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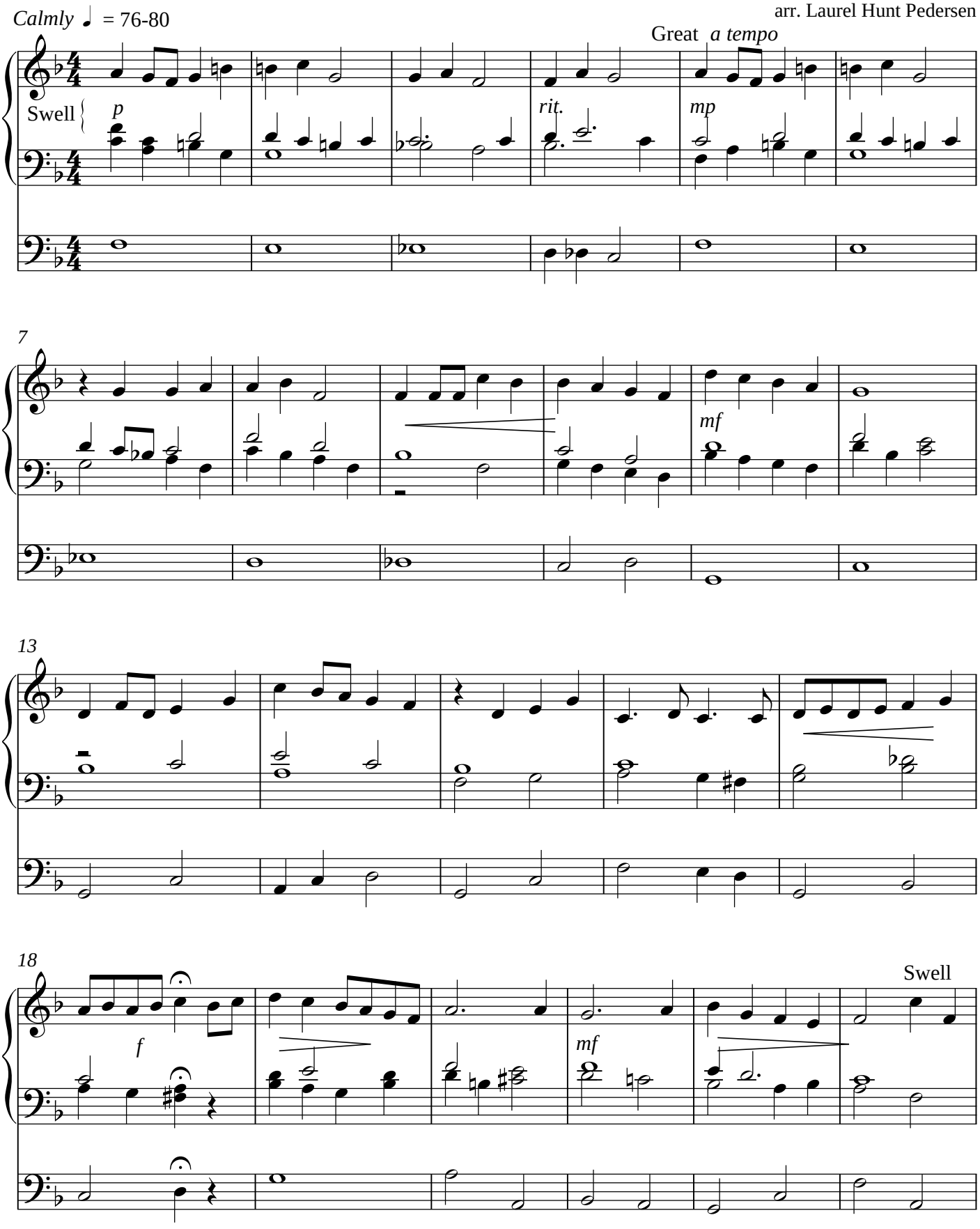
Families Can Be Together Forever

Vanya Y. Watkins, 1938
arr. Laurel Hunt Pedersen



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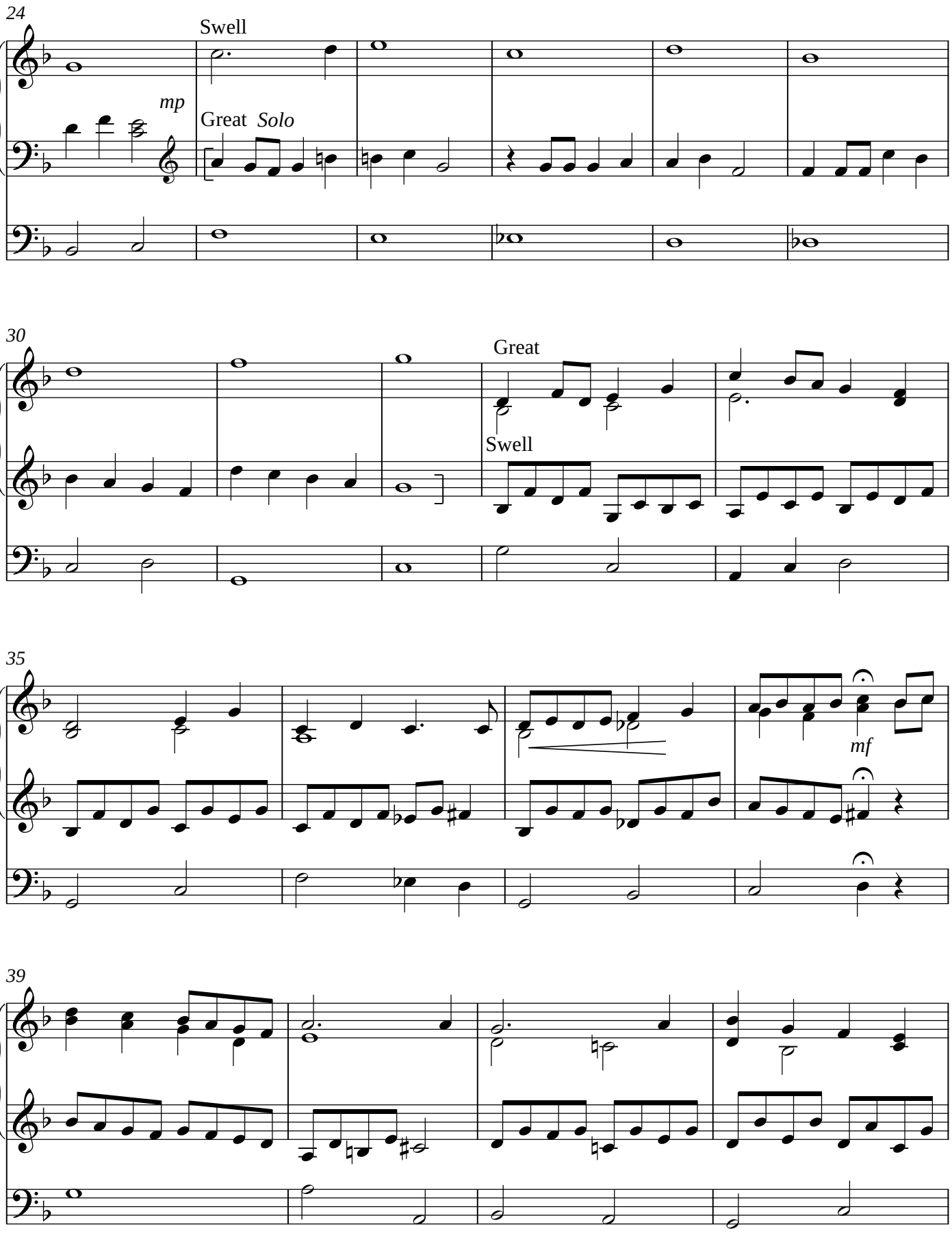
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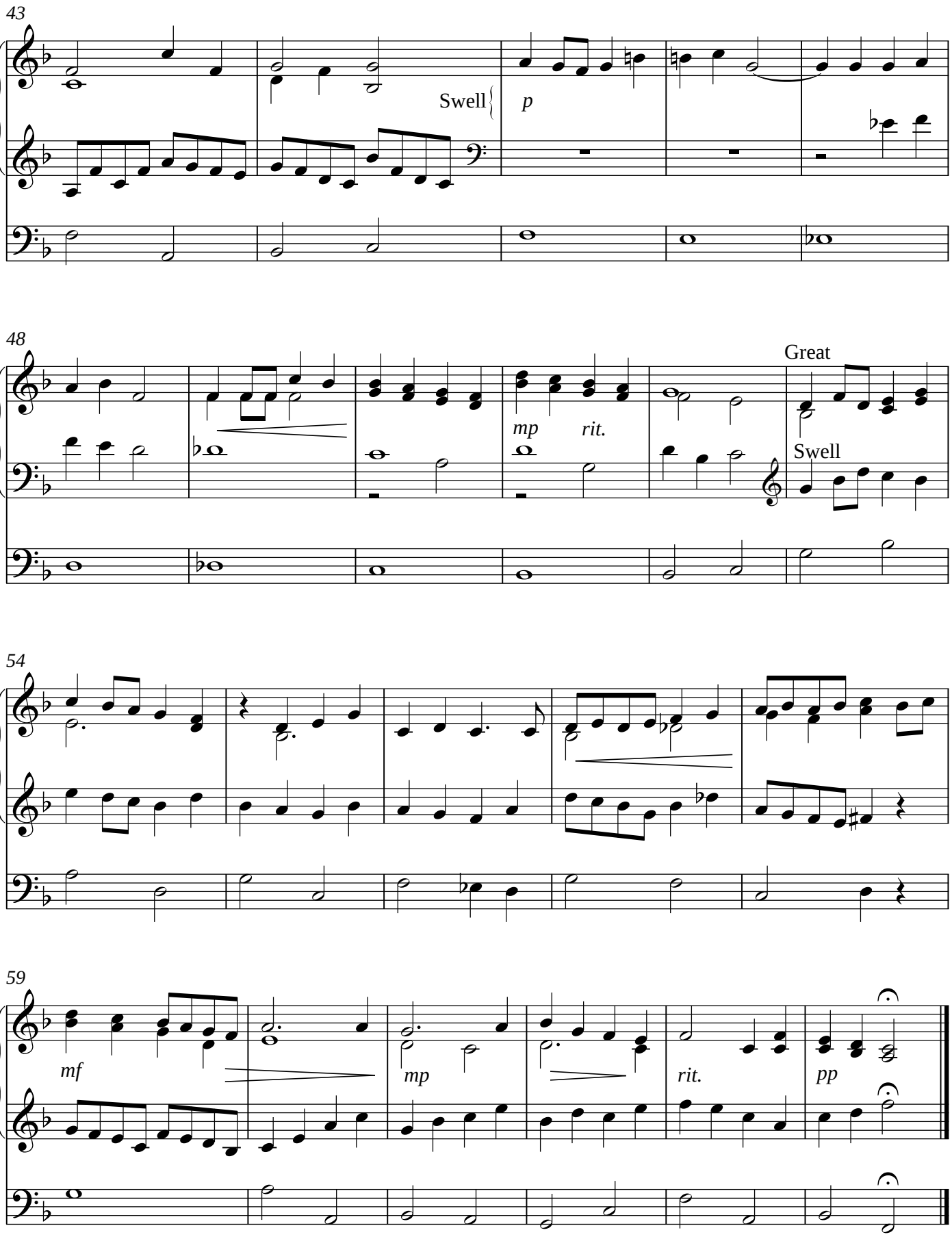
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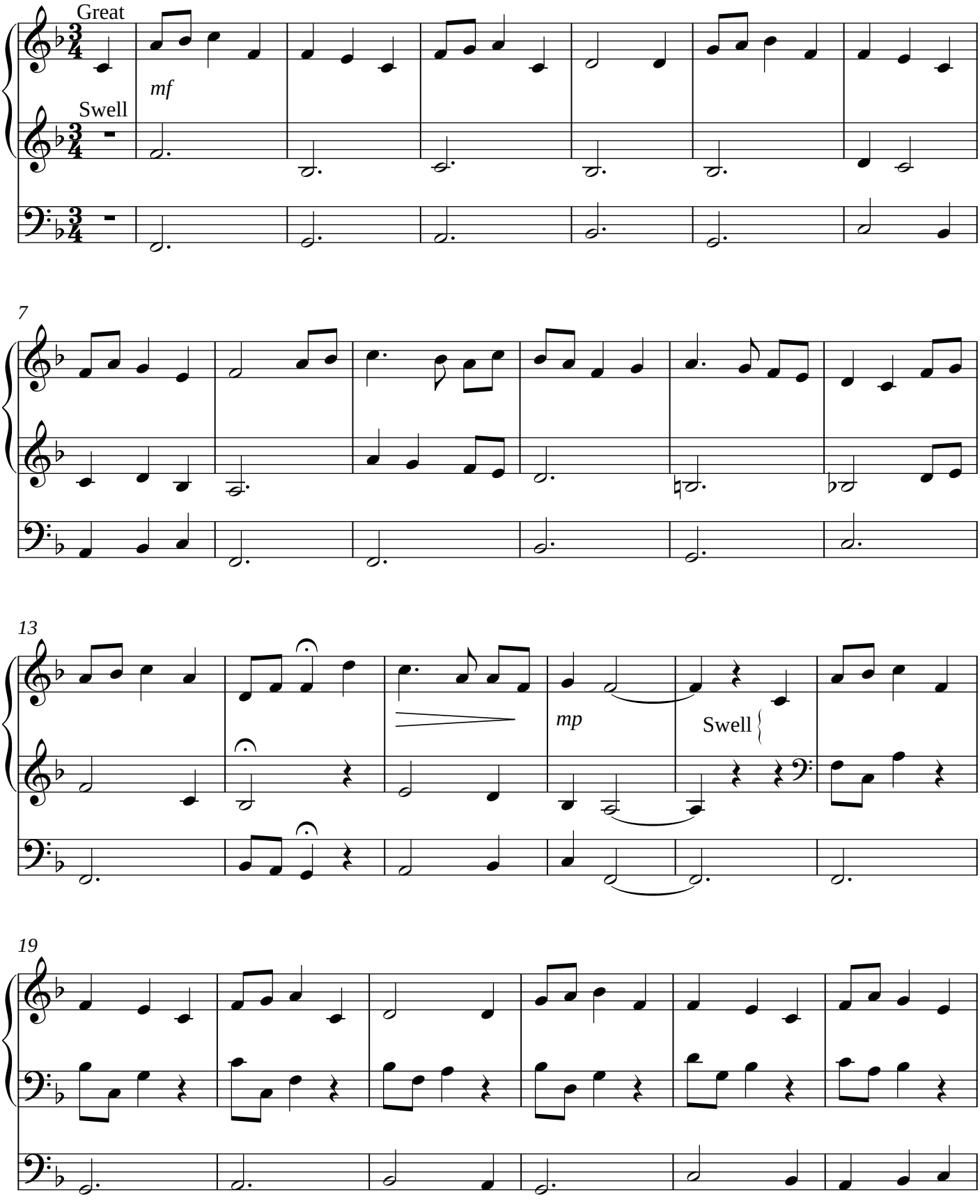
I Love to See the Temple

Janice Kapp Perry, 1938
arr. Laurel Hunt Pedersen

Reverently ♩ = 78-84



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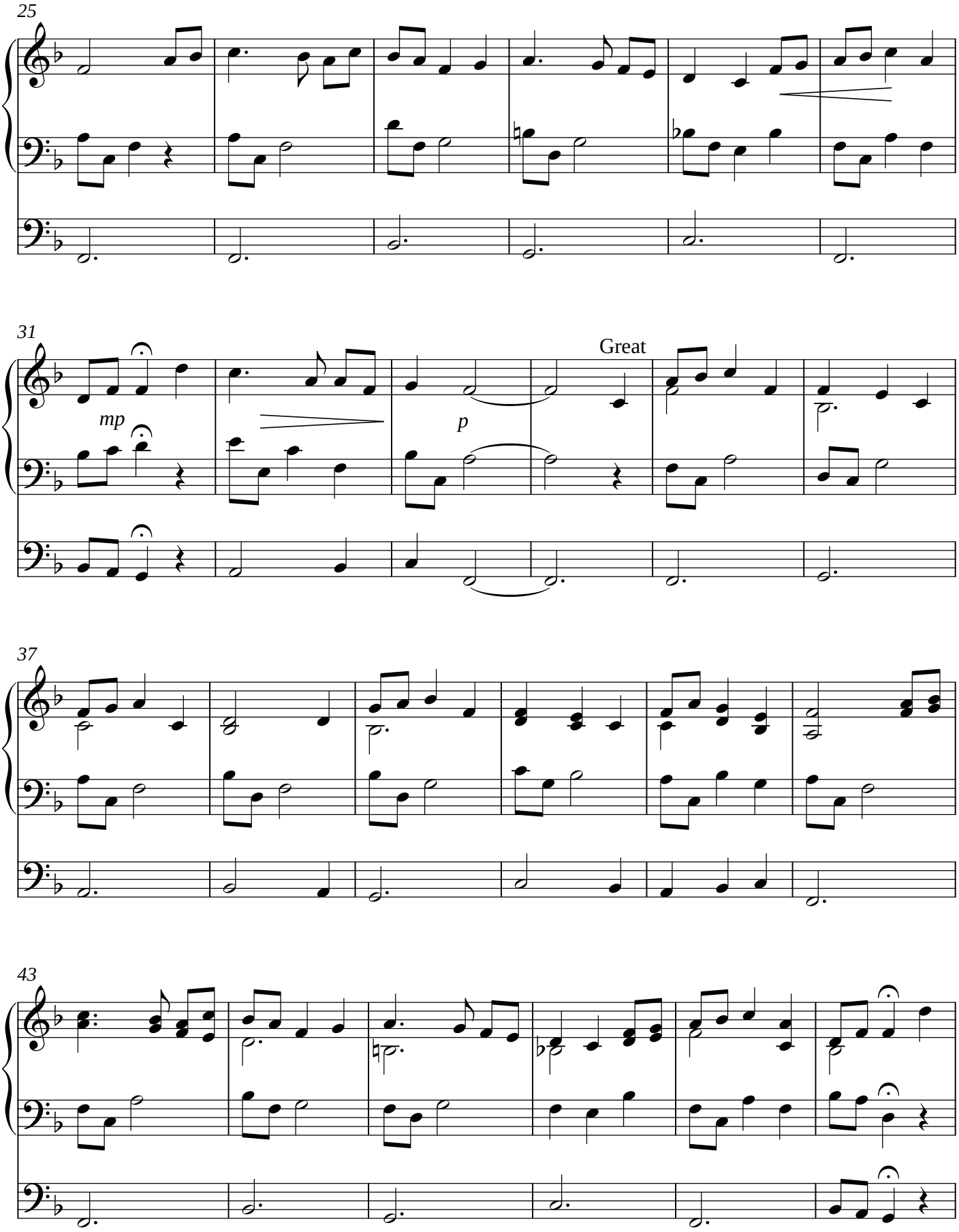
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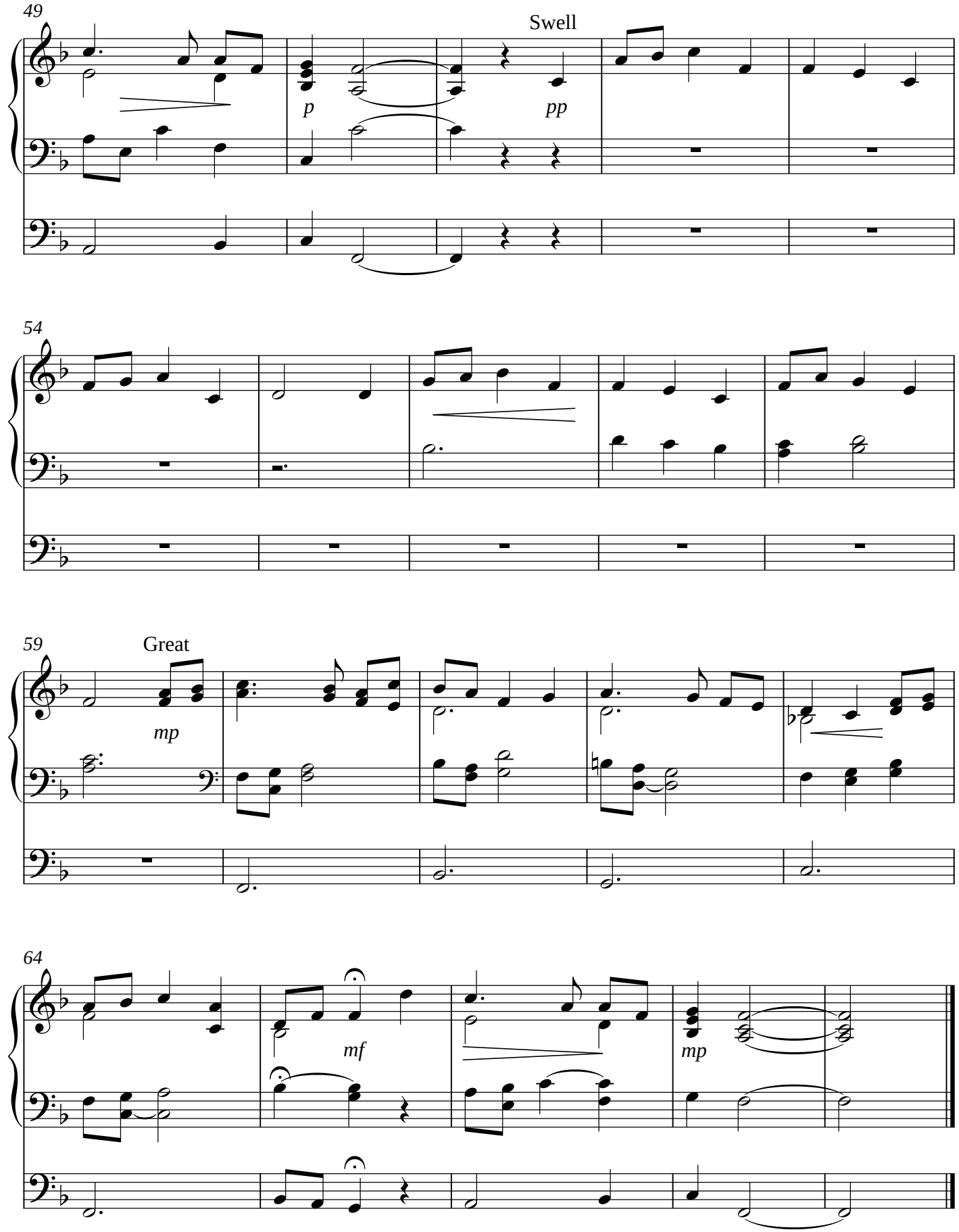
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The Hearts of the Children

Patricia Kelsey Graham, 1940
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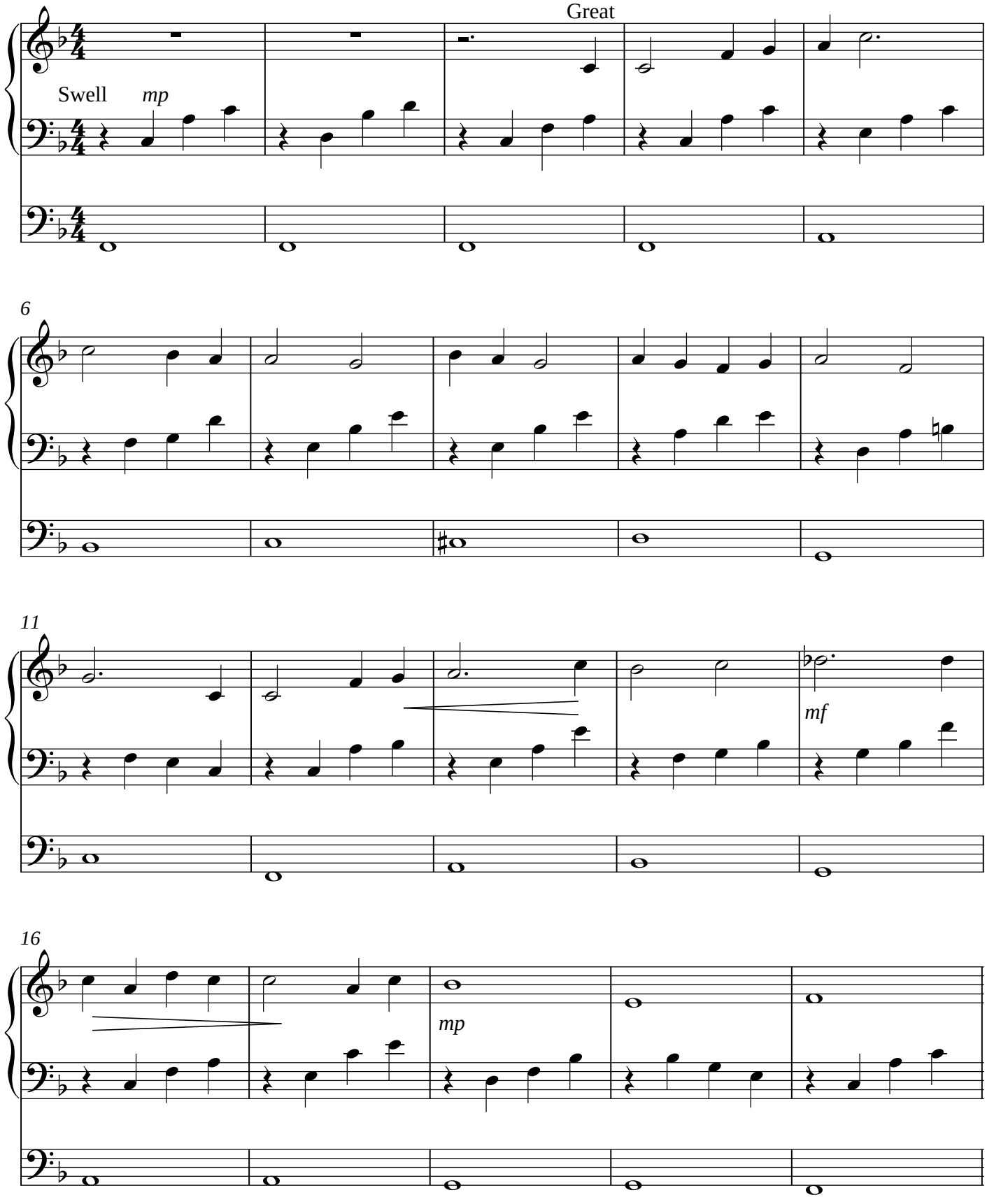
Tenderly ♩ = 108-120



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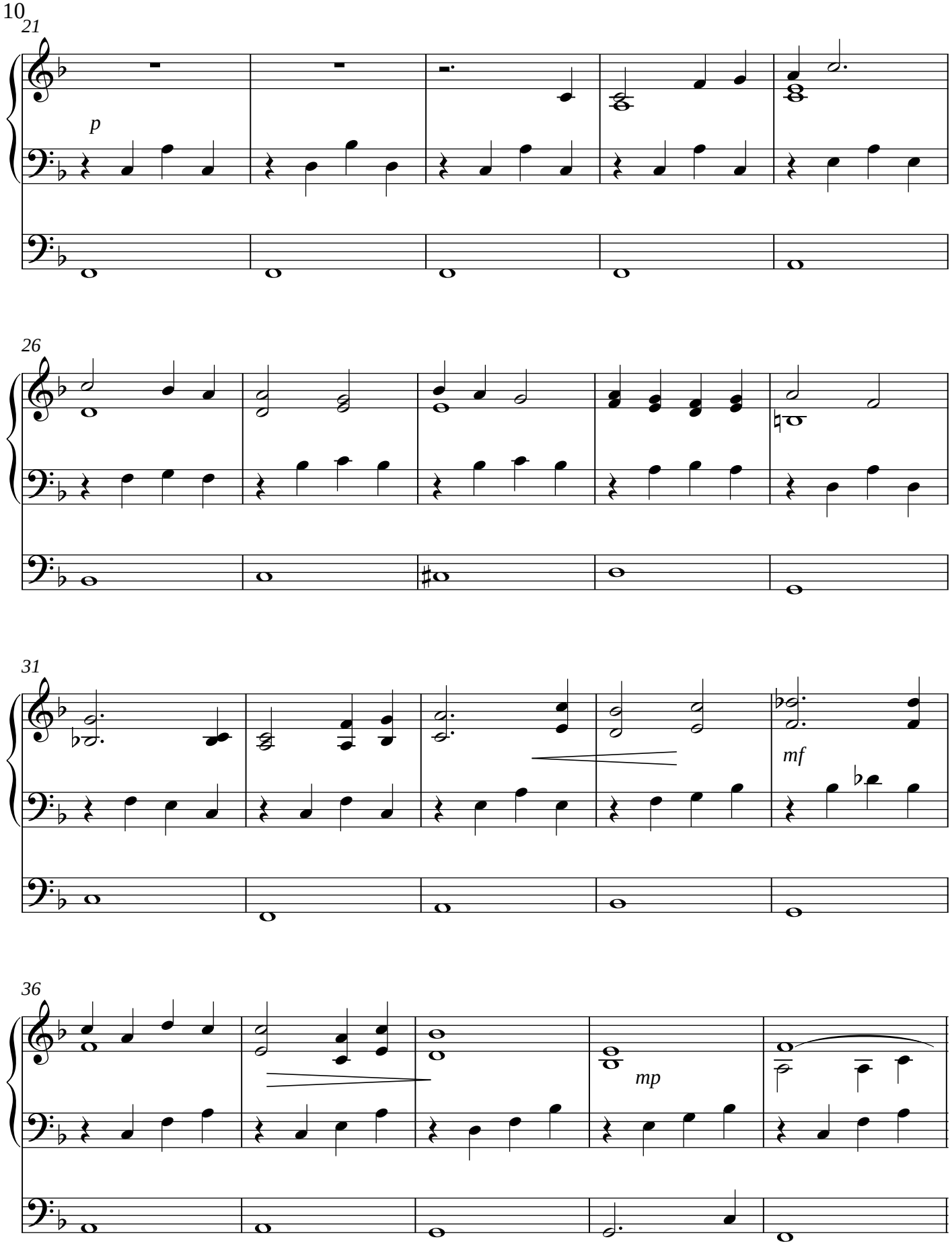
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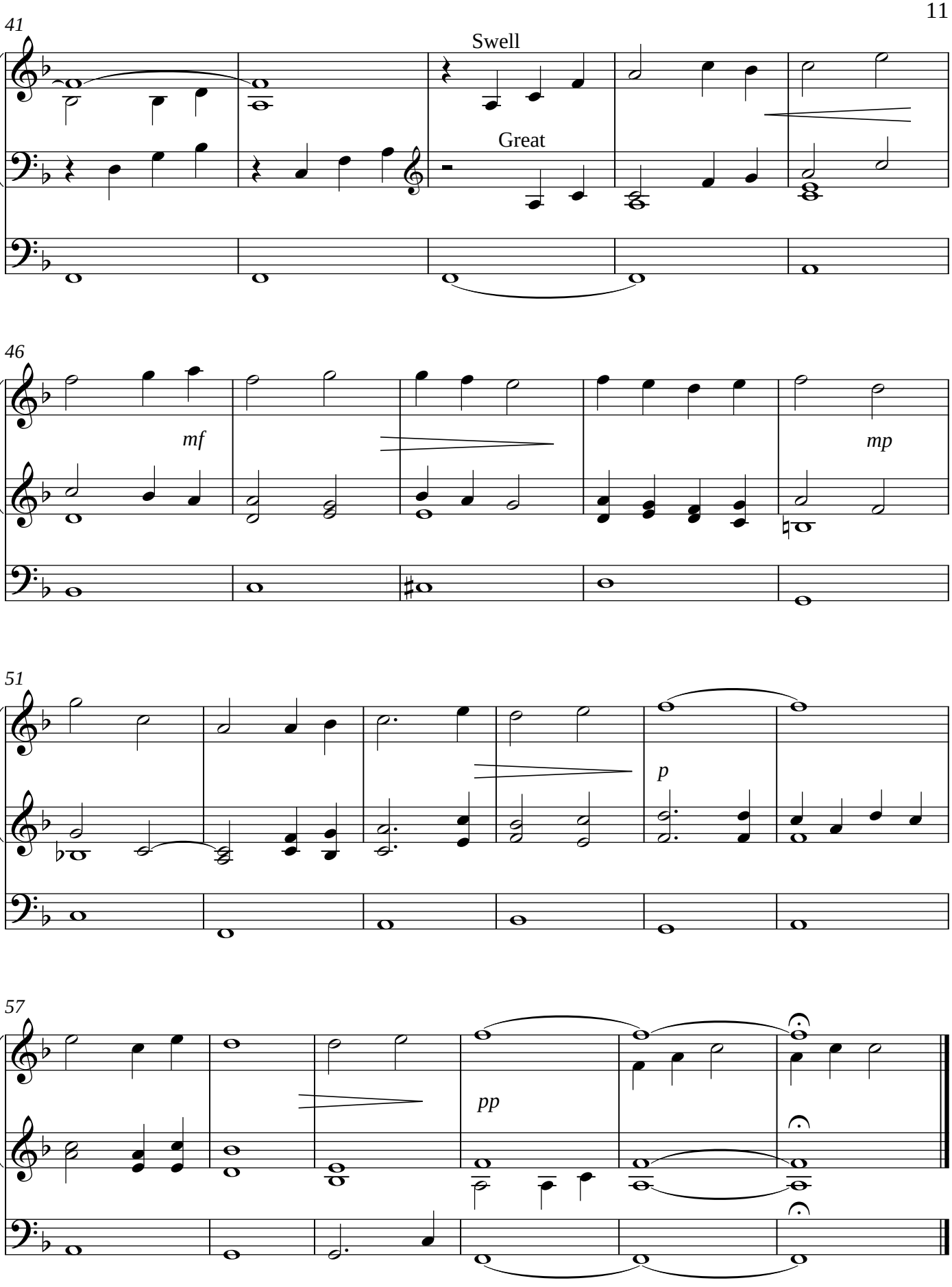
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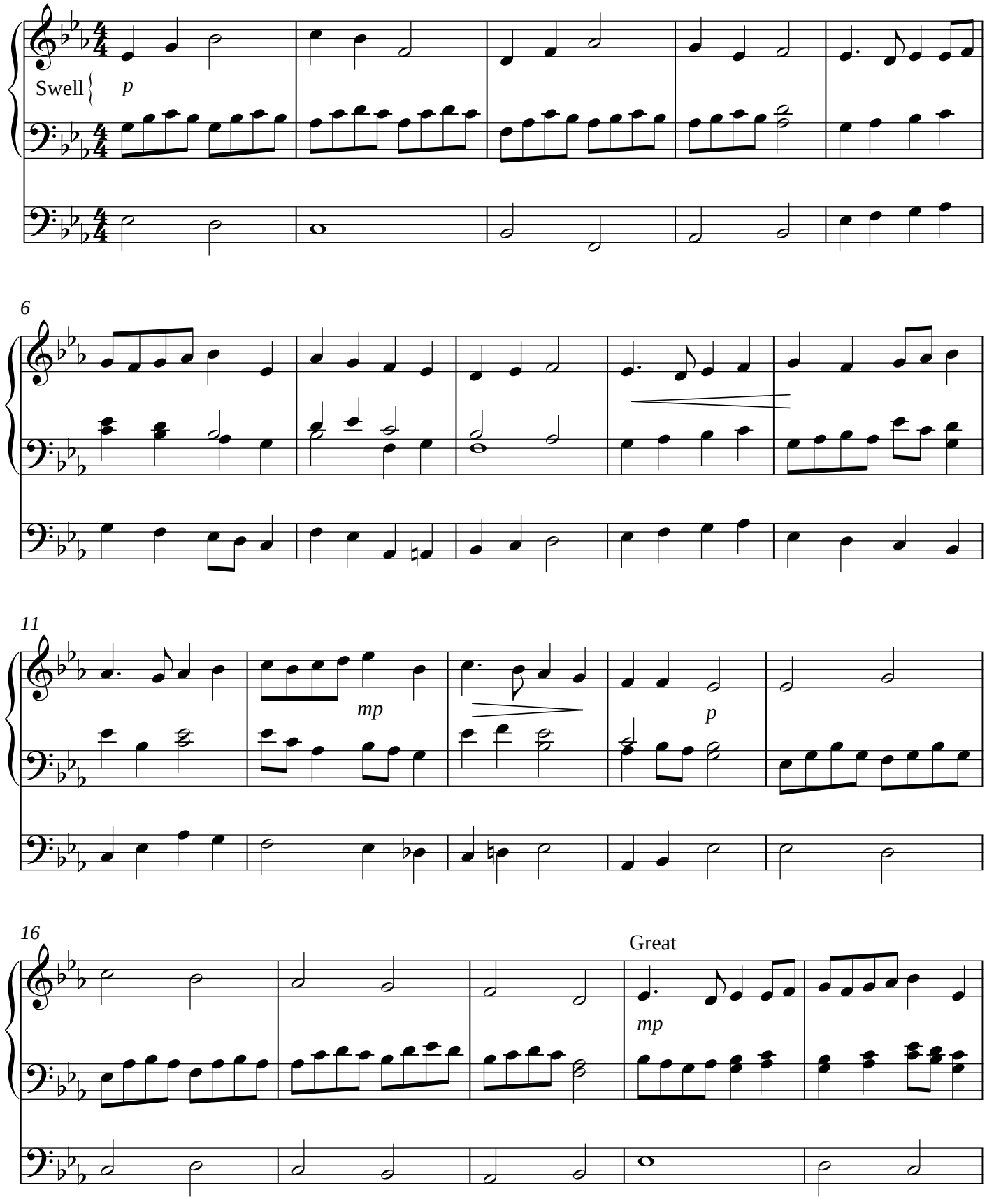
Turn Your Hearts

Gaylen Hatton, 1928-2008
arr. Laurel Hunt Pedersen

Gently ♩ = 76-88



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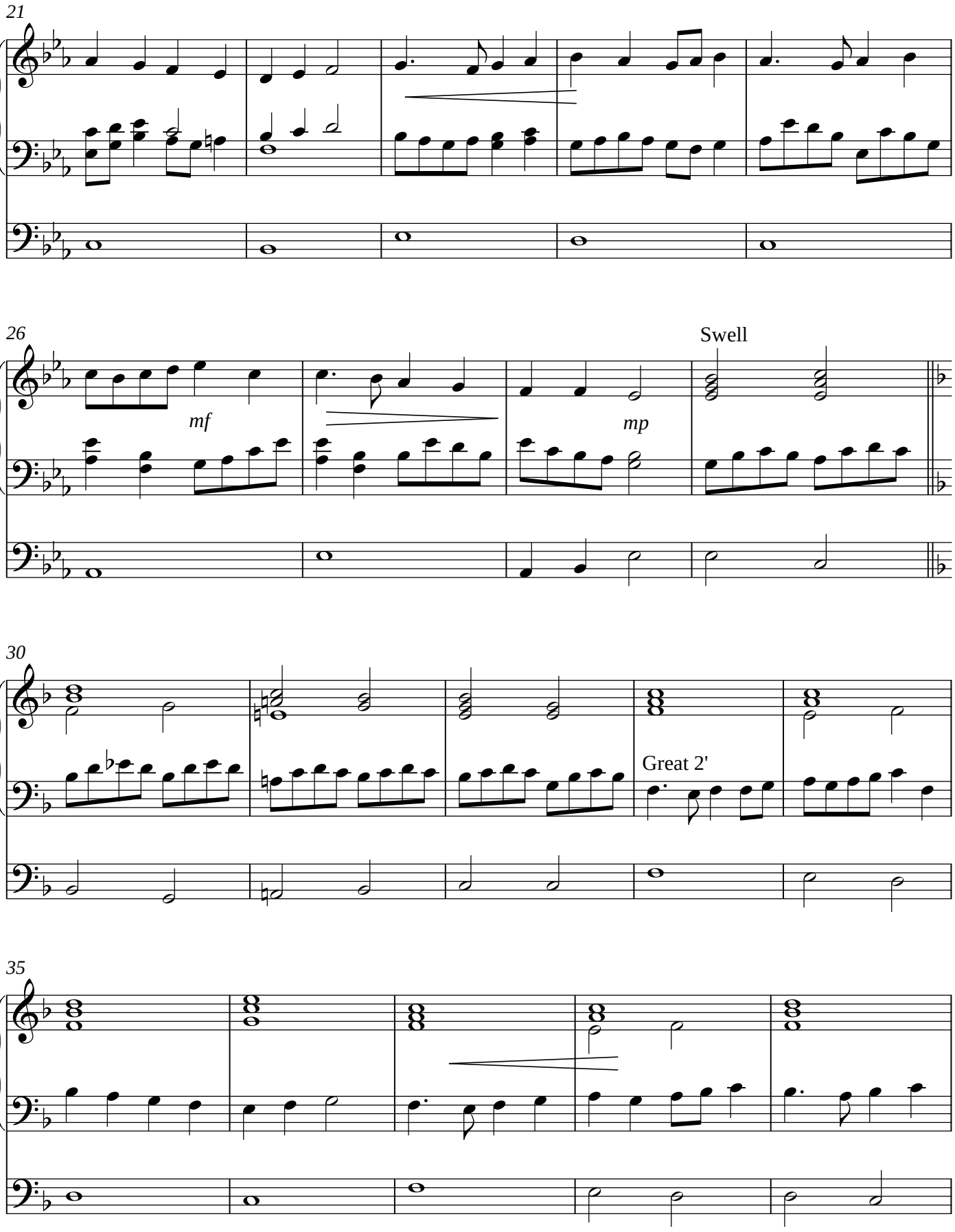
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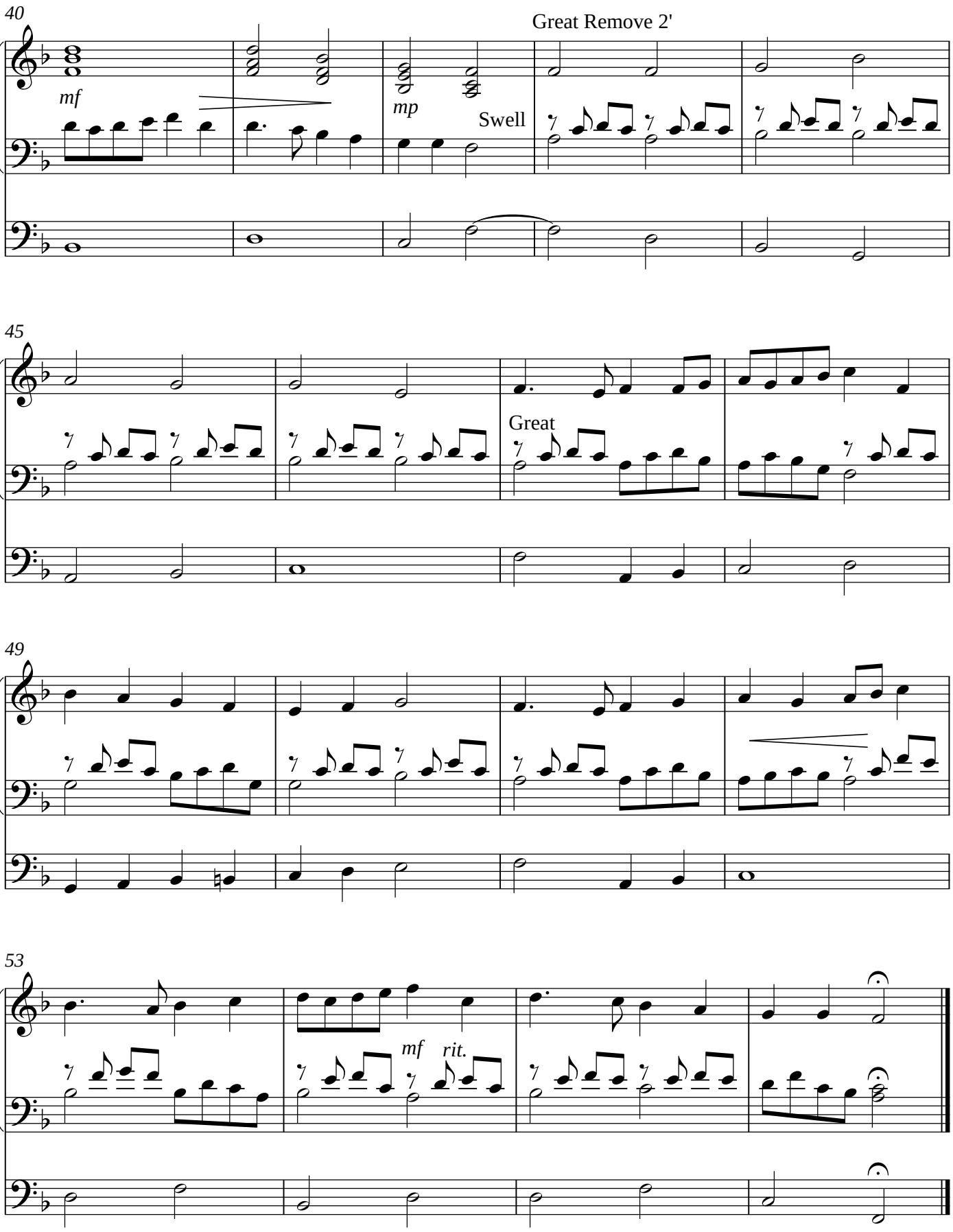
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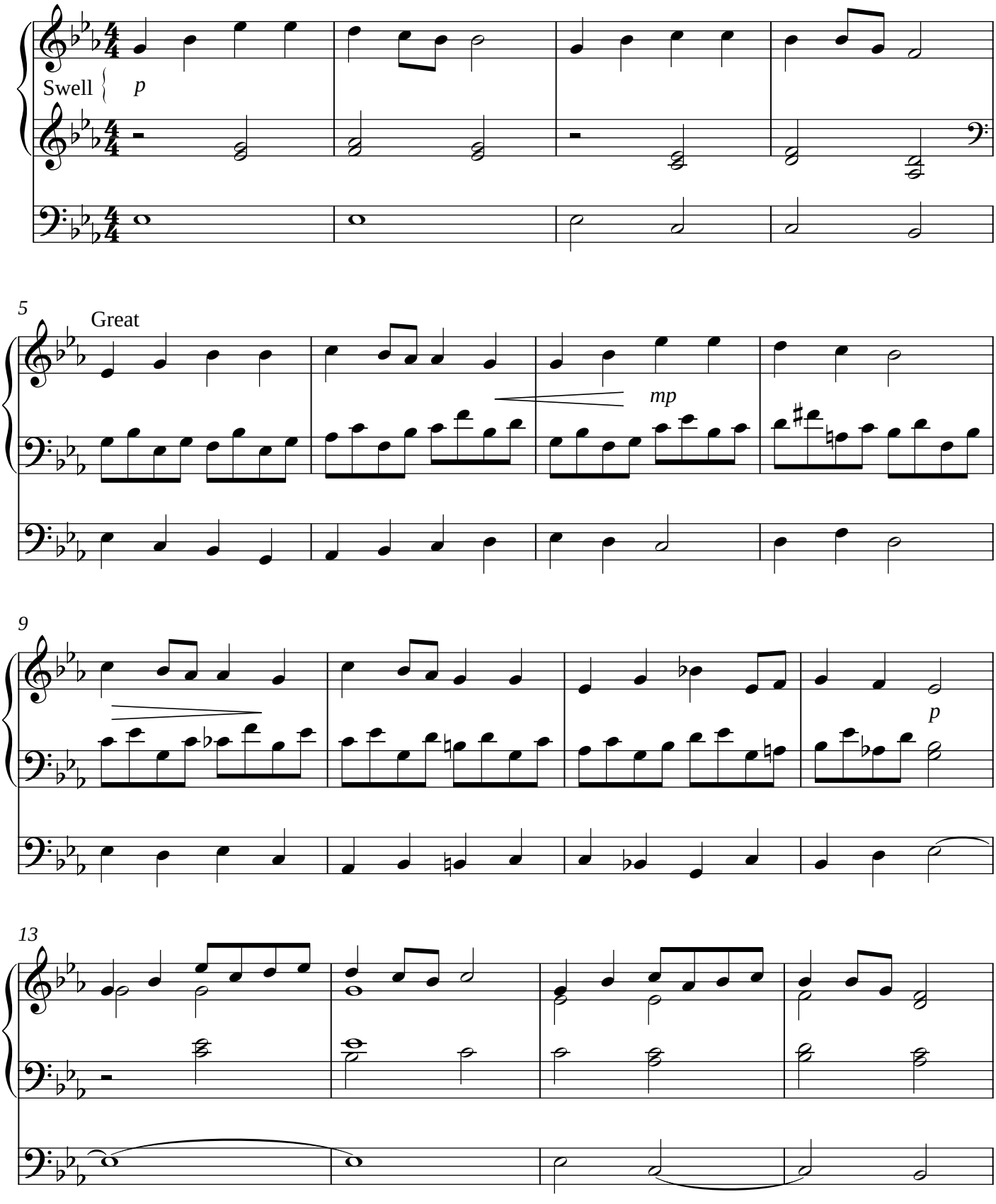
Rise, Ye Saints, and Temples Enter

Robert P. Manookin, 1918-1997
arr. Laurel Hunt Pedersen

Resolutely ♩ = 72-84



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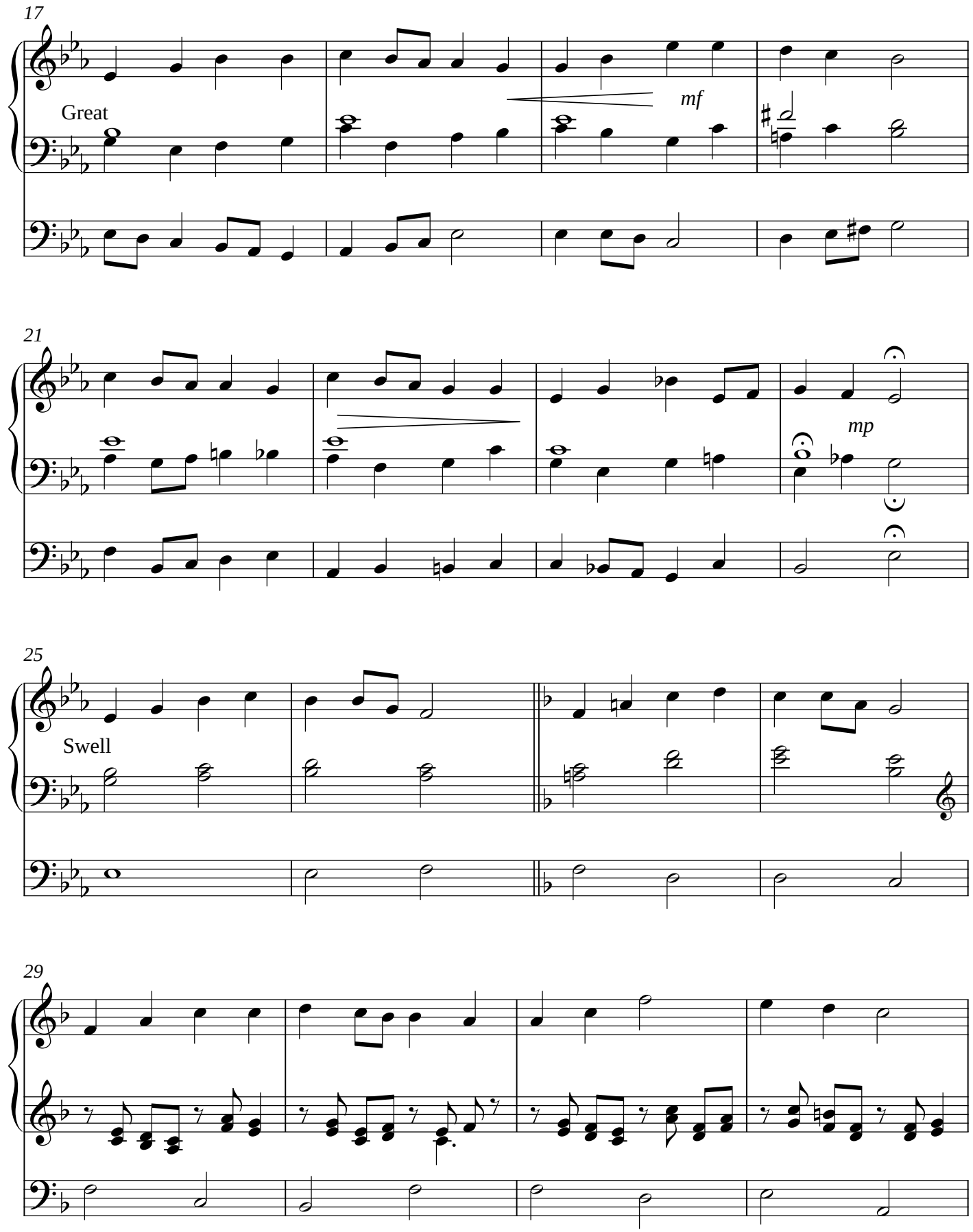
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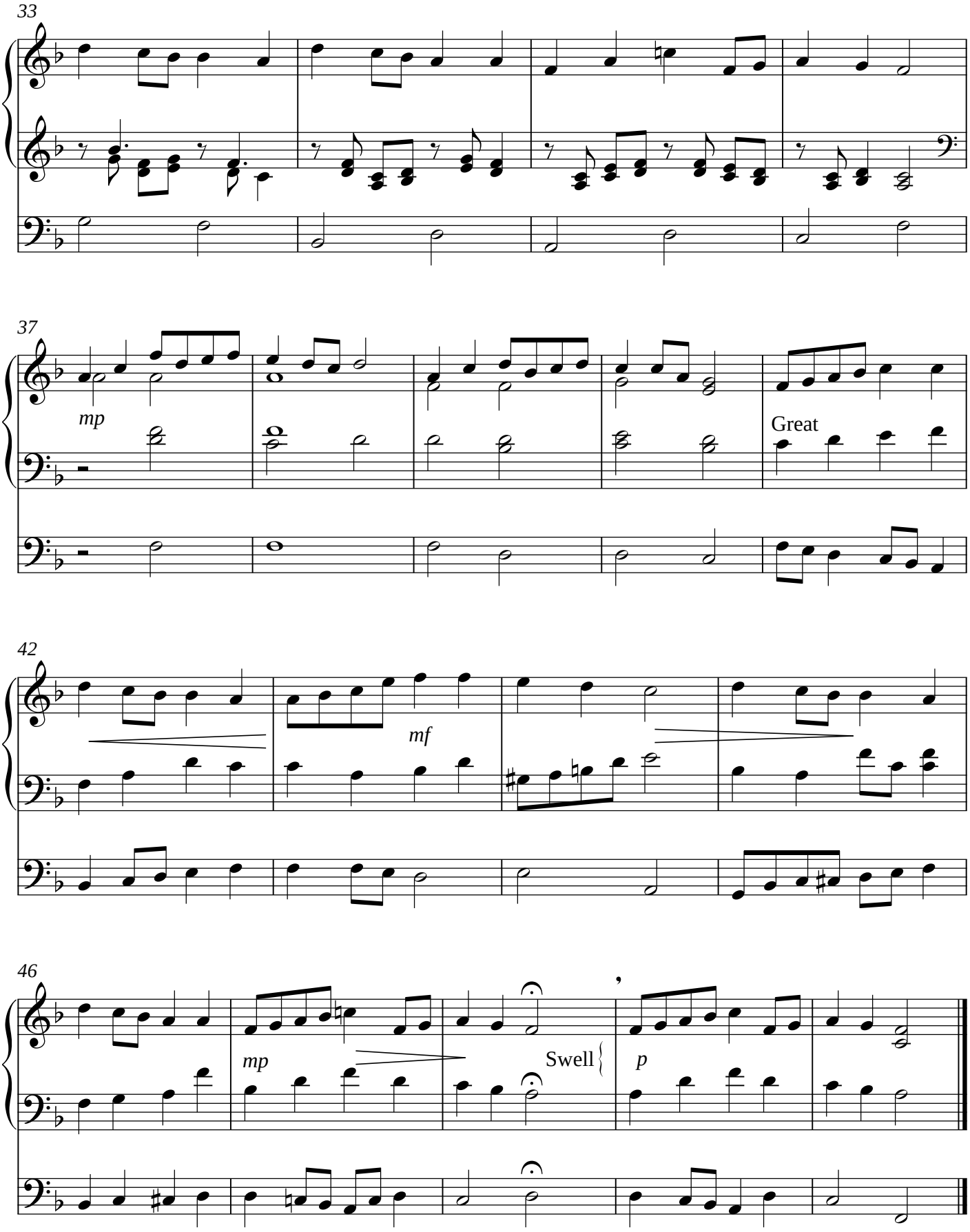
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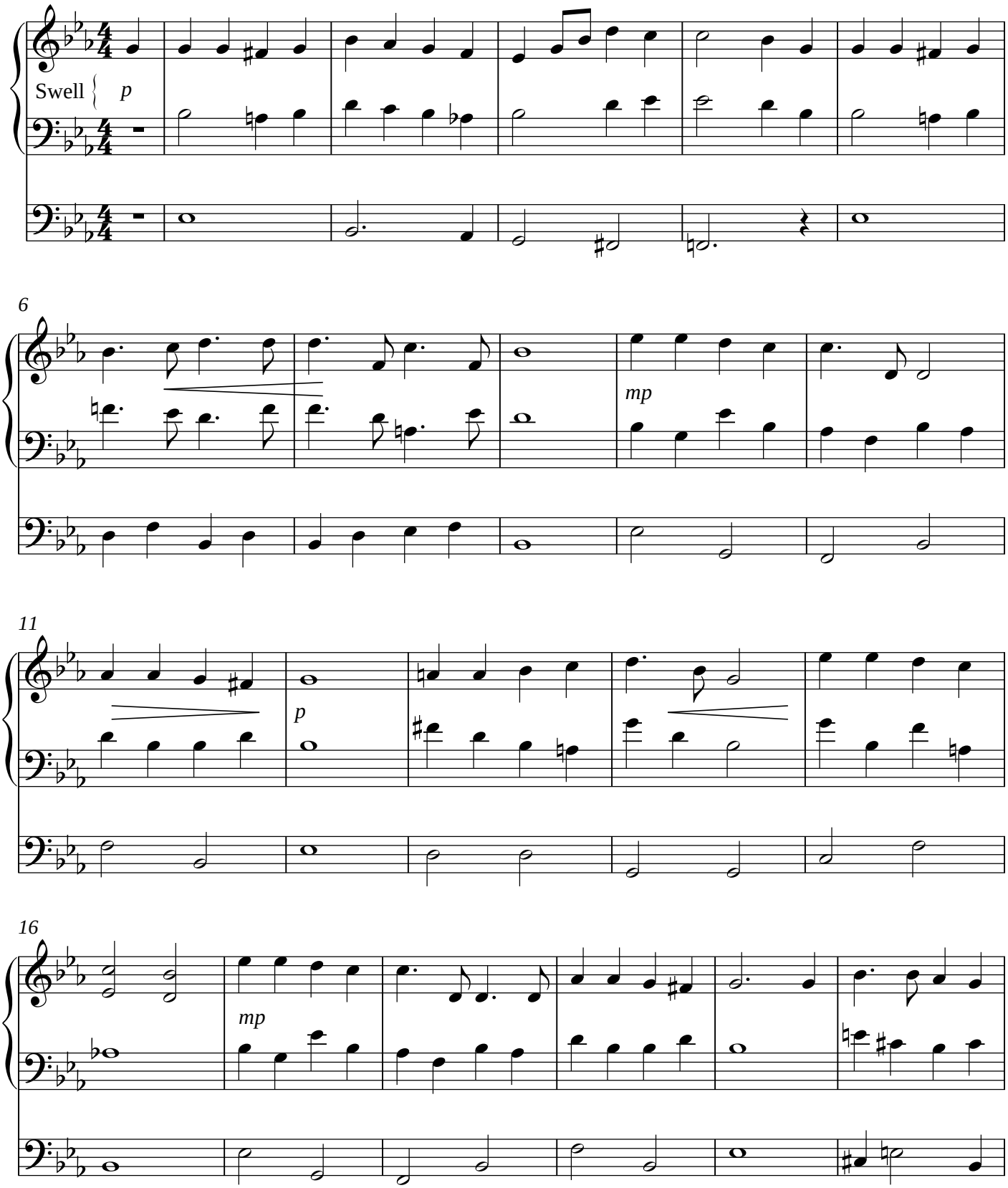
The Light Divine

Mildred T. Pettit, 1895-1977
arr. Laurel Hunt Pedersen



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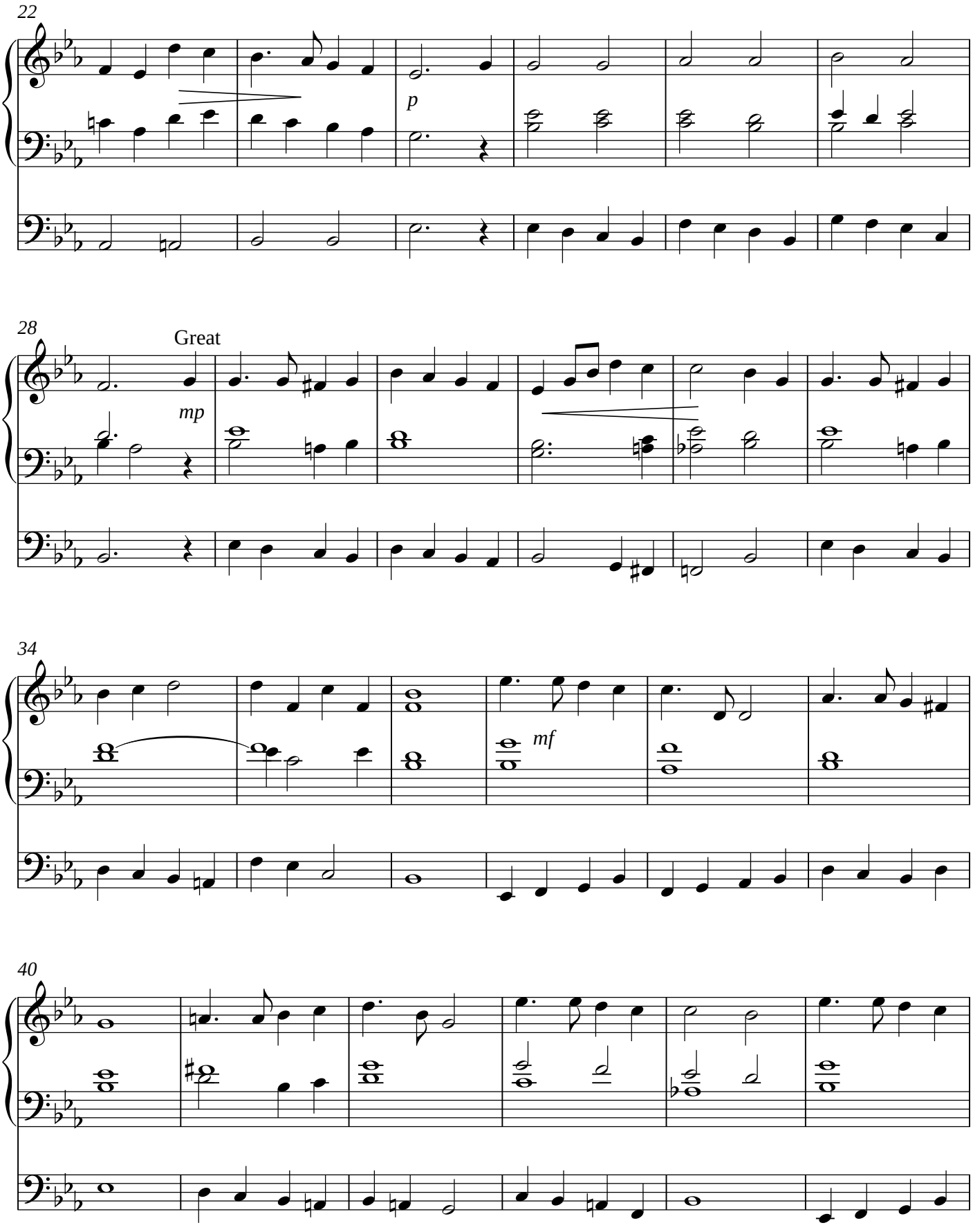
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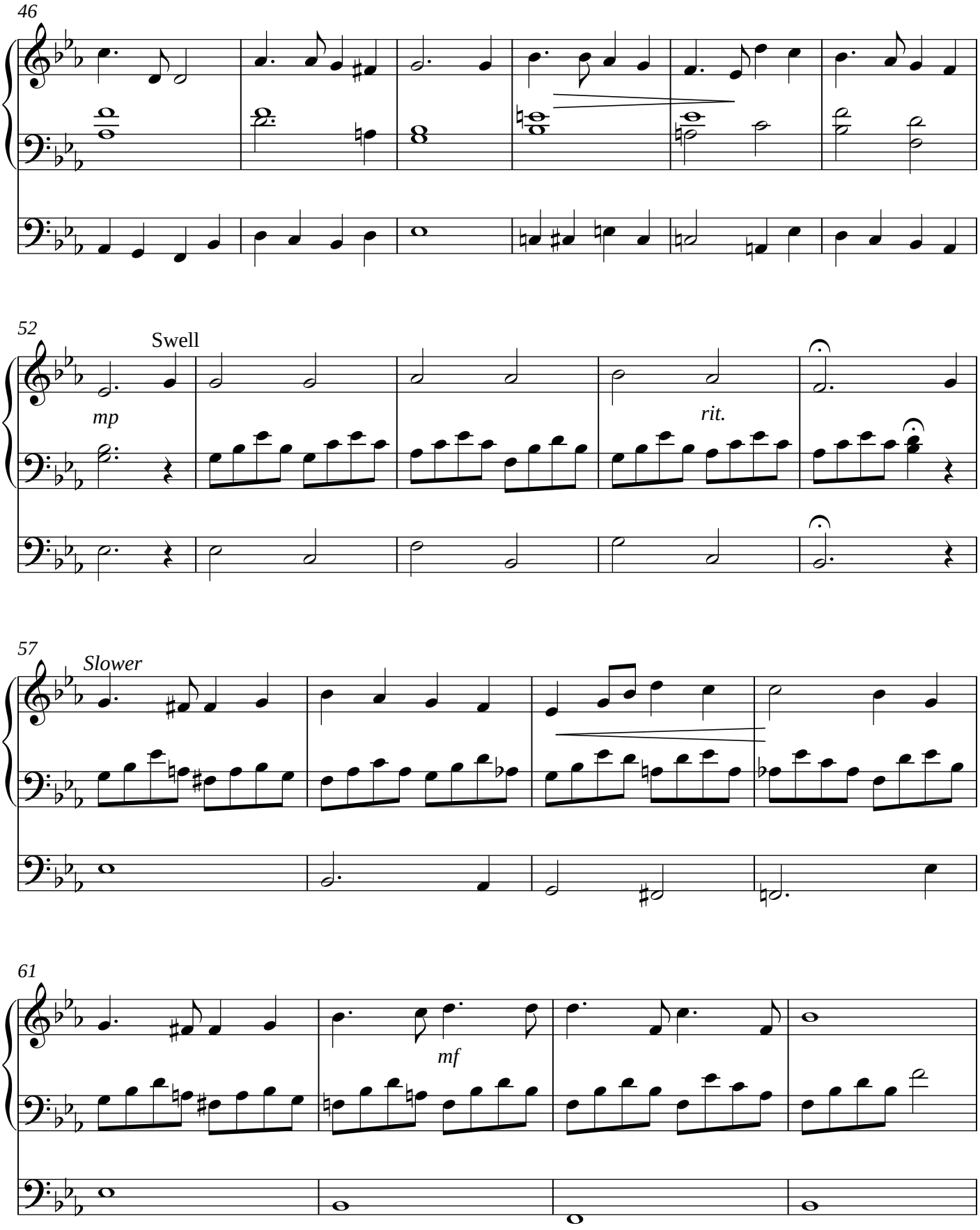
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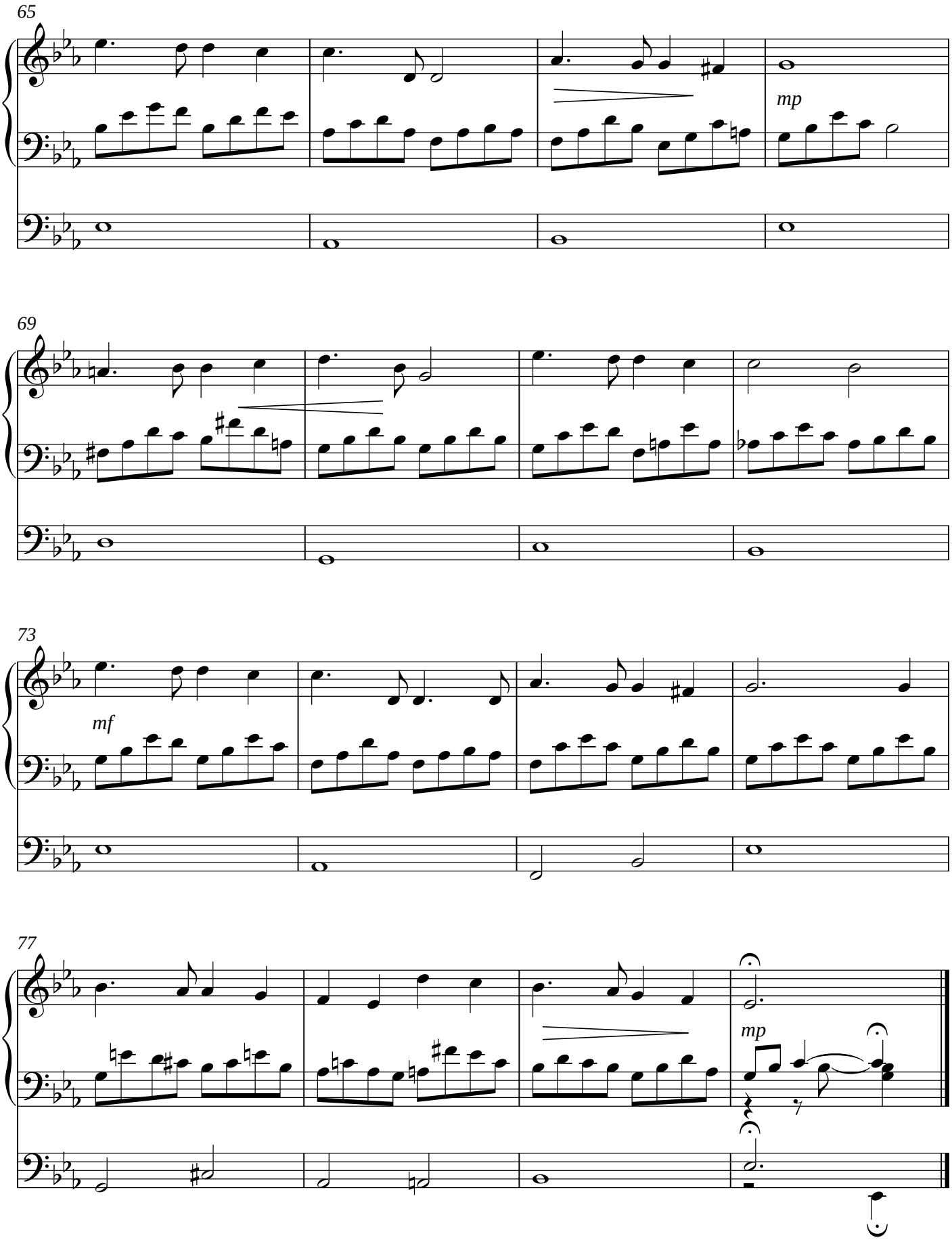
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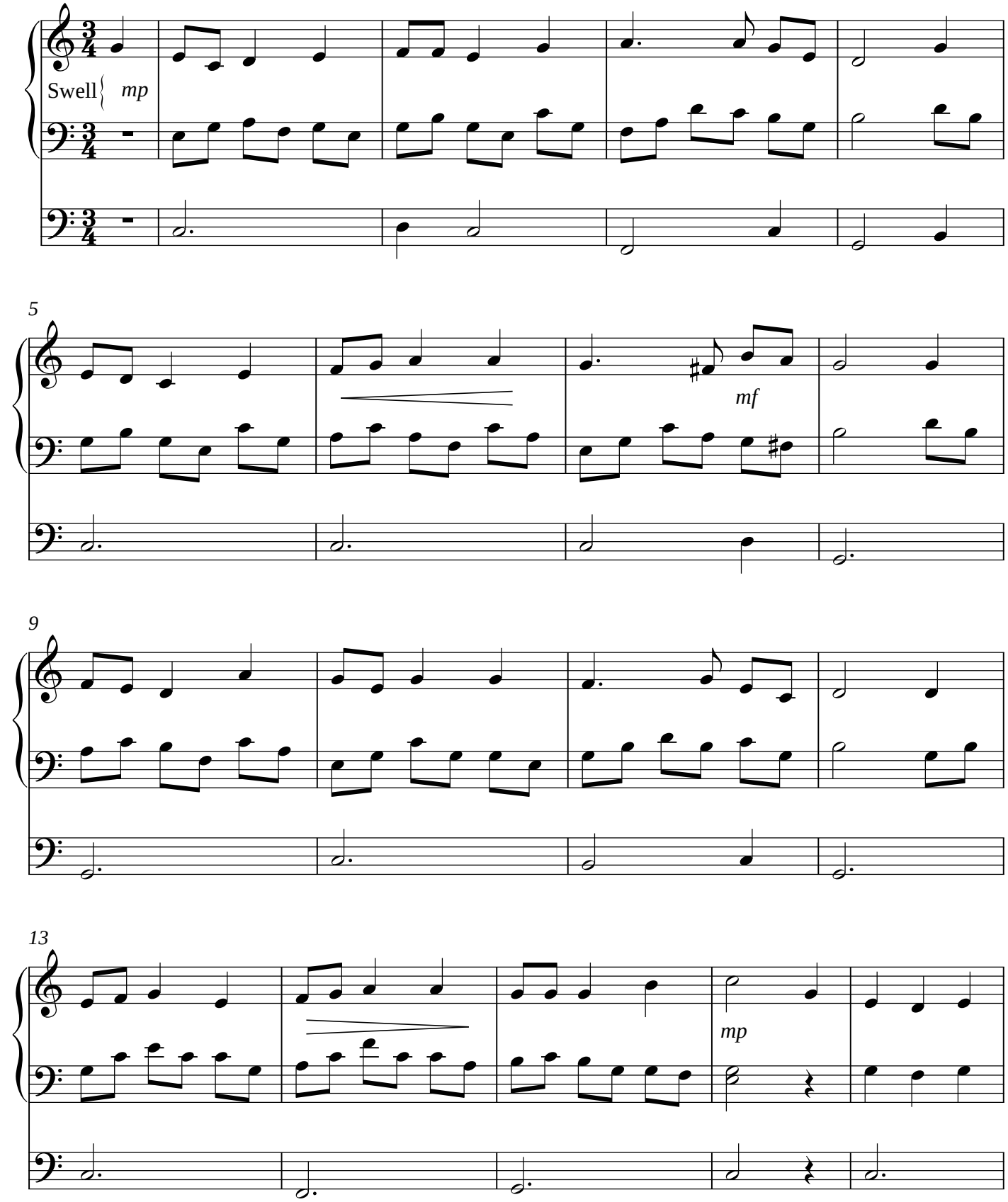
How Beautiful Thy Temples, Lord

Tracy Y. Cannon, 1879-1948
arr. Laurel Hunt Pedersen

Gently ♪ = 66-76



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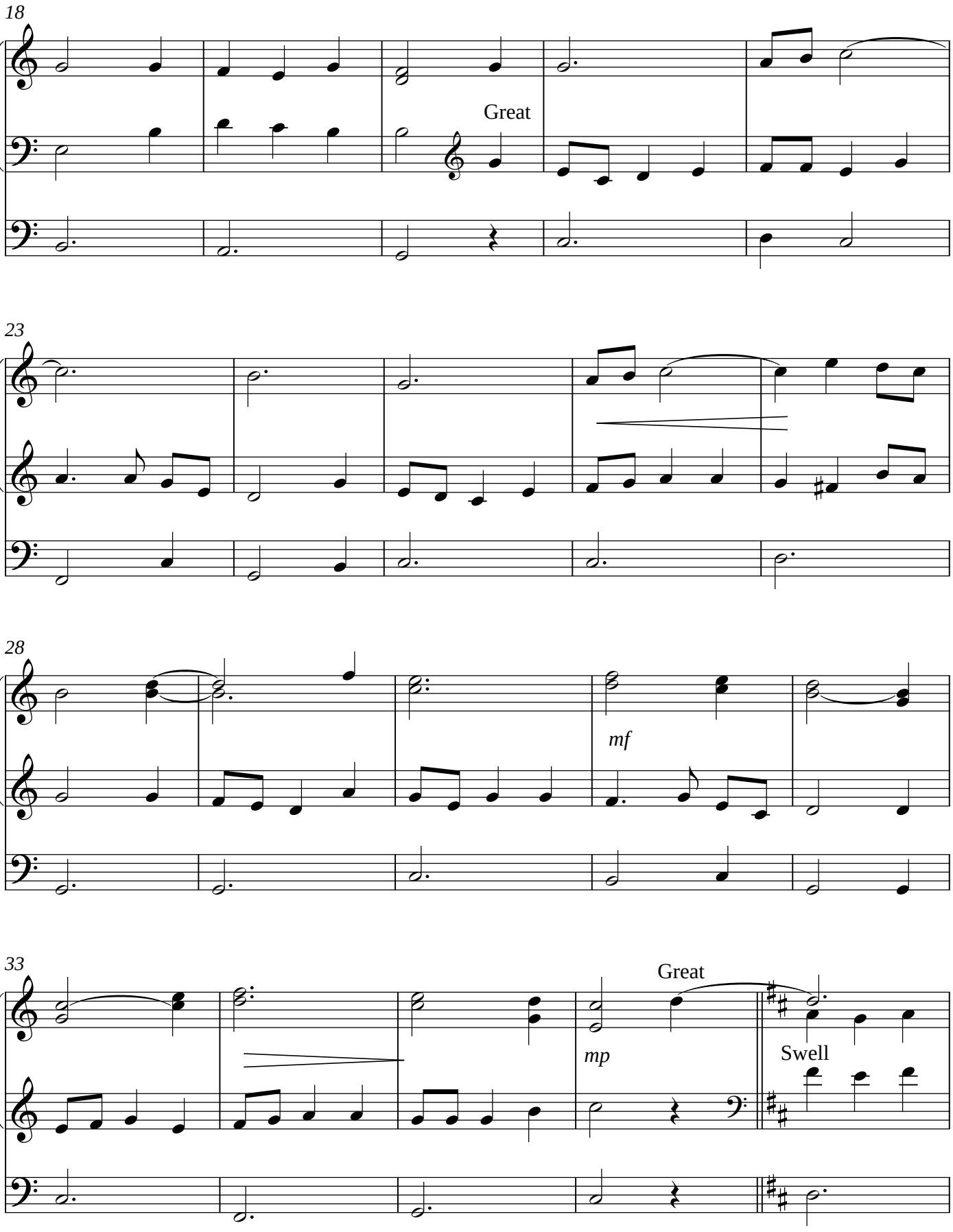
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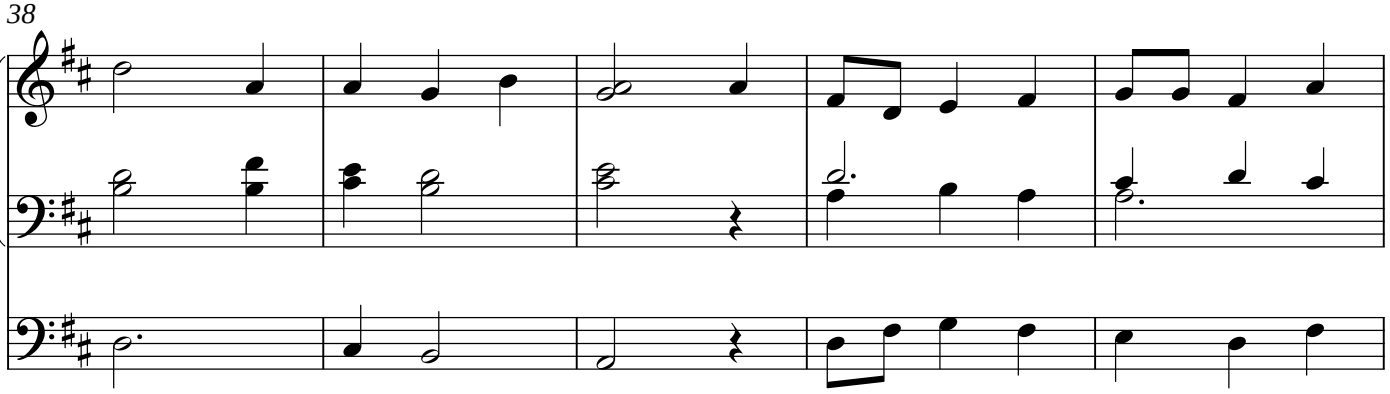

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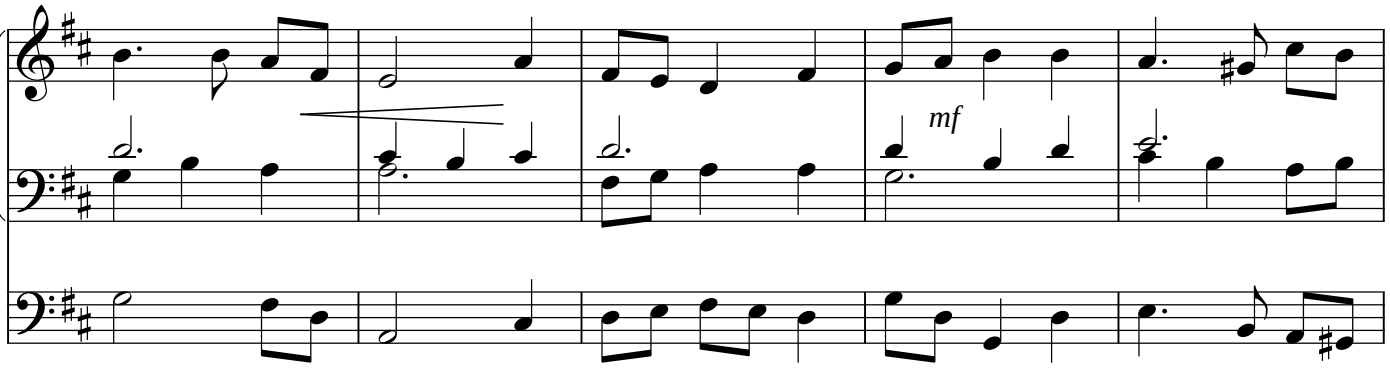

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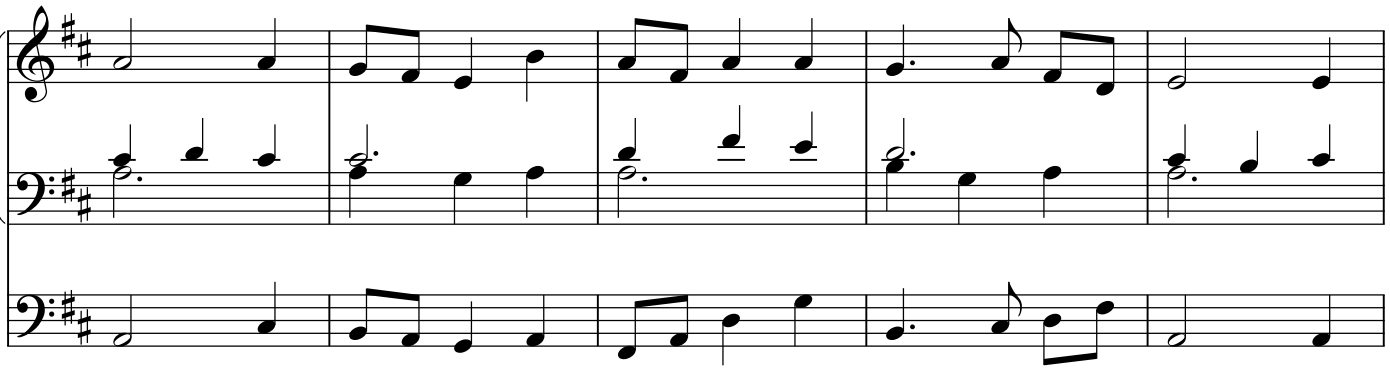

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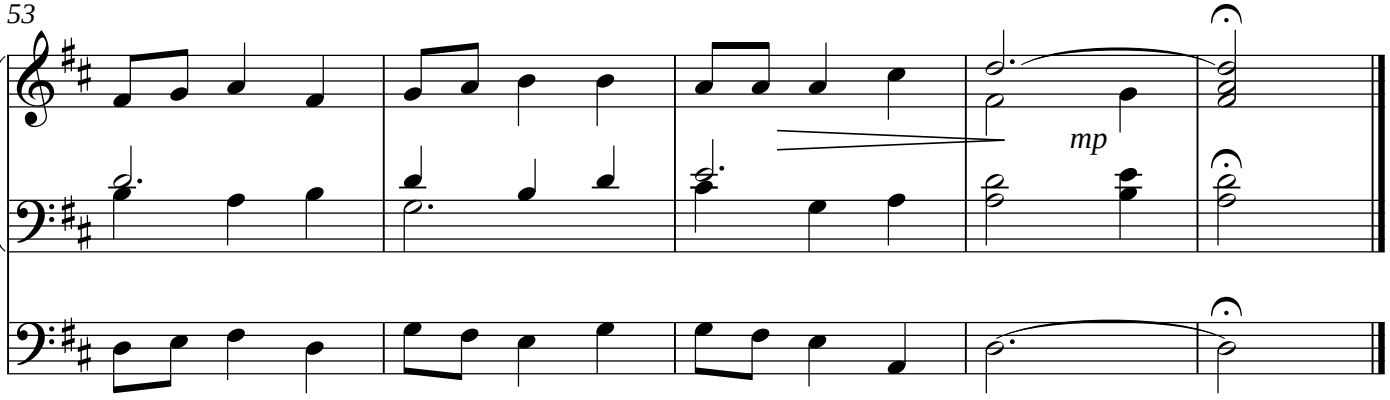
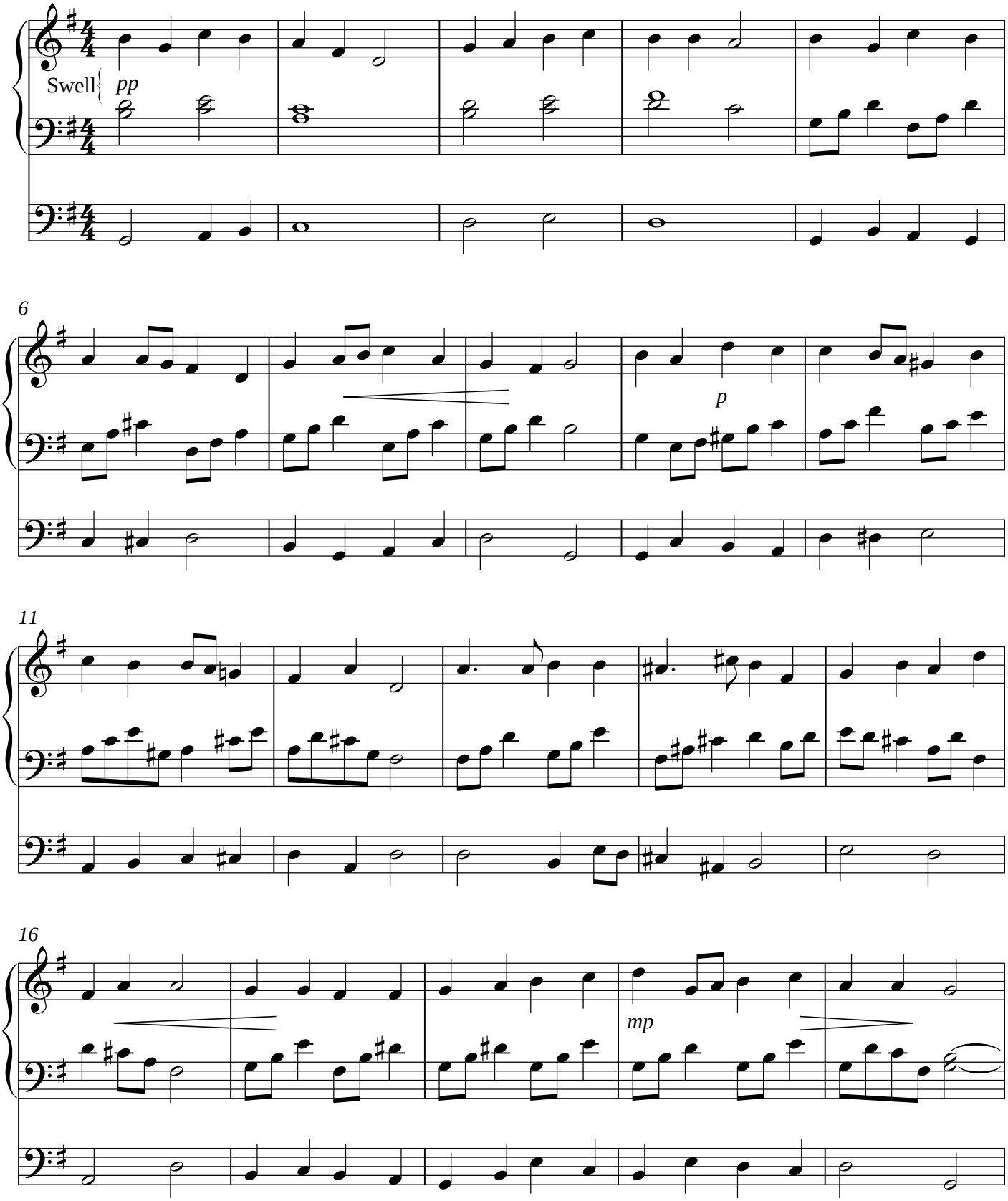


God Is in His Holy Temple

Frank W. Asper, 1892-1973
arr. Laurel Hunt Pedersen

Reverently ♩ = 72-84



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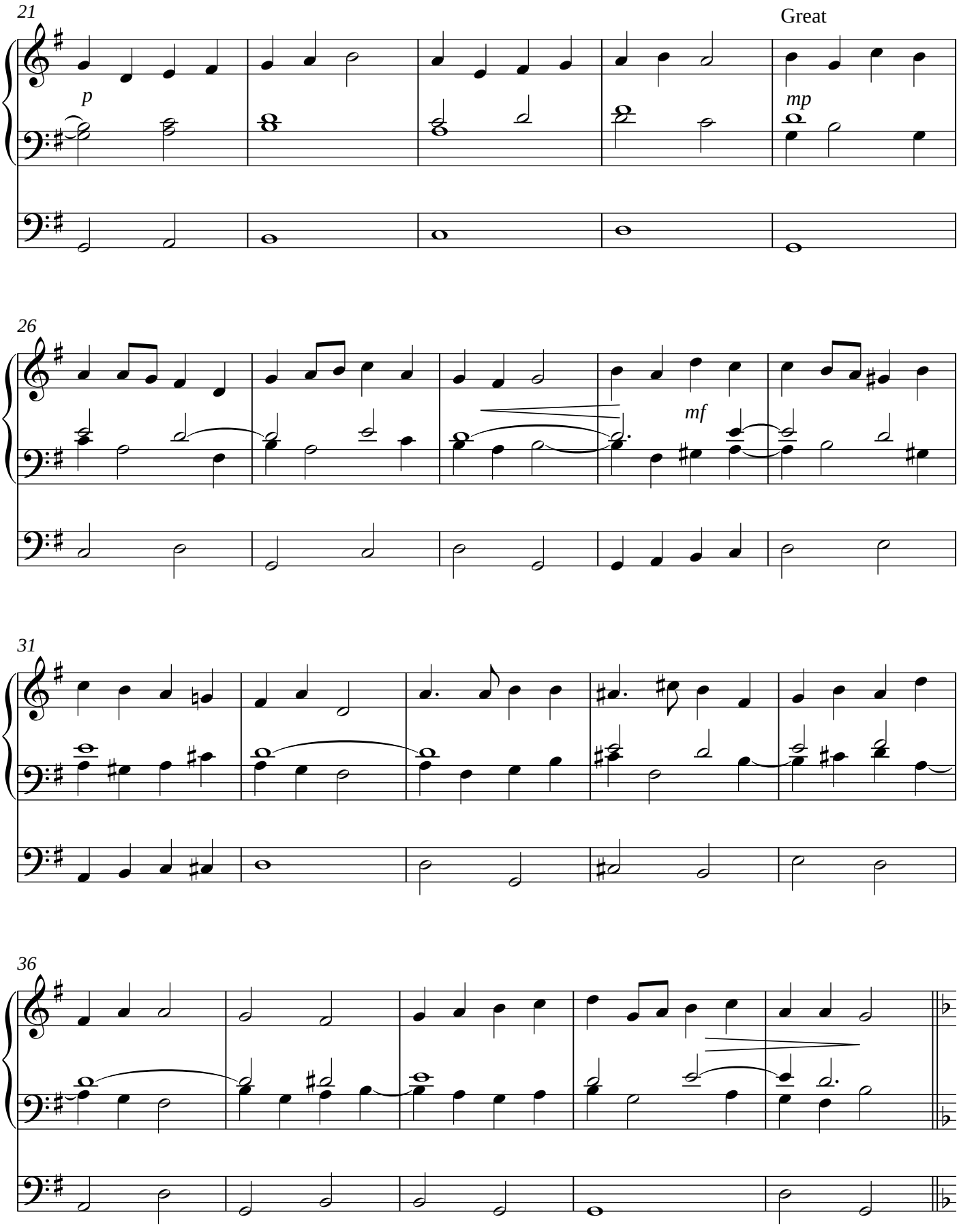
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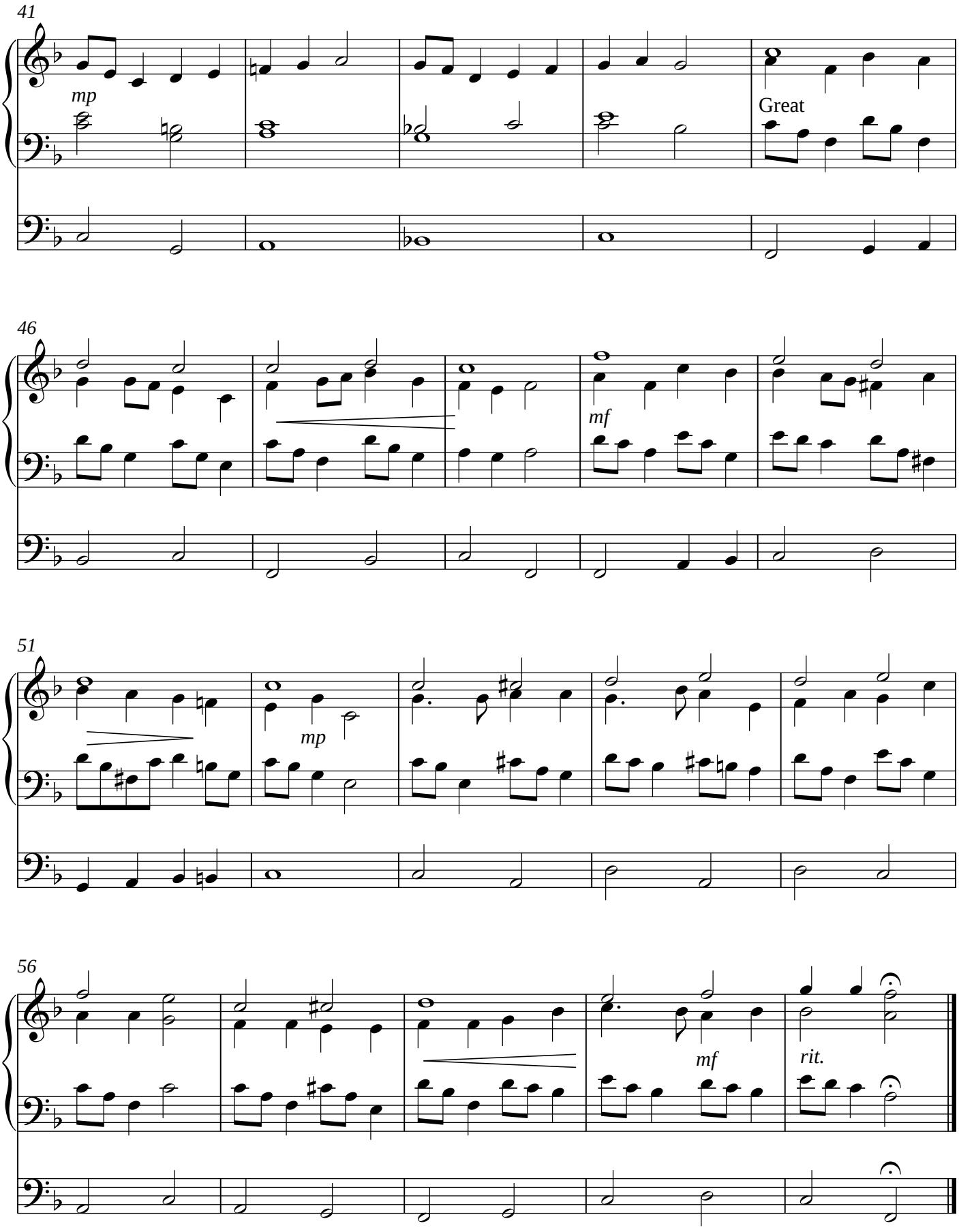
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51
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56
mf
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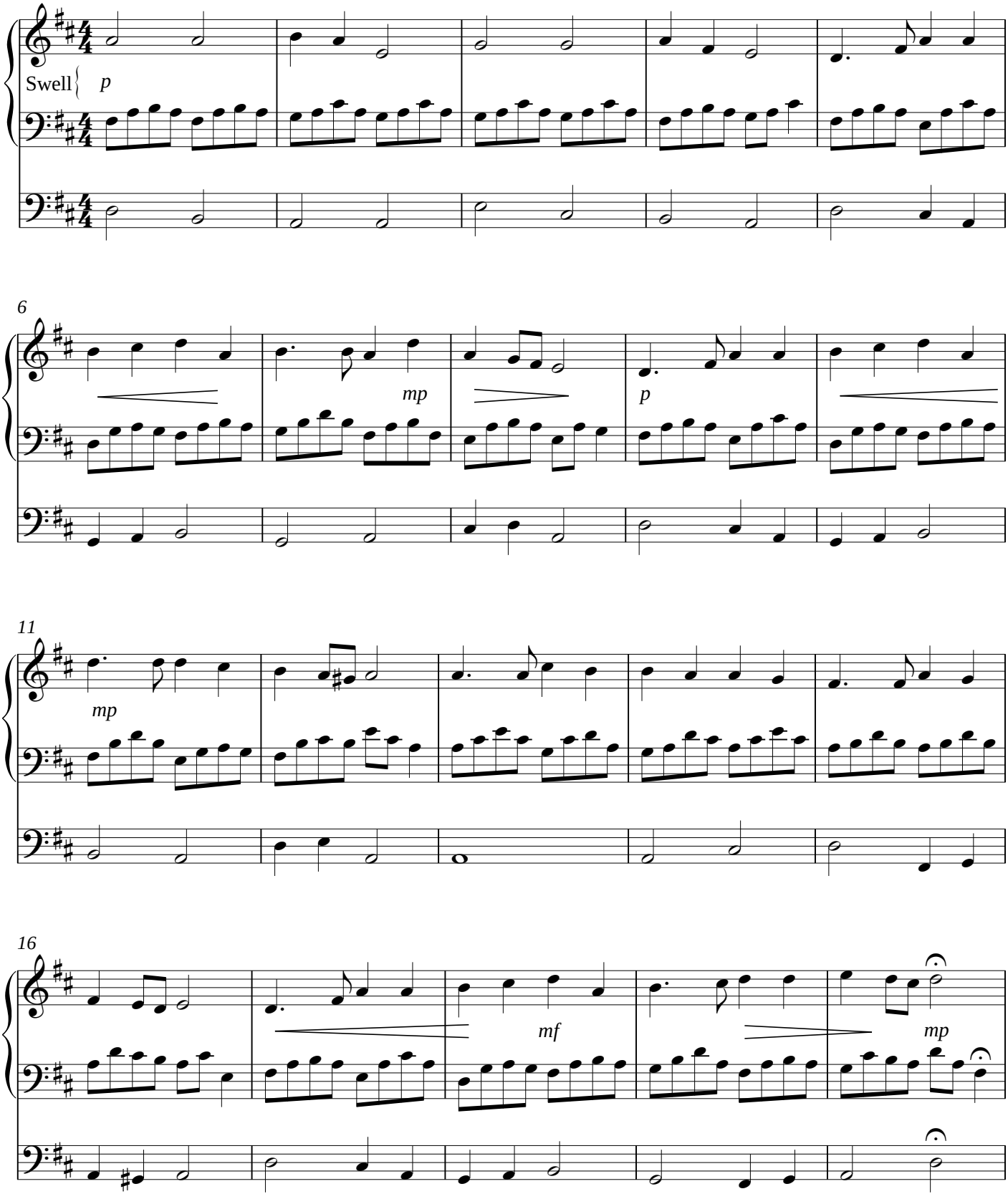
Holy Temples on Mount Zion

Archibald F. Bennett, 1896-1948
arr. Laurel Hunt Pedersen



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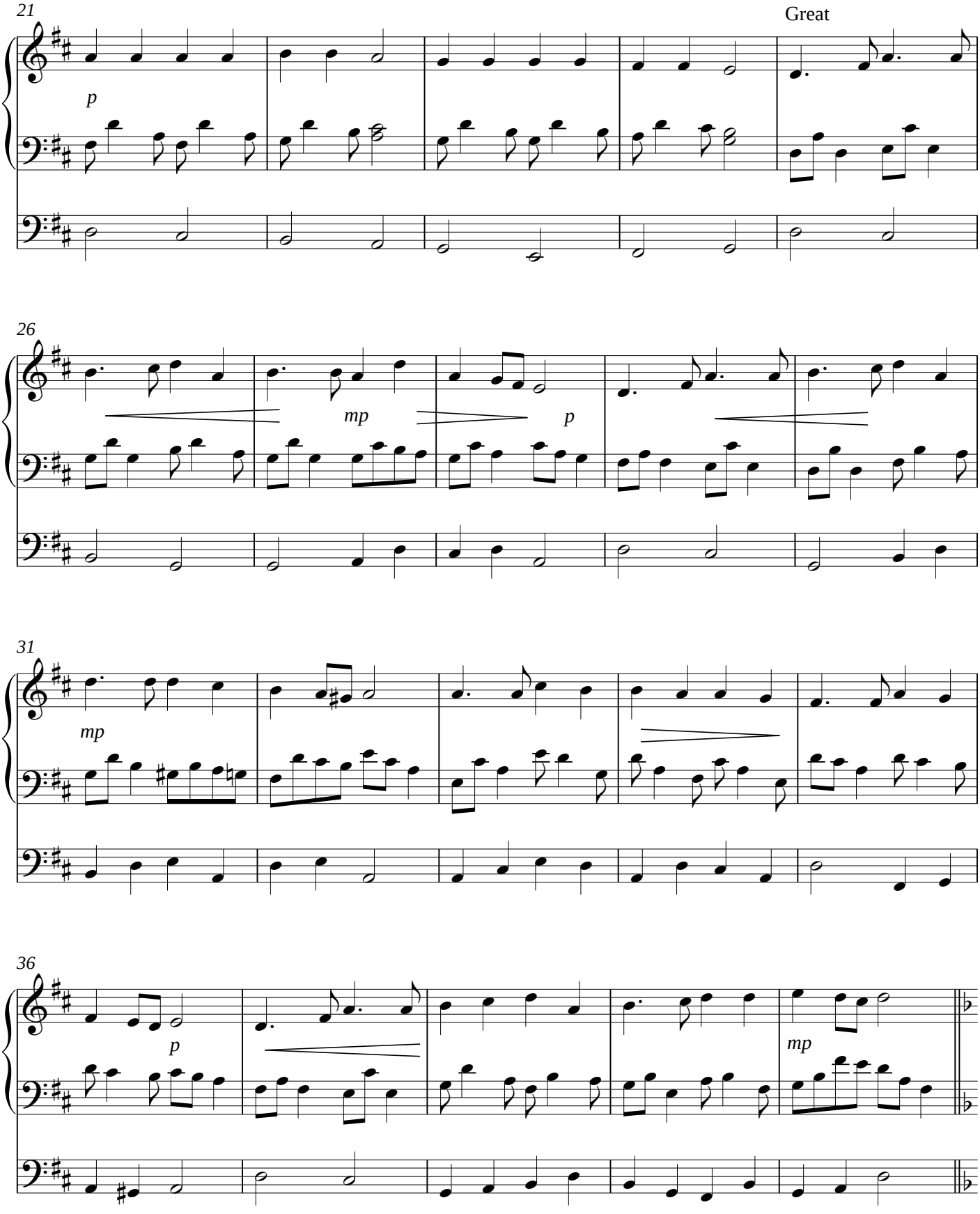
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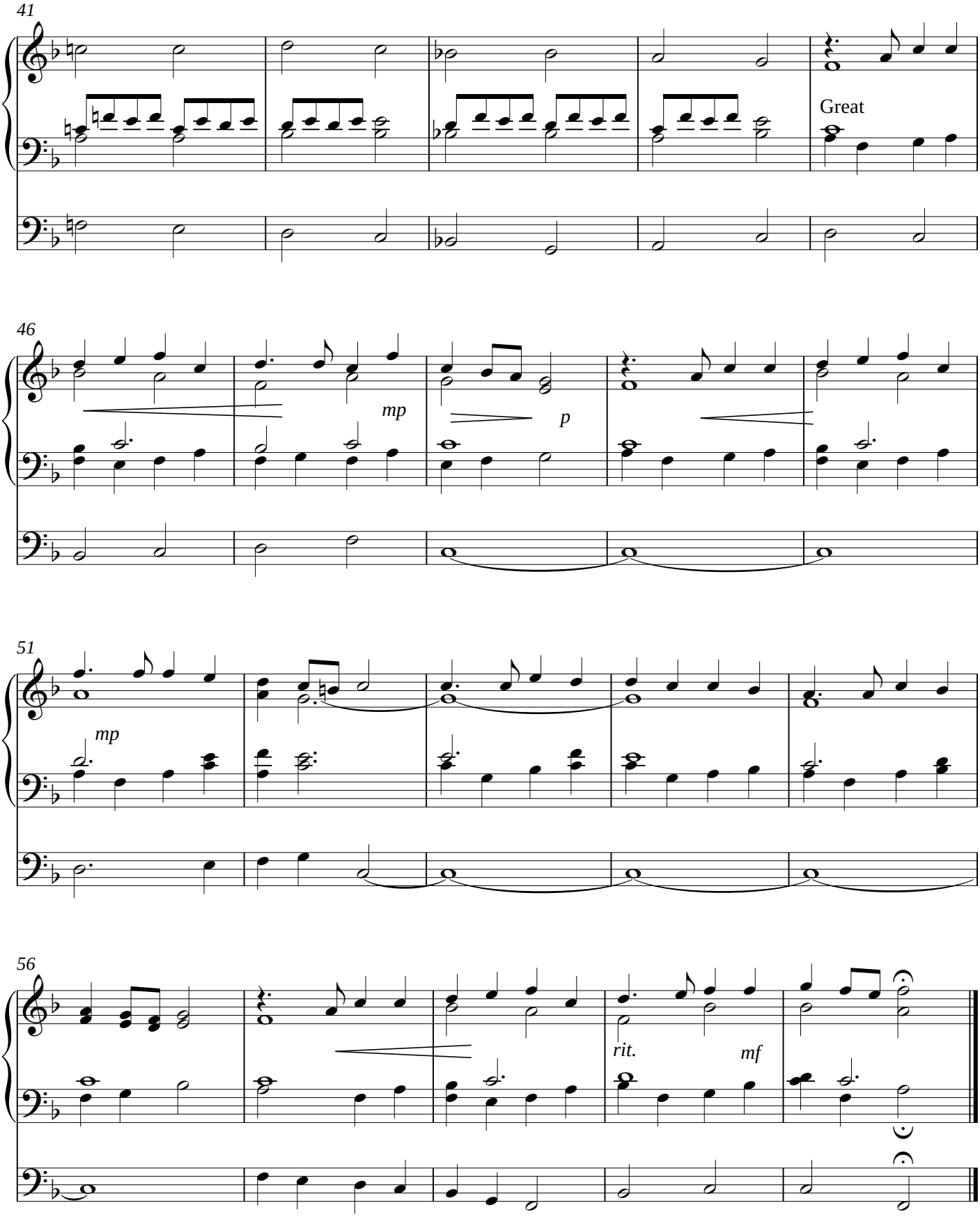
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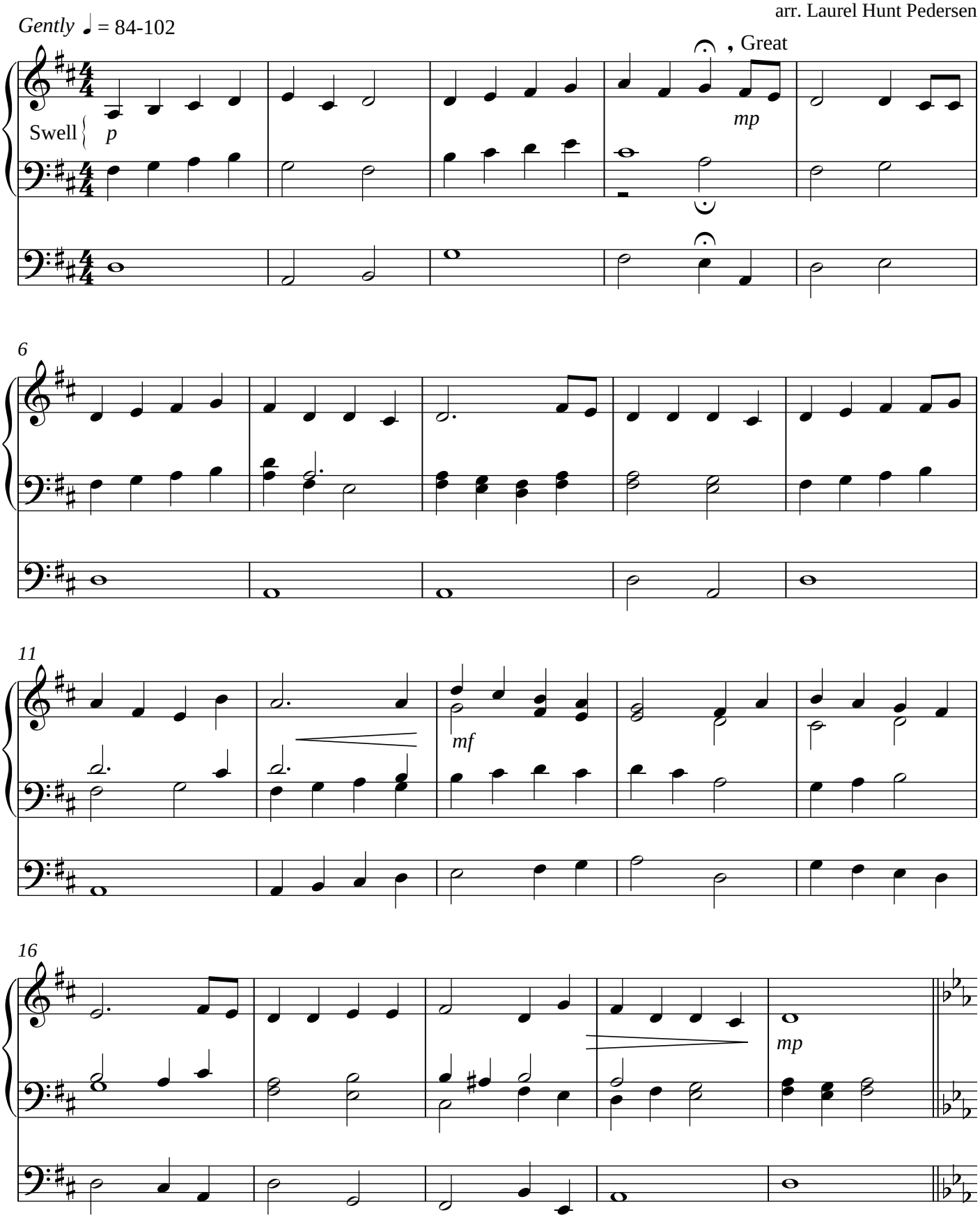
The Lord Gave Me a Temple

Darwin Wolford, 1936
arr. Laurel Hunt Pedersen



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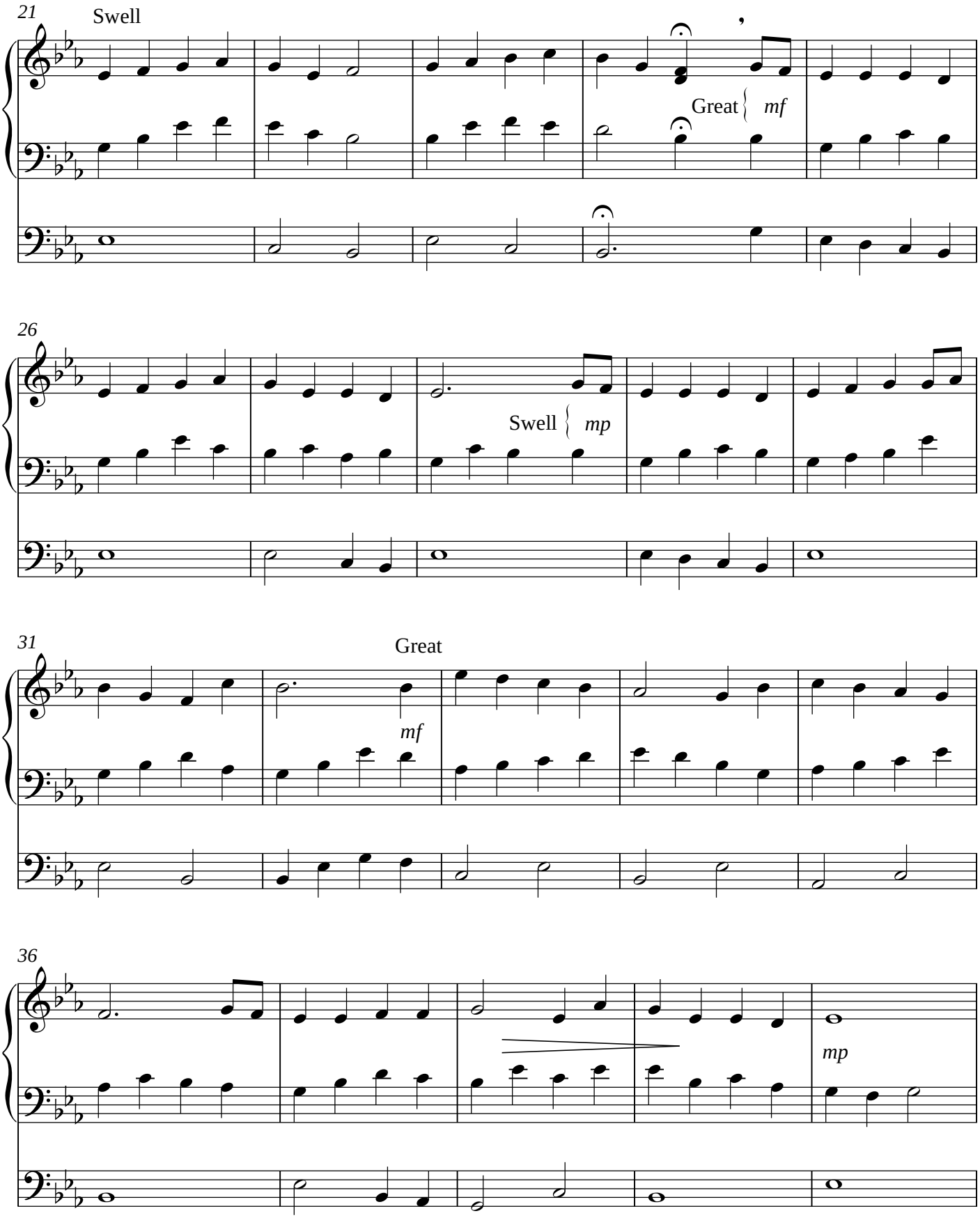
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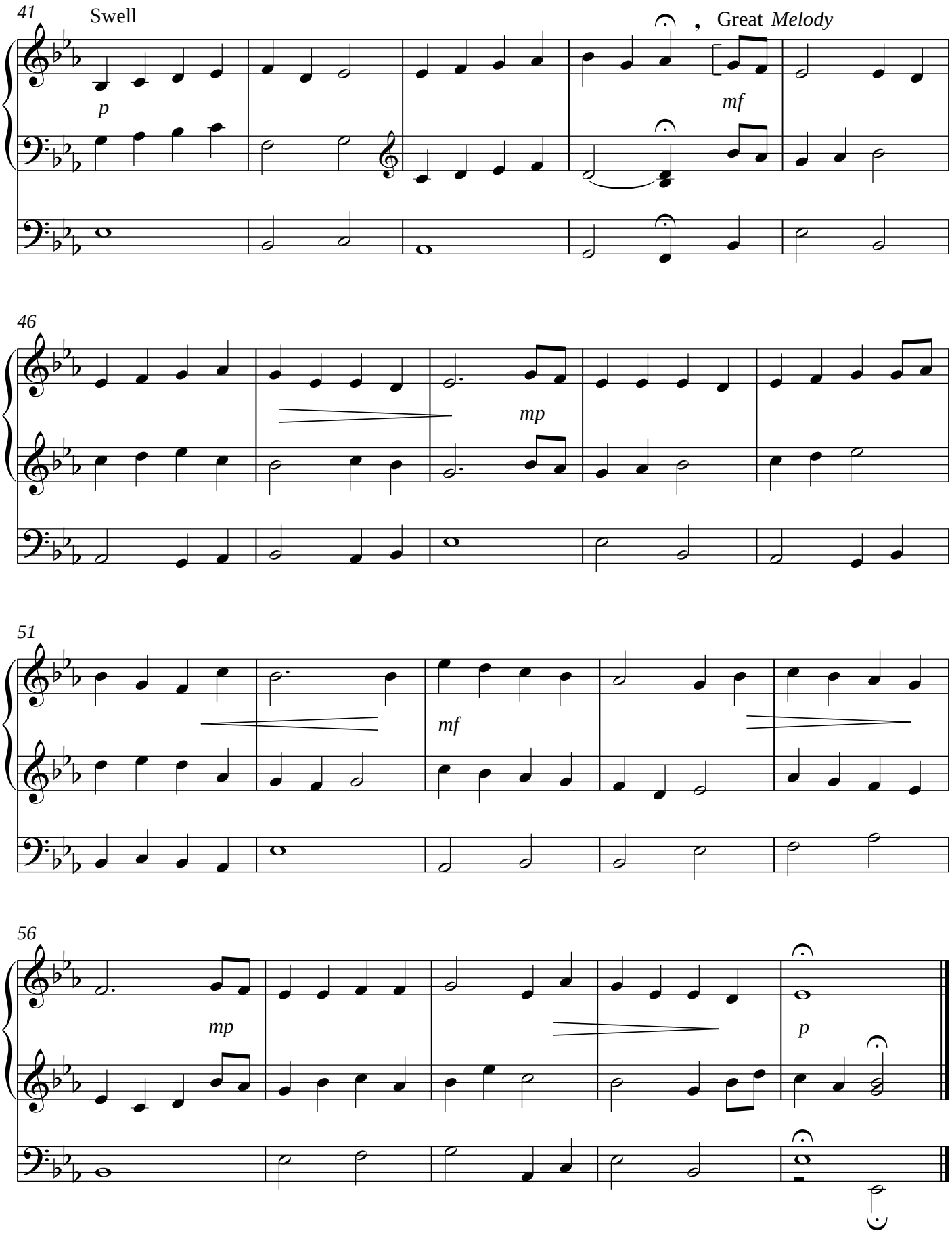
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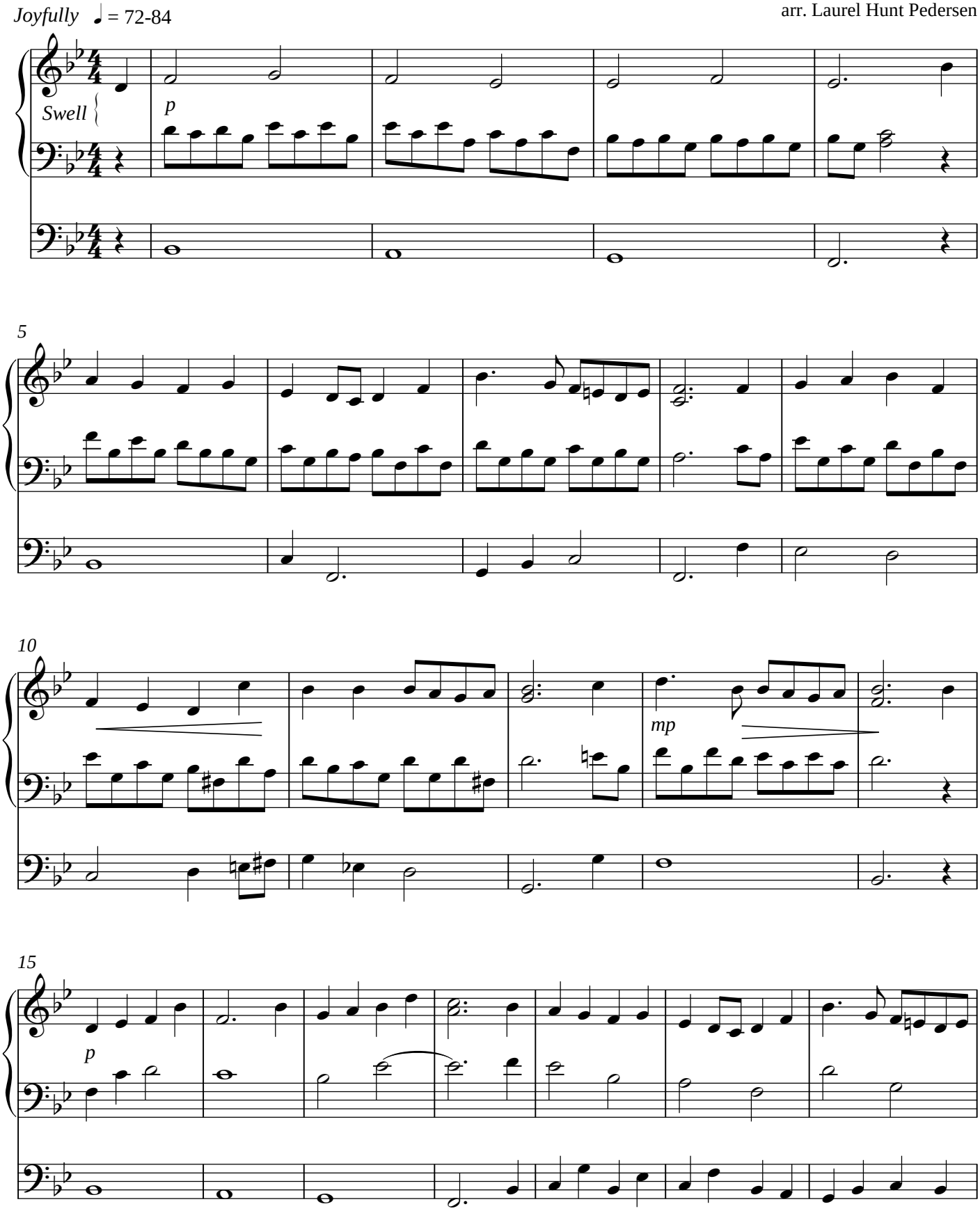
p

Rejoice, Ye Saints of Latter Days

R. Paul Thompson, 1926-2007
arr. Laurel Hunt Pedersen



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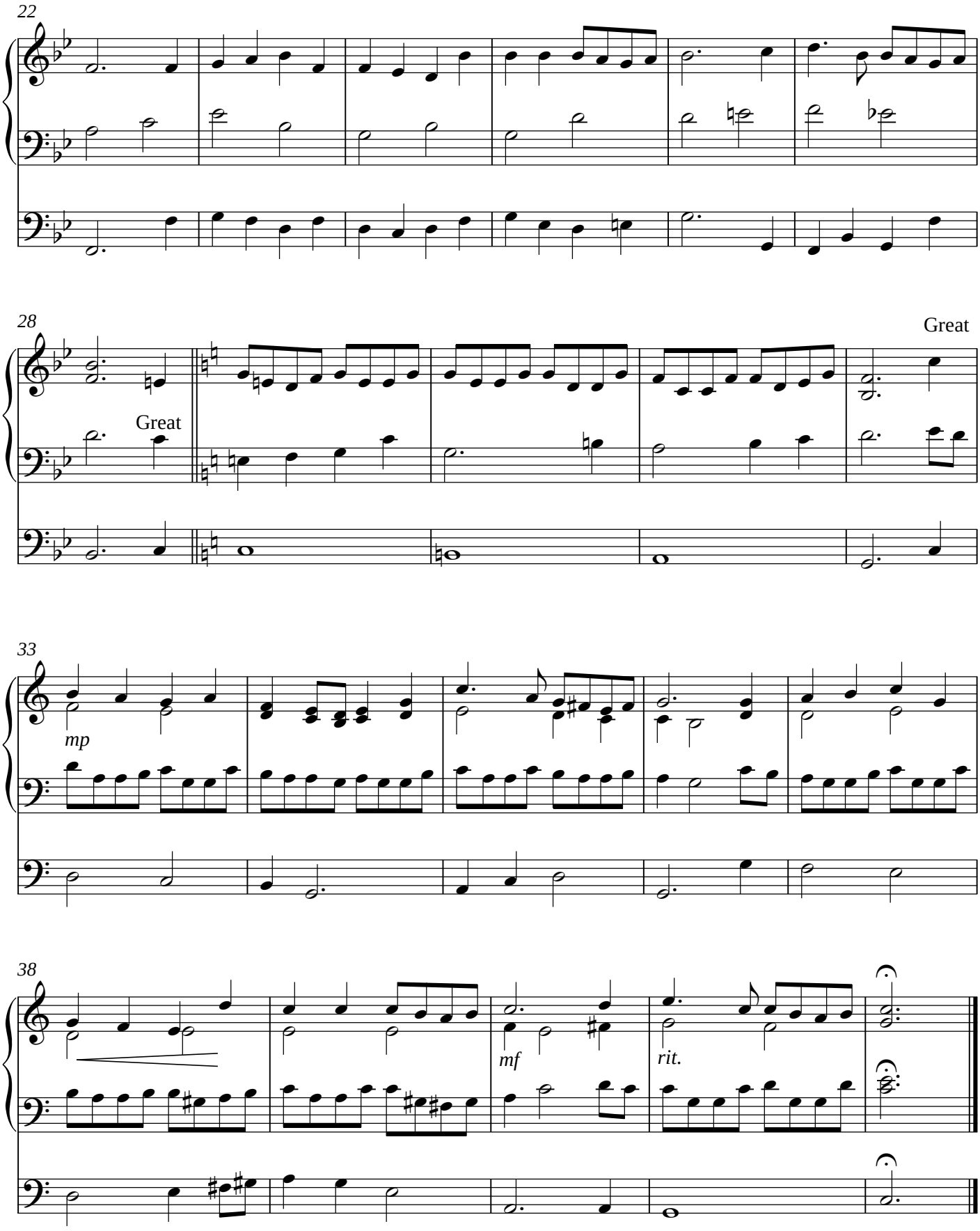
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38
mf
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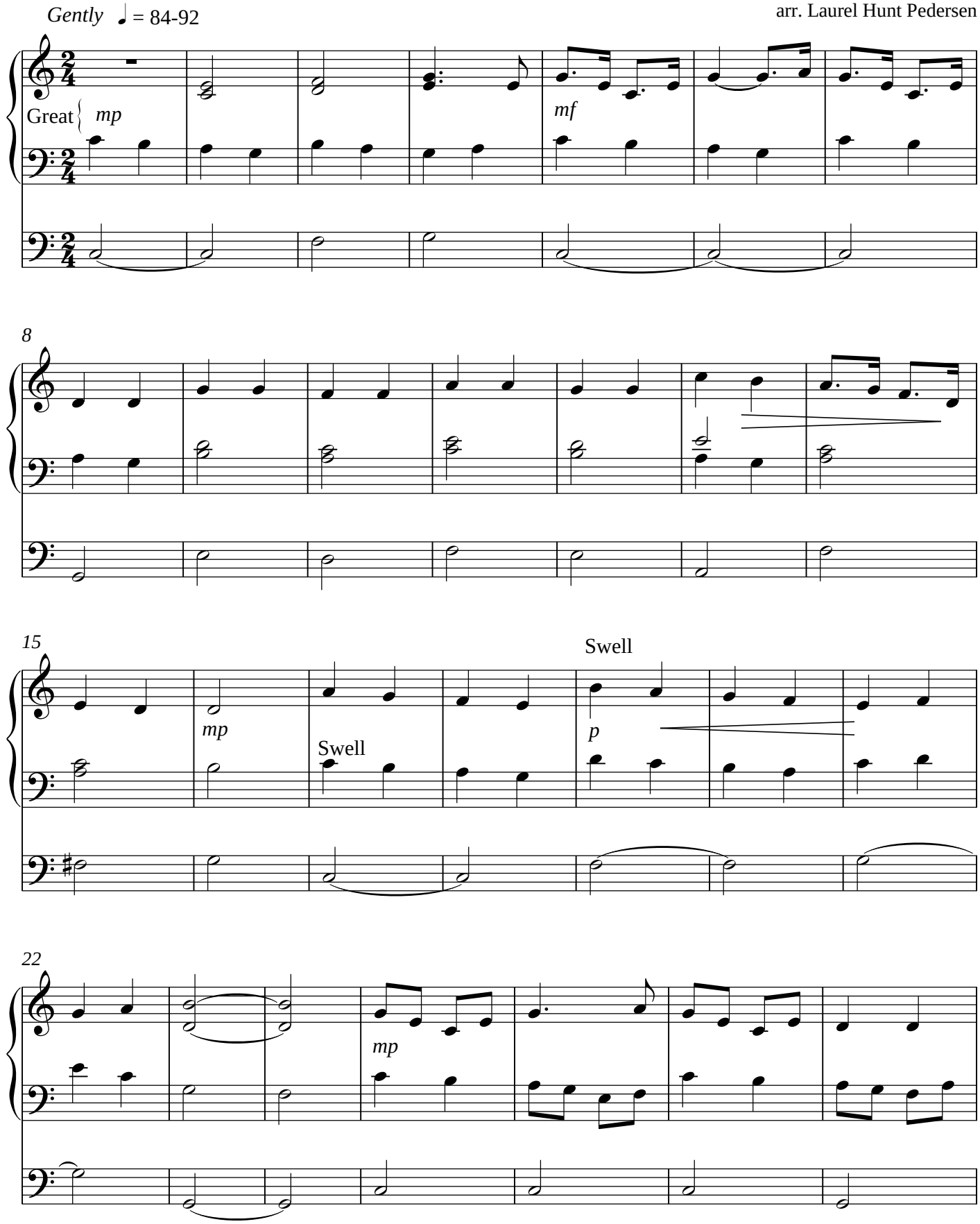
I Have a Family Tree

Darwin Wolford, 1936
arr. Laurel Hunt Pedersen



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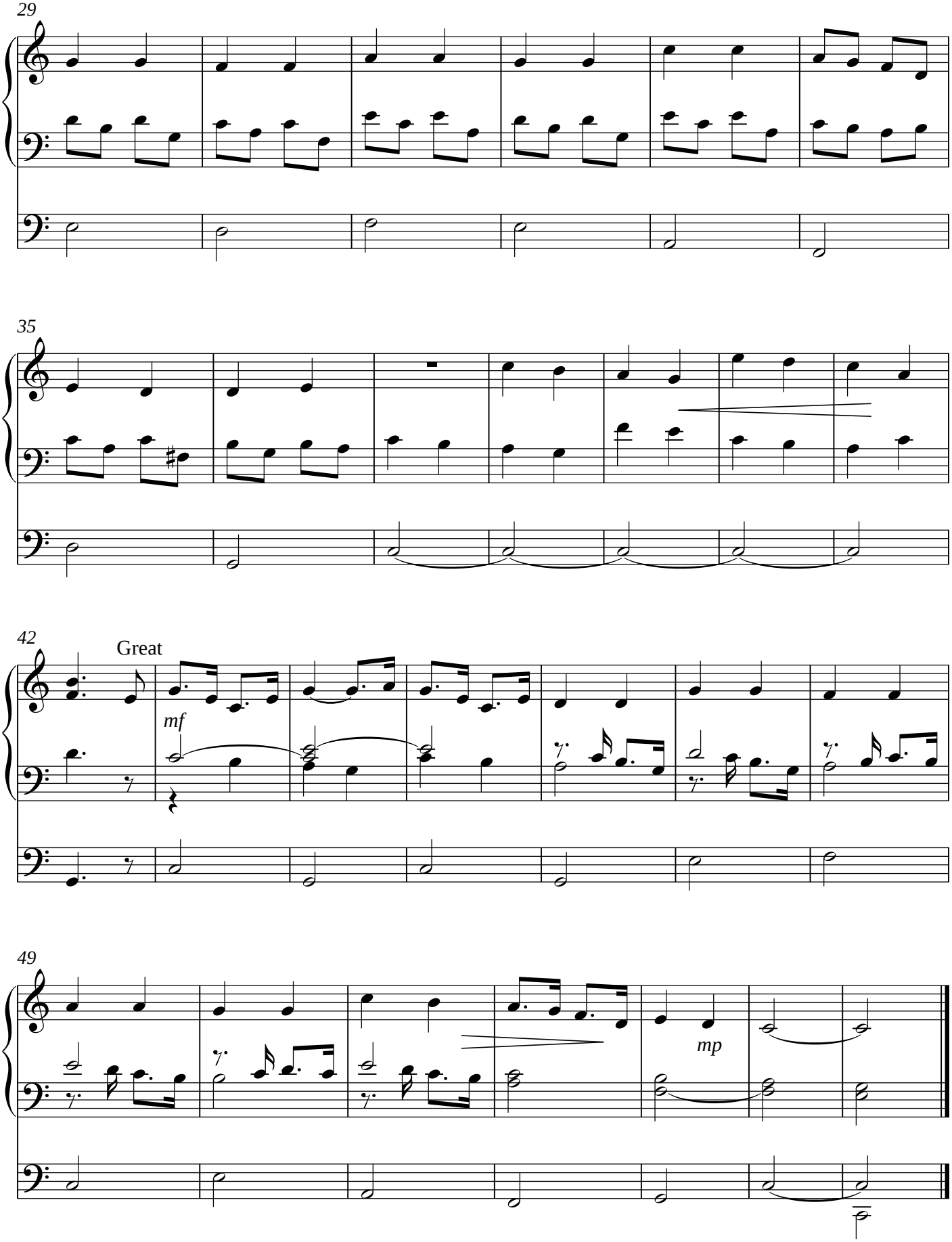
29
35
42
Great
mf
49
mp

Family History Story

Temple and family history work has always been dear to my heart. There are several members of my family who have been heavily involved in family history work. My sister, Catherine Hunt Ellis, is the author of numerous books about family members and the histories of communities in Arizona and Colorado. She has published and presented papers on various historical topics throughout the country.

Of my third great-grandparents, most of them joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints within the first ten years of its organization. Many of them made the journey across the plains with the saints. One of these great-grandparents was Captain Jefferson Hunt, captain of Company A of the Mormon Battalion. His sons Gilbert and Marshall enlisted. His thirteen year old son, John, had the responsibility of driving his mother's wagon as she and the other children were among the families who accompanied the Battalion. Eventually John helped colonize Snowflake, Arizona. He was called as the first Bishop of that community and served for more than thirty years in that position. These and many other progenitors have always served as examples of faith and courage to me.

One day while working in our Stake Family History Library a brother from another ward visited. As we talked we realized we both were descendants from Jefferson Hunt, but through different sons. When he heard which son I came through he made this surprising statement. "You have the blessing of coming through Jefferson's most faithful son." He was aware of John's service as Bishop and Patriarch and considered him a man of great faith and testimony.

Recently Brent Watson served as the bishop of our ward. One fast and testimony meeting Bishop Watson stated that he had been born of "believing blood." He had the opportunity of being born into a family that was faithful to their testimonies of the gospel. That statement rang true for me. I was born of "believing blood."

I have had the opportunity of helping with several family history projects. For a long period of time I had a microfilm reader in my home, on loan from the Church. I was participating in the Ellis Island project. I told the family history director that if I had to find a sitter for my children every time I worked on the project, I would spend three or four hours each week. If a reader was in my home, I would spend three or four hours each day working. I received microfilm copies of the people who came to America from Italy. Many times the hand-written records were very difficult to read. I struggled to provide the most accurate records I could.

I have had many other opportunities to serve and learn about the lives of those who have gone before me. One evening I was working in the family history library and became aware of the presence of several unseen persons. It was as if they were cheering me on. Their presence was so strong it almost became suffocating. Finally I turned and gently said, "Please be patient with me. I am working as fast as I can." They remained close, but not stifling. "For their salvation is necessary and essential to our salvation." (D&C 128:15)

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