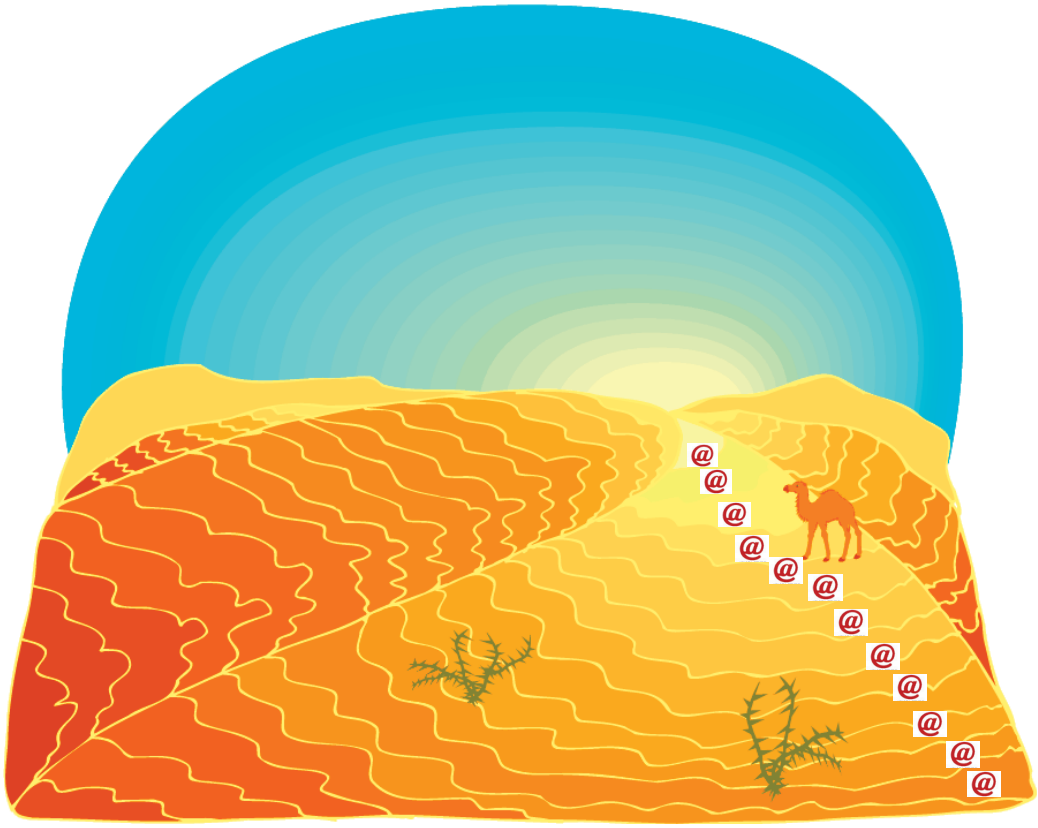
AC-HB028.B

@ Azalea Circle Hymn Collection IV

A collection of traditional Lenten hymns arranged for handbells and/or chimes for use in teaching and performing

by Timothy Shepard



Level One & Two

3 Octaves Handbells or Chimes

Azalea Circle Hymn Collection IV

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40 Days and 40 Nights
AUS DER TIEFE RUFE ICH

Ah, Holy Jesus
HERZLIEBSTER JESU

Be Still My Soul
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ASSURANCE

Dear Lord and Father
REST

My Faith Looks up to Thee
OLIVET

Were You There?
WERE YOU THERE

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
ROCKINGHAM, HAMBURG

License

INTRODUCTION

I think that observing Lent is important. We need to make time to go into the desert to reflect, to pray, to be tested. That's what Jesus did. Lent encourages us to give up the old wine skins and baggage of our lives to take on new actions, habits and thinking. Lent forces us to ponder the cross, temporarily silencing our Alleluias. It helps us to acknowledge and shows us a way to work through the harshness and difficulties of life. Lent helps us to live healthier in spirit. And Lent prepares us for Easter; the promise of victory that is ours as Christians. But let's not forget that there is no resurrection without the crucifixion. So I encourage you to engage in this Liturgical season of the Christian year. I hope that this collection is useful to that end. Herein is music for Lent, music to be practiced and played during this holy season.

This collection of hymn tune arrangements is for three octaves choirs. There is not one single optional note herein; play all the notes you see. I hope that you enjoy looking at music that is uncluttered with brackets [ ], braces { }, parenthesis ( ), etc.. I have kept the dynamic level changes to a minimum. If your choir can get soft , medium and loud right, then you are well on your way to getting all the gradations in the middle right also. Although the arrangements are conceived for handbells, they can readily be played by handchimes, probably to quite good affect. All of the pieces are AGEHR level one or level two. 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. For communion or a longer offertory, put two or more together.

Two of the pieces deserve comment. "40 Days and 40 Nights" depicts the distractions we face and the resistances we encounter that obstruct our intention to observe a holy Lent. Included in "40 Days and 40 Nights" are snippets of hymns that have nothing to do with Lent. But the tune AUS DER FIEFE RUFE ICH is persistant and unyielding. The setting of "Were you There?" is stark, contemporary and harsh with its musical depiction of a hammer pounding nails and the laying of Jesus body in the tomb. Don't be afraid of the dissonance of this musical scene.

As a teacher and director, I view every single piece as an opportunity to teach, reinforce or refine a musical concept. As an arranger, I hope that this collection will provide the opportunity for handbell directors everywhere to continue to grow your choirs, to challenge them and to give them success during the season of Lent.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Timothy Shepard
Atlanta, GA
February 2008

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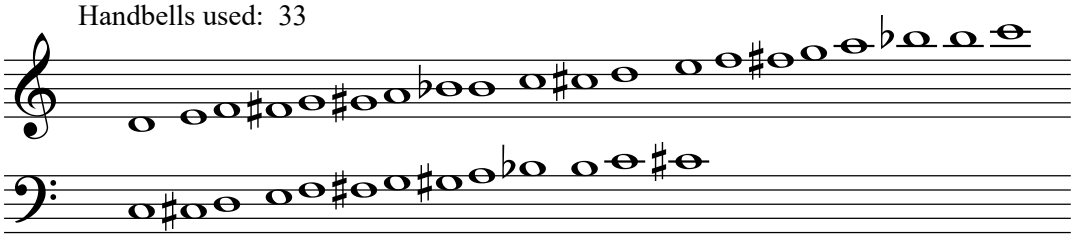
40 Days and 40 Nights

AUS DER TIEFE RUFE ICH

AZALEA CIRCLE

3 octaves
Handbells used: 33



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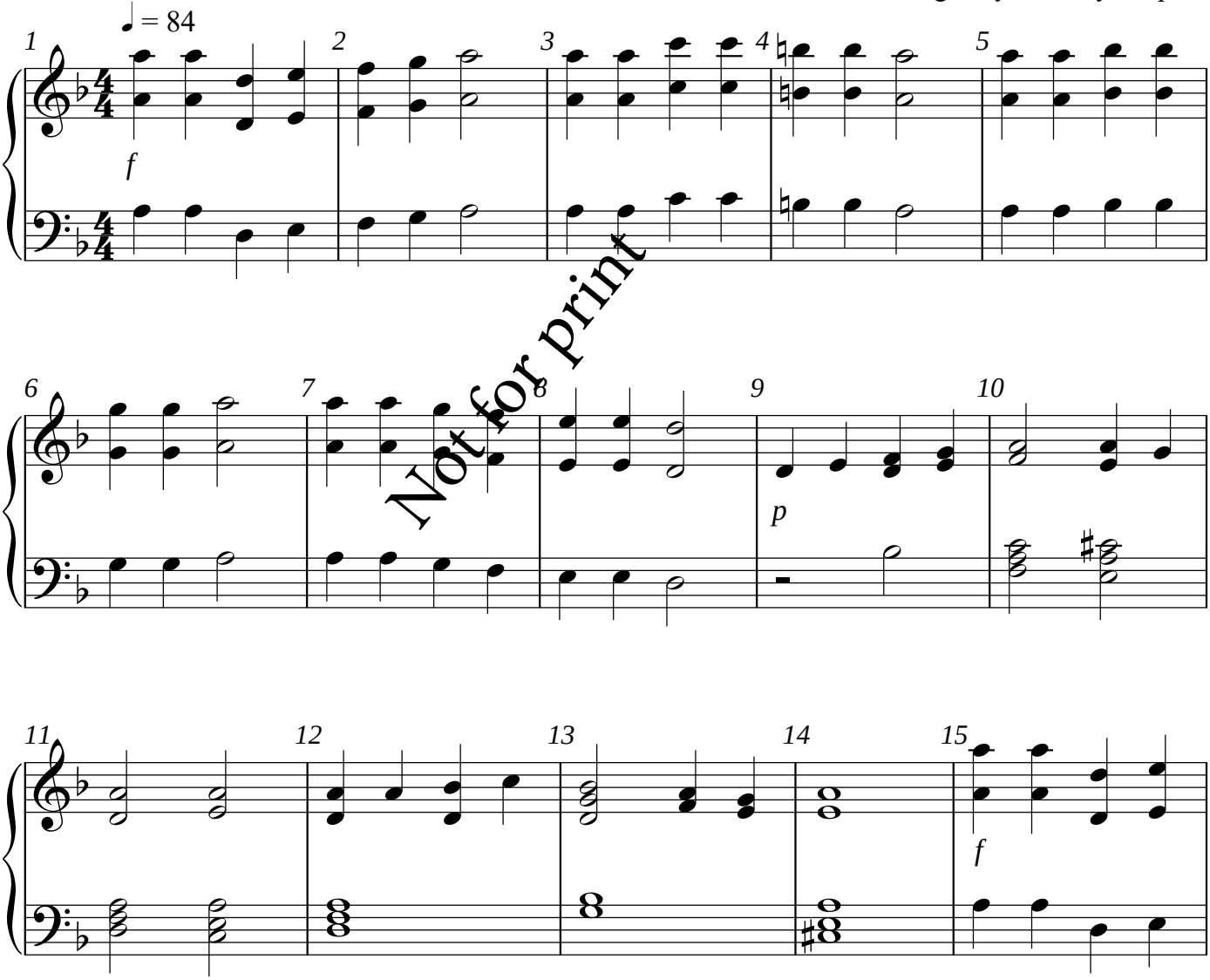

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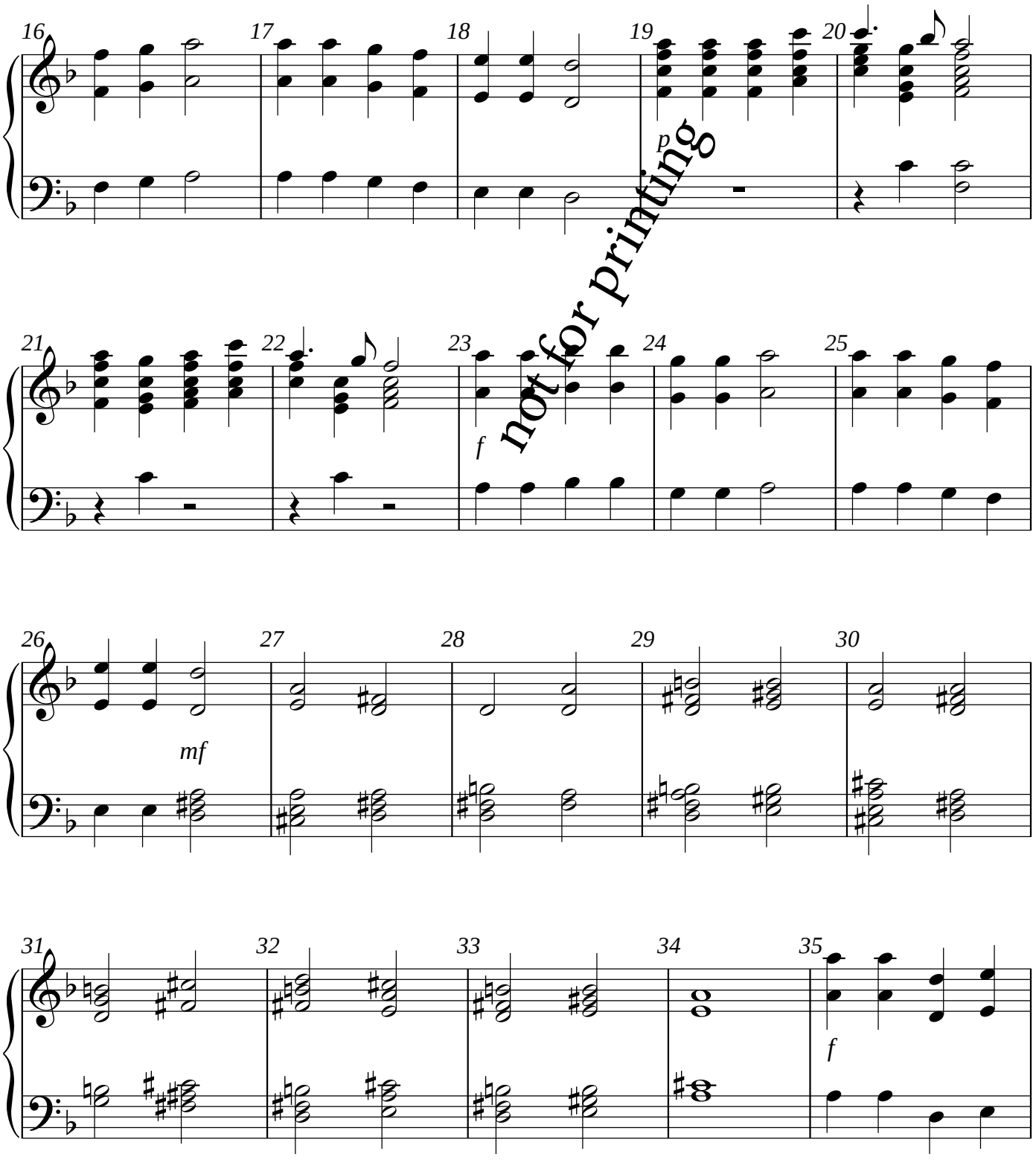

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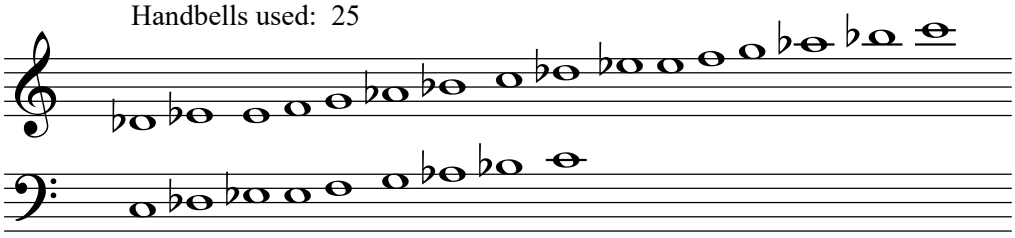
Ah, Holy Jesus

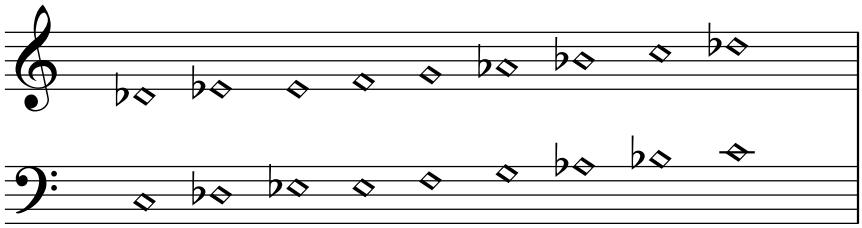
HERZLIEBSTER JESU

AZALEA CIRCLE

3 octaves
Handbells used: 25



(Optional) Chimes used: 18



♩ = 78

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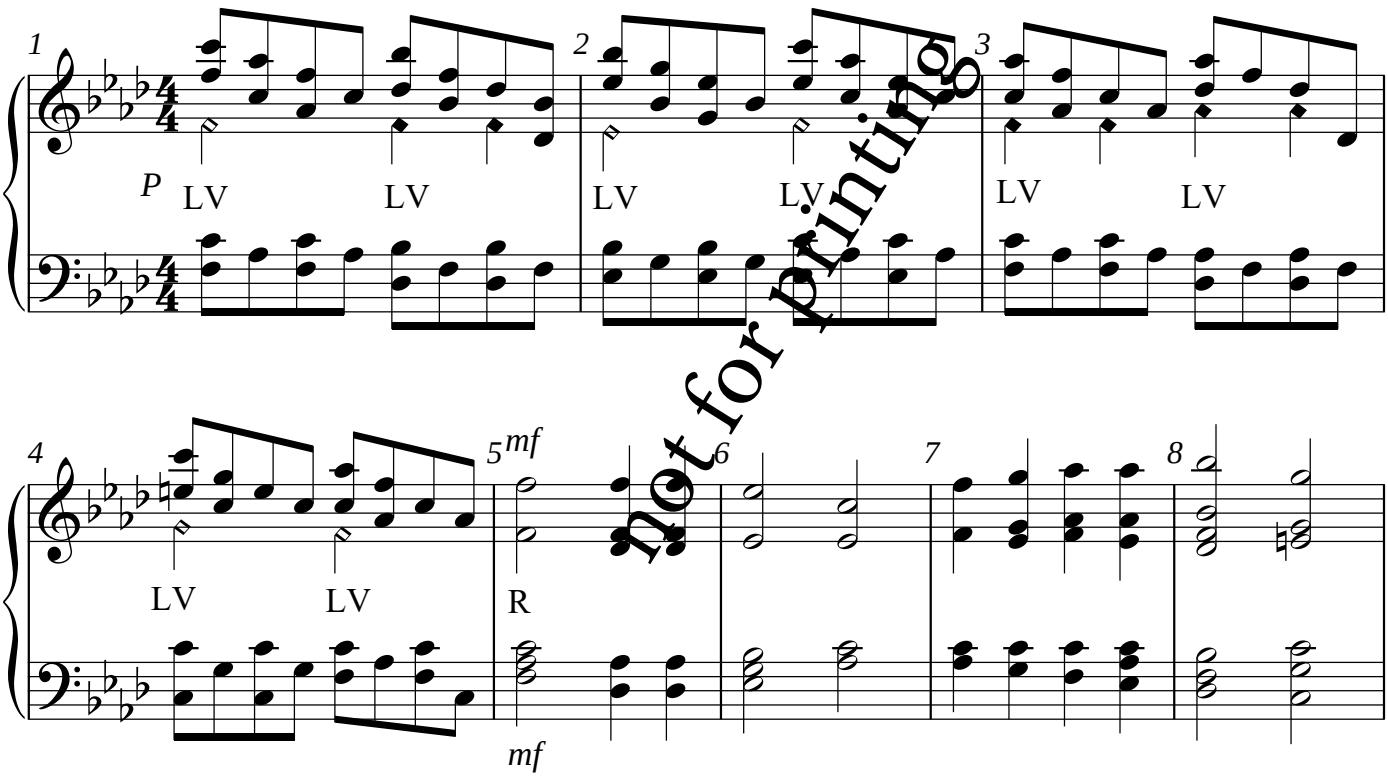

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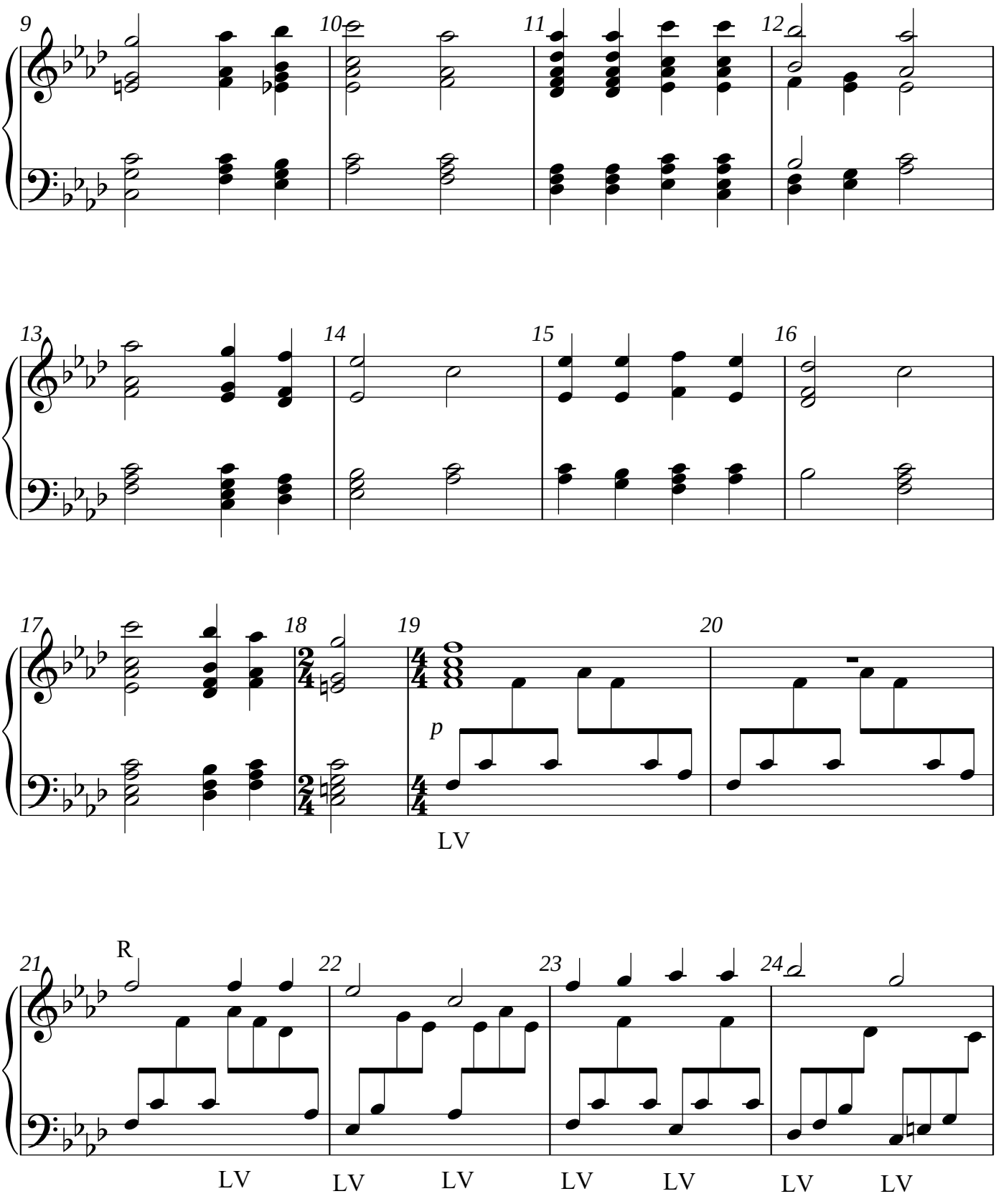
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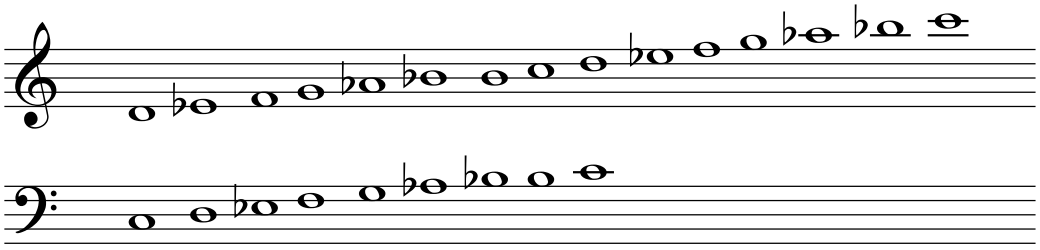
AC-HB028.B

Be Still, My Soul

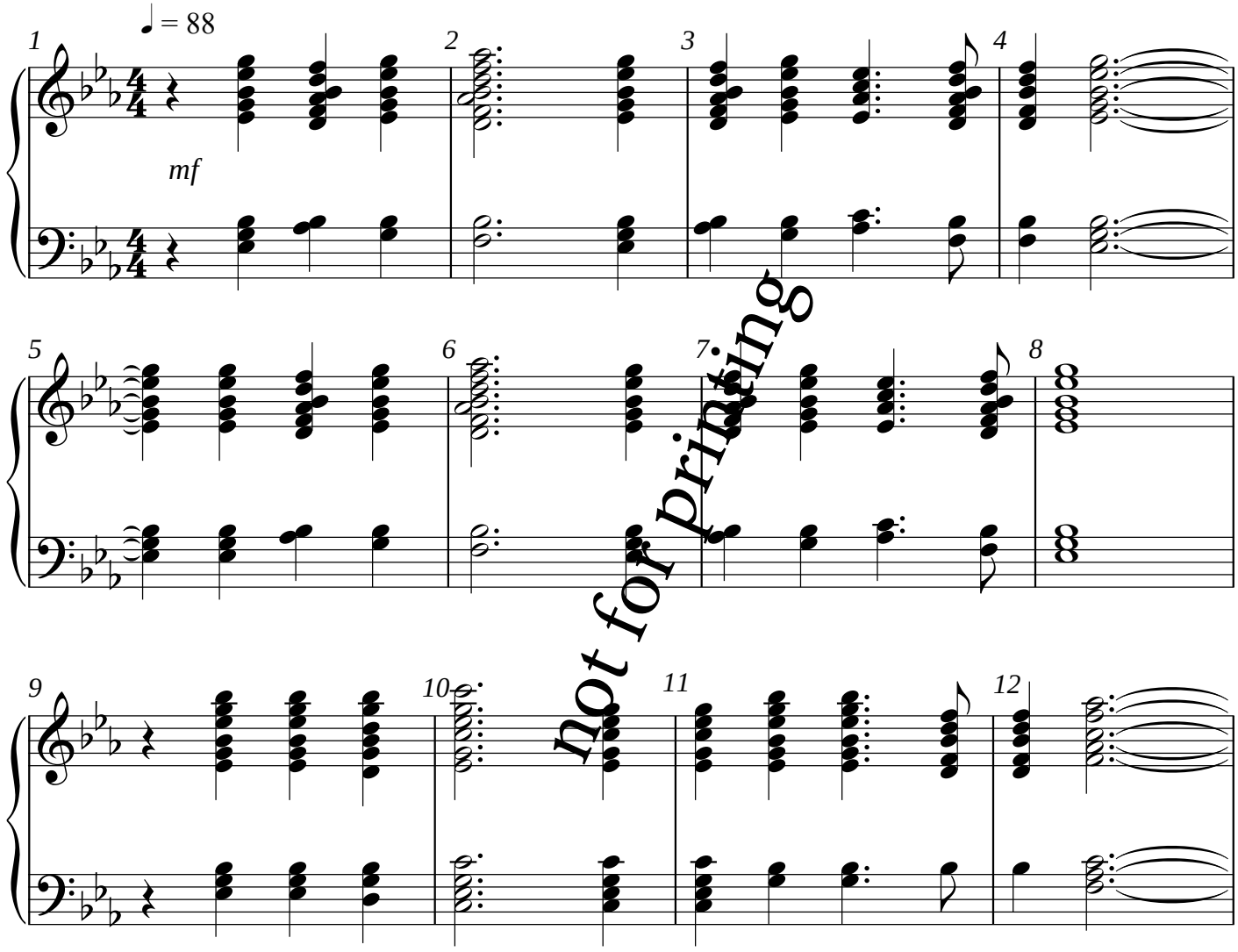
FINLANDIA

AZALEA CIRCLE

3 octaves
Handbells used: 24



arranged by Timothy Shepard



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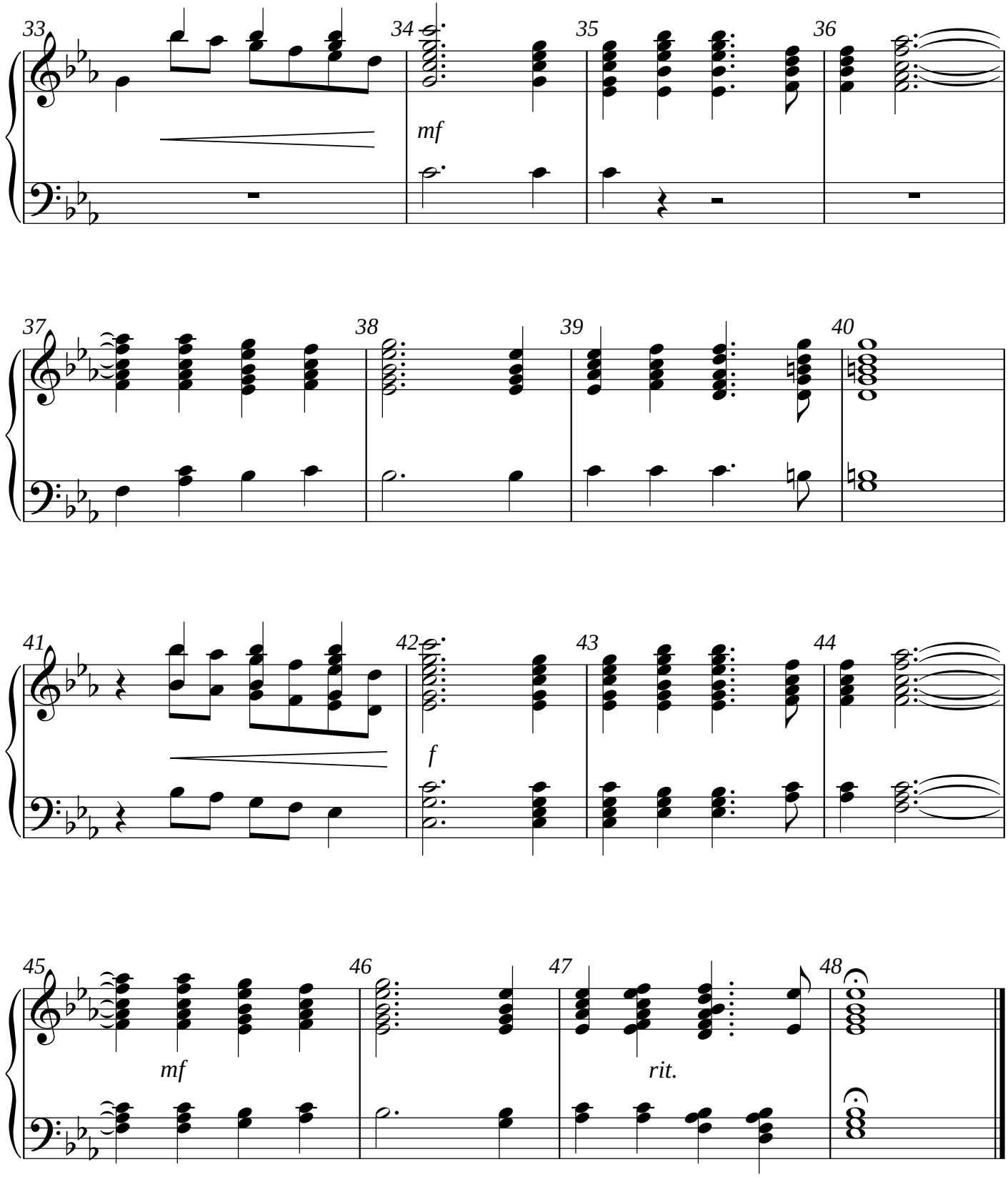
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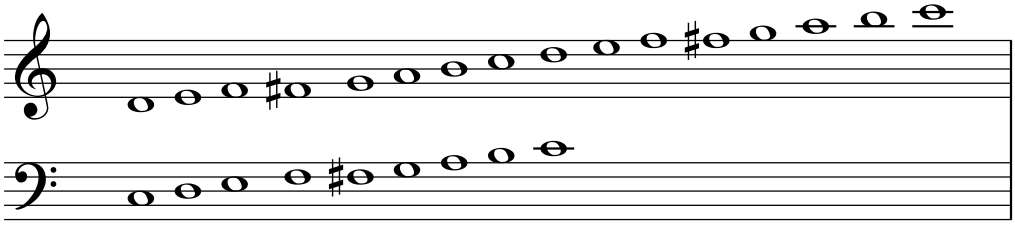
AC-HB028.B

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

ASSURANCE

AZALEA CIRCLE

3 octaves
Handbells used: 25



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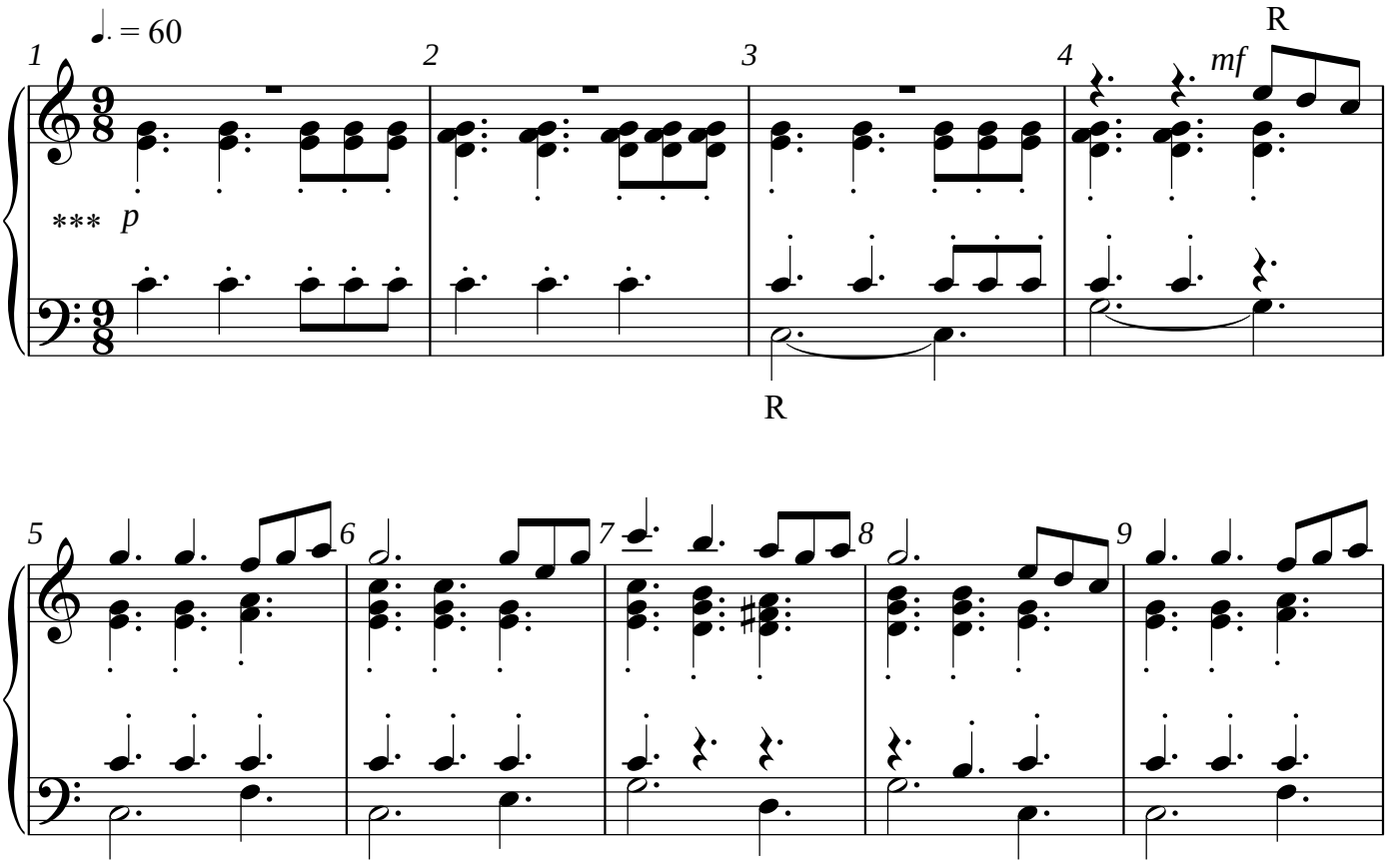

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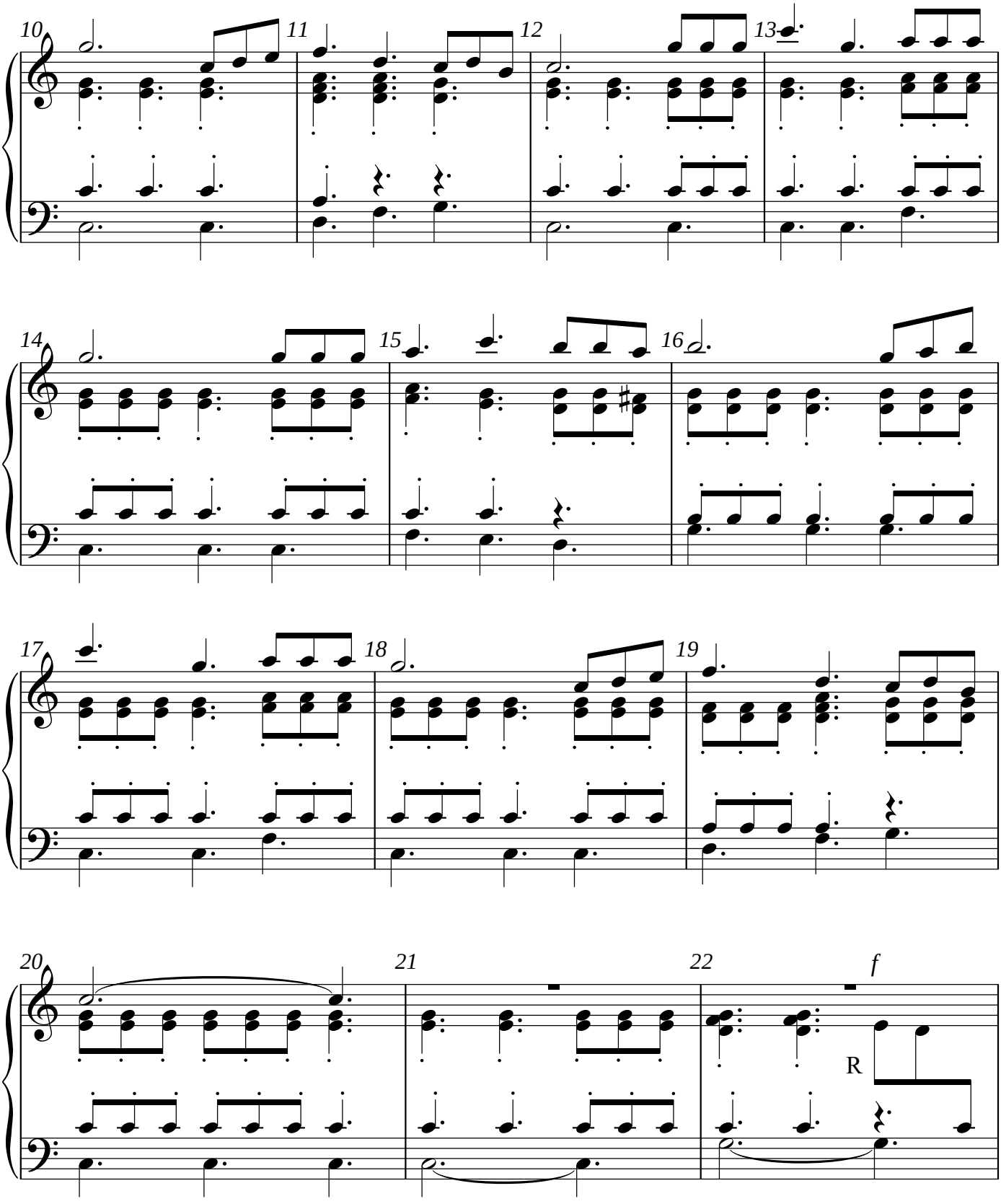
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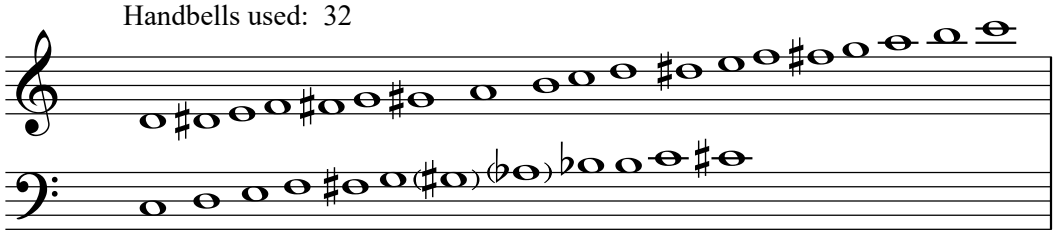
AC-HB0028.B

Dear Lord and Father

REST

AZALEA CIRCLE

3 octaves
Handbells used: 32



♩ = 76

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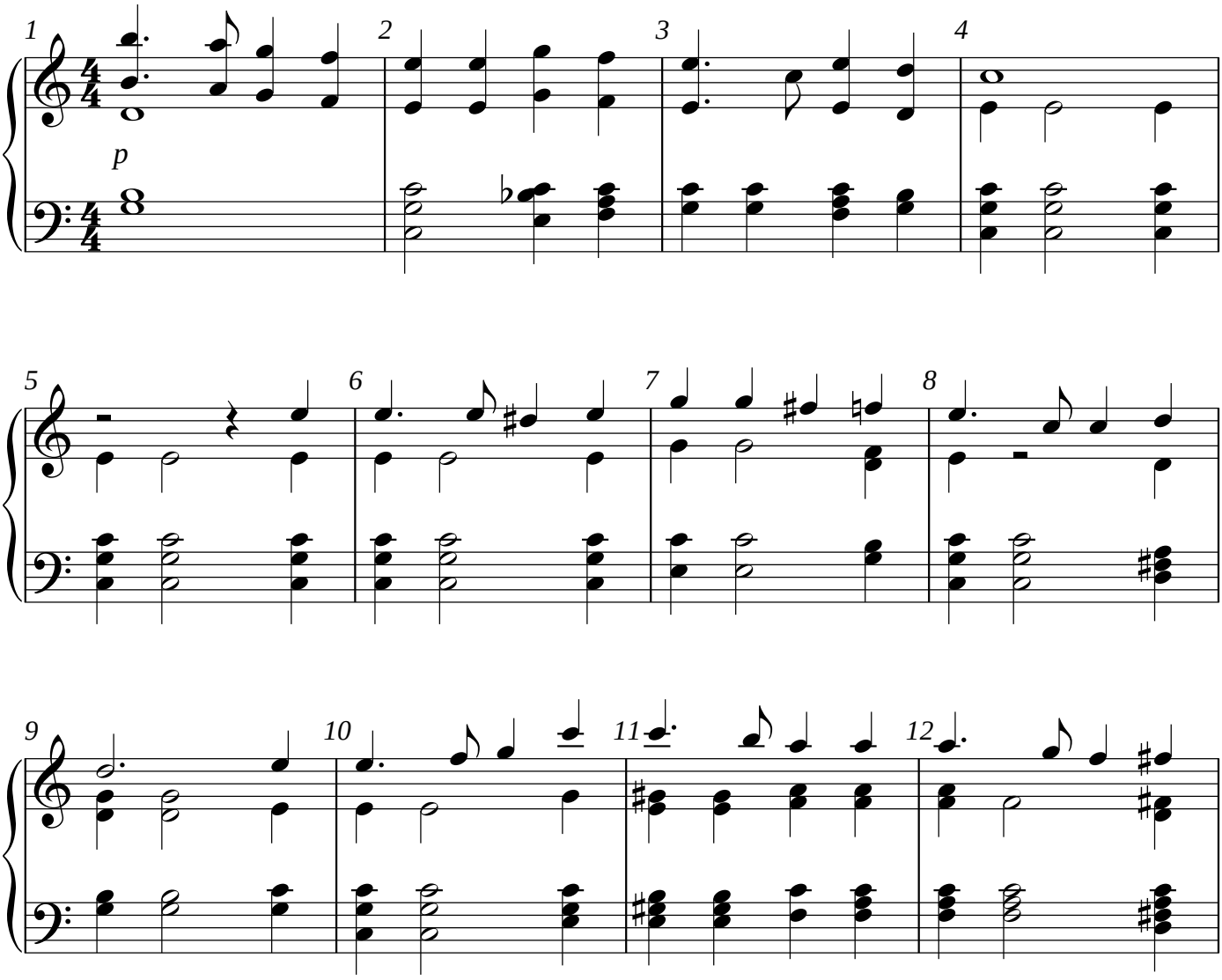

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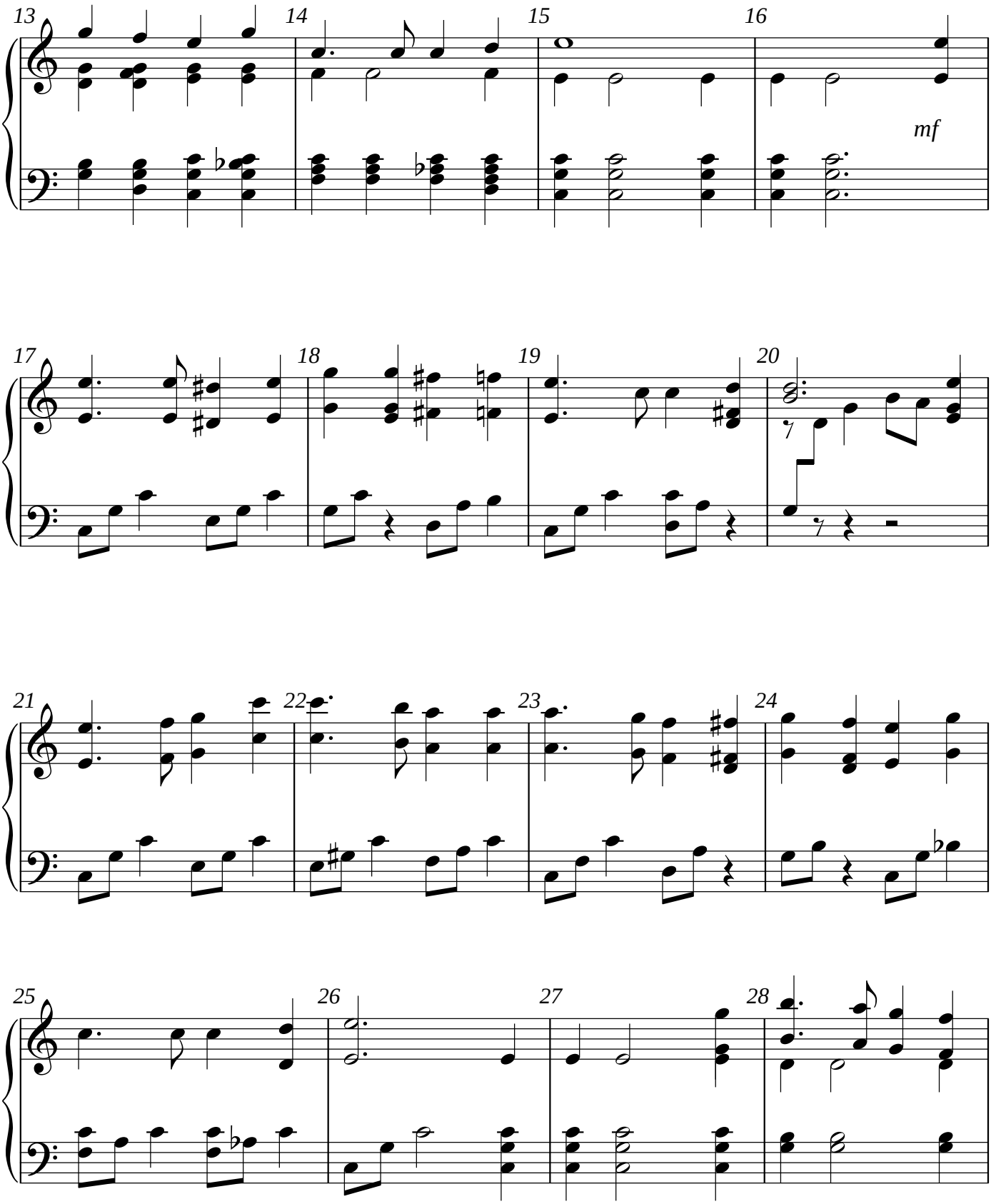
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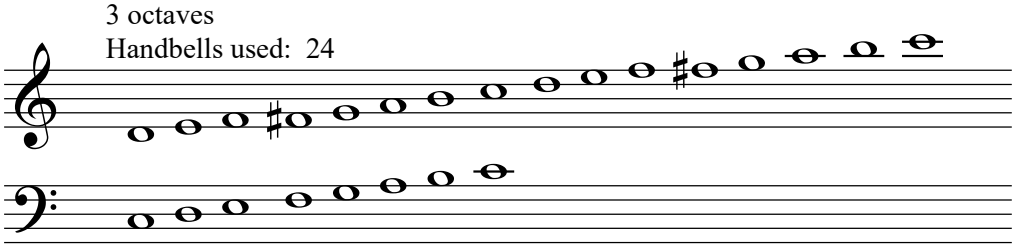
AC-HB0028.B

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

OLIVET



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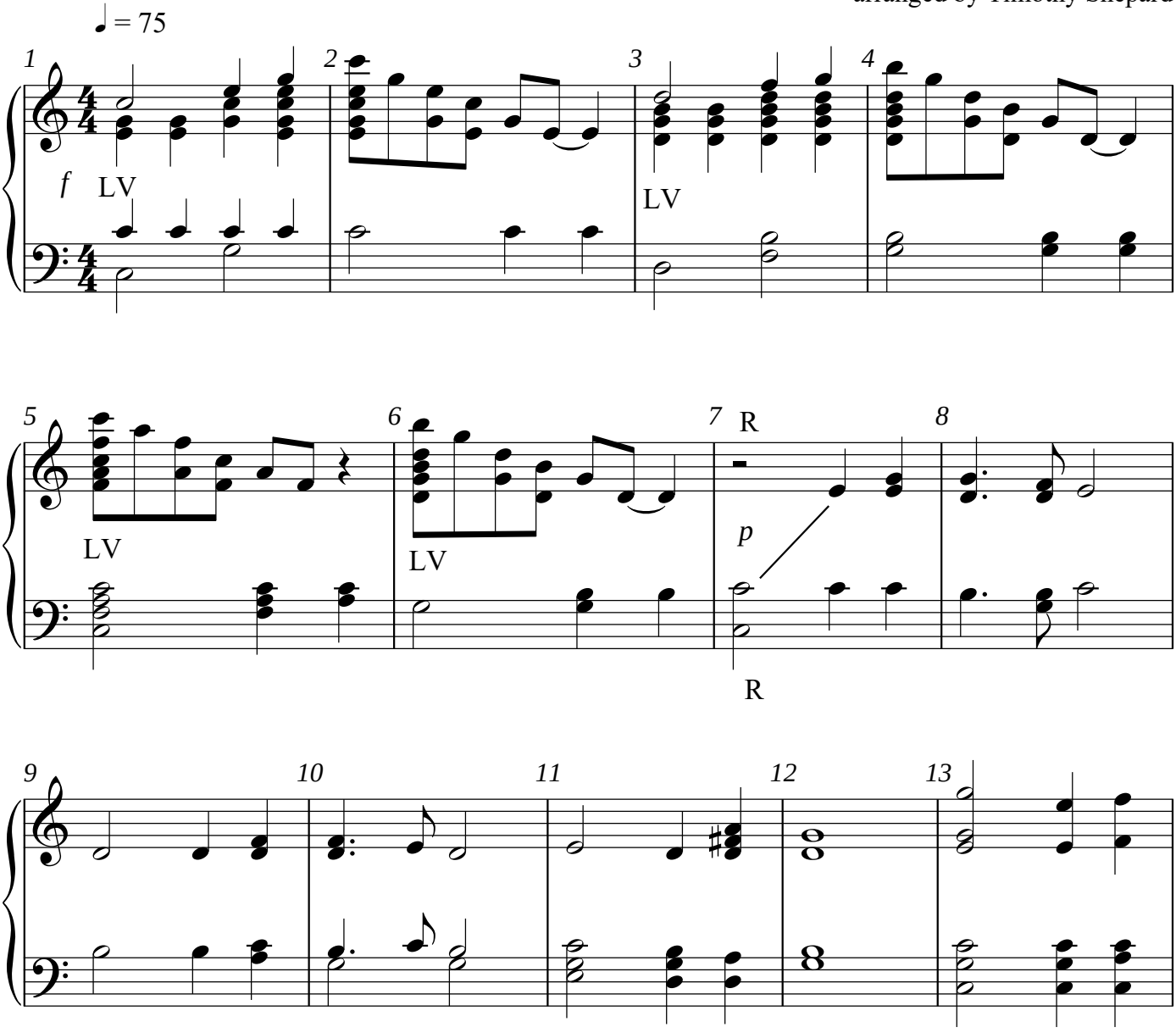

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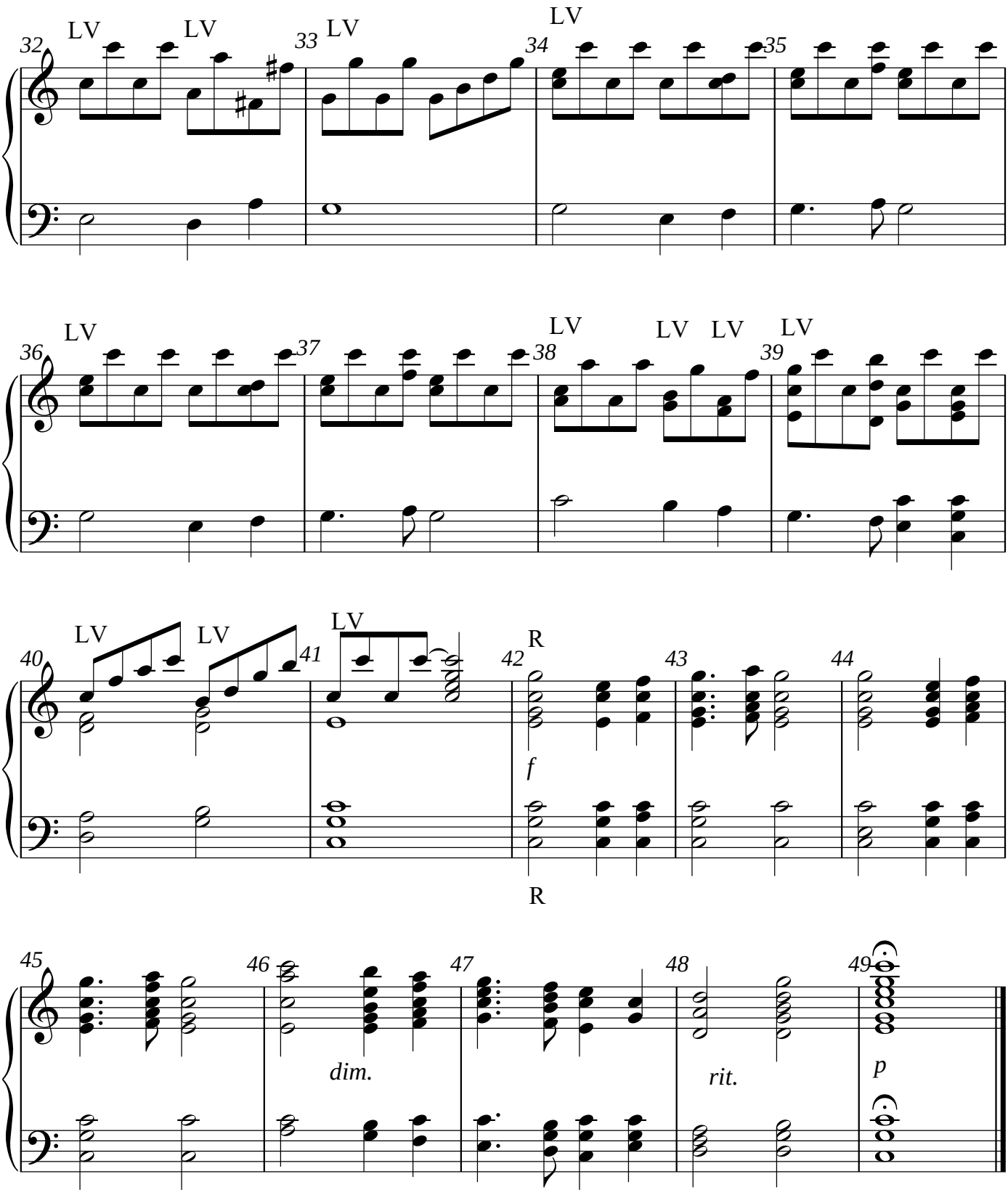
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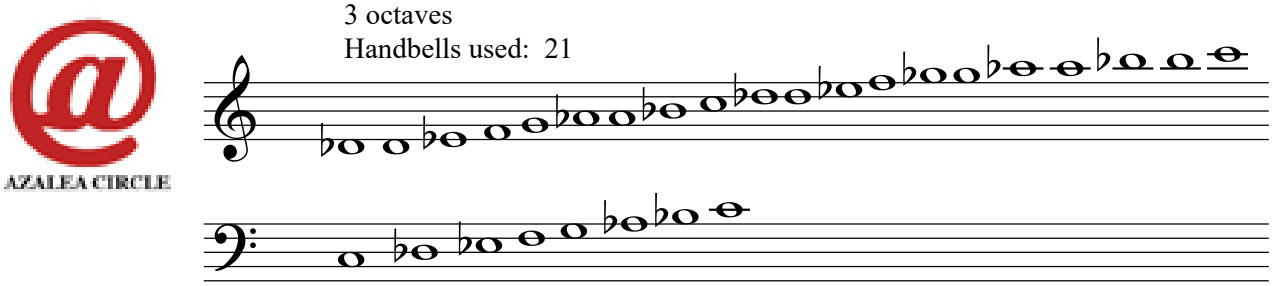
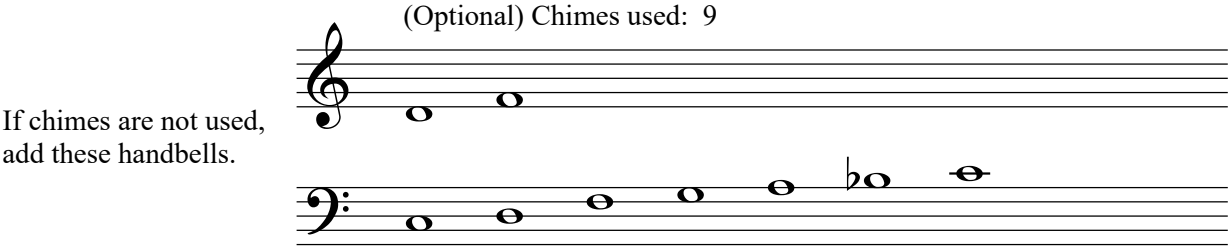
AC-HB0028.B

Were You There?

WERE YOU THERE





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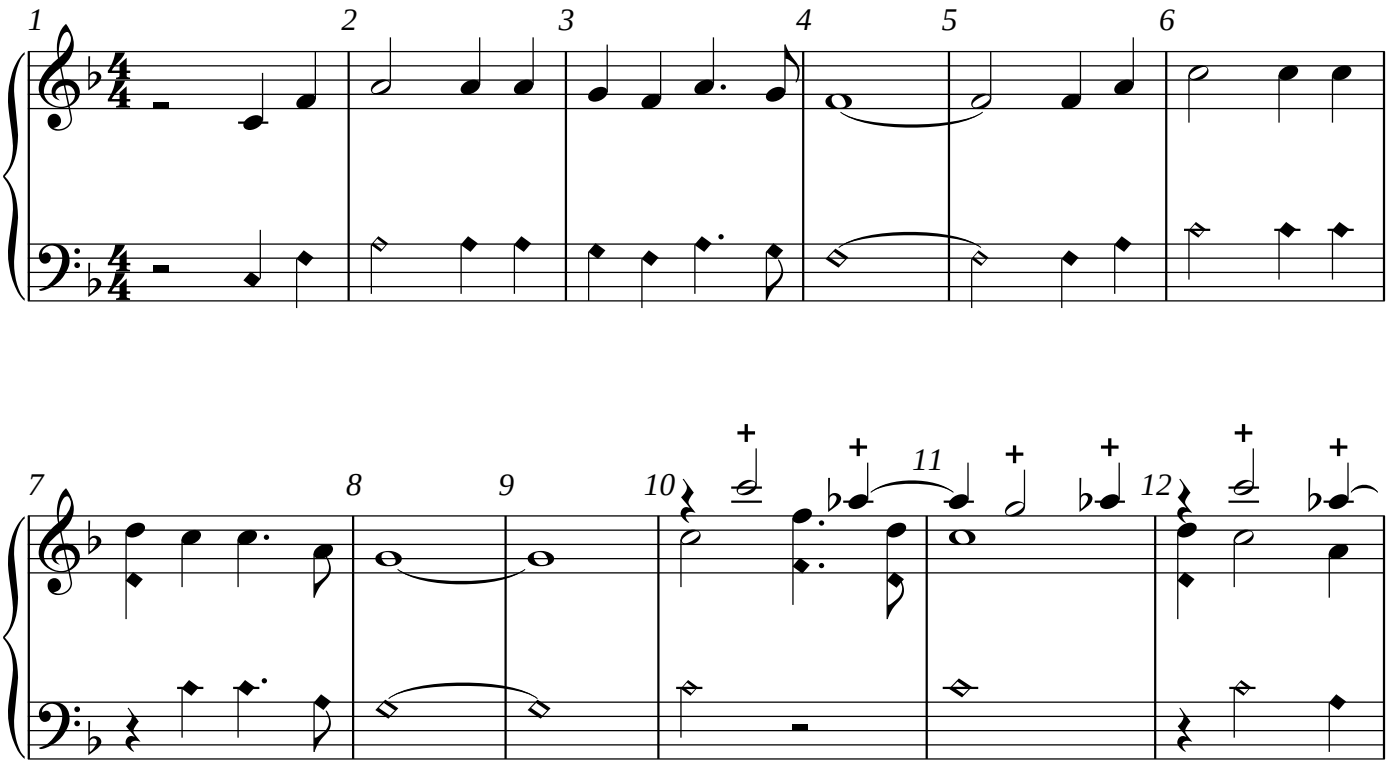

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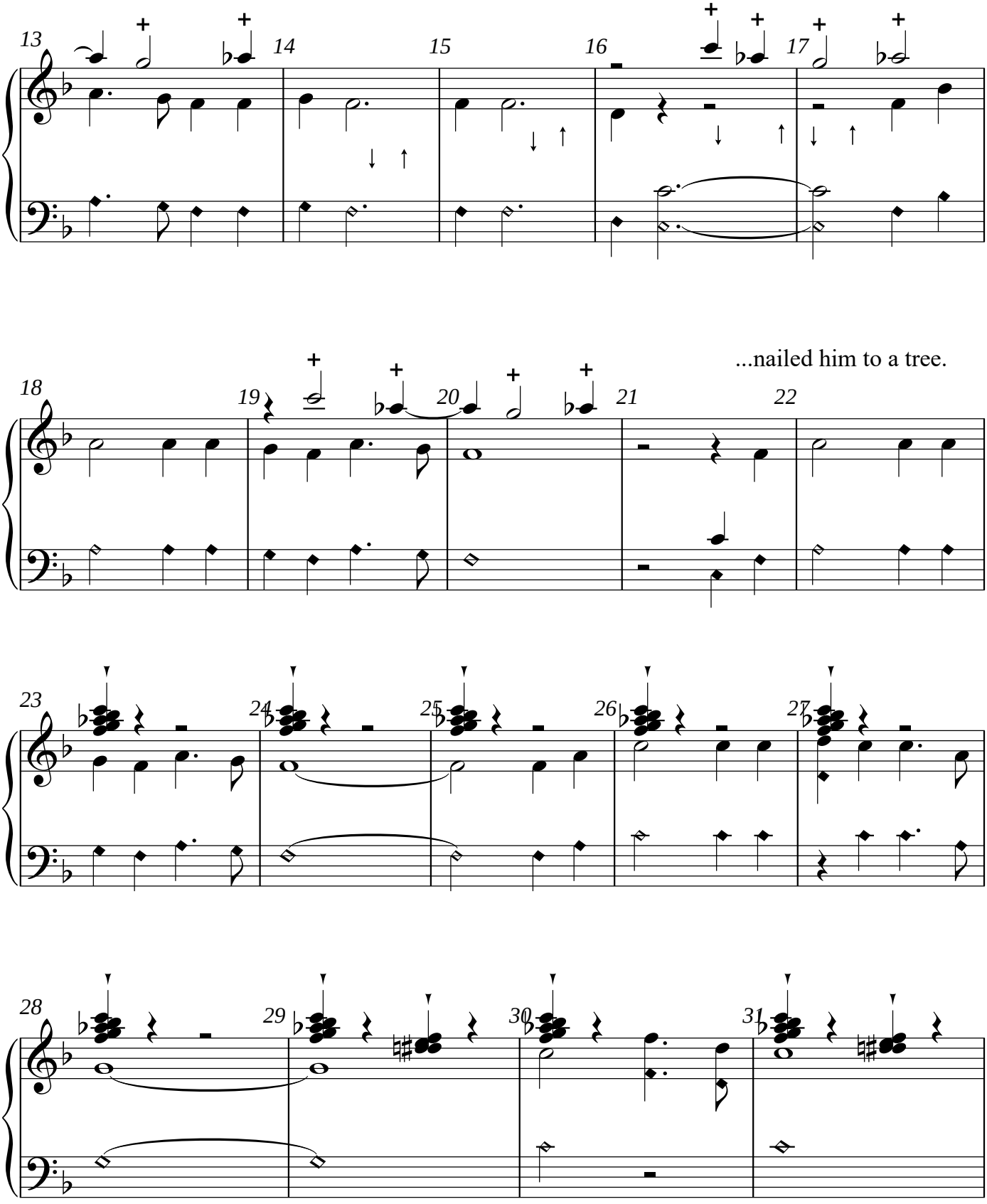
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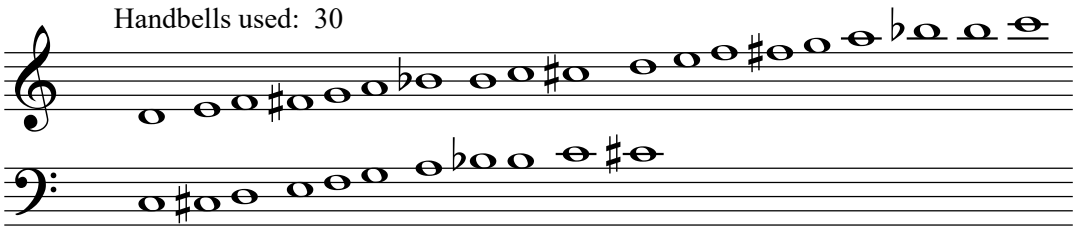
AC-HB028.B

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

ROCKINGHAM, HAMBURG

AZALEA CIRCLE

3 octaves
Handbells used: 30



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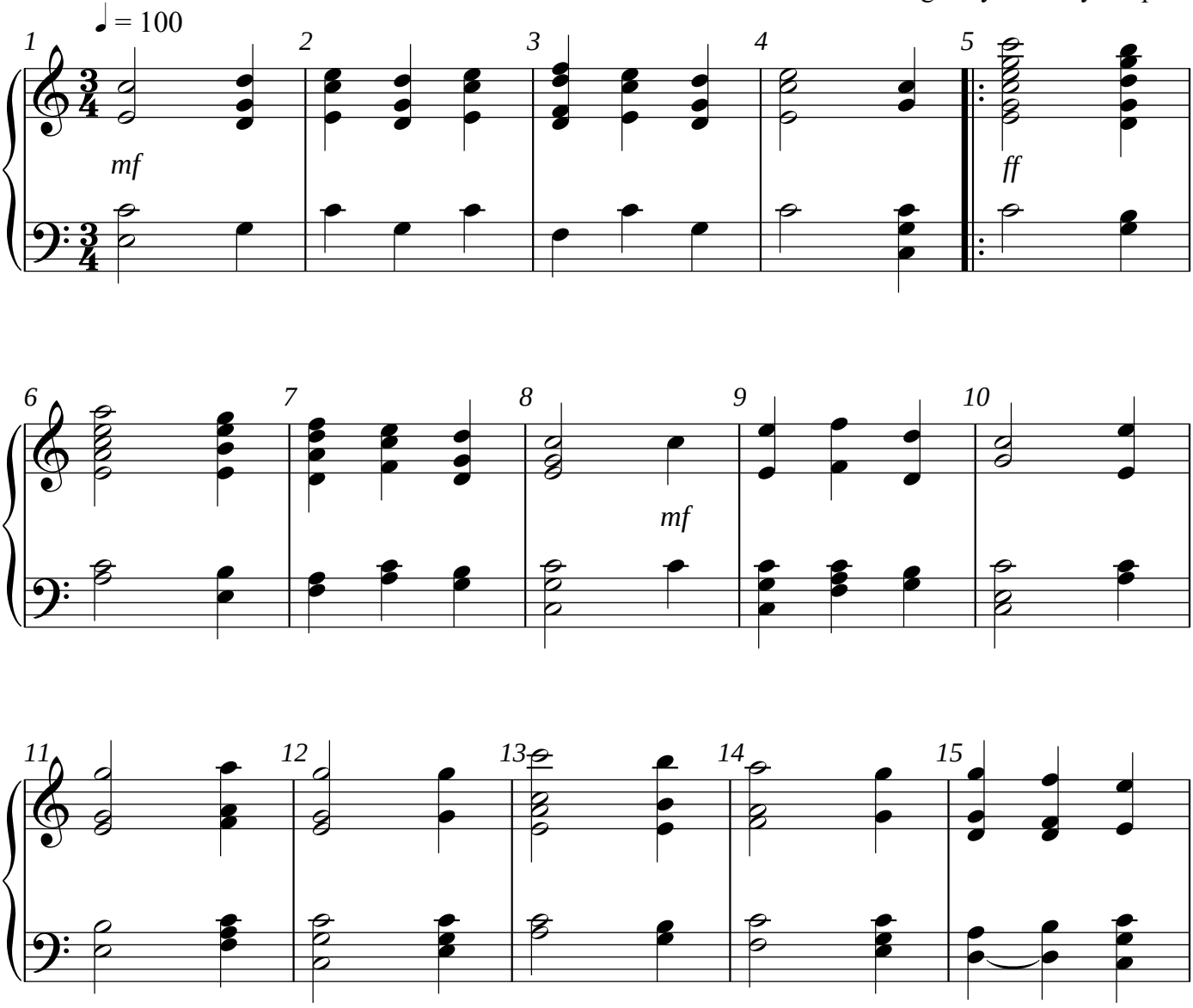

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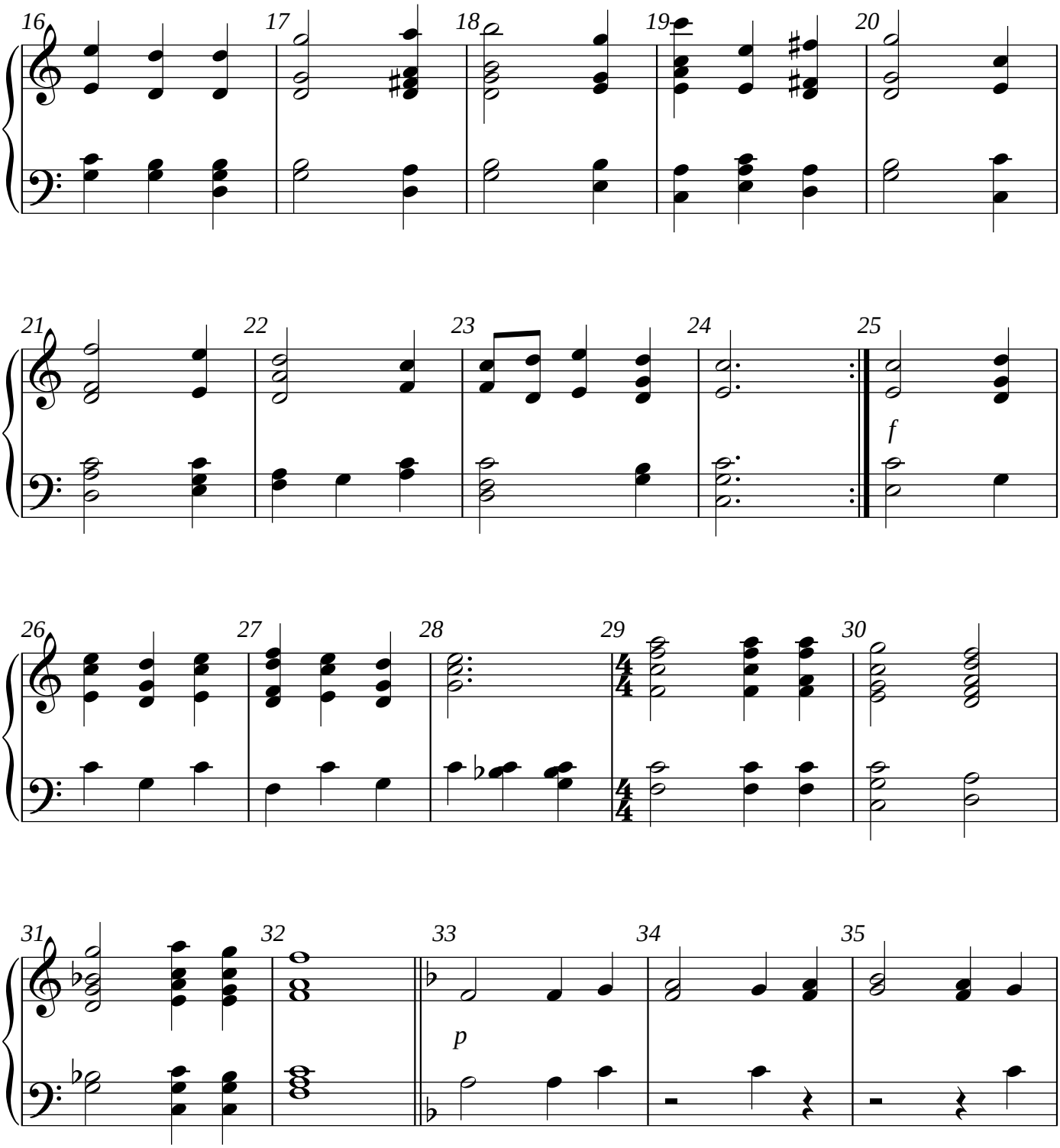
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