CONCERTS OF HYMNS

Hymn Settings for
Solo Piano

VOLUME II

A C O N C E R T O F H Y M N S

F O R

T H E S E R M O N

O N T H E M O U N T

Richard Hudson

PREFACE

This volume includes nine piano pieces based on hymns for The Sermon on the Mount. At the end are indexes for first lines and tunes.

The pieces may be played in the home, in a piano recital, in Sunday School, or church. As part of a worship service they may be used separately or in groups of two, three, or more, as a prelude before the service, a postlude at the end, or as music for the Offertory or Communion. They may precede the singing of the hymn or alternate with its verses.

In addition, the volume has been designed so that the entire collection can be performed as a concert for piano alone or a concert for piano and narrator. In the latter case, the quotations preceding each piece could be read by a narrator before each piece is played. Additional text from the Sermon on the Mount could also be included.

If singing is incorporated into the performance, each of the three sections could conclude with the choir or congregation singing the hymn on which the preceding setting is based (thus following Nos. 3, 6, and 9), with the concert ending perhaps with a repetition of the last seven bars or more of No. 9.

Parts of the Sermon on the Mount appear as Gospel readings or topics of sermons in one or more of the yearly cycles in the *Revised Common Lectionary* for the fourth through the ninth Sundays after Epiphany, and for All Saints, Thanksgiving, and the second Sunday after Pentecost. The Lord's Prayer, in addition, occurs in many other services as well. Therefore these pieces would be appropriate, I believe, at many different times of the year.

Markings for the sustaining or damper pedal should be followed very carefully. Tempos should generally be flexible and expressive. Rhythm should be flowing and intensely alive. Moods range from solemn and meditative to joyful and exuberant.

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THE BEATITUDES

1. Blessed Are the Sons of God

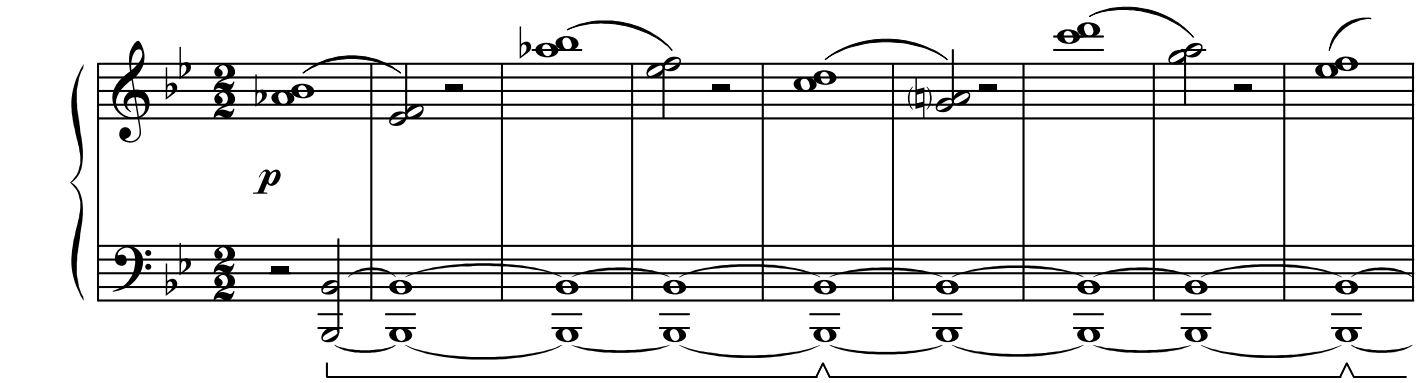
(Voller Wunder)

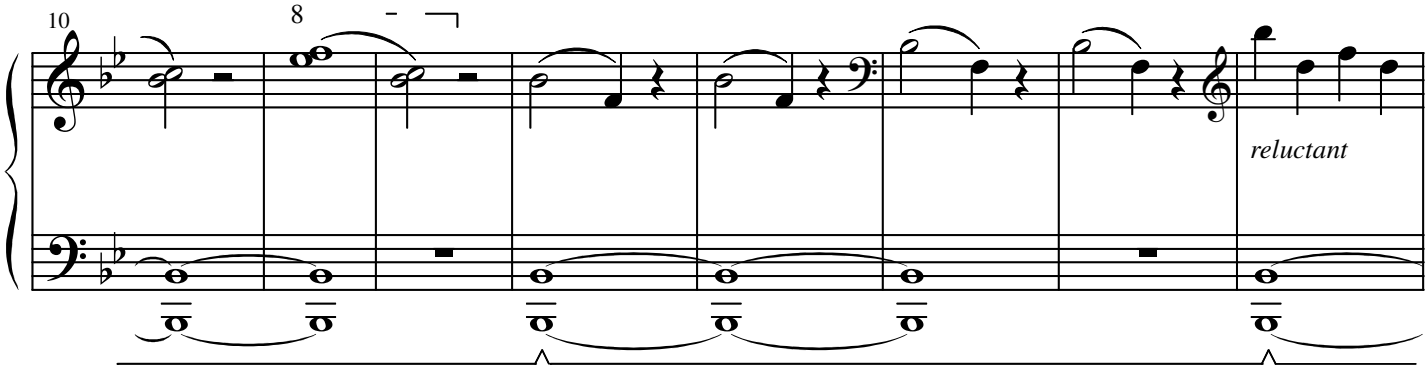
Richard Hudson

Seeing the multitudes,
Jesus went up into the mountain
and taught them, saying,
Blessed are the poor in spirit:
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

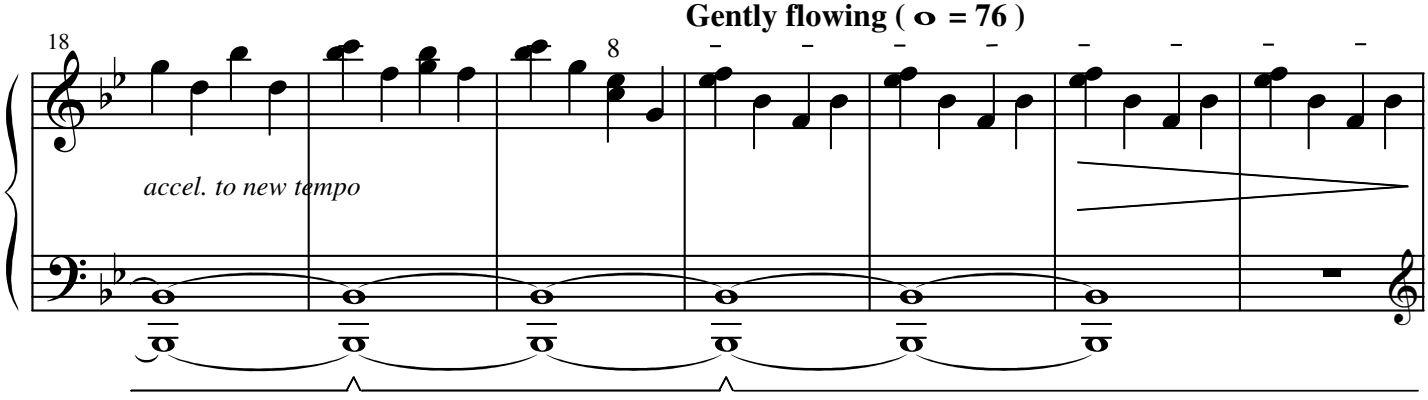
Matthew 5:1-3

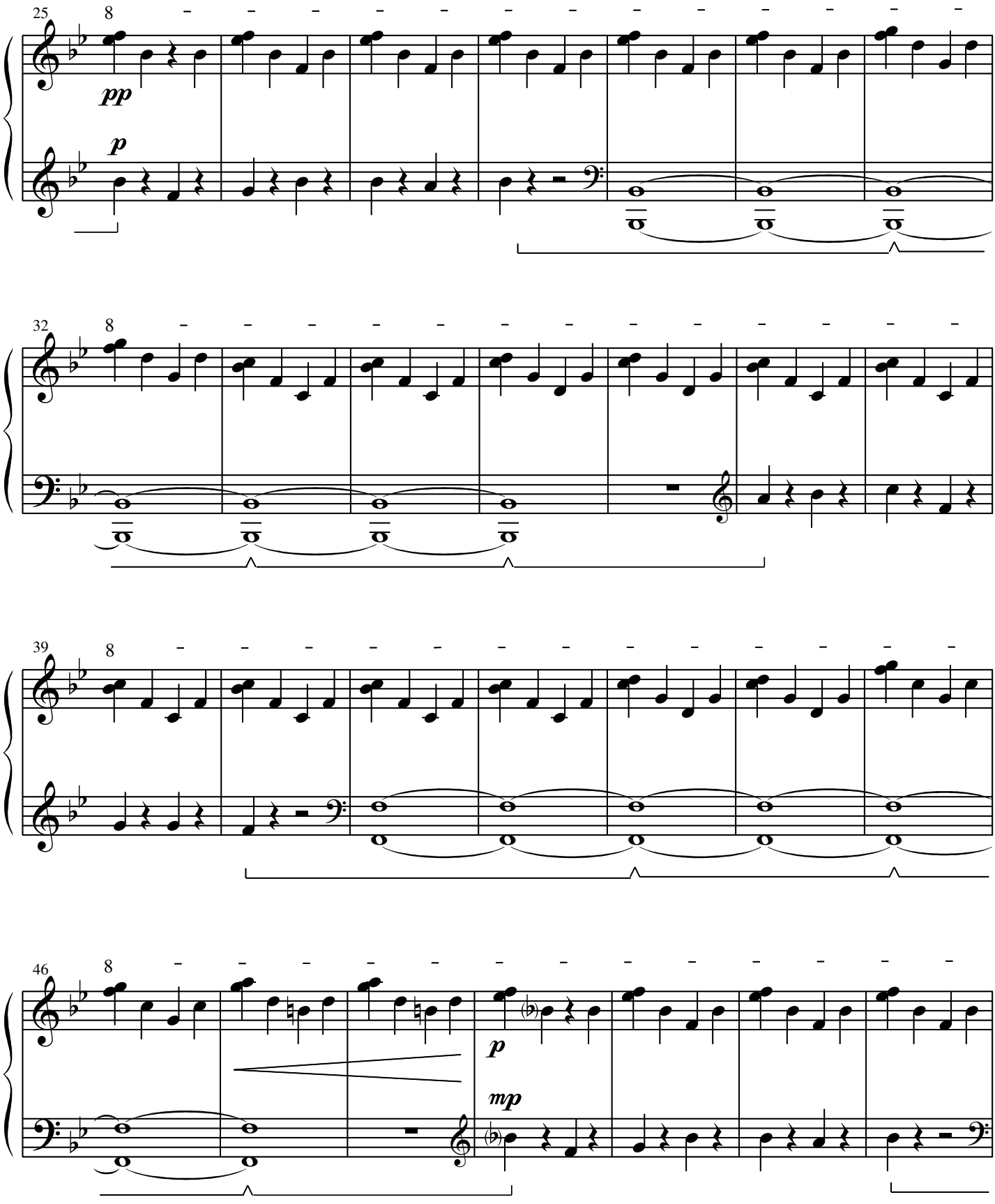
Hopeful and expectant (𝅝 = 60)

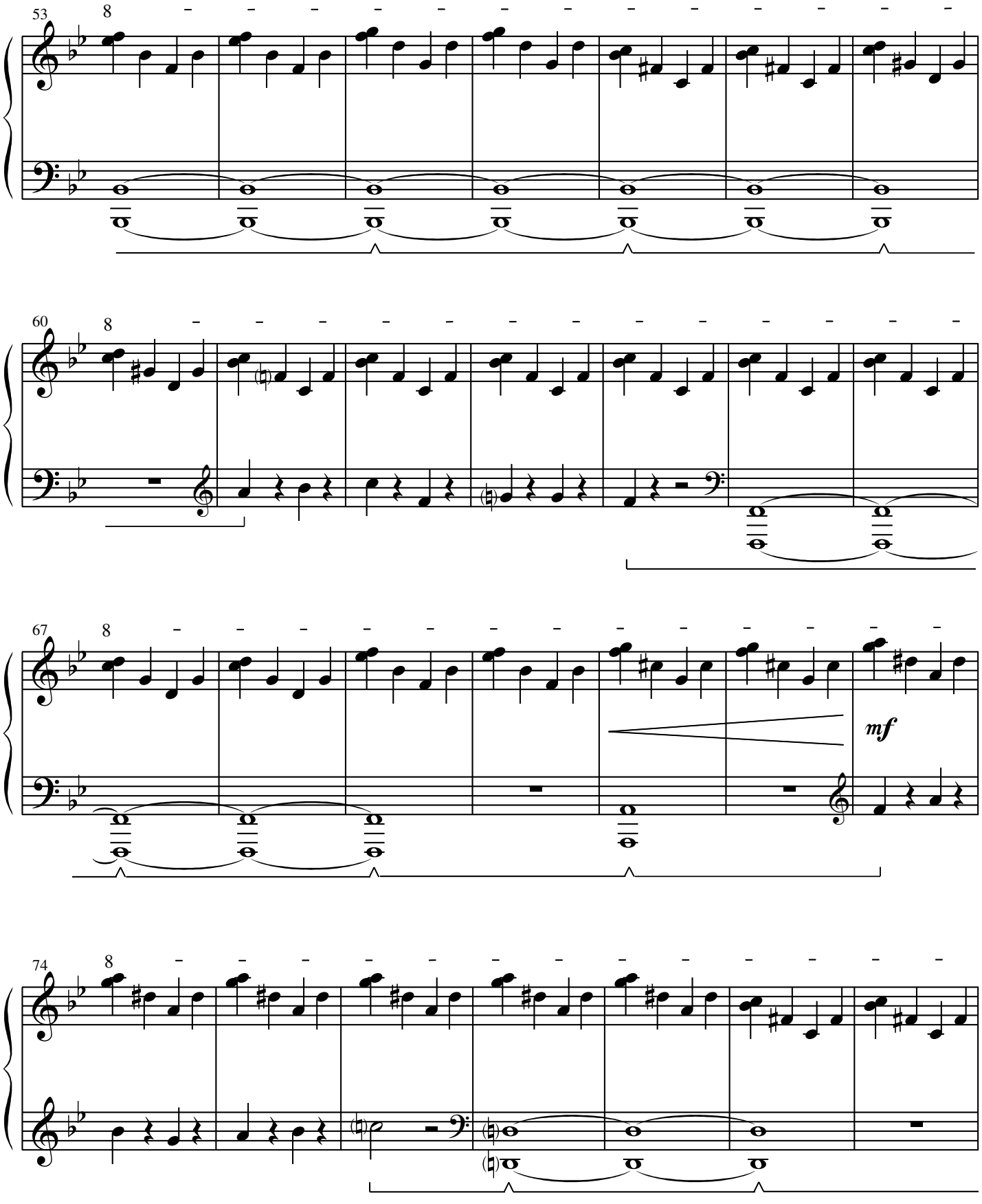


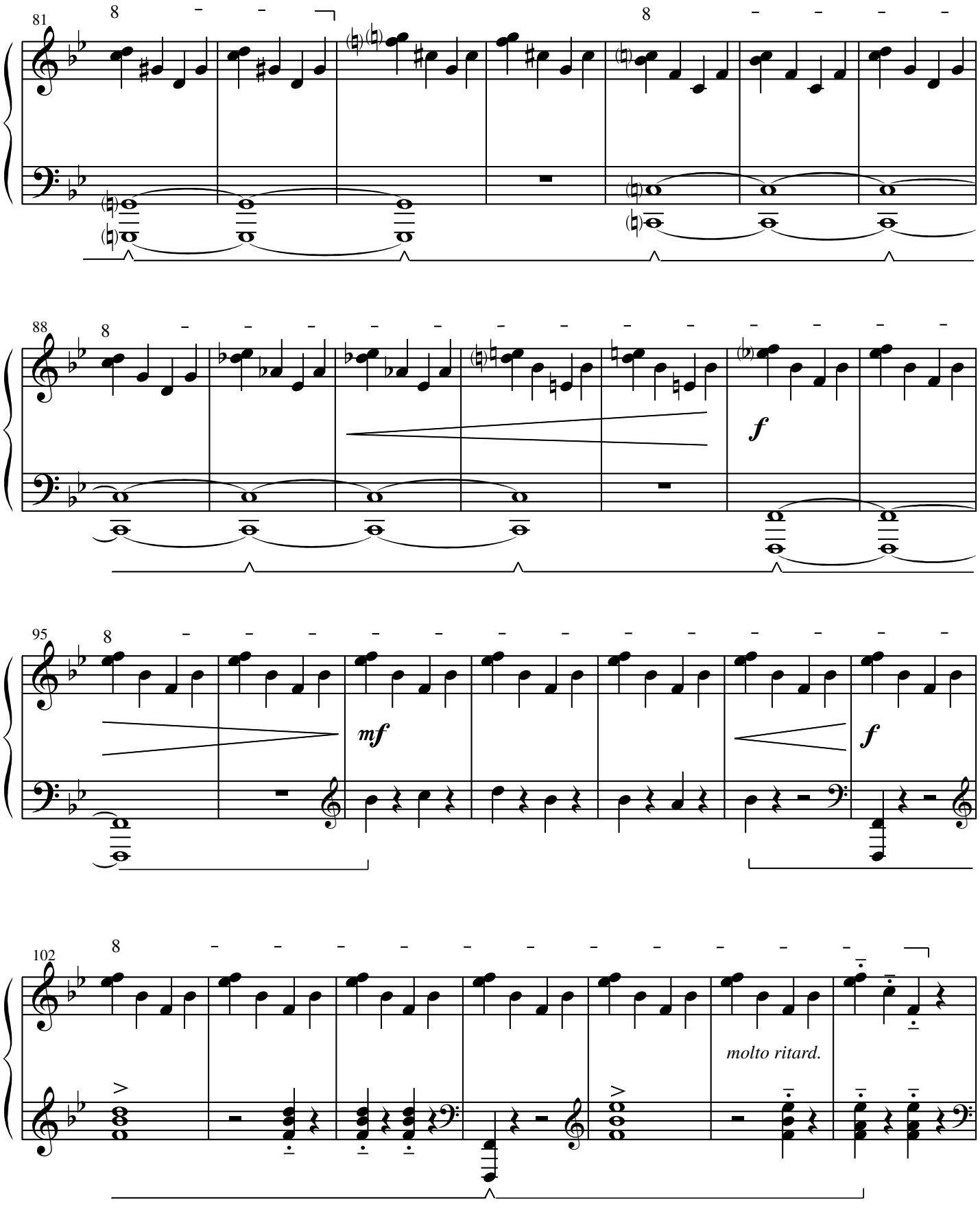


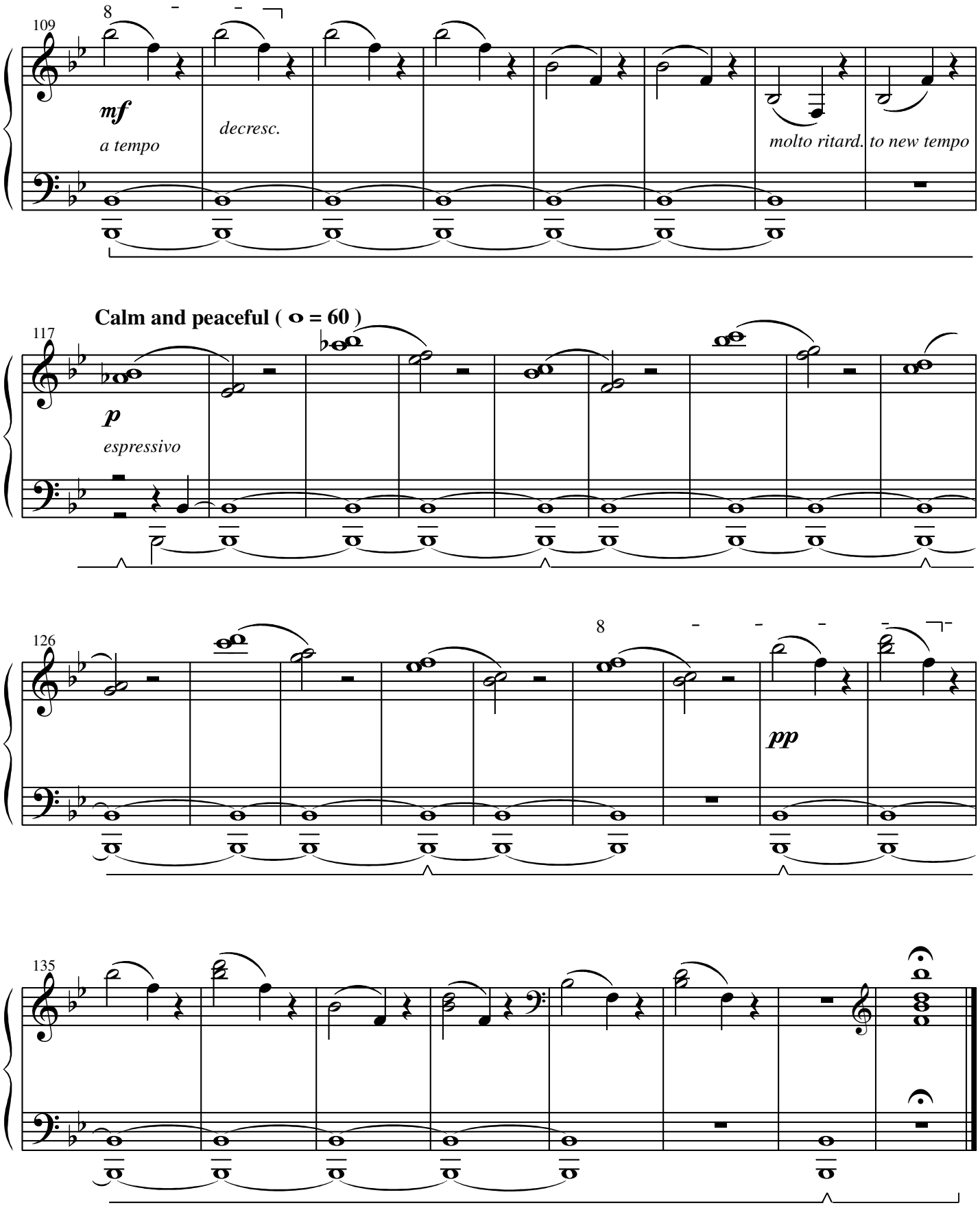
Gently flowing (𝅝 = 76)




25
8
pp
p
32
8
39
8
46
8
p
mp


53
8
60
8
67
8
mf
74
8

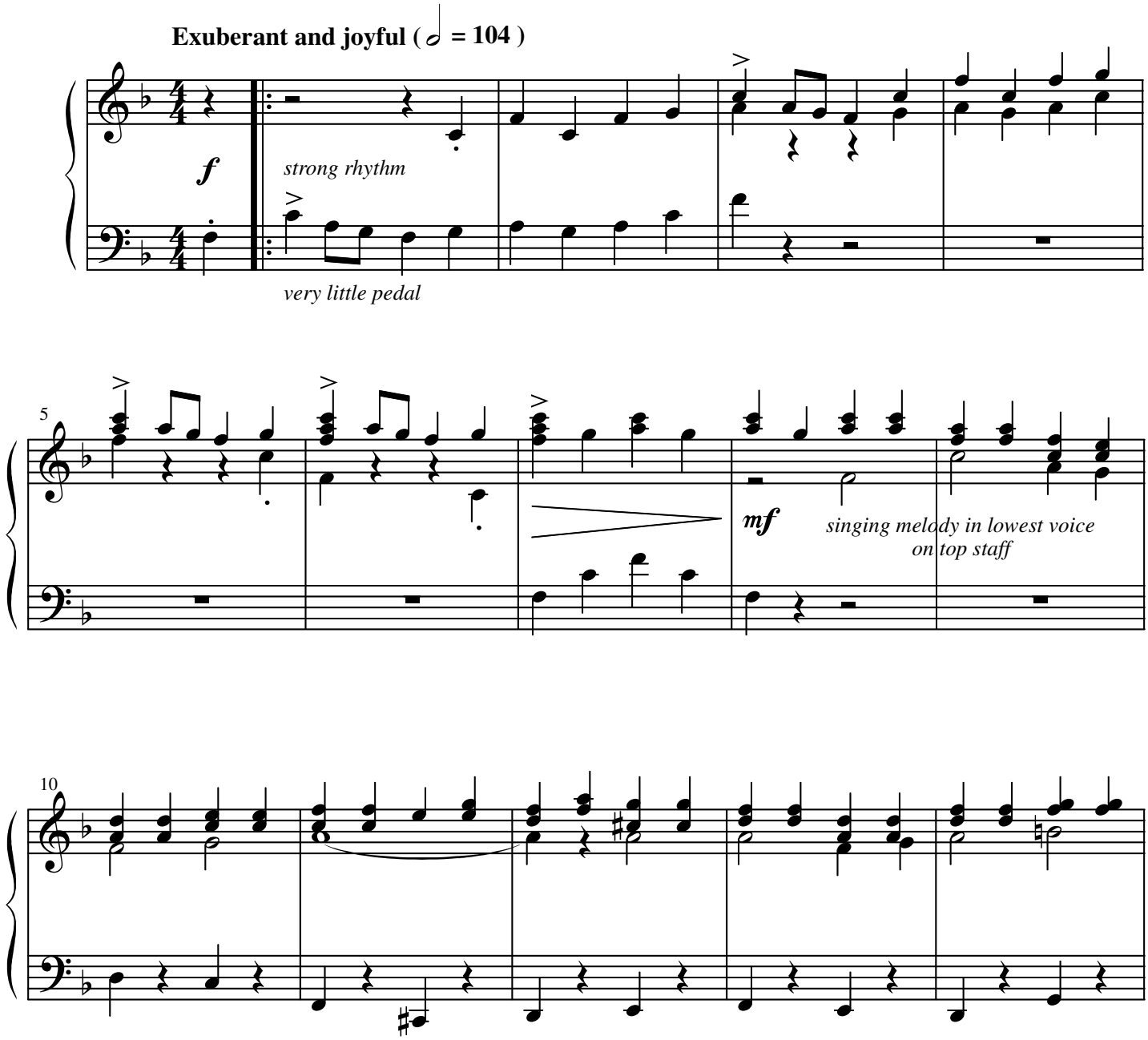

81
8
8
88
8
f
95
8
mf
f
102
8
molto ritard.

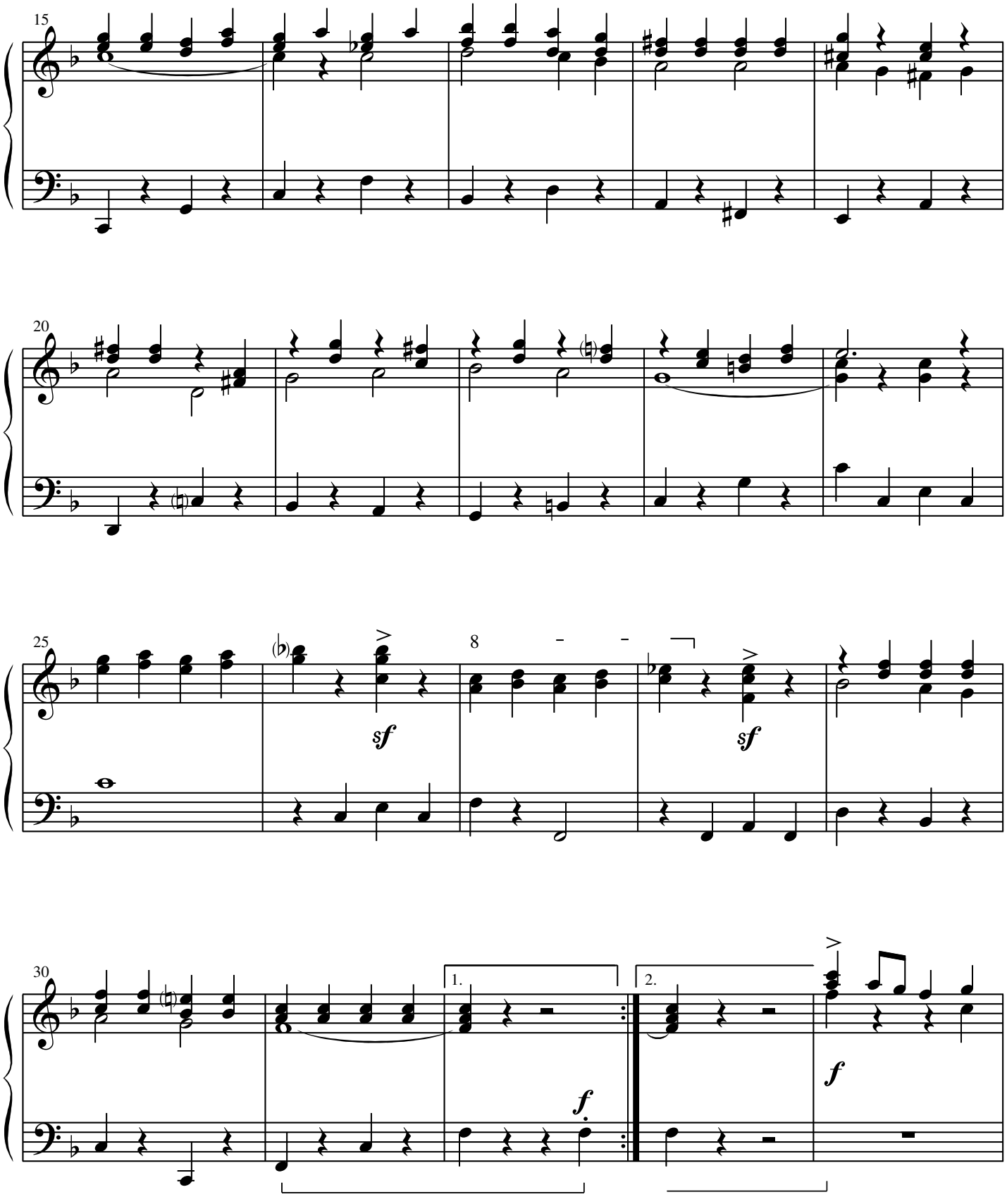

109
8
mf
a tempo
decresc.
molto ritard. to new tempo
Calm and peaceful (𝅝 = 60)
117
p
espressivo
126
8
pp
135

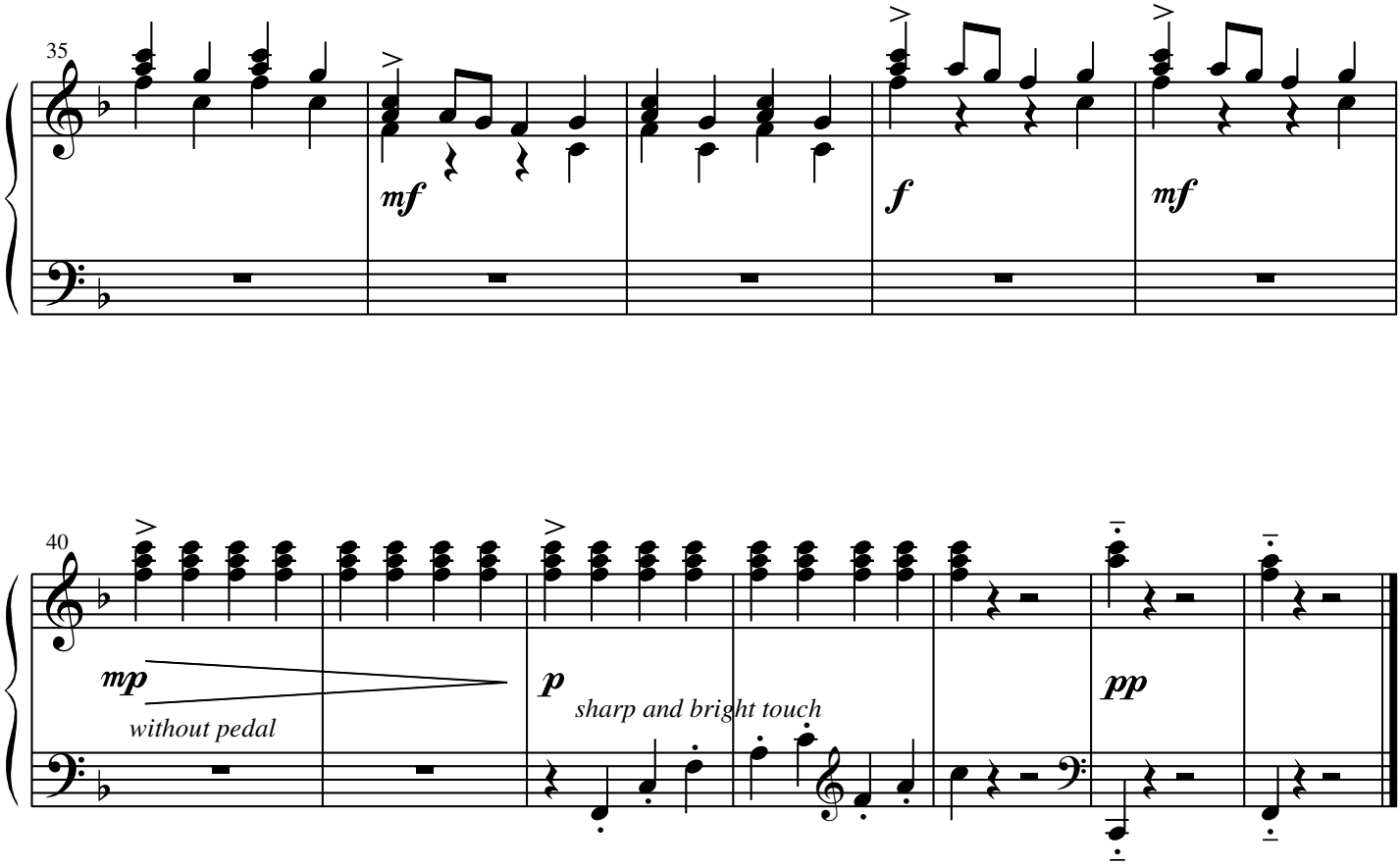
2. Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart
(Marion)

Richard Hudson

Blessed are the pure in heart:
for they shall see God.
Matthew 5:8




15
20
25
8
sf
sf
30
1.
2.
f
f


35
mf
f
mf
40
mp
without pedal
p
sharp and bright touch
pp

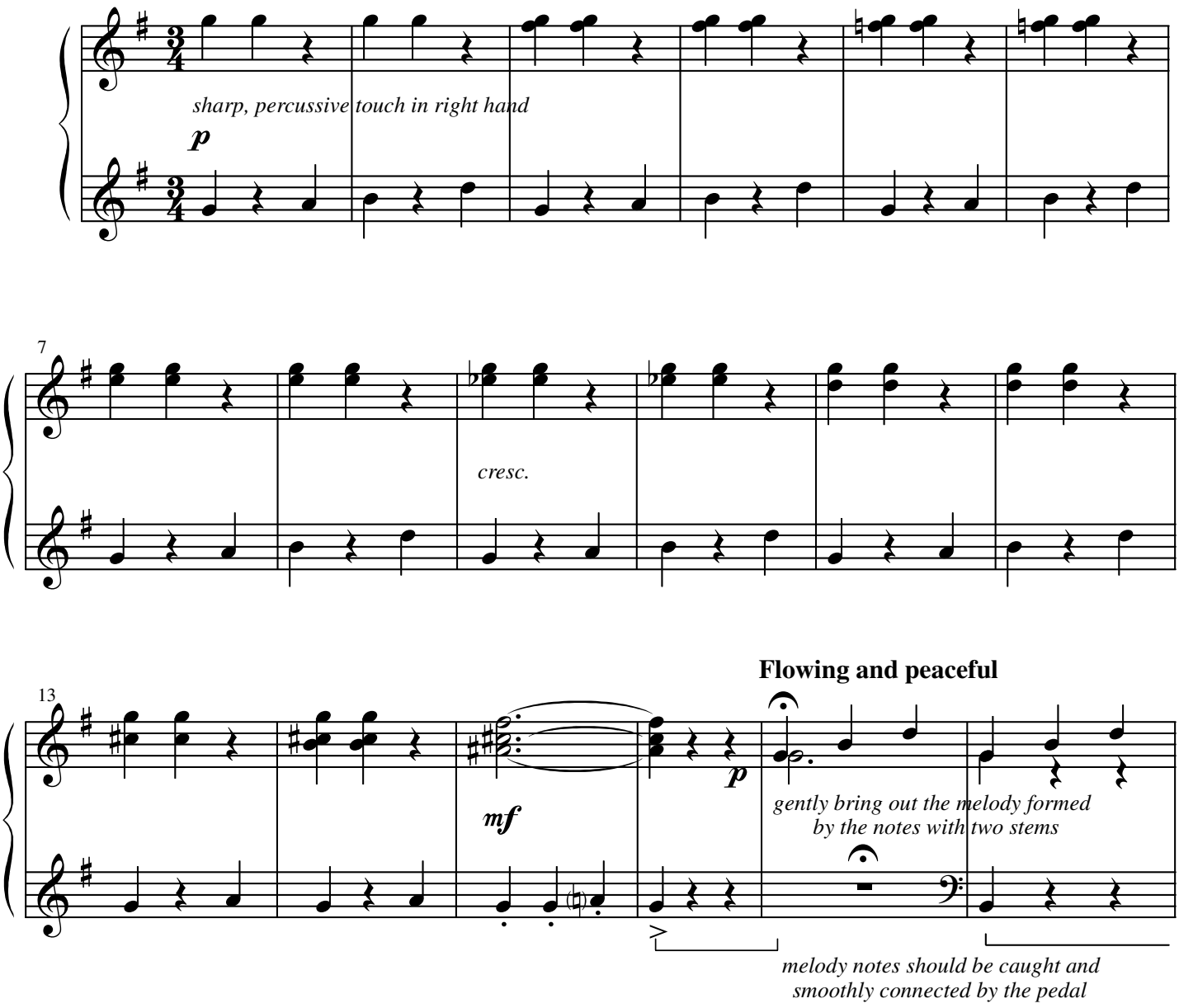
3. Blest Is the Man, Forever Blest

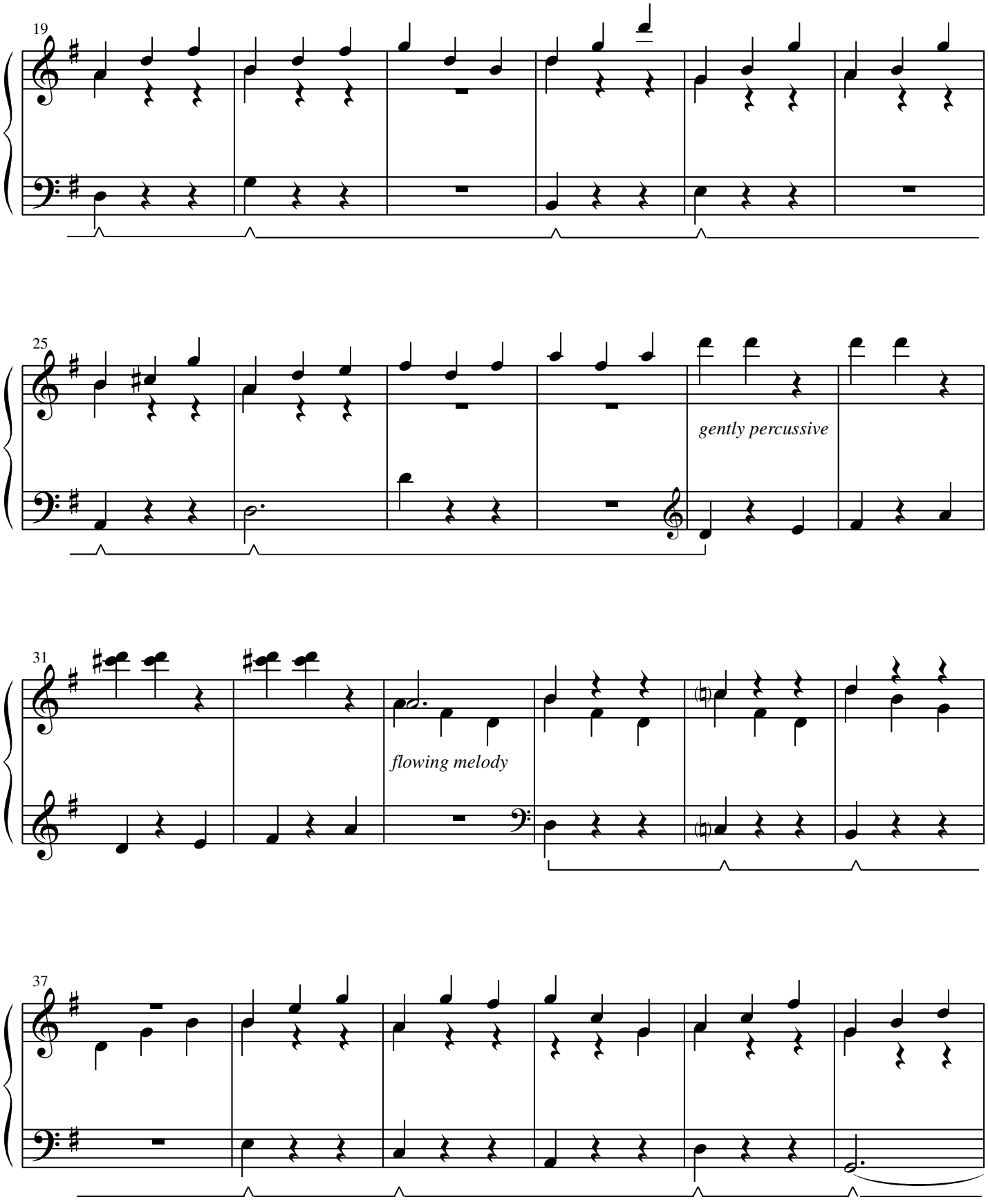
(O Jesu Christ, mein's)

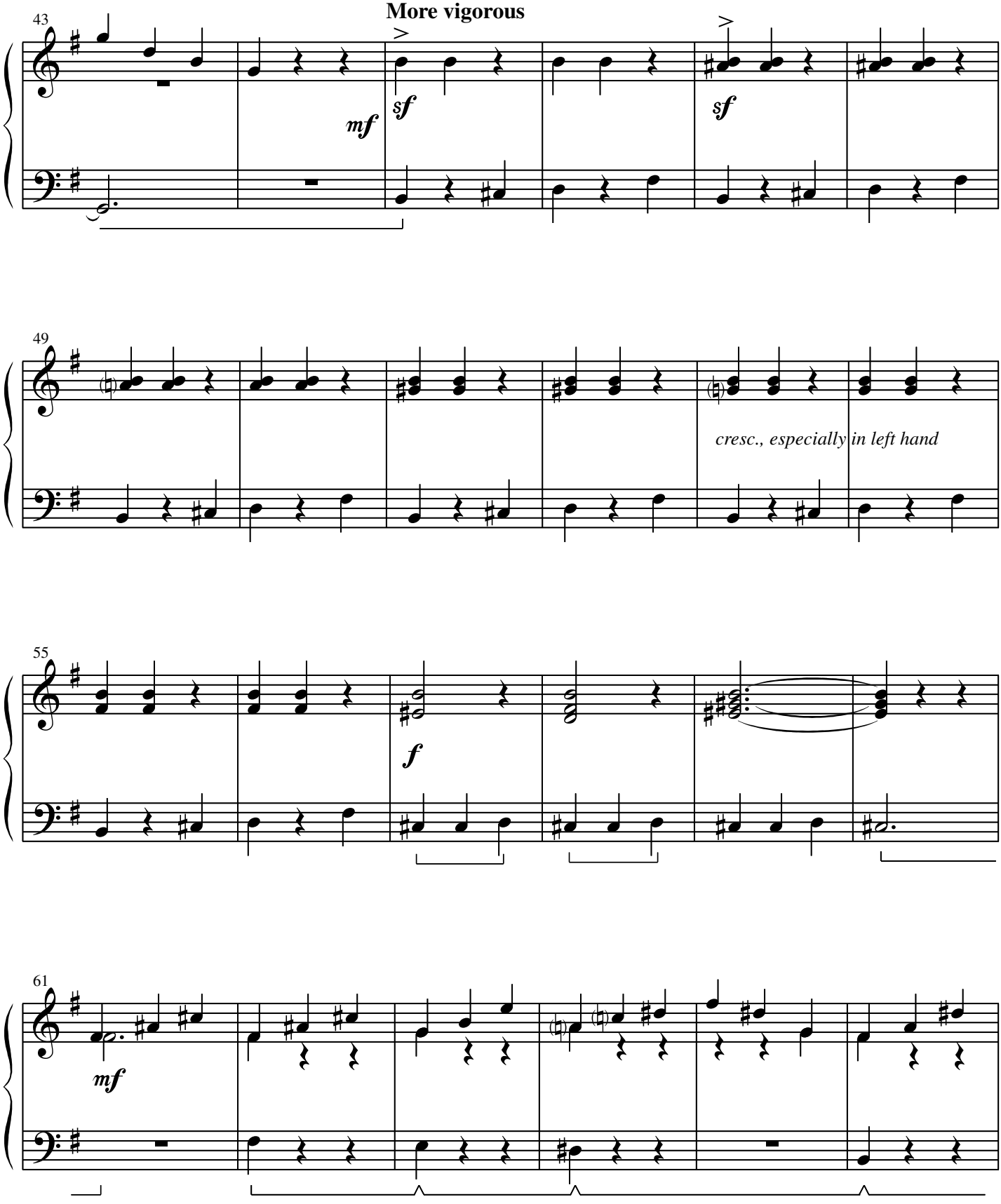
Richard Hudson

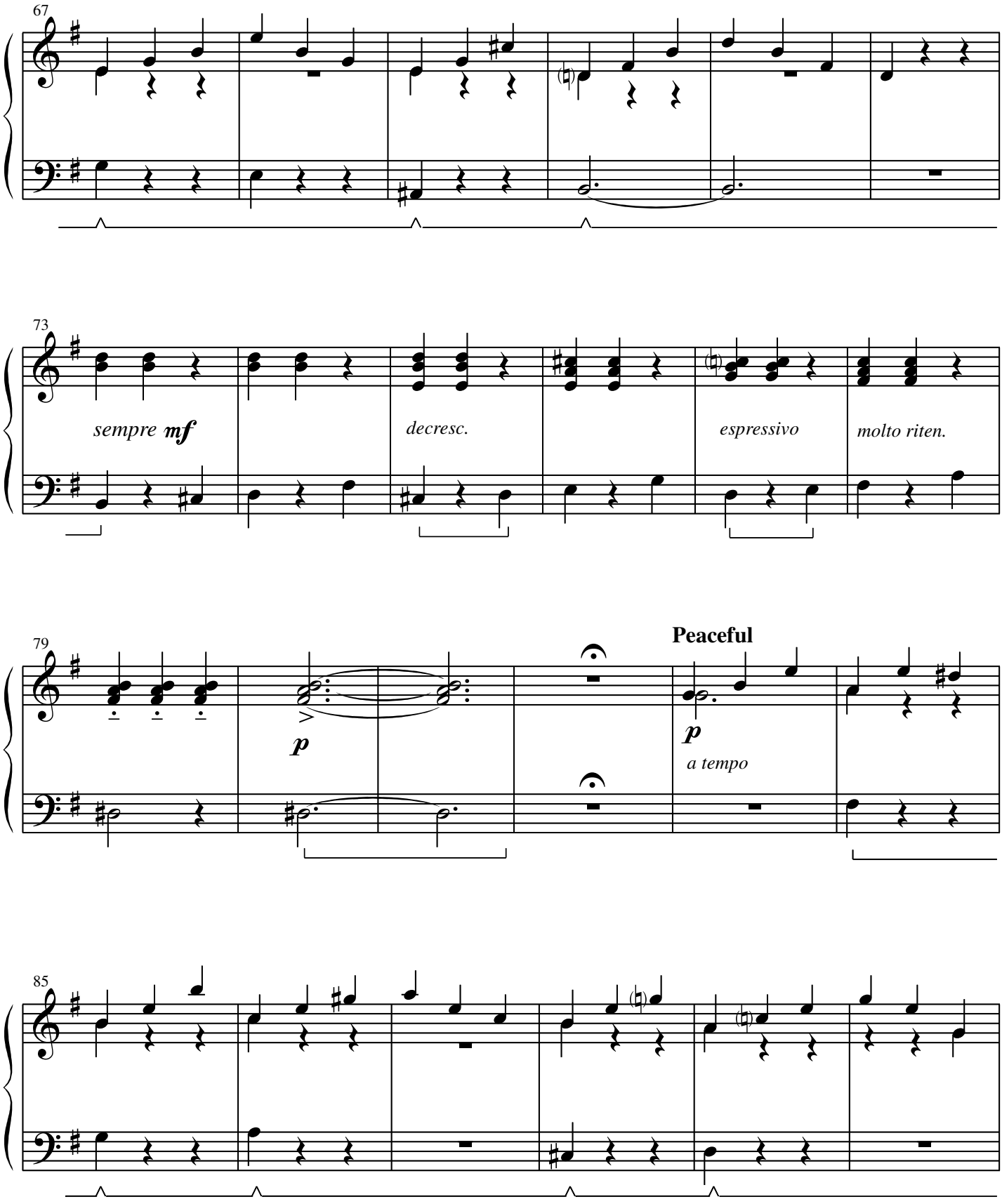
Blessed are ye when men shall reproach you,
and persecute you, and say all manner of evil
against you falsely, for my sake.
Rejoice, and be exceeding glad:
for great is your reward in heaven.
Matthew 5:11-12

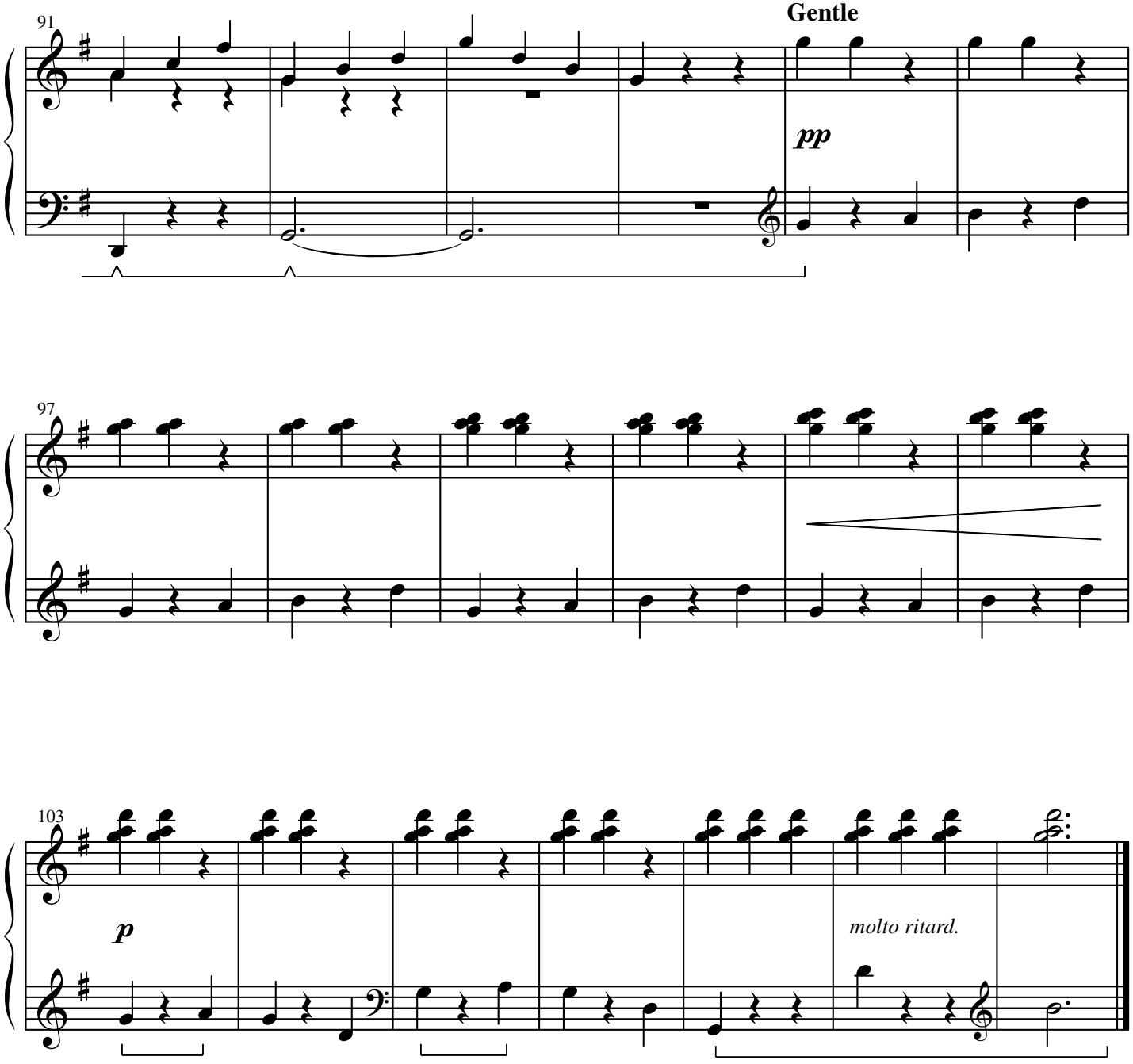
Insistent and very strict (𝅗𝅥. = 69)




19
25
gently percussive
31
flowing melody
37


More vigorous
43
mf
sf
sf
49
cresc., especially in left hand
55
f
61
mf


67
73
sempre mf
decresc.
espressivo
molto riten.
79
p
Peaceful
p
a tempo
85


91
Gentle
pp
97
103
p
molto ritard.

THE TEACHINGS

4. Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

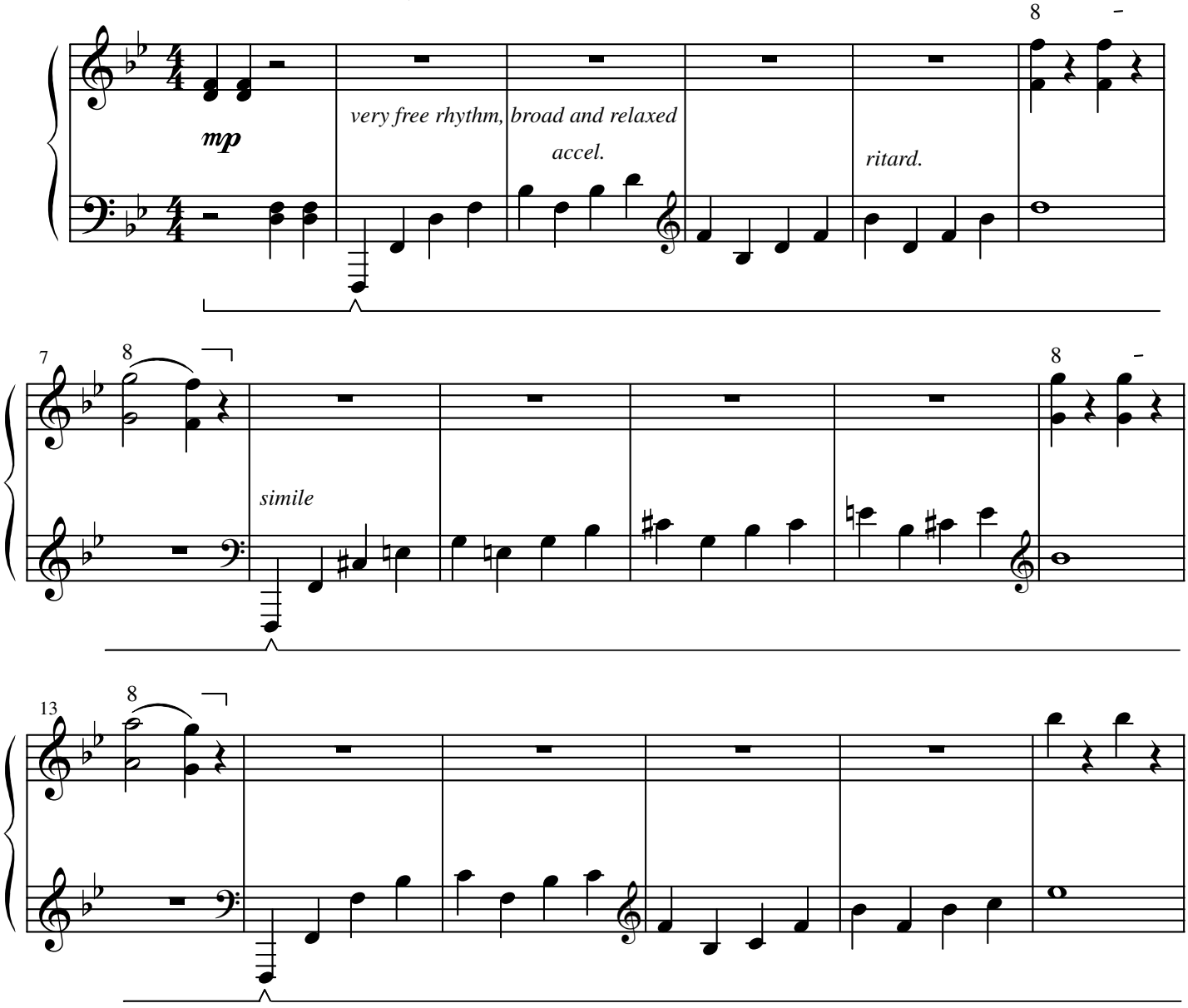
(Beecher)

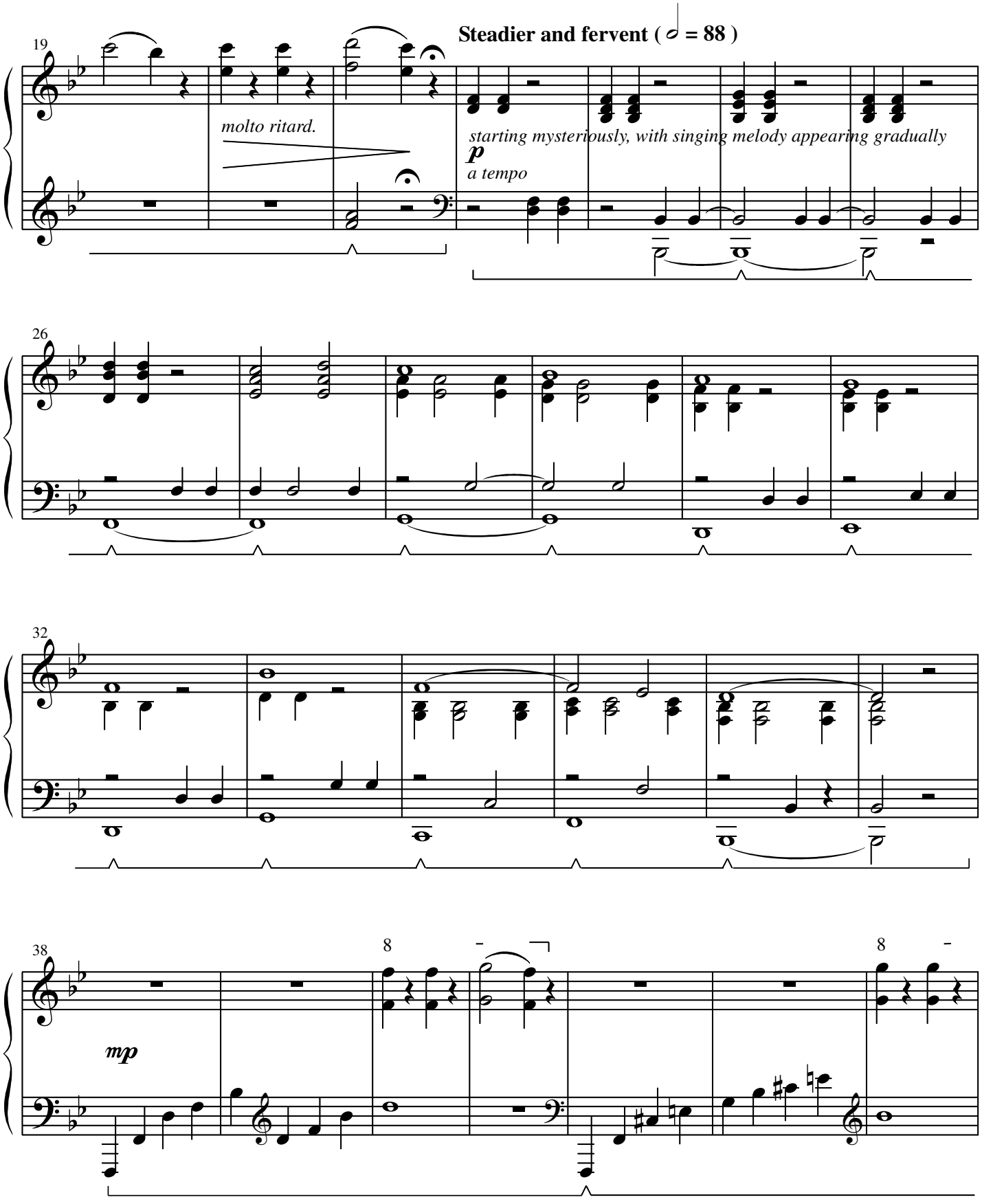
Richard Hudson

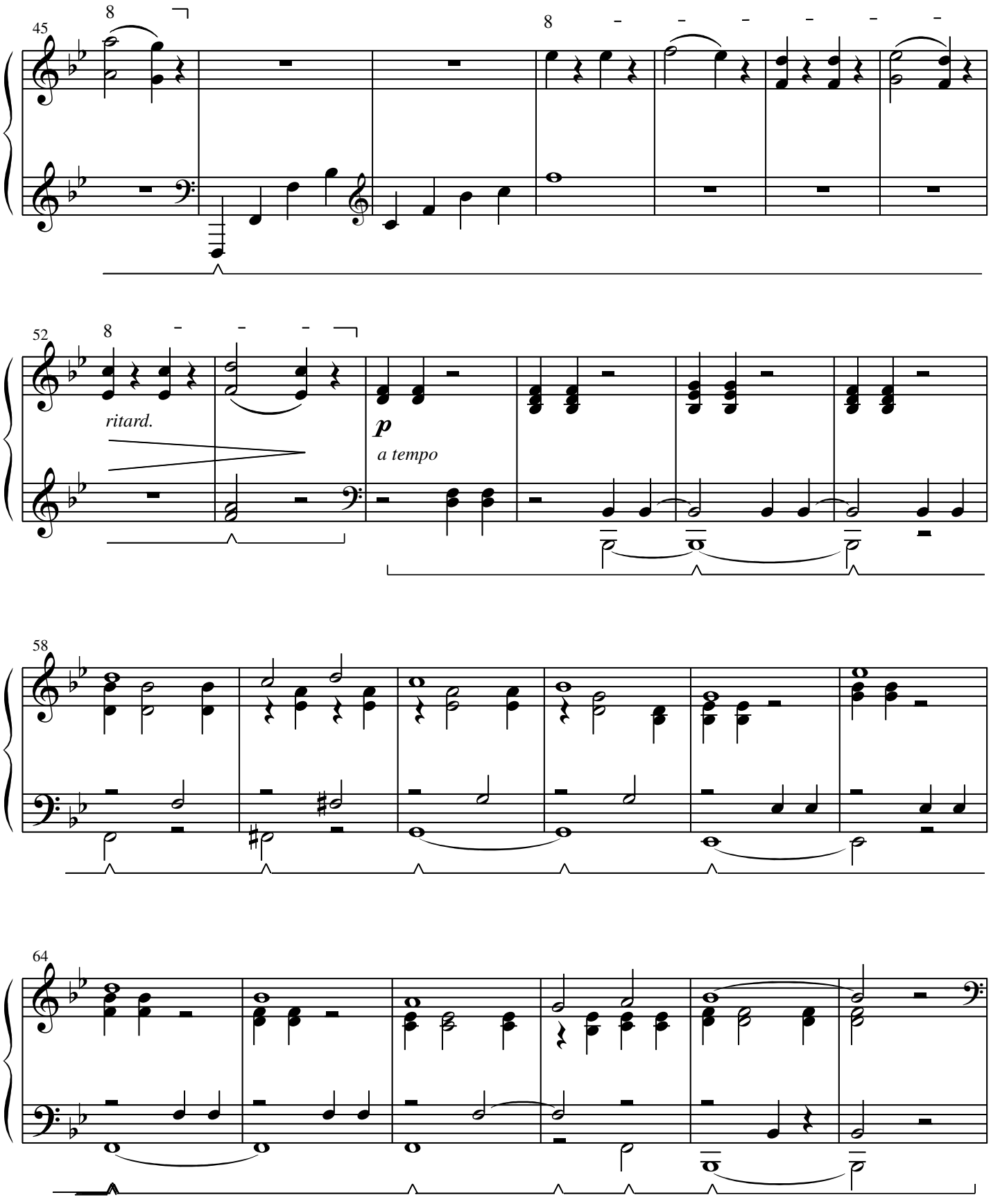
Love your enemies,
and pray for them that persecute you;
that ye may be sons of your Father who is in heaven:
for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and the good,
and sendeth rain on the just and the unjust.
All things therefore whatsoever ye would
that men should do unto you,
even so do ye also unto them.

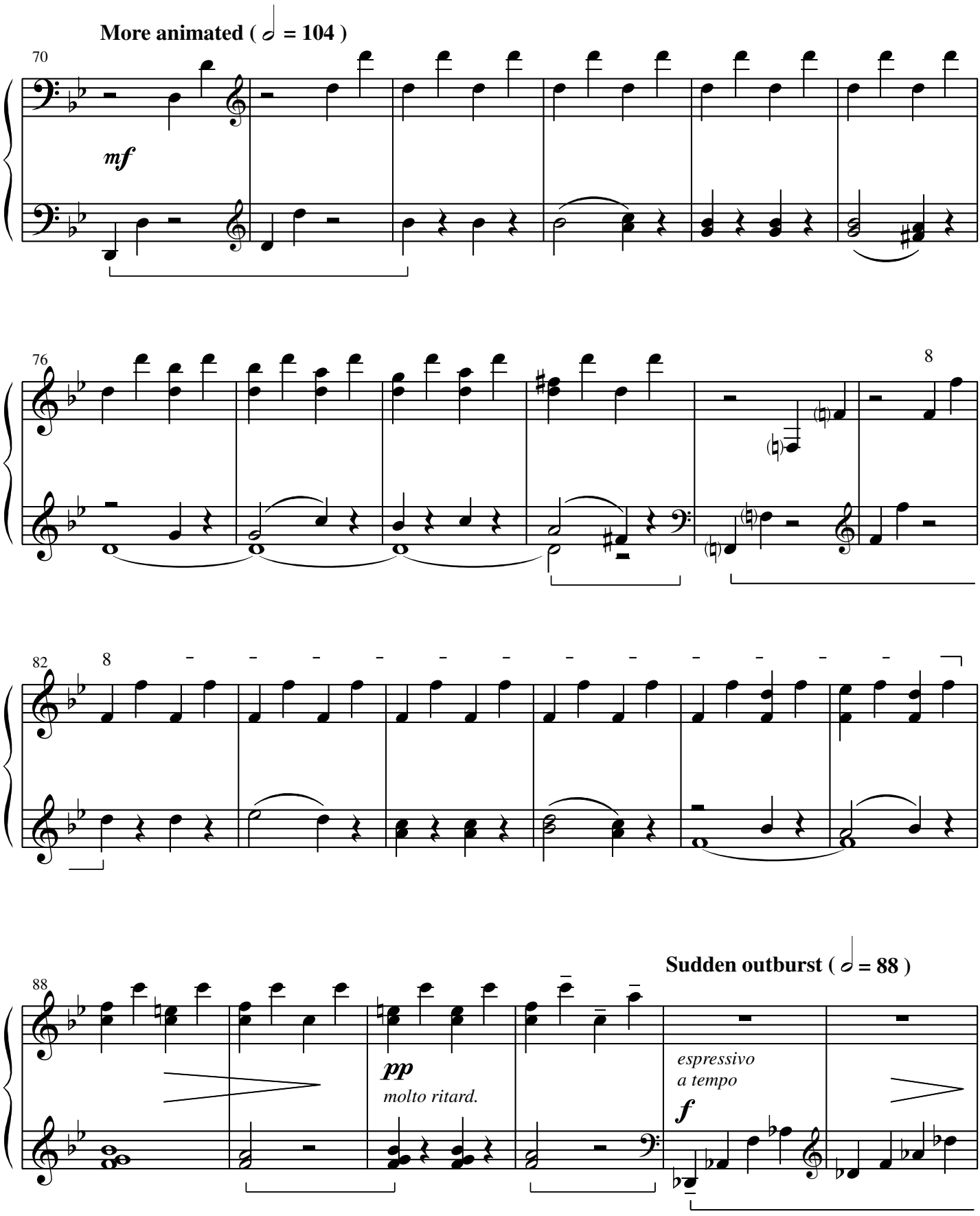
Matthew 5:44-45; 7:12

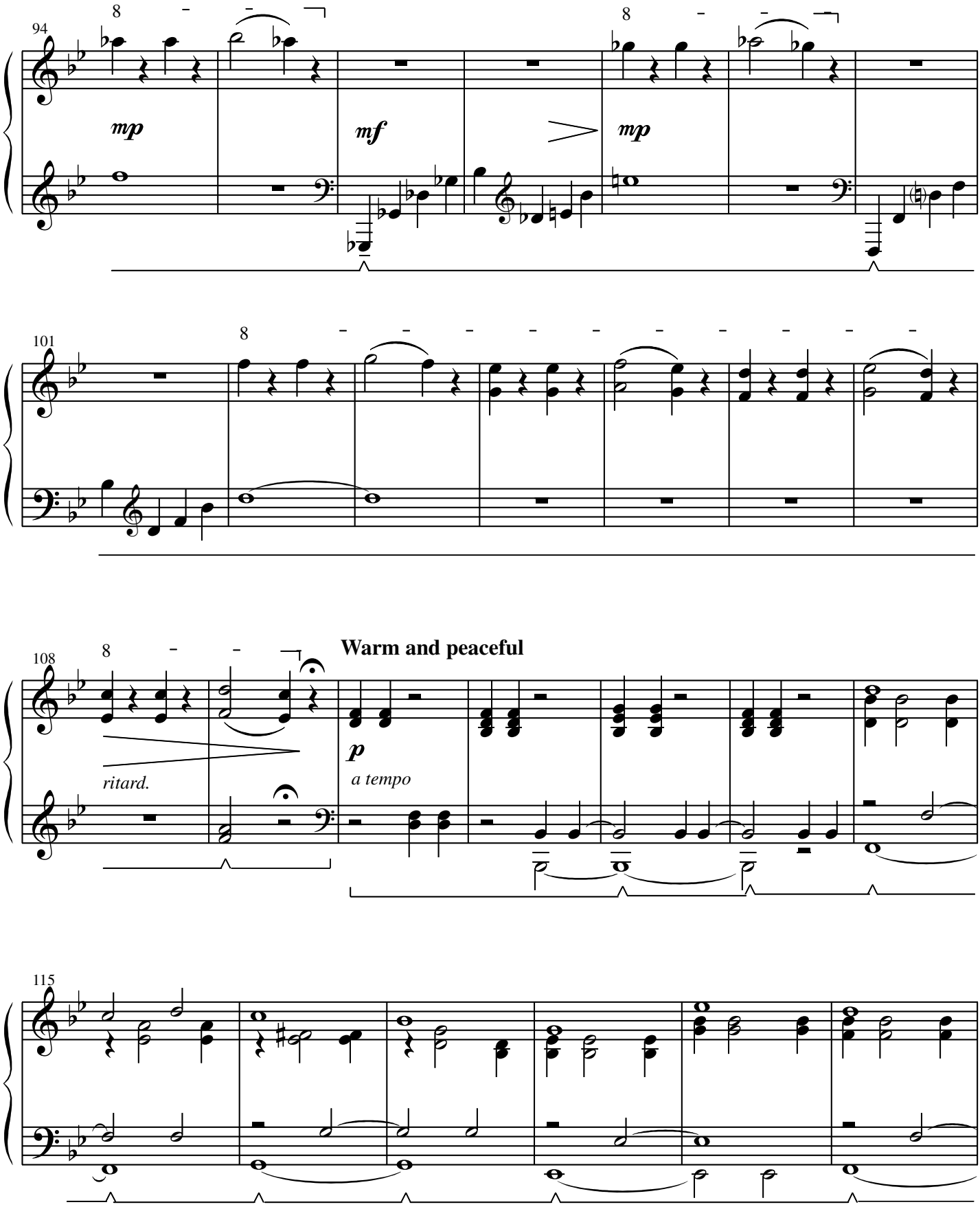
Warm and sonorous (𝅗𝅥 = around 76)

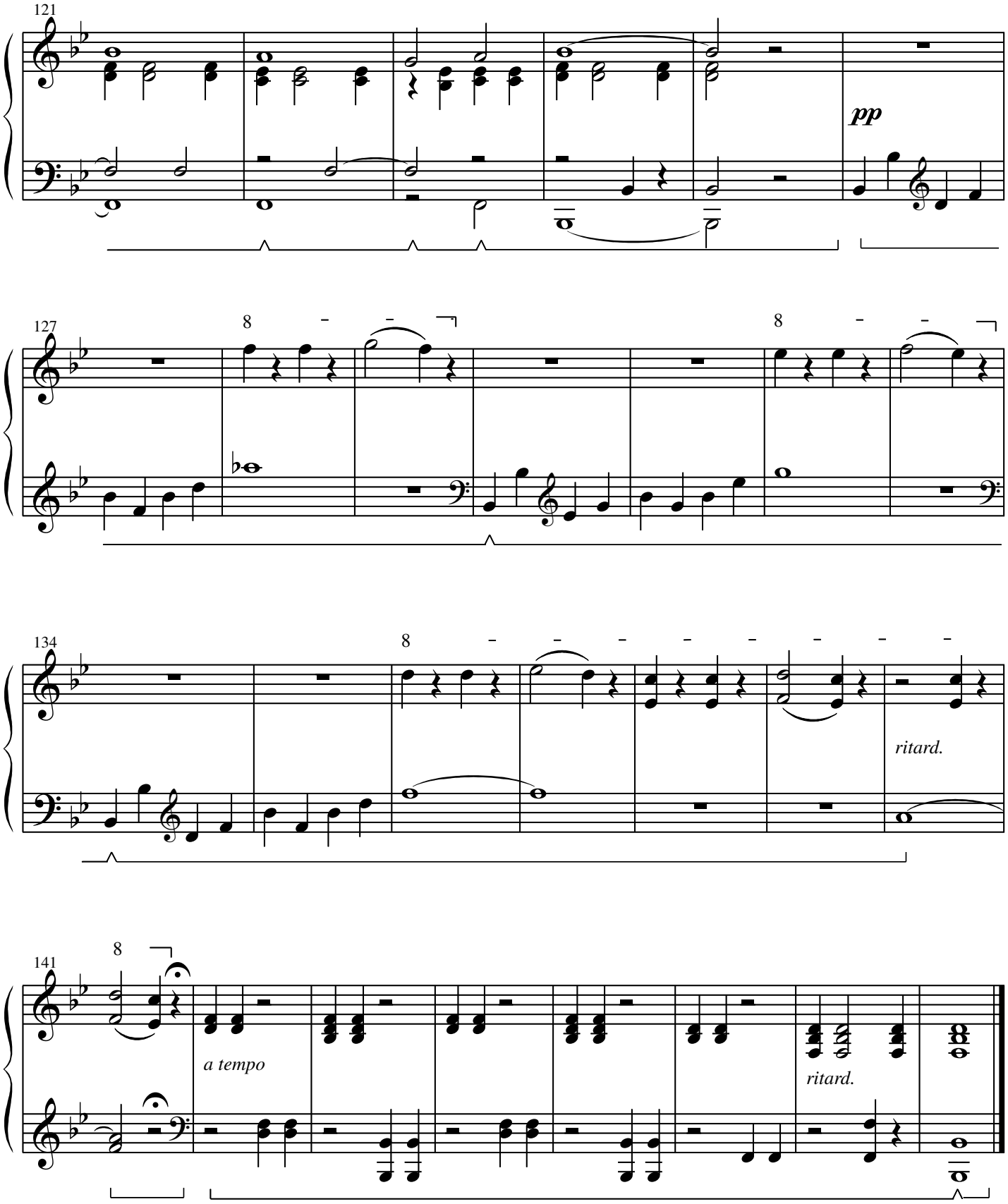



19
Steadier and fervent (= 88)
molto ritard.
starting mysteriously, with singing melody appearing gradually
p
a tempo
26
32
38
8
8
mp


45
8
8
52
8
ritard.
p
a tempo
58
64


More animated (= 104)
70
mf
76
8
82
8
Sudden outburst (= 88)
88
pp
molto ritard.
espressivo
a tempo
f


94
8
mp
mf
mp
101
8
108
8
Warm and peaceful
ritard.
p
a tempo
115


121
pp
127
8
8
134
8
ritard.
141
8
a tempo
ritard.

5. Jesus, Priceless Treasure

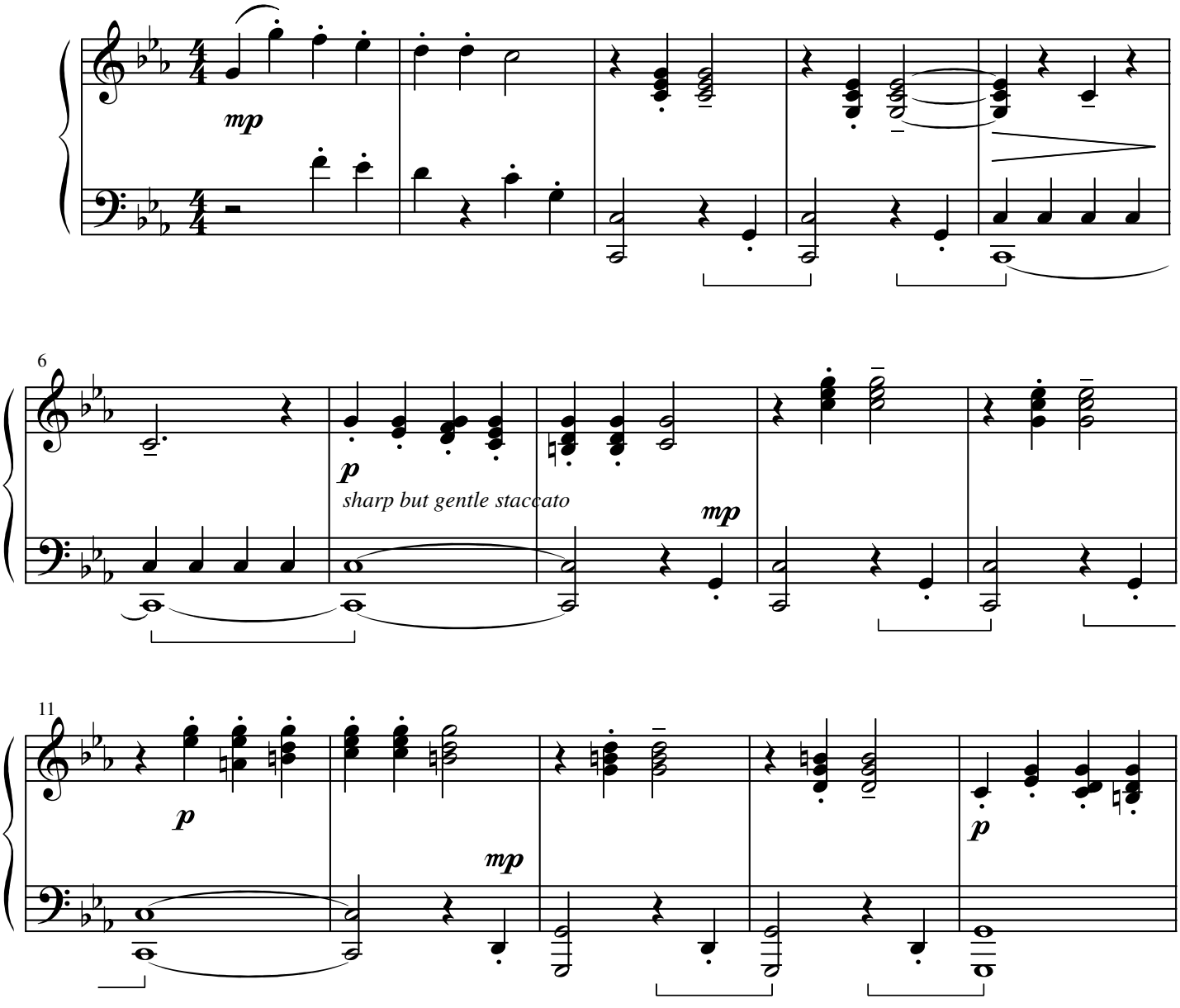
(Jesu, meine Freude)

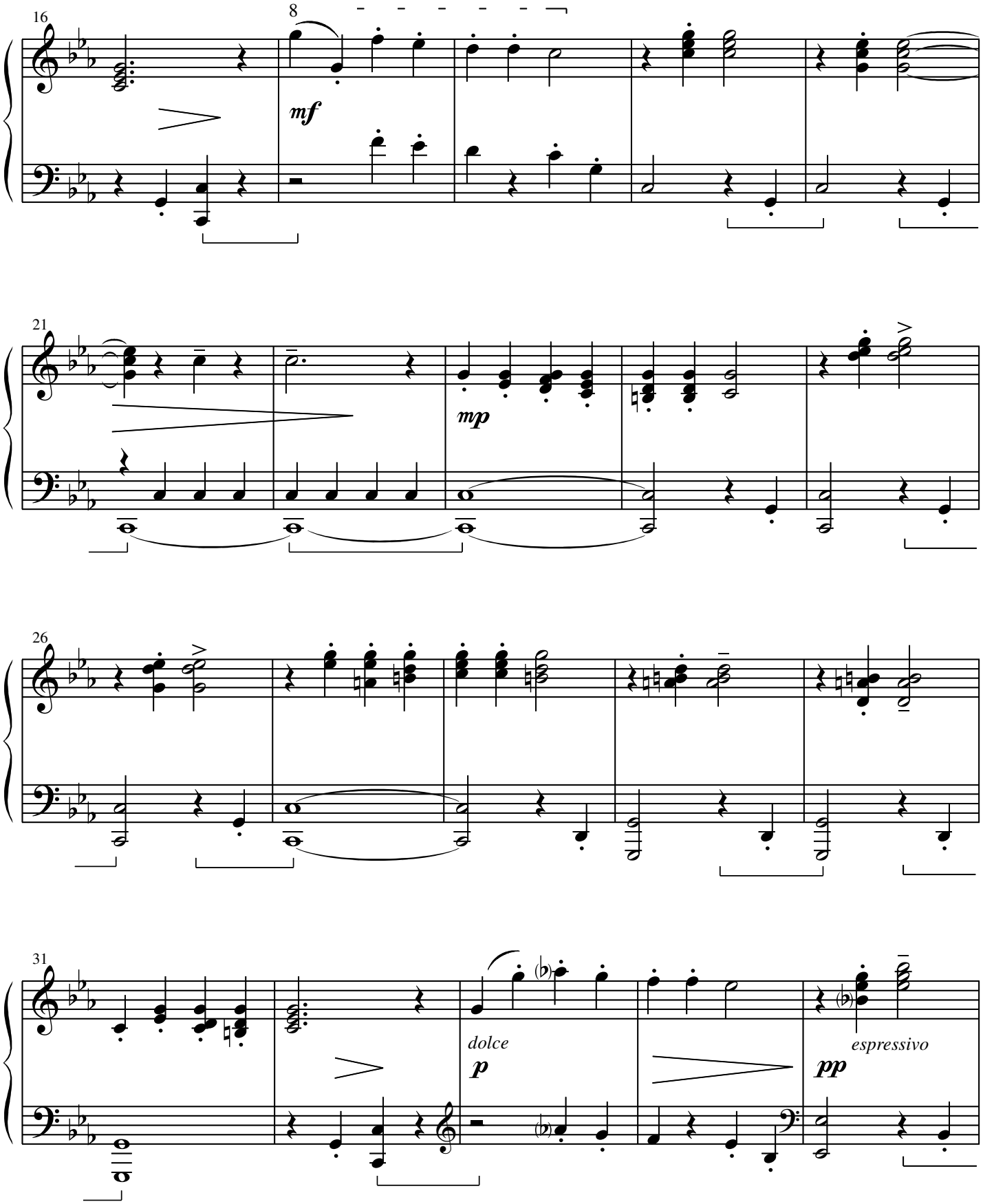
Richard Hudson

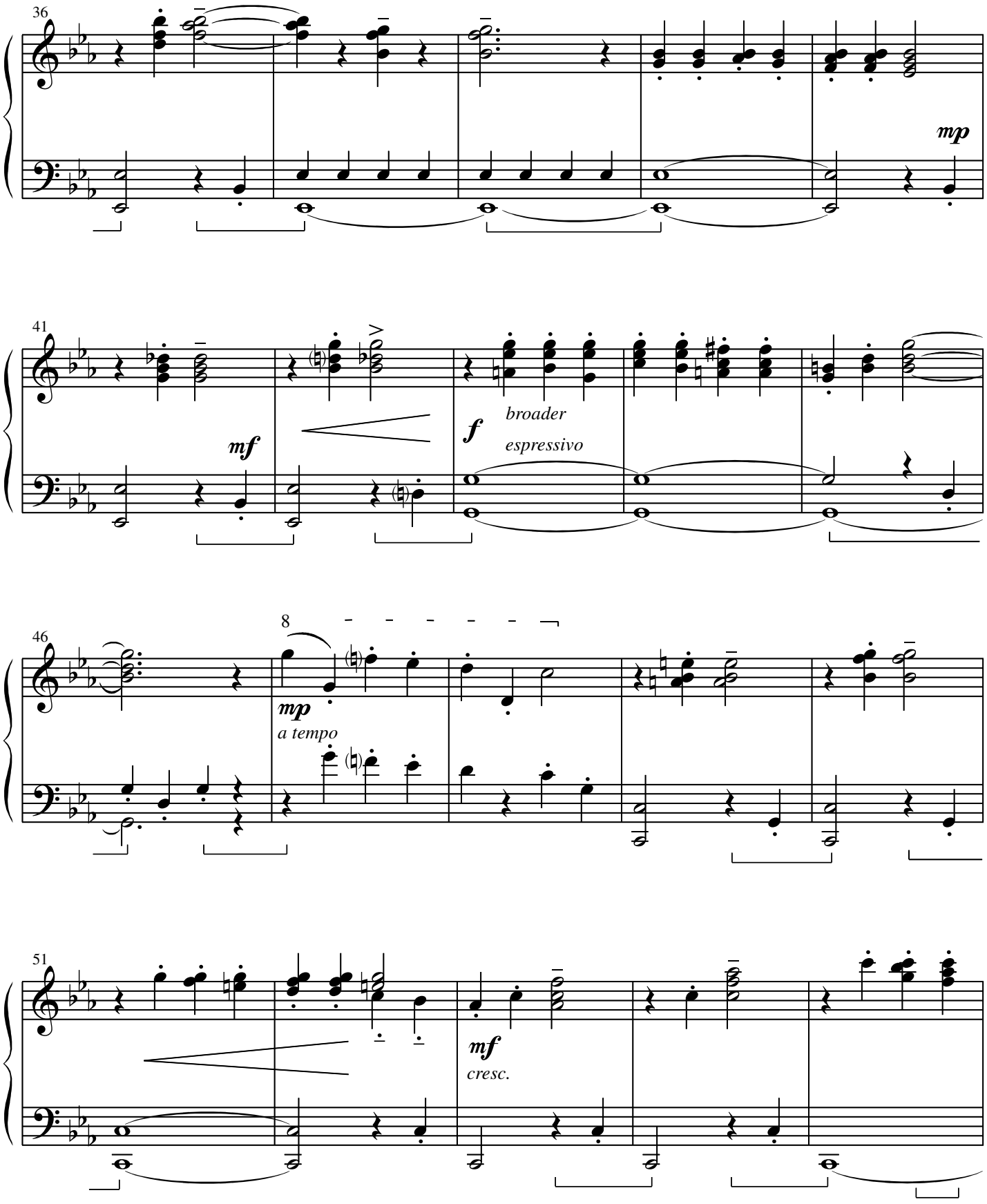
Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon the earth,
where moth and rust consume,
and where thieves break through and steal:
but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven,
where neither moth nor rust doth consume,
amd where thieves do not break through nor steal.

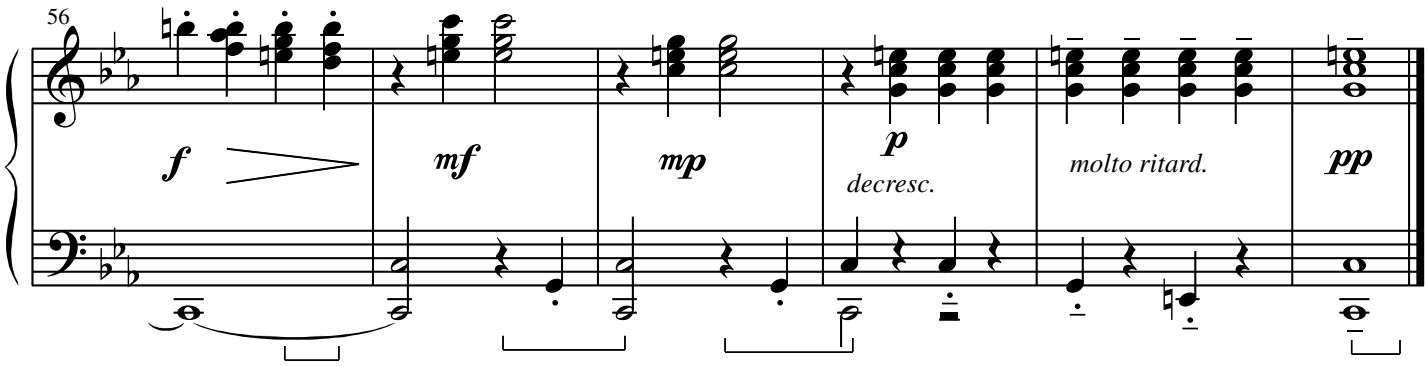
Matthew 6:19-20

Meditative (𝅗𝅥 = 60)




16
8
mf
21
mp
26
31
dolce
p
espressivo
pp


36
mp
41
mf
f
broader
espressivo
46
8
mp
a tempo
51
mf
cresc.


56
f
mf
mp
p
decresc.
molto ritard.
pp

6. A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

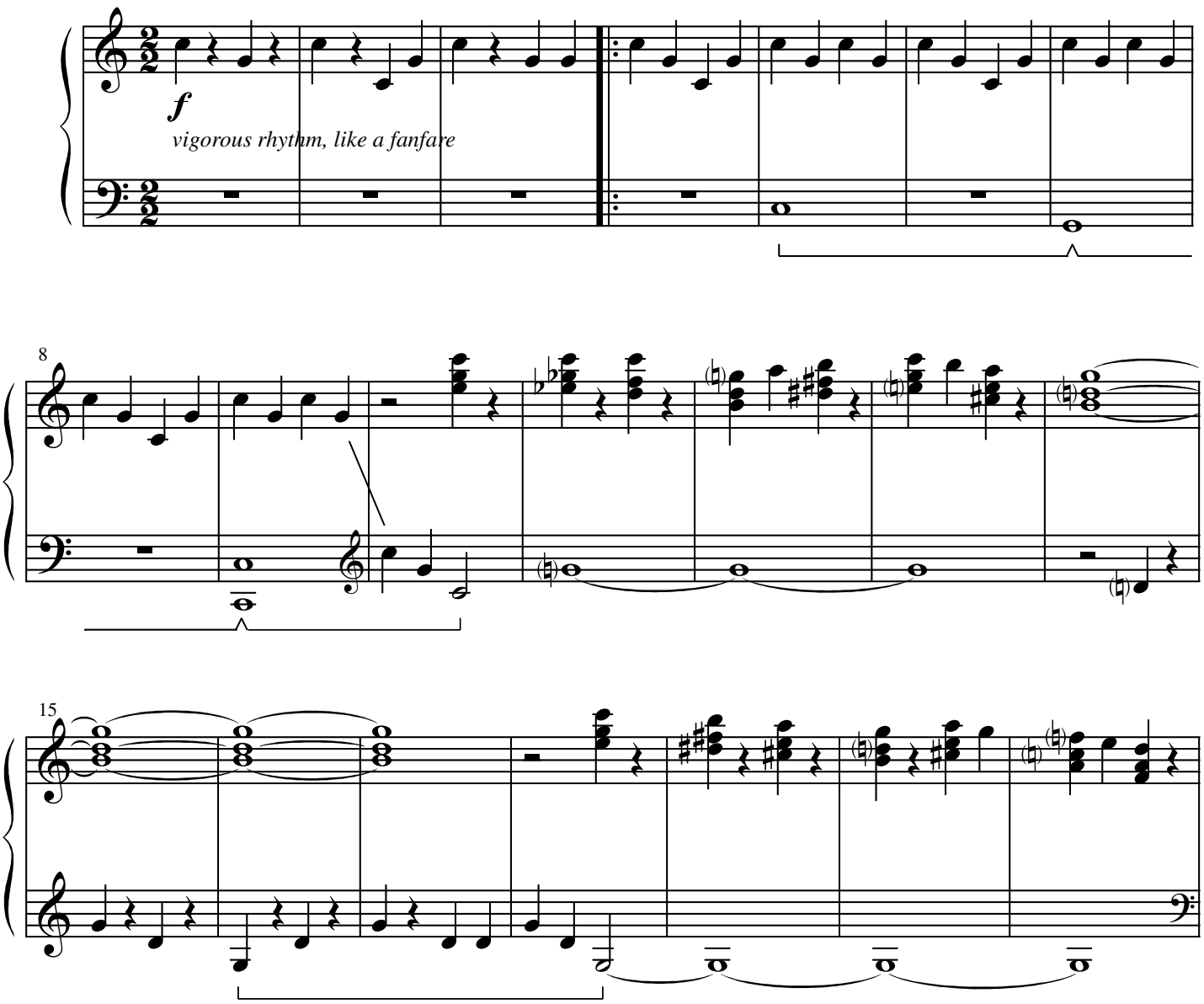
(Ein' feste Burg)

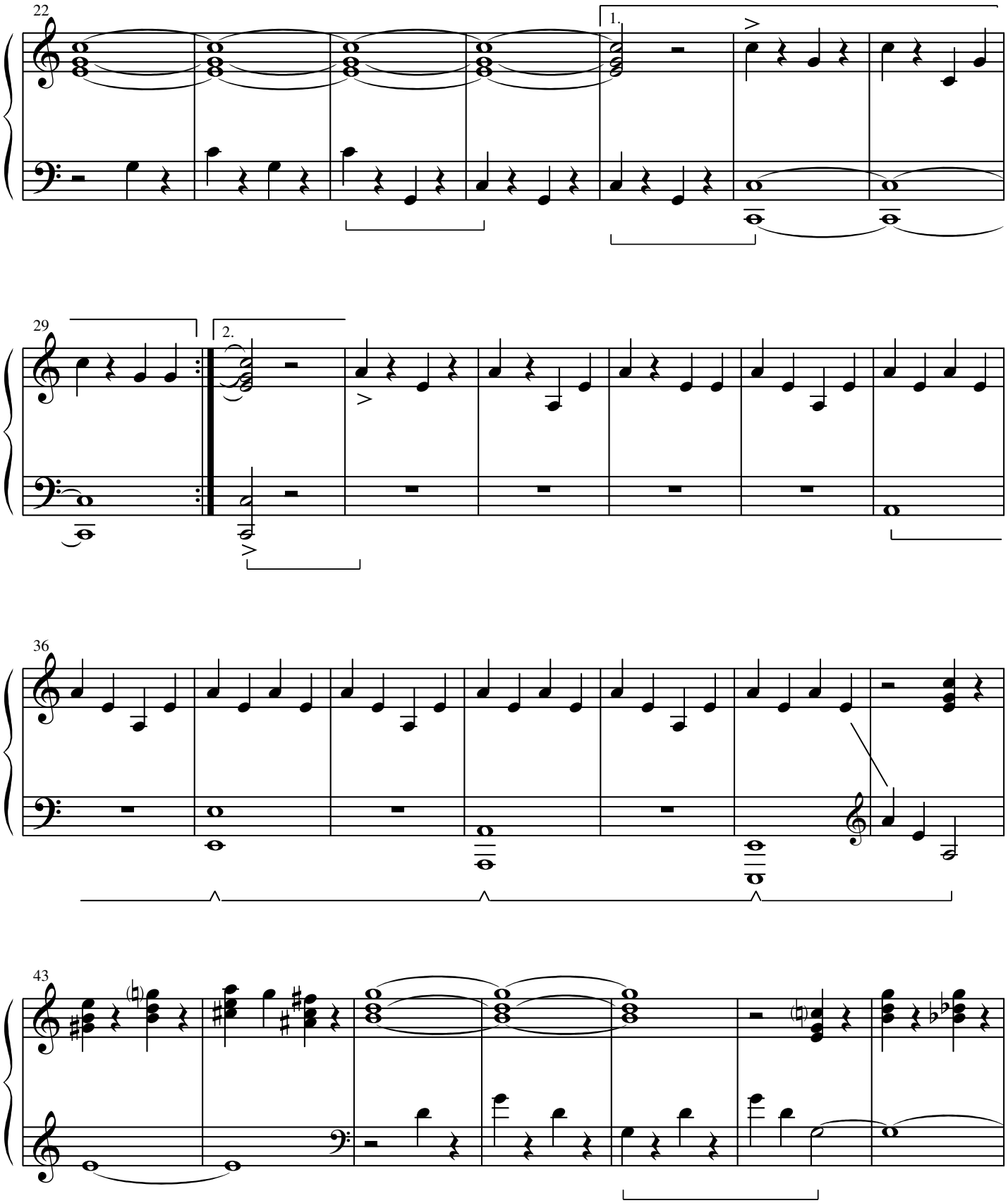
Richard Hudson

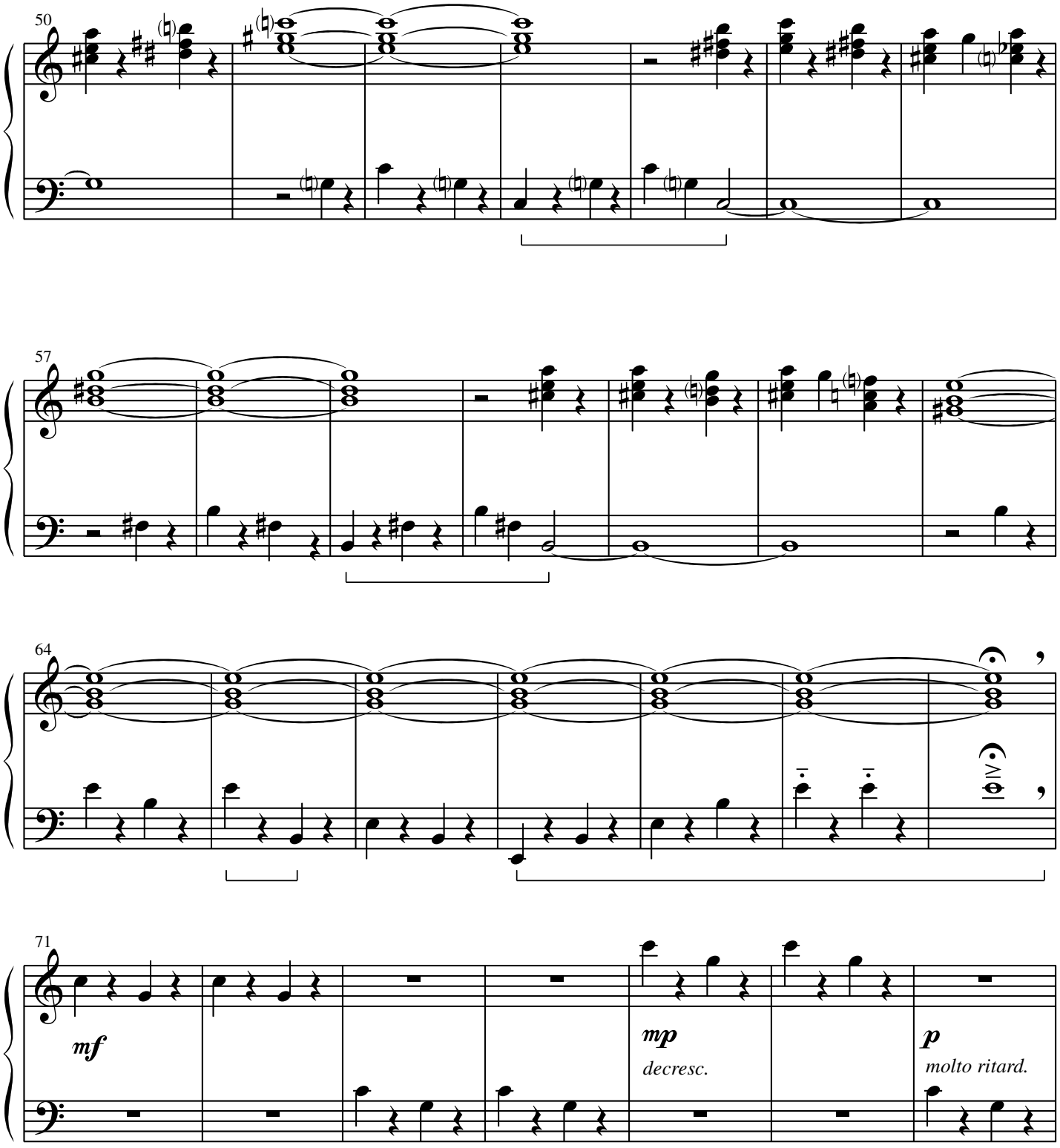
Everyone that heareth these words of mine,
and doeth them, shall be likened unto a wise man,
who built his house upon the rock:
and the rain descended, and the floods came,
and the winds blew, and beat upon that house;
and it fell not: for it was founded upon the rock.

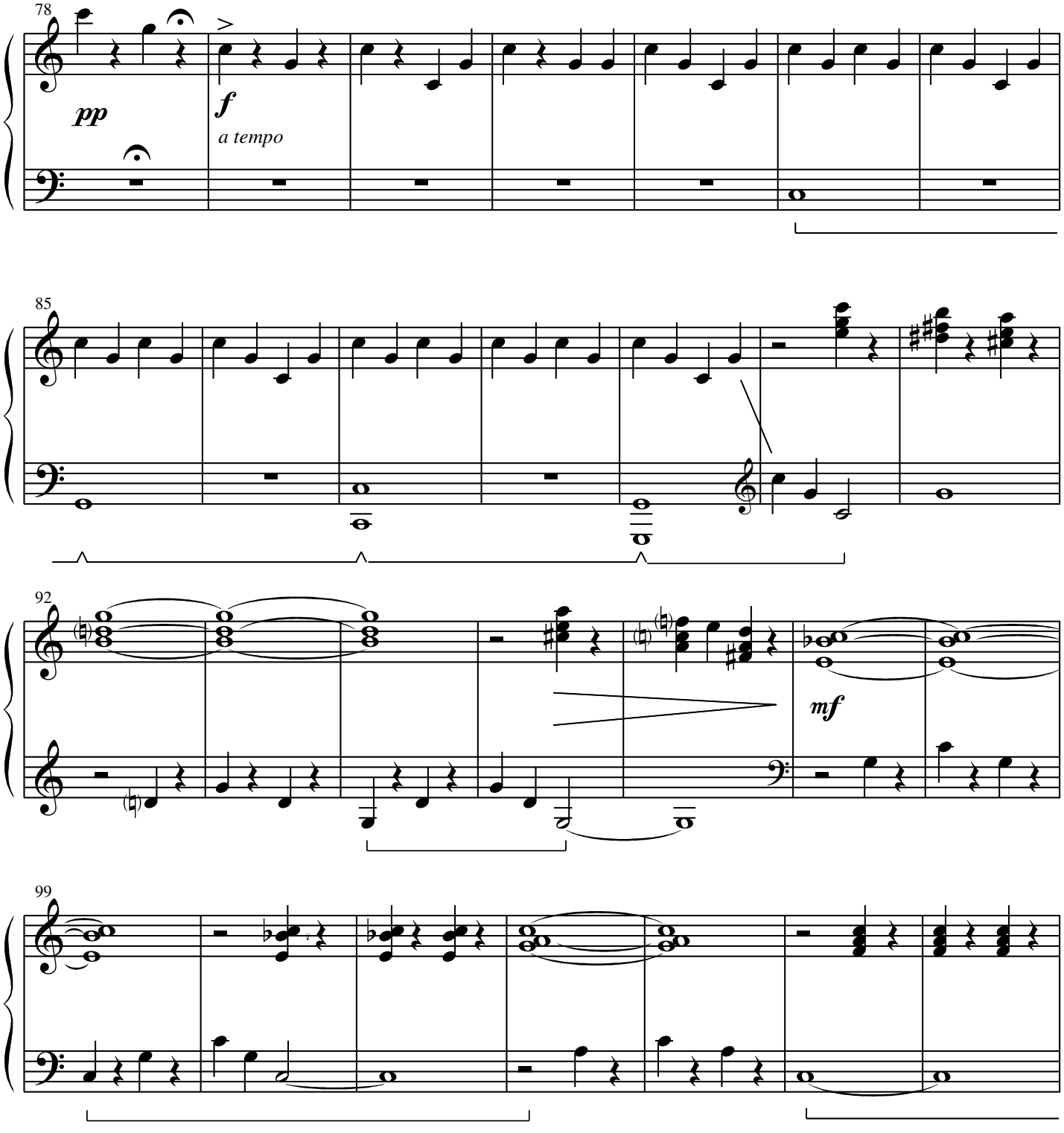
Matthew 7:24-25

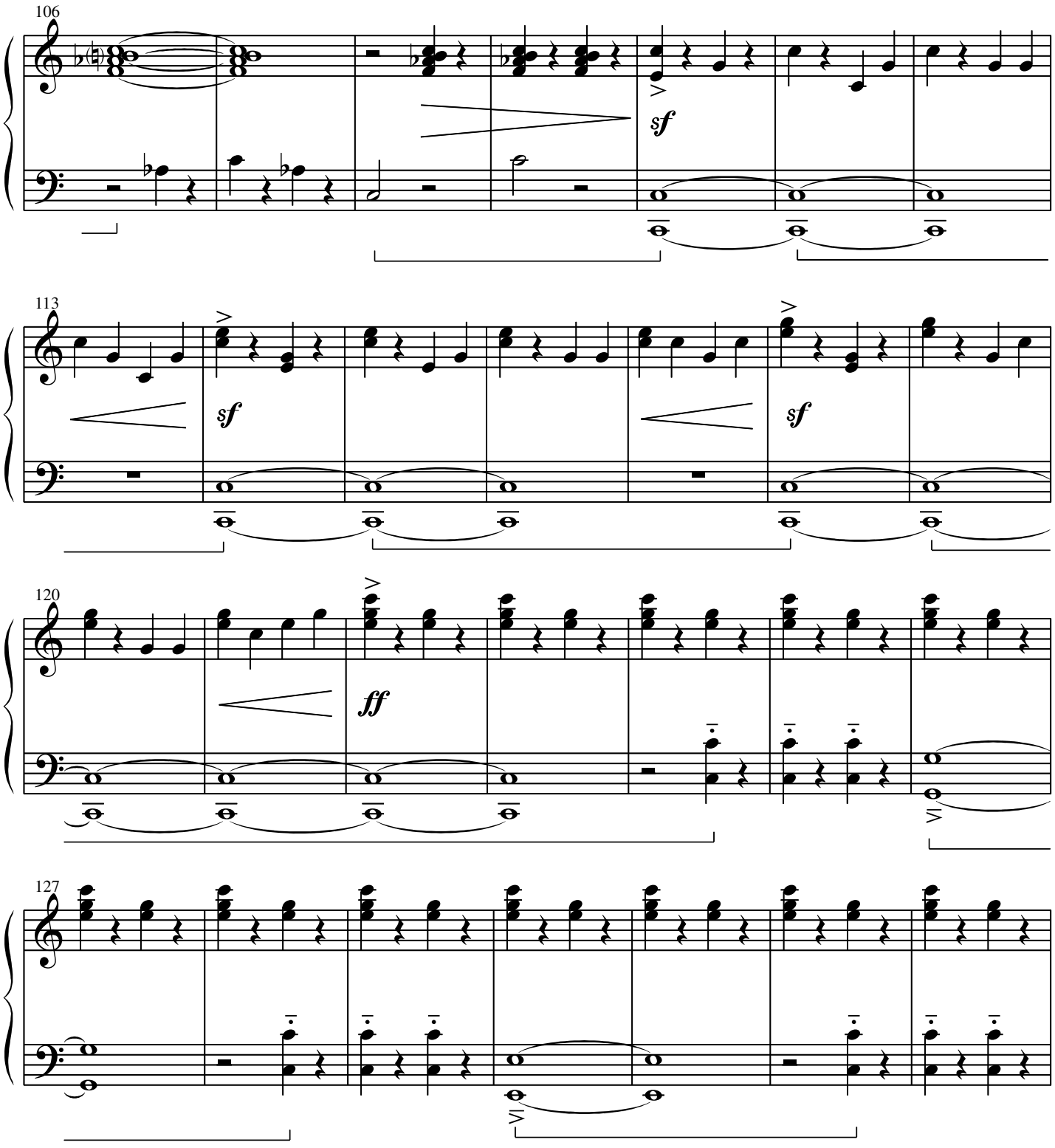
With confidence and strength (𝅝 = 76)

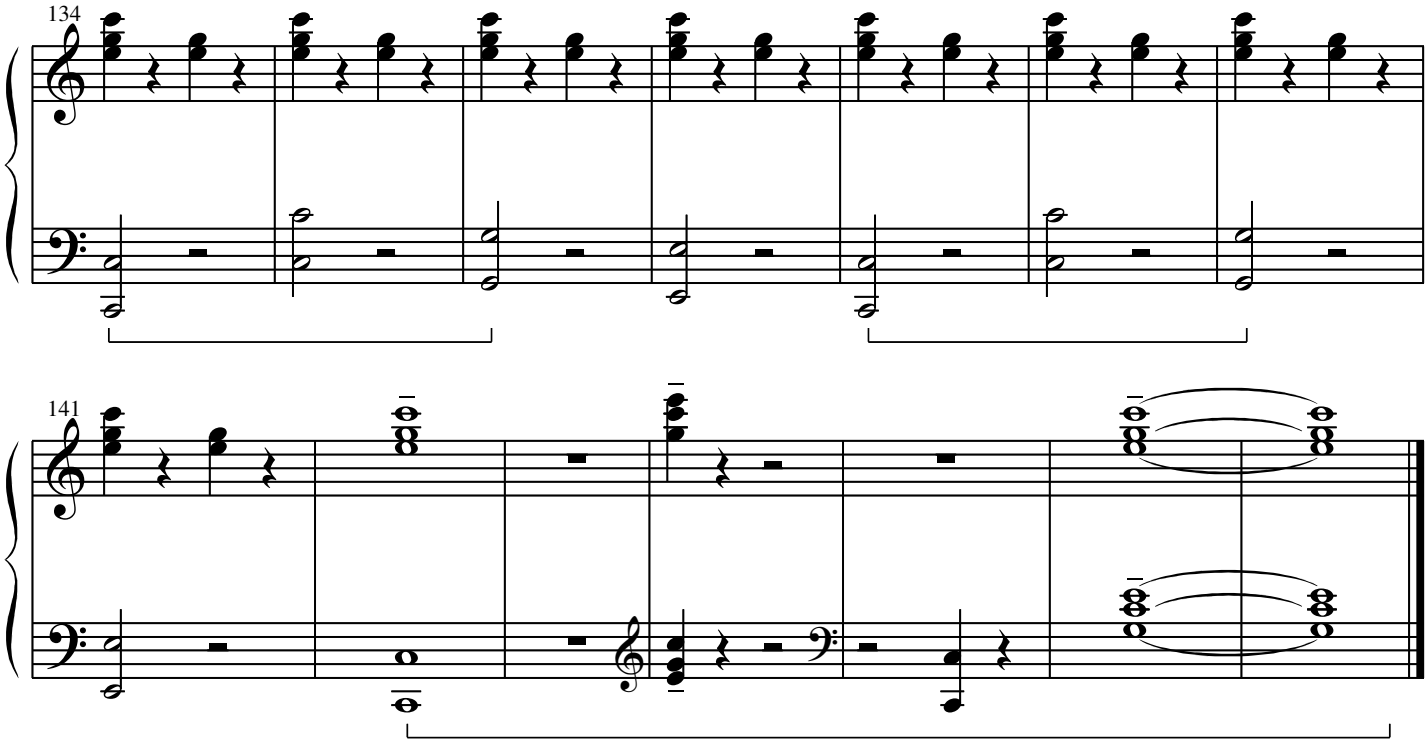



22
1.
29
2.
36
43


50
57
64
71
mf
mp
decresc.
p
molto ritard.


78
pp
f
a tempo
85
92
mf
99


106
sf
113
sf
sf
120
ff
127


134
141

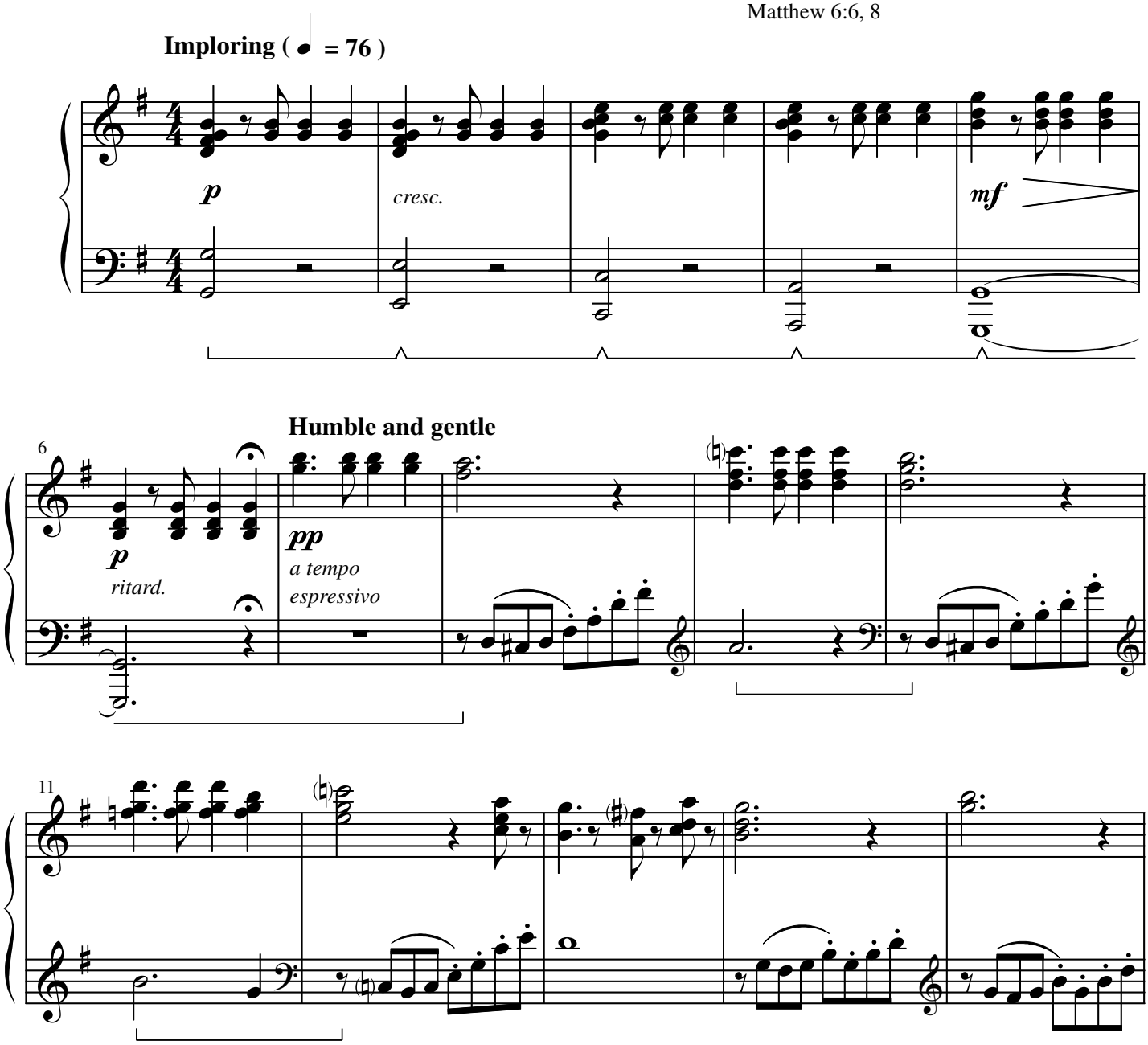
THE LORD'S PRAYER

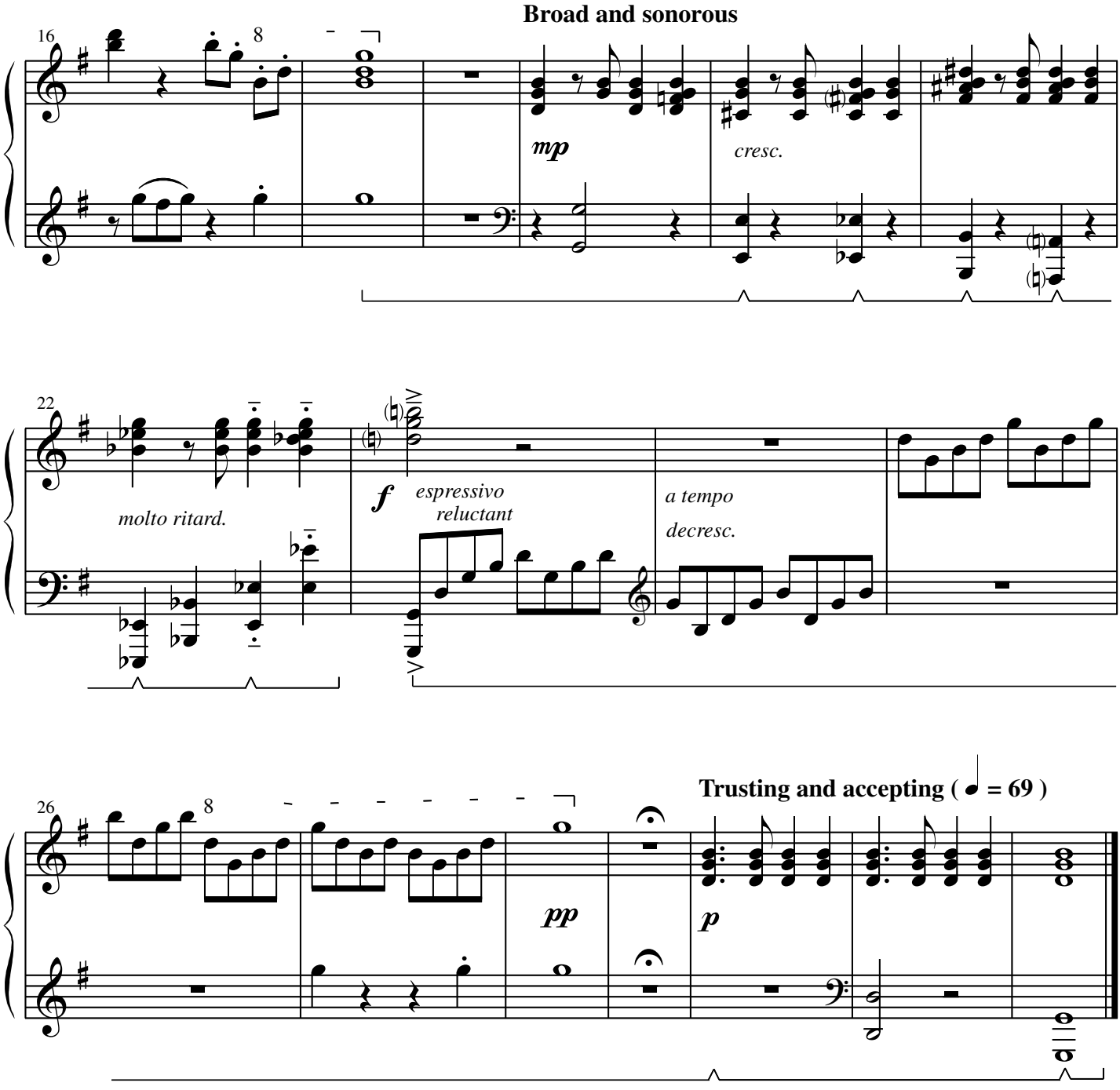
7. Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

Richard Hudson

When thou prayest, enter into thine inner chamber,
and having shut the door,
pray to thy Father who is in secret,
and thy Father who seeth in secret shall recompense thee.
Your Father knoweth what things ye have need of,
before ye ask him.

Matthew 6:6, 8




Broad and sonorous
16
8
mp
cresc.
22
molto ritard.
f
espressivo
reluctant
a tempo
decresc.
26
8
pp
p
Trusting and accepting (= 69)

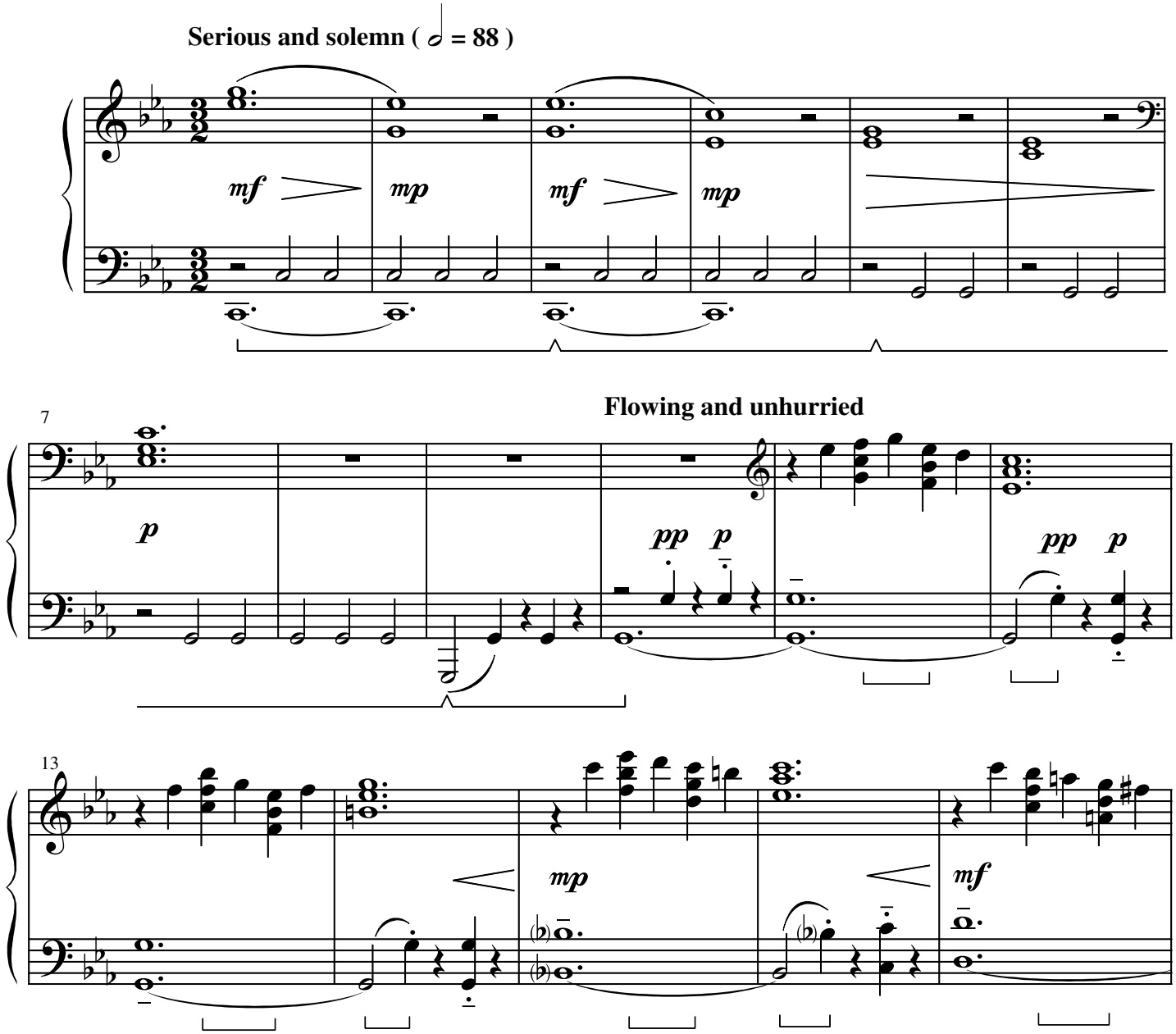
8. Our Father, Who from Heaven Above

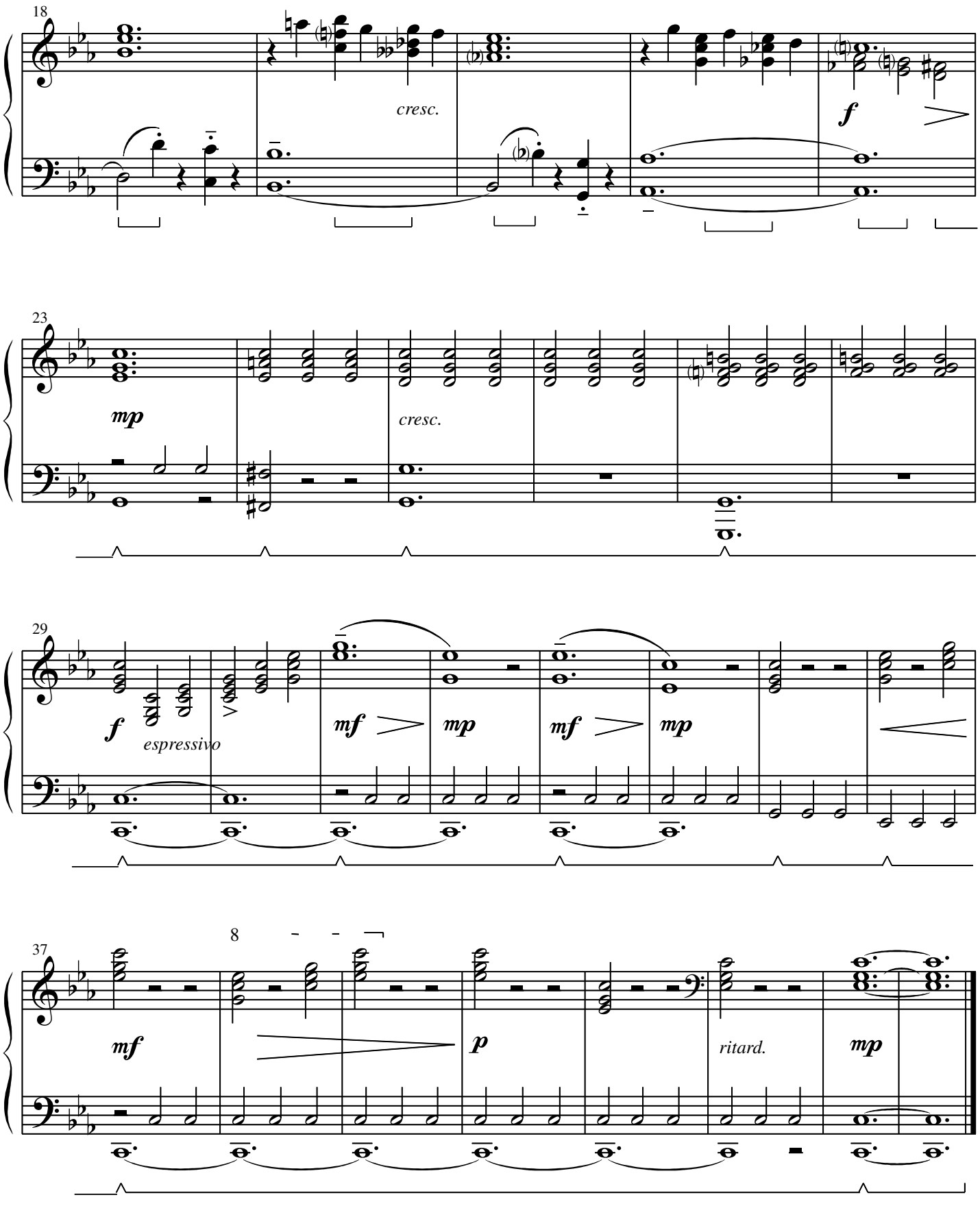
(Vater unser)

Richard Hudson

After this manner therefore pray ye:
Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.

Matthew 6:9



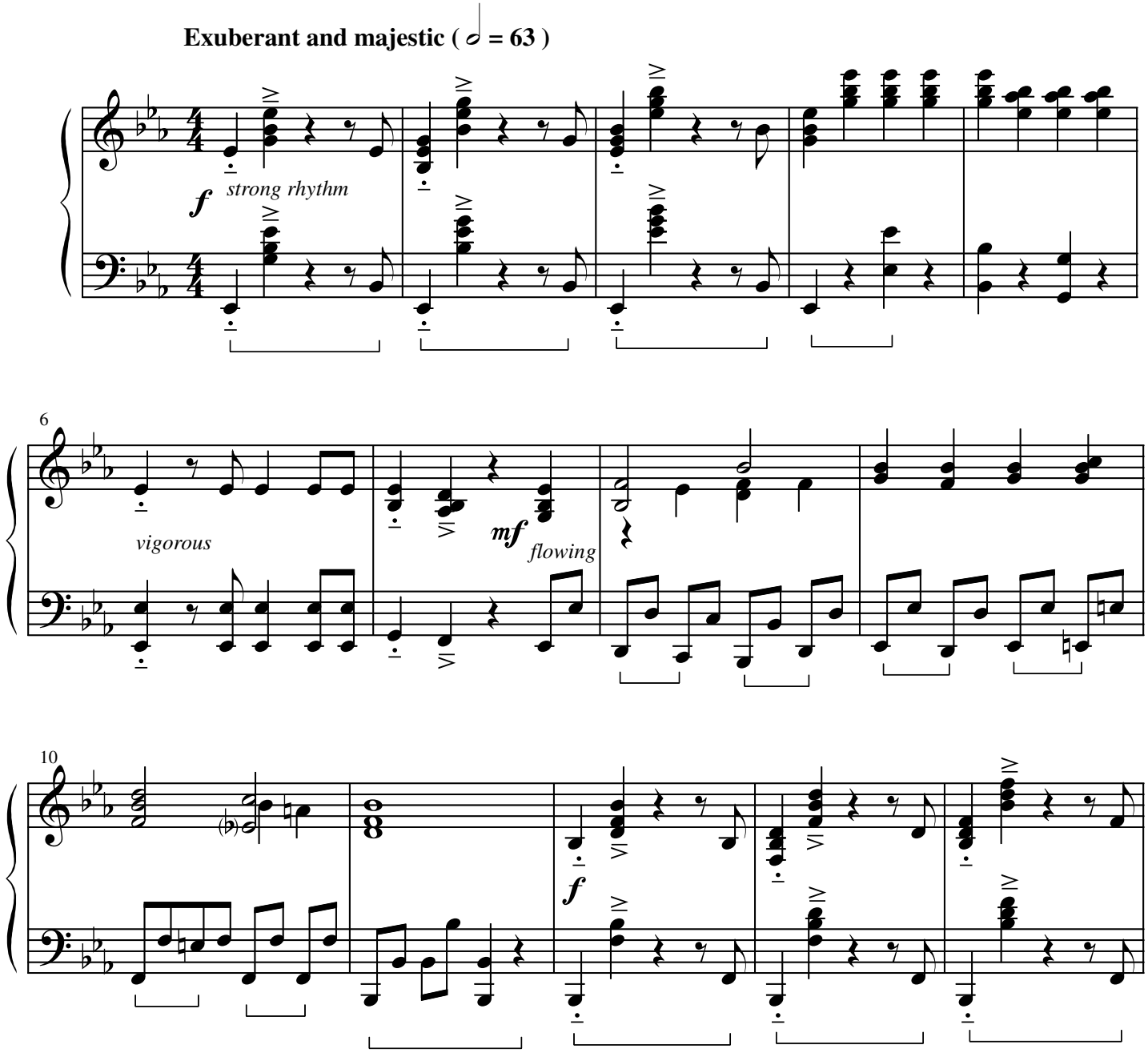

18
cresc.
f
23
mp
cresc.
29
f
espressivo
mf
mp
mf
mp
37
8
mf
p
ritard.
mp

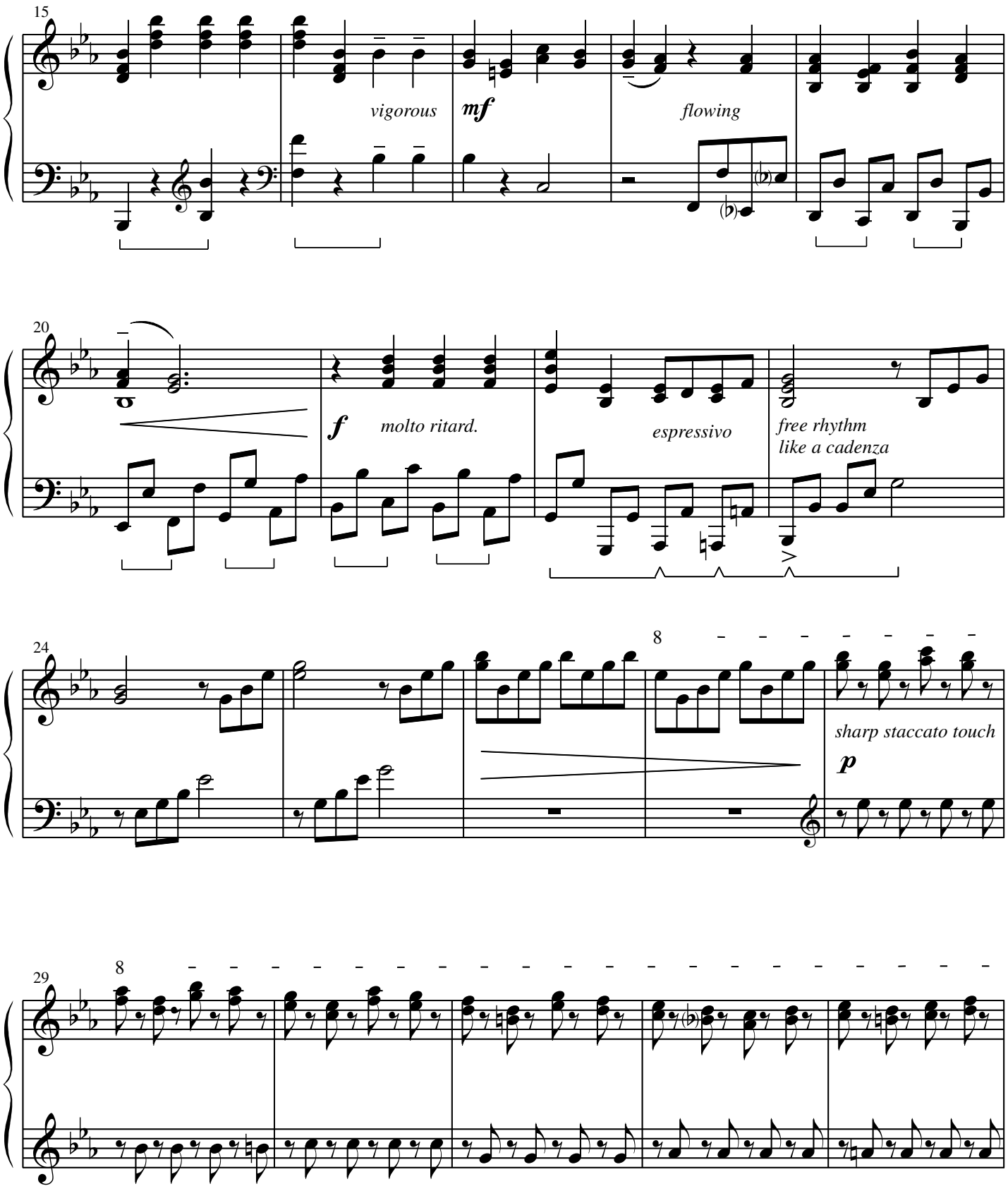
9. Glory Be to the Father
(Greatorex)

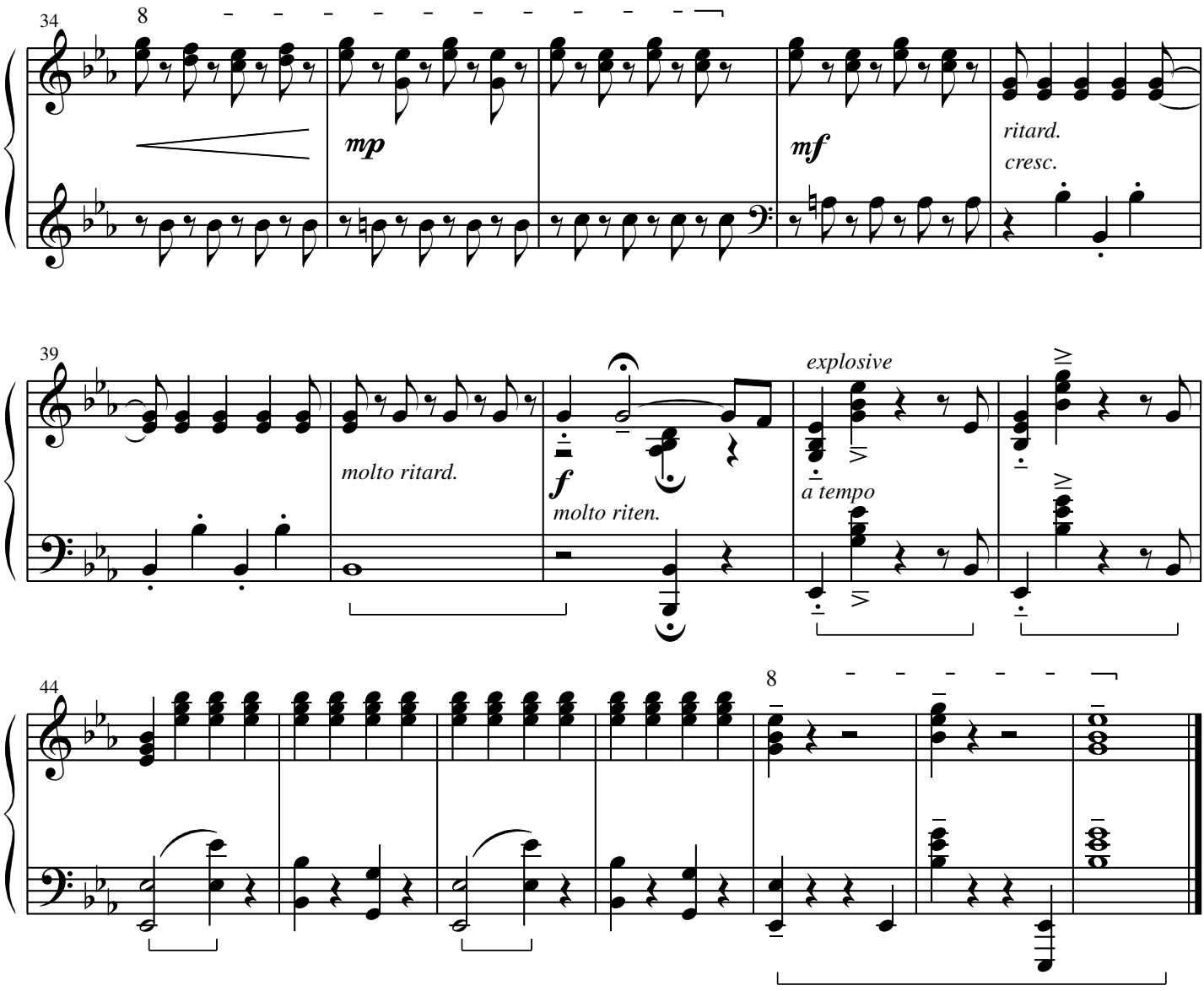
Richard Hudson

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

Matthew 6:13
(in some sources)




15
vigorous
mf
flowing
20
f
molto ritard.
espressivo
free rhythm
like a cadenza
24
8
sharp staccato touch
p
29
8


34
8
mp
mf
ritard.
cresc.
39
molto ritard.
f
molto riten.
explosive
a tempo
44
8

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