Foreword

Several months ago, Lloyd Larson asked me to complete a portfolio of Christmas music for the Lillenas Publishing Company. Despite my eagerness to write this collection of music, I soon found this project to be more difficult than I anticipated. I wanted to bring something fresh and different to each of these arrangements. However, every one of these Christmas carols has been set by arrangers many times. Therefore, the goal of bringing something new to this treasured repertoire of music proved to be quite a challenge.

As I began writing these pieces, I spent much time meditating over the texts, as well as the scriptures that inspired many of them. Soon, I began to feel the Holy Spirit ministering to me through the words of these great hymns, and my writing sessions suddenly became moments of deep and meaningful worship. Once this happened, the book began to take shape with relative ease and much joy!

There is a great deal of stylistic variety in this collection, and all of these pieces are suitable for worship services, recitals, and contest use. Above all, it is my sincere hope that you will find this book useful in your ministry. As you prepare and perform this music, I pray that the Christ of Christmas will speak to you and your listeners in a very new, real, and personal way.

I would like to thank Lloyd Larson and the Lillenas Publishing Company for asking me to take on this project. Lloyd has been a great encouragement to me, and I appreciate his editorial expertise so much. I am also indebted to Mark Hayes, a trusted mentor and friend. Mark's piano music is a model of compositional craft, and his influence undeniably pervades many of these pages. Lastly, I would like to thank my wife and three children: Pattie, Kylie, Sarah, and Anna. They never fail to provide me with encouragement and inspiration as I seek to honor the Lord through my writing.

Enjoy the music, and Merry Christmas!

—Brad Nix

About the Arranger

Brad Nix currently serves as Associate Professor of Music at Sterling College, in Sterling, Kansas. His responsibilities include teaching music theory, composition, orchestration, applied piano, and group piano. Brad received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Colorado at Boulder. As a widely-recognized composer and arranger, he has written for many of the nation's major publishing companies and has dozens of pieces in print. He frequently travels throughout the country as a clinician for reading sessions and conferences.

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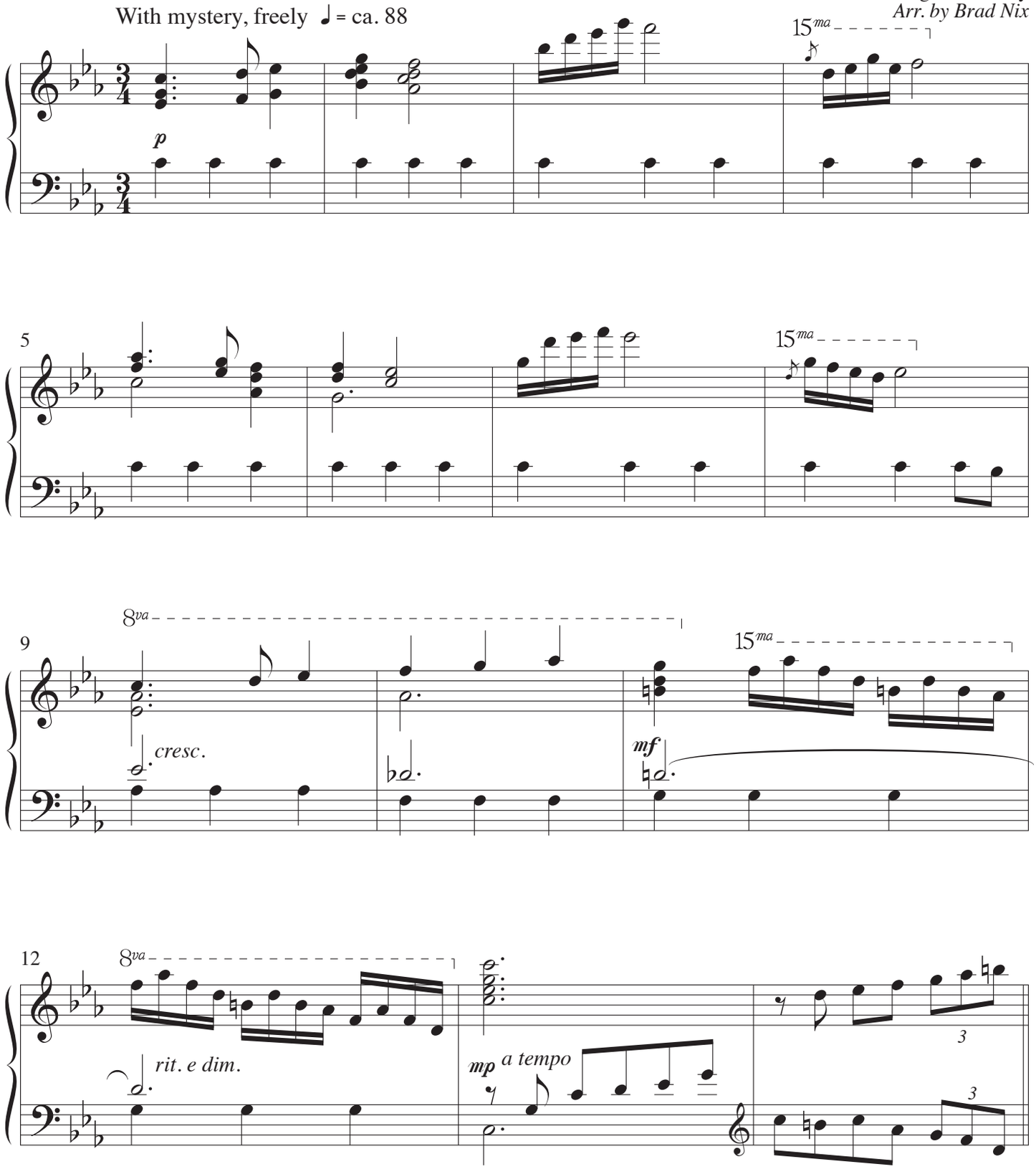
The Coventry Carol

Traditional English Melody
Arr. by Brad Nix

With mystery, freely ♩ = ca. 88



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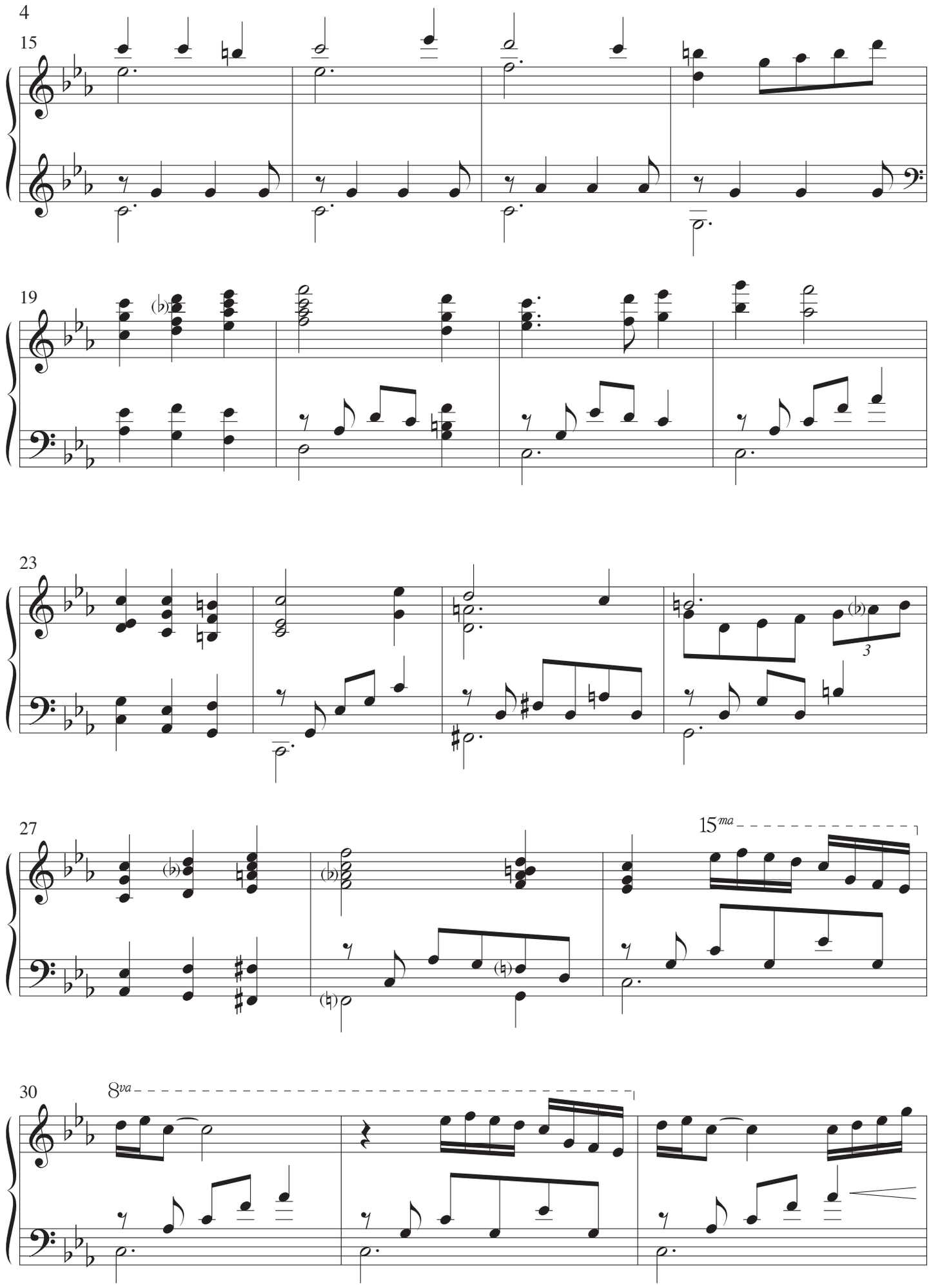
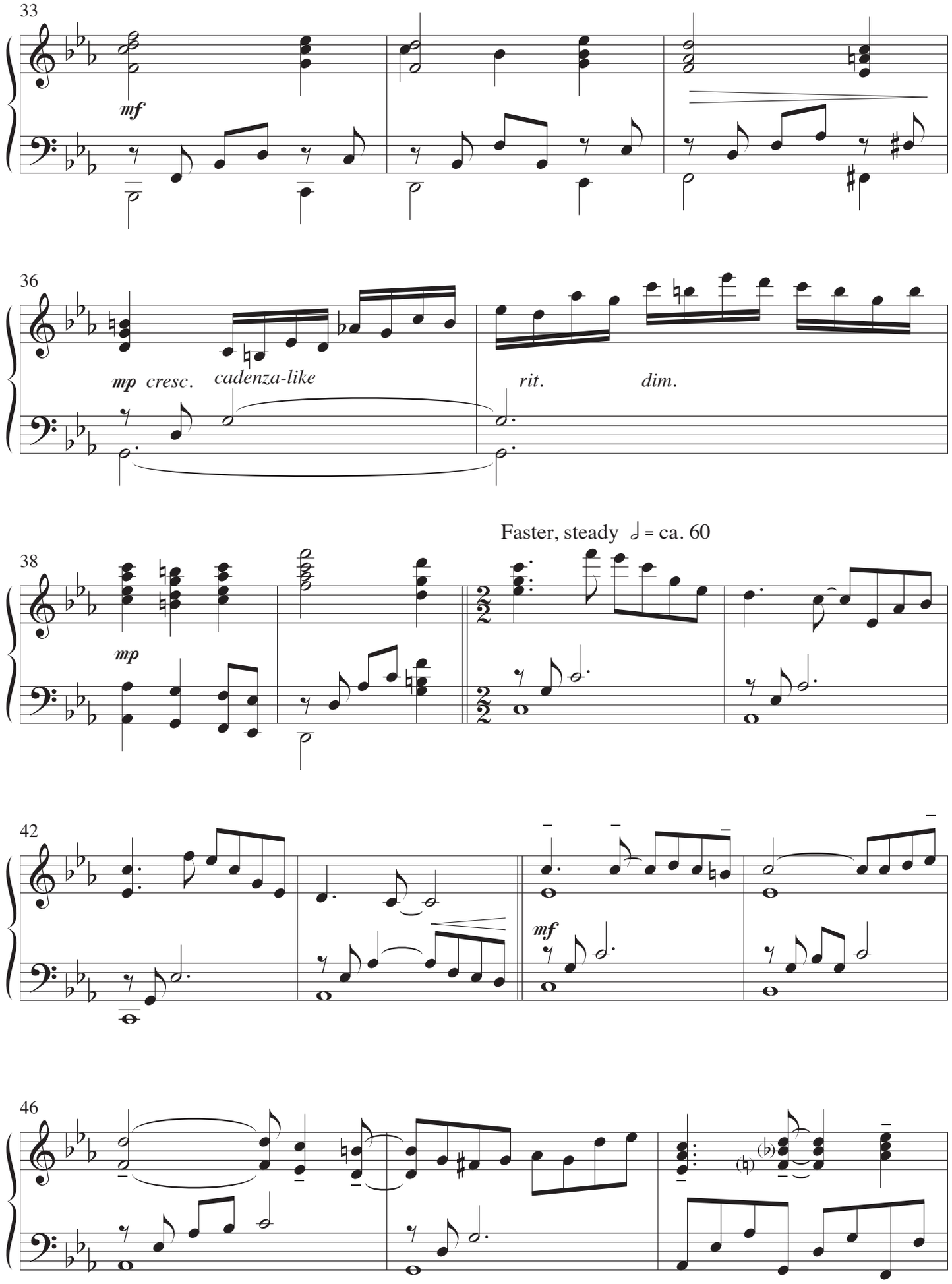
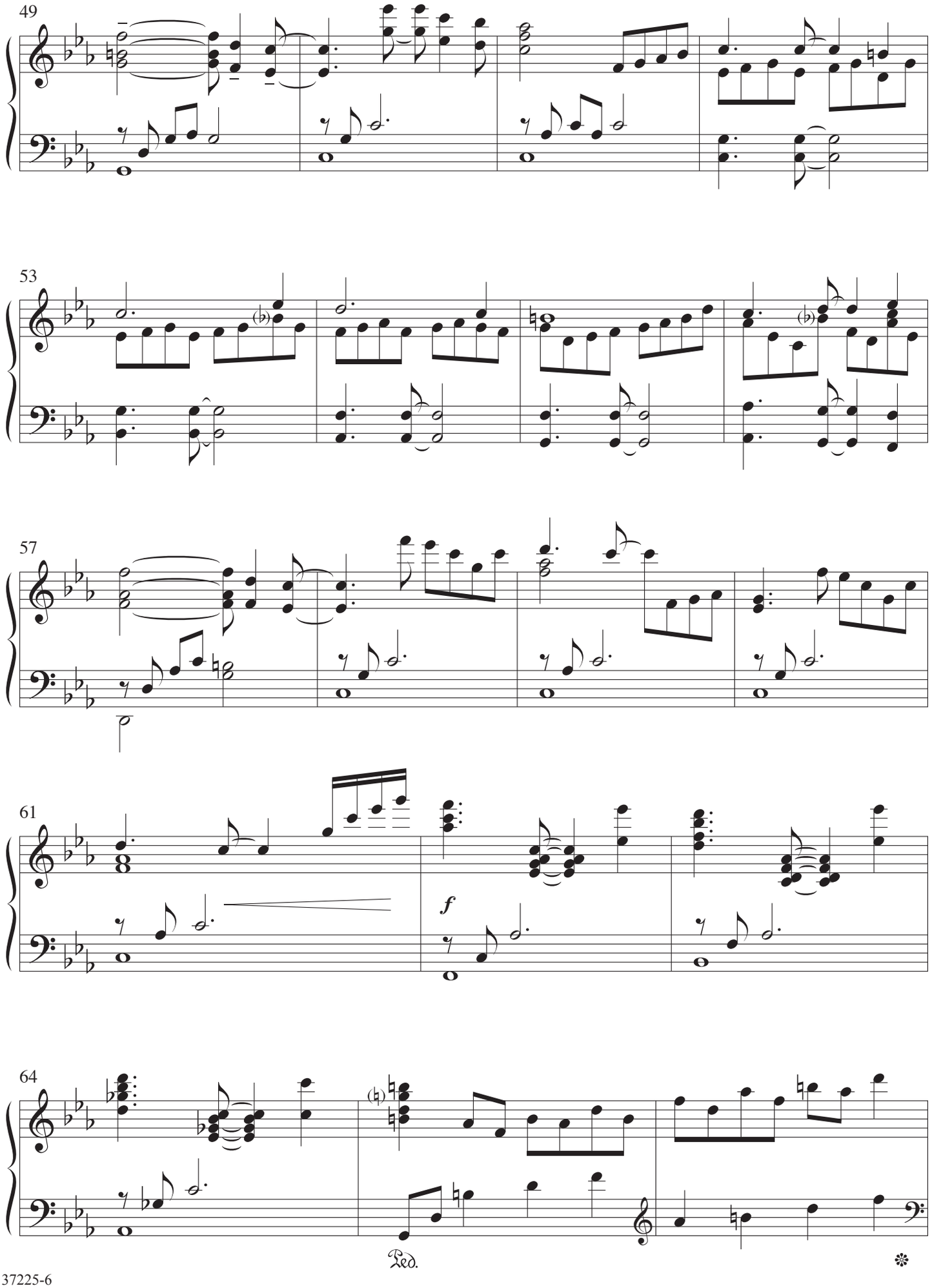
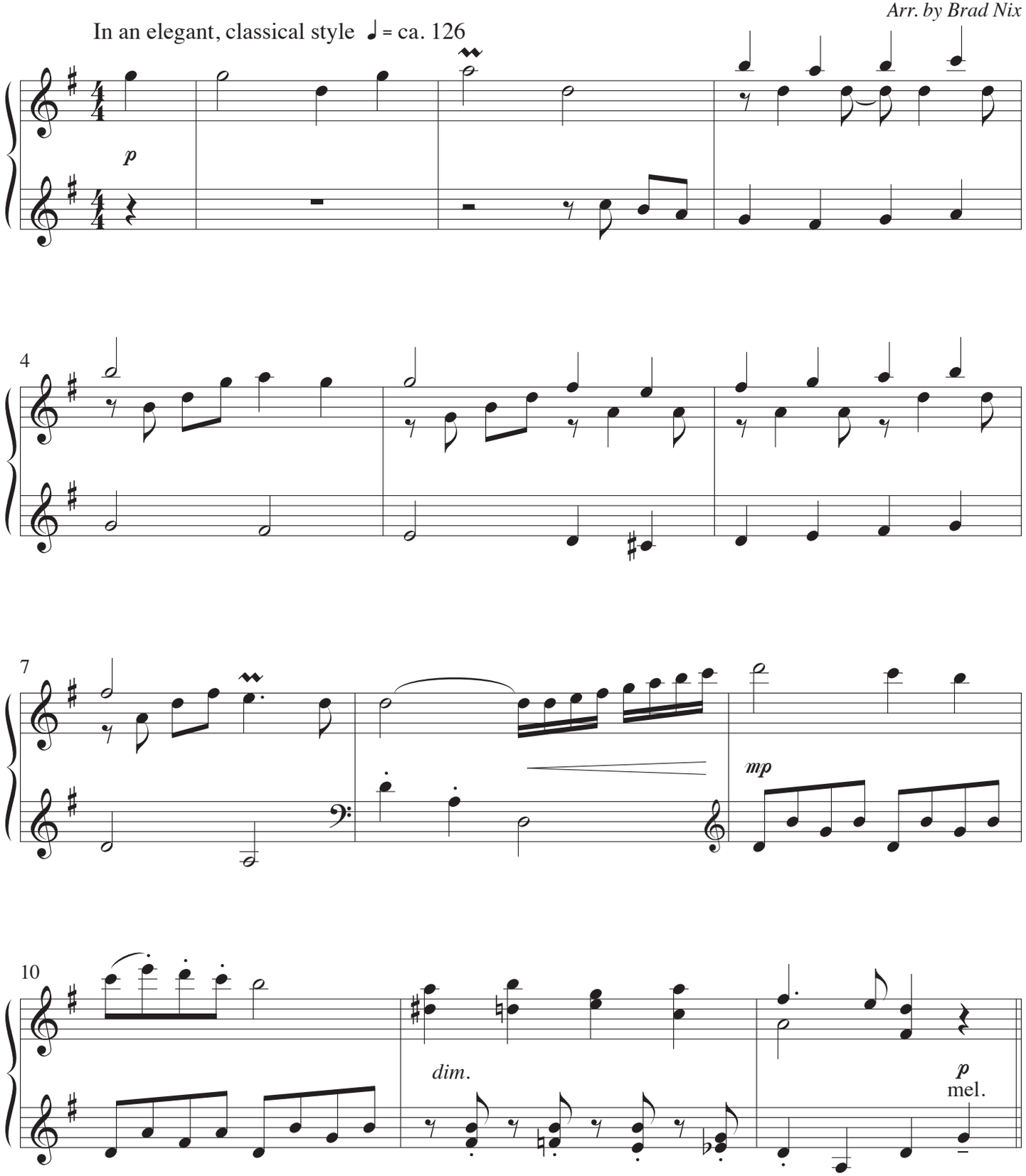

15
19
23
3
27
15ma
30
8va


33
mf
36
mp cresc.
cadenza-like
rit.
dim.
Faster, steady ♩ = ca. 60
38
mp
42
mf
46


49
53
57
61
f
64
Ped.

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Attr. to John F. Wade
Arr. by Brad Nix



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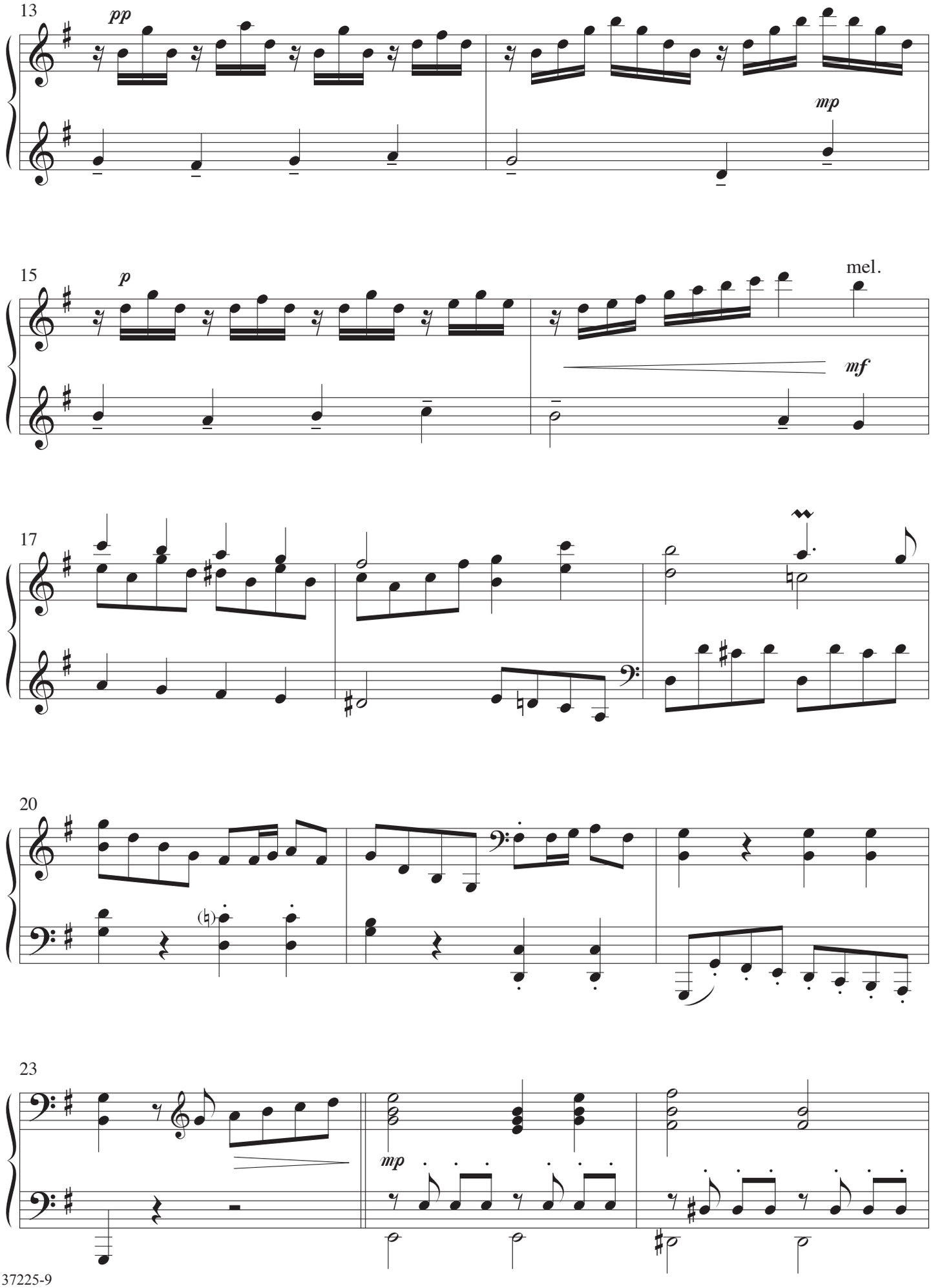
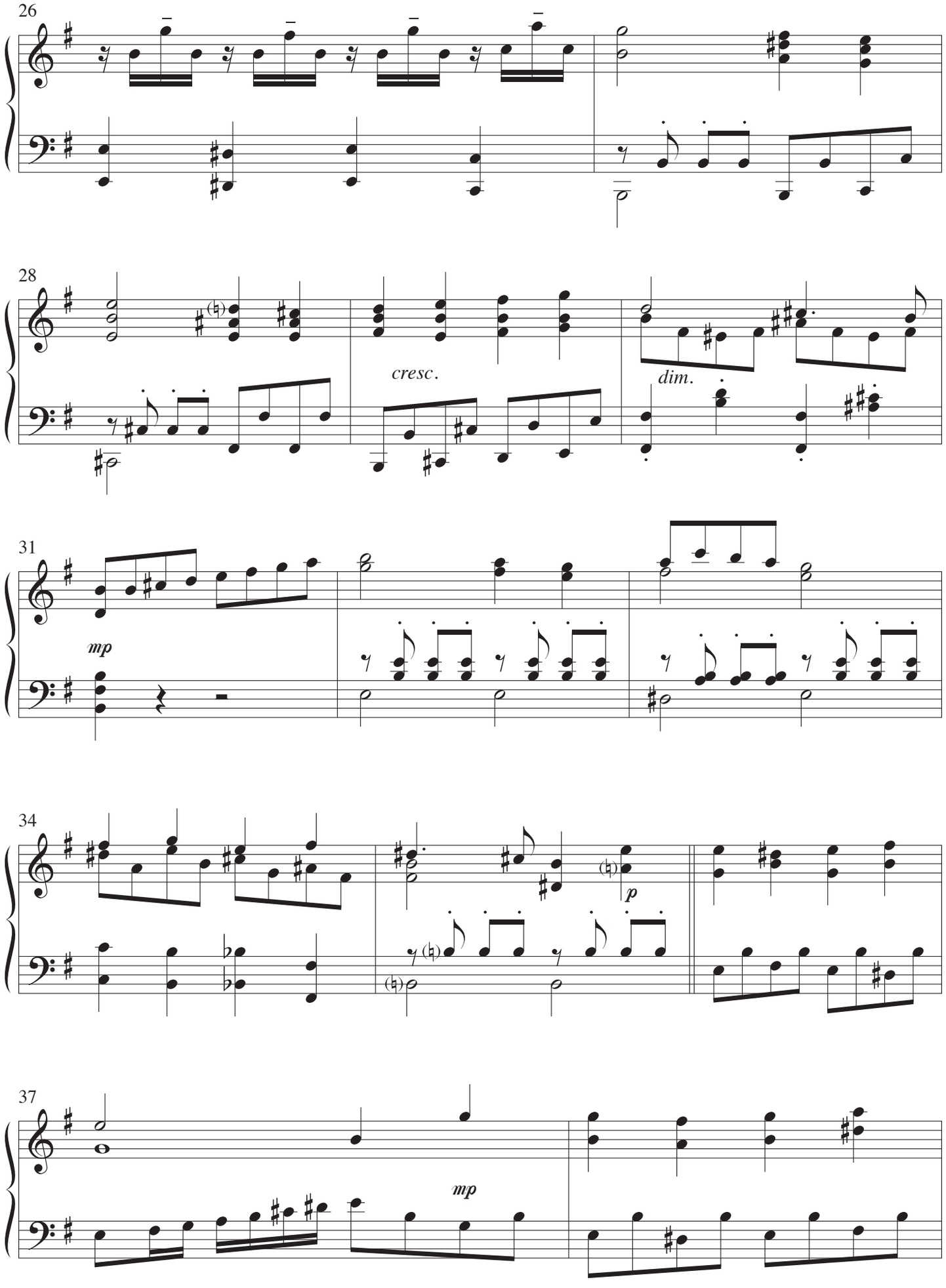
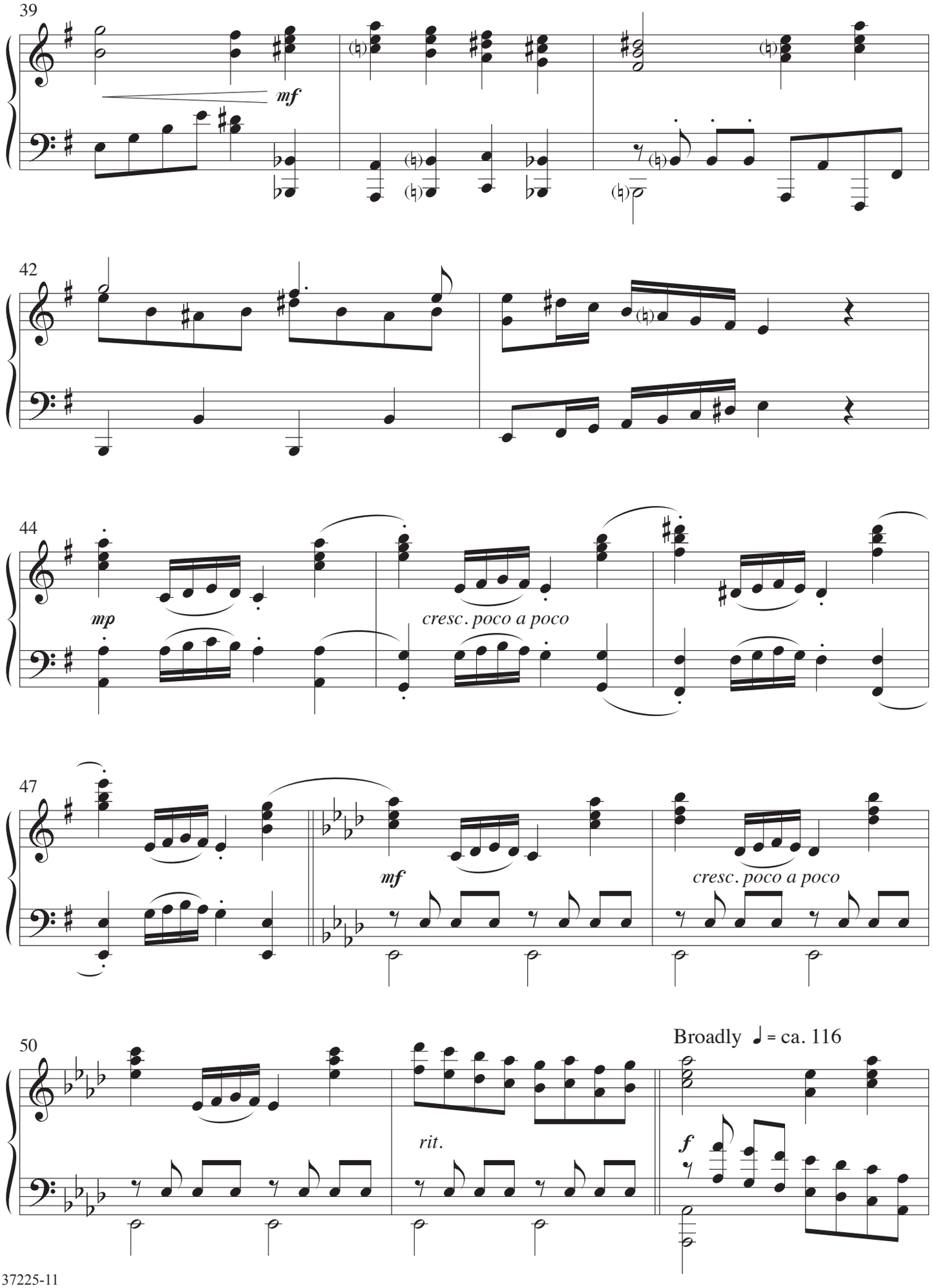

13
pp
mp
15
p
mel.
mf
17
20
23
mp


26
28
cresc.
dim.
31
mp
34
p
37
mp


39
mf
42
44
mp
cresc. poco a poco
47
mf
cresc. poco a poco
50
rit.
Broadly ♩ = ca. 116
f

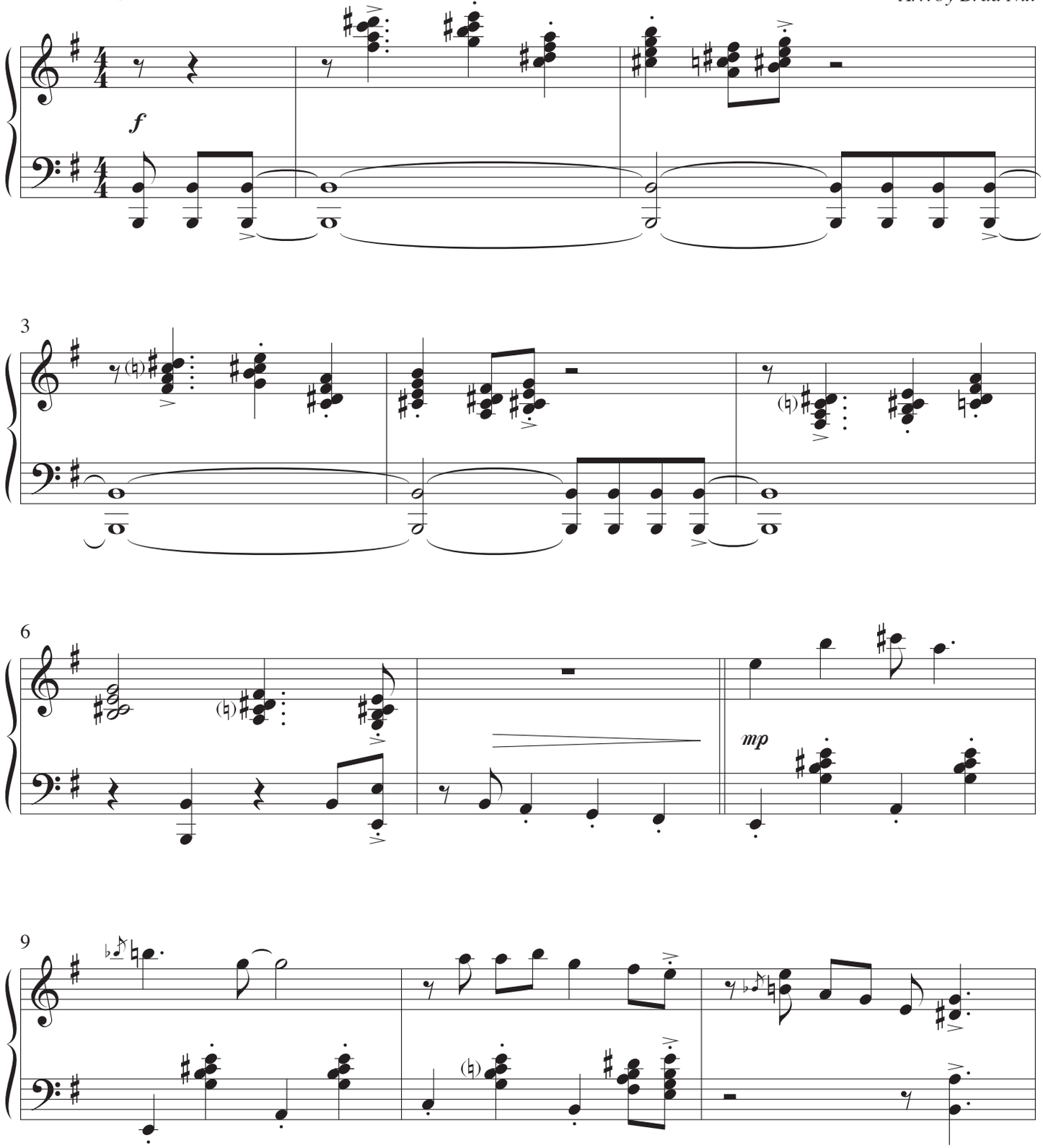
Sing We Now of Christmas

with

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

Swing feel ♩ = ca. 116 (♫ = ♩³♪)

Traditional French Melody
Arr. by Brad Nix



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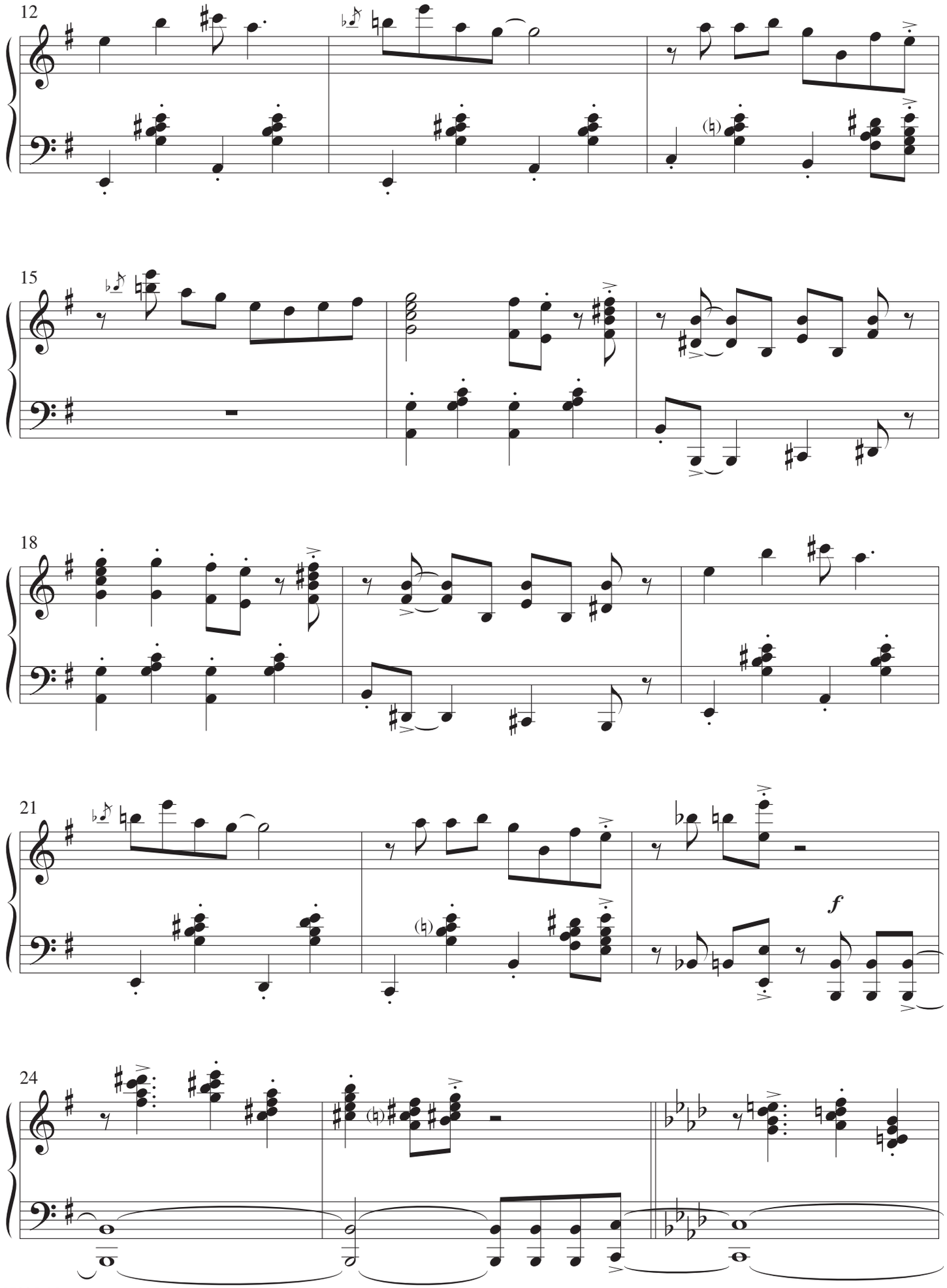
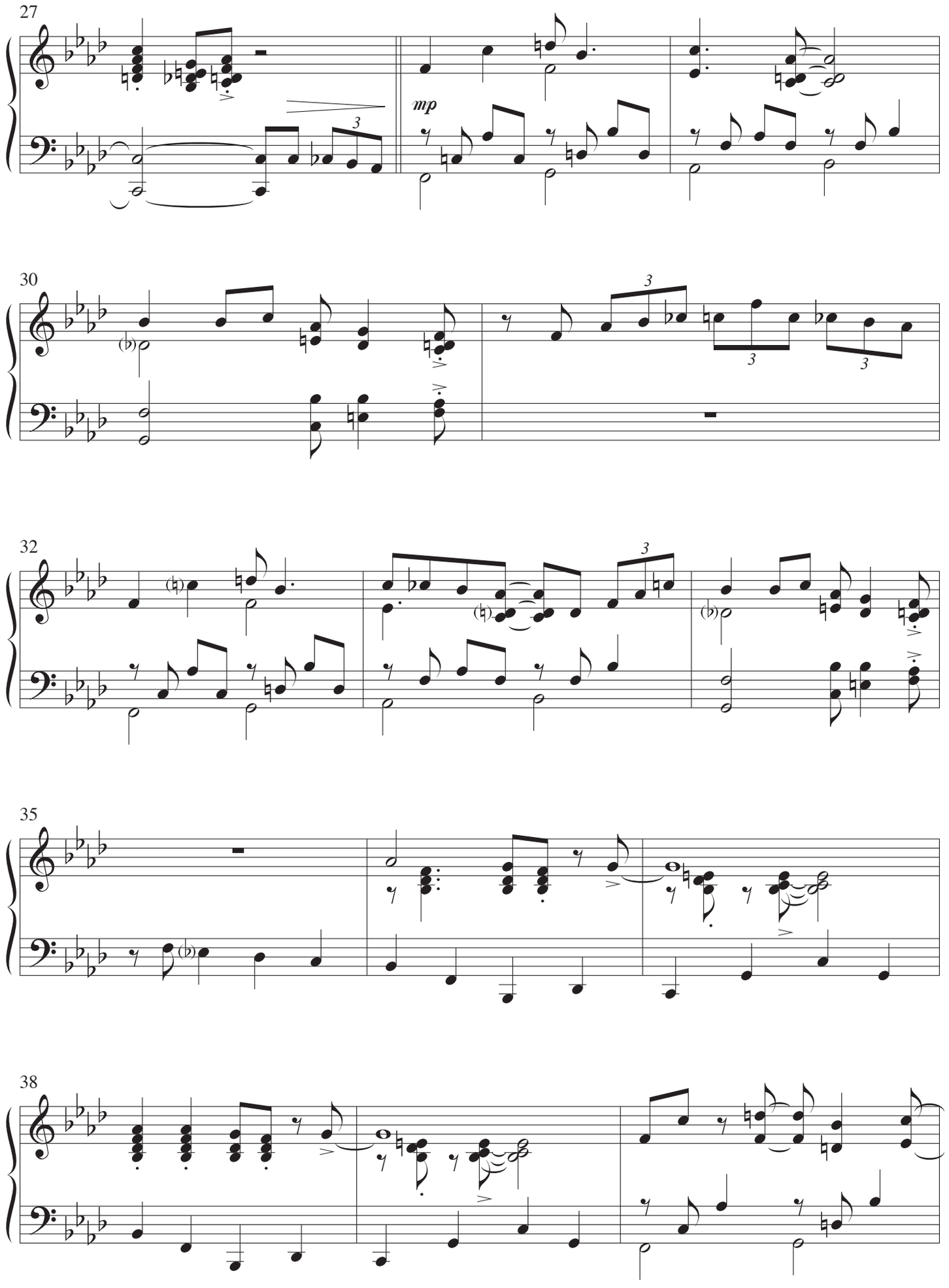
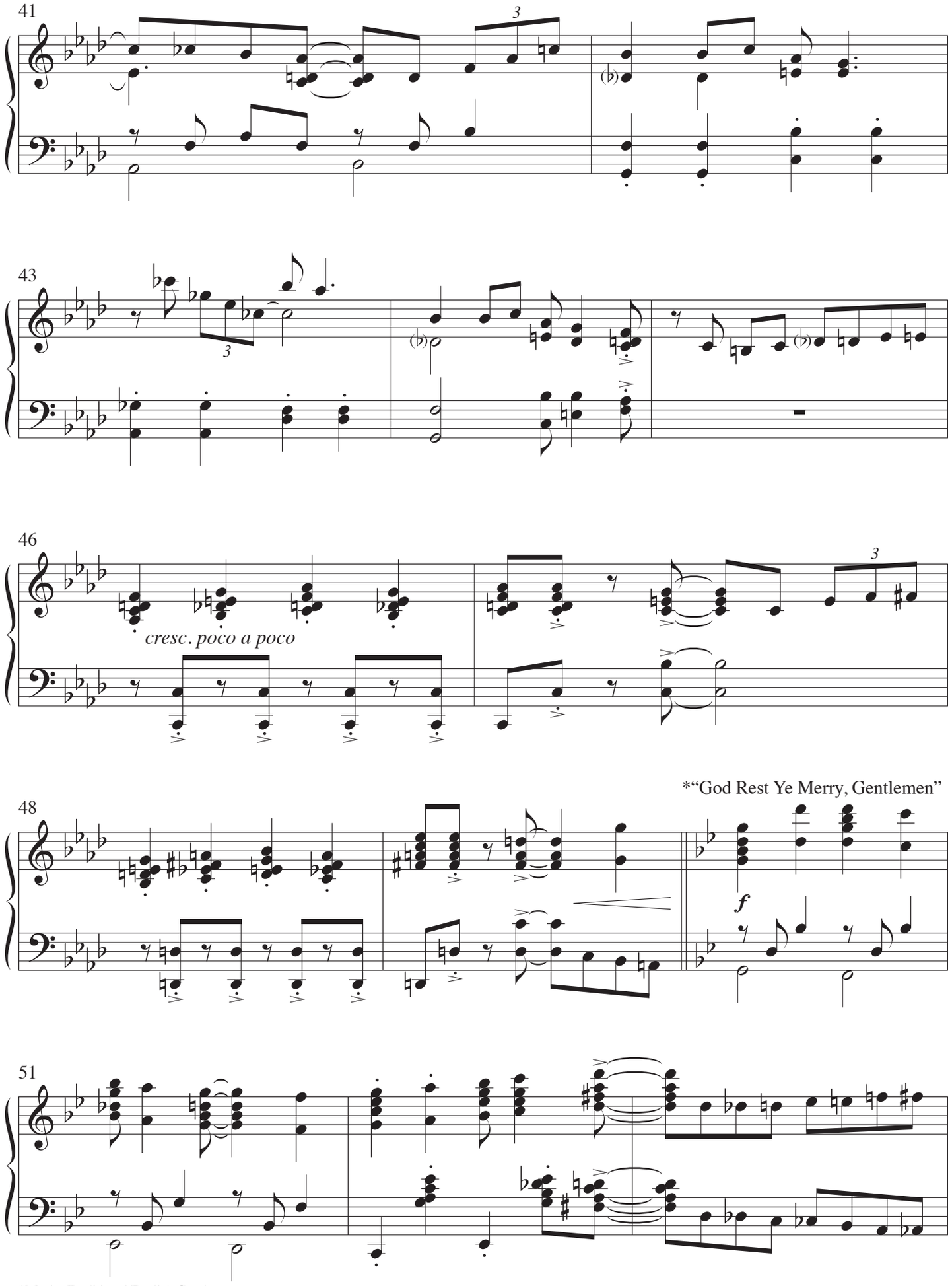

12
15
18
21
f
24


27
mp
30
32
35
38



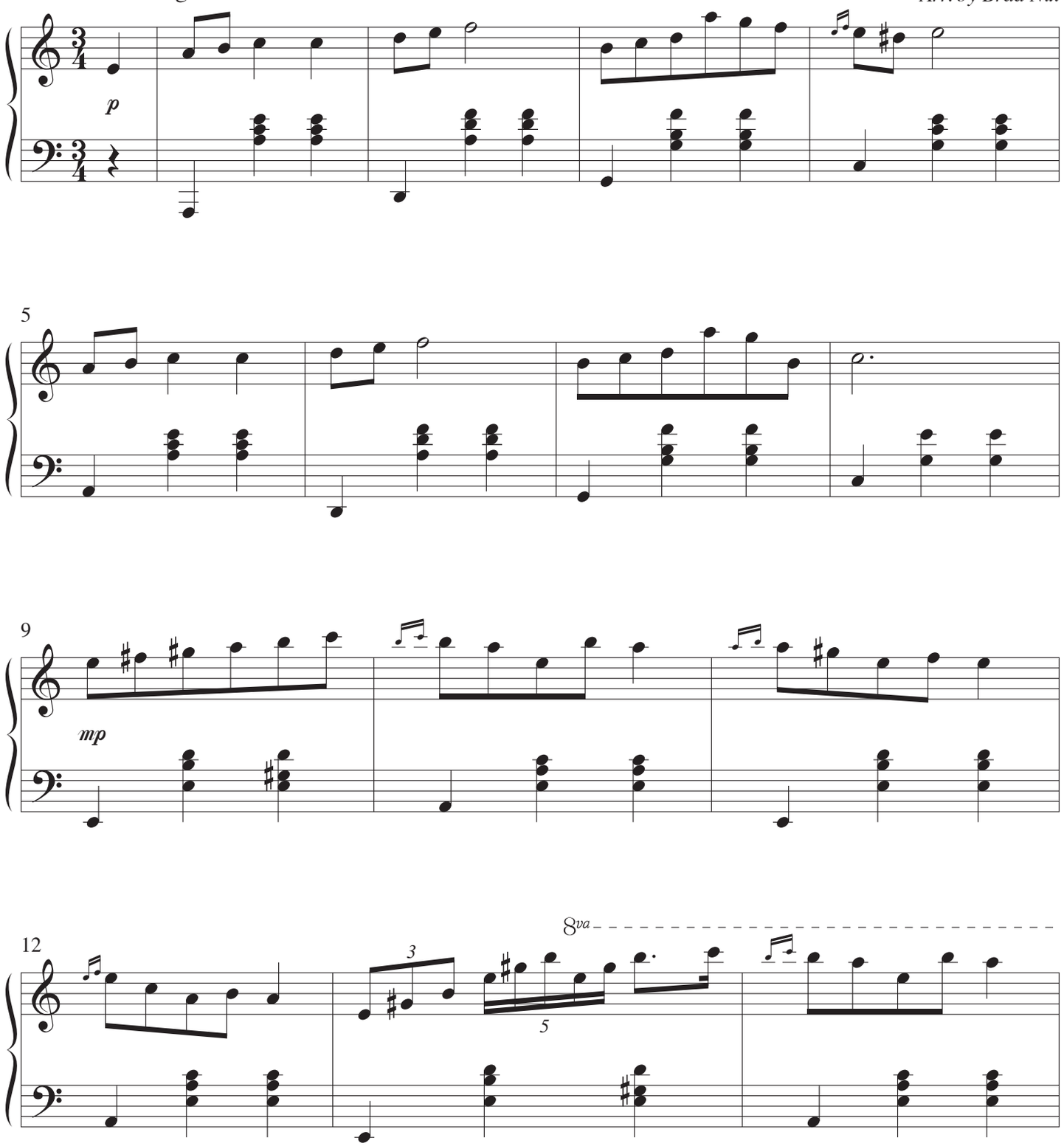
*Music: Traditional English Carol

What Child Is This?

with

Waltz in A Minor

Traditional English Melody
and by Frédéric Chopin
Arr. by Brad Nix



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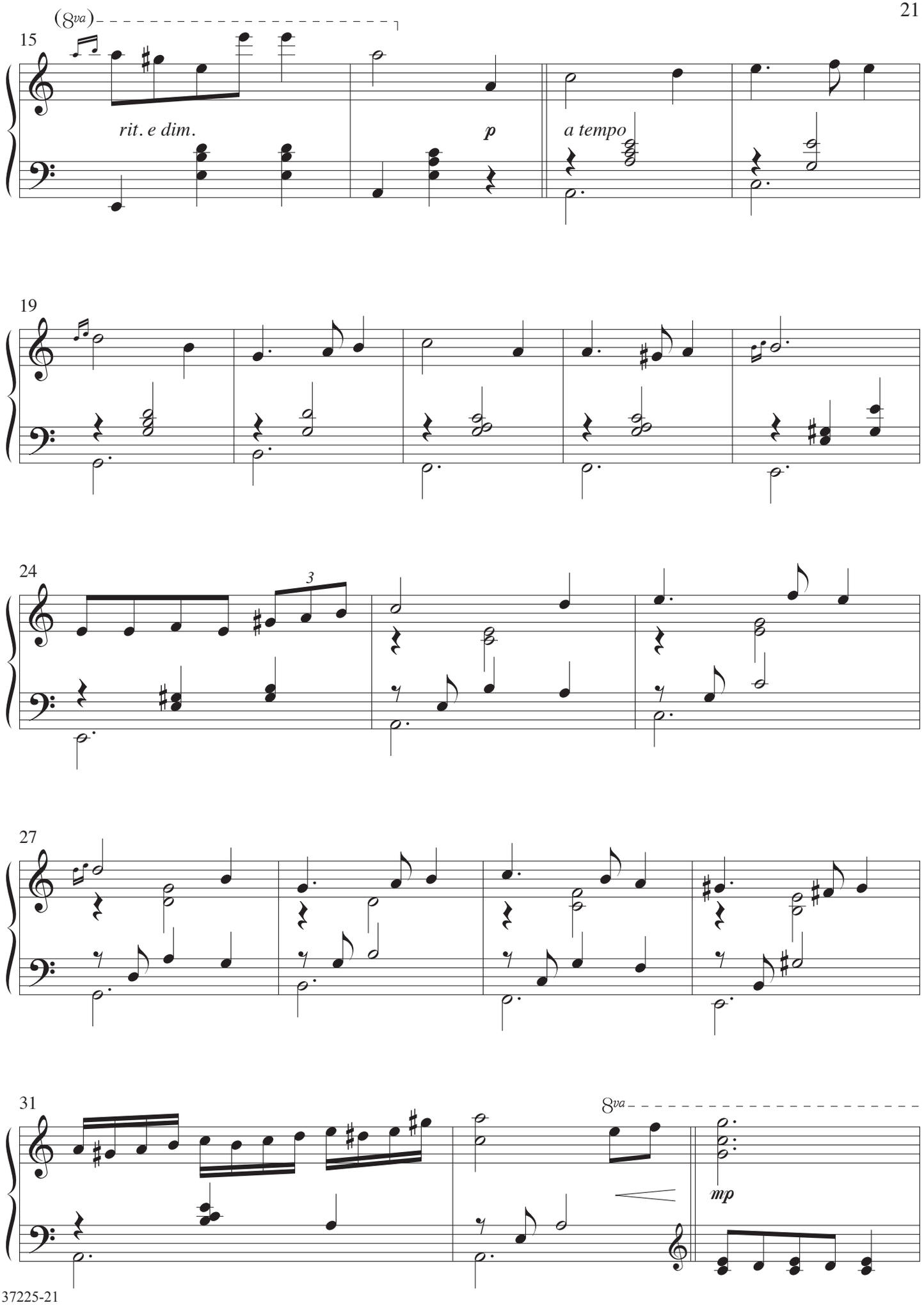
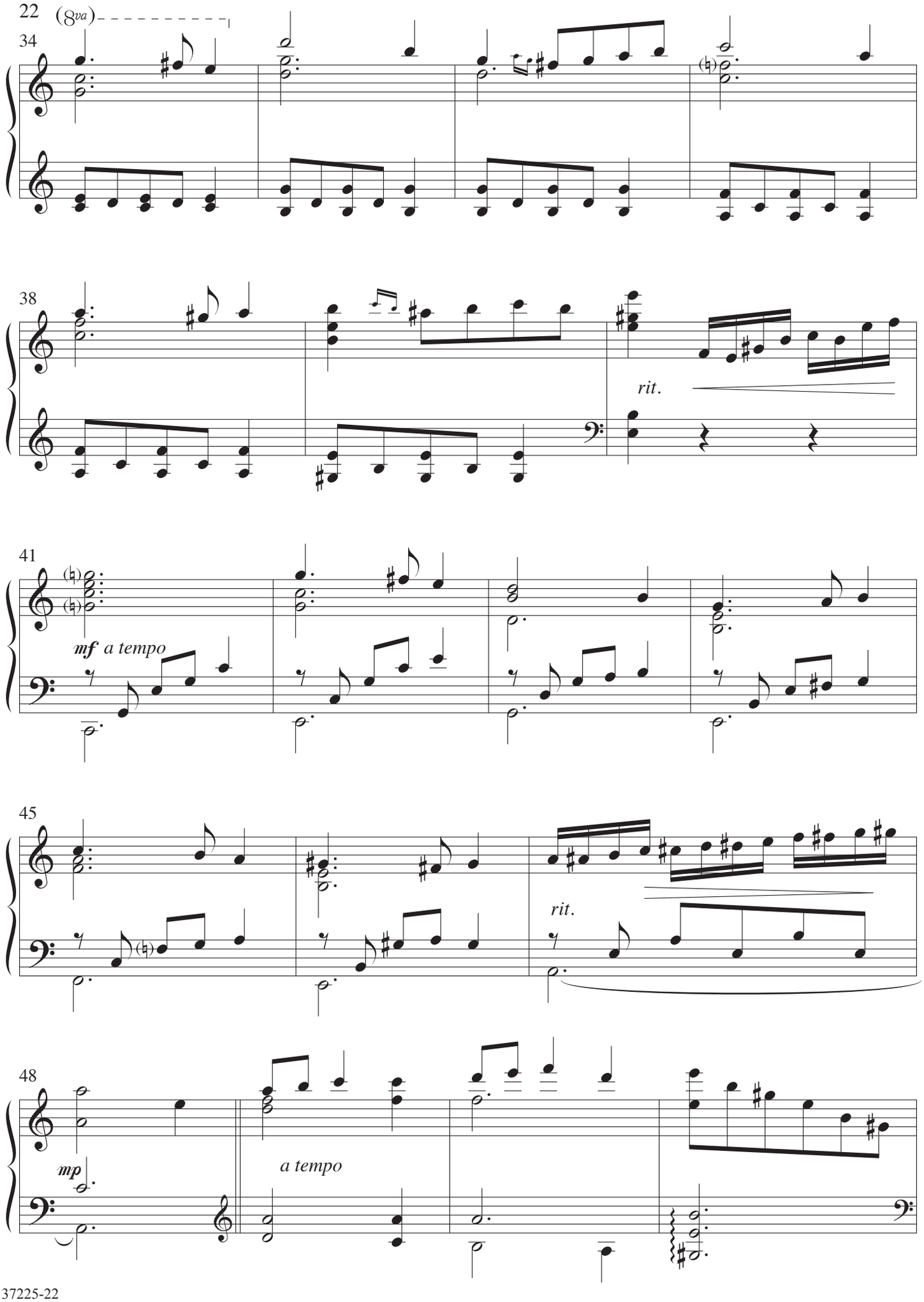

(8va)
15
rit. e dim.
p
a tempo
19
24
3
27
31
8va
mp


22
(8va)
34
38
rit.
41
mf a tempo
45
rit.
48
mp
a tempo