AC-HB025.A

@ Azalea Circle Hymn Collection

southern

A dozen handbell arrangements of traditional hymns for use in teaching and performing

by Timothy Shepard

Level One & Two

3 Octaves Handbells or Chimes

Azalea Circle Hymn Collection

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INTRODUCTION

Herein are some of the tunes that I sang in worship at Pluckemin Presbyterian Church as a child and a teenager. These are the tunes I want my ringers, singers, nieces and nephews to know, sing and love. These melodies are solid, singable, beautiful and they have been around for a very long time. Many of them originated as folks tunes. It is not that great new tunes are not emerging all the time. They are and we should learn them and sing them. We won't know if a new song has lasting power unless we sing it and give it the test of time. So let us sing the new songs to the Lord, but let us not forget the ones in this collection.

This collection of hymn tune arrangements is for three octaves choirs. There is not one single optional note; play all the notes you see. I hope that you enjoy looking at scores of handbell music uncluttered with brackets [ ], braces { }, parenthesis ( ), etc.. Although the arrangements are conceived for handbells, they can readily be played by handchimes, probably to quite good affect. All of the pieces span the range of difficulty between level one and level two. Some are super simple, some might border near Level Three. I opted to make them shorter rather than longer, each piece being 2-3 minutes. They each feel complete in and of themselves and are appropriate length for most worship settings.

As a teacher and director, I try to view every single piece as an opportunity to teach, reinforce or refine a musical concept, whether it is a rhythmic pattern, a handbell technique, a dynamic level, the perfect ritardando or accelerando, counting mixed meters, chords played perfectly together at the same dynamic level, a section where everyone is hitting the mallet on the bell in the best place at the same time, etc.. As an arranger, I hope that this collection will provide that opportunity for handbell directors everywhere to grow your choirs in this way, to challenge them and to give them success.

This a blatantly Christian collection of handbell arrangements. Soli Deo Gloria.

Timothy Shepard
Atlanta, GA
January 2007

WHAT IS A SOUTHERN DOZEN?

The transition from being a member at Pluckemin Presbyterian Church in NJ to being the full time Minister of Music at Lyttleton St. United Methodist Church in SC in 1983 was a smooth and pleasant one. One of the sopranos in my new choir acted as the translator... "He means do it like this" and the choir responded perfectly. Eventually I learned a whole new vocabulary of words for my profession and my new home. When I asked a member of the handbell choir how many ringers were in the choir, he responded "a southern dozen." Well, at my first rehearsal with them, 14 ringers showed up. A southern dozen is an enthusiastic fourteen.

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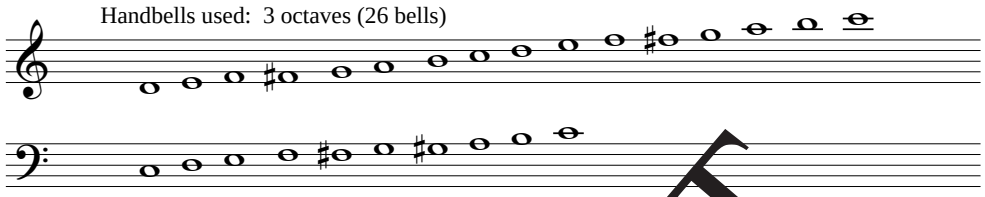
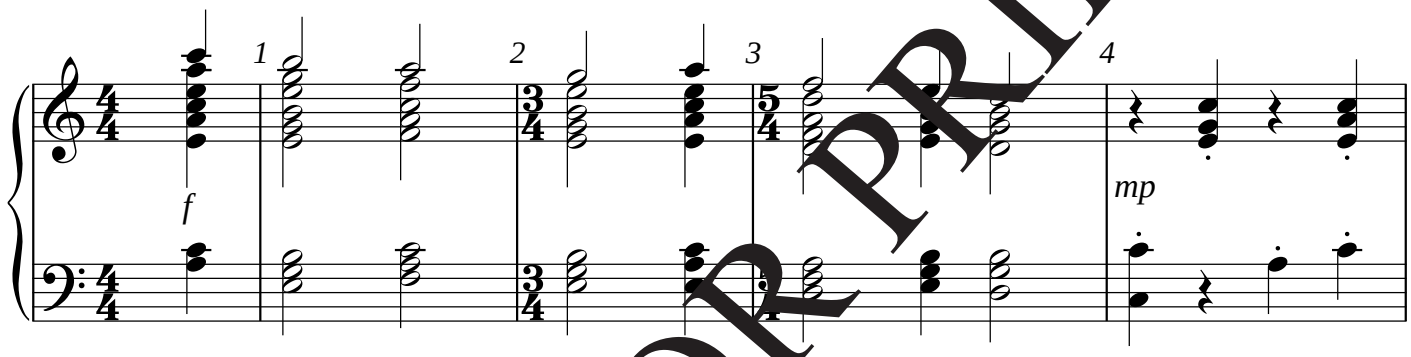
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

(EIN' FESTE BURG)

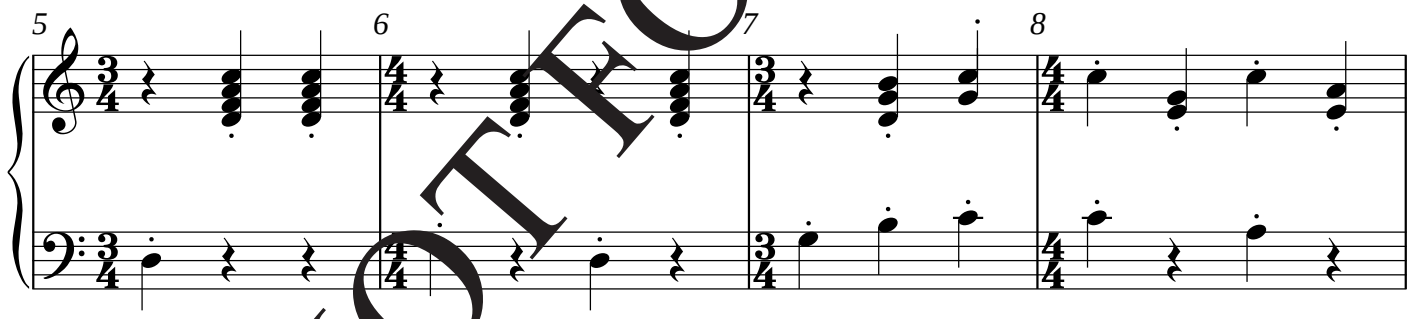


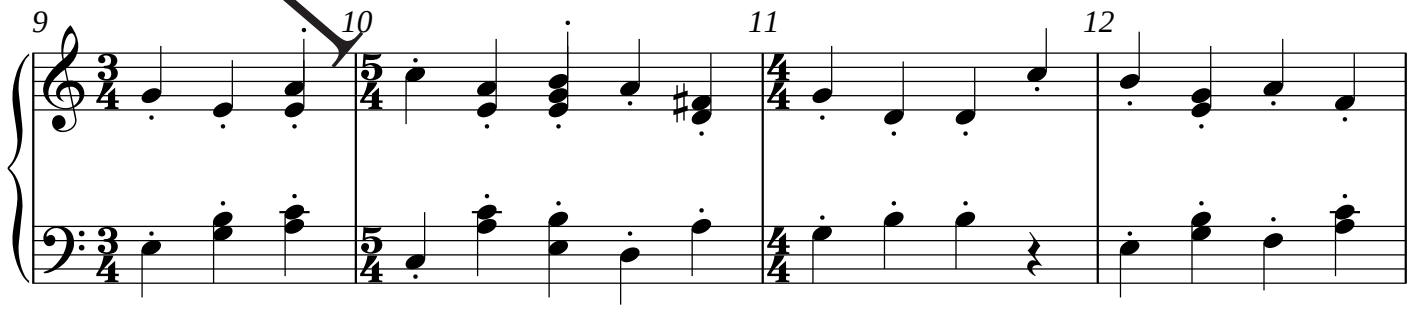
Martin Luther
arr. Timothy Shepard

♩ = 120-130



Pl or Mallet





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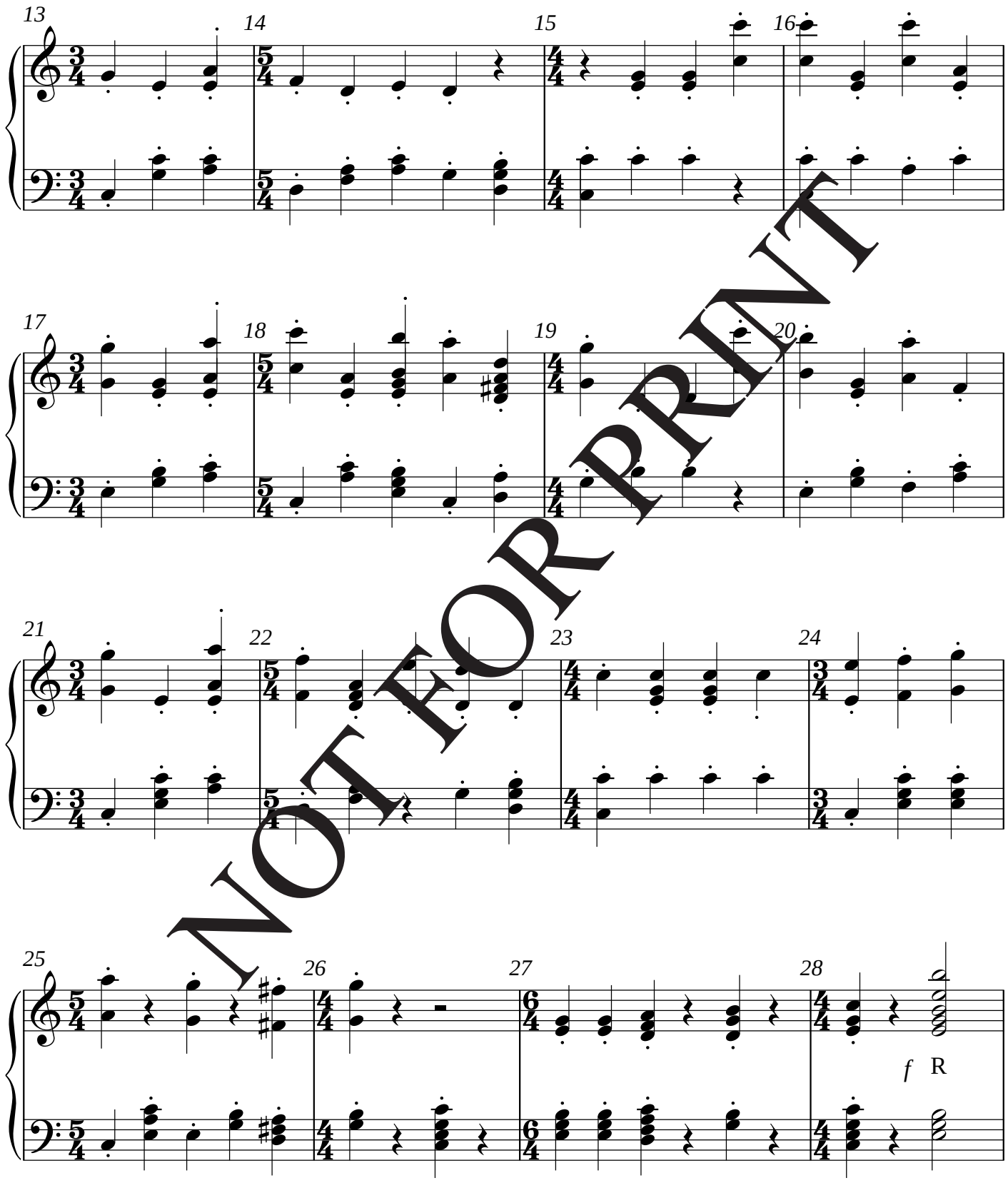

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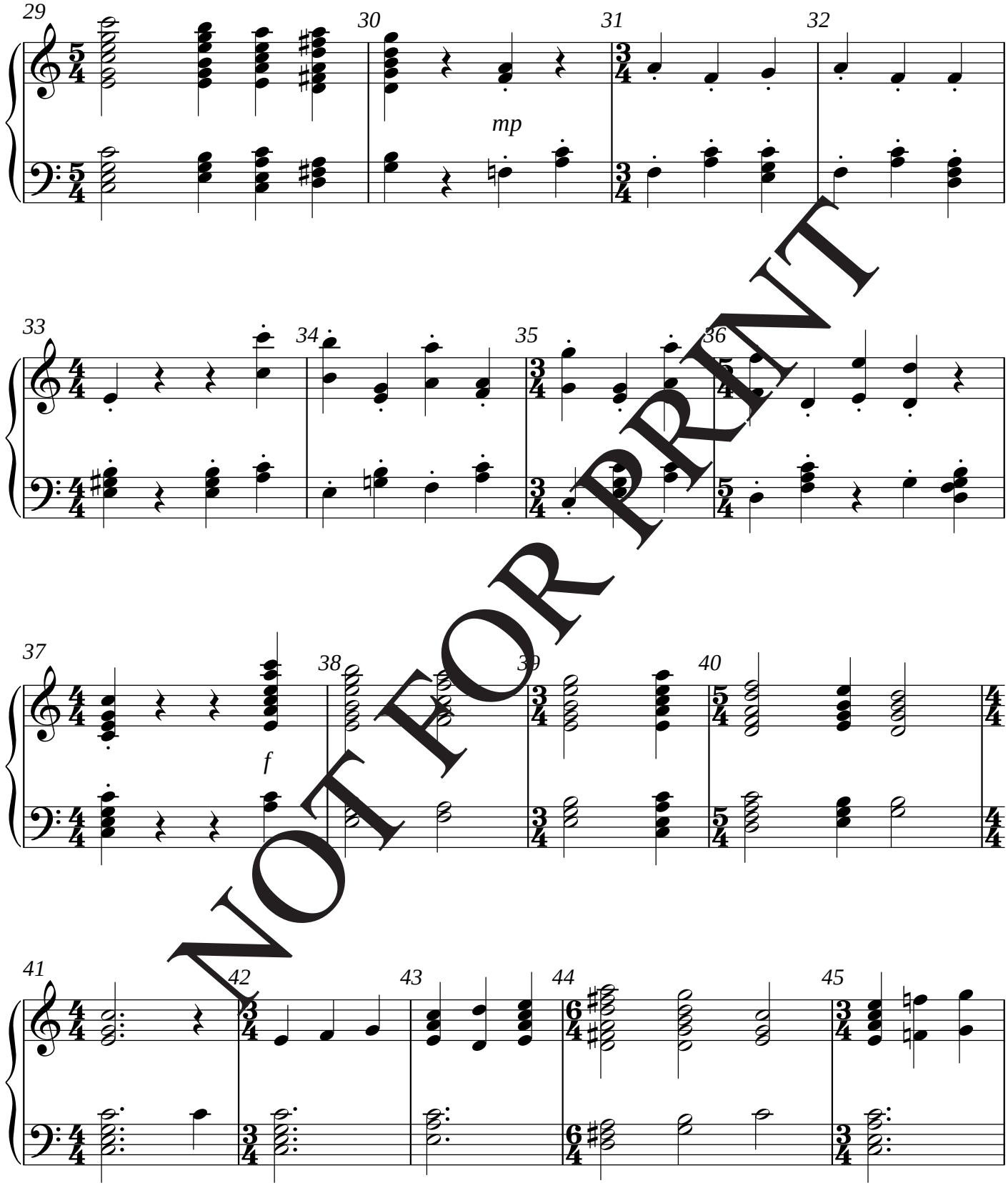

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Hymn Collection

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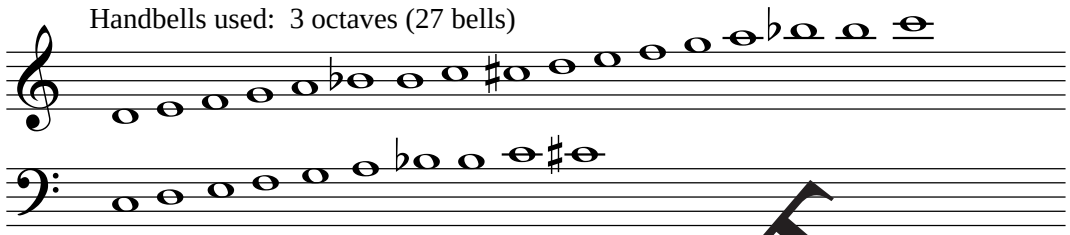
All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

(CORONATION & DIADEM)

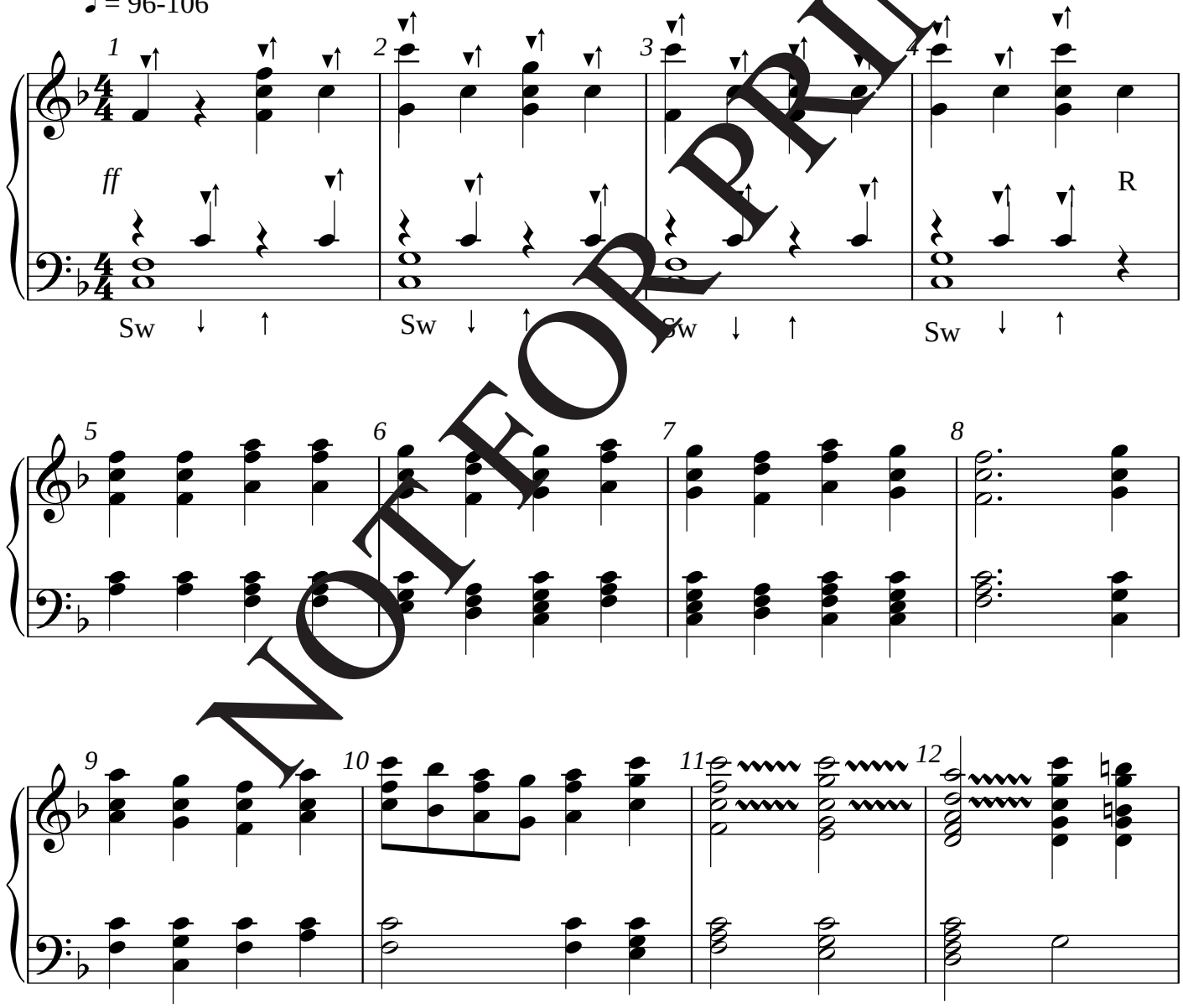
Handbells used: 3 octaves (27 bells)



AZALEA CIRCLE

Oliver Holden & James Ellor
arr. Timothy Shepard

♩ = 96-106



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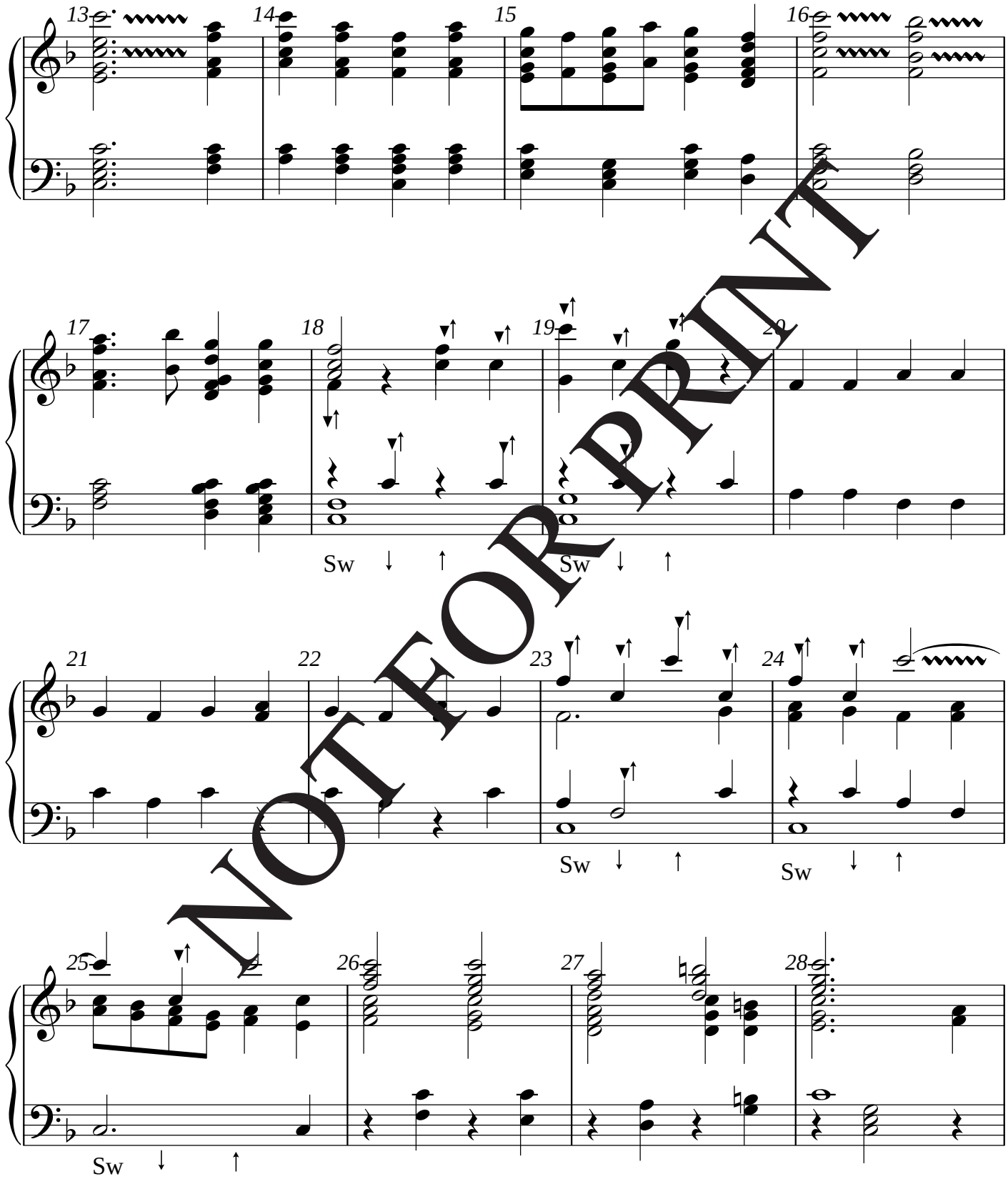

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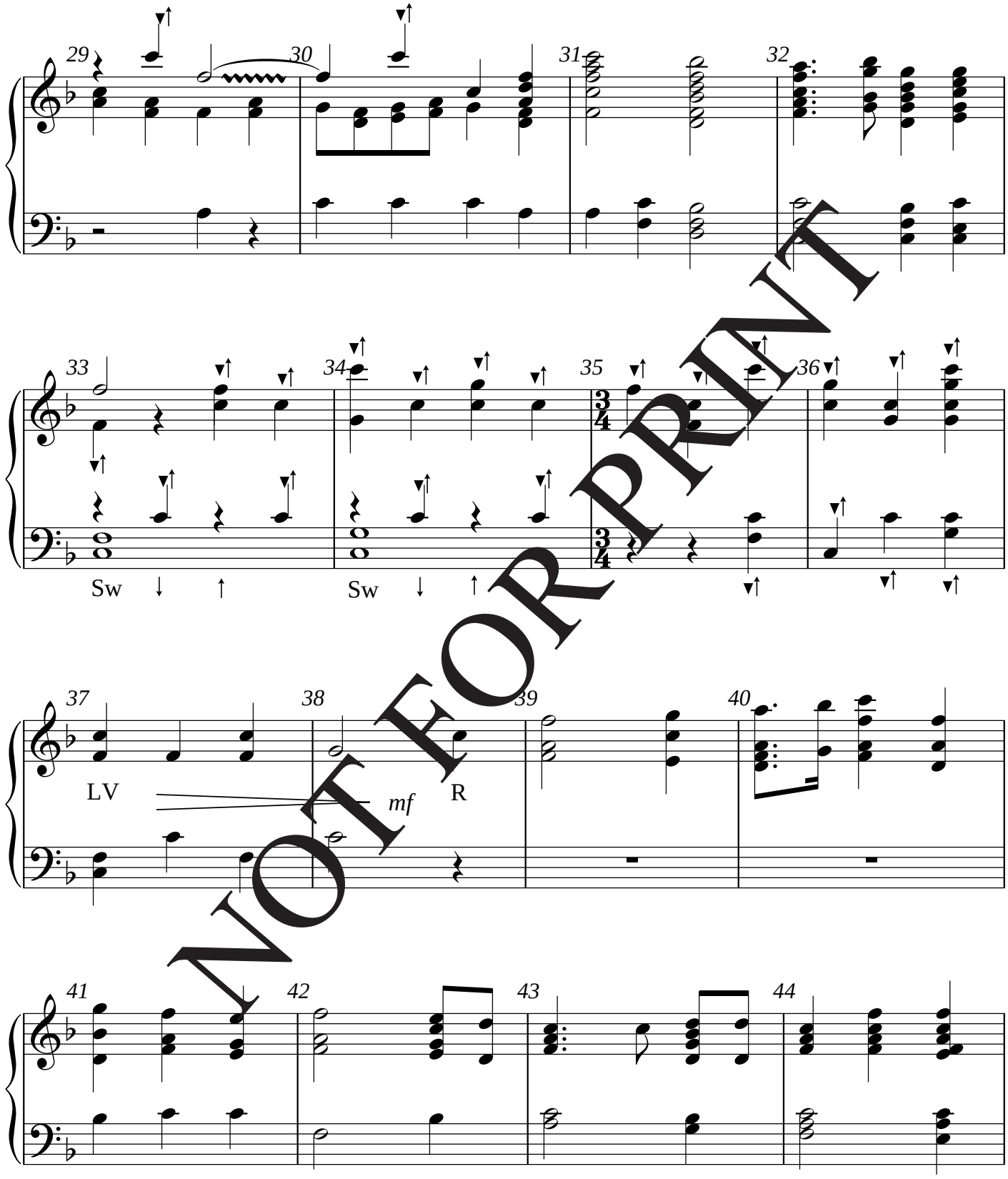

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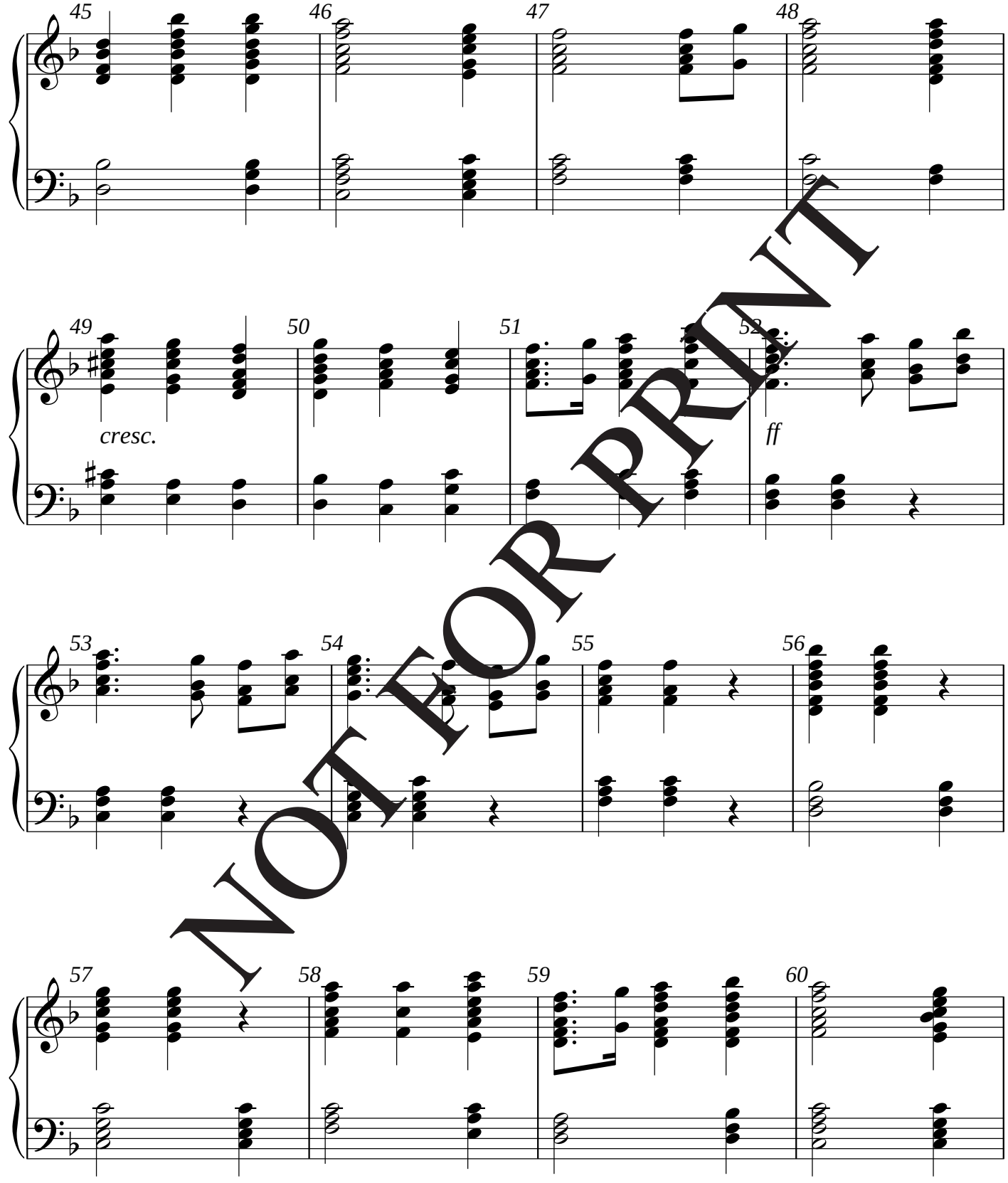

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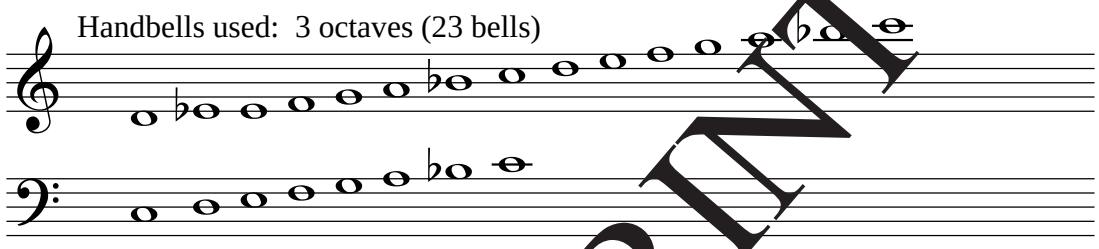
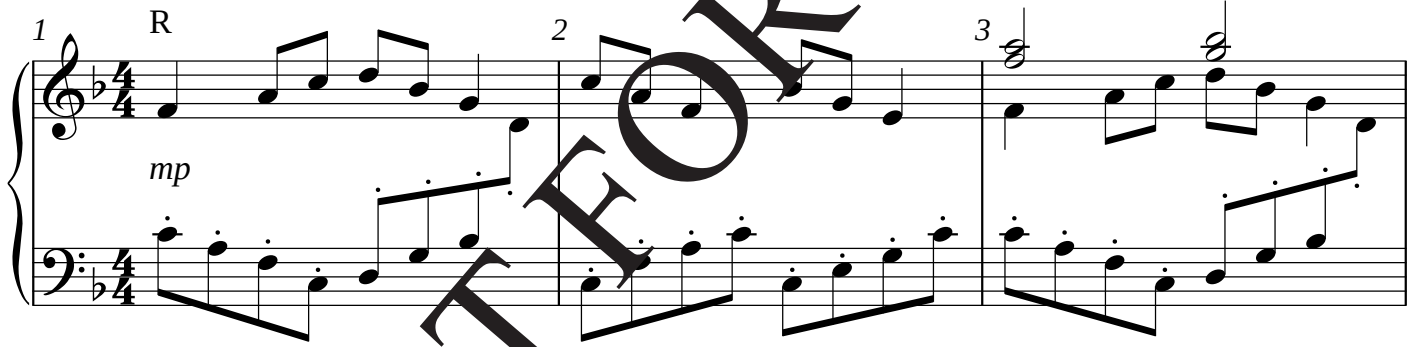
All Things Bright and Beautiful

(ROYAL OAK)

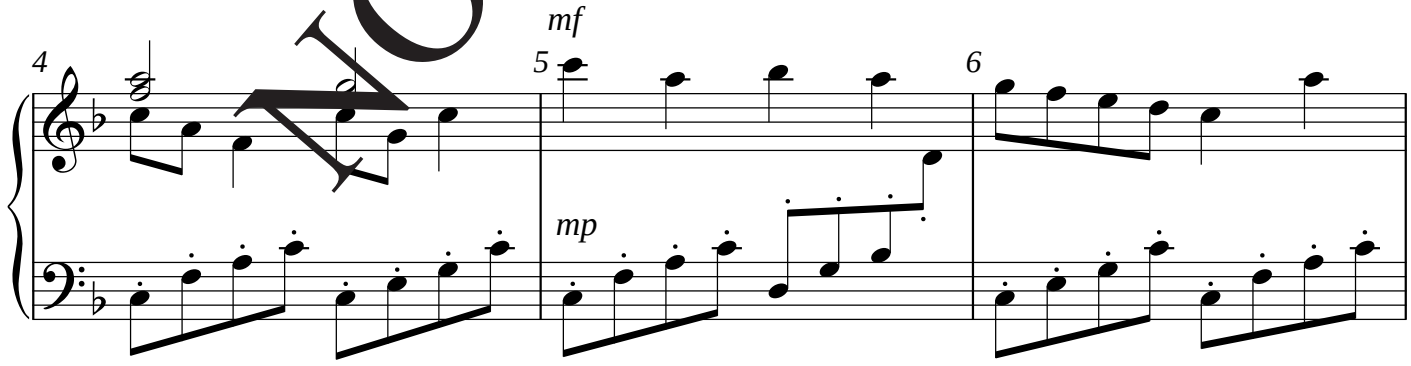


English Melody
arr. Timothy Shepard

♩ = 104-112



Pl or Mallet



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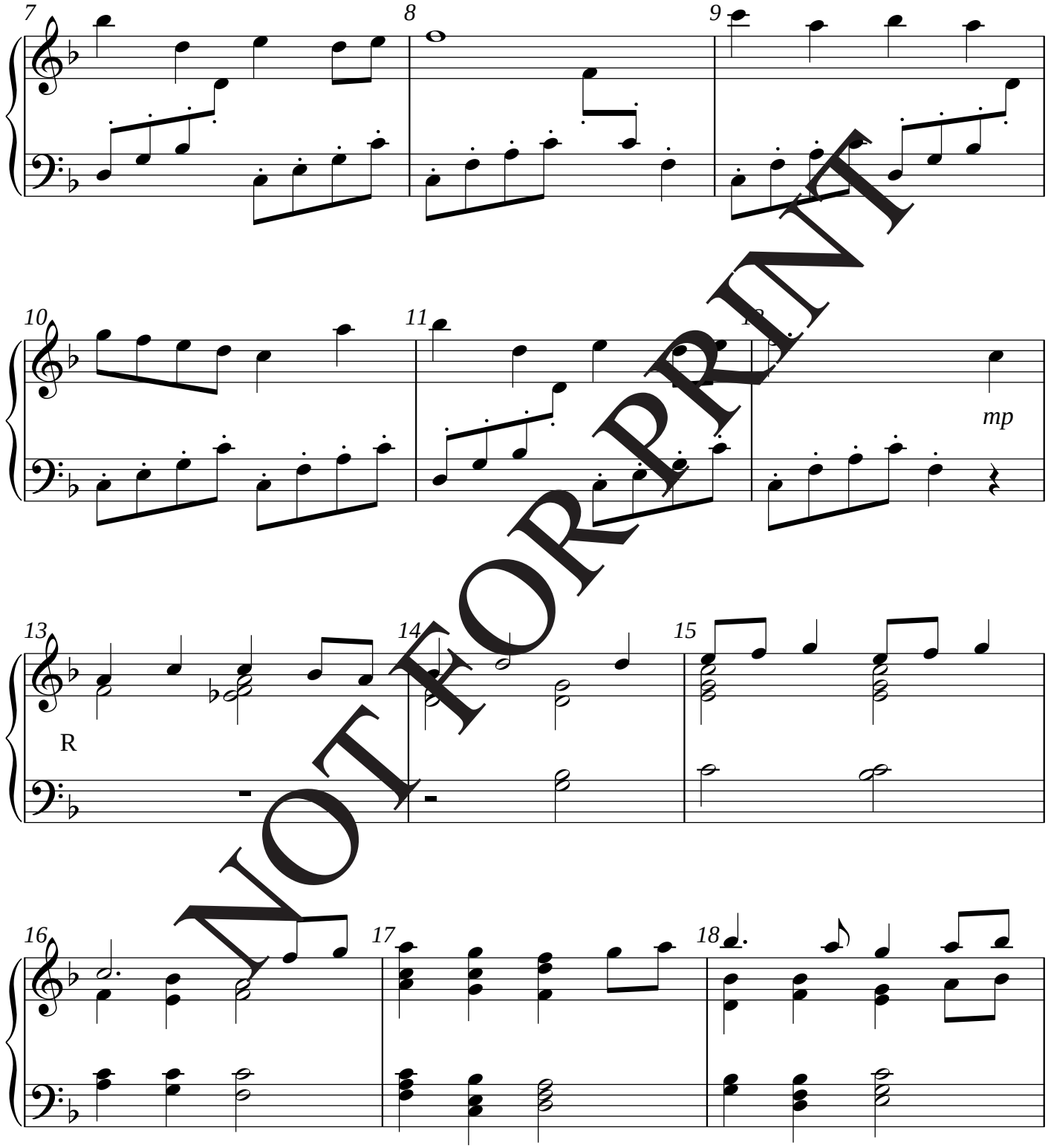

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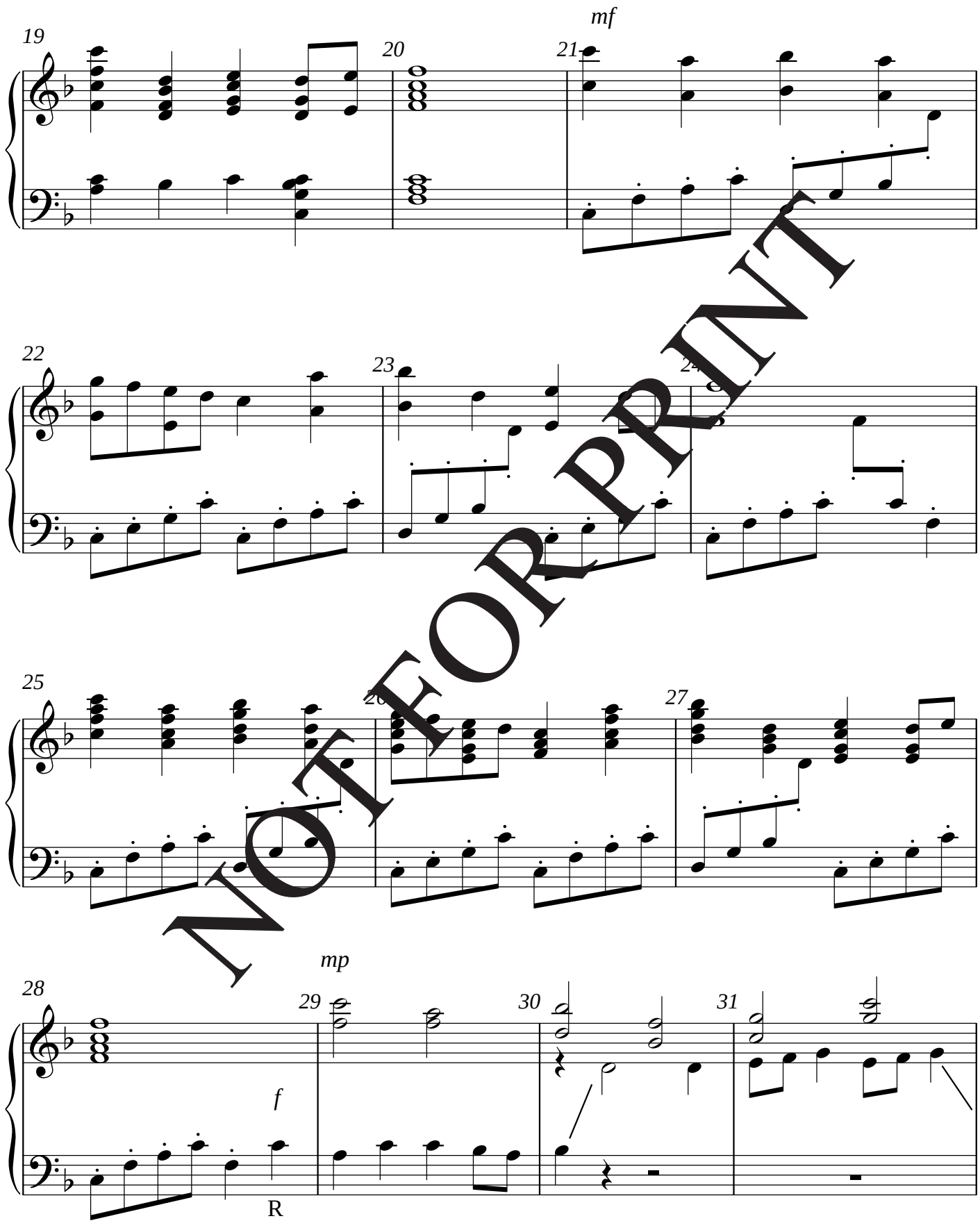

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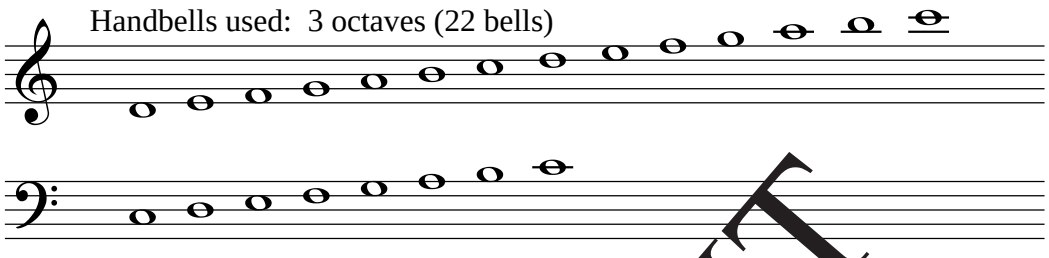
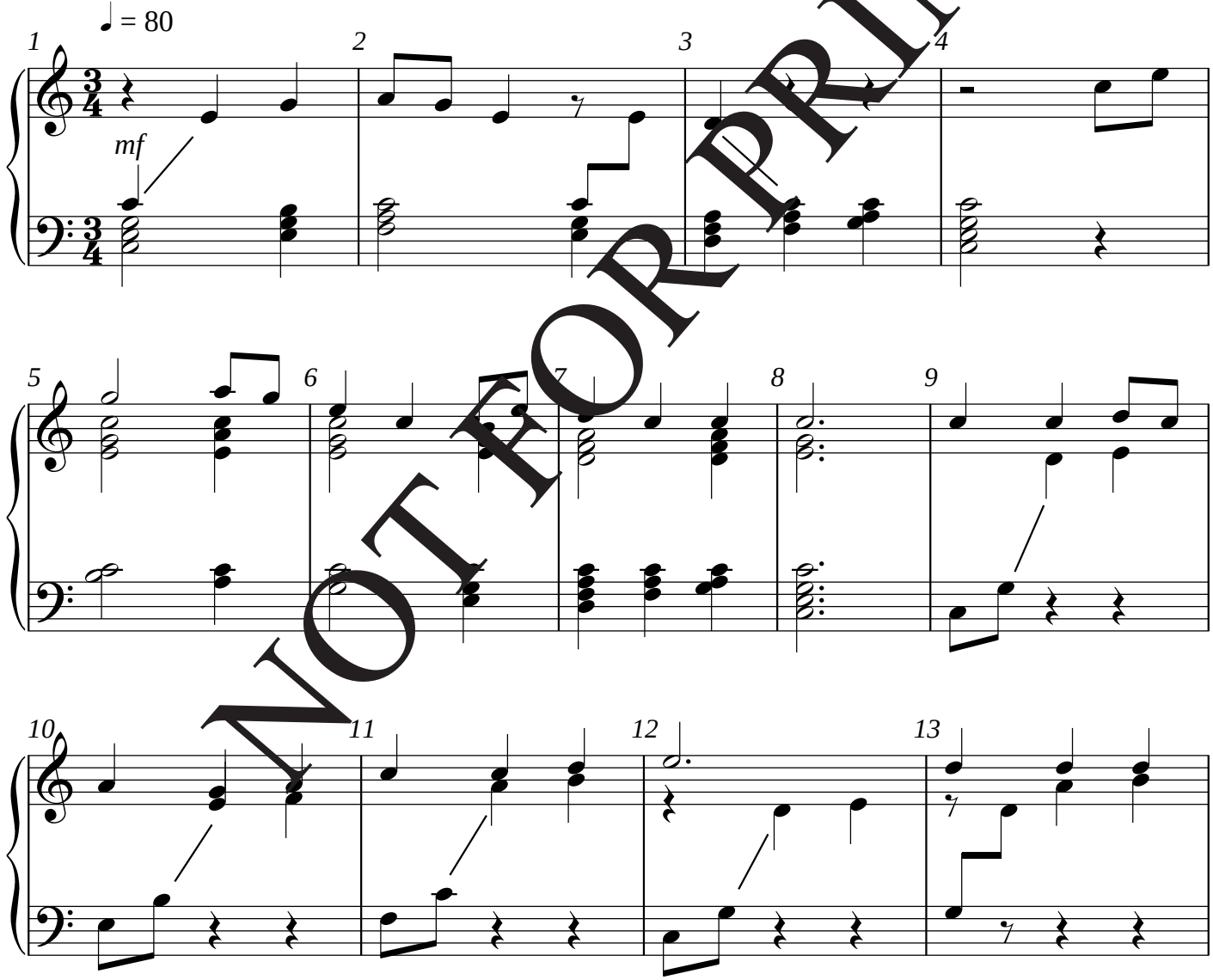
Be Thou My Vision

(SLANE)



Irish ballad
arr. Timothy Shepard



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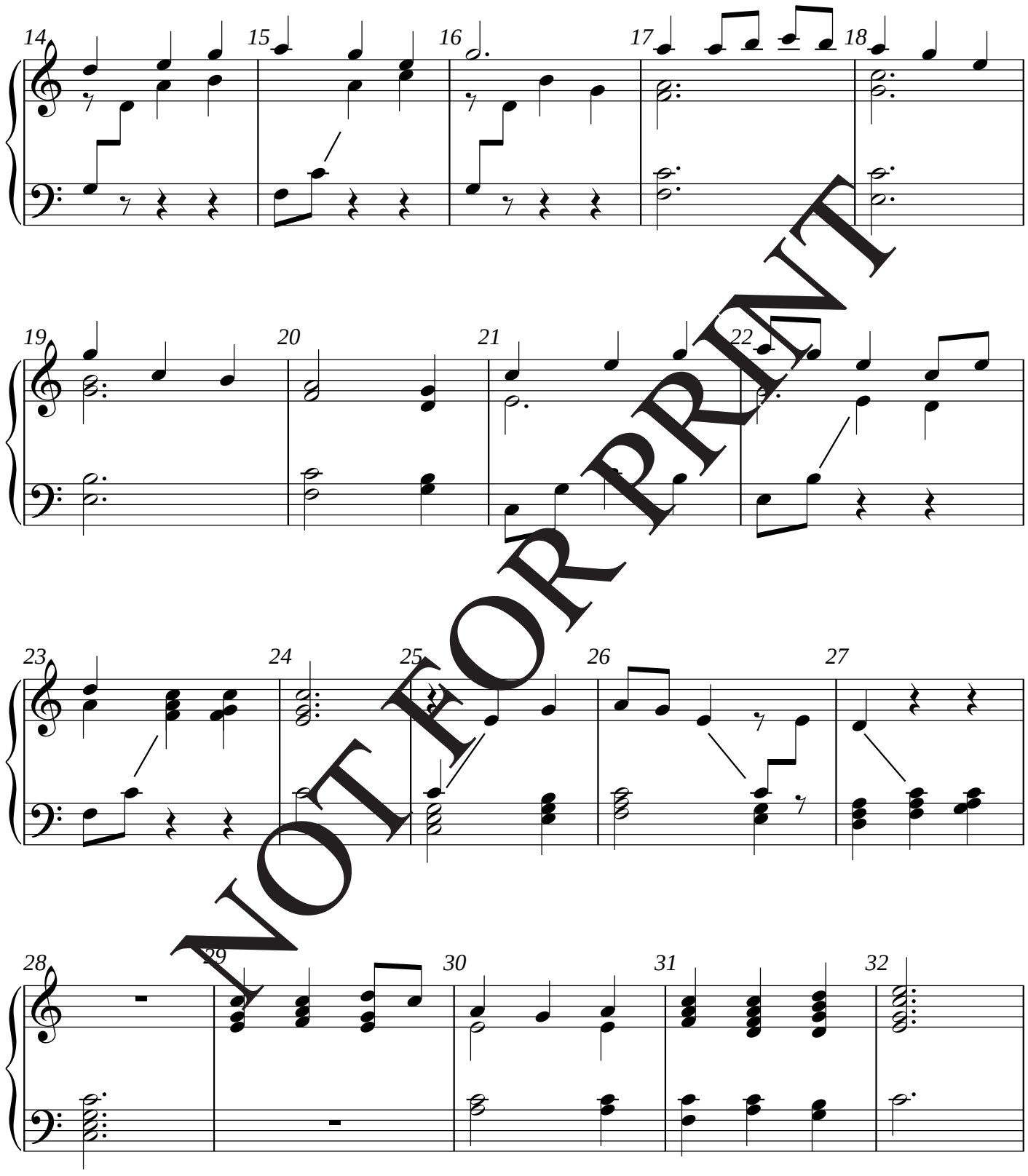

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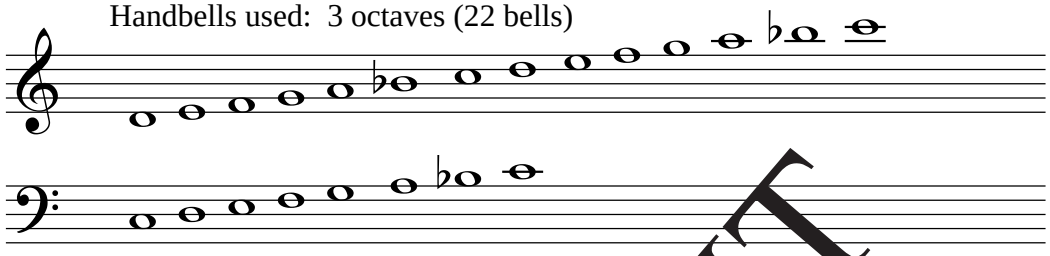
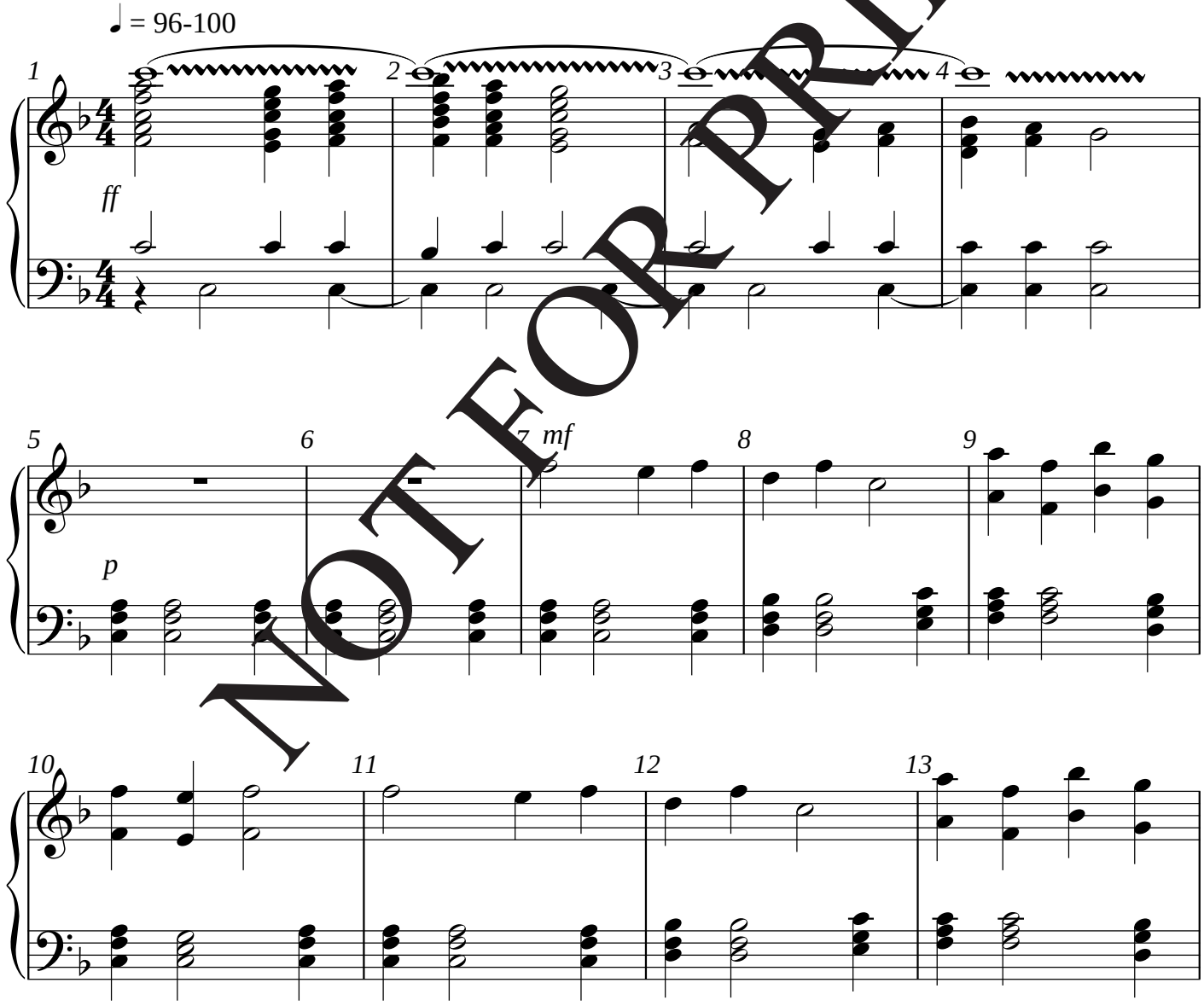
Come, Christians, Join to Sing

(MADRID)

Handbells used: 3 octaves (22 bells)



Spanish Folk Melody
arr. Timothy Shepard



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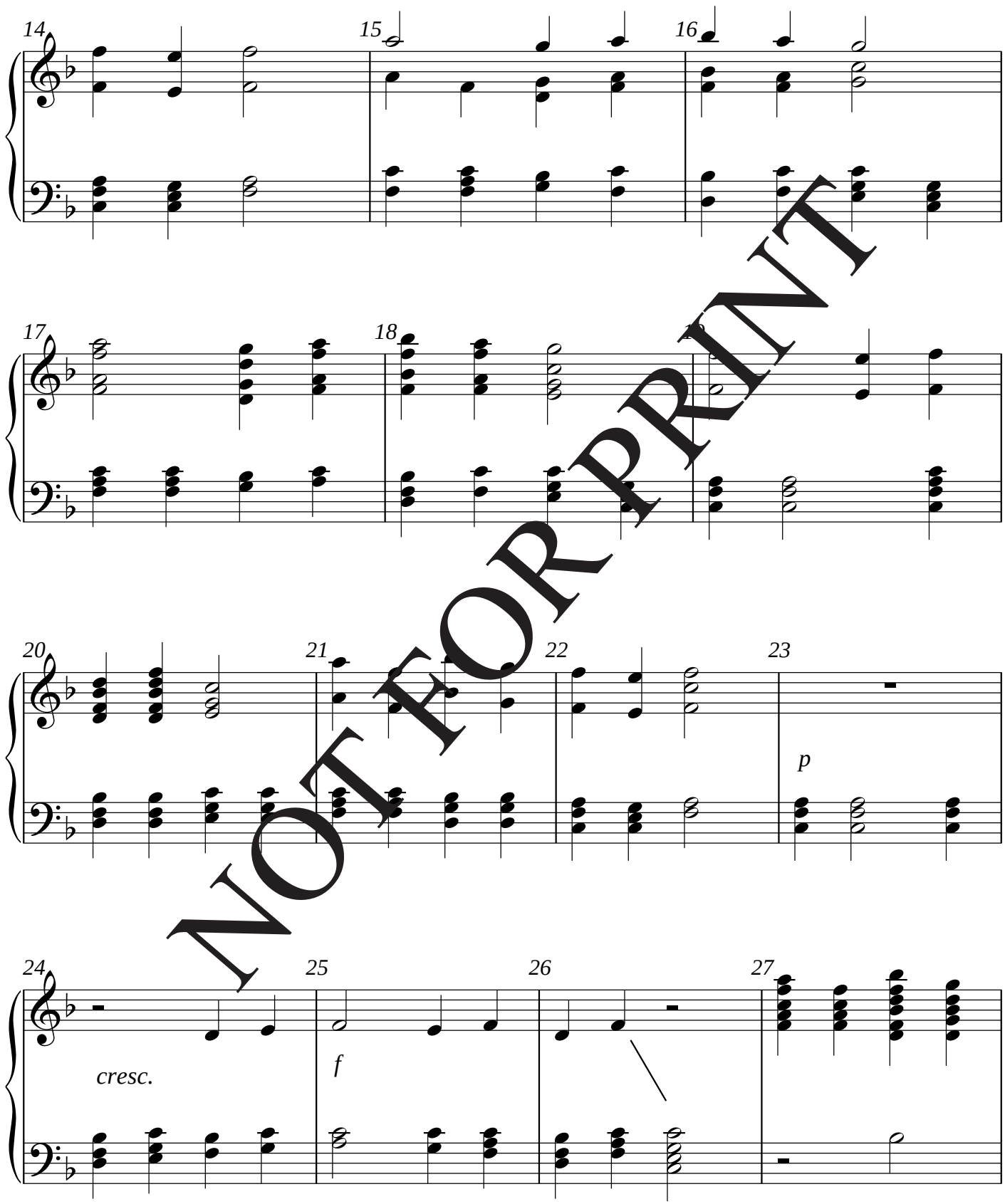

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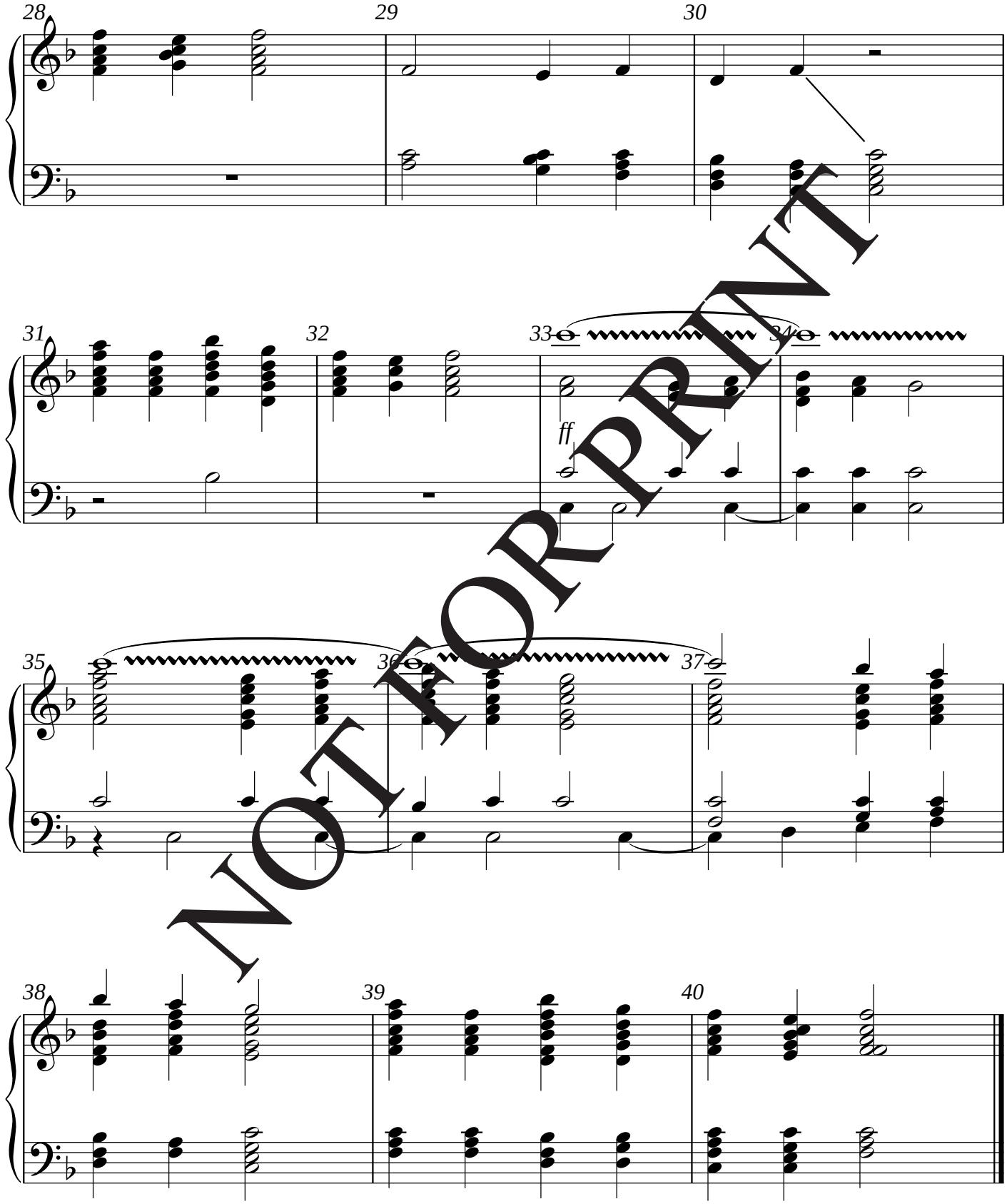

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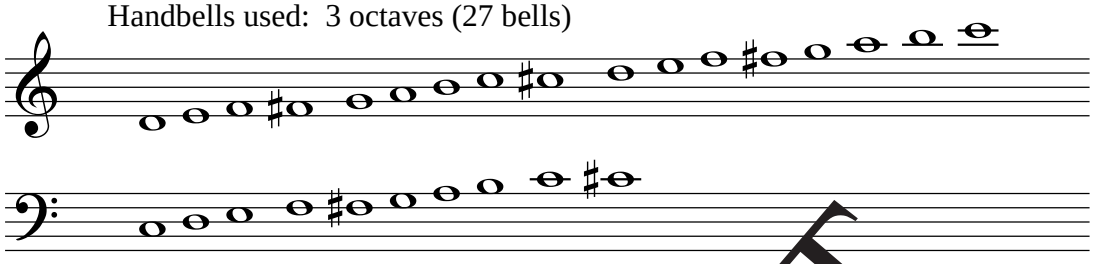
Hymn Collection

AC-HB025.A

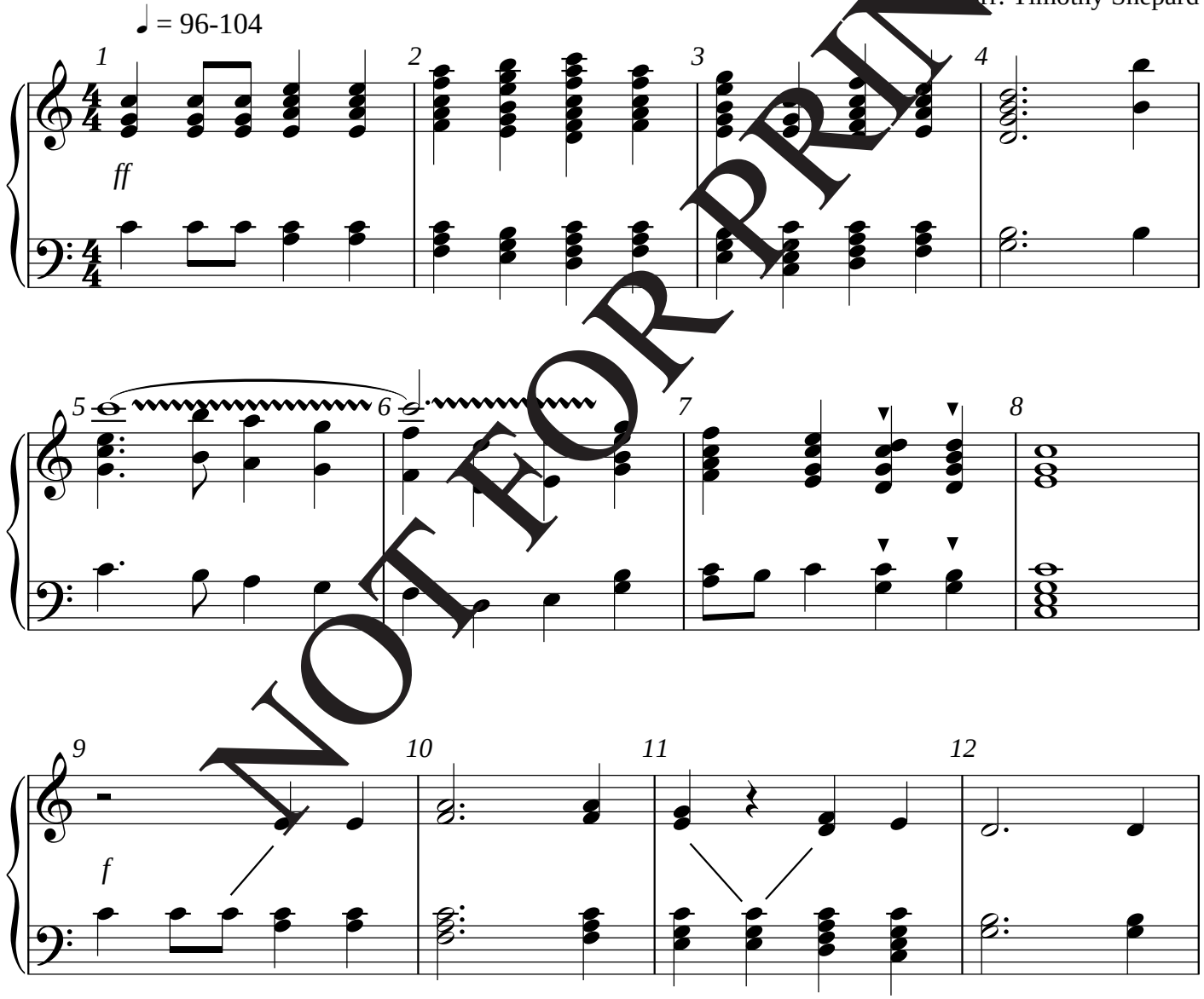
Crown Him With Many Crowns

(DIADEMATA)

Handbells used: 3 octaves (27 bells)



George Job Elvey
arr. Timothy Shepard



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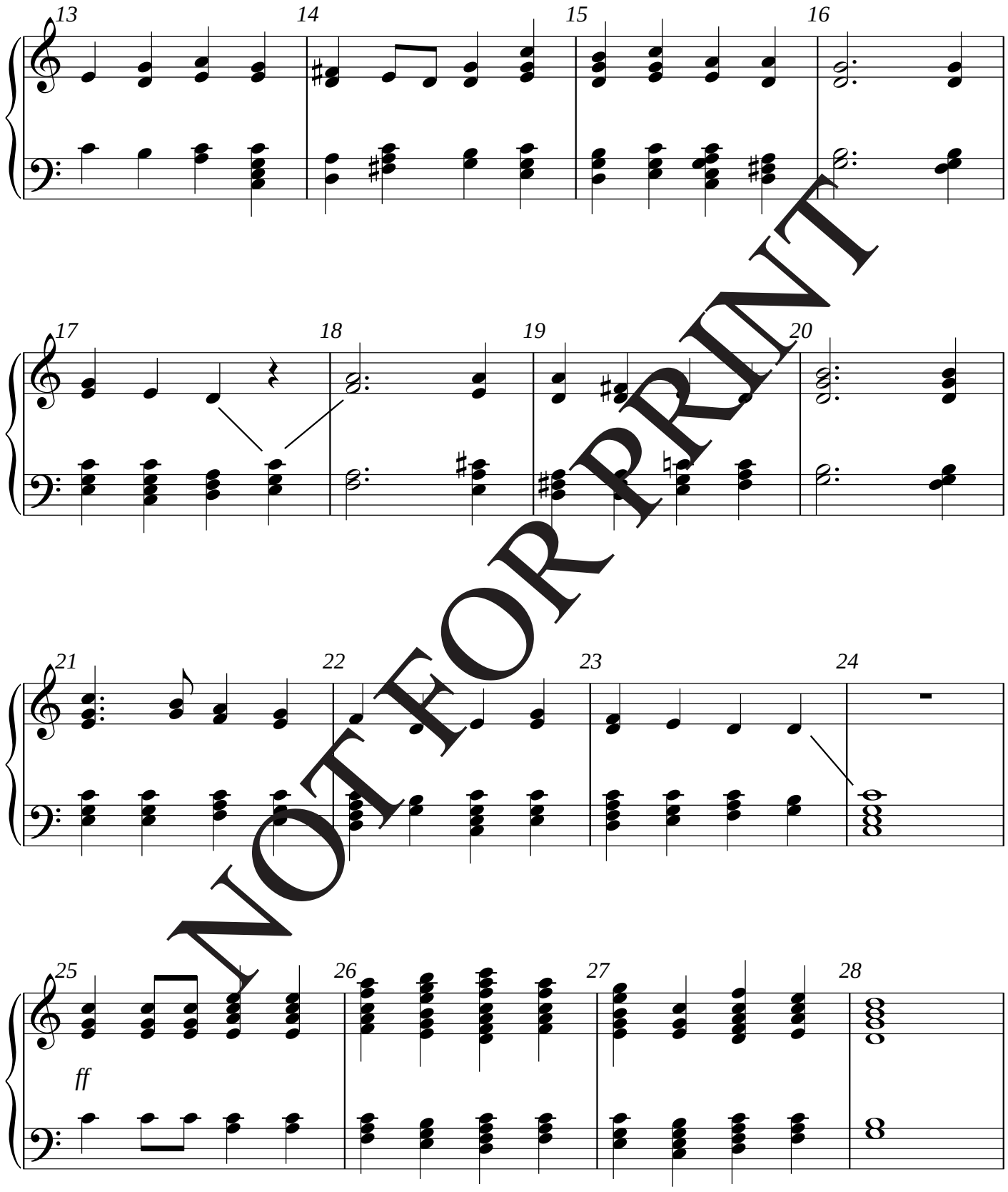

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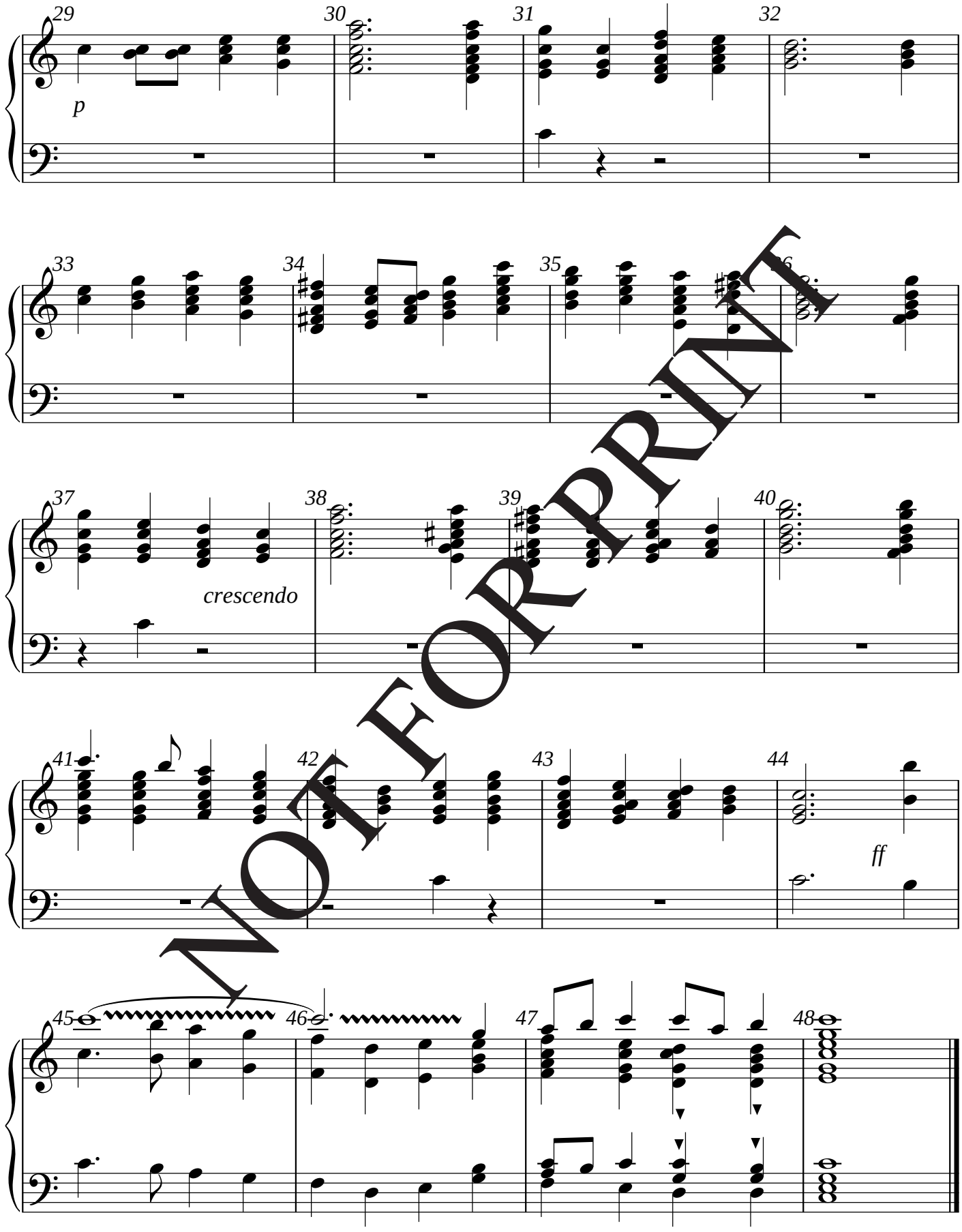

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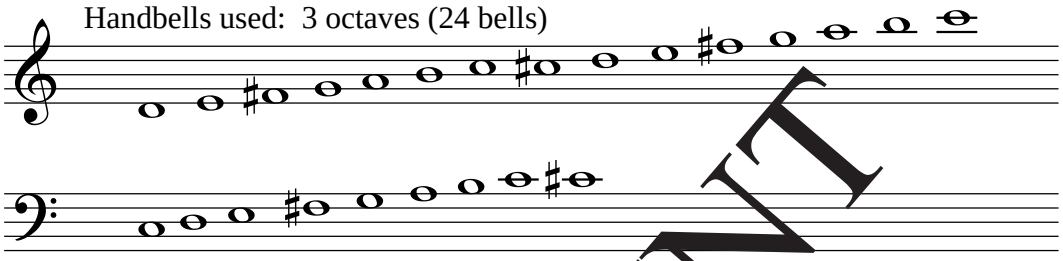
Faith of our Fathers

also Faith of our Mothers,
Faith of our Brothers

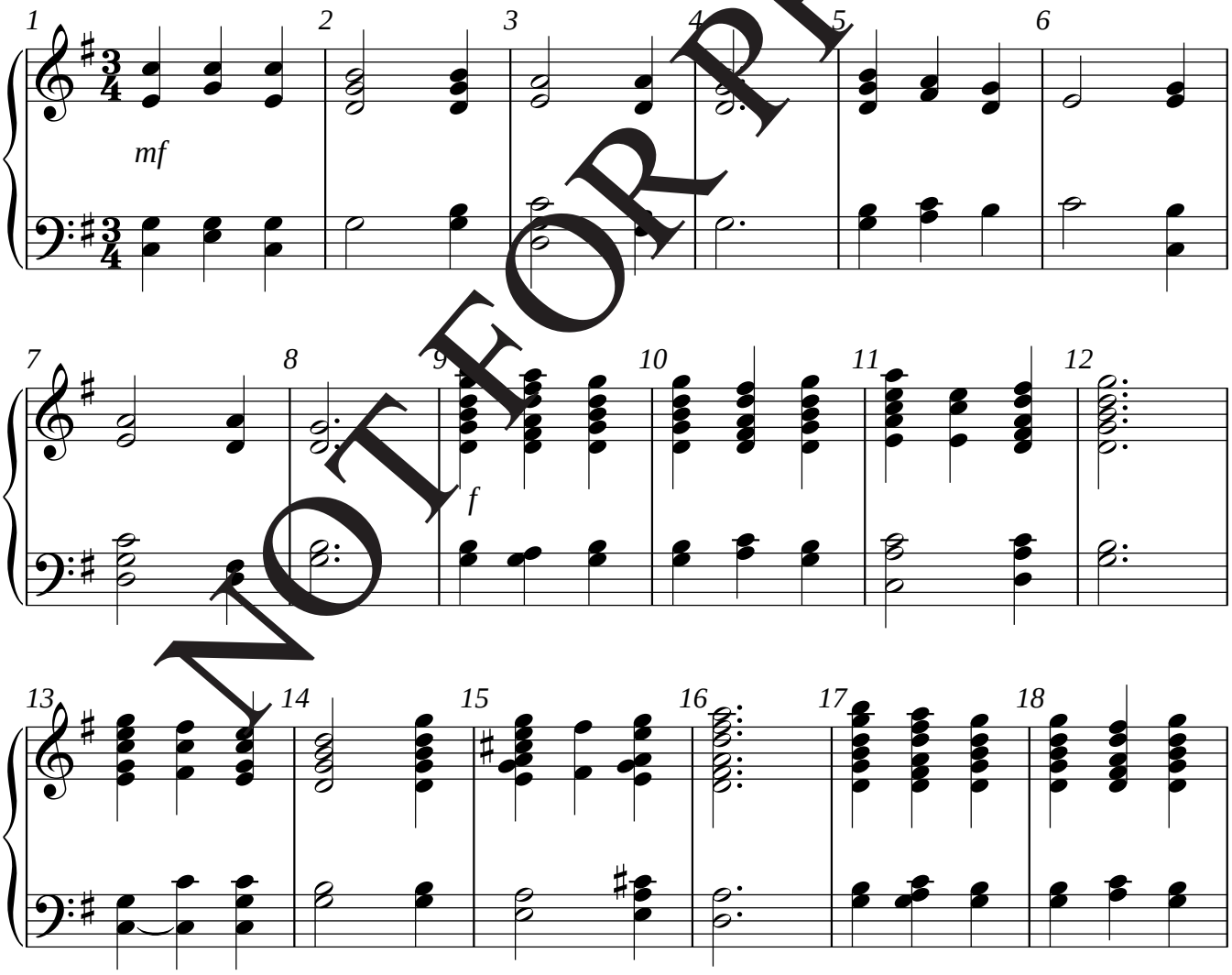
(ST CATHERINE)



AZALEA CIRCLE

Henri Hemy
arr. by Timothy Shepard

♩ = 100-110



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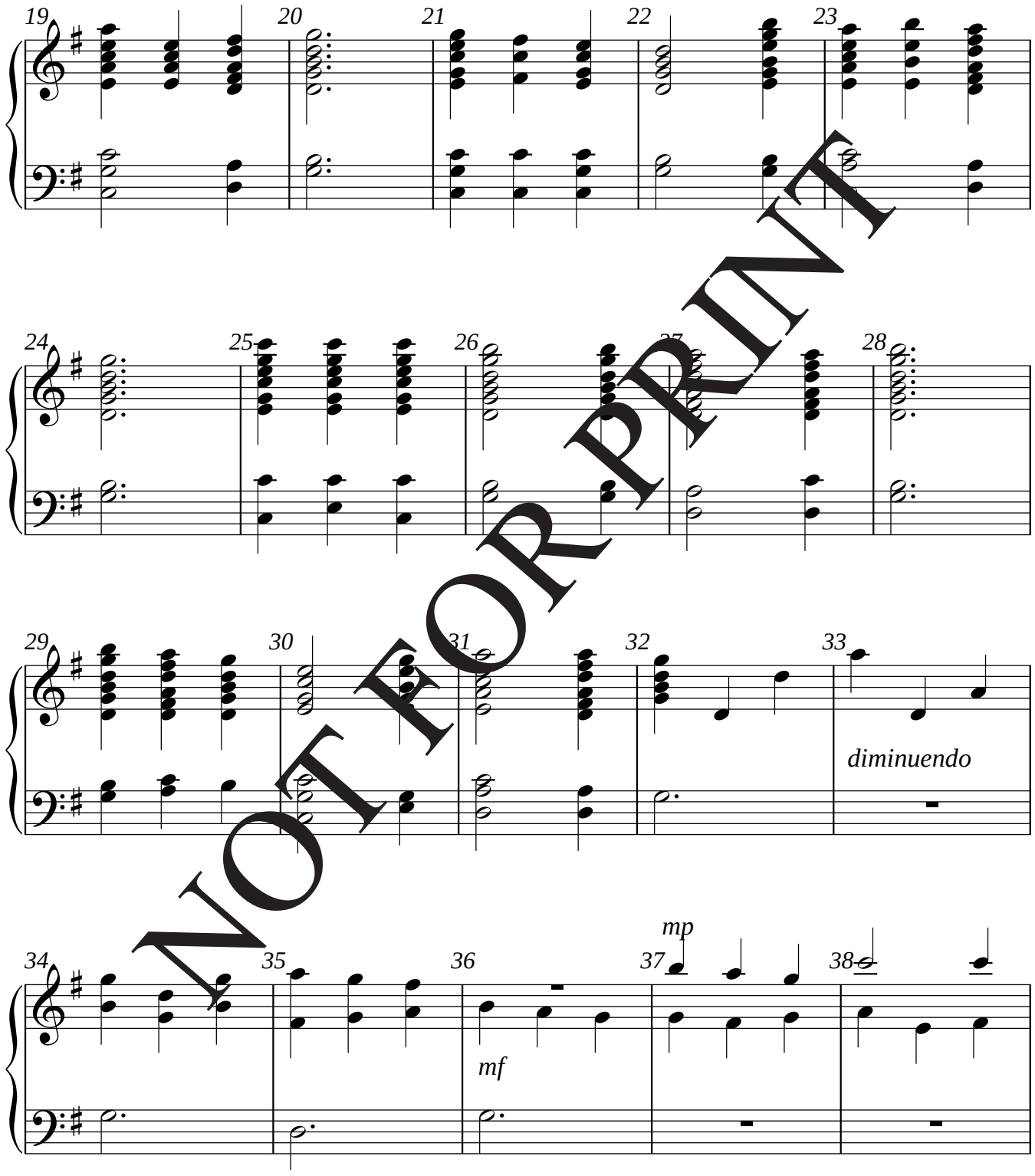

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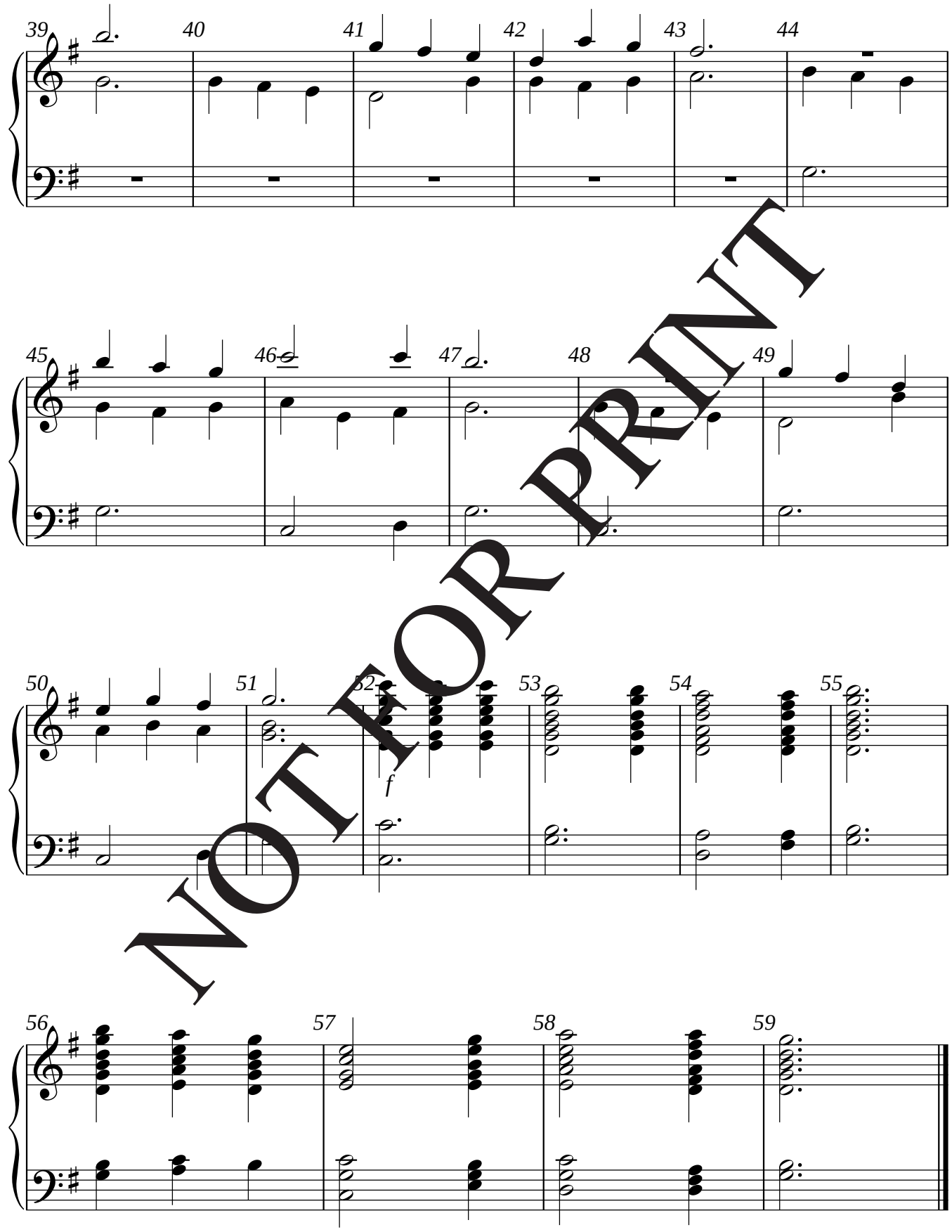

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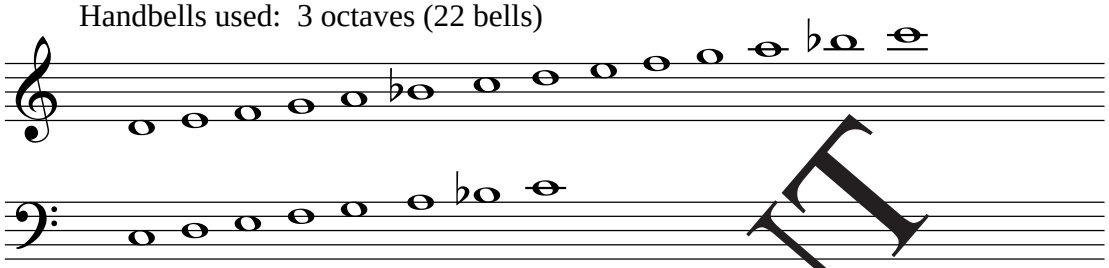
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

(CWM RHONDDA)

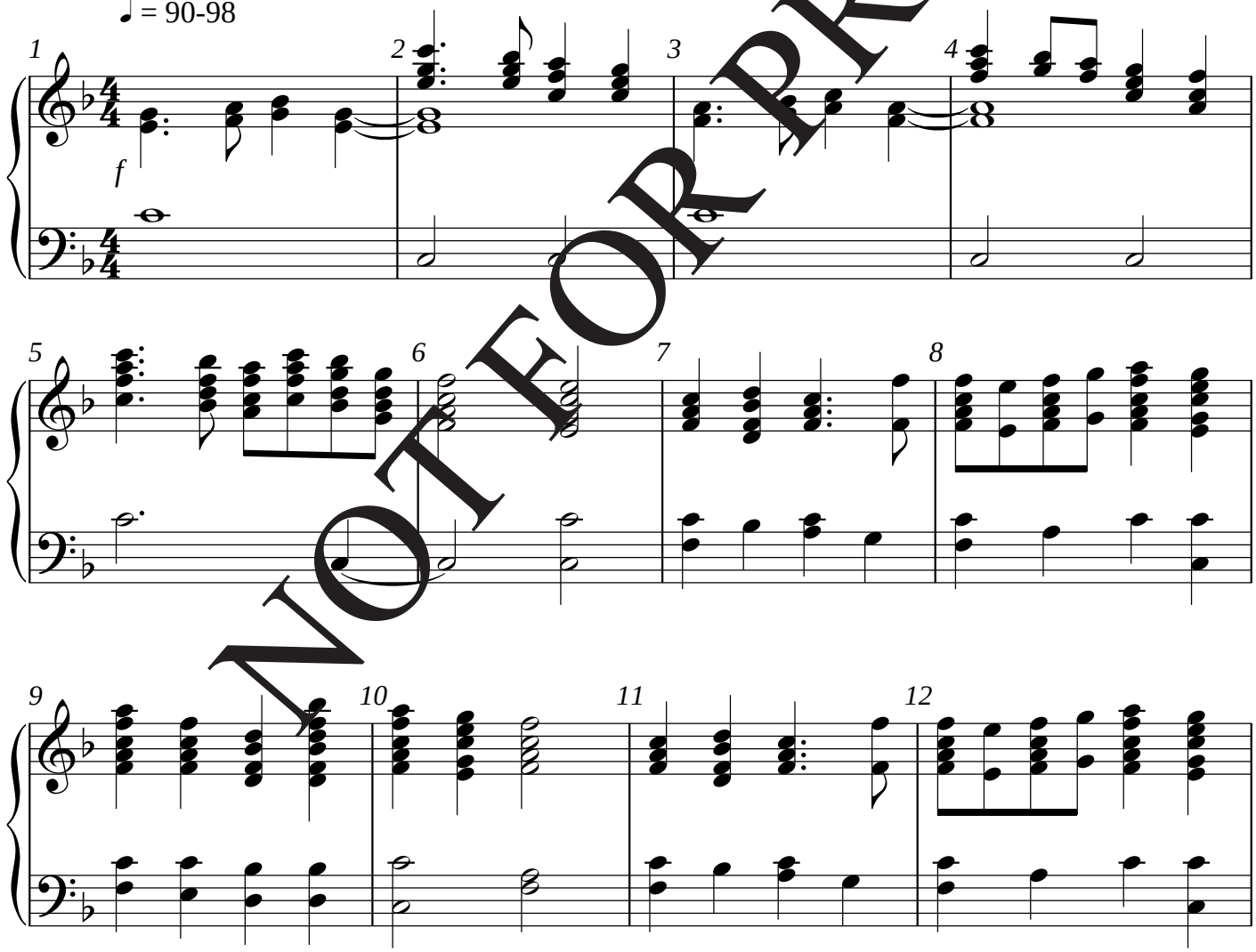
Handbells used: 3 octaves (22 bells)



AZALEA CIRCLE

John Hughes
arr. Timothy Shepard

♩ = 90-98



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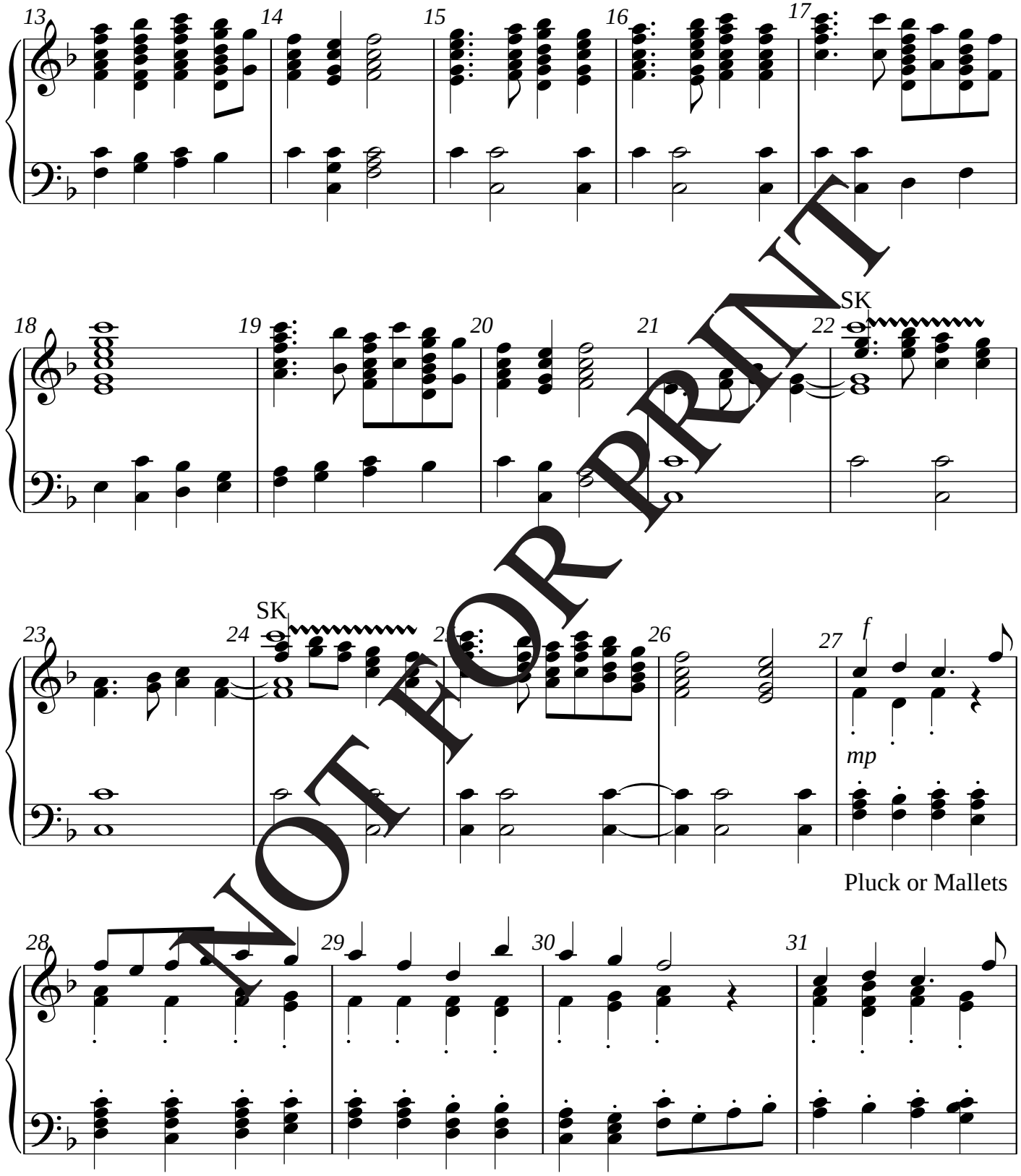

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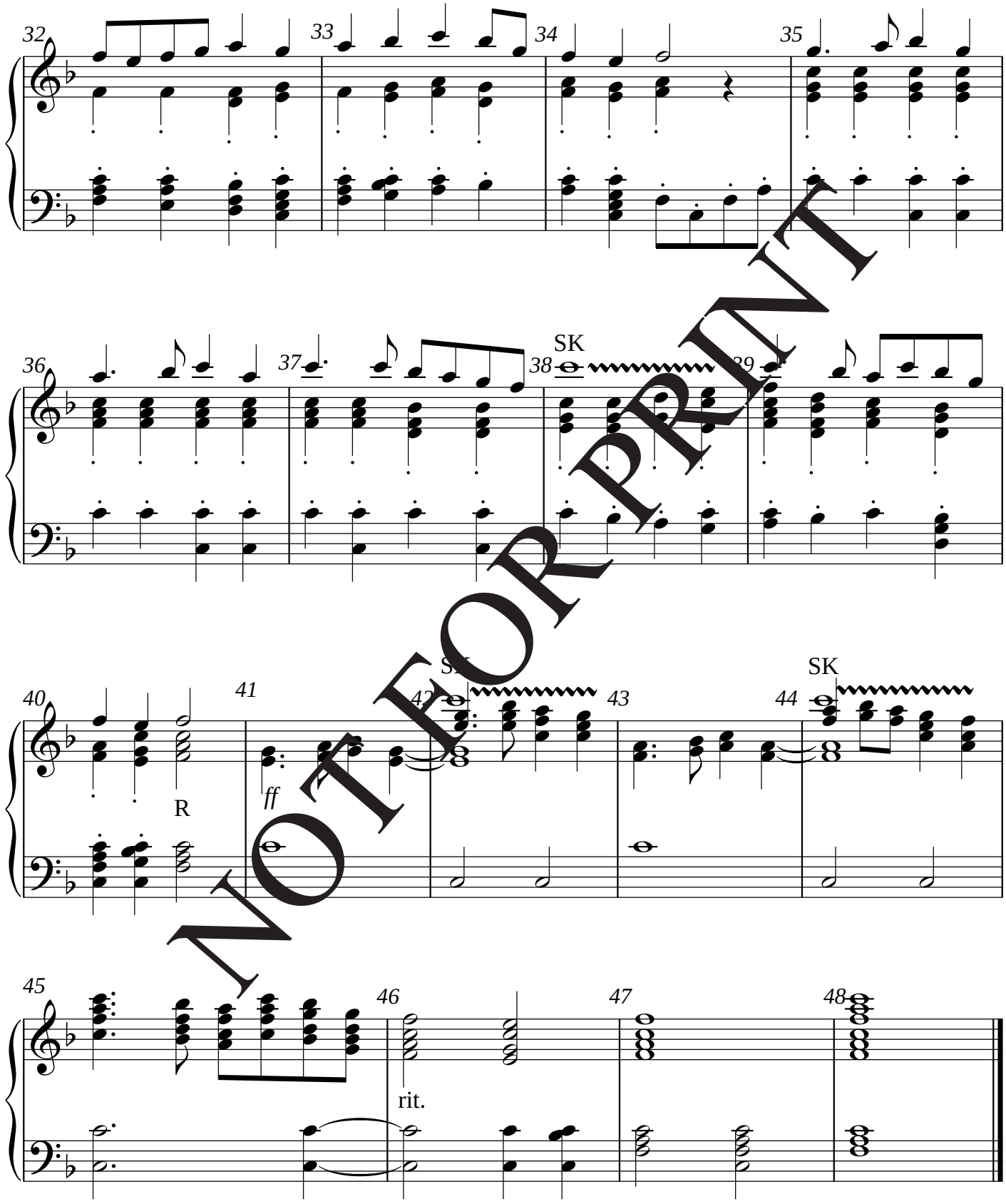

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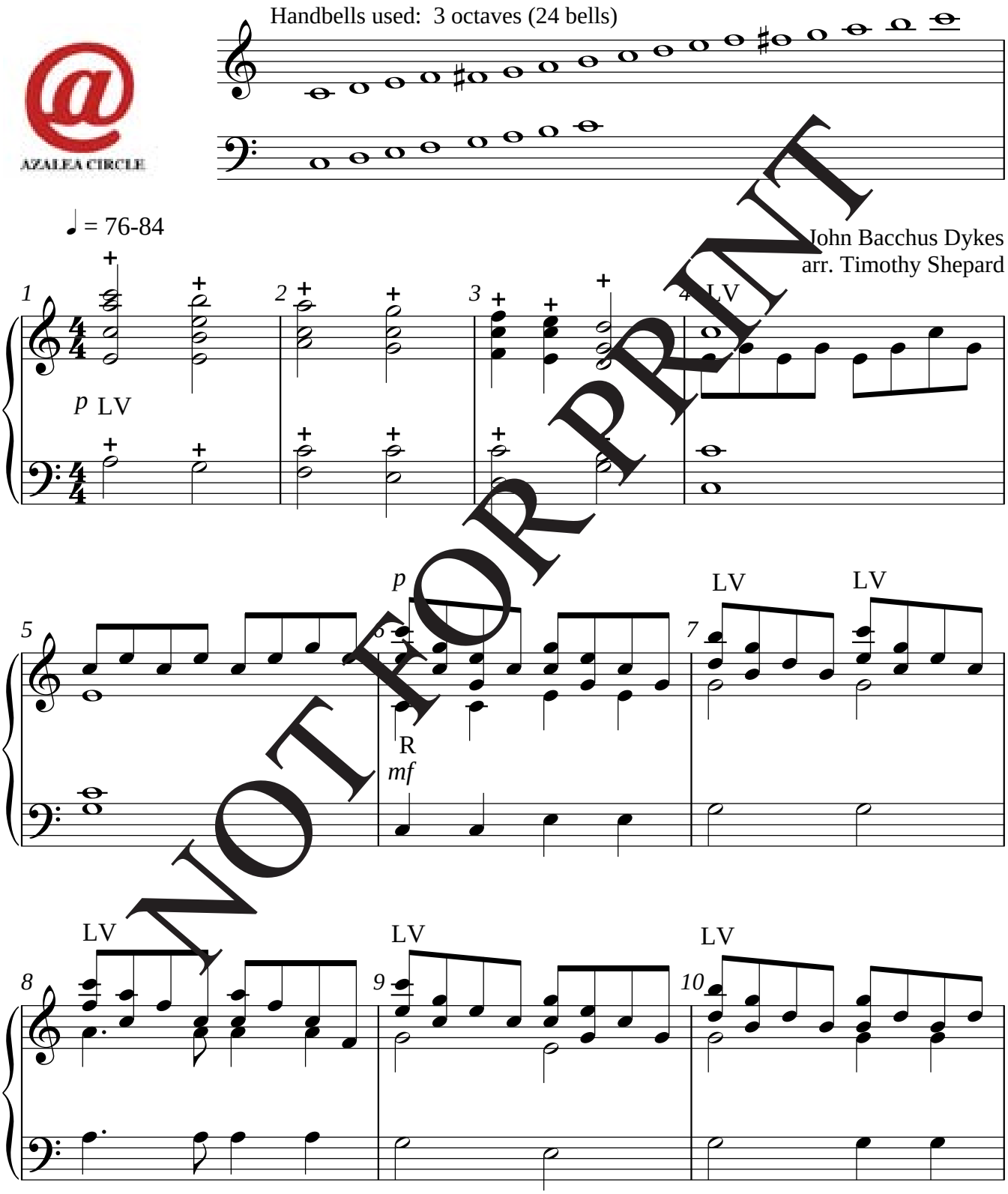
Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

(NICEA)



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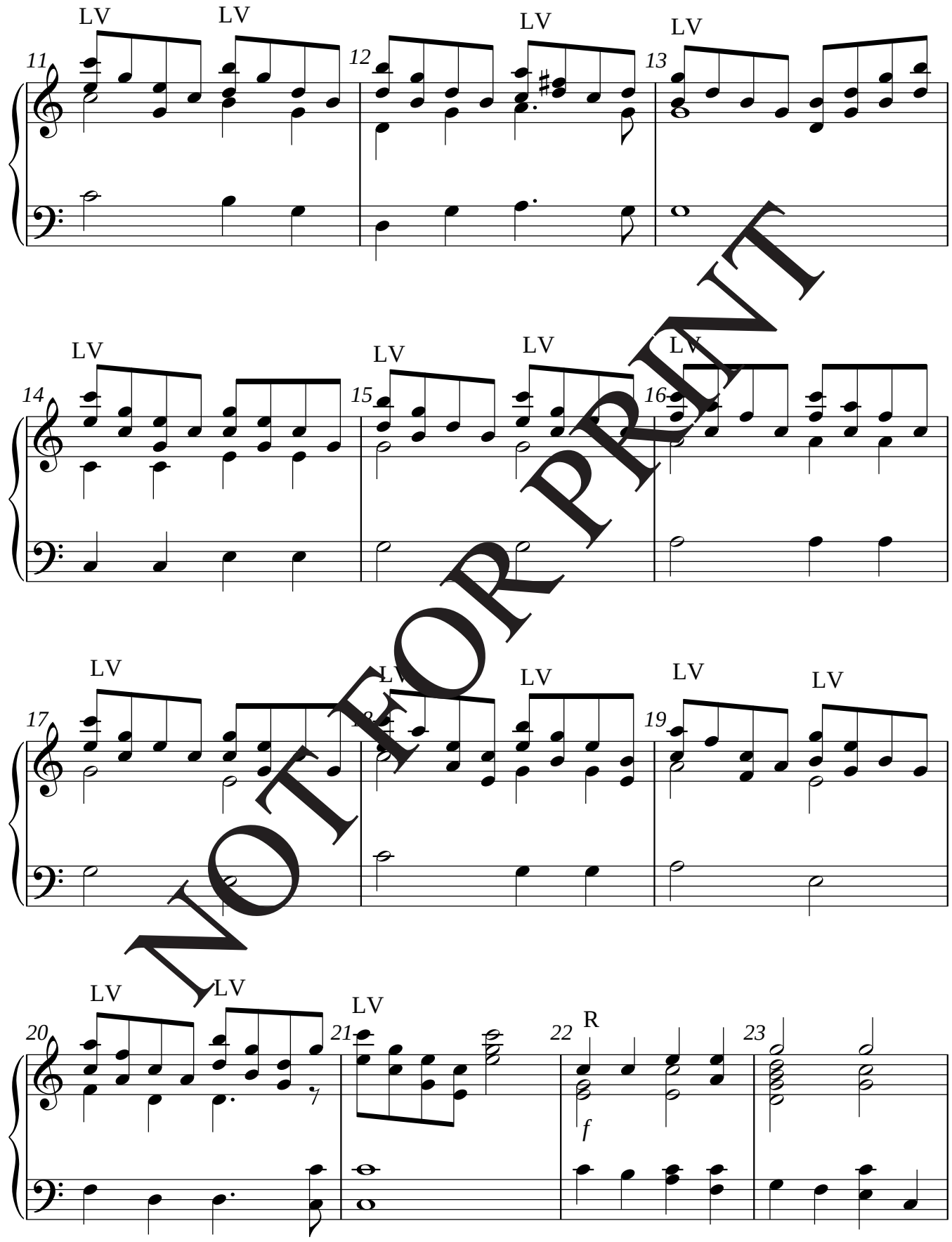

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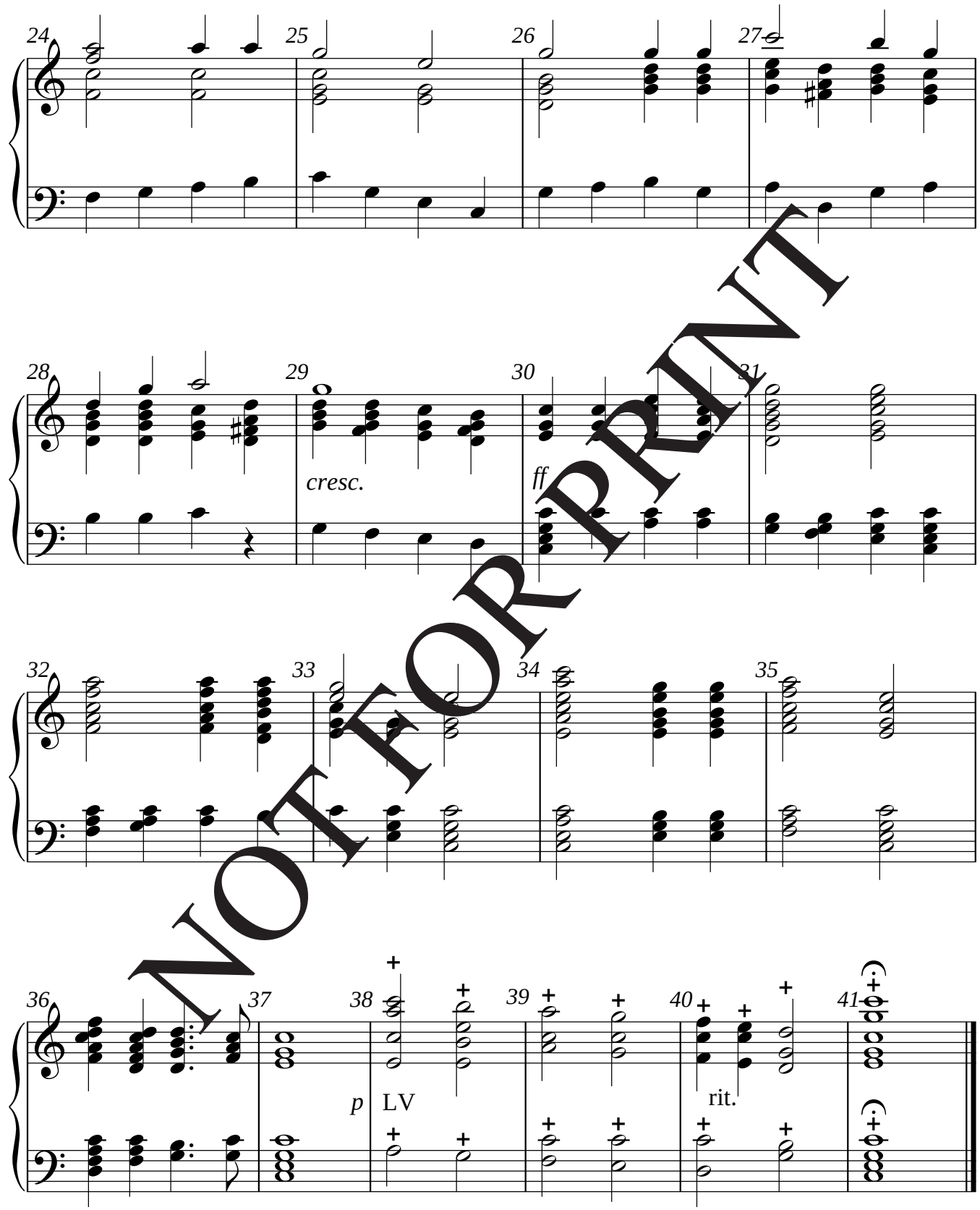

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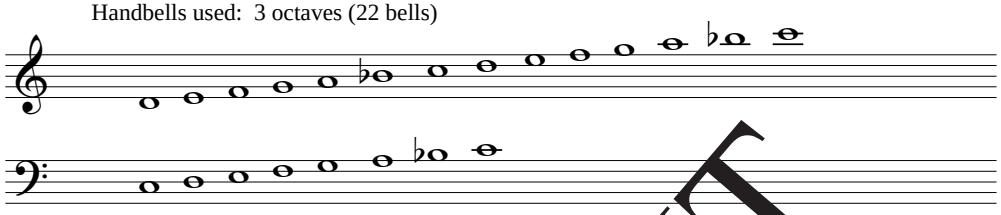
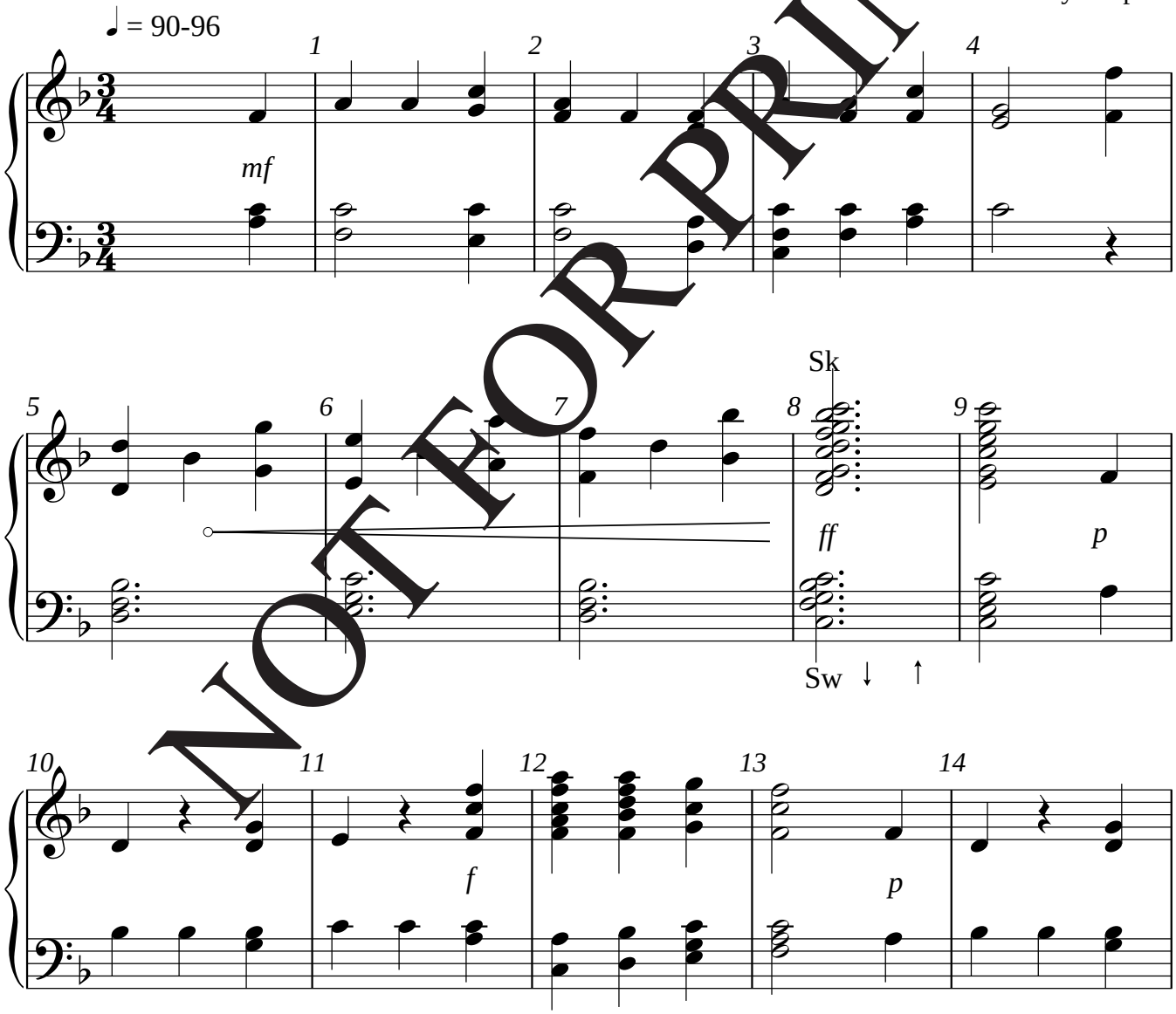
Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise

(ST. DENIO)

Handbells used: 3 octaves (22 bells)



Welsh folk melody
arr. Timothy Shepard



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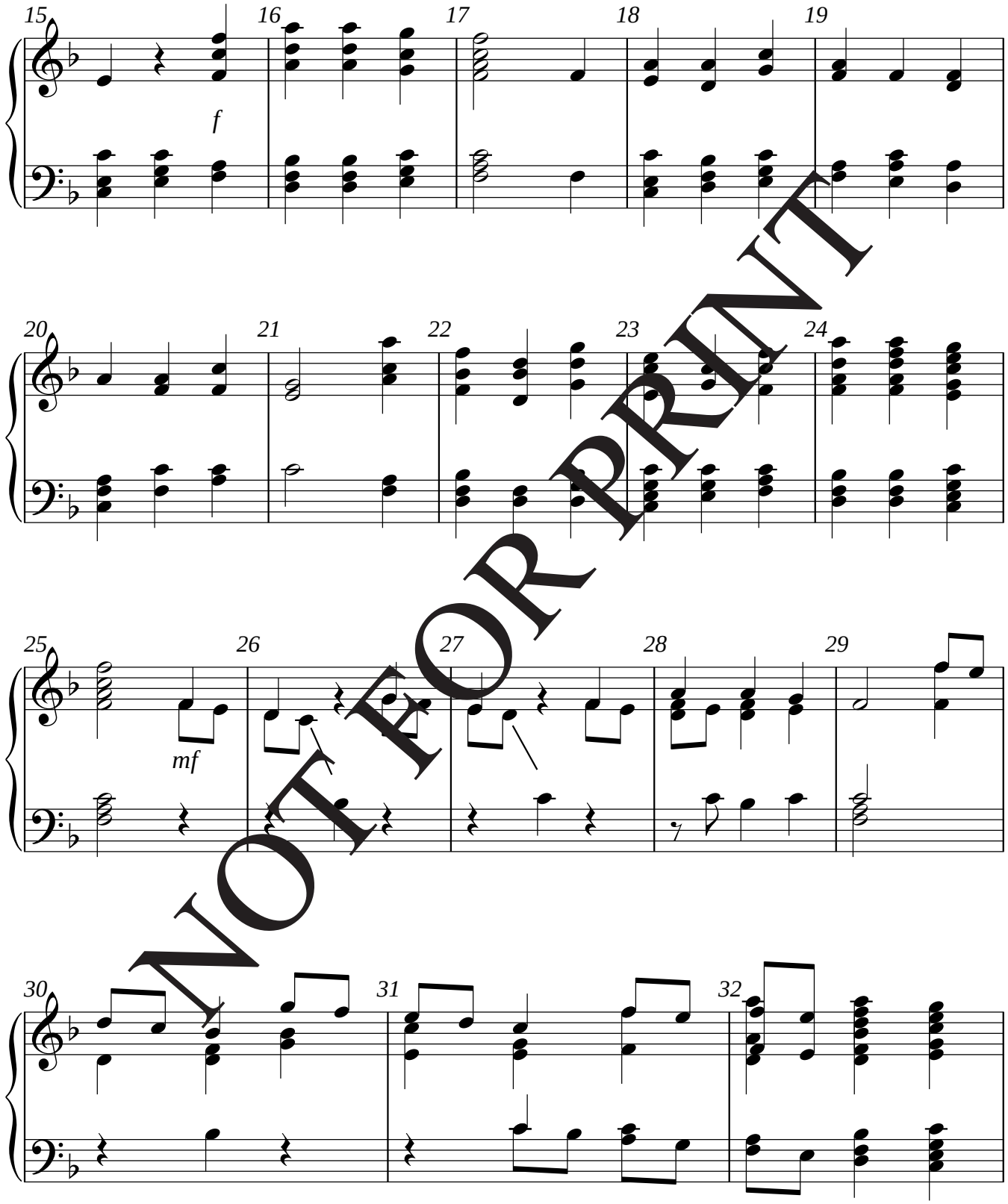

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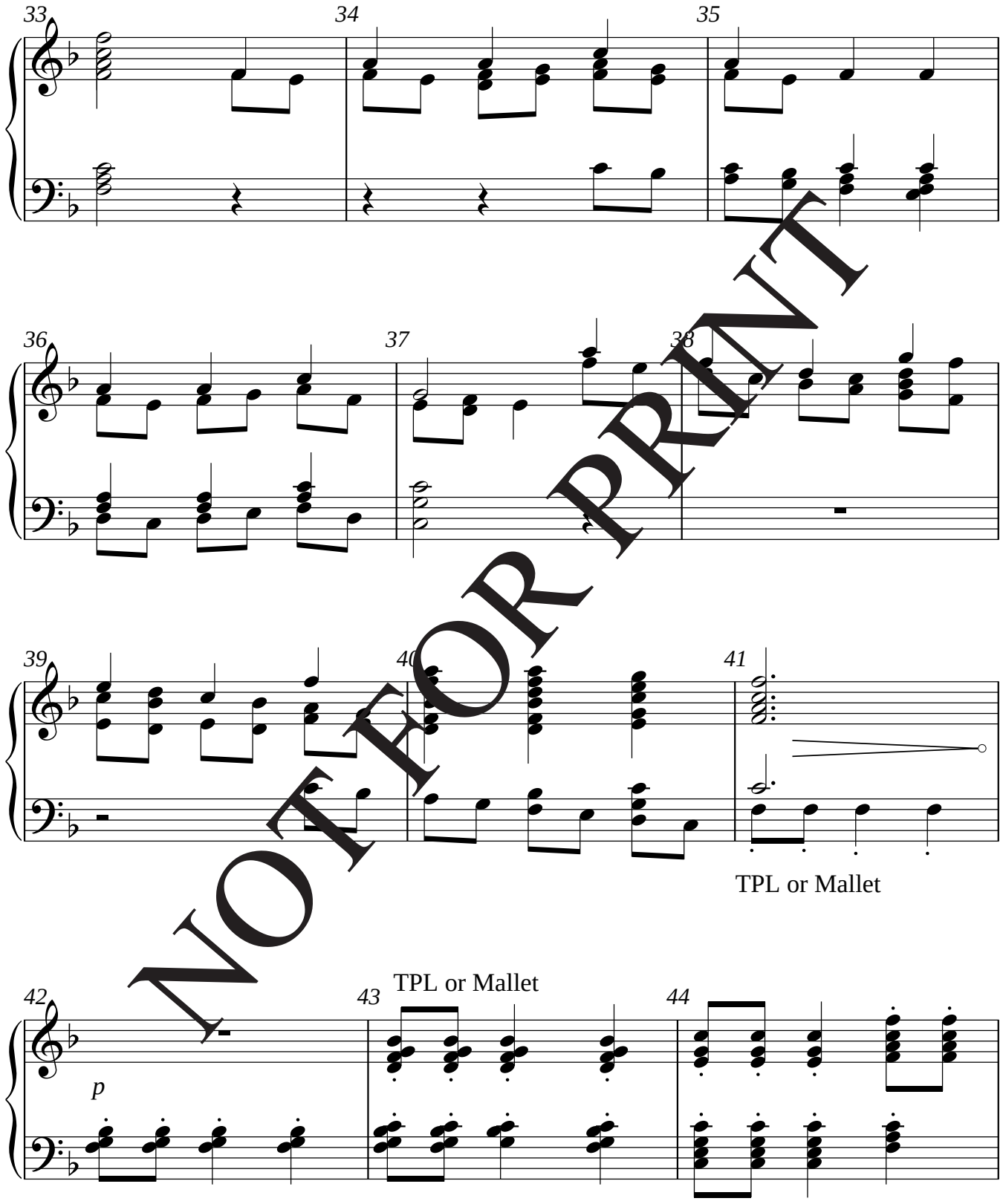

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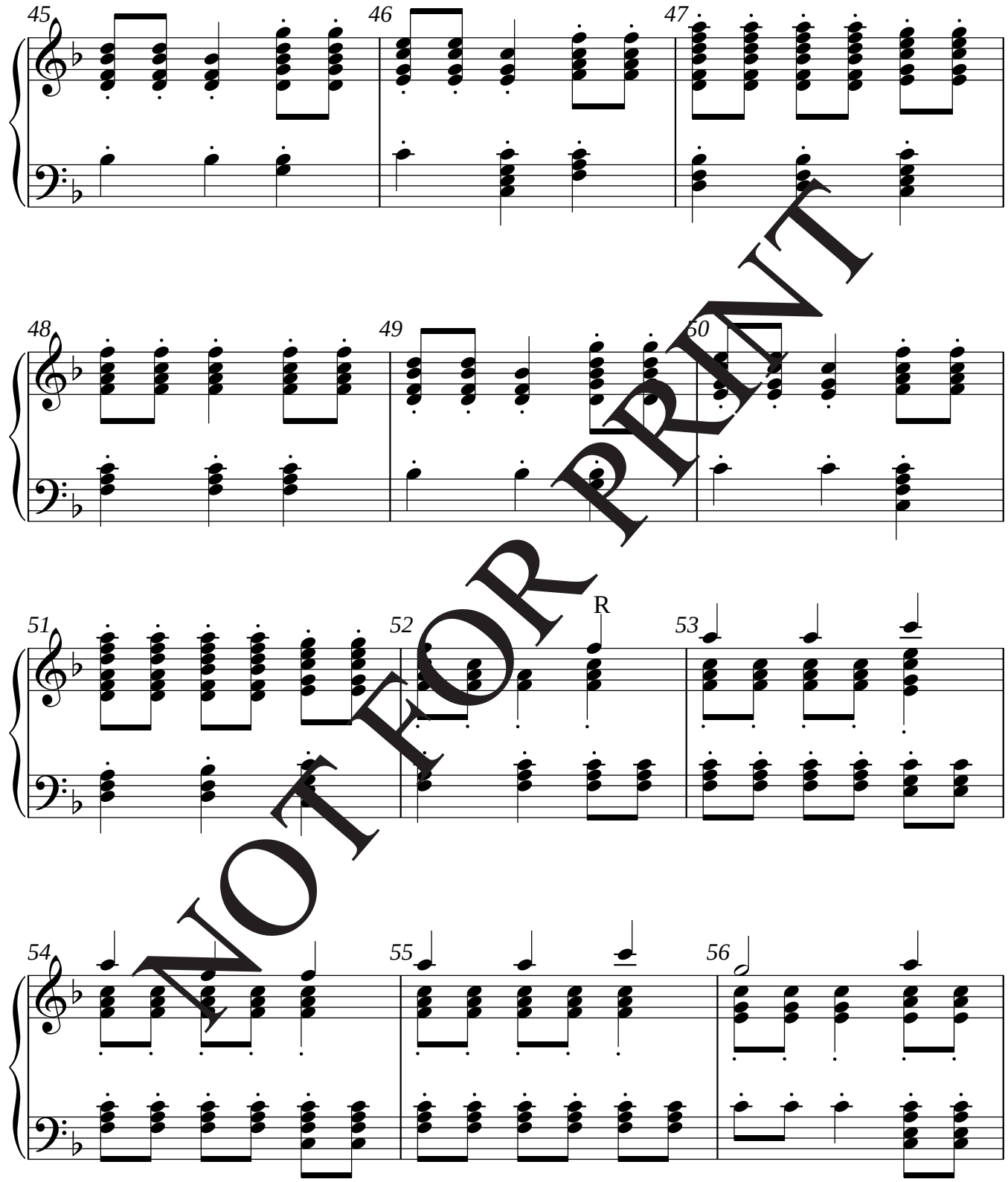


NOT FOR PRINT

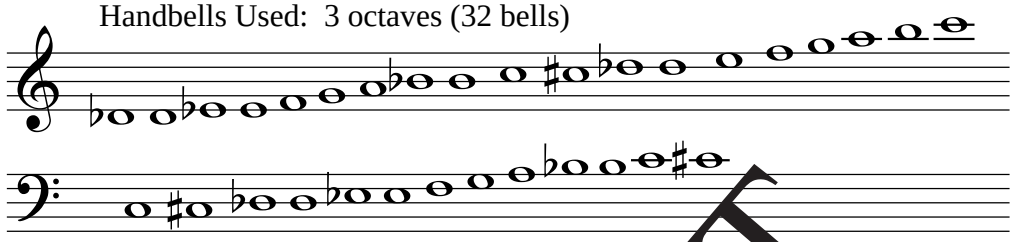
Hymn Collection

AC-HB025.A

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

(HYMN TO JOY)

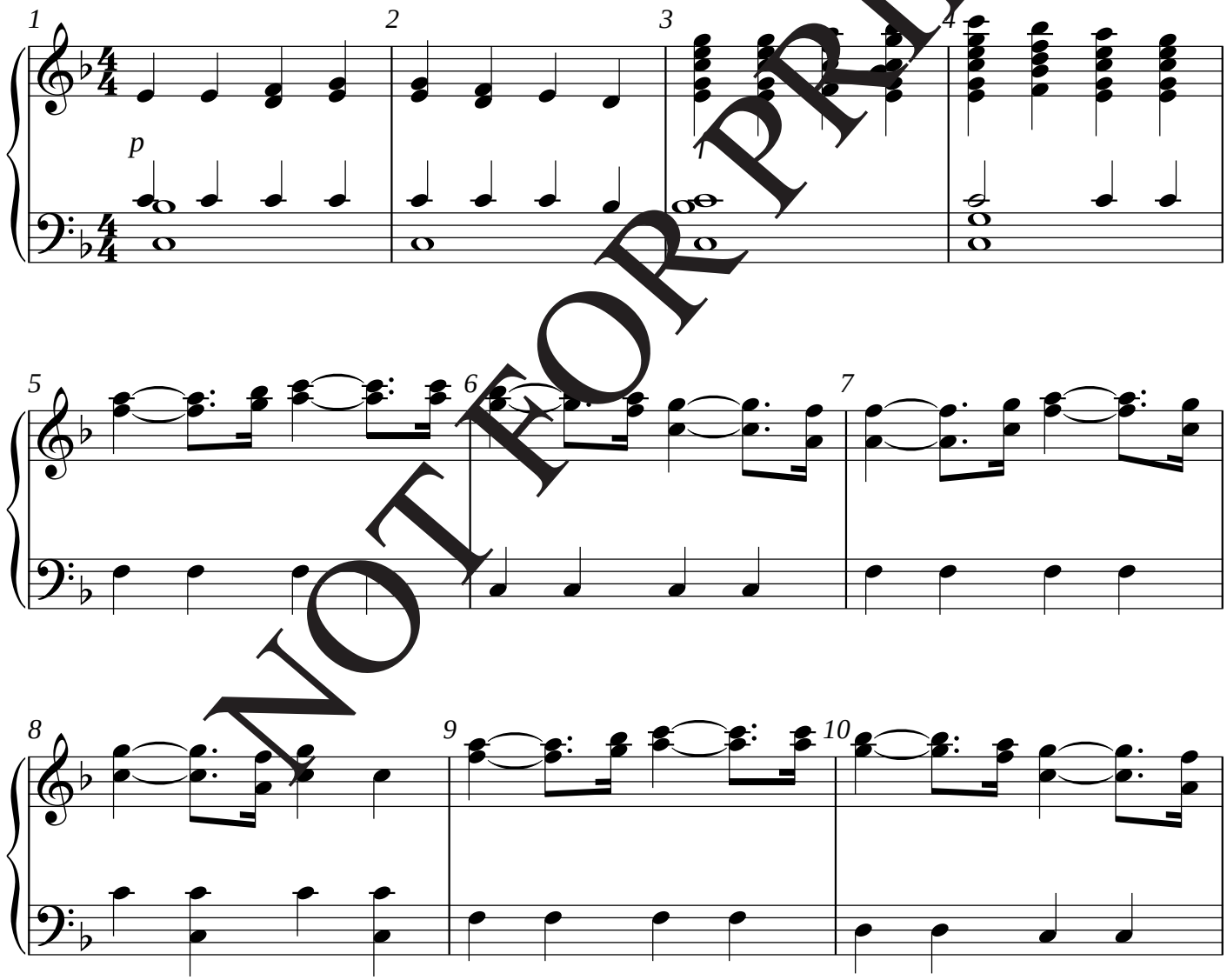
Handbells Used: 3 octaves (32 bells)



AZALEA CIRCLE

Ludwig van Beethoven
arr. Timothy Shepard

♩ = 96-106



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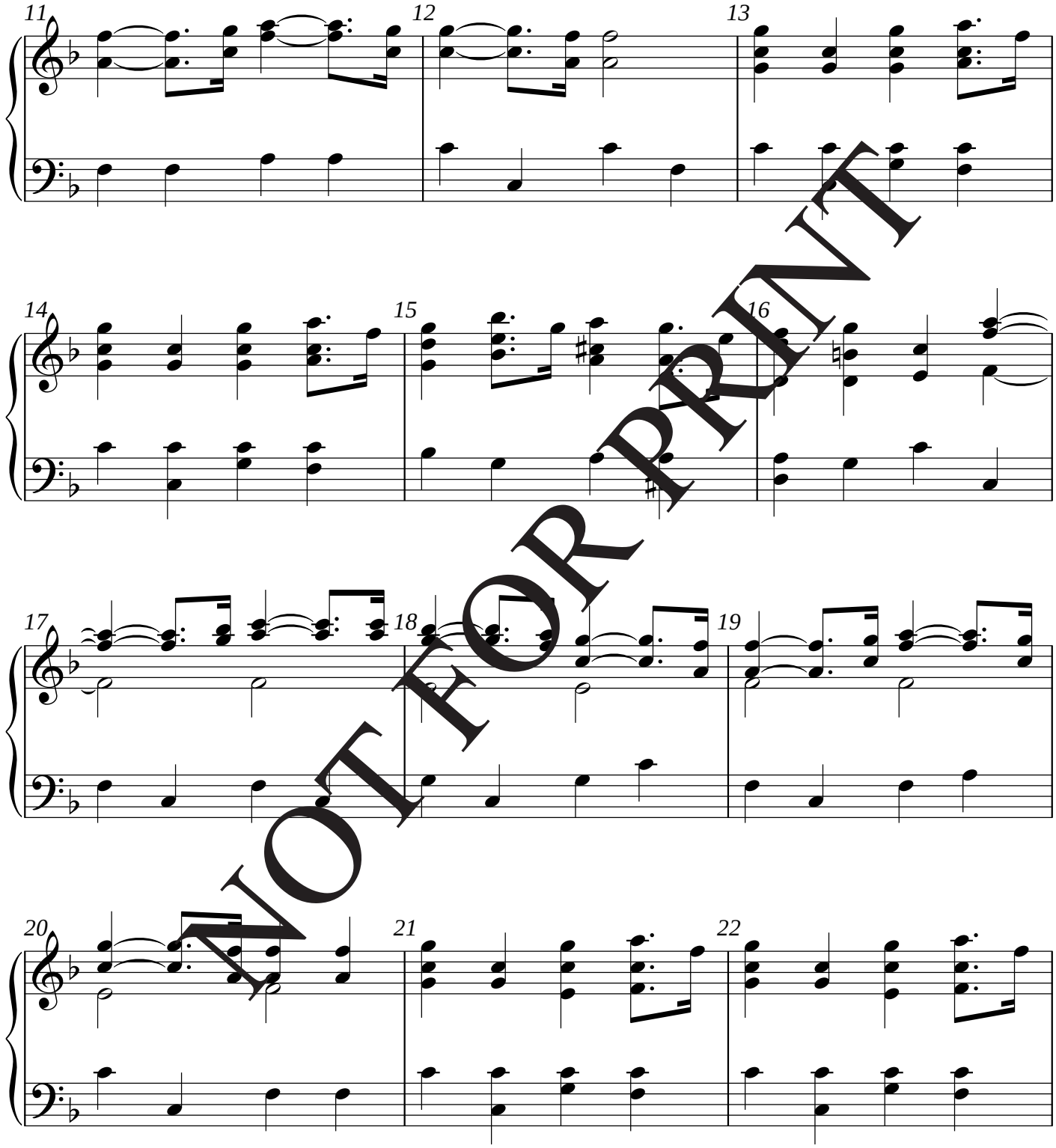

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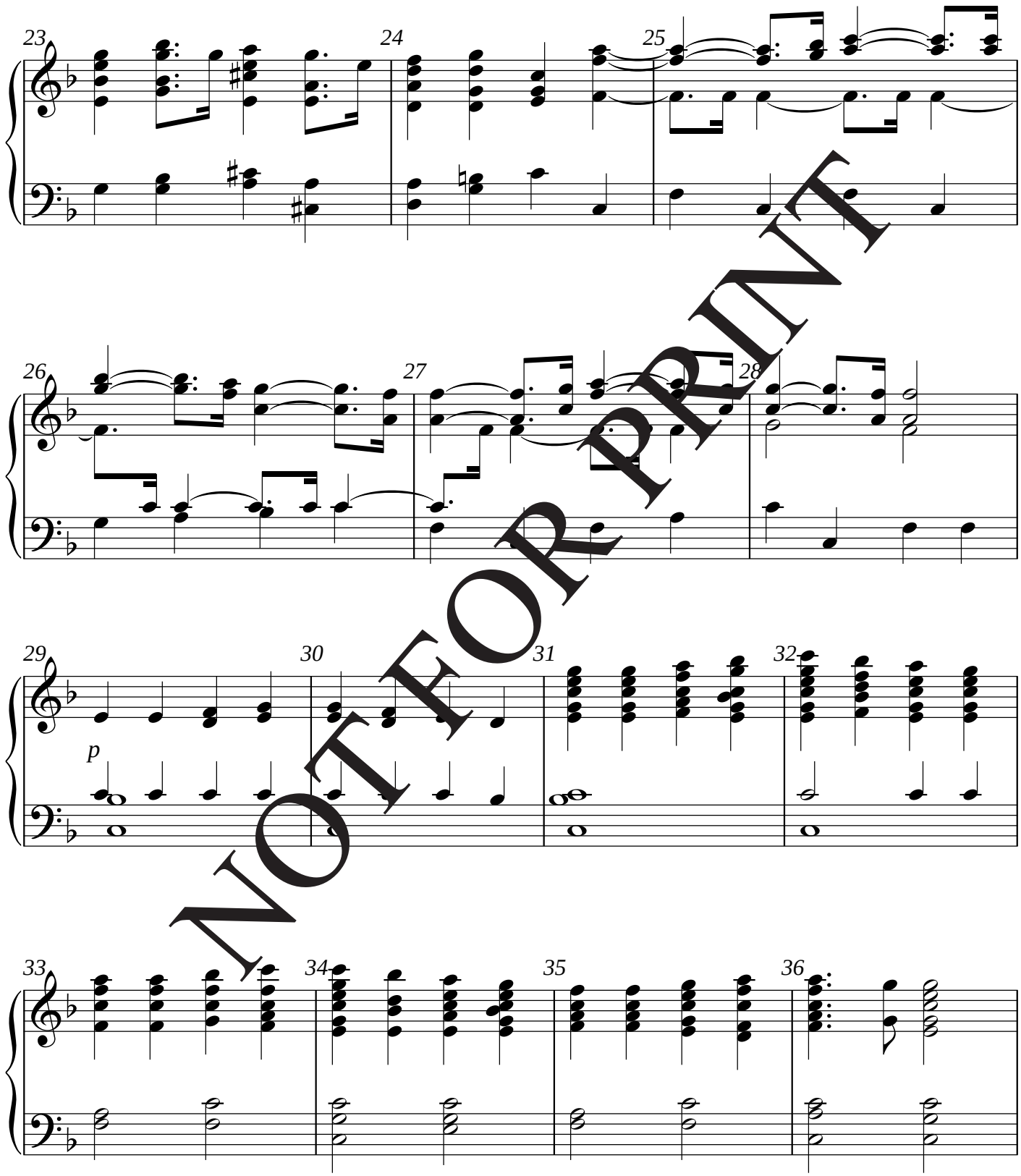

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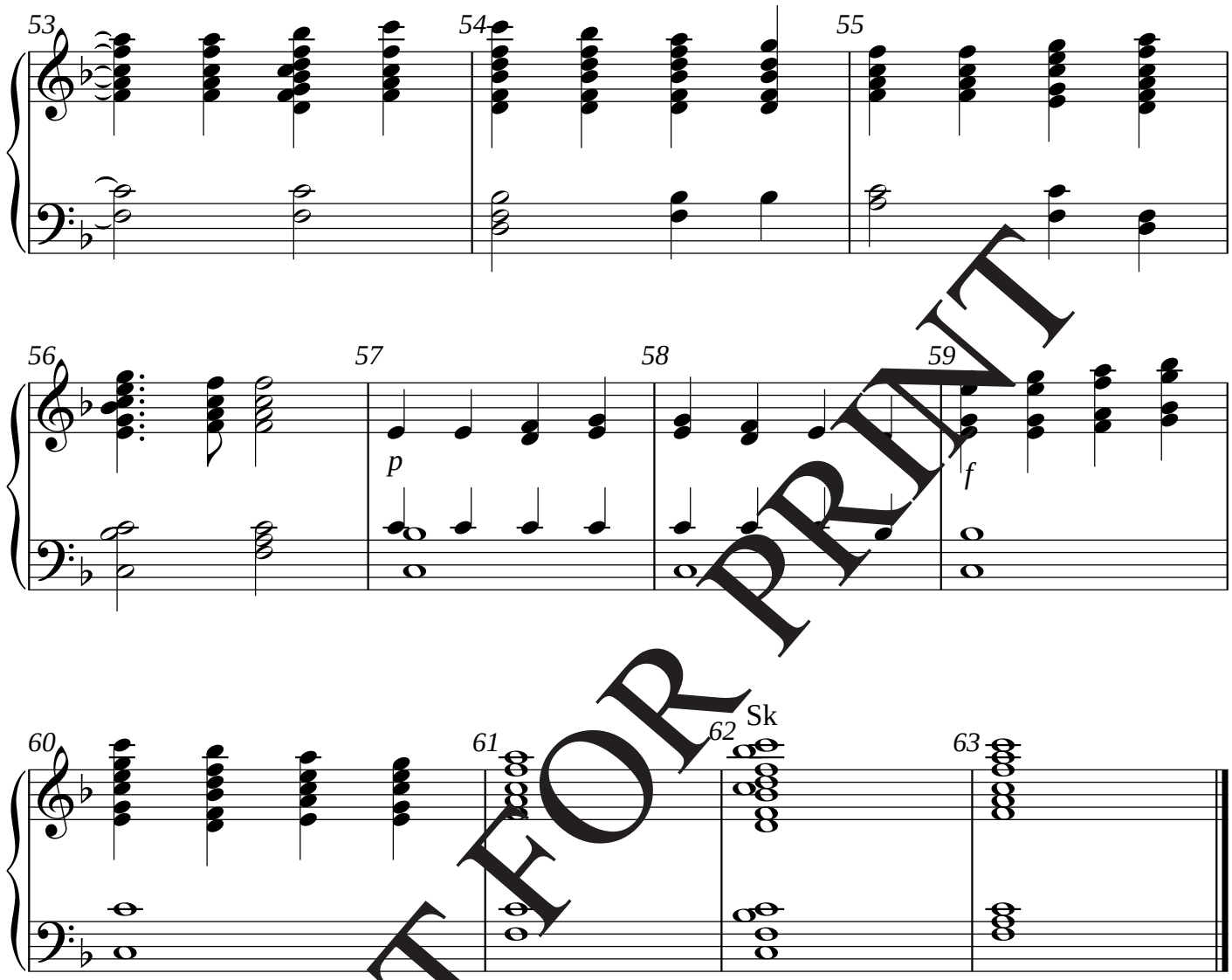

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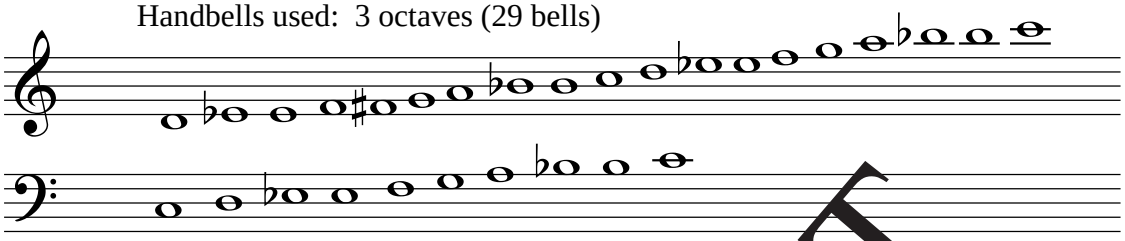
Hymn Collection

Morning Has Broken

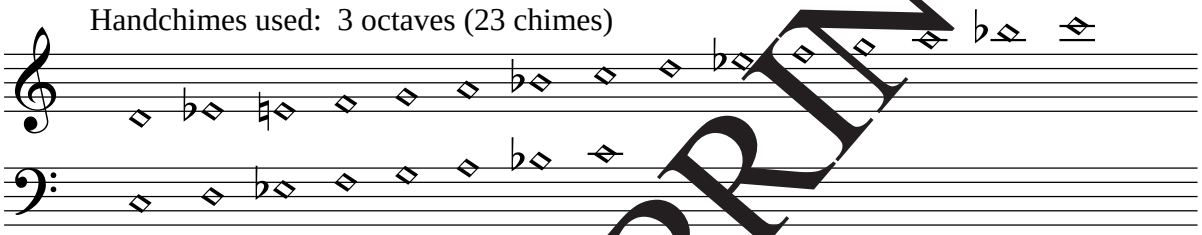
(BUNESSAN)

AC-HB025.A

Handbells used: 3 octaves (29 bells)

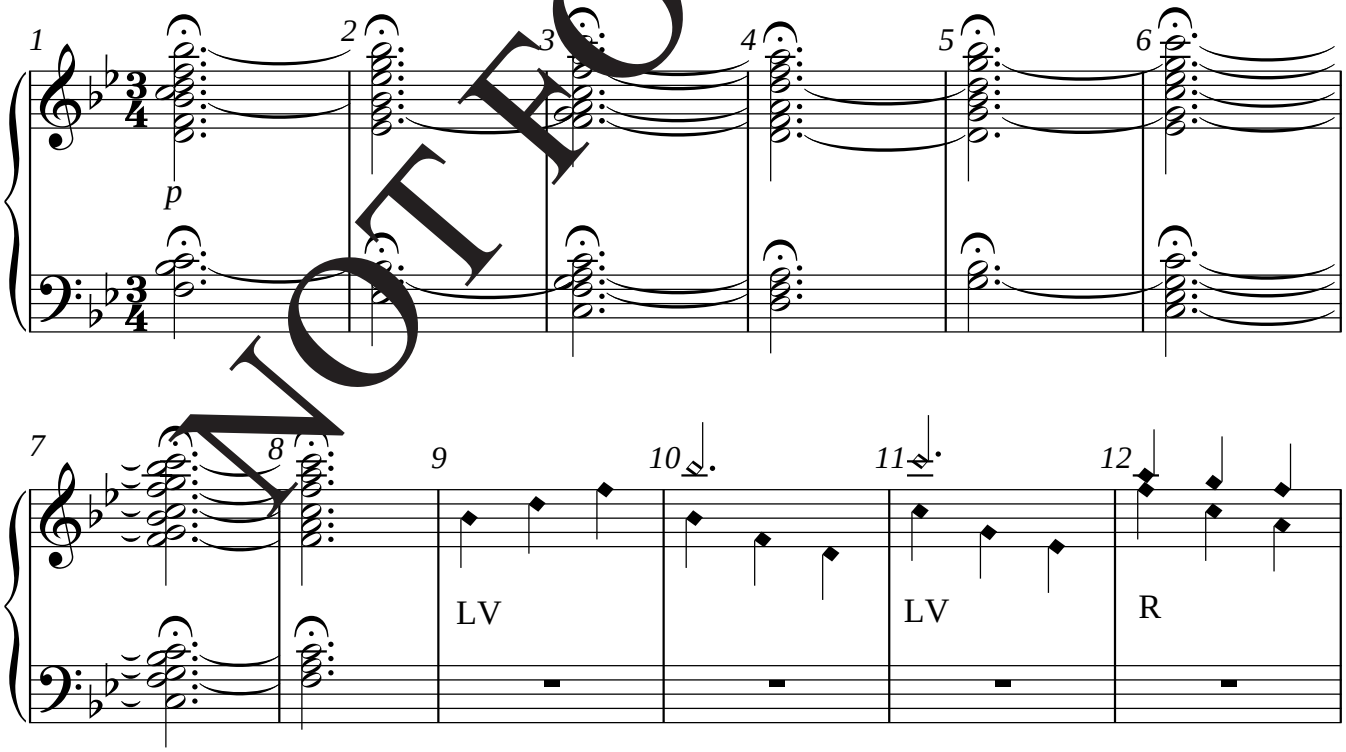


Handchimes used: 3 octaves (23 chimes)



Gaelic Melody
arr. Timothy Shepard

Random Ring ms. 1-8
(See performance note at end)



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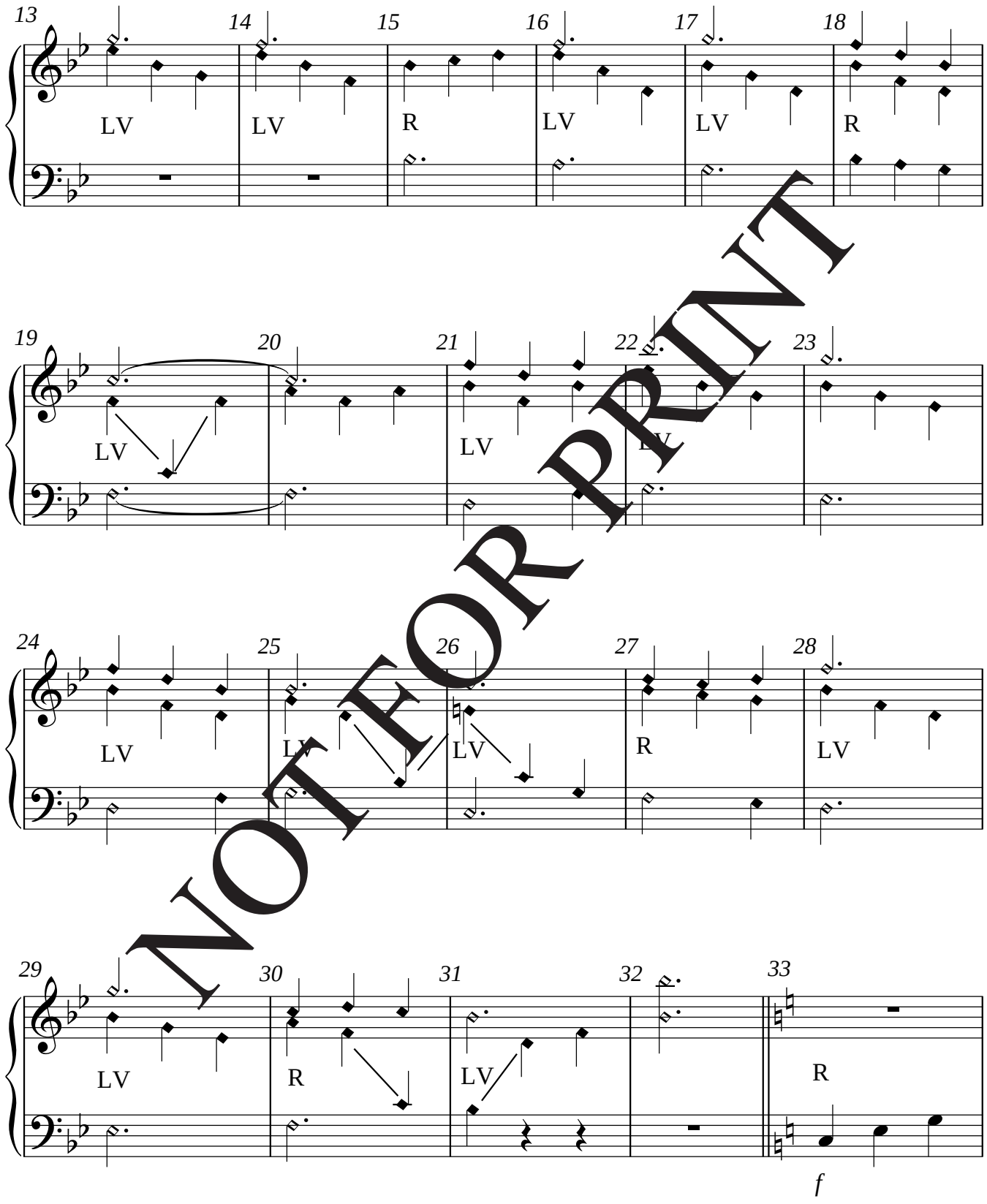

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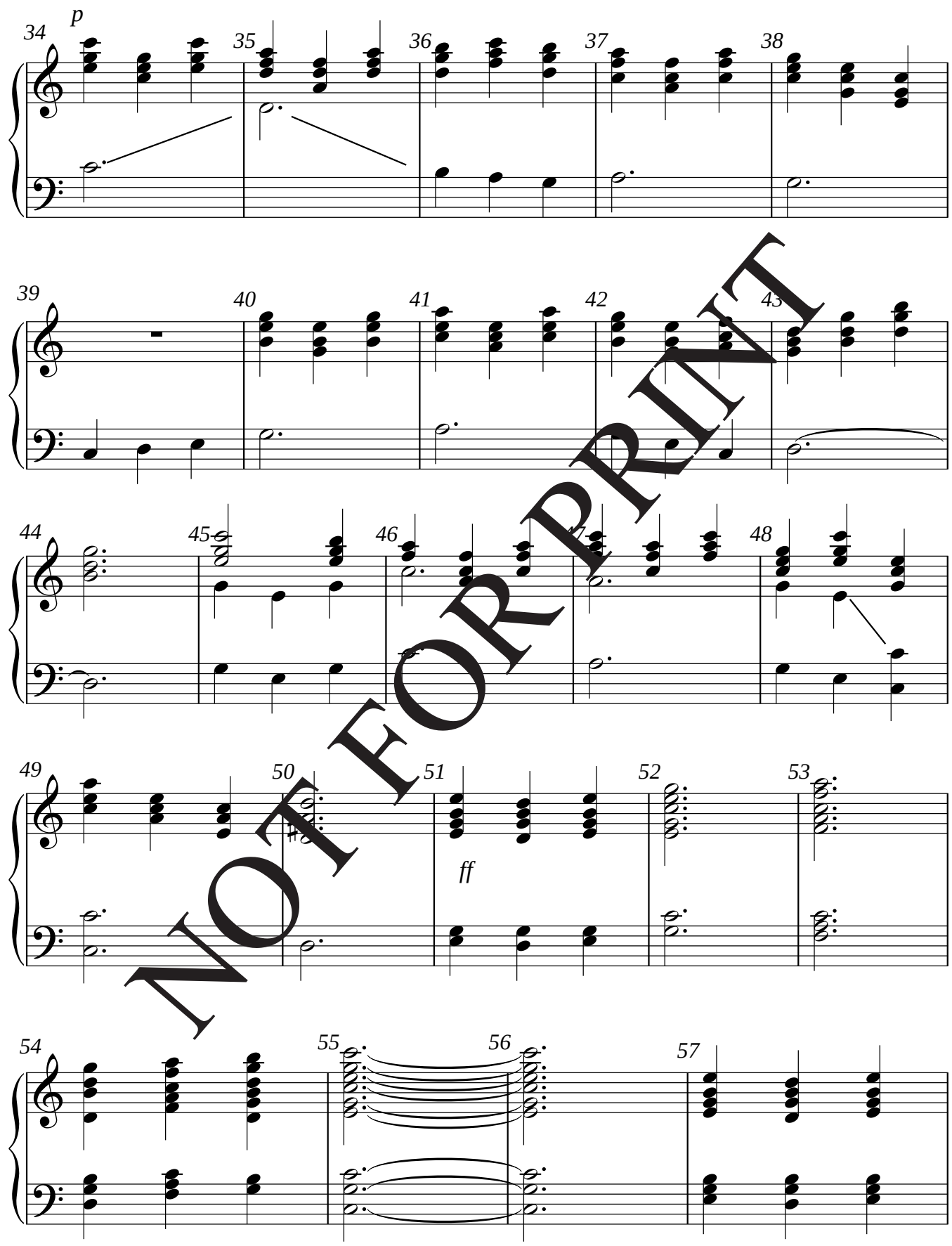

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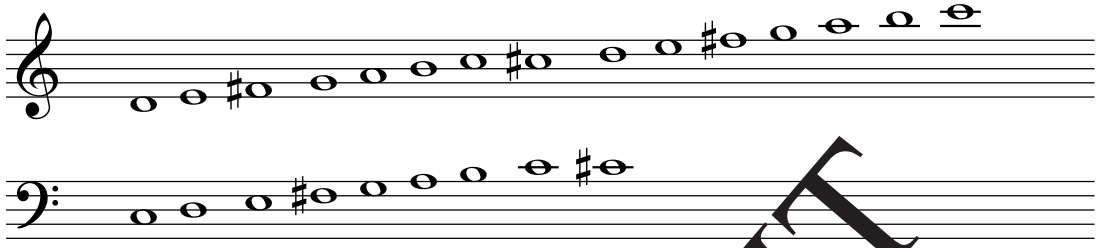
Hymn Collection

AC-HB025.A

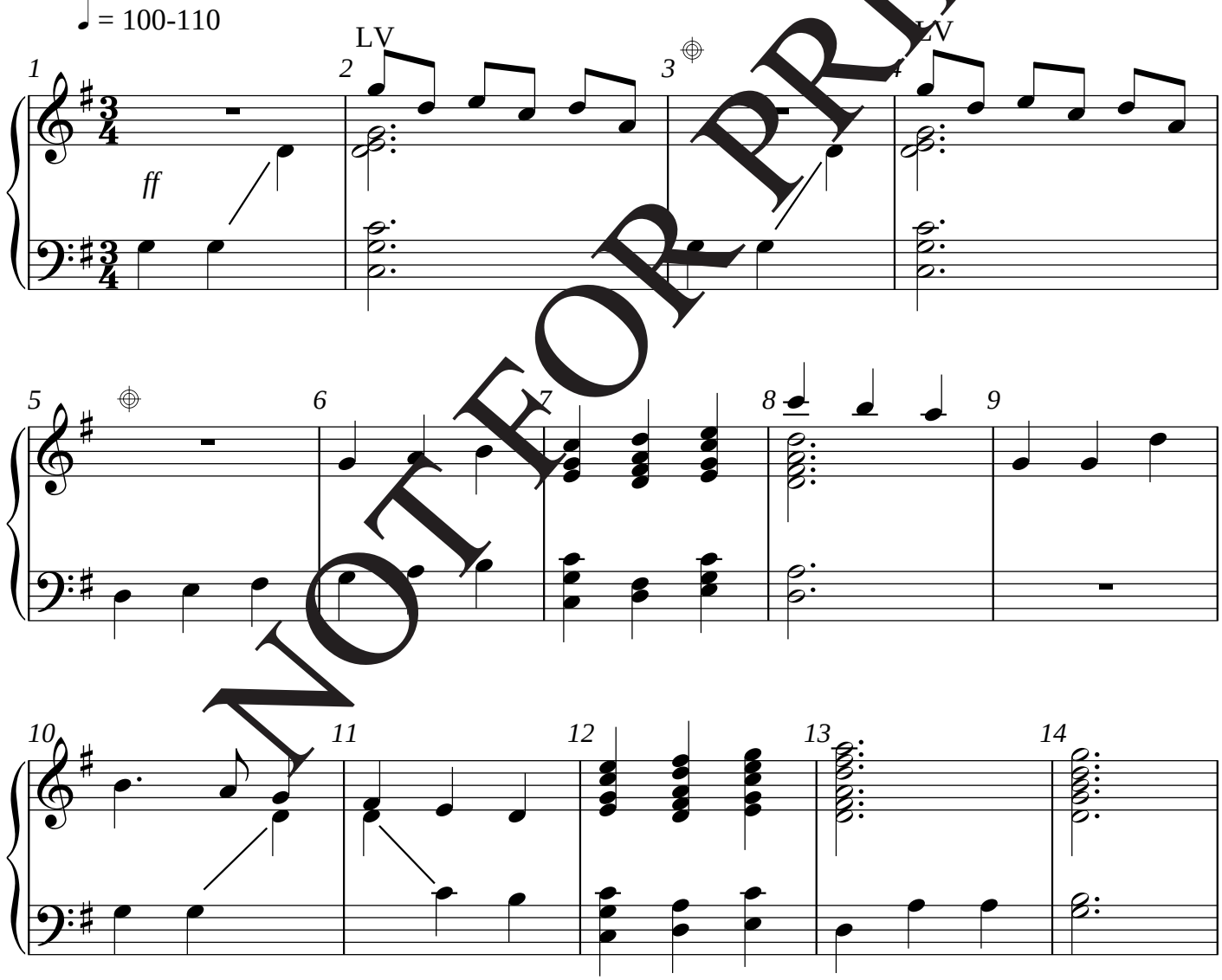
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

(LOBE DEN HERREN)

Handbells Used: 3 octaves (24 bells)



arr. by Timothy Shepard



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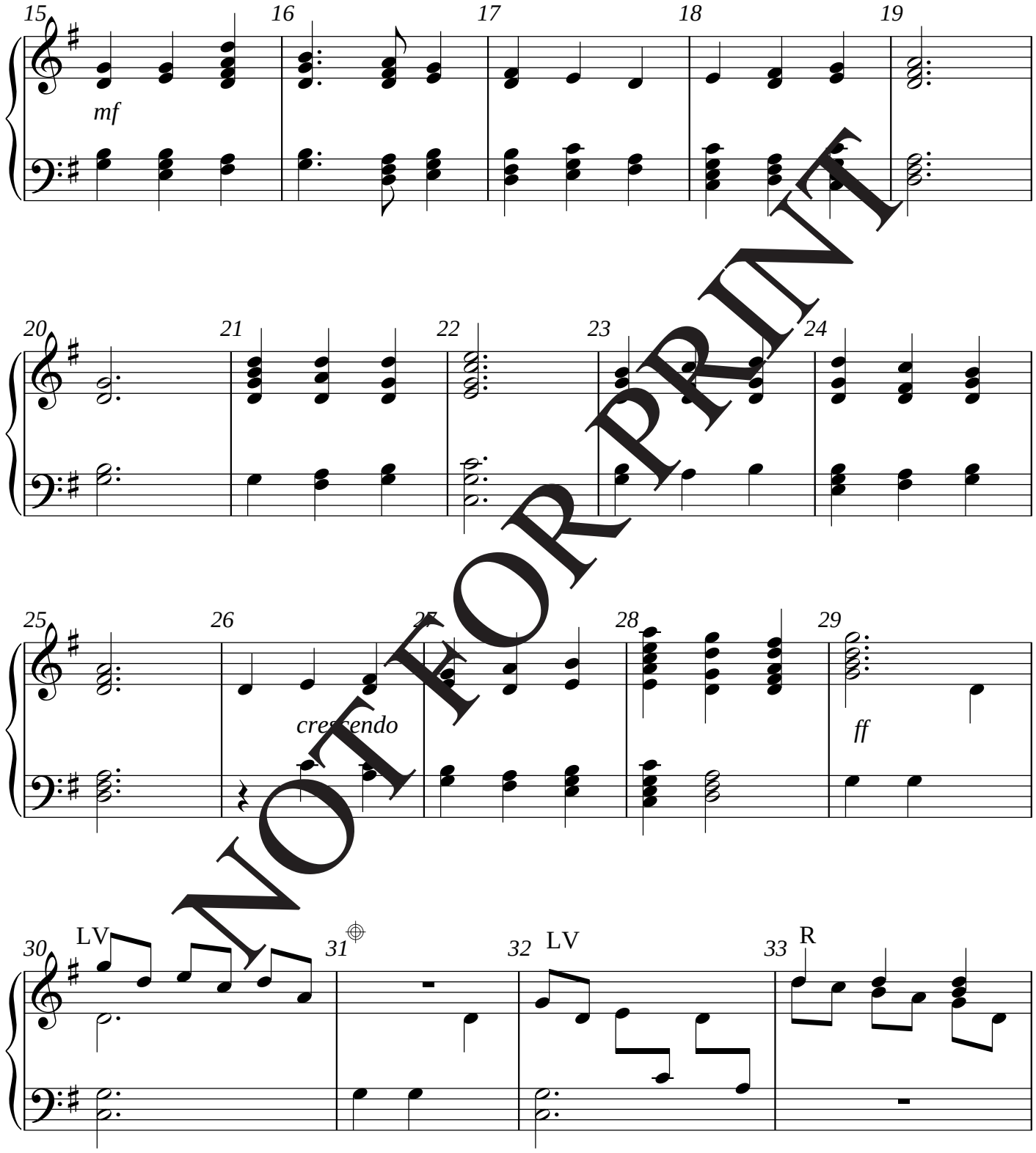

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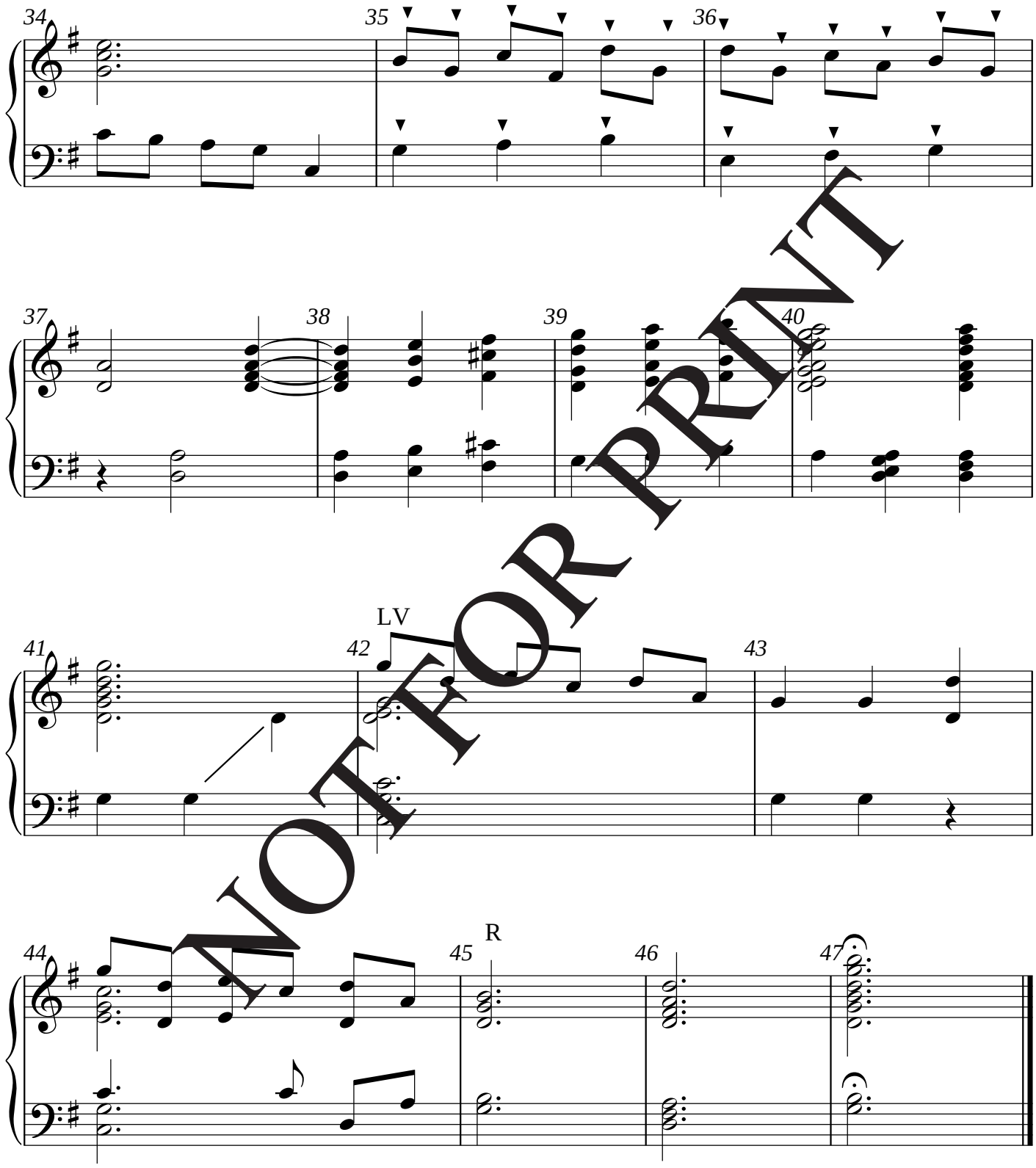

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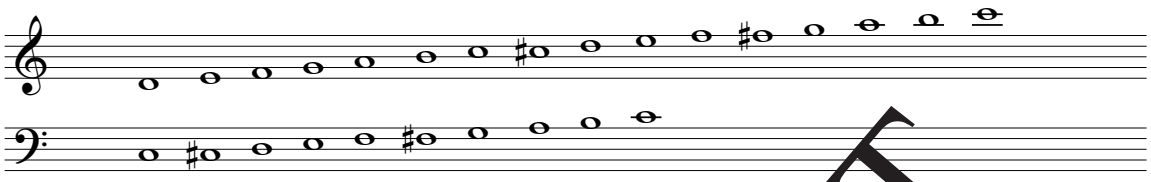
Hymn Collection

AC-HB025.A

We Gather Together

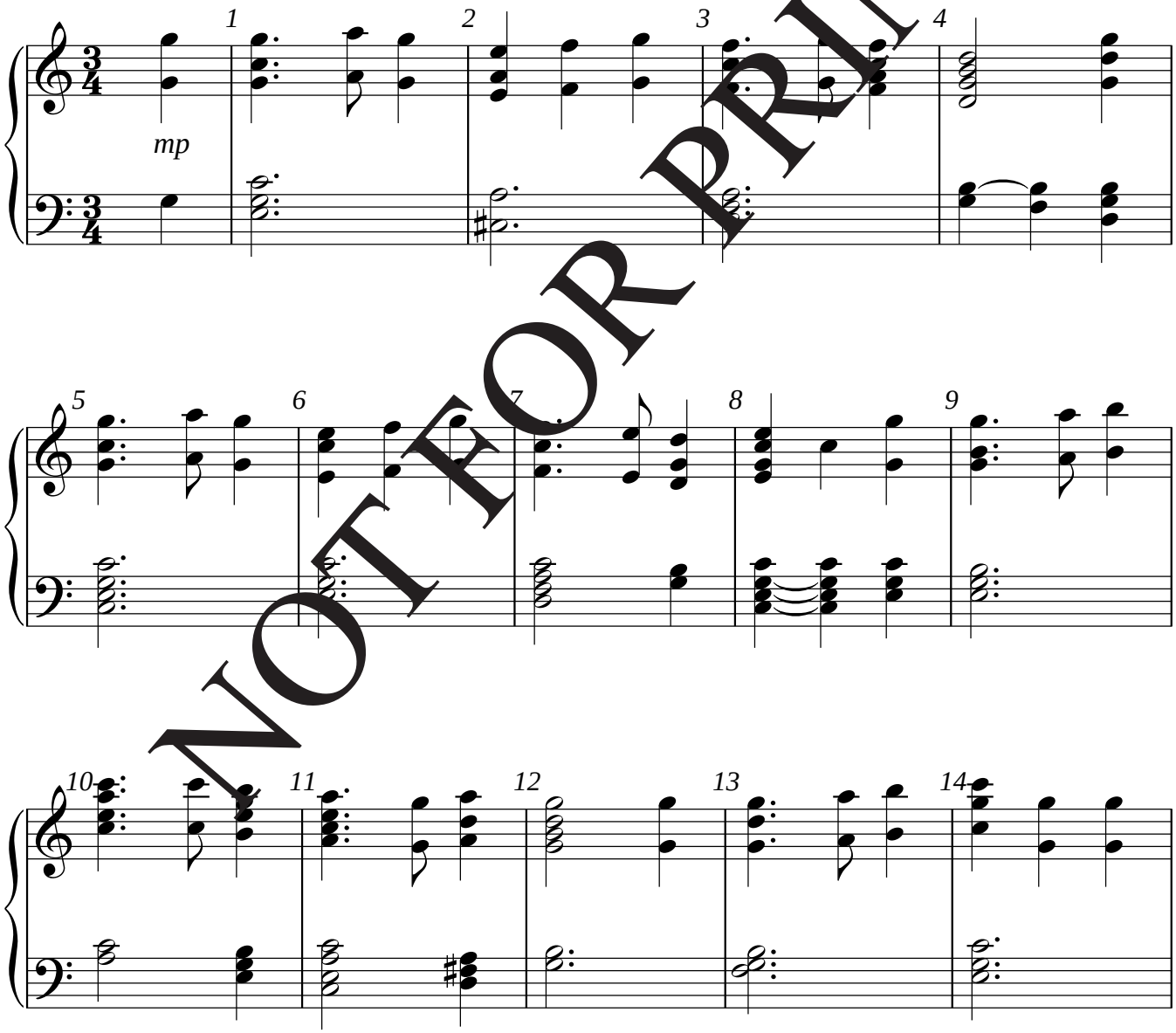
(KREMSER)

Bells Used: 3 octaves (26 bells)



arranged by Timothy Shepard

Gently



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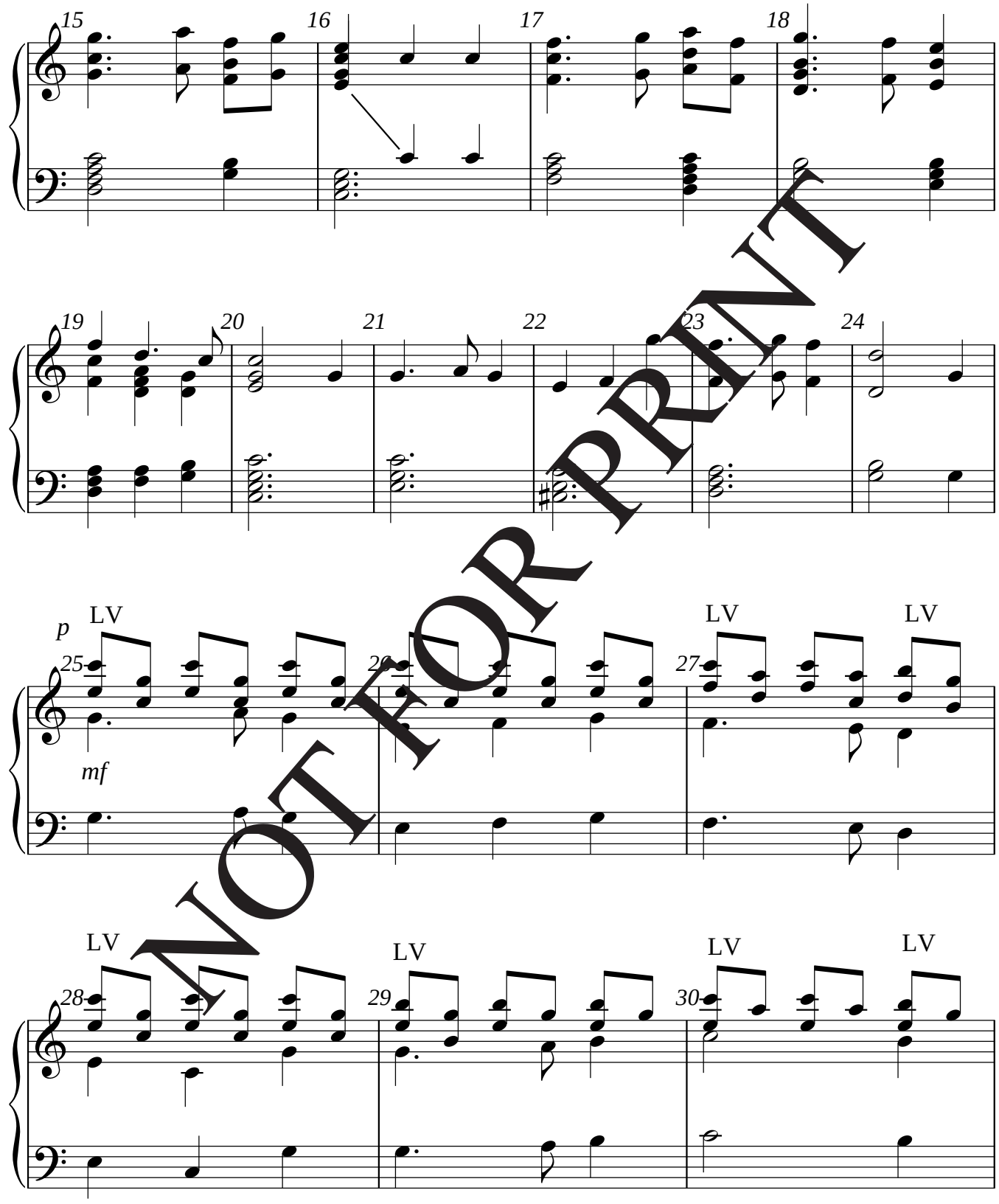

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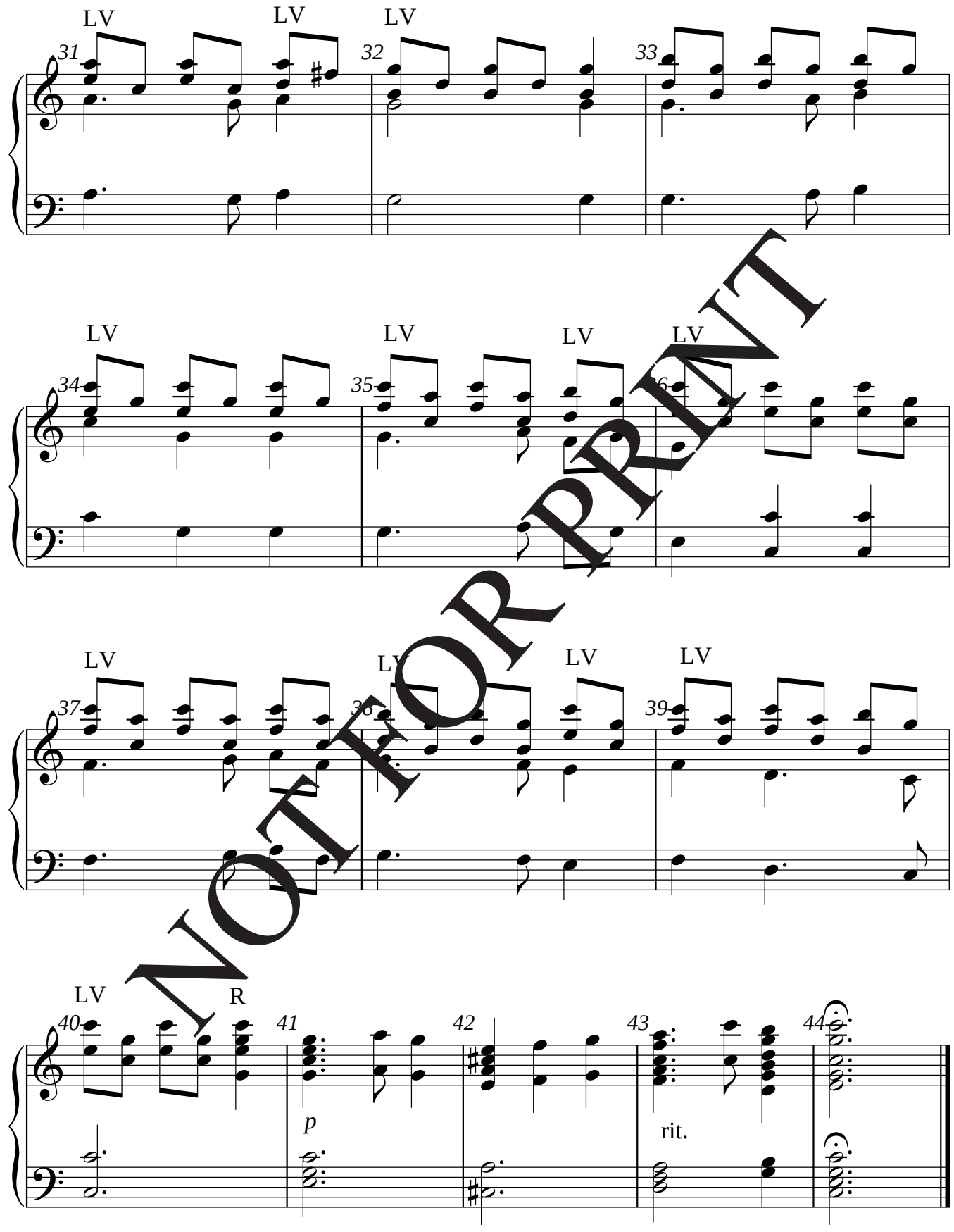

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