PREFACE

This handbook has been developed by the School of Music with the purpose of assisting students in preparation for successful completion of the Keyboard Proficiency Examination (KPE).

Beginning with degree completion plans starting in the Fall 2013 Semester, ALL School of Music B.M., B.S., and B.A. degree candidates must complete the KPE as part of the process required to finish the degree.

The KPE test is divided into seven sections, each of which will be evaluated separately (pass/fail):

1. **Repertoire I** – one song from the list of five pieces.
2. **Repertoire II** – another song from the list of five pieces.
3. **Patriotic Repertoire** – two songs: "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "My Country, 'Tis of Thee".
4. **Hymn or Worship Repertoire** – either one hymn or two worship songs from the list.
5. **Sight-Reading** – as assigned at the test time.
6. **Harmonization** – as indicated for the Performing Arts OR the Worship, Artist/Songwriter, and Commercial Music track.
7. **Piano Technique** – scales and arpeggios as indicated.

Further details for each test section can be found within the contents of this handbook. The expected competency level is similar to the requirements found in NASM accredited music schools across the country. Students are required to prepare for the examination under the instruction of Liberty University piano faculty in private or class piano courses until the examination is successfully completed. Any student having inadequate piano skills – insufficient to pass the KPE test – is to seek immediate assistance from a member of the keyboard faculty.

The KPE test is offered two times every semester – once to those not enrolled in class or applied piano, once to those so enrolled; each student has one opportunity per semester to take the test. Students may take as few as 1 or as many as 7 sections of the test at that time. The student is passed on each section of the examination when the evaluating faculty recognizes that the student's keyboard skill is minimally functional for that particular portion. The student is determined to be "functional" when the piece is performed with little or no pitch and rhythm errors and the continuity of the piece remains intact.

Functional piano skills are necessary for success in the field of music. The School of Music faculty has made the commitment to provide each student with programs of study and resources that assist in equipping those called in music – education, ethnomusicology, ministry, performance, songwriting, theory-composition, and other disciplines – to glorify God in all that is done.

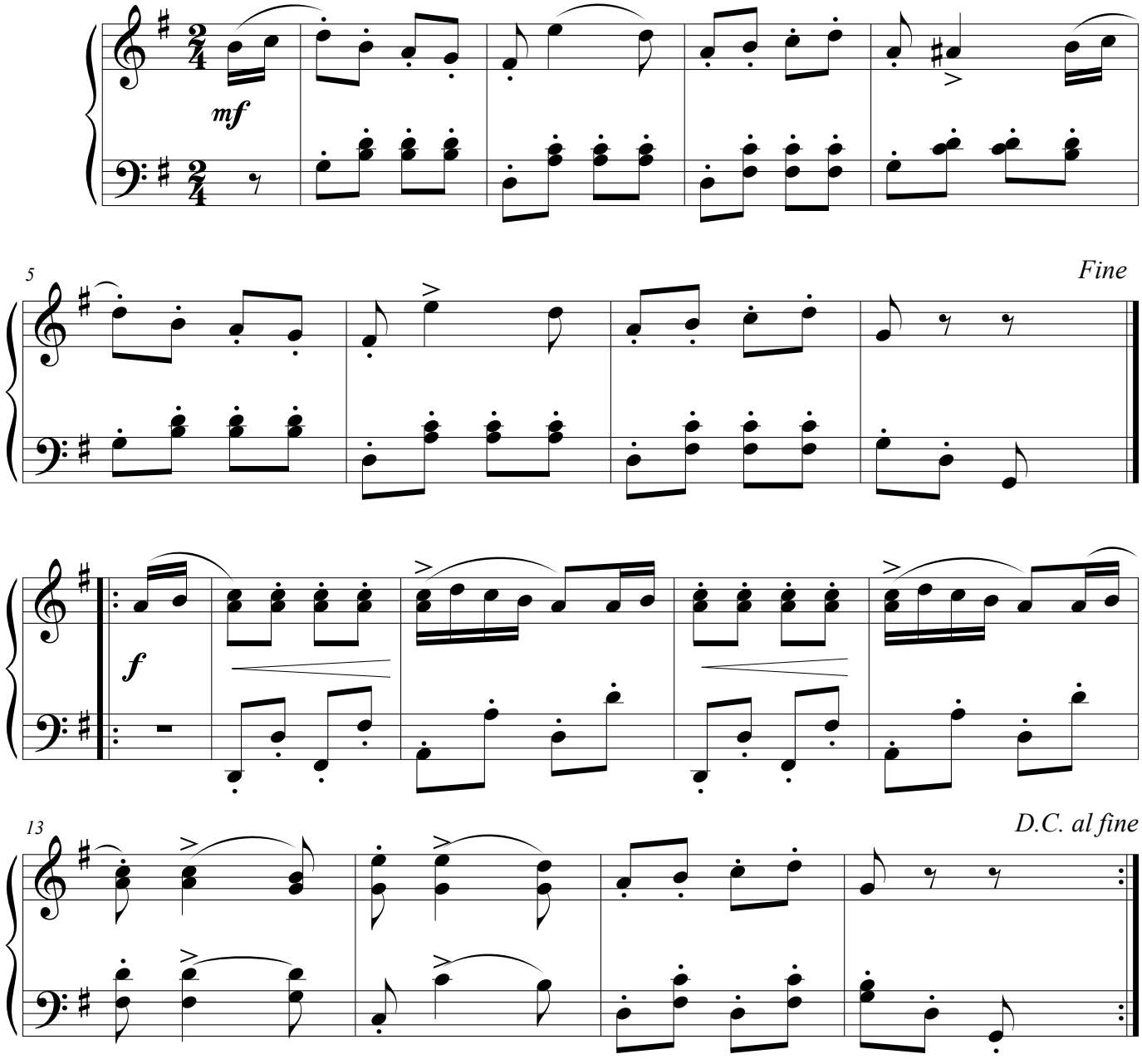
(edited by Tad Hardin, August 2014)

REPERTOIRE

The student is required to play two solos for this section. The repertoire may be selected from The Older Beginner Piano Course, Level II, Unit 10, by James Bastien or from this book. If not chosen from these two sources, the student must confer with the respective instructor regarding appropriate literature. Repertoire does not have to be memorized.

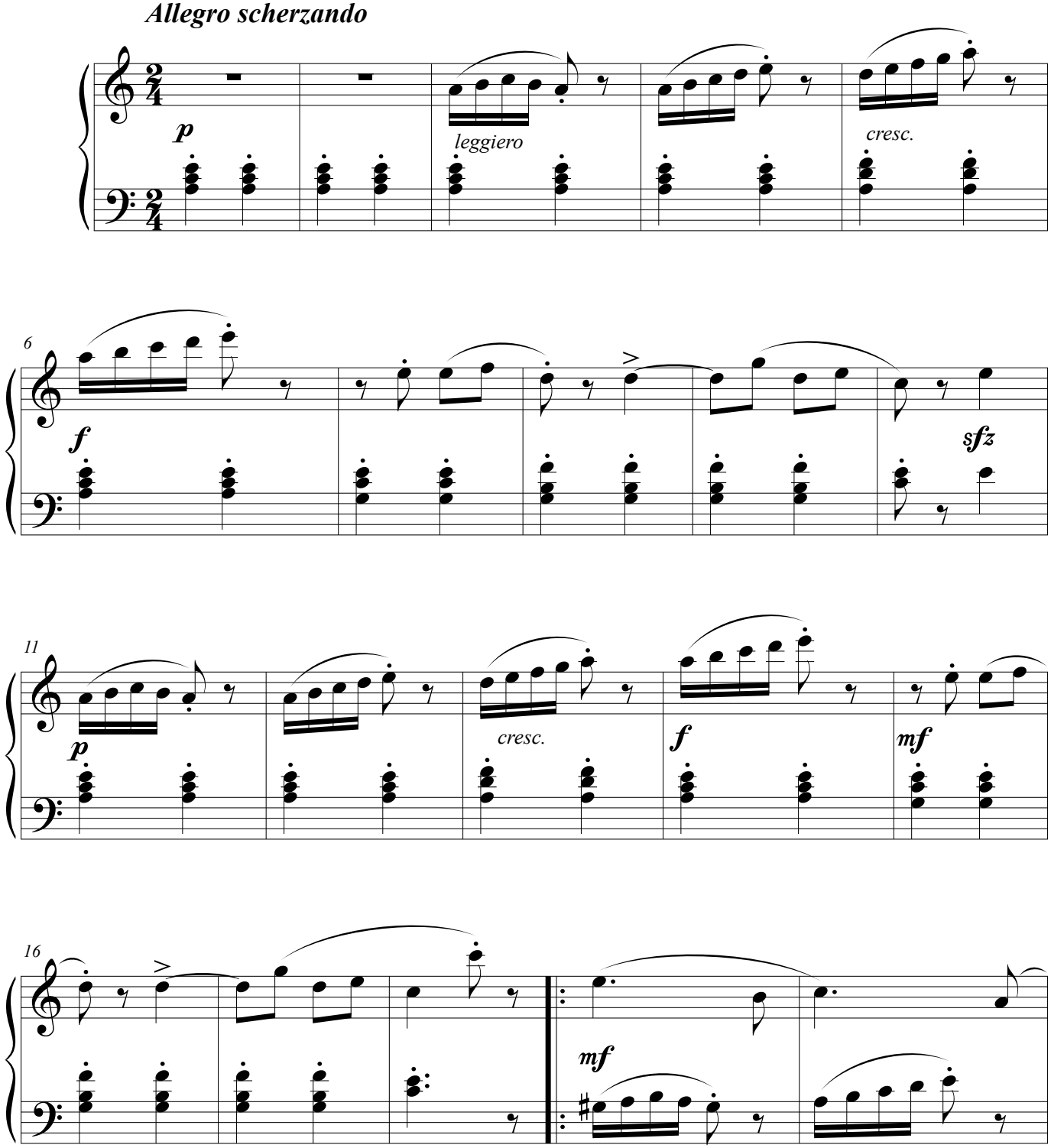
Ecossaise in G

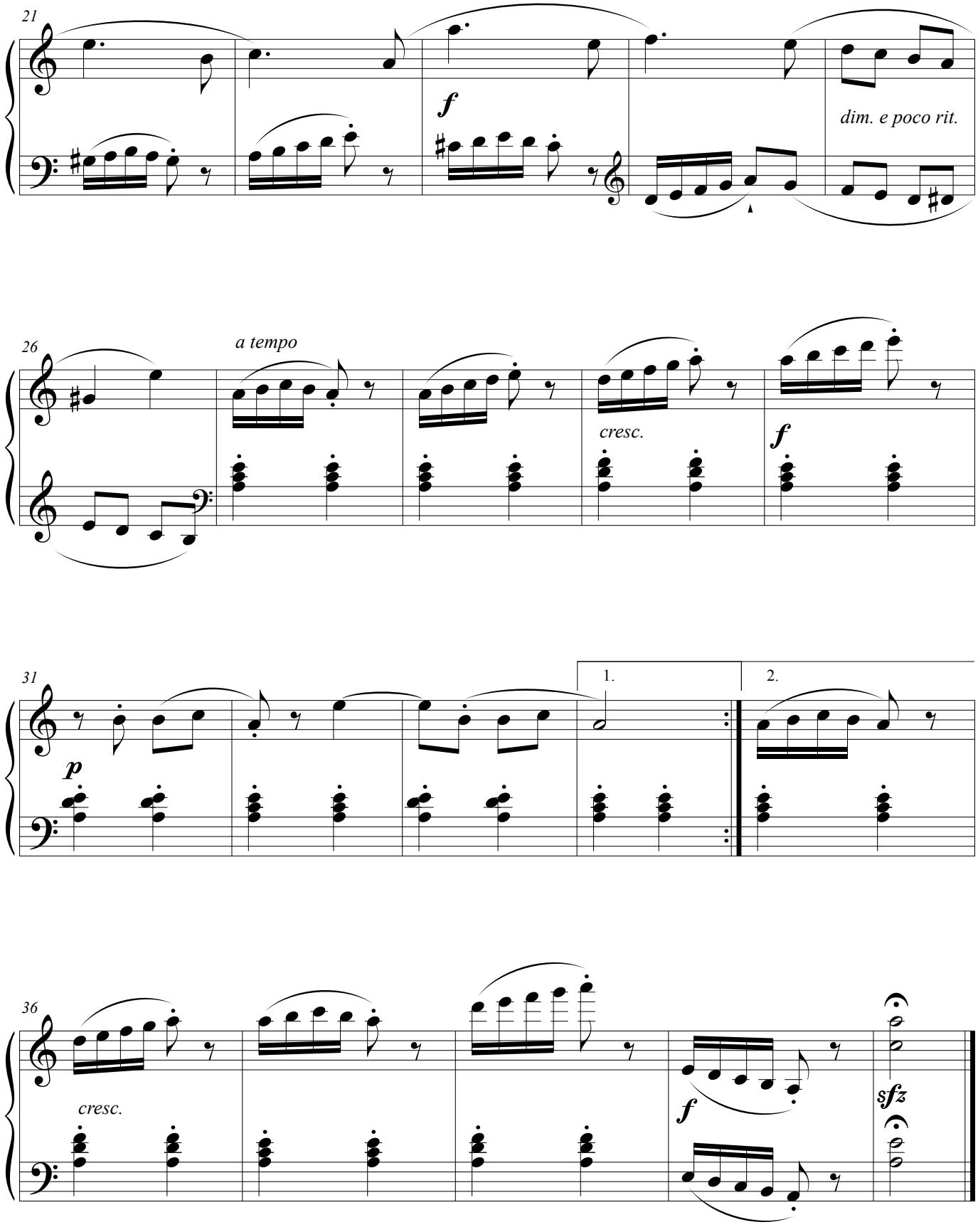
Beethoven



Arabesque

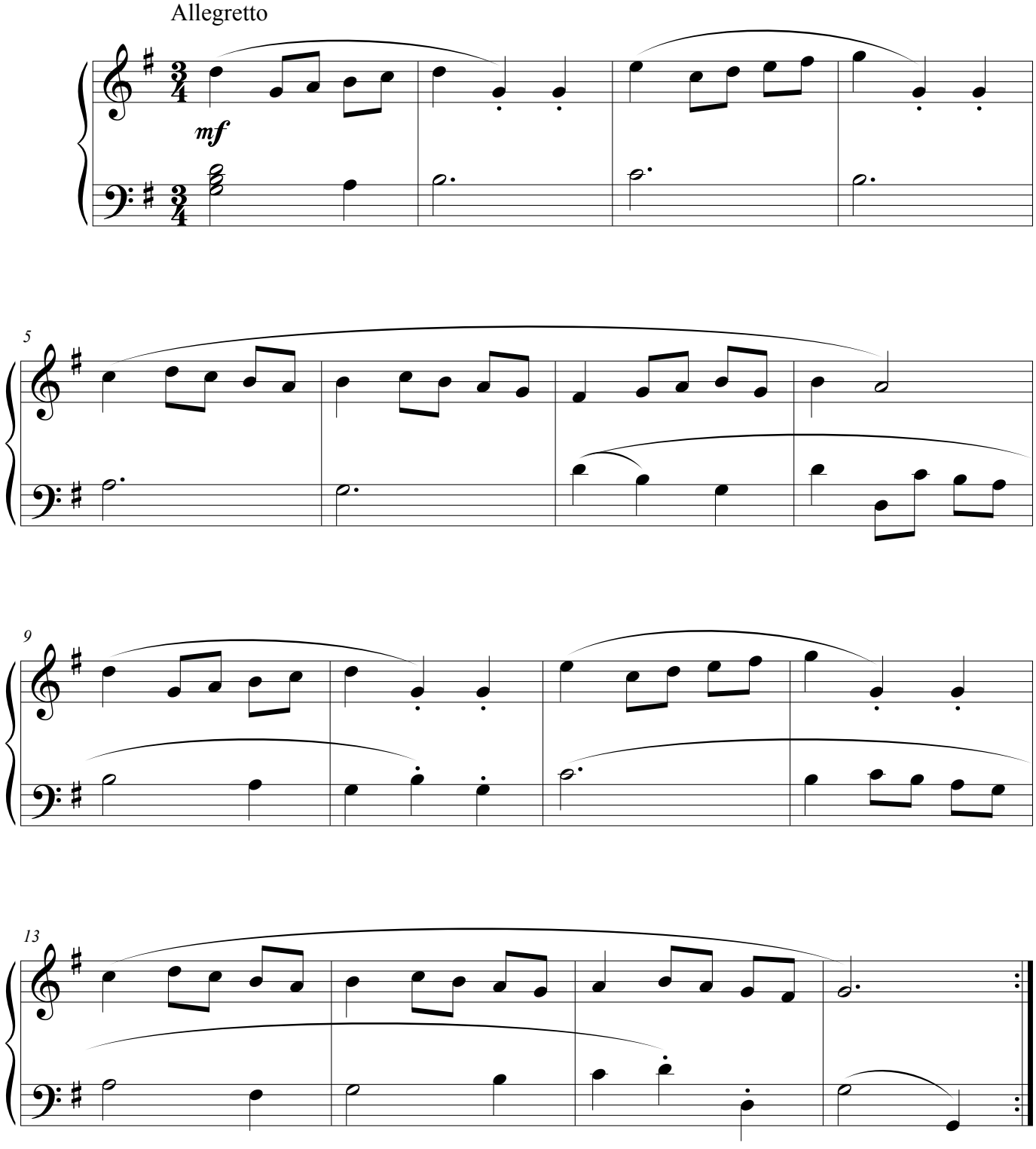
Burgmüller

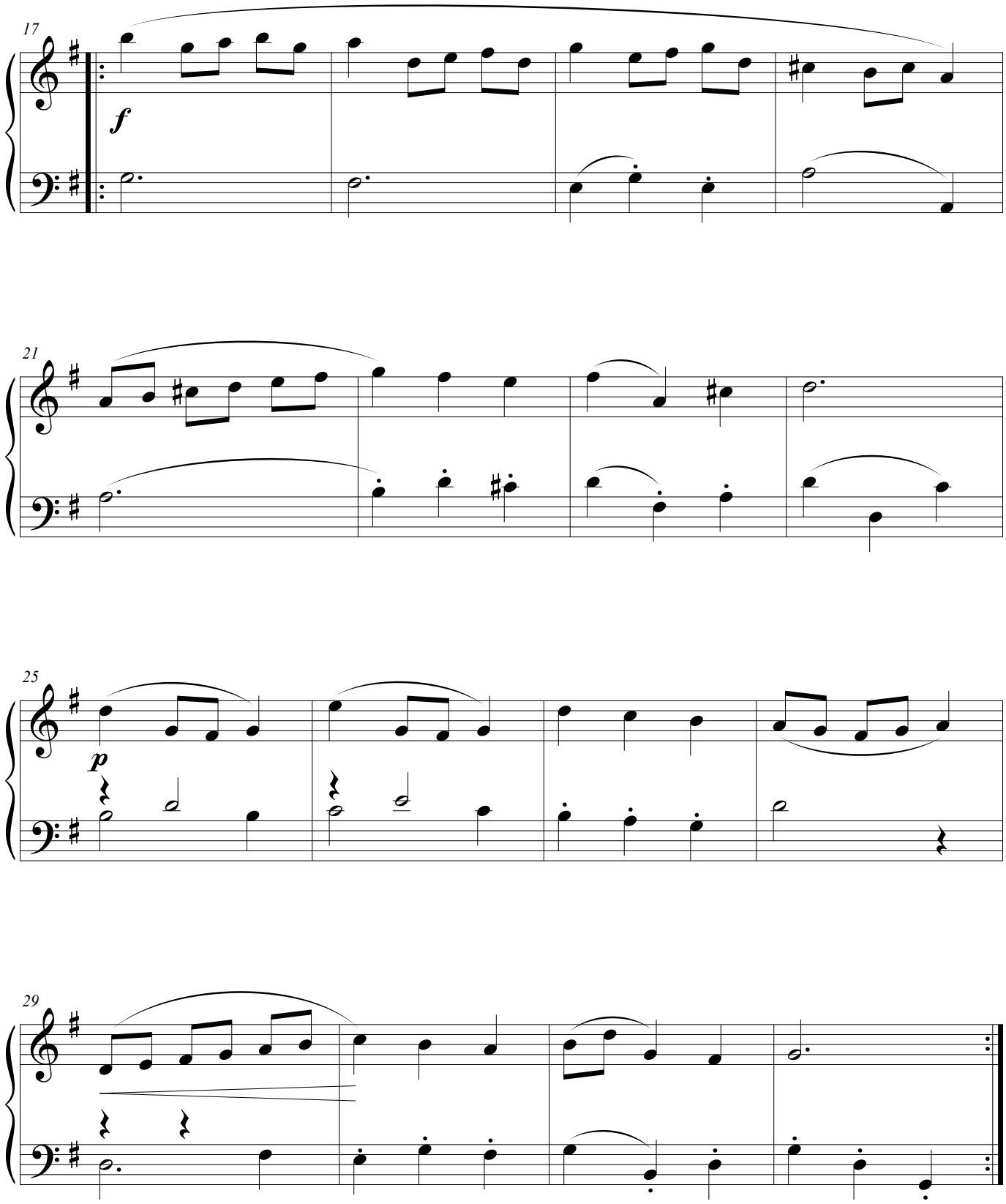



21
f
dim. e poco rit.
26
a tempo
cresc.
f
31
1.
2.
p
36
cresc.
f
sfz

Minuet in G Major

Notebook for Anna Magdalena Bach

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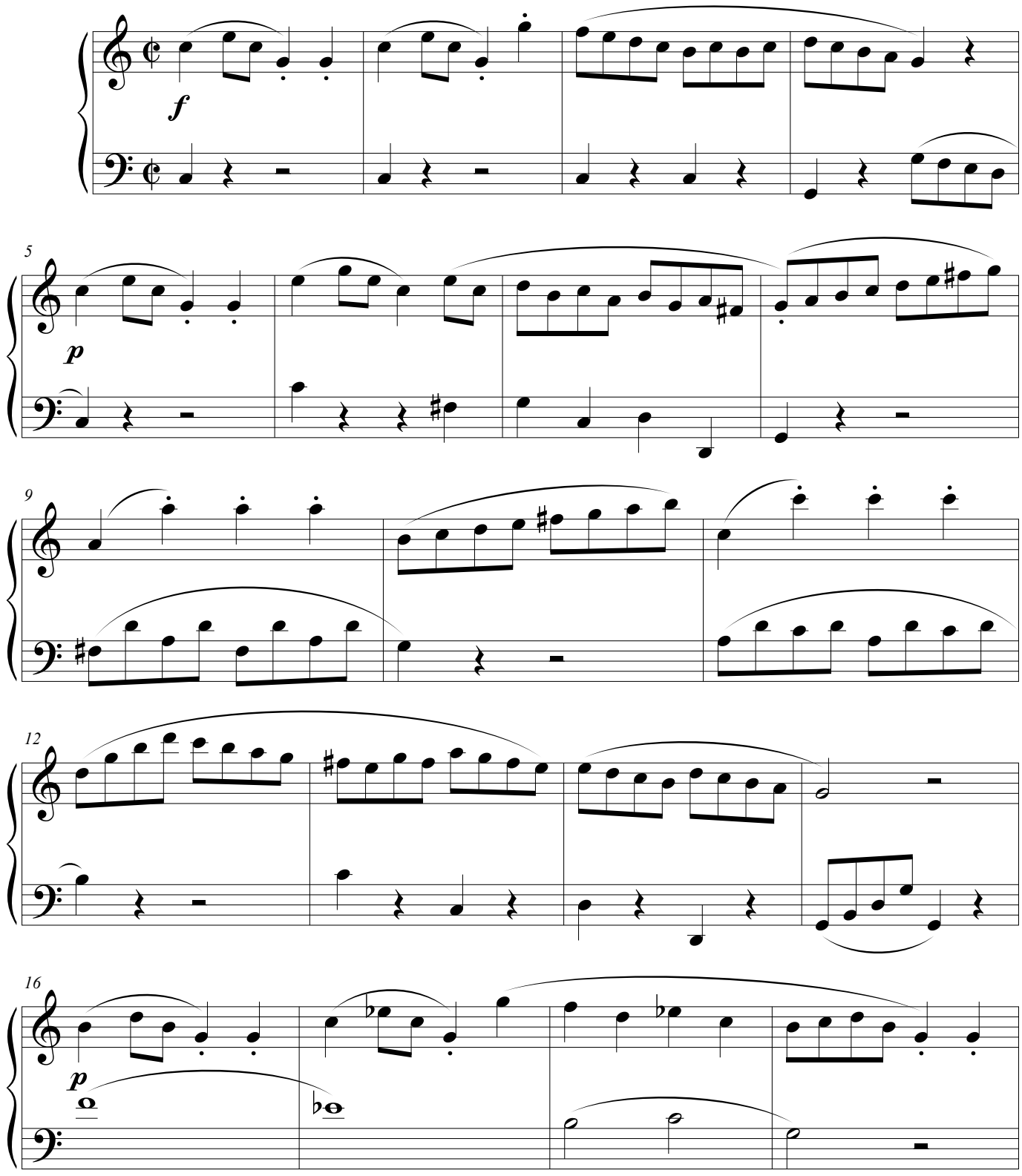
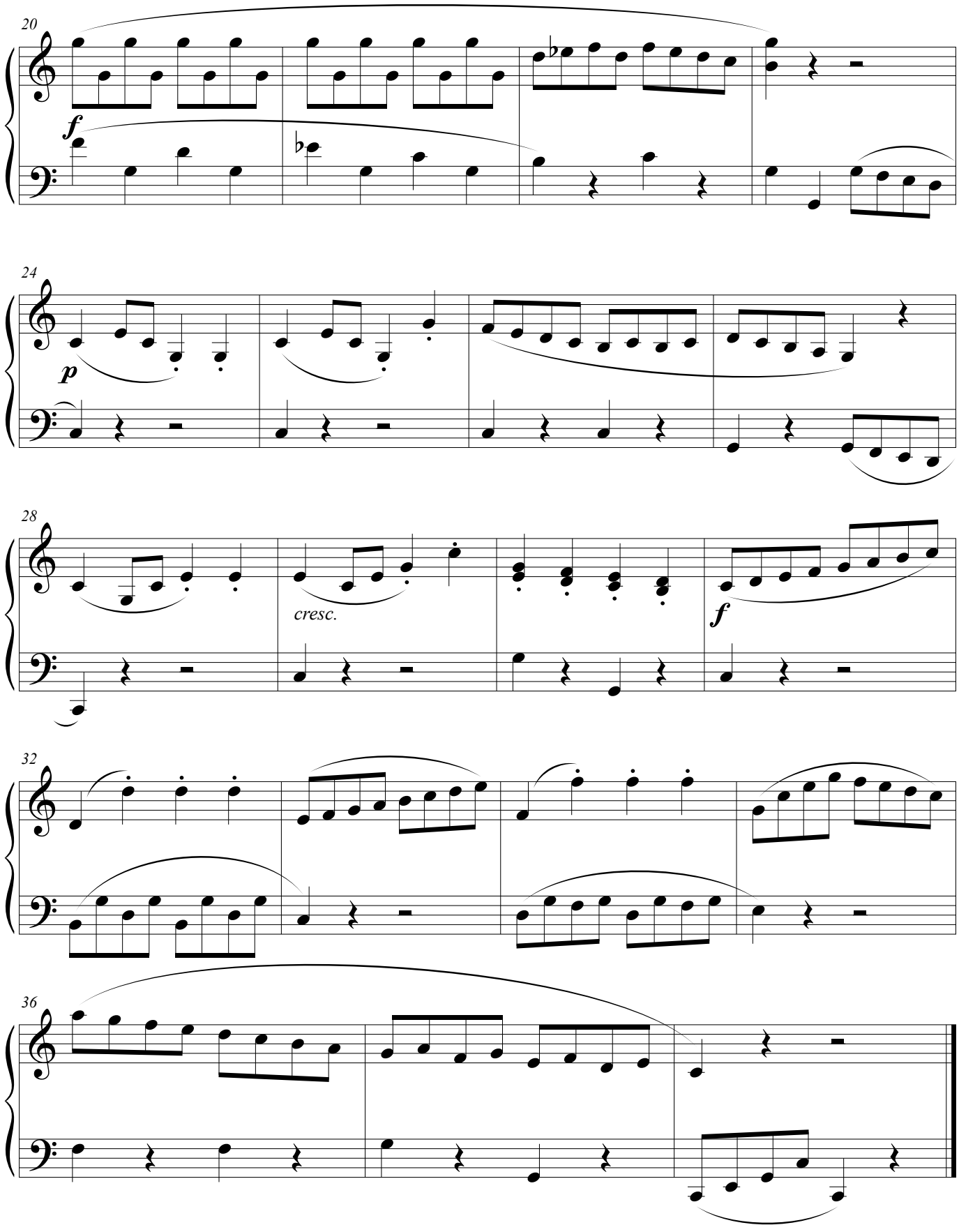
29

Sonatina Op. 36 No. 1

M. Clementi

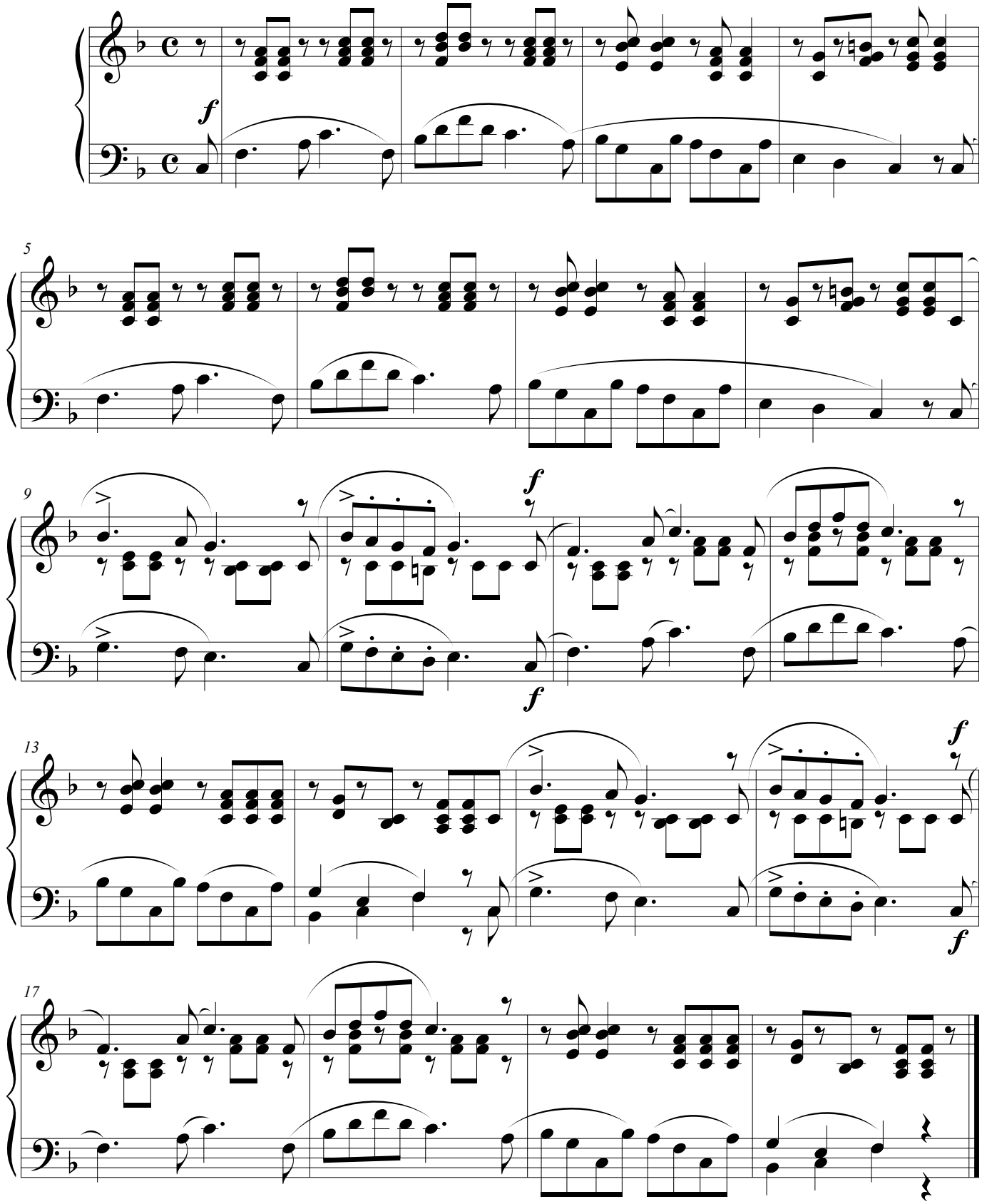



20
f
24
p
28
cresc.
f
32
36

Fröhlicher Landmann

Robert Schumann

Frich und munter.



PATRIOTIC, HYMN, and WORSHIP REPERTOIRE

Approved Hymns and Gospel Songs for the Keyboard Proficiency Examination: The student must play one of the approved pieces as written in the hymnal PLUS one of two ways –

(A) As written in the hymnal PLUS a contemporary, simplified chord rendition with harmonies appropriate to the melody and the expectations of modern worship styles;
(B) As written in the hymnal PLUS a modern contemporary style, which involves a single-note or octave left hand and a three-note minimum right hand chording style per measure.

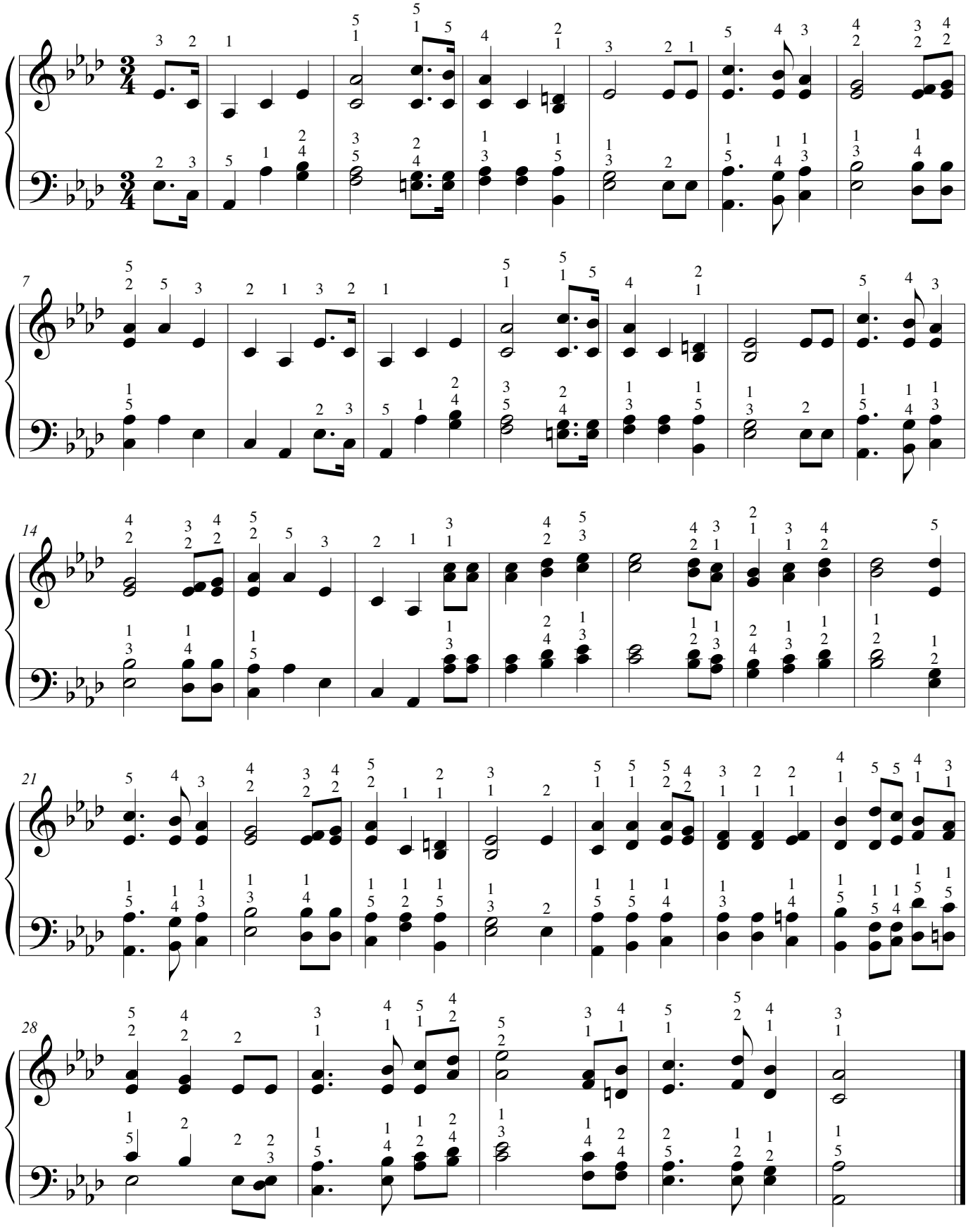
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name
Arise, My Soul, Arise!
Battle Hymn of the Republic
Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation
Come Though Fount of Every Blessing
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come
Crown Him with Many Crowns
Fairest Lord Jesus
Faith of Our Fathers
Give of Your Best to the Master
Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
Have You Any Room for Jesus?
He the Pearly Gates Will Open
Holy, Holy, Holy
How Firm a Foundation
How Great Thou Art
I Know Whom I Have Believed
I Shall Know Him
In the Garden
It Is Well with My Soul
Jesus, Blessed Jesus
Jesus, I Am Resting, Resting
Jesus Saves
Lead On, O King Eternal
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
Now Thank We All Our God
O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing
O Sacred Head, Now Wounded
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
The Son of God Goes Forth to War
Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne
We Gather Together
When We See Christ
Whosoever Will May Come

Approved Worship Songs for the Proficiency Examination: B.M., B.S., and B.A. students in the worship, artist/songwriting, and commercial programs alternatively may play two charts (RH chords, LH one-note or octave approach) from among the following worship songs instead of one of the hymns listed above –

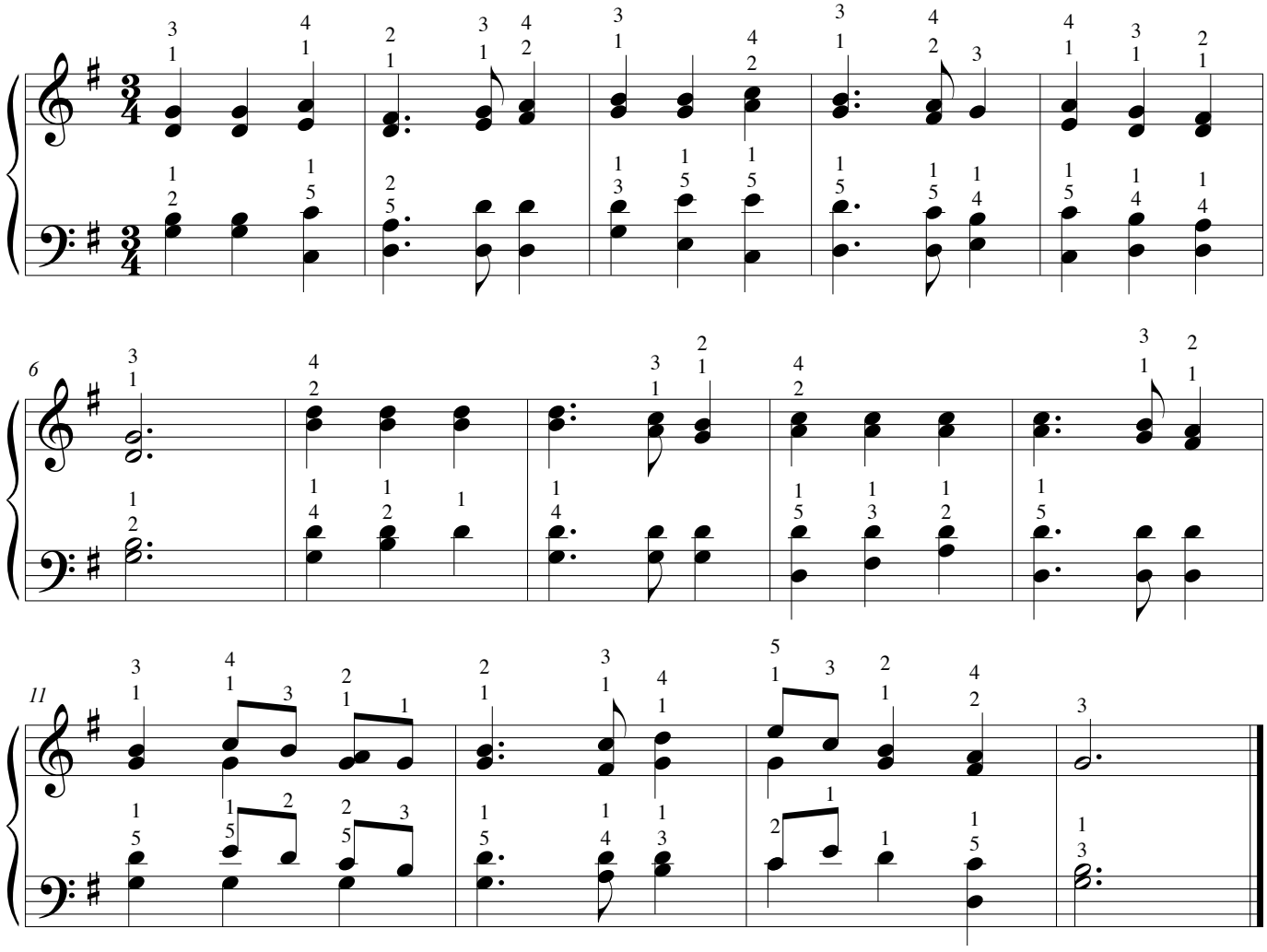
A Mighty Fortress (Nockels)
Agnus Dei
Always
Center of My Joy
Defender
Everlasting God
God of the Ages
Healer
Holy Is Your Name (Holy, Holy, Holy)
How Deep the Father's Love for Us
In Christ Alone
In the Sanctuary (Carr)
Indescribable
Shout to the Lord
Stronger
Your Name

Patriotic Songs for the Keyboard Proficiency Examination: The student is required to play "The Star Spangled Banner" in the key of A-flat major and "My Country, 'Tis of Thee" in the key of G major. To pass the patriotic section, pieces are performed exactly as they appear in this book. Other arrangements are not acceptable. Patriotic pieces do not have to be memorized.

The Star-Spangled Banner

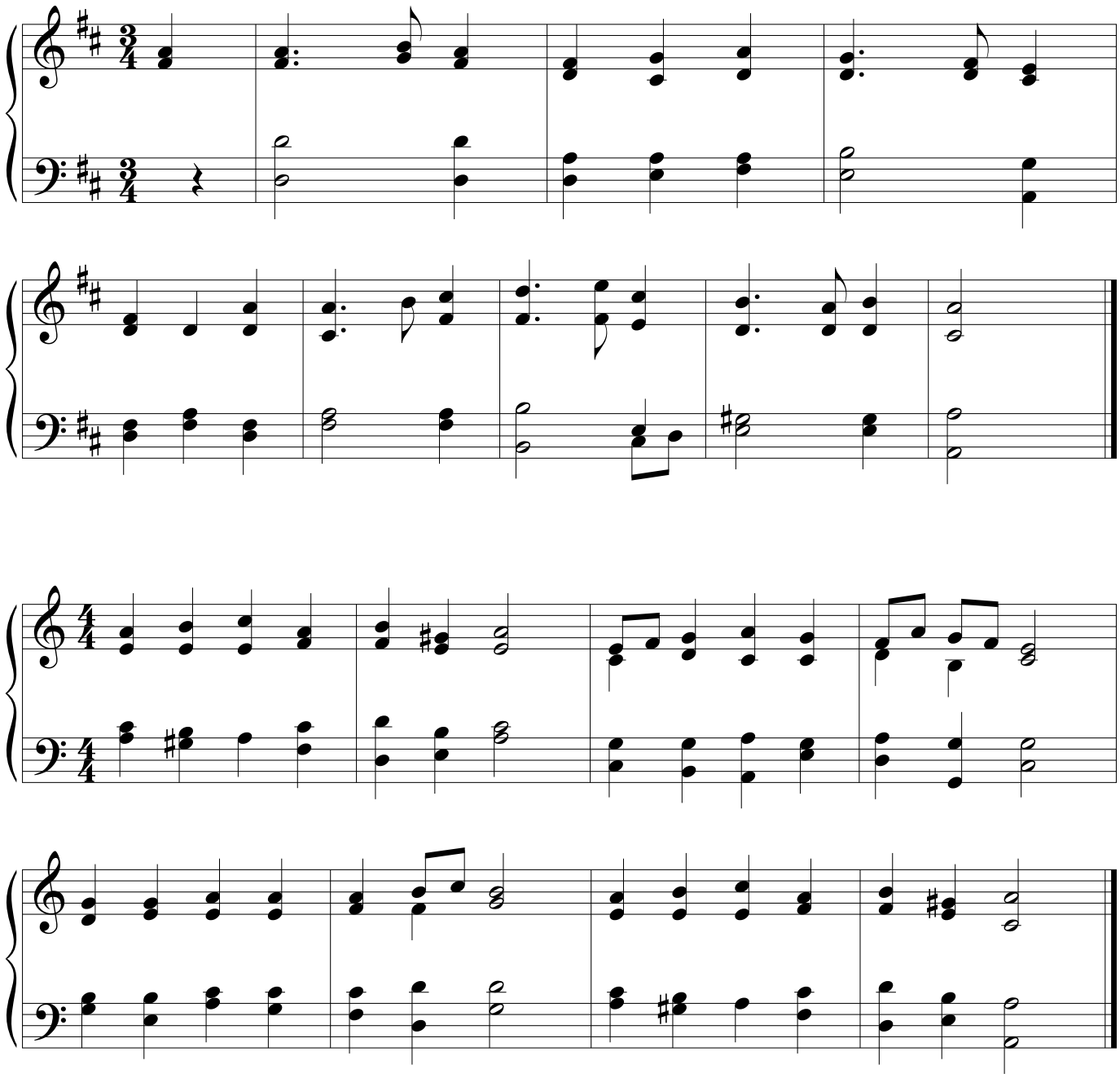


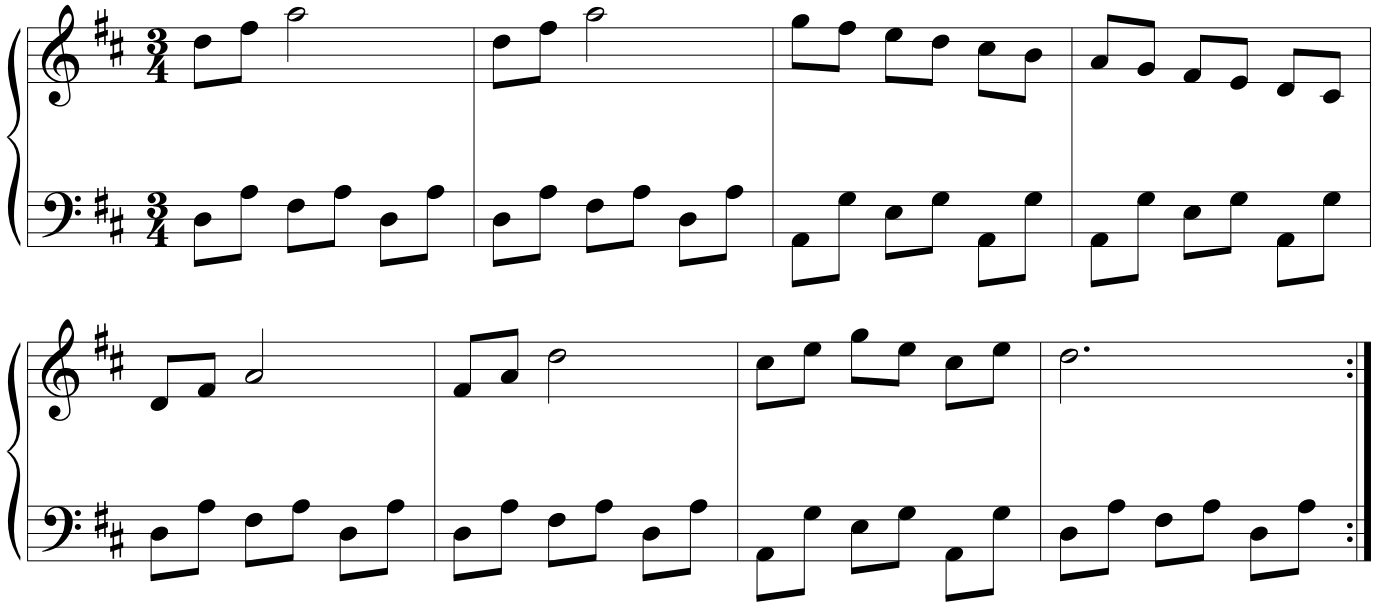
My Country, 'Tis of Thee



SIGHTREADING

The student is required to sight-read a simple piano piece, the accompaniment of a standard art song or aria, or a piano reduction of a choral, band or orchestral score. The quality of this sight-reading reflects the required skill for the professional duties of music directors in schools, churches, and community ensembles. The following pieces represent the required level of difficulty. Practice material may include standard hymns, Bach chorales, or other comparable repertoire.



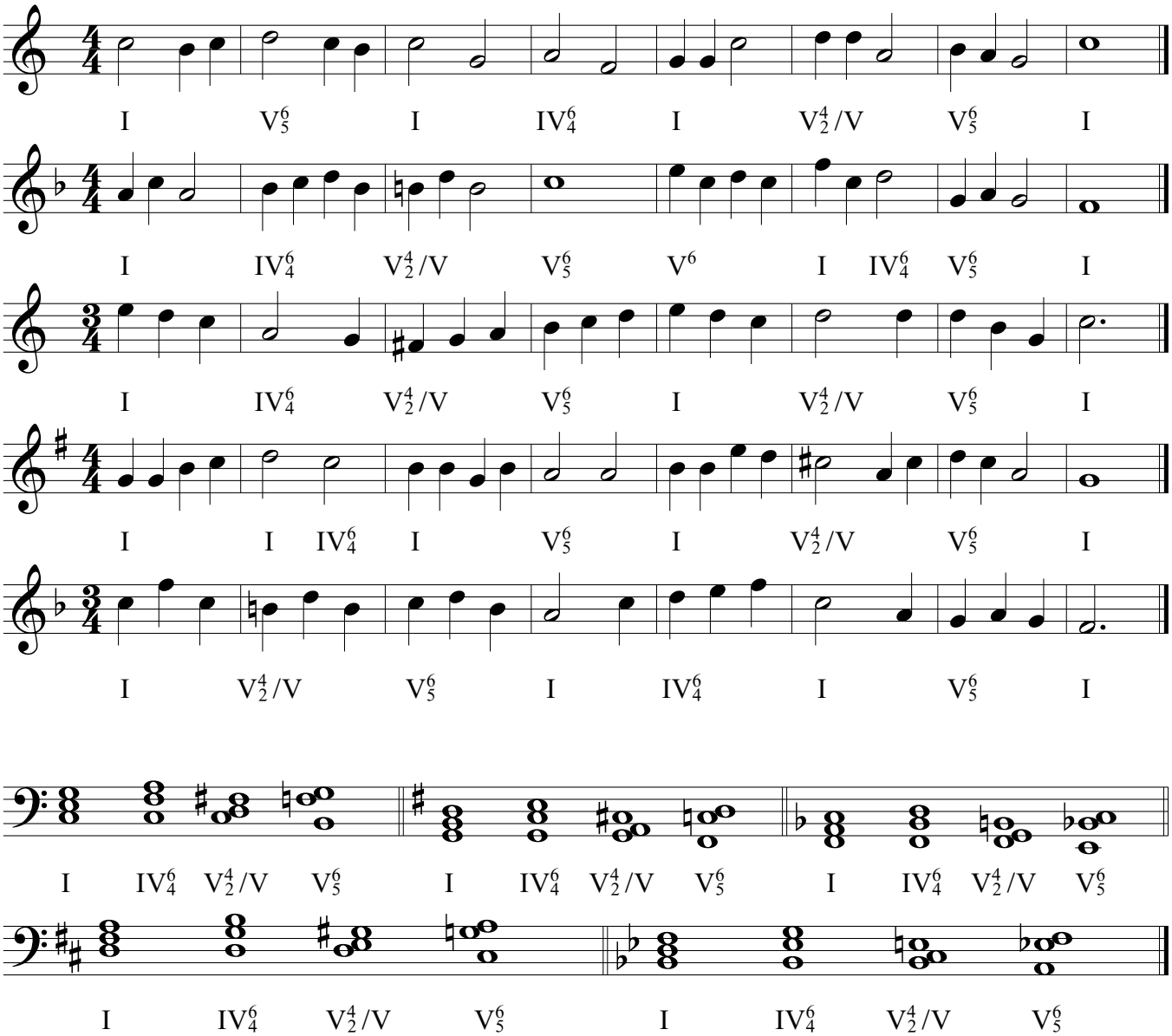


HARMONIZATION:

(PERFORMING ARTS Track)

1. The student is required to harmonize, in any major key of up to three sharps or flats, a melodic line with the Roman numerals written in, using the IV, V/V, V, and I; the harmonization may use block chords. Jump bass, waltz bass, or Alberti bass are optional.

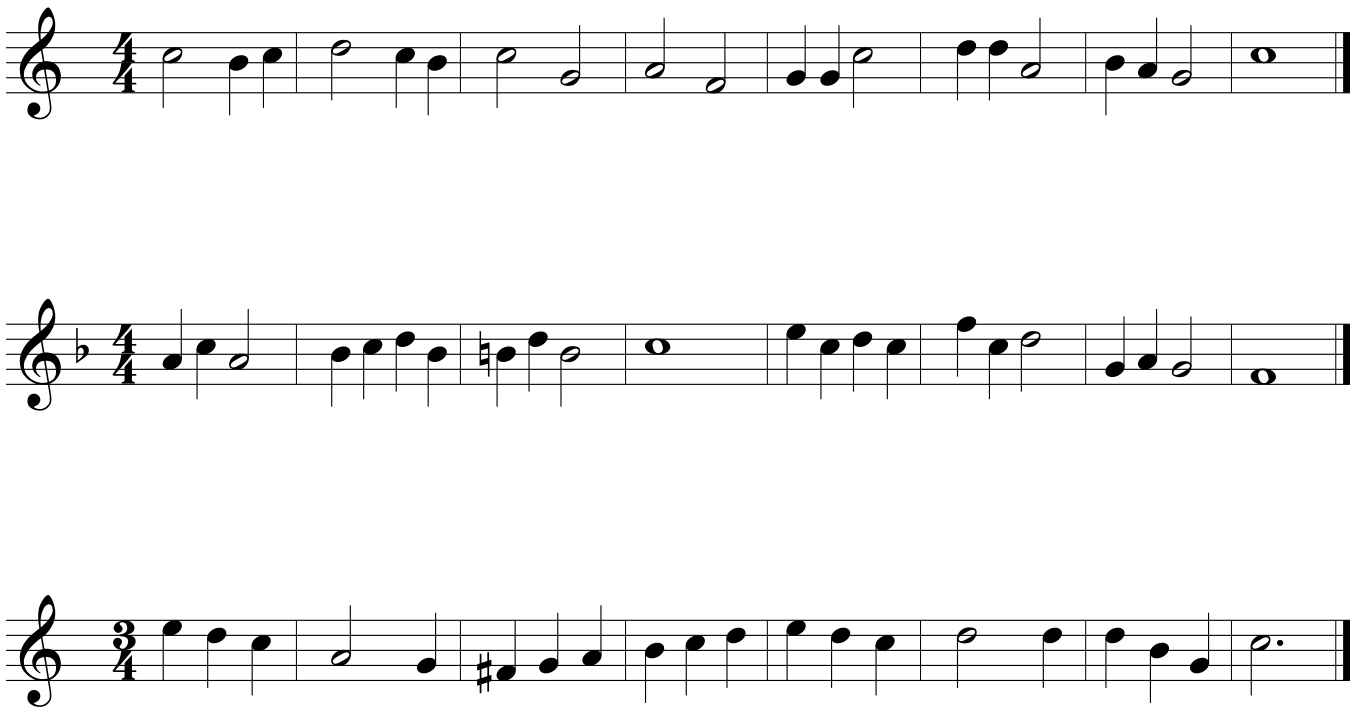
2. Play the I, IV, vii°, iii, vi, ii, V, I progression in the keys of C, G, or F major.



HARMONIZATION:

(WORSHIP, ARTIST/SONGWRITER, COMMERCIAL MUSIC Track)

1. **Melody:** The student is required to harmonize, in any major key up to three sharps or flats, the following melodic lines with the Nashville numbers written in by the student, using the 4 or 4Maj^{7}, 6- or 6-^{7}, 2 or 2- or 2-^{7}, 5 or 5^{7}, and 1; the harmonization should use at least two notes per hand simultaneously and at least one chord change per measure.



2. **Progressions:** Play each of the progressions below (using common time, 3/4, or 6/8 meter) with a single-note or octave left hand and a three-note or more right hand approach.

   (A) Play the 1, 4, 7°, 3-, 6-, 2-, 5, 1 progression in the keys of C, G, and F Major; the committee will choose how many keys to review during the evaluation.

   (B) Play the 1, 4/1, 2/1, 5^{7}/7, 1 progression in the keys of C, G, D, F, and Bb Major; the committee will choose how many keys to review during the evaluation.

PIANO TECHNIQUE

1. **Major Scales:** Three scales played in sixteenth notes (quarter note = 60 bpm), two octaves; hands separate is an acceptable technique.

   Scale 1 – Committee chooses from C, G, D, A, E.

   Scale 2 – Committee chooses from B, F#, C#.

   Scale 3 – Committee chooses from F, Bb, Eb, Ab.

2. **Arpeggios:** Arpeggios are played in eighth note triplets (quarter note = 60 bpm), two octaves; hands separate is an acceptable technique. The committee makes the choice of as many as are desired from among the following:

   Major Arpeggios: C, D, Eb, F#.

   Minor Arpeggios: Cm, C#m, D#m.