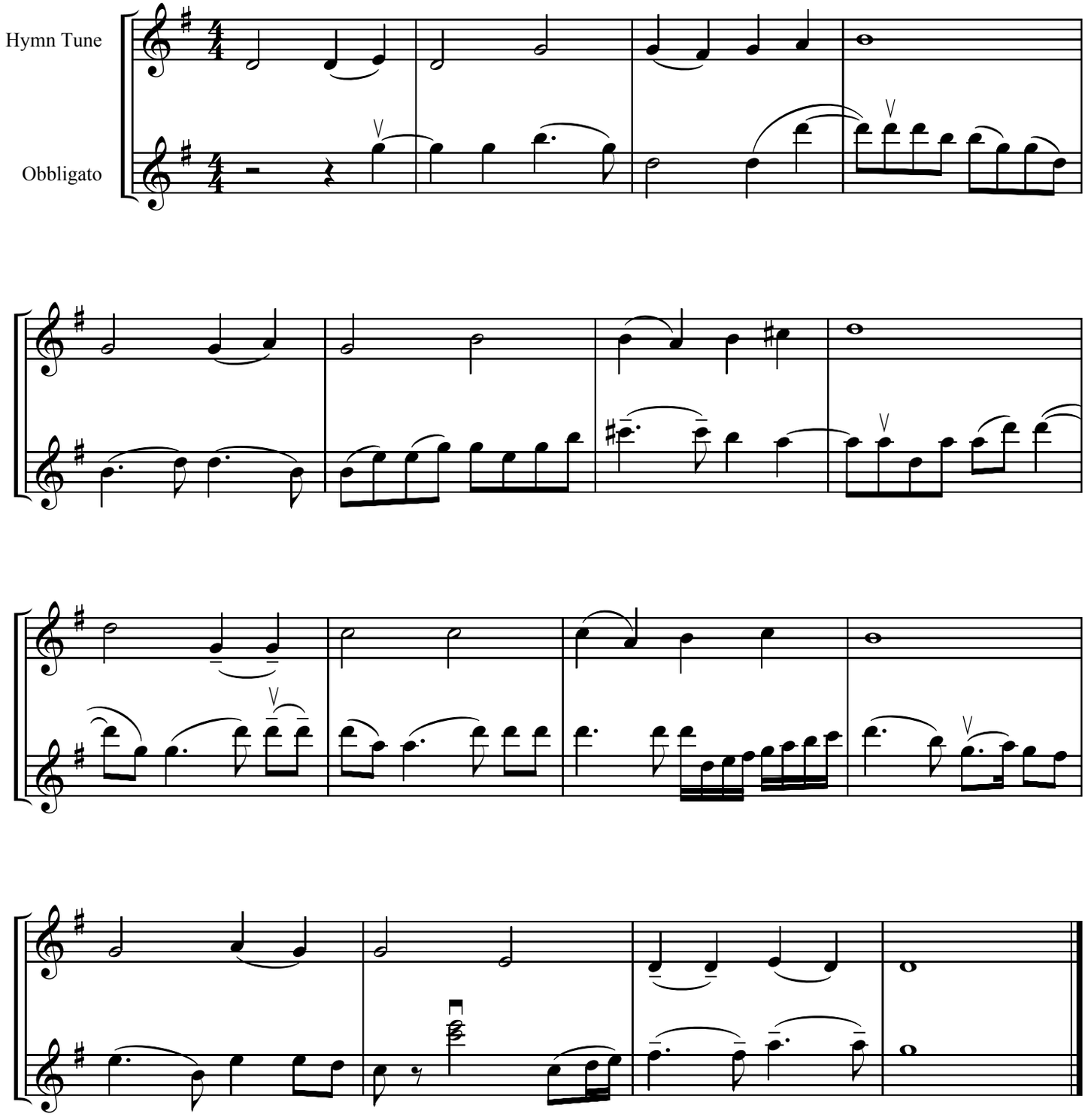
to Katherine Fuller

Search Me, O God

ELLERS

Edward J. Hopkins (1818-1901)
Obbligato by Douglas Smith



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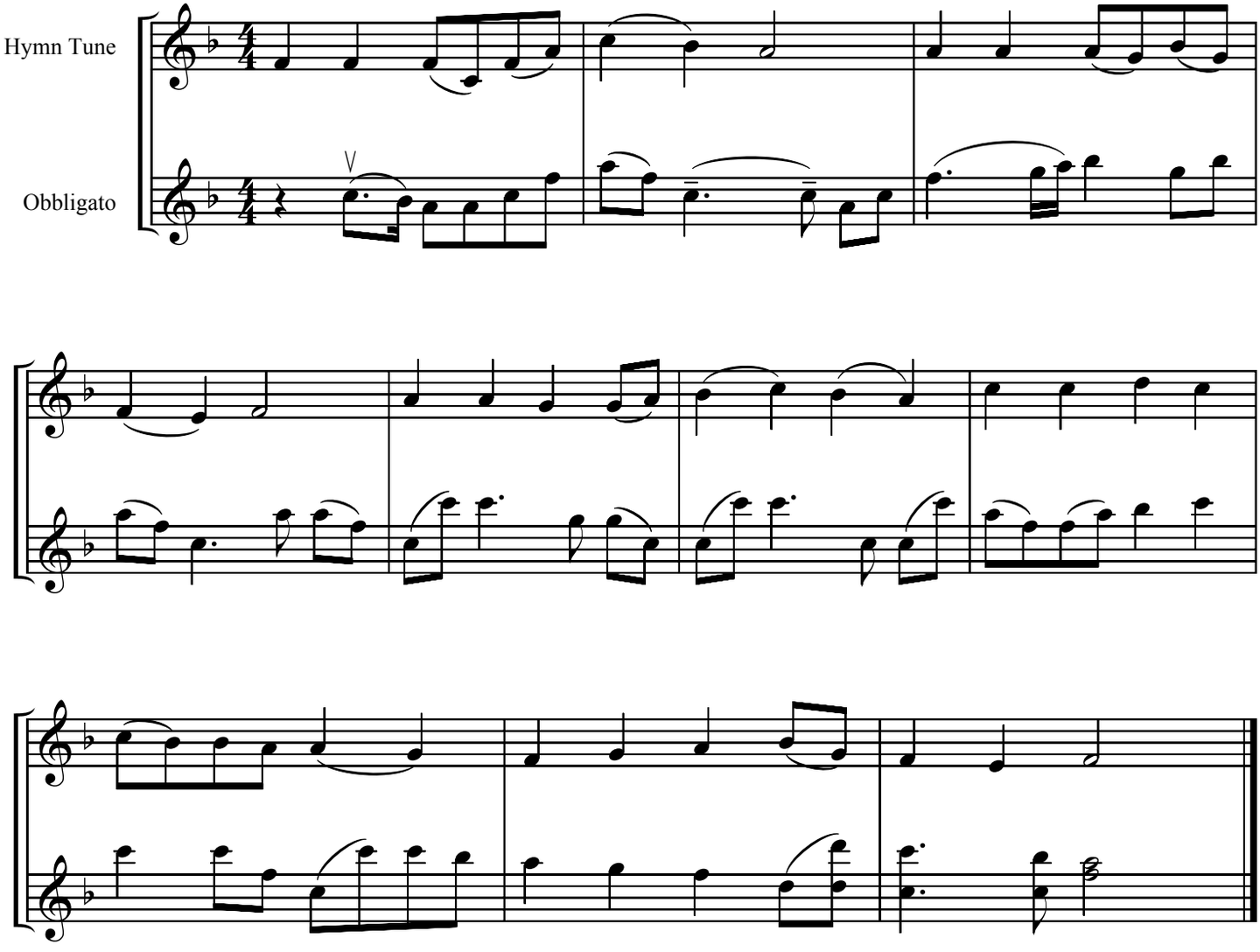
to David Donggnuk Kim

Take My Life and Let It Be

HENDON

Henri H. C. Malan (1787-1864)
Obbligato by Douglas Smith



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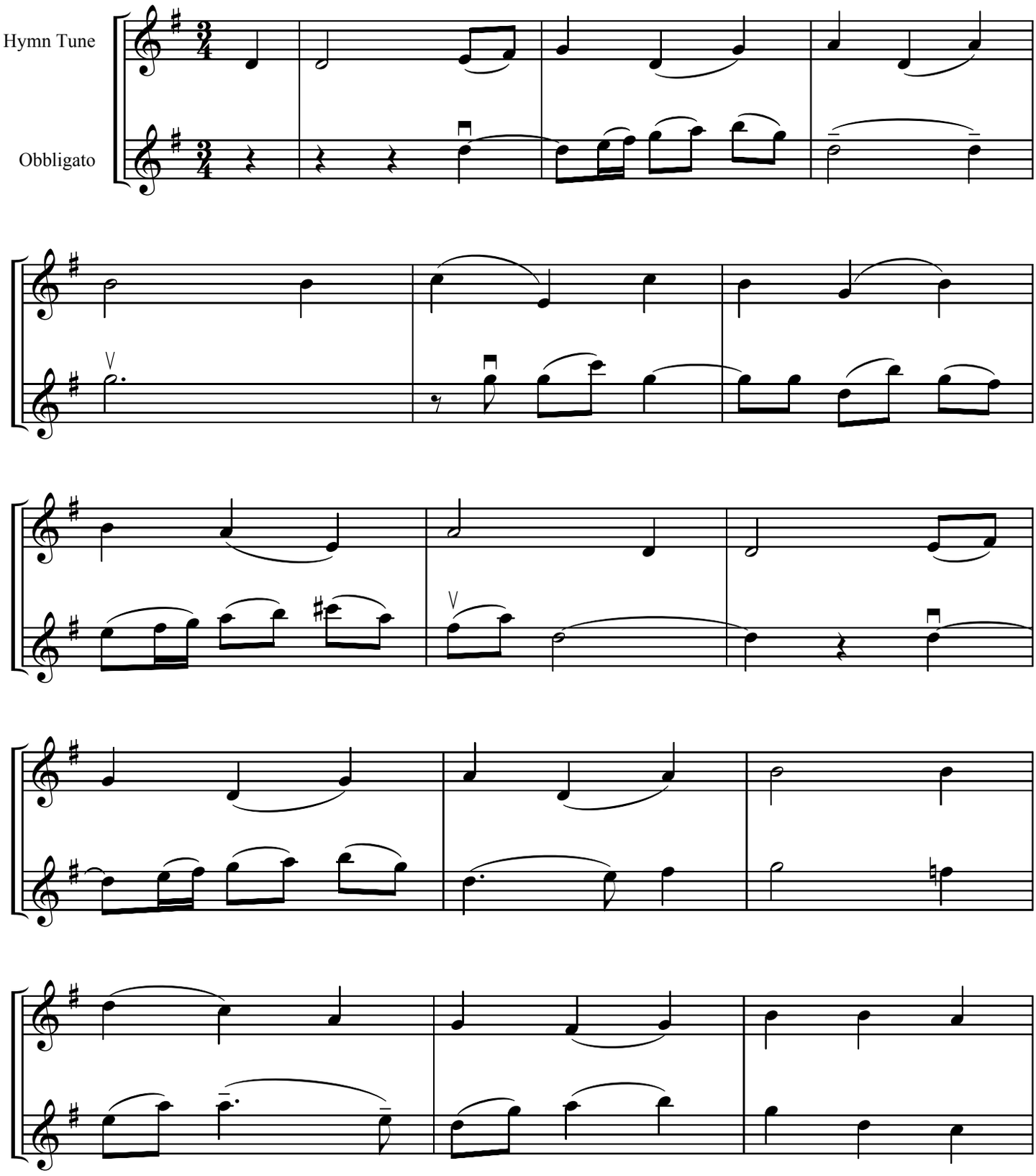
to Celeste Myall

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

William H. Doane (1832-1915)
Obbligato by Douglas Smith



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