George Frideric Handel

Messiah

1741

Viola

Éditions Nicolas Sceaux

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Based upon the Deutsche Händelgesellschaft Edition
Edited by Frideric Chrysander

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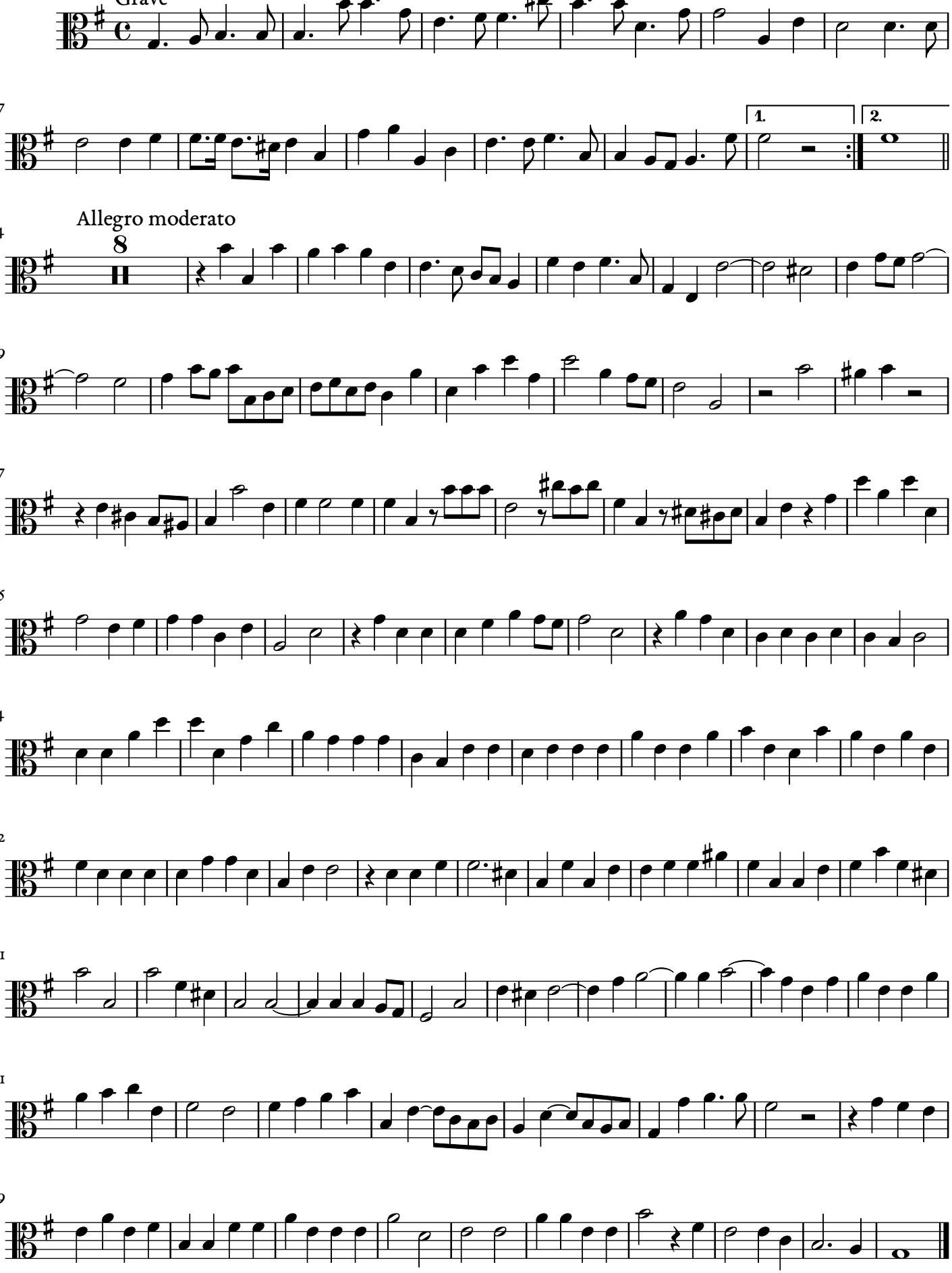
PART I

1-1 Sinfonia

Grave



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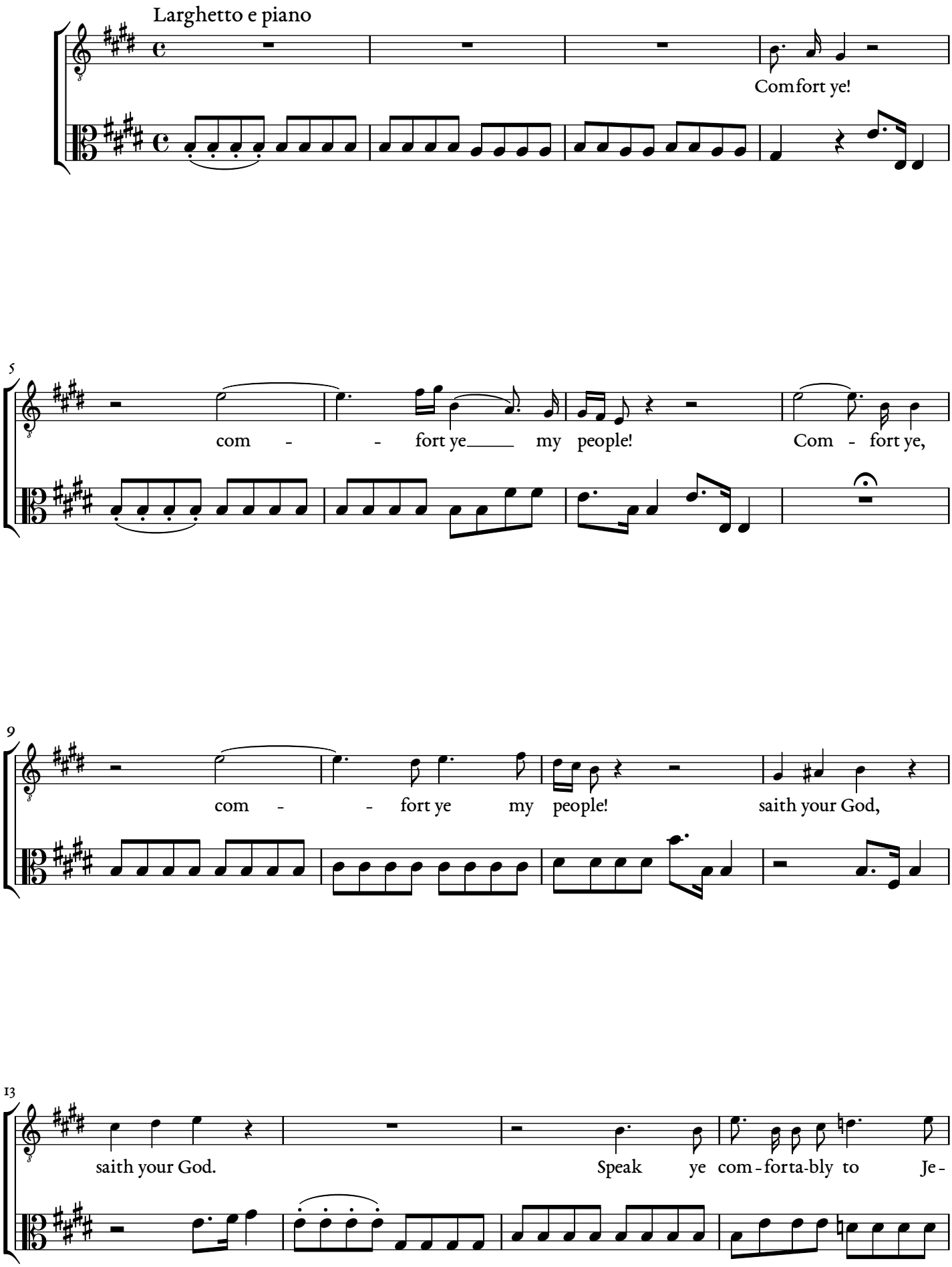
1-2 Recitative: *Comfort ye, my people* (tenor)



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17

ru - salem, speak ye com-forta-bly to Je - ru - salem, and cry un-to her that her

21

war - fare, her war - fare is ac - complish'd, that her i - ni - qui ty is

25

par-don'd, that her i - ni-qui-ty is par - don'd.

29

The voice of him that crieth in the wil-der-ness. Pre-

f

33

pare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a high-way for our God.

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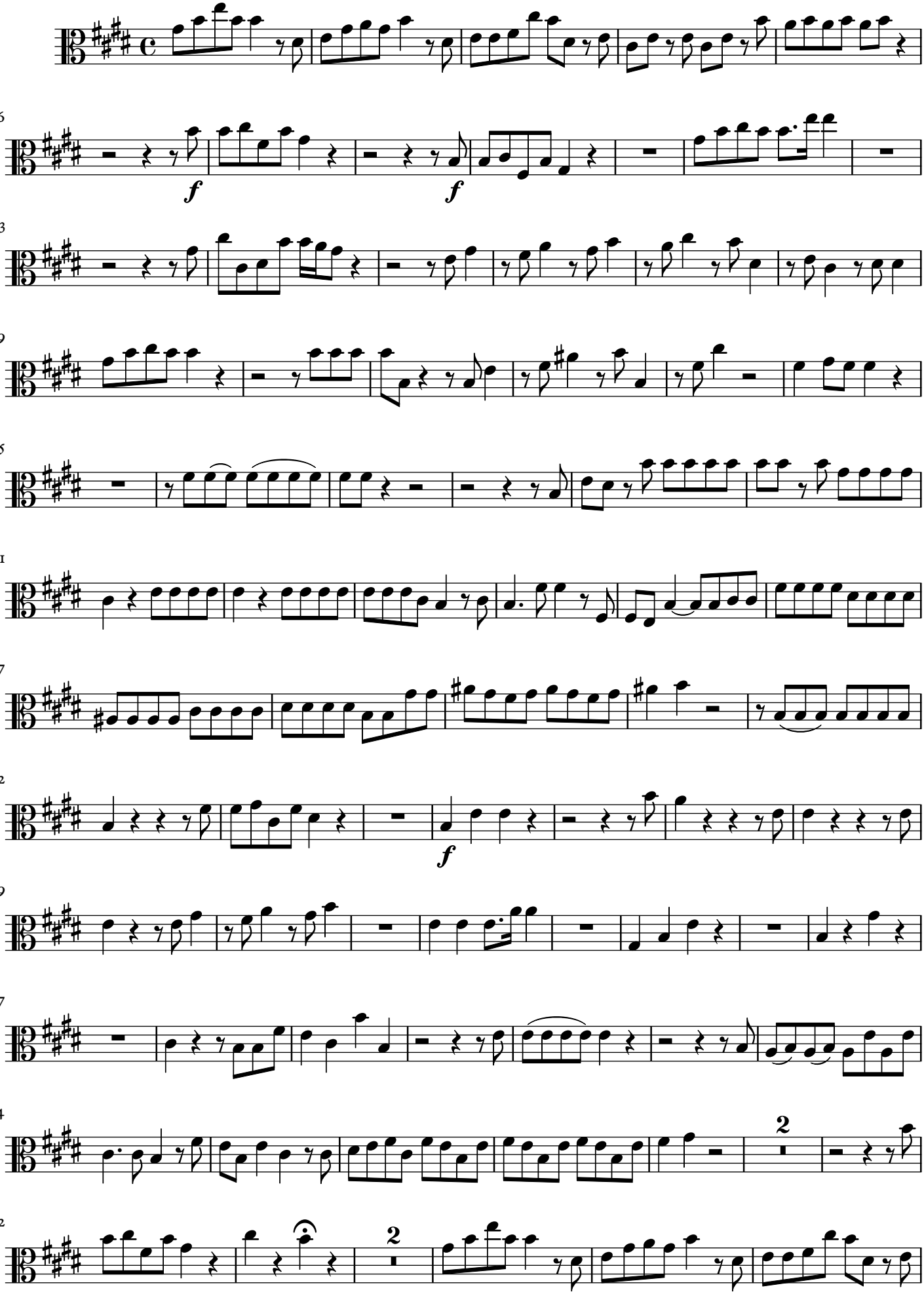
1-3 Air: *Every valley shall be exalted* (tenor)

Andante



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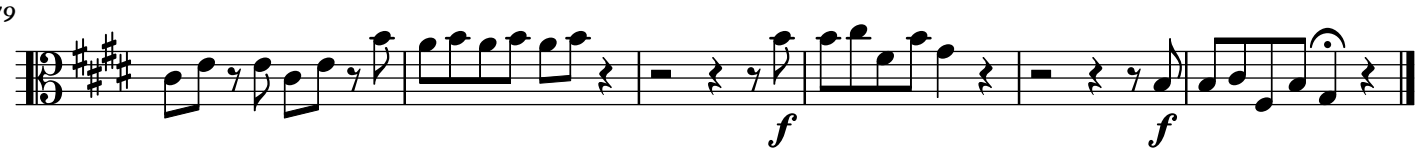
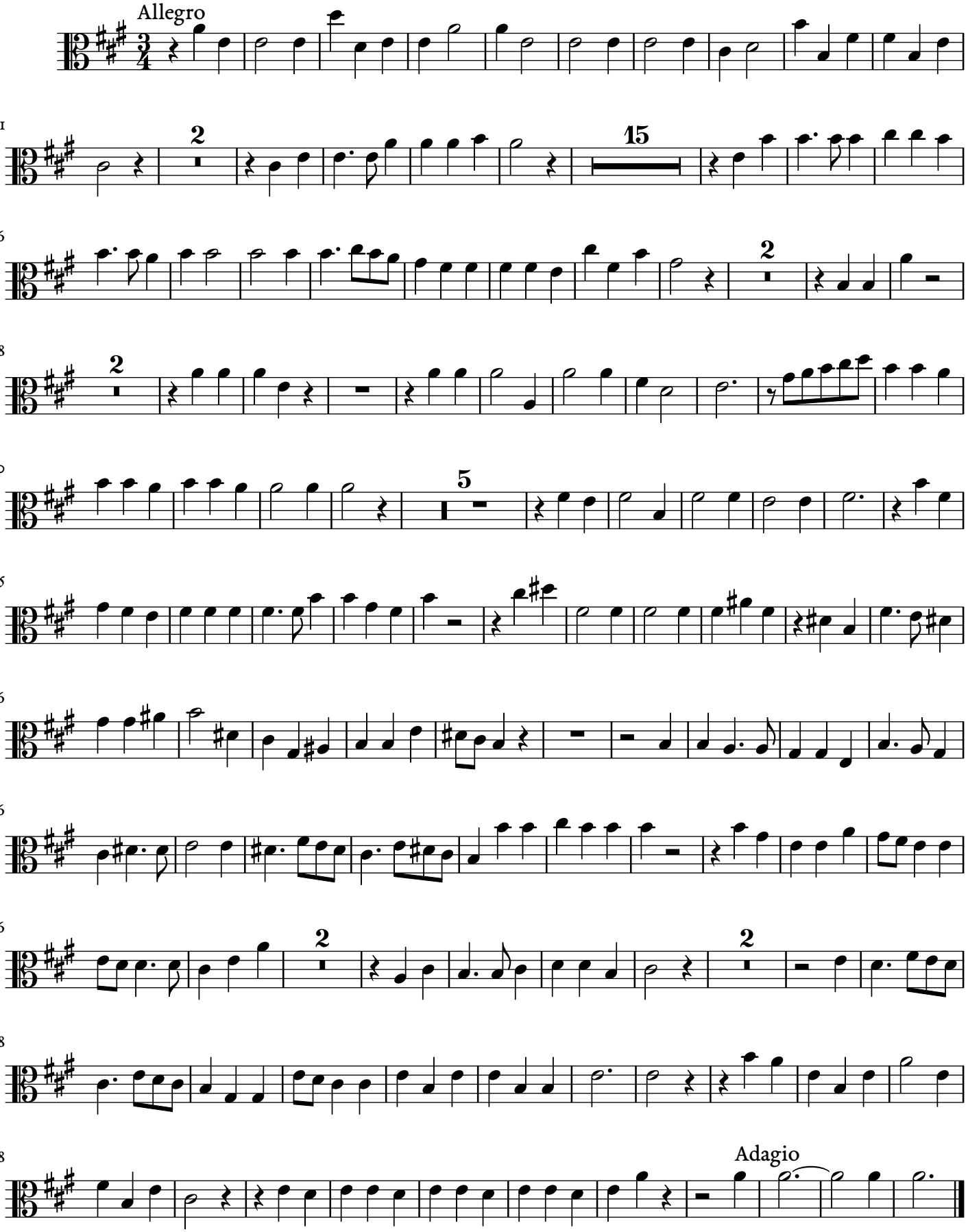


1-4 Chorus: *And the glory of the Lord*



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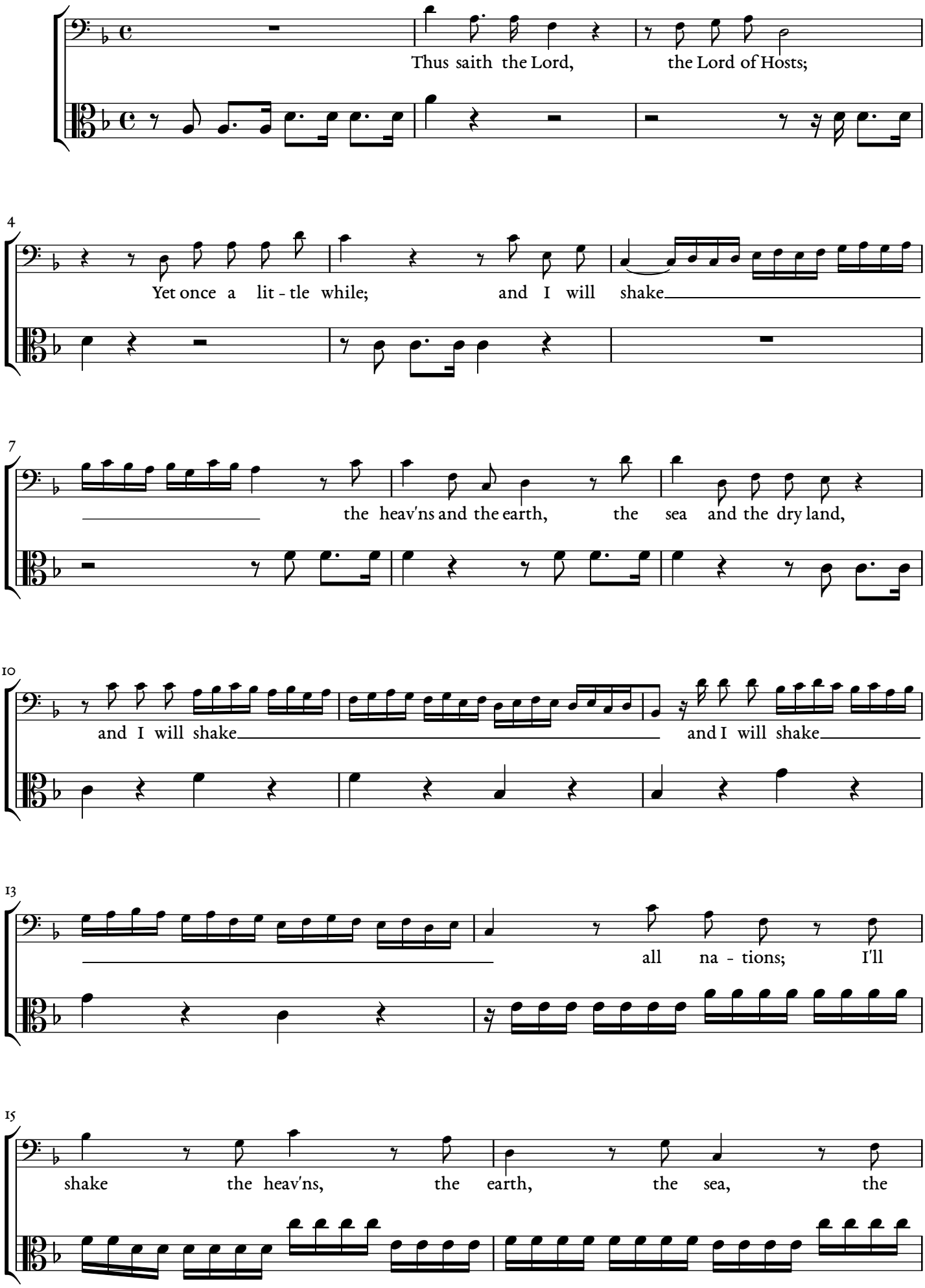
1-5 Recitative: *Thus saith the Lord of Hosts* (bass)



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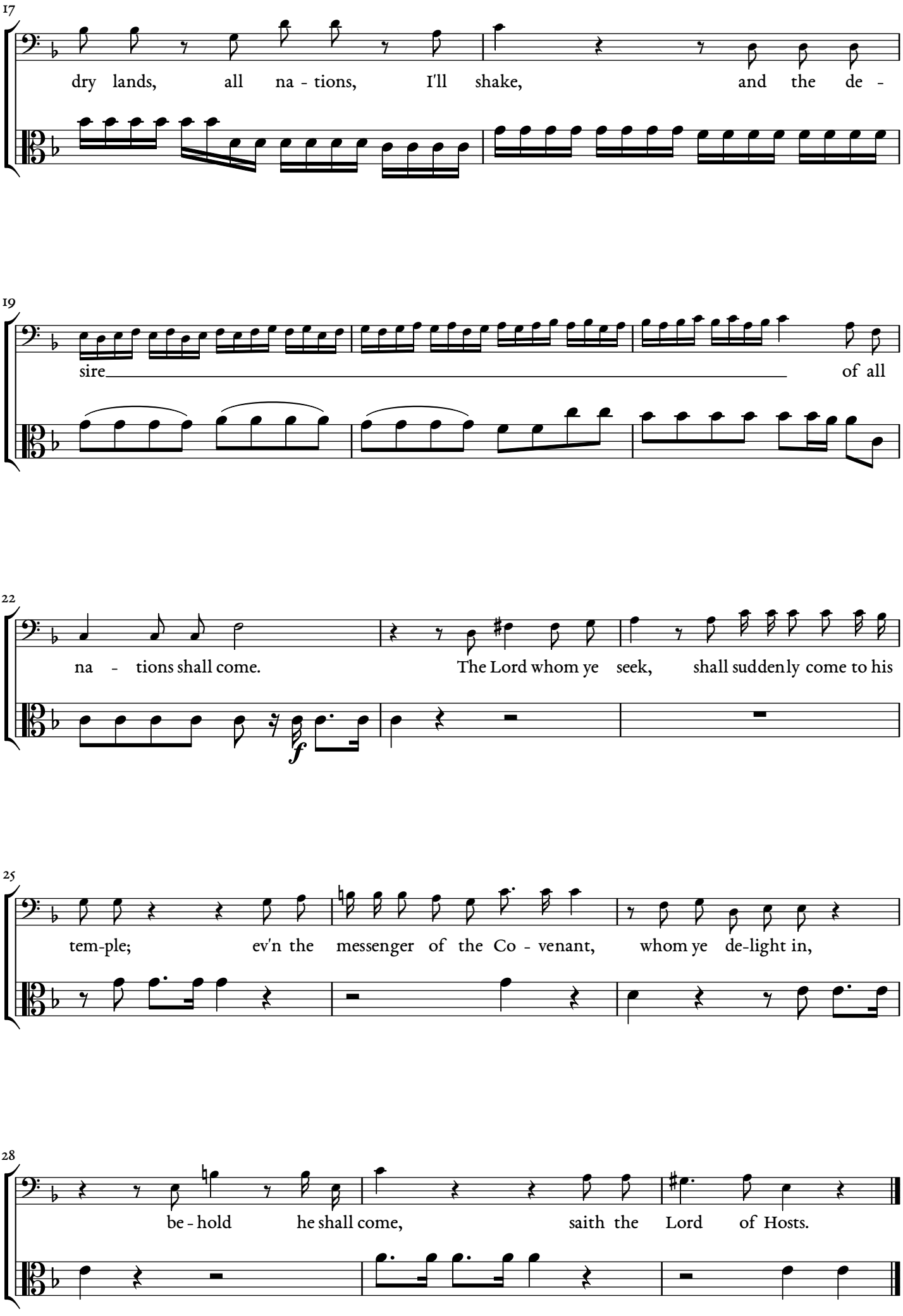

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1-6 Air: *But who may abide the day of His coming* (contr'alto)

Larghetto

9

But who may a - bide the day of his coming?

18

and who shall stand when He ap - peareth? who shall stand when

27

He ap - peareth? but who may a - bide, but who may a - bide the

35

day of his coming? and who shall stand when He ap - peareth?

44

and who shall stand when He ap - pear - - - -

54

- - eth, when He ap - pear - eth?

Prestissimo

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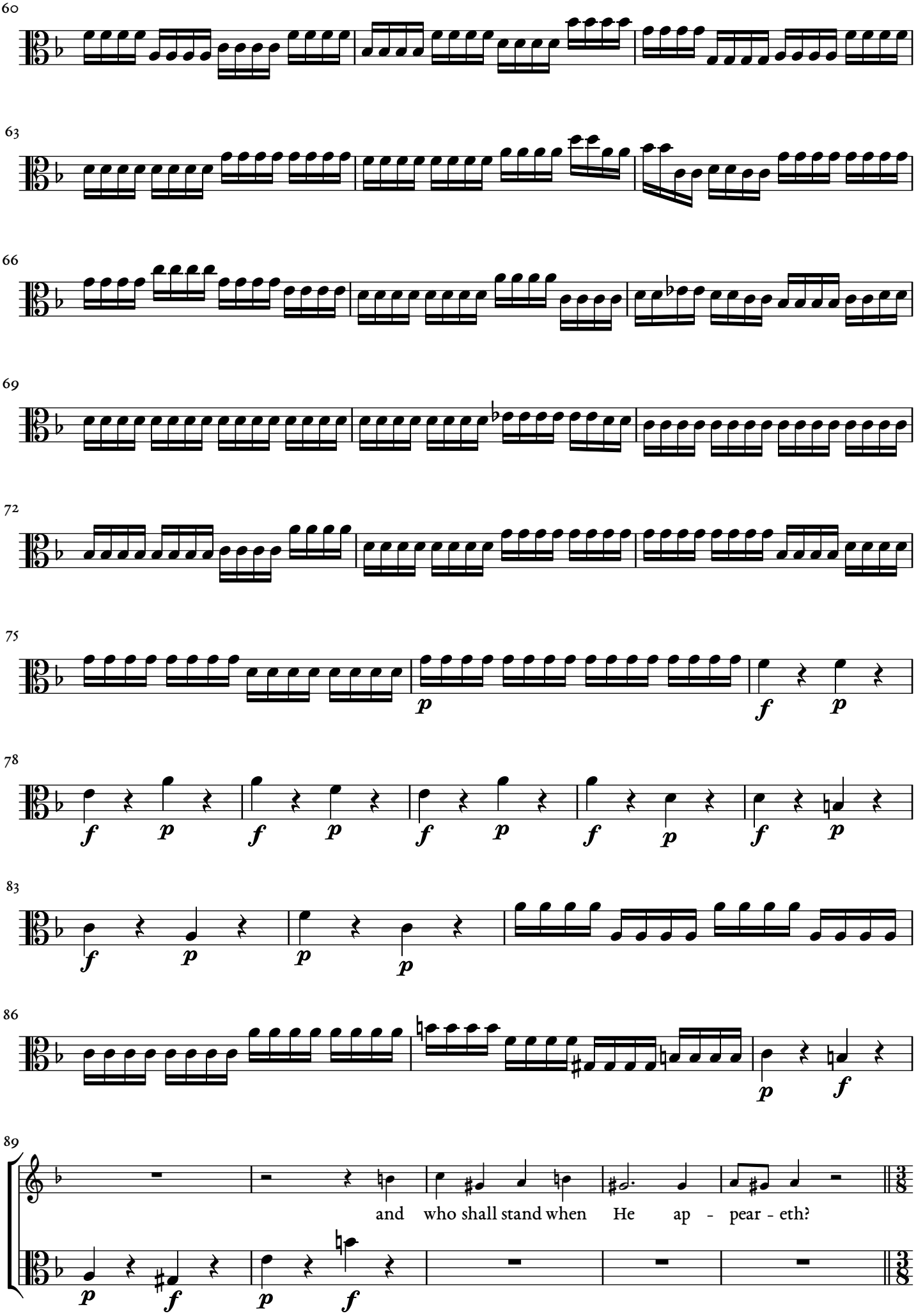

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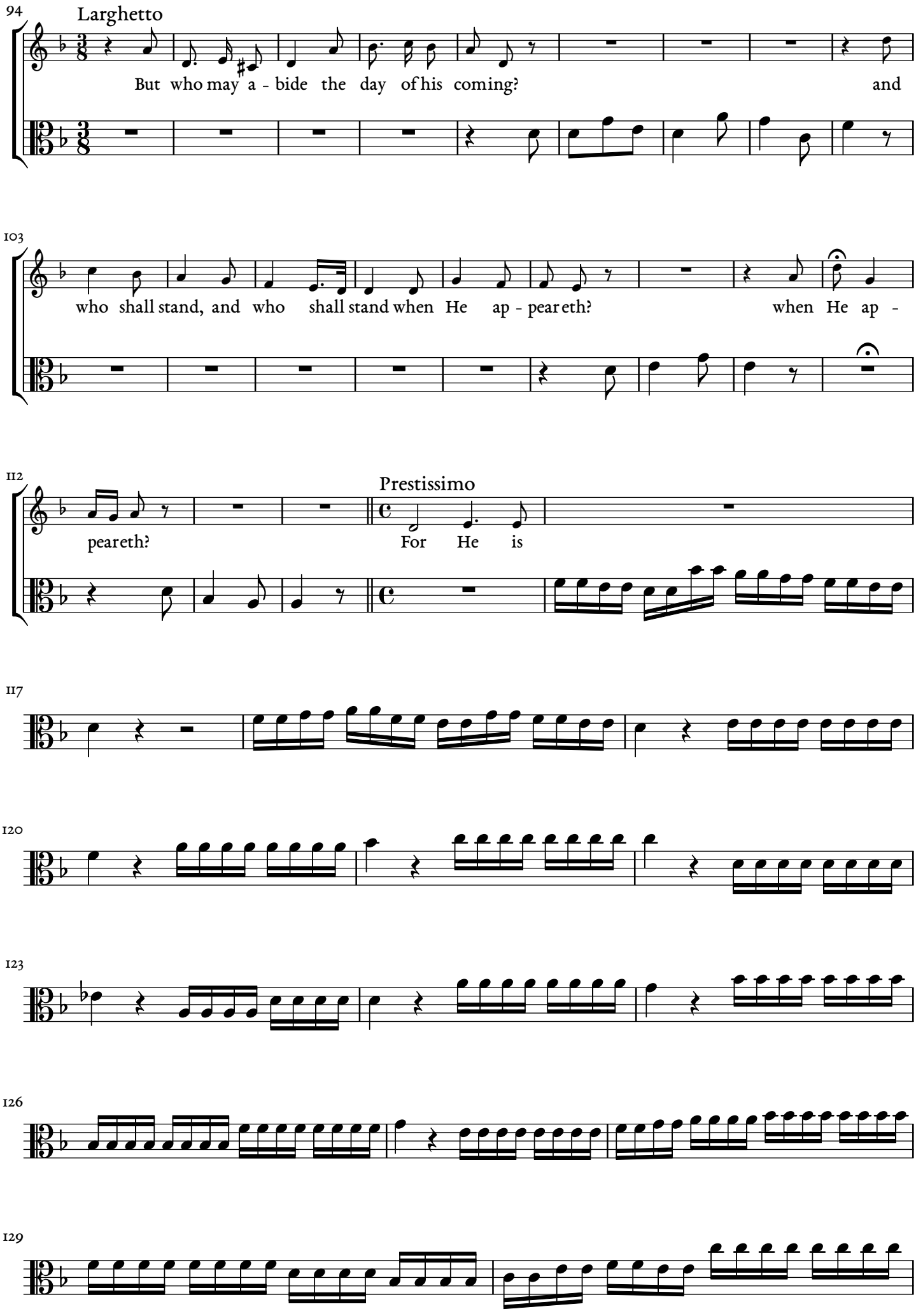

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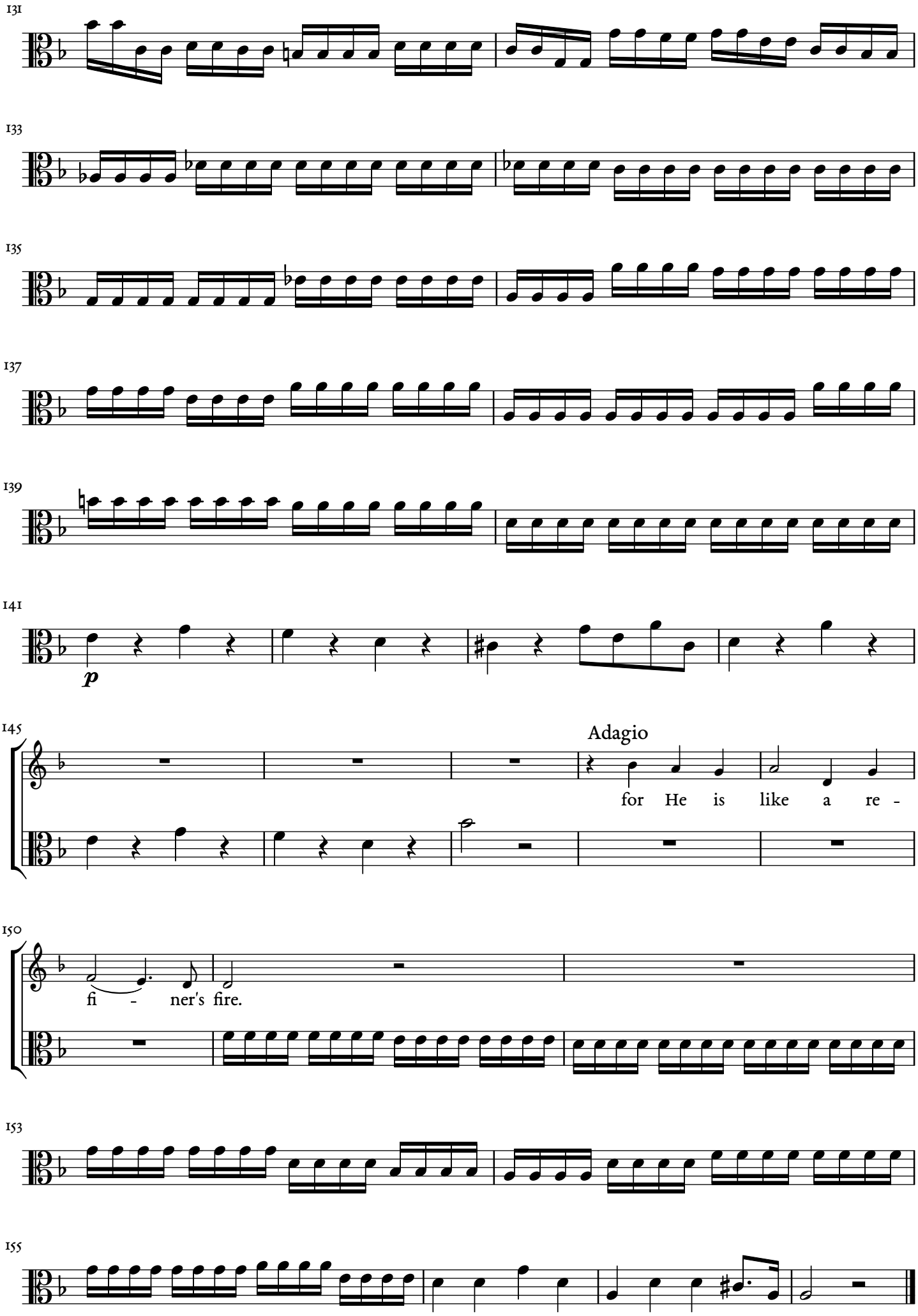

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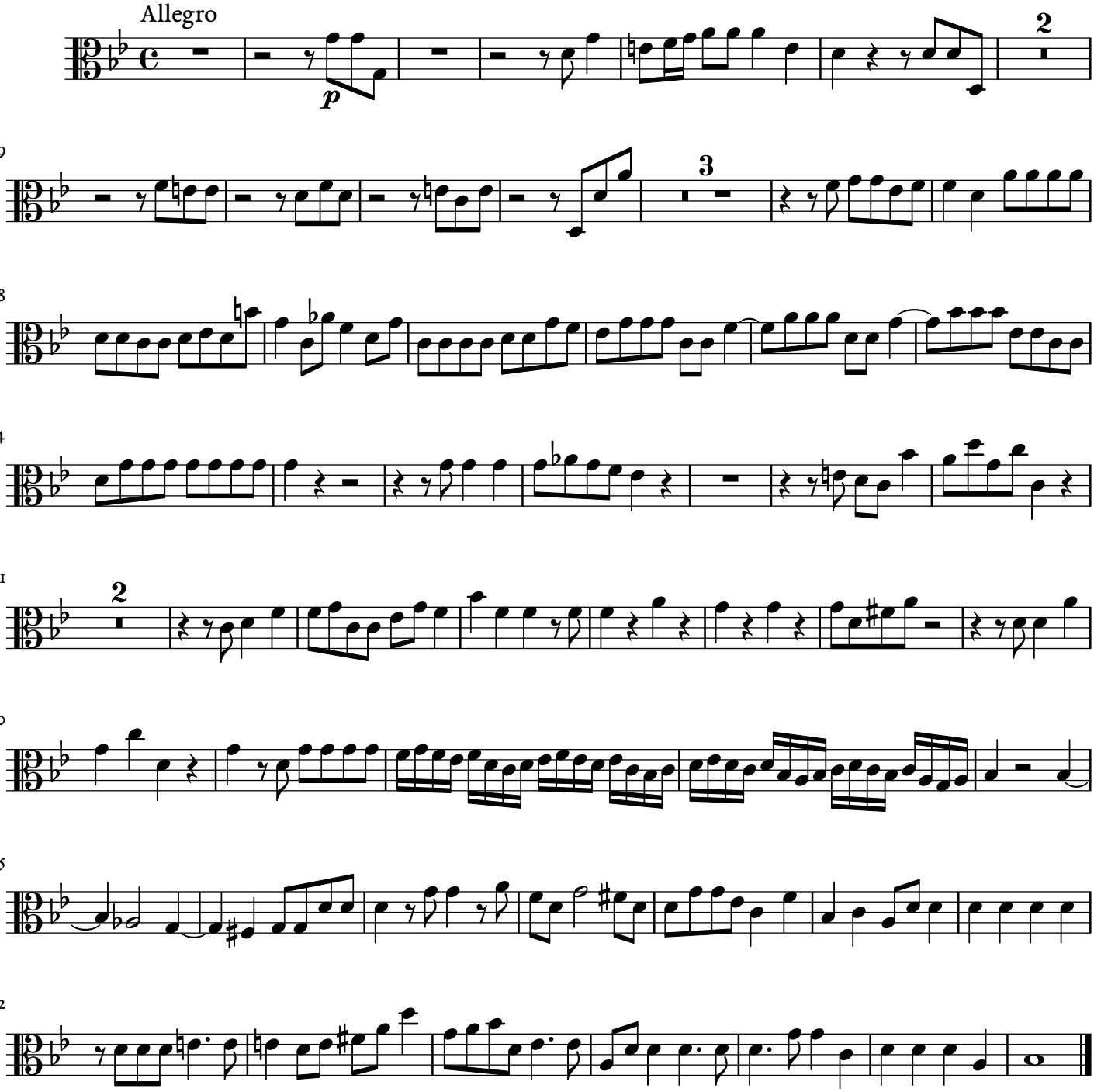
1-7 Chorus: *And He shall purify the sons of Levi*

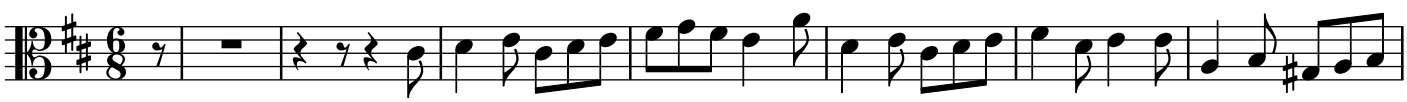


1-8 Recitative: *Behold, a virgin shall conceive* (contr'alto)

Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call his name EMMANUEL, God with us.

1-9 Air, chorus: *O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion* (contr'alto, chorus)

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain; O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, and be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!
Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.



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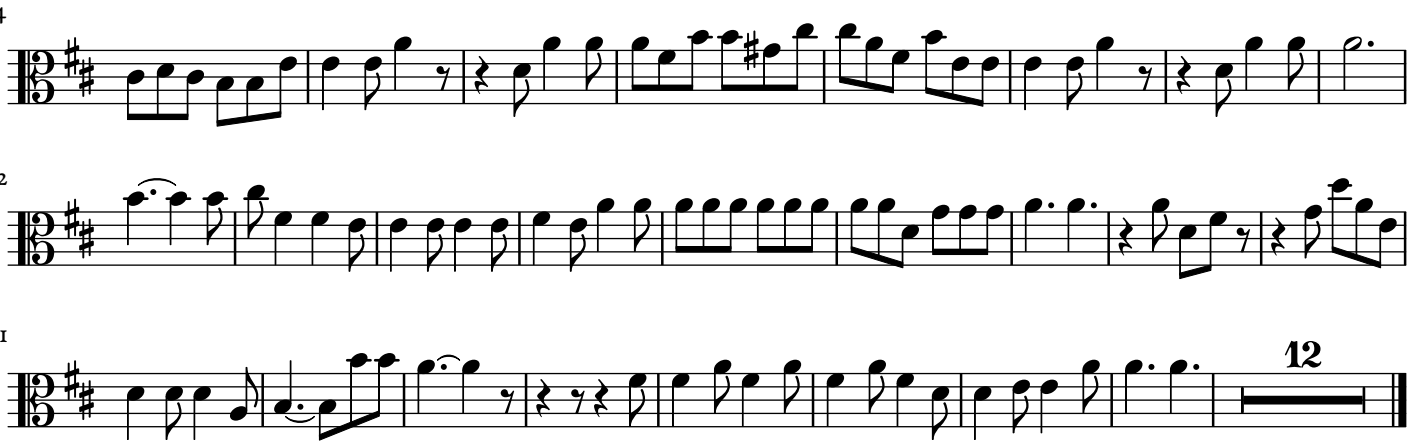
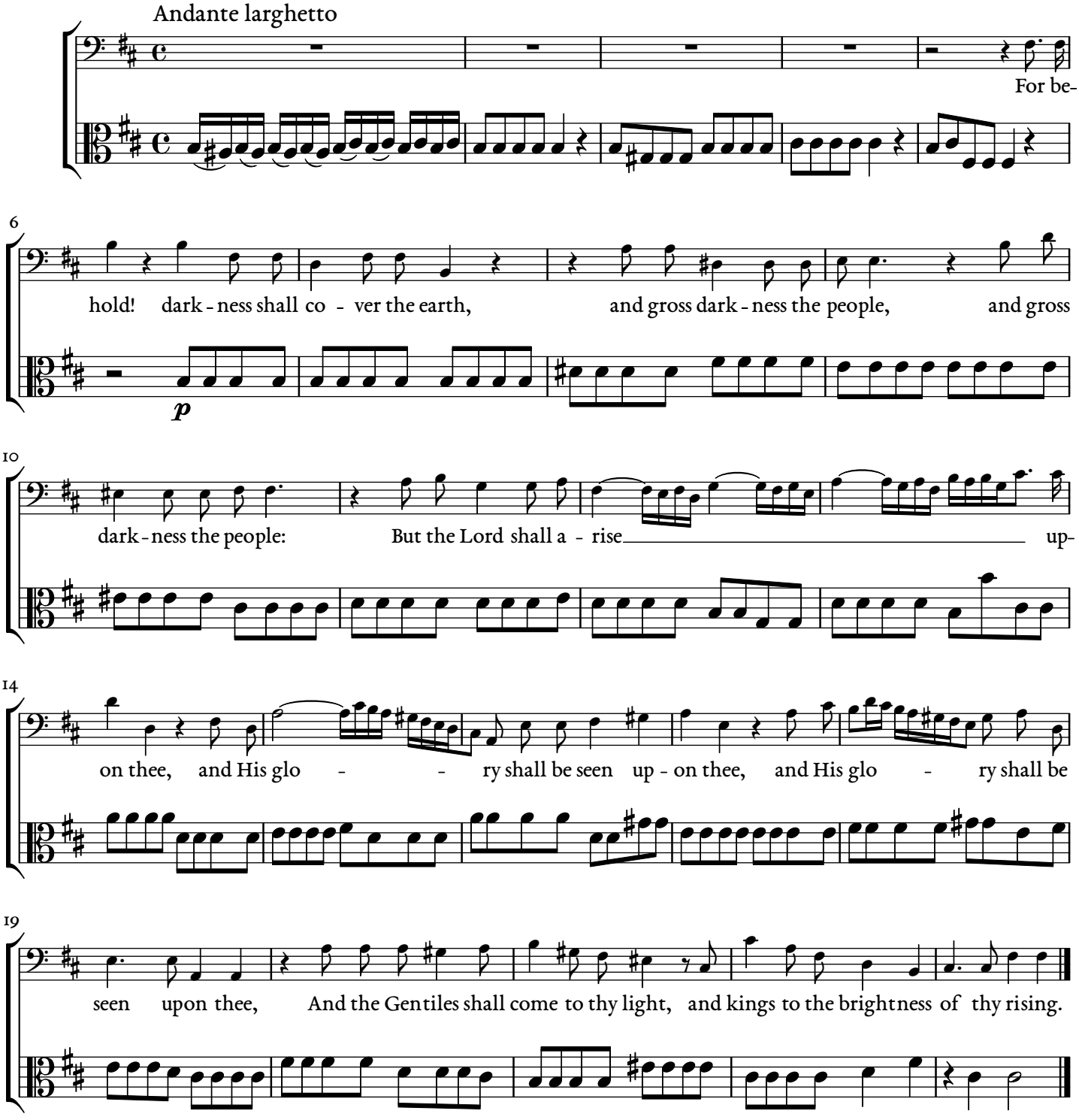


1-10 Recitative: *For, behold! darkness shall cover the earth* (bass)



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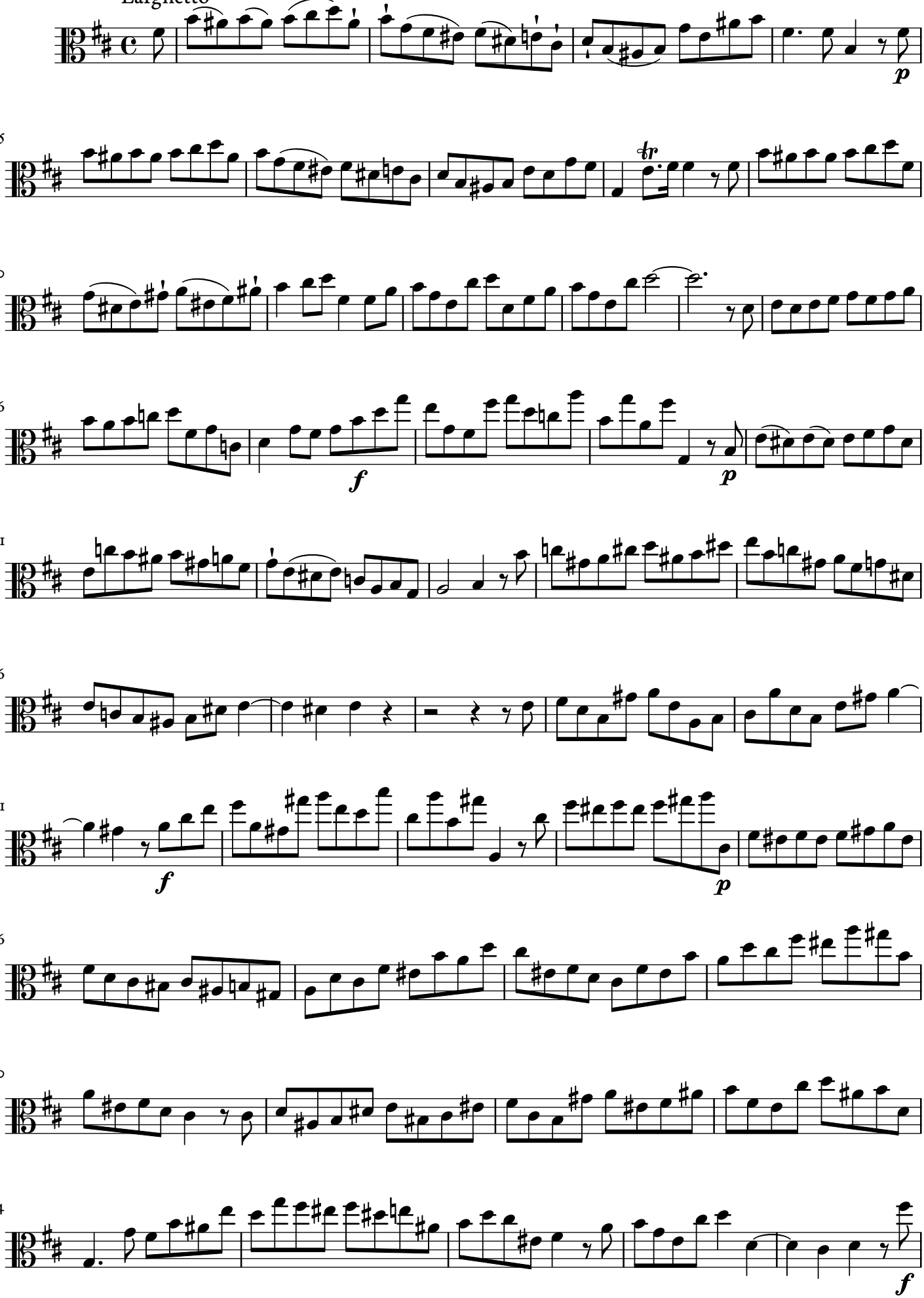
1-11 Air: *The people that walked in darkness* (bass)

Larghetto



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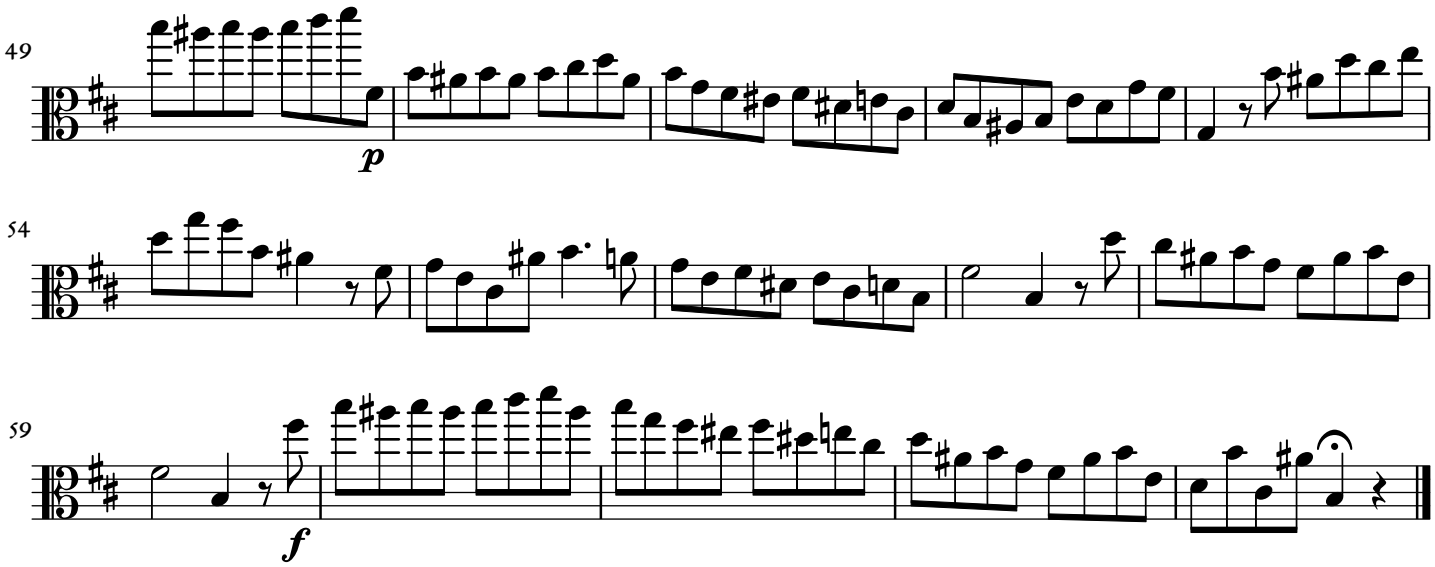
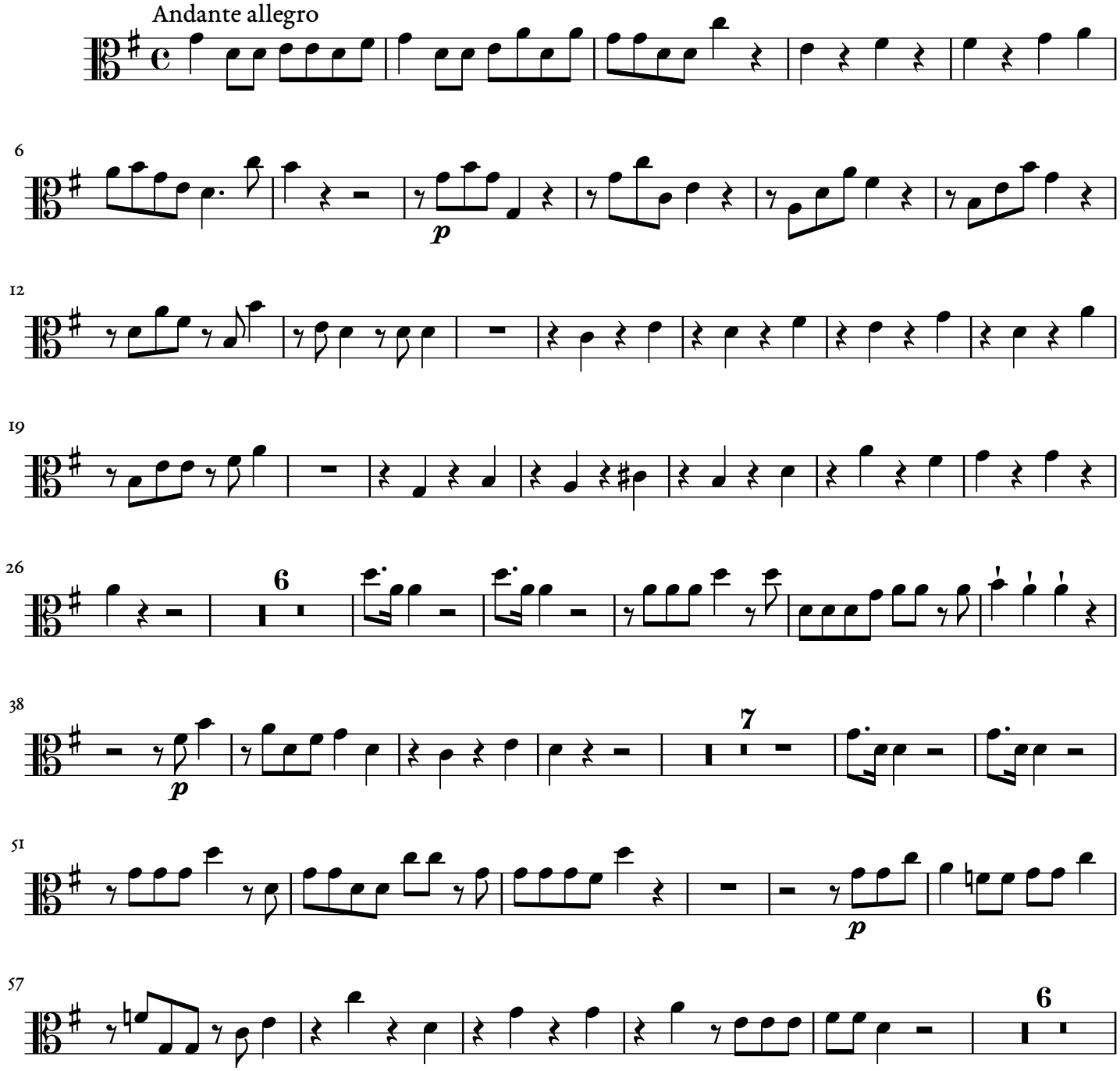


1-12 Chorus: *For unto us a child is born*



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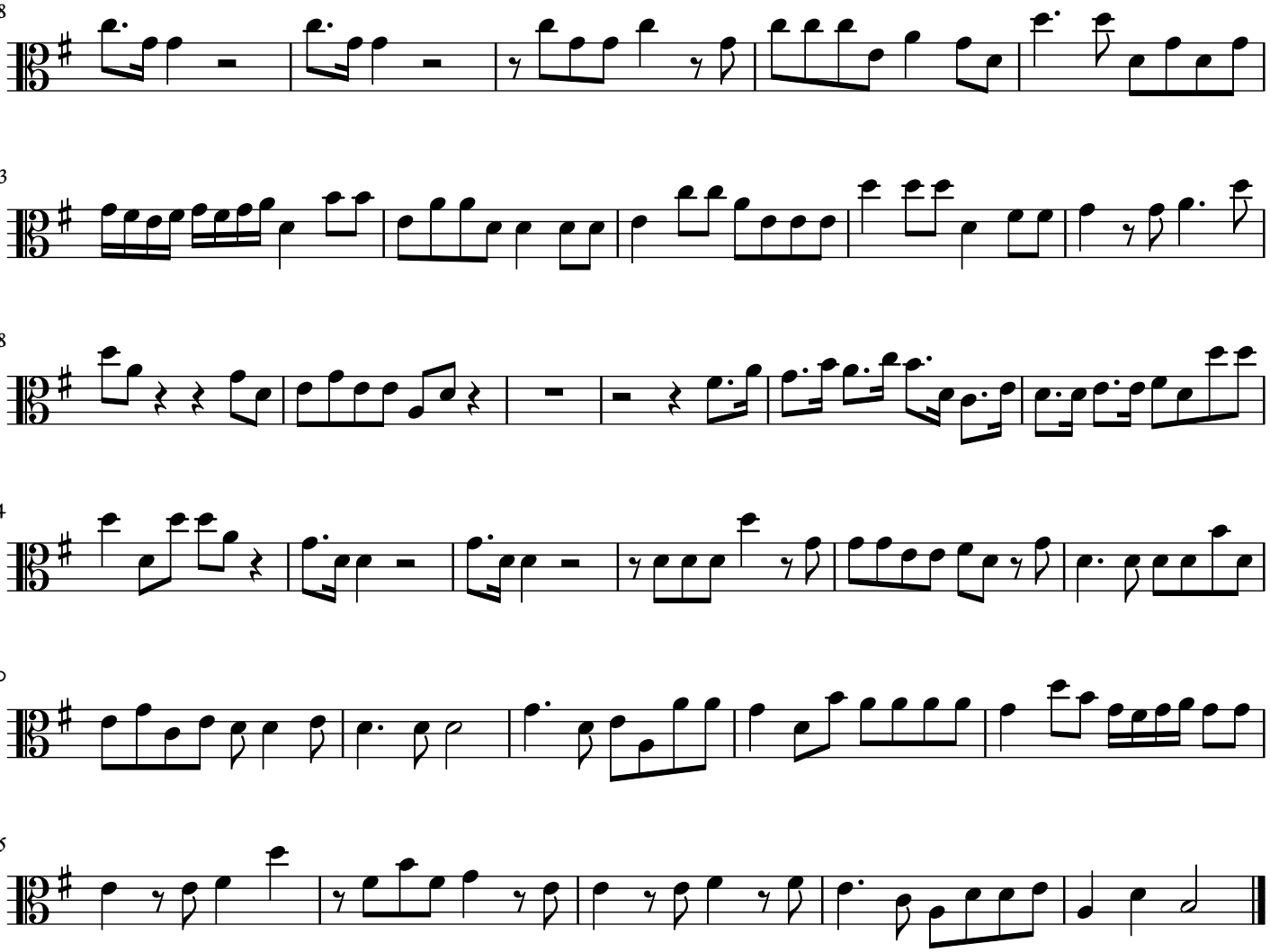
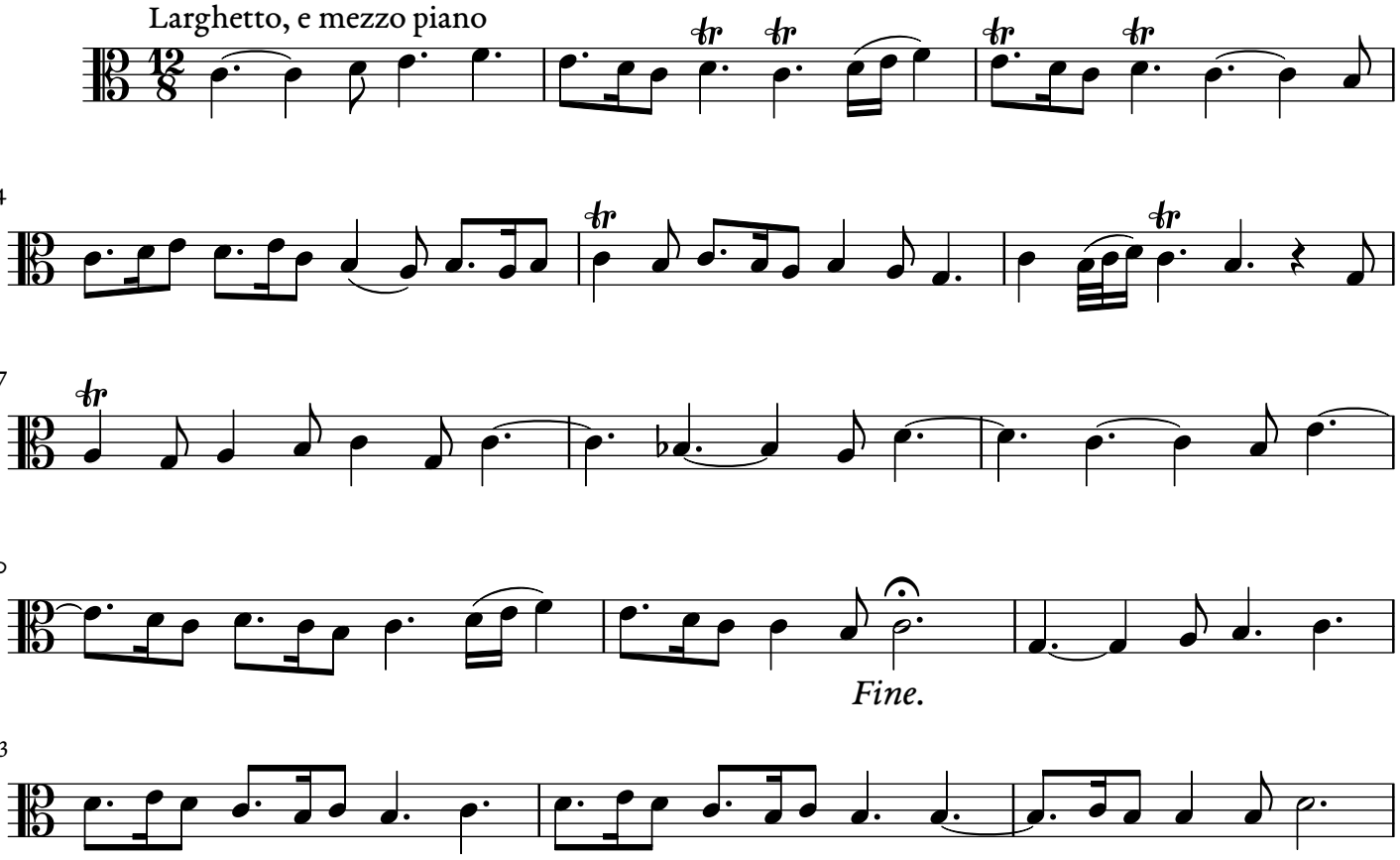


1-13 Pifa

Larghetto, e mezzo piano



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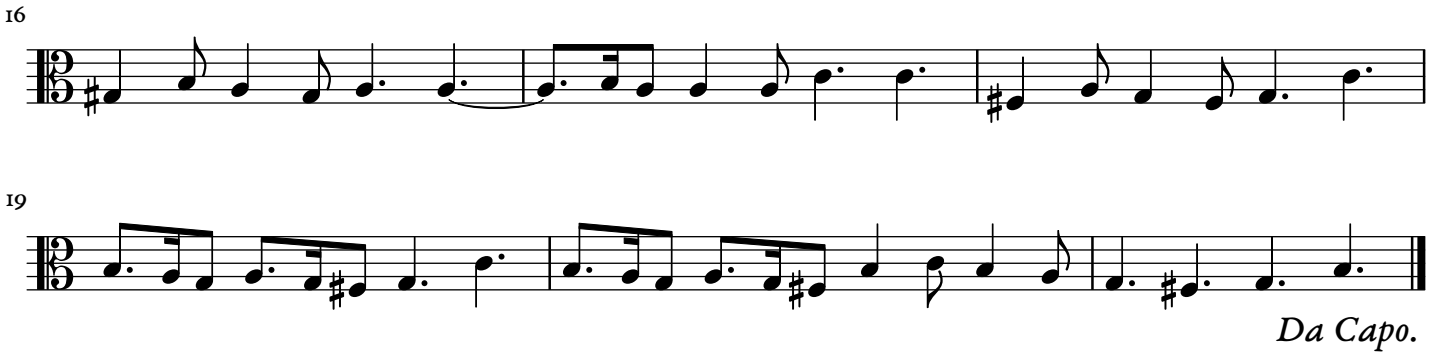
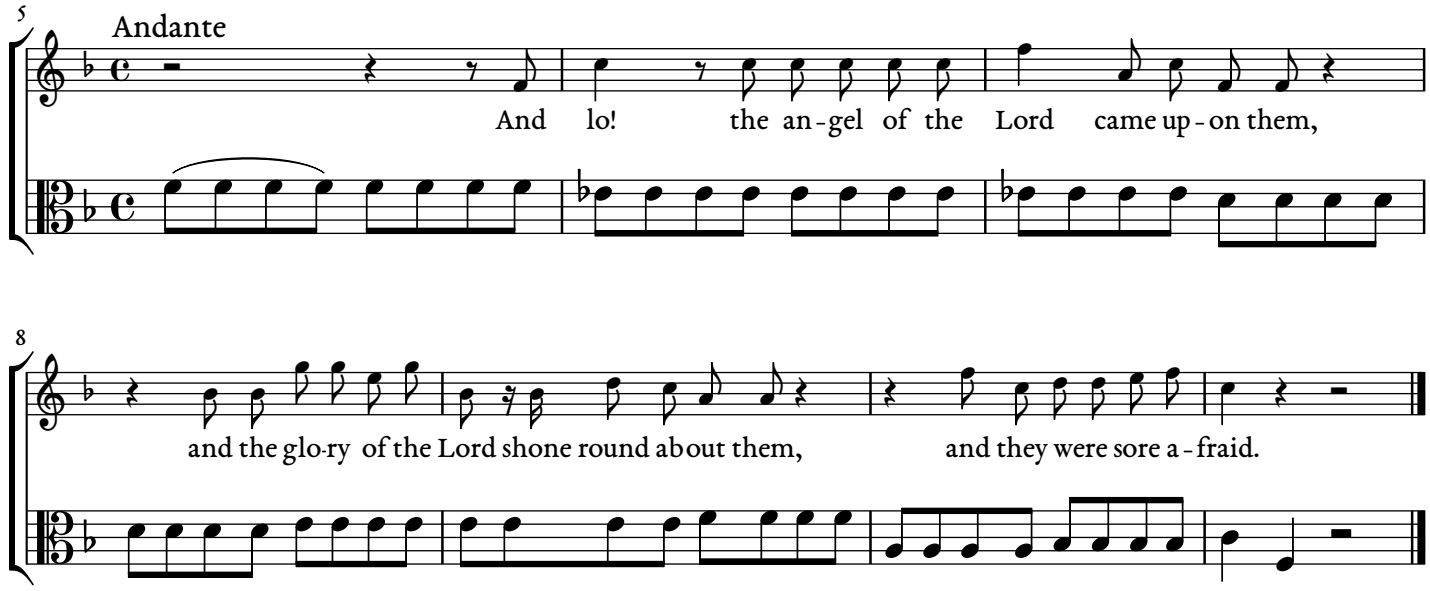


1-14 Recitative: *There were shepherds abiding in the fields* (soprano)

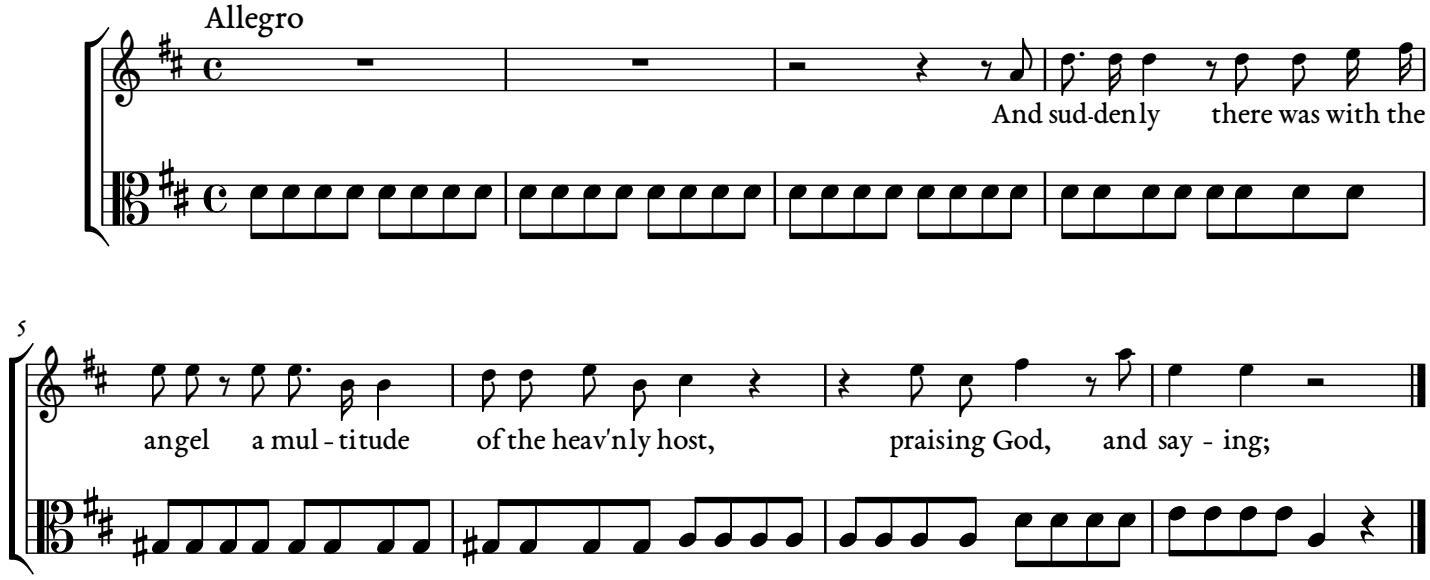
There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night.



1-15 Recitative: *And the angel said unto them* (soprano)

And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

1-16 Recitative: *And suddenly there was with the angel* (soprano)



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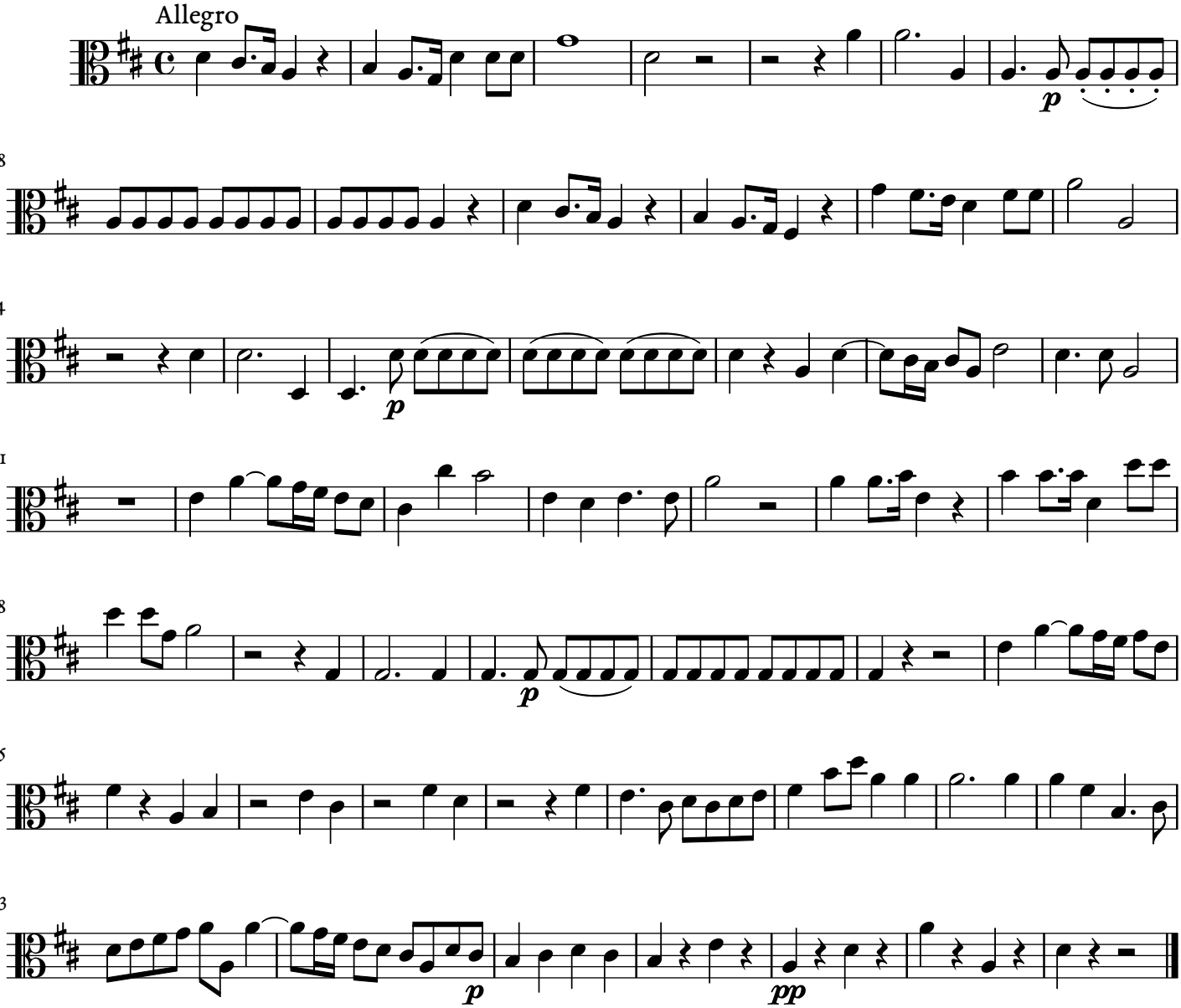
1-17 Chorus: *Glory to God in the highest*



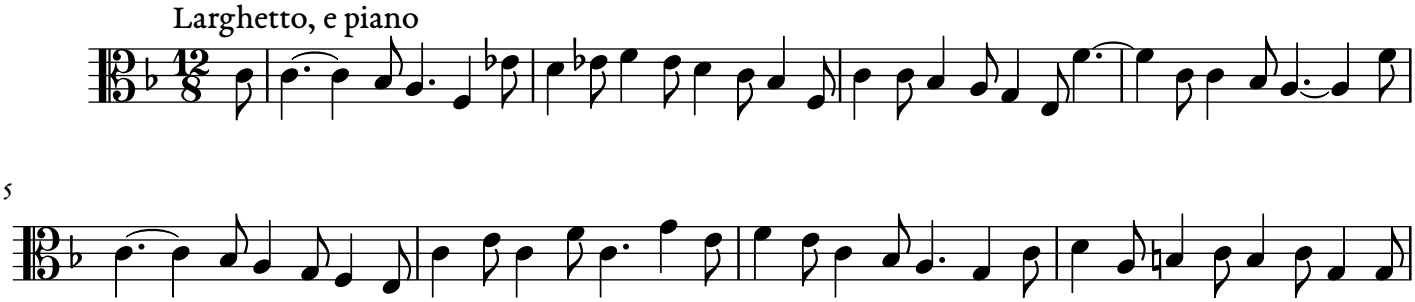
1-18 Air: *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion* (soprano)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee. He is the righteous Savior.
And he shall speak peace unto the heathen.

1-19 Recitative: *Then shall the eyes of the blind* (alto)

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.
Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing.

1-20 Air: *He shall feed His flock like a shepherd* (alto, soprano)



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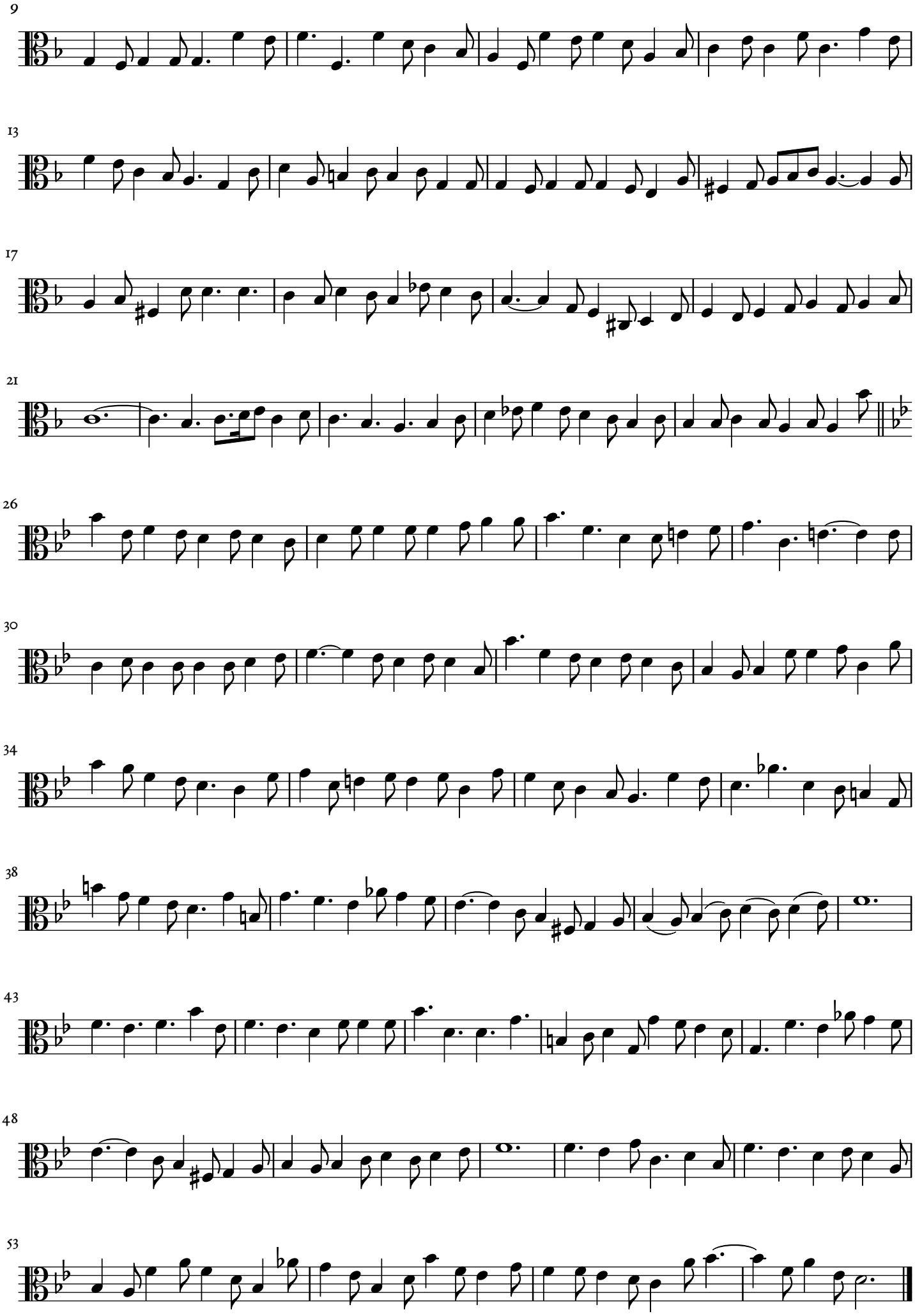

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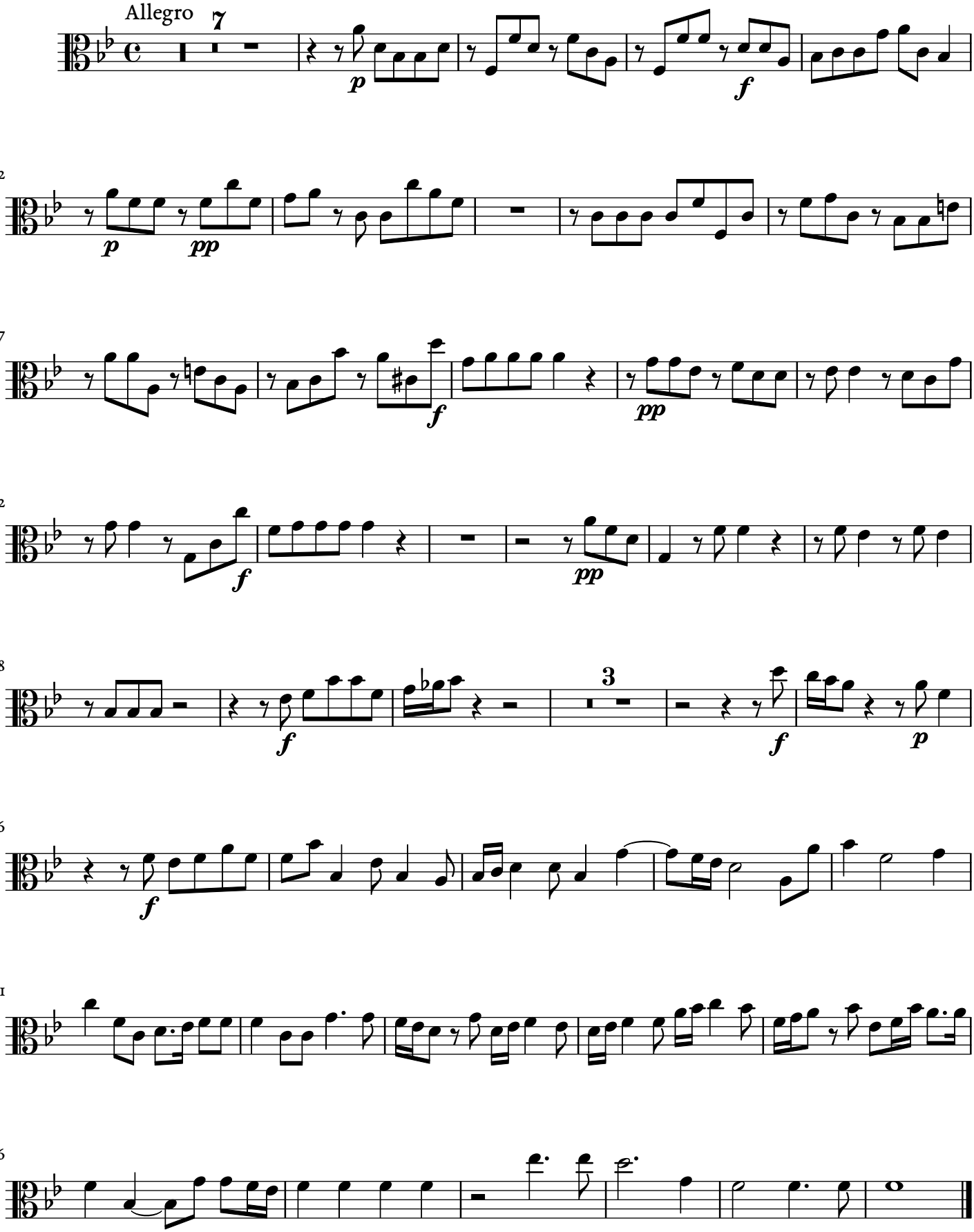
1-21 Chorus: *His yoke is easy*



END OF THE FIRST PART

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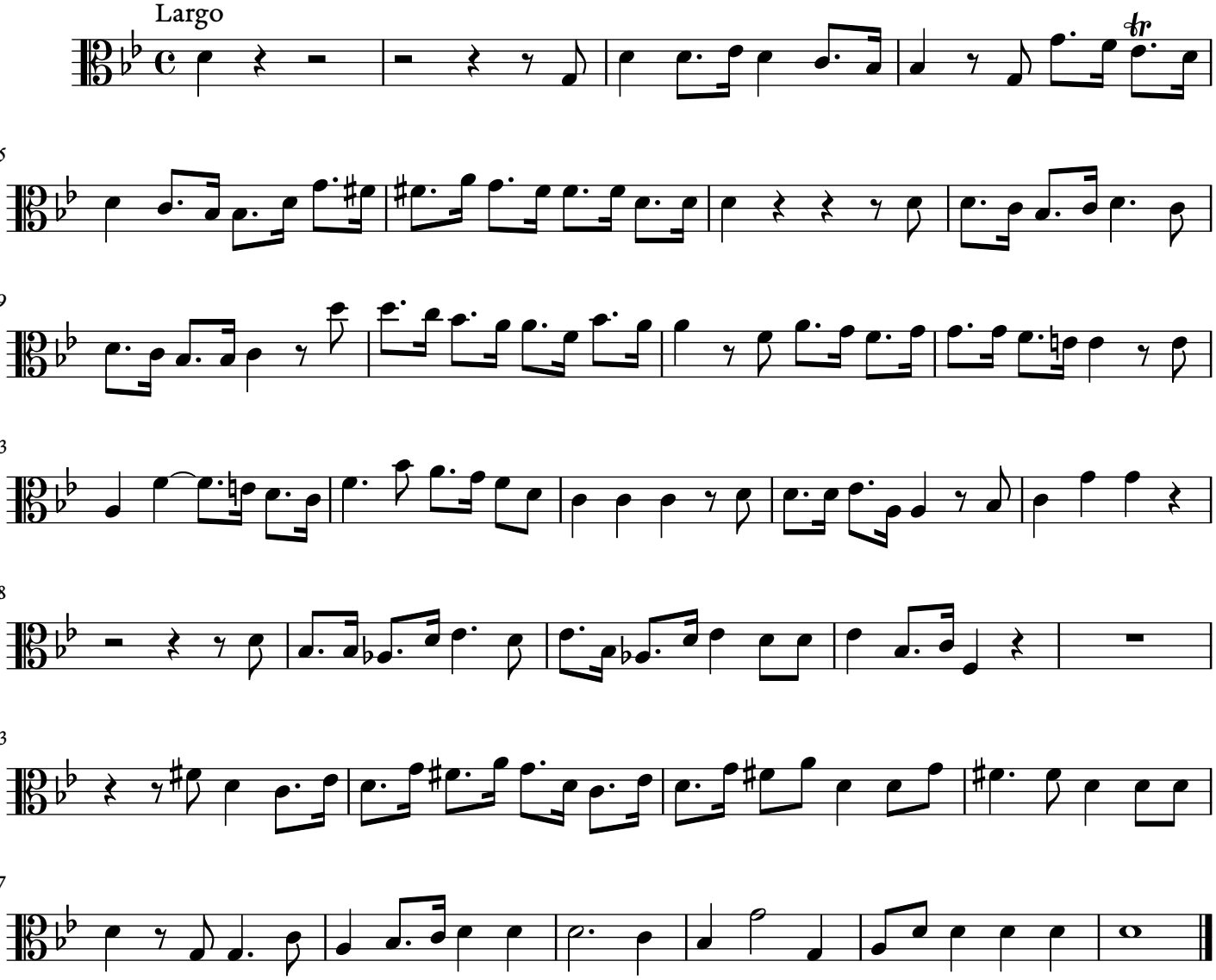
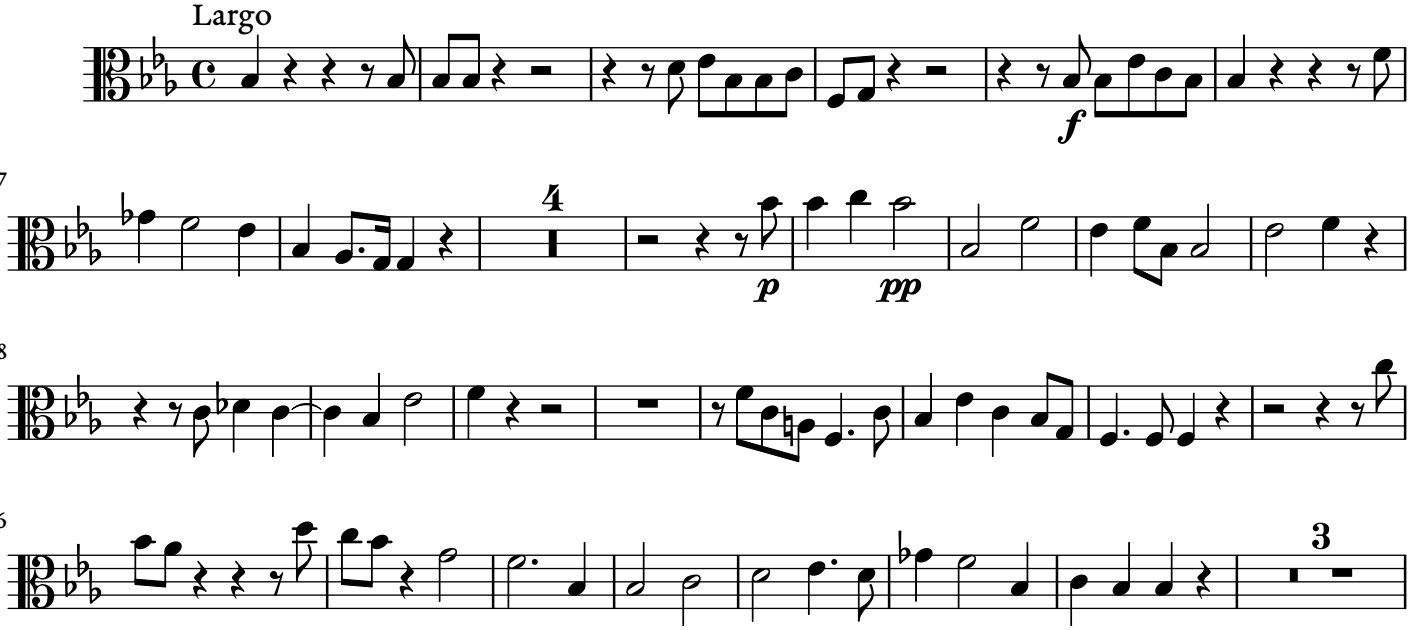
PART II

2-1 Chorus: *Behold the Lamb of God!*



2-2 Air: *He was despised and rejected* (alto)



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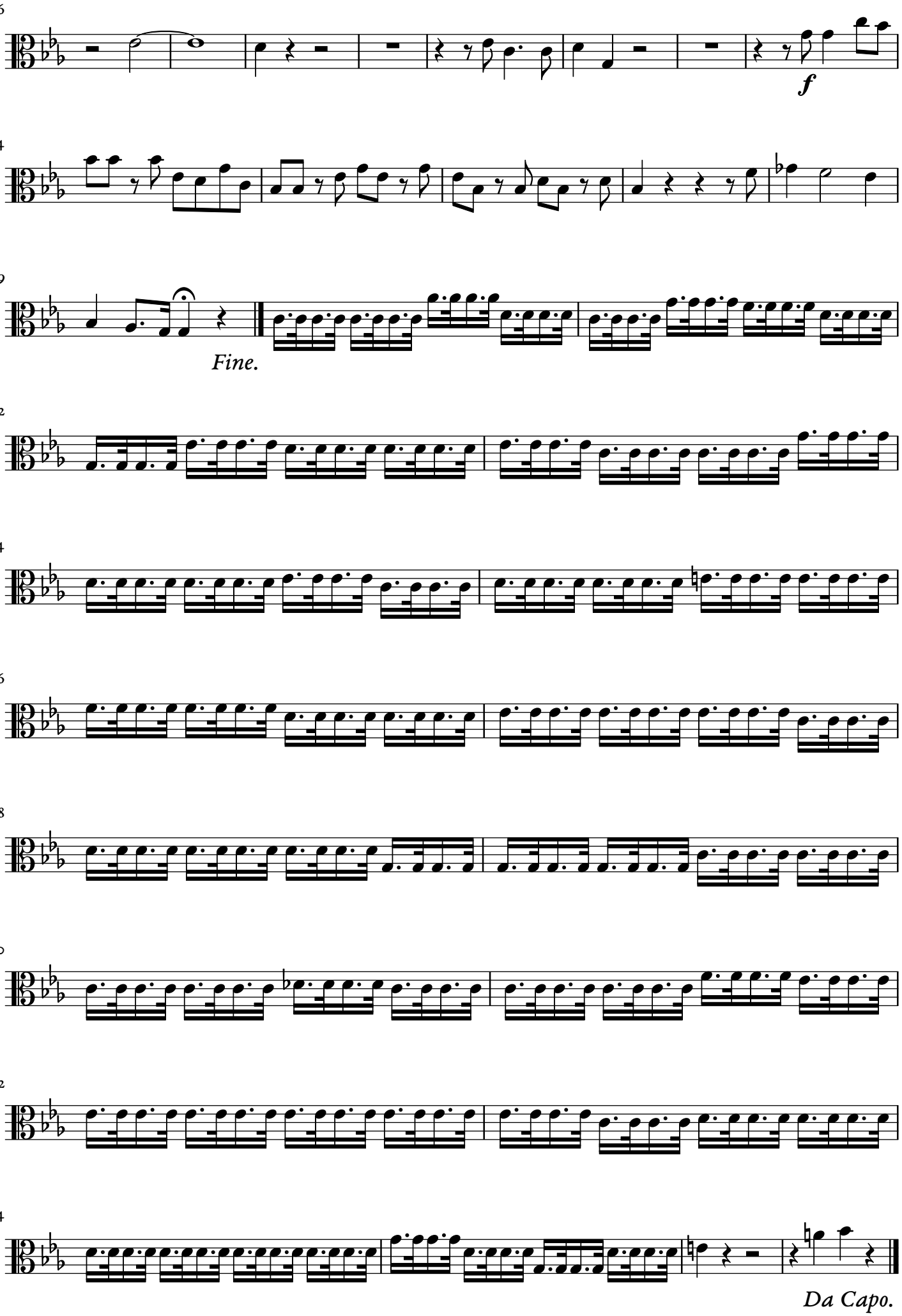

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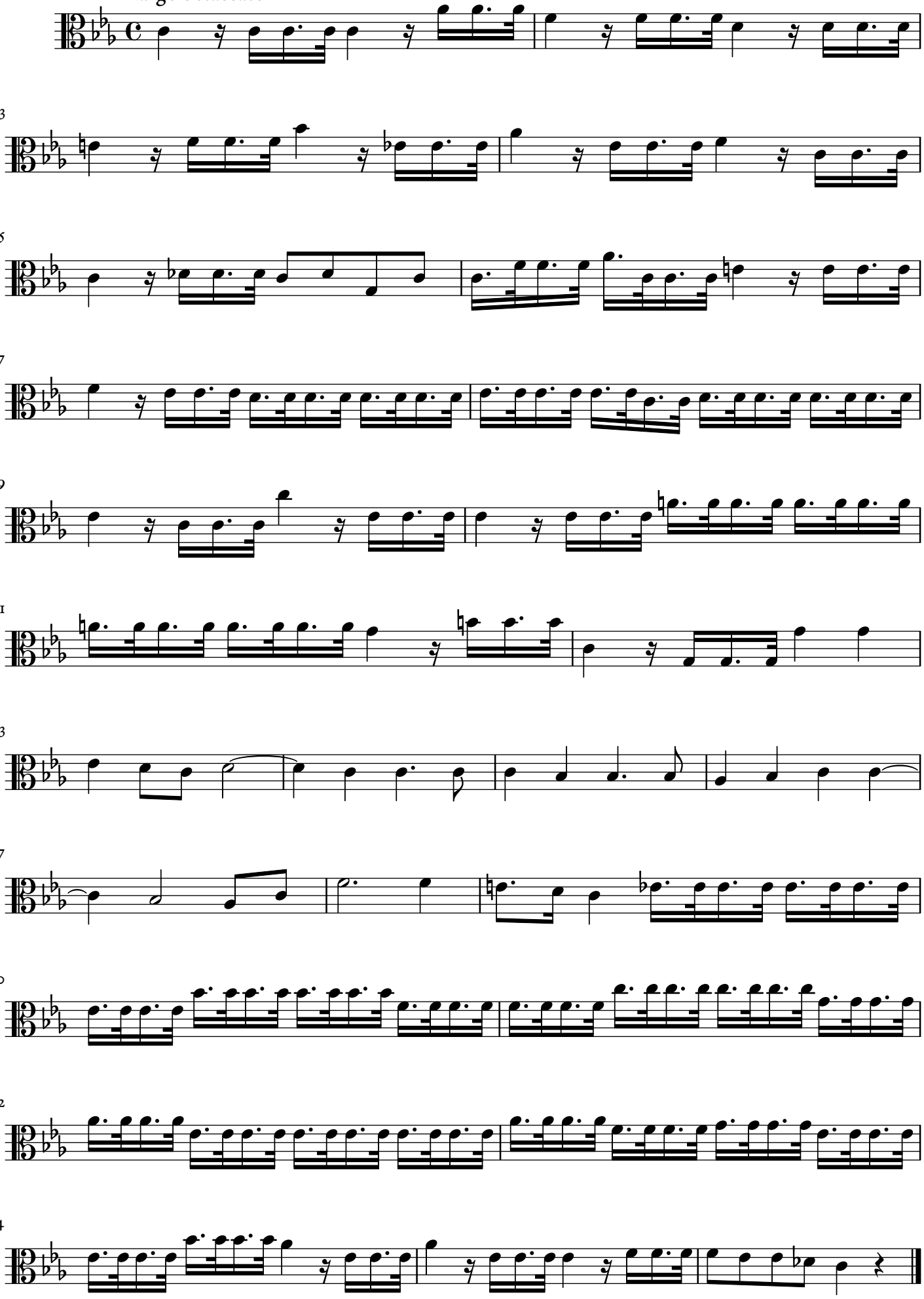
2-3 Chorus: *Surely He hath borne our griefs*

Largo e staccato



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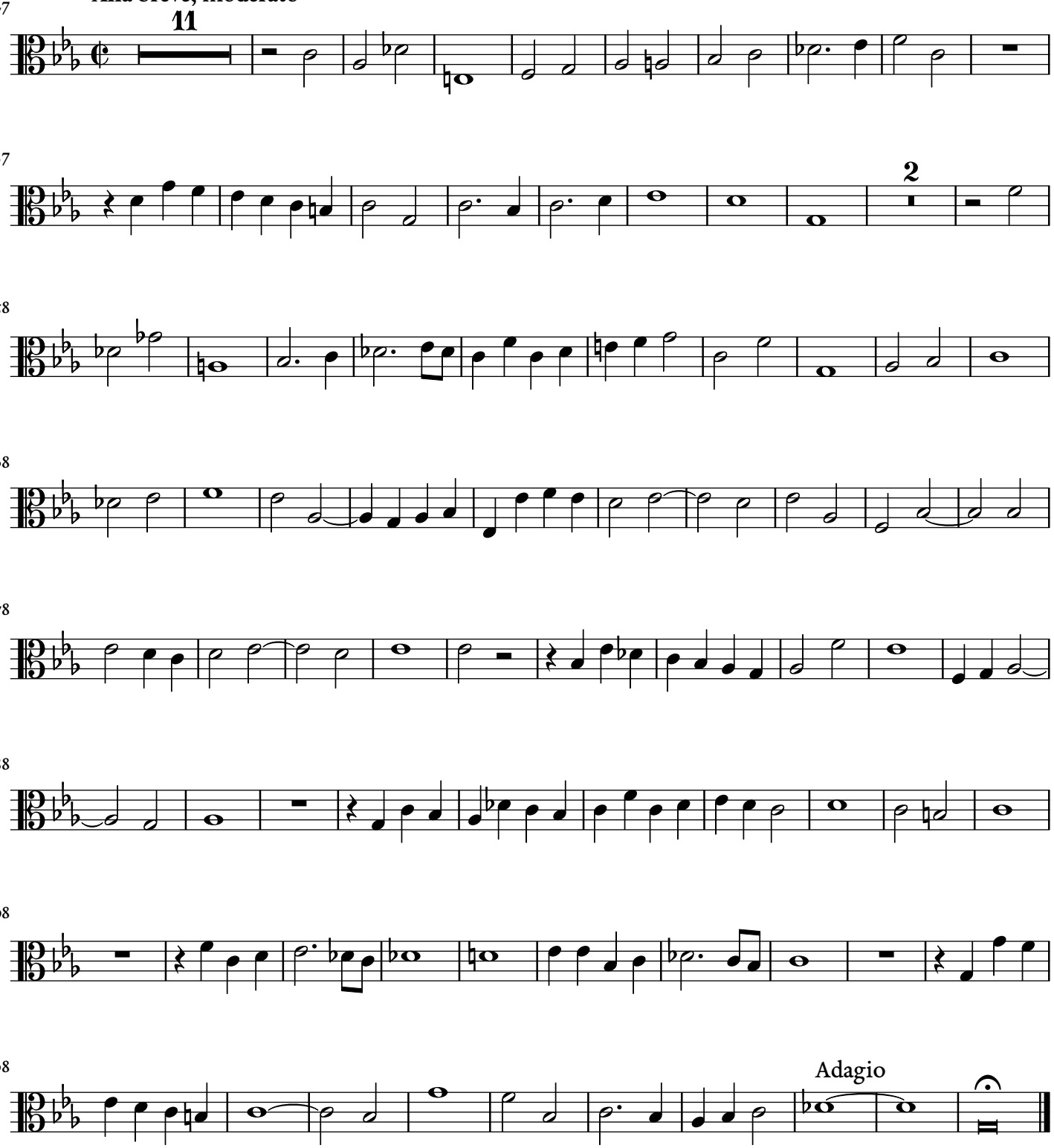
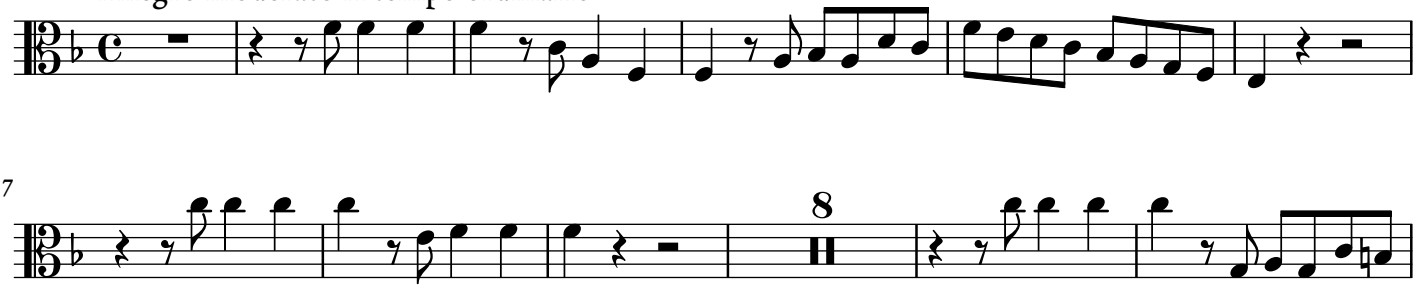
Alla breve, moderato



2-4 Chorus: *All we like sheep have gone astray*

Allegro moderato A tempo ordinario



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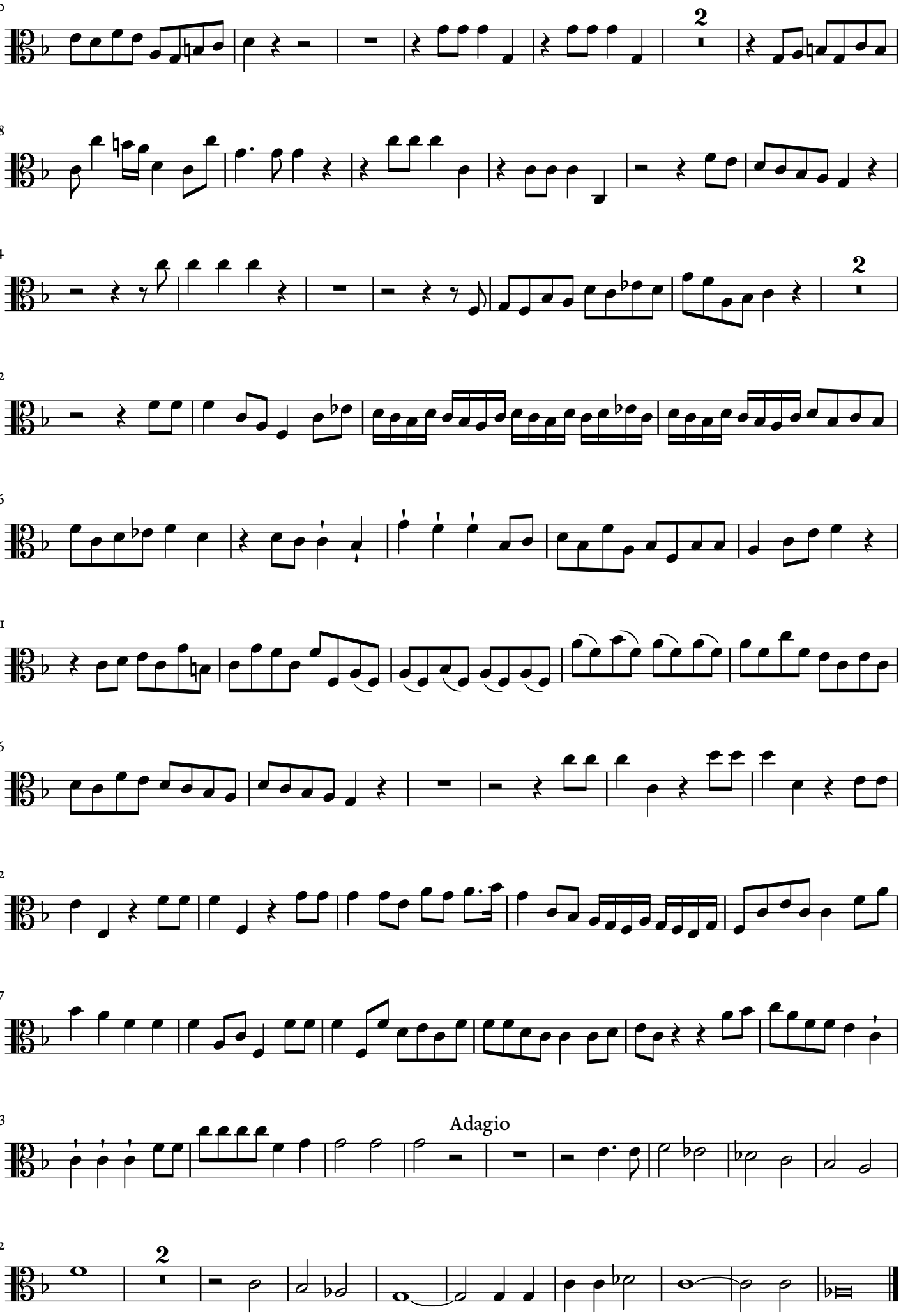

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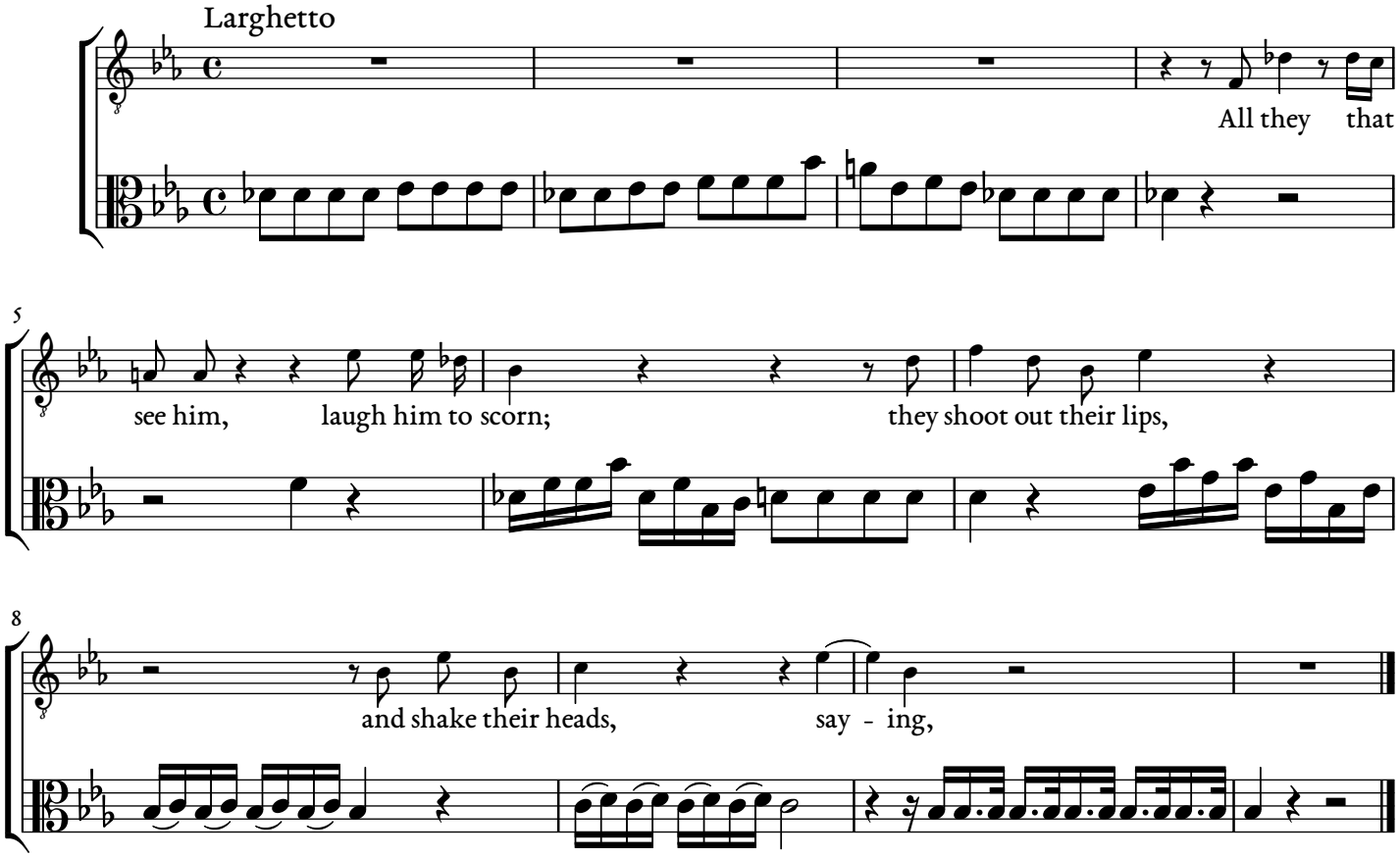
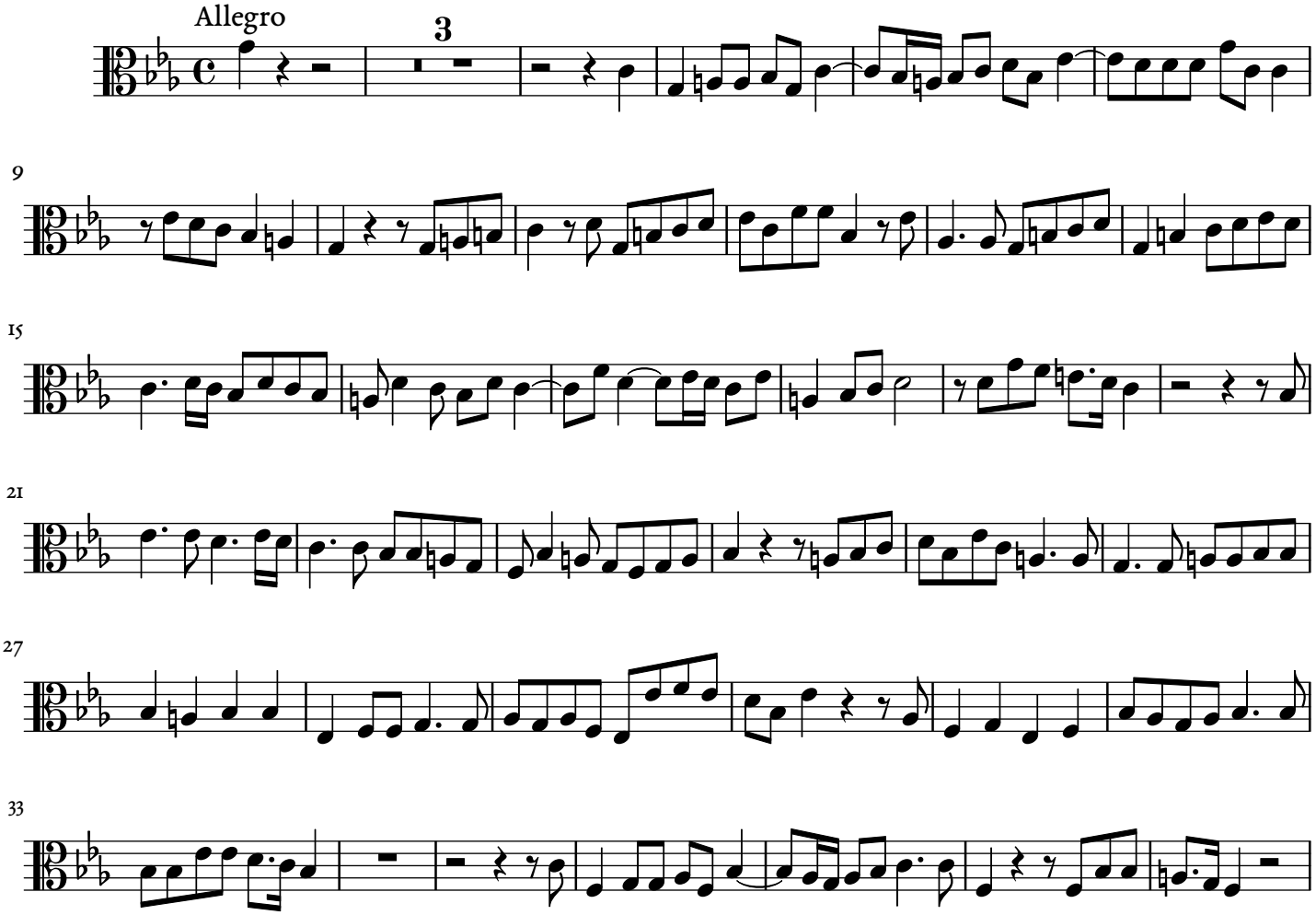
2-5 Recitative: *All they that see Him laugh him to scorn* (tenor)



2-6 Chorus: *He trusted in God*



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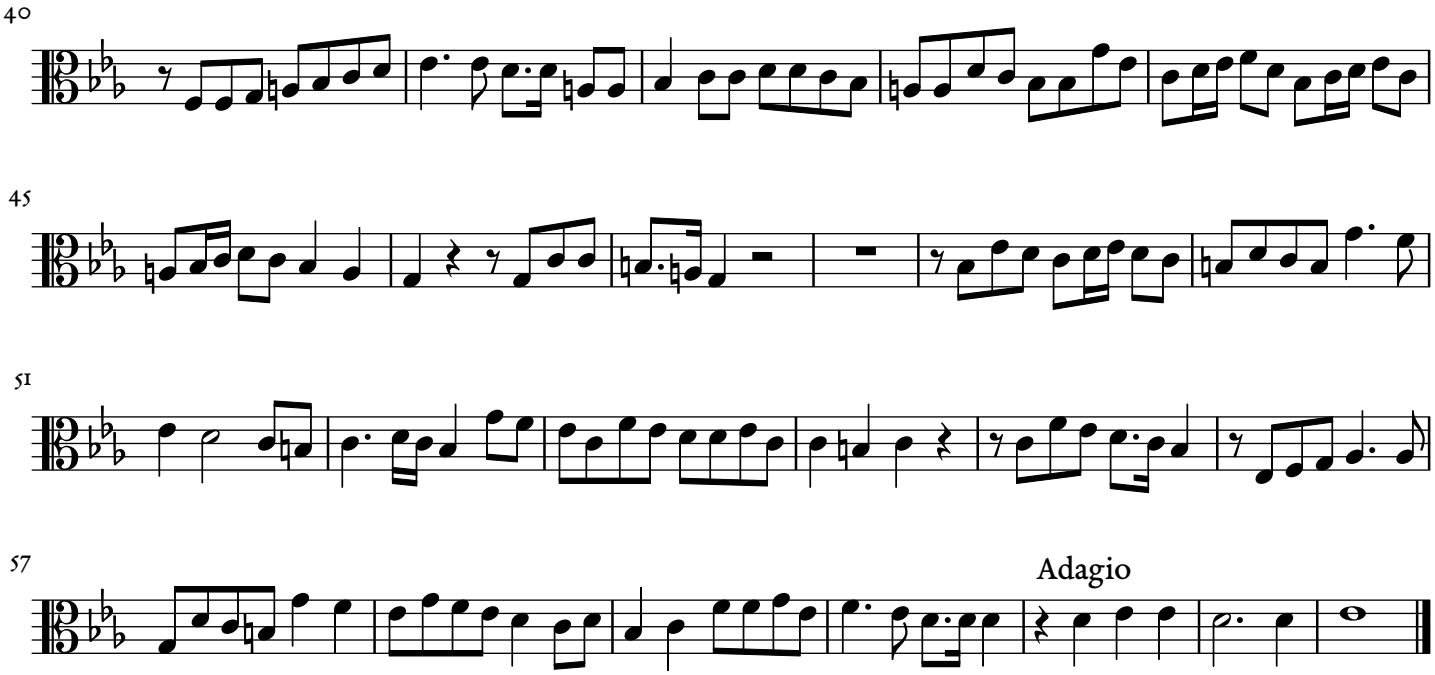
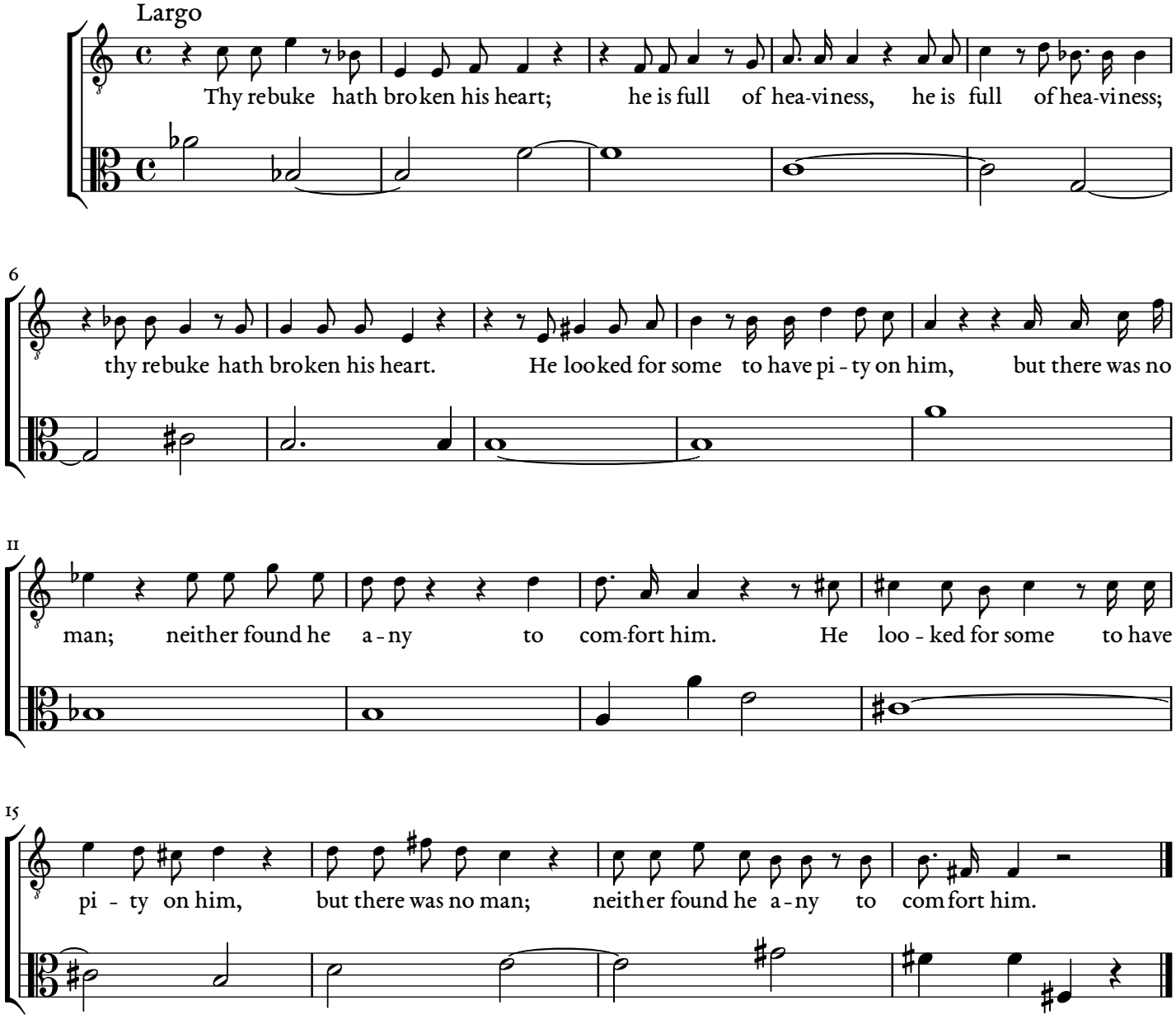


2-7 Recitative: *Thy rebuke hath broken His heart* (tenor)



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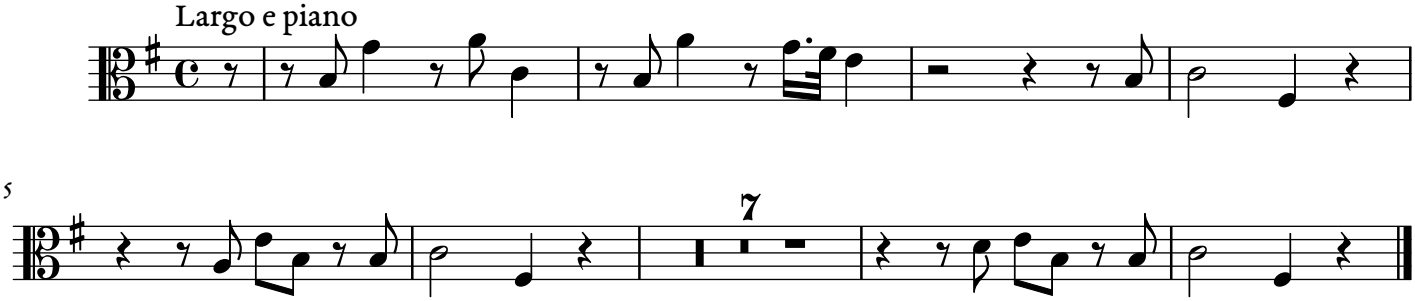
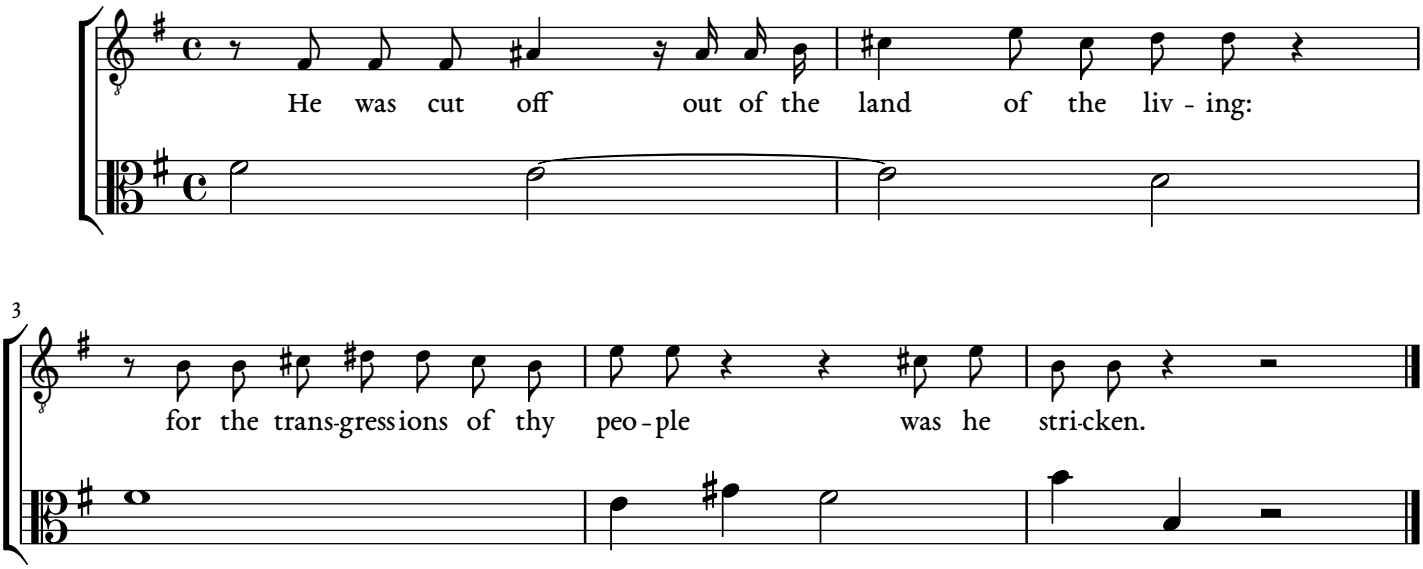
2-8 Air: *Behold, and see if there be any sorrow* (tenor)

Largo e piano



2-9 Recitative: *He was cut off out of the land of the living* (tenor)

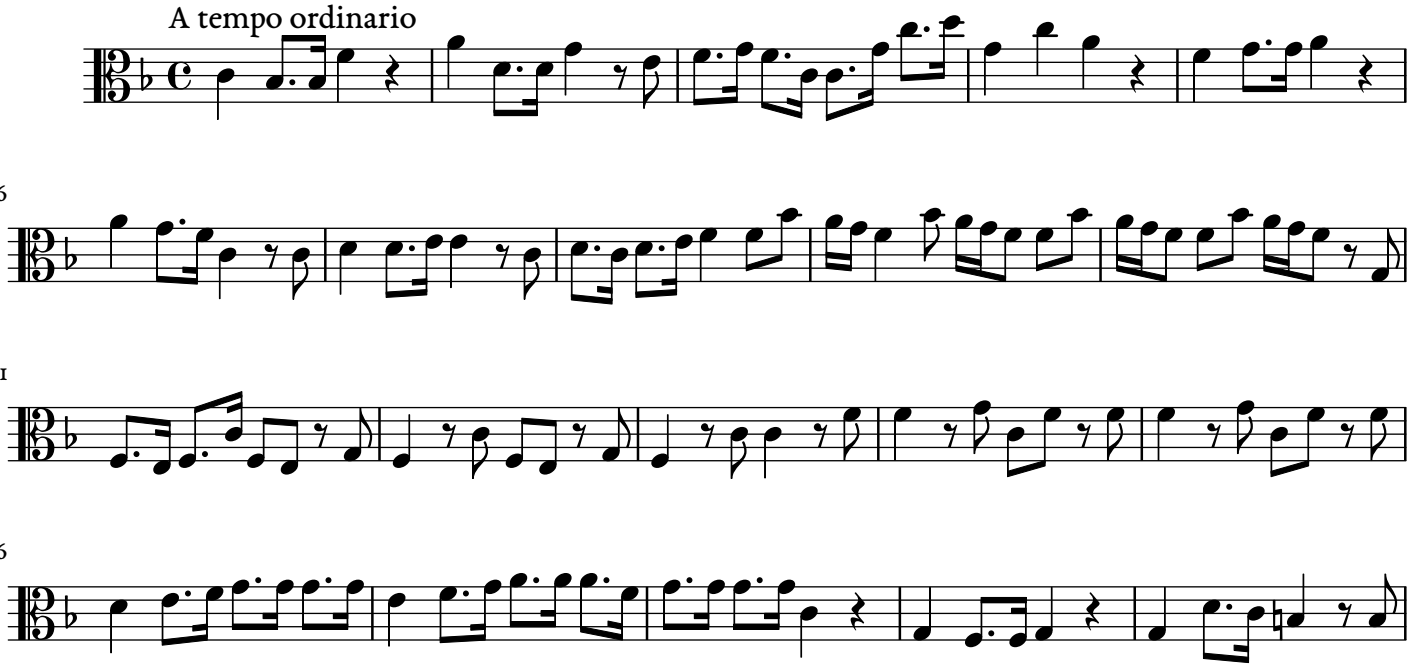


2-10 Air: *But thou didst not leave His soul in hell* (tenor)

But thou didst not leave his soul in hell; neither didst thou suffer Thy Holy One to see corruption.

2-11 Chorus: *Lift up your heads, O ye gates*

A tempo ordinario



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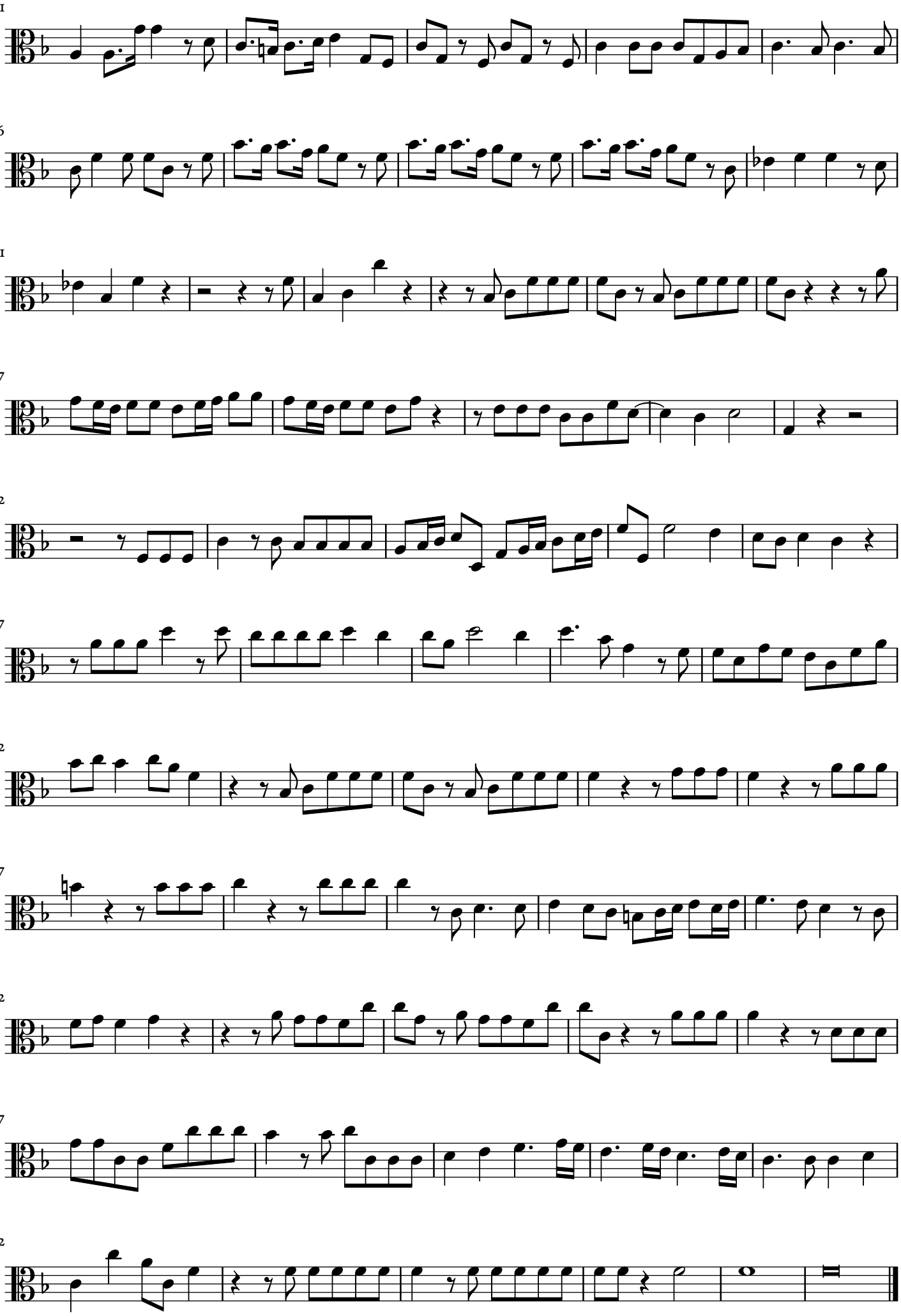

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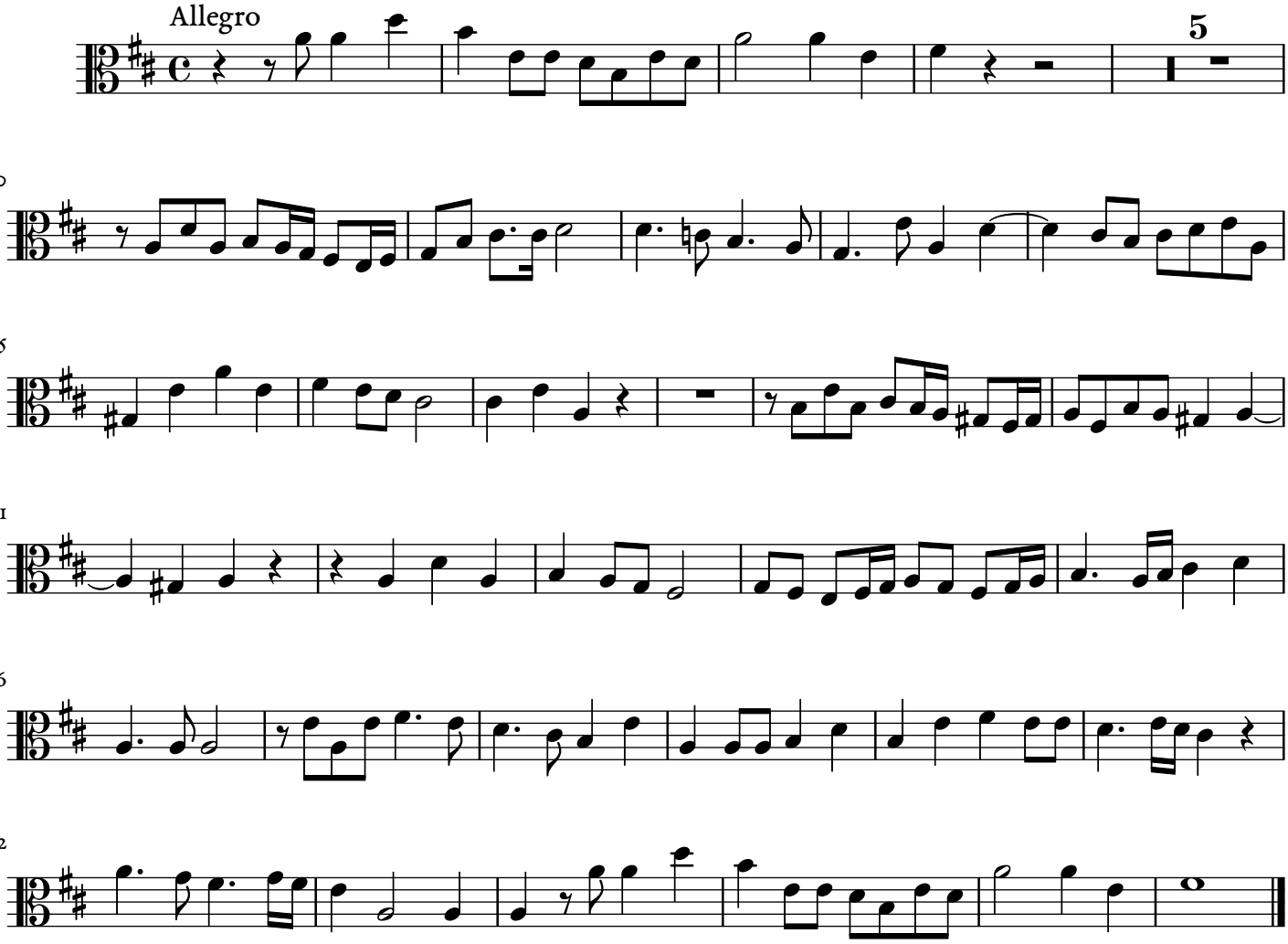
2-12 Recitative: *Unto which of the angels said He at any time* (tenor)

For unto which of the angels said He at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee?

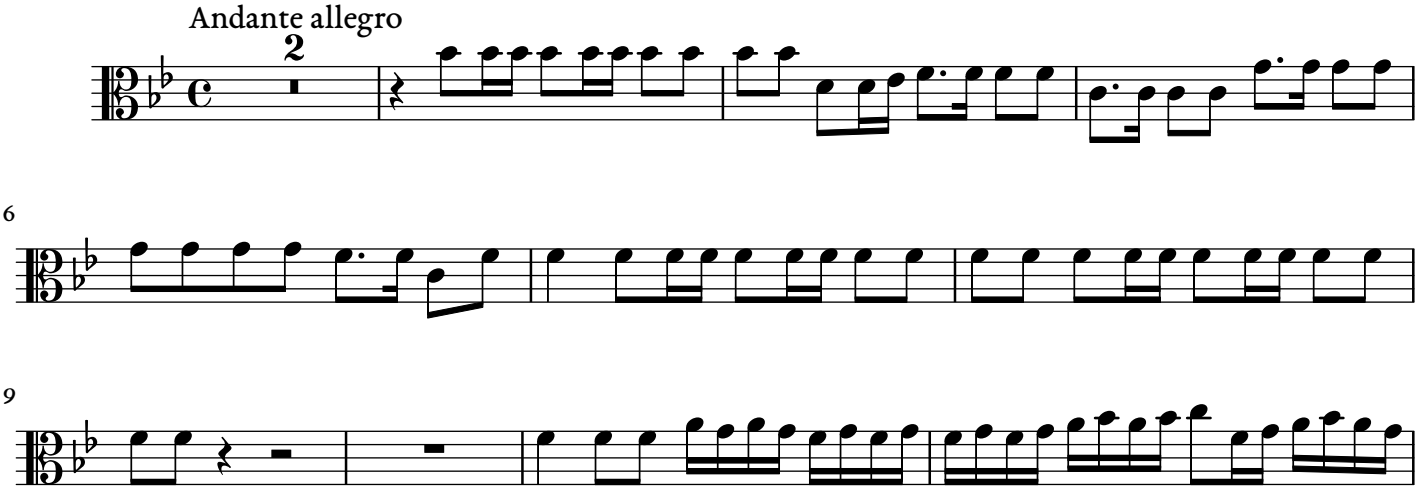
2-13 Chorus: *Let all the angels of God worship Him*



2-14 Air: *Thou art gone up on high* (alto)

Thou art gone up on high, Thou hast led captivity captive, and received gifts for men; yea, even for Thine enemies, that the Lord God might dwell among them.

2-15 Chorus: *The Lord gave the word*



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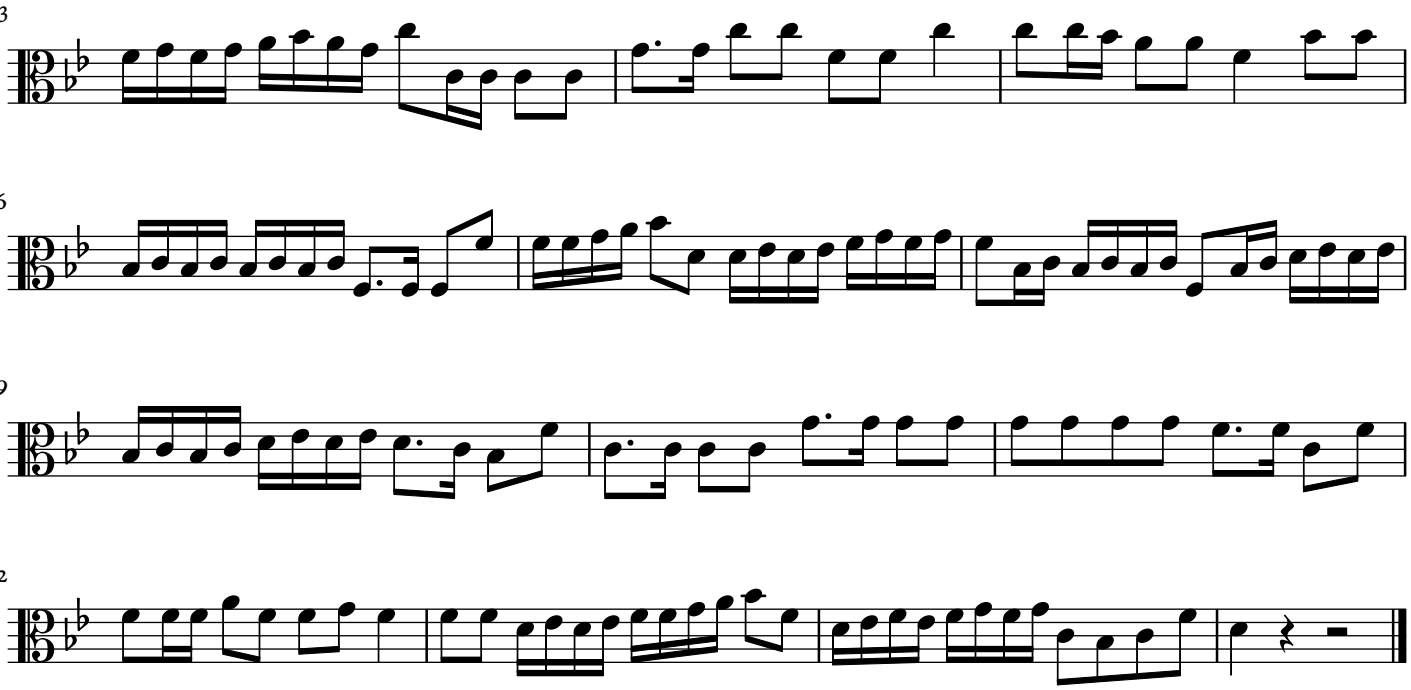
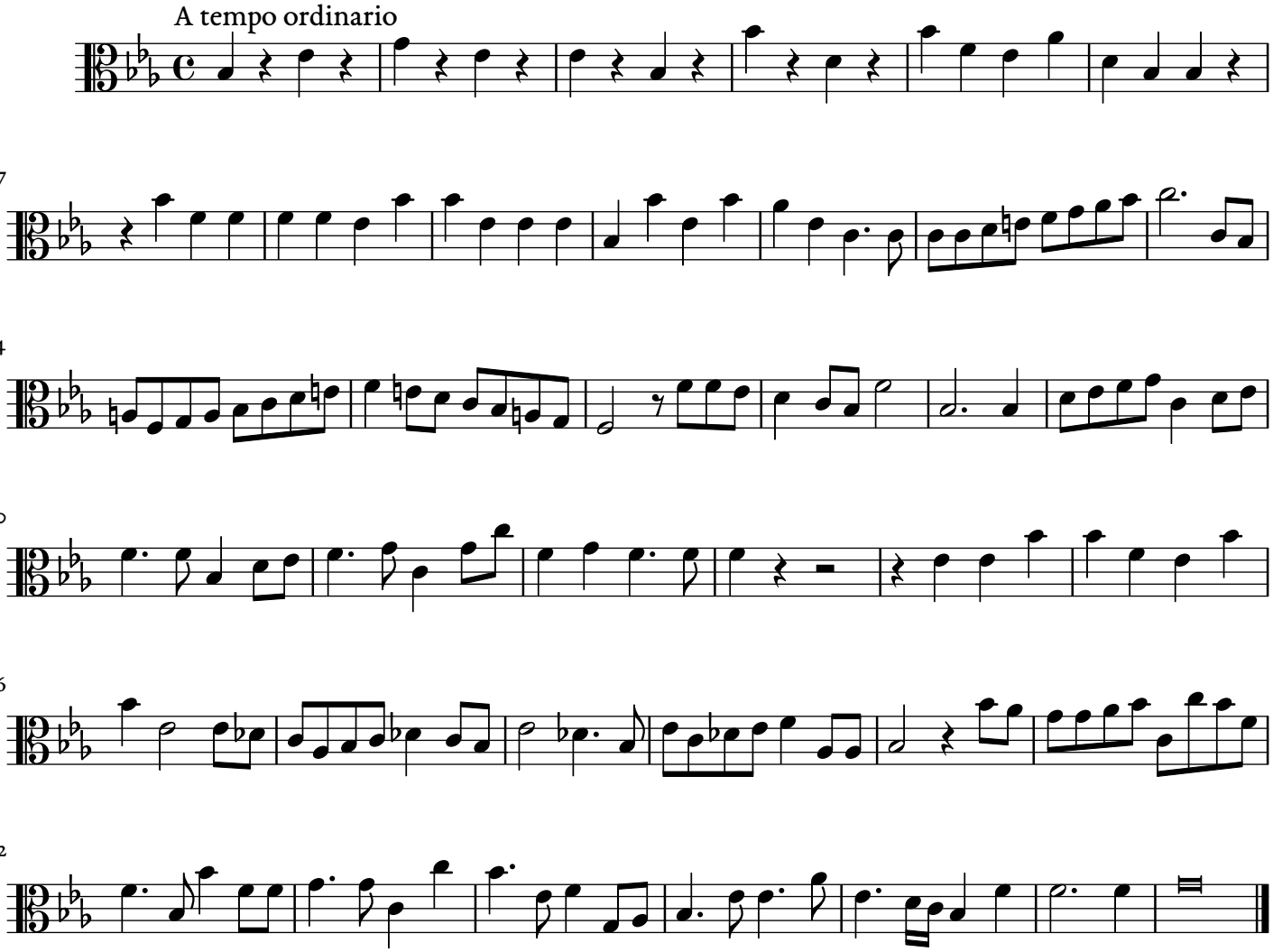


2-16 Air: *How beautiful are the feet* (soprano)

How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

2-17 Chorus: *Their sound is gone out into all lands*

A tempo ordinario



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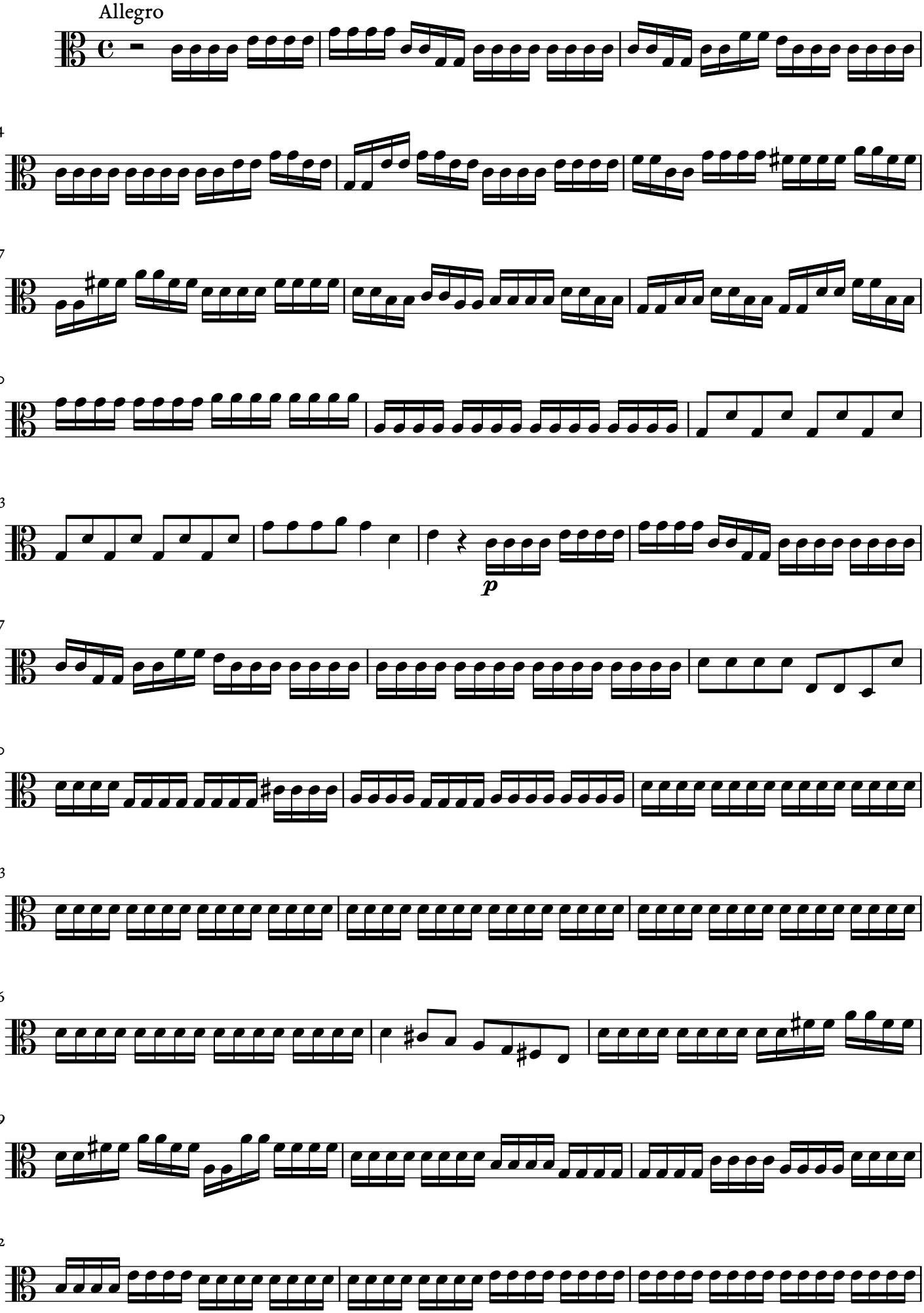
2-18 Air: *Why do the nations so furiously rage together* (bass)

Allegro



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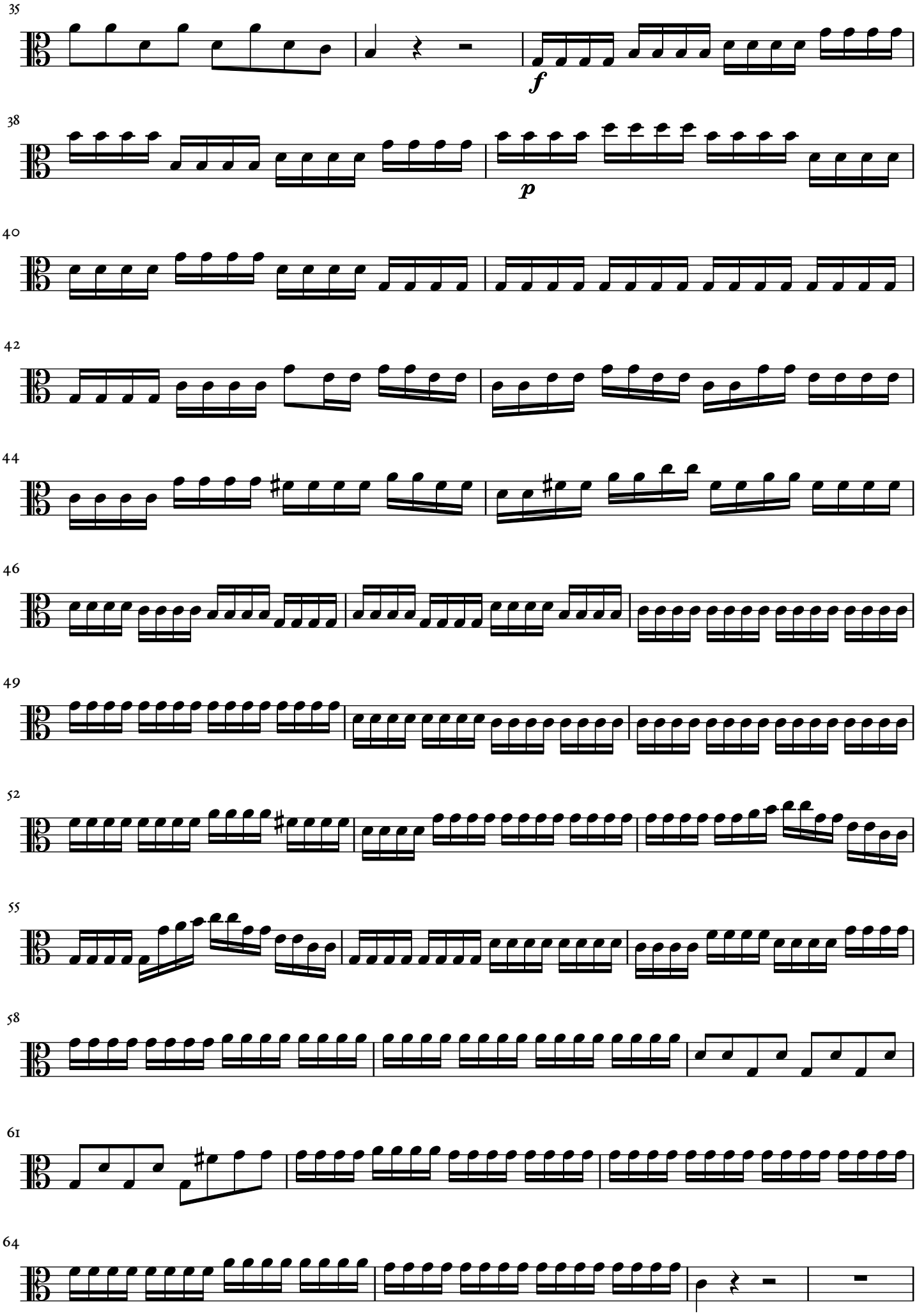

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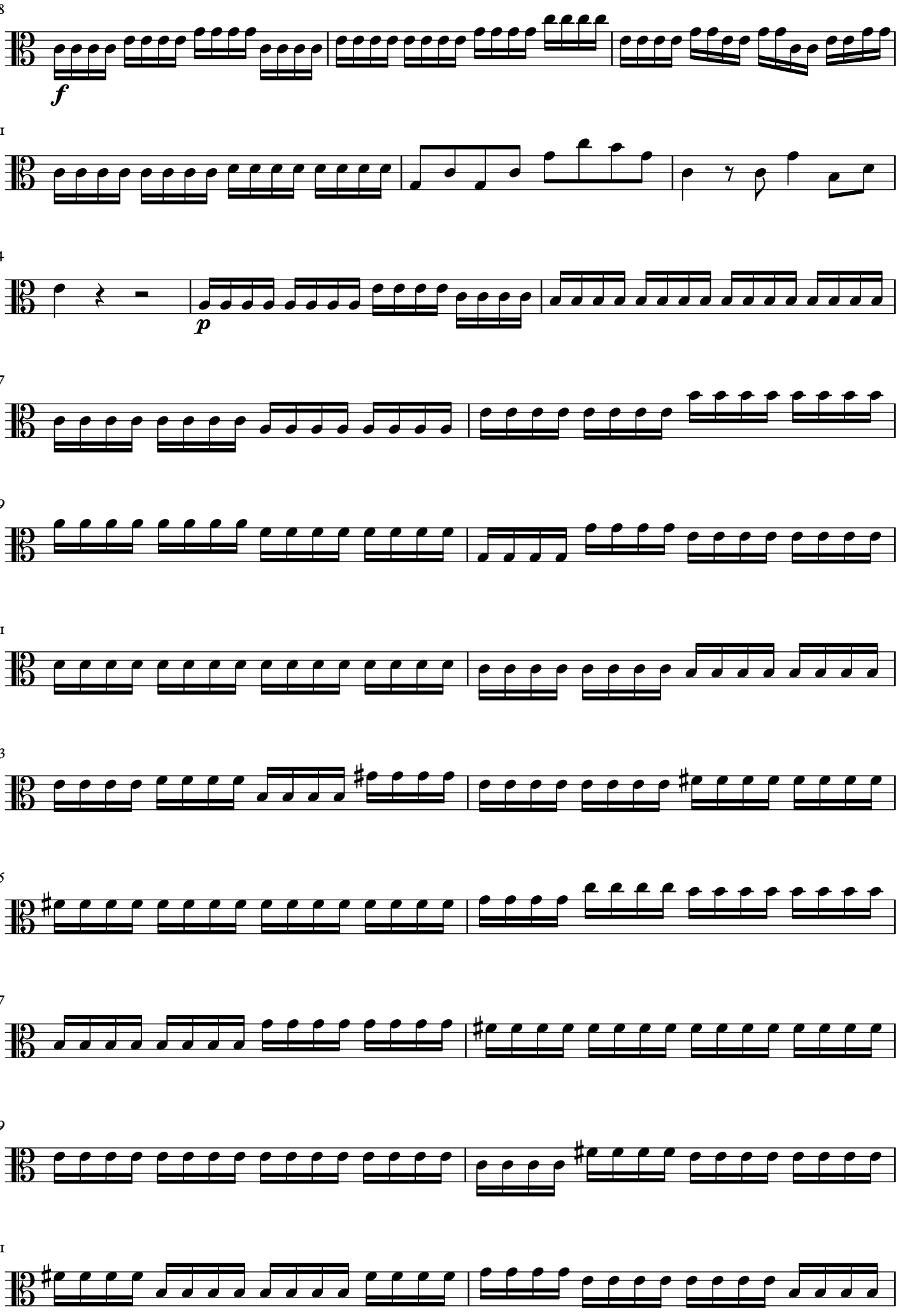

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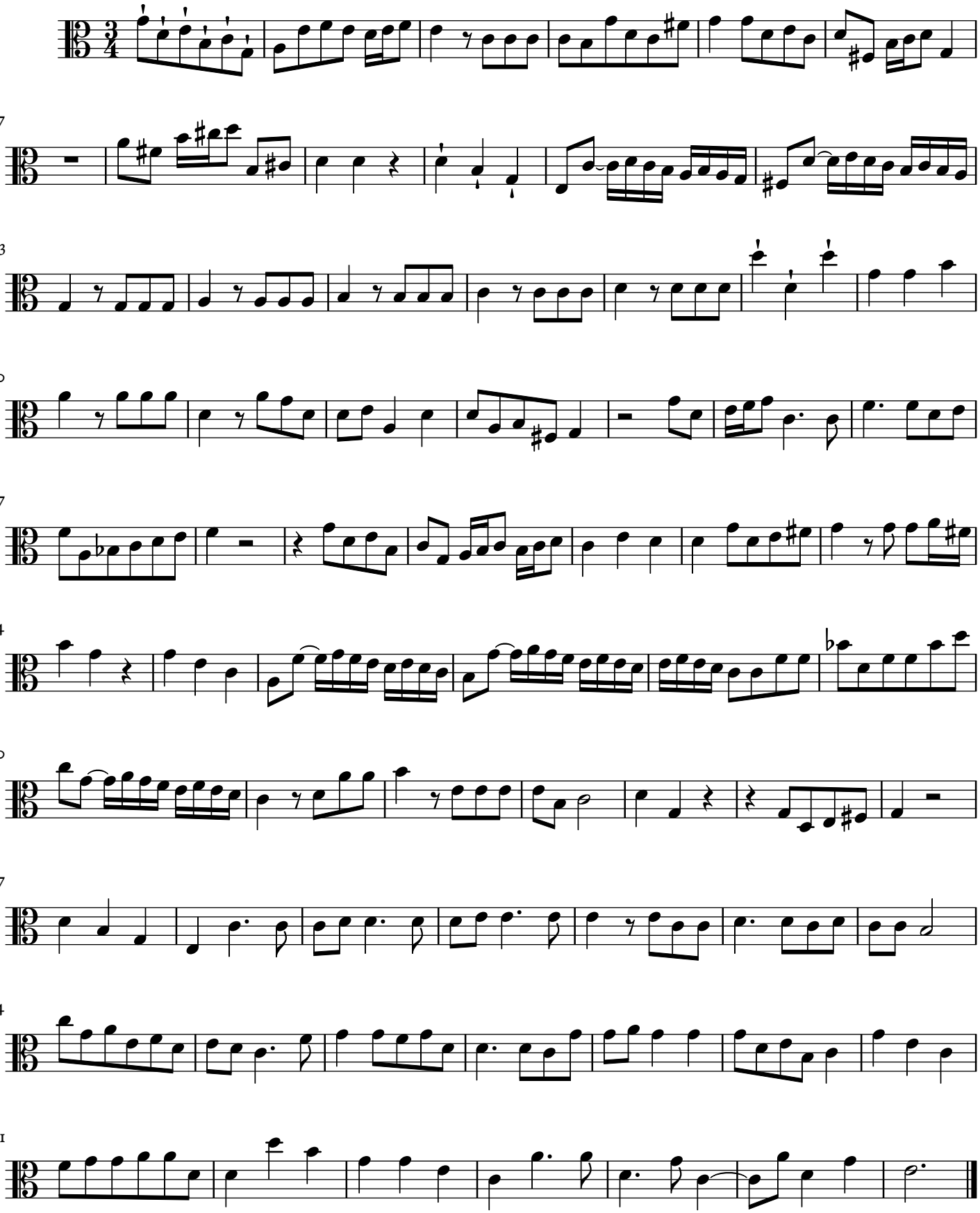
2-19 Chorus: *Let us break their bonds asunder*

Allegro e staccato



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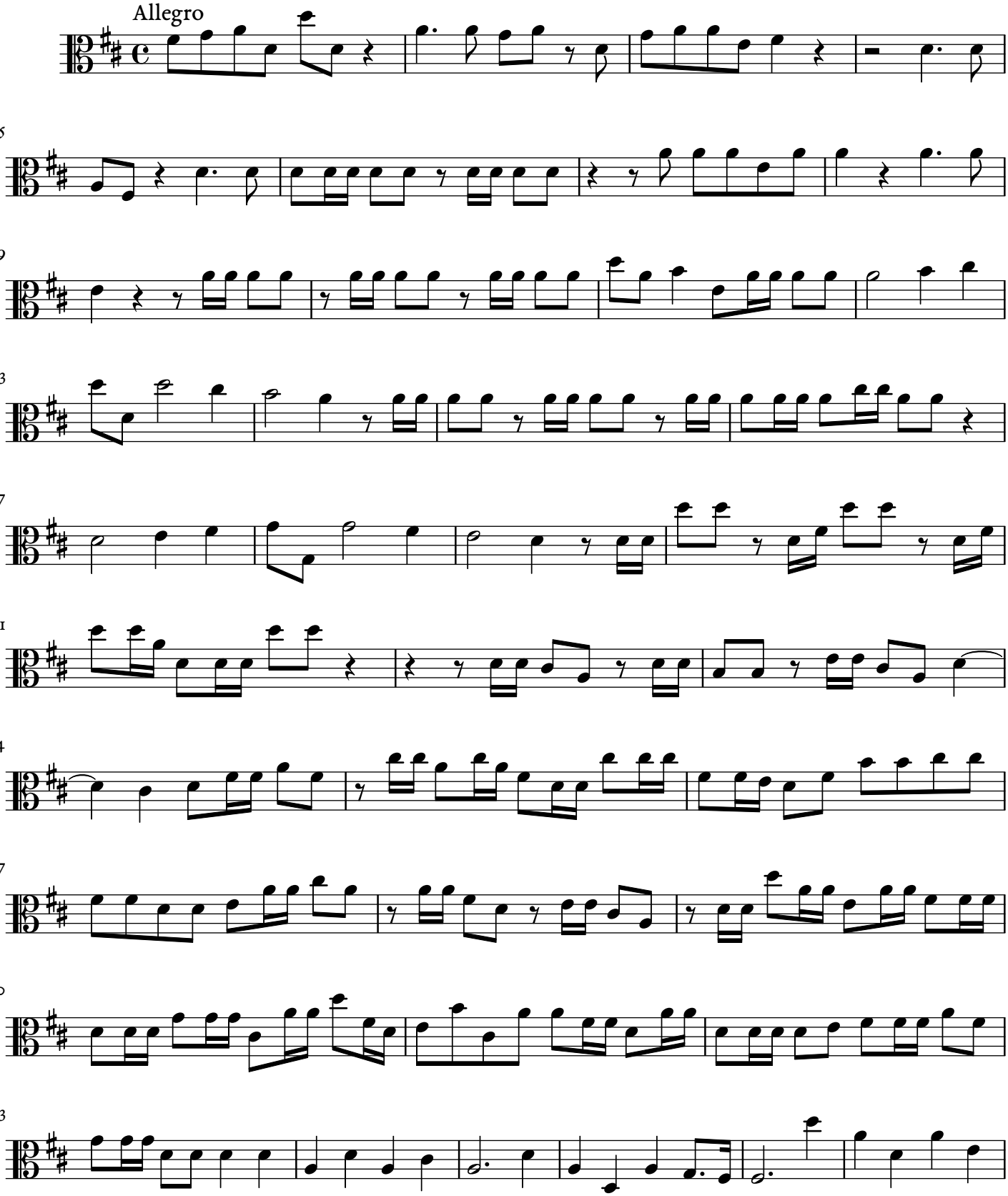
2-20 Recitative: *He that dwelleth in heaven* (tenor)

He that dwelleth in the heavens shall laugh them to scorn; the Lord shall have them in derision.

2-21 Air: *Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron* (tenor)

Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; Thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

2-22 Chorus: *Hallelujah*



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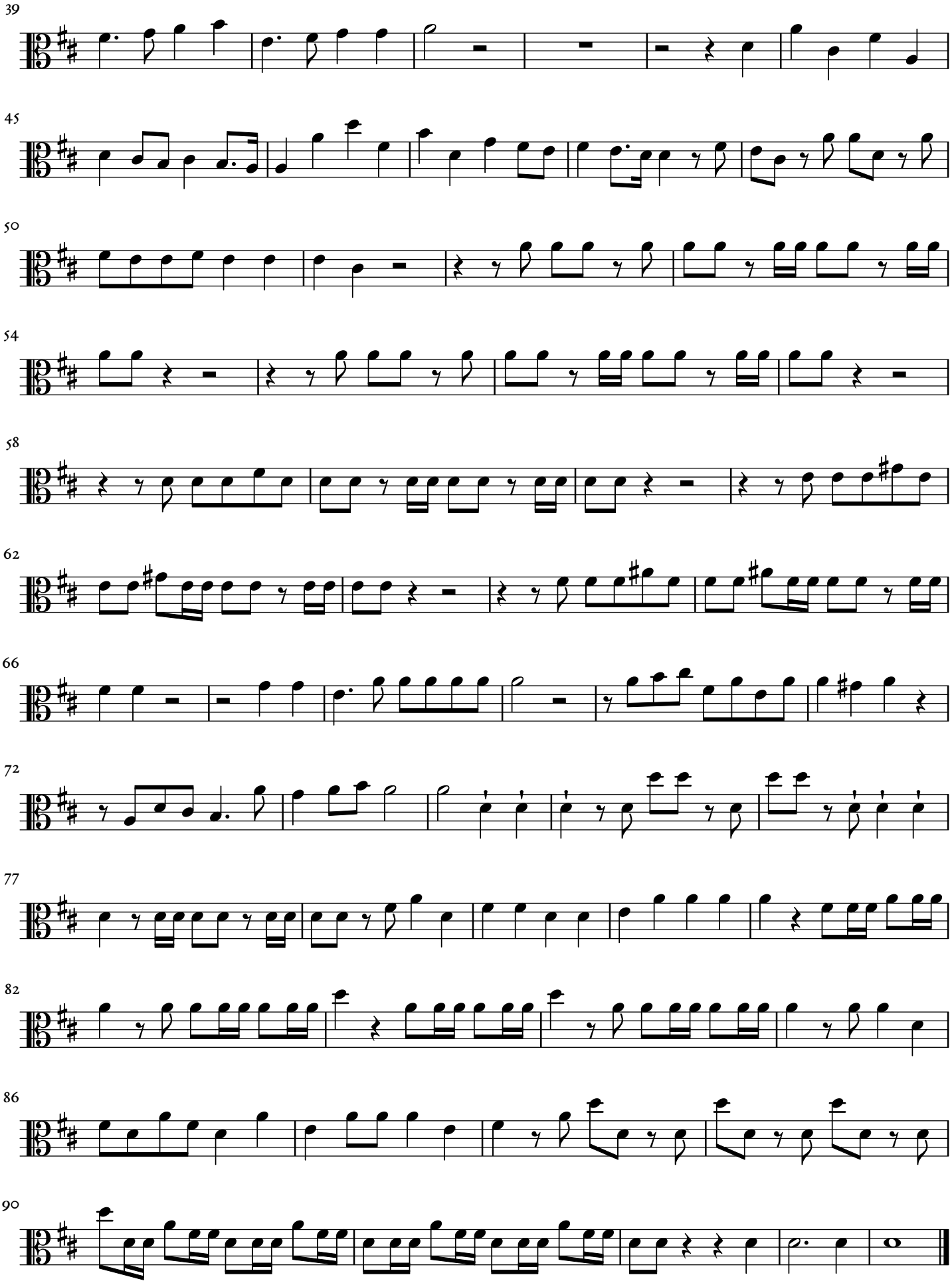

END OF THE SECOND PART

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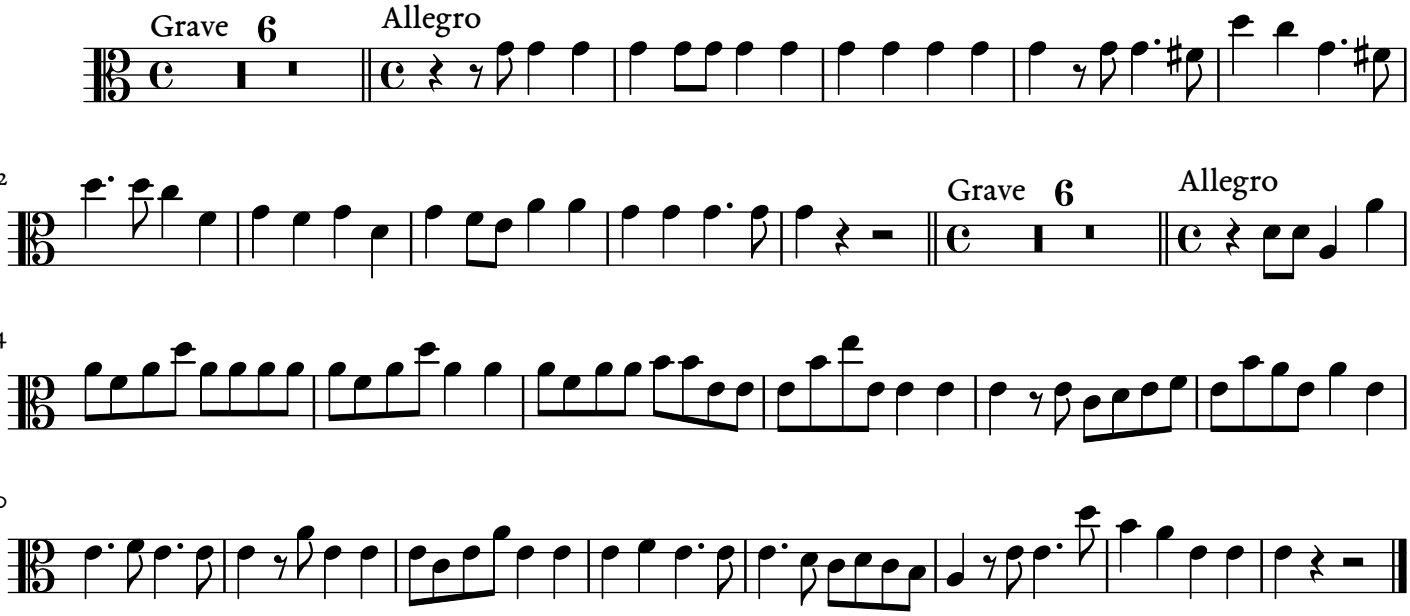
PART III

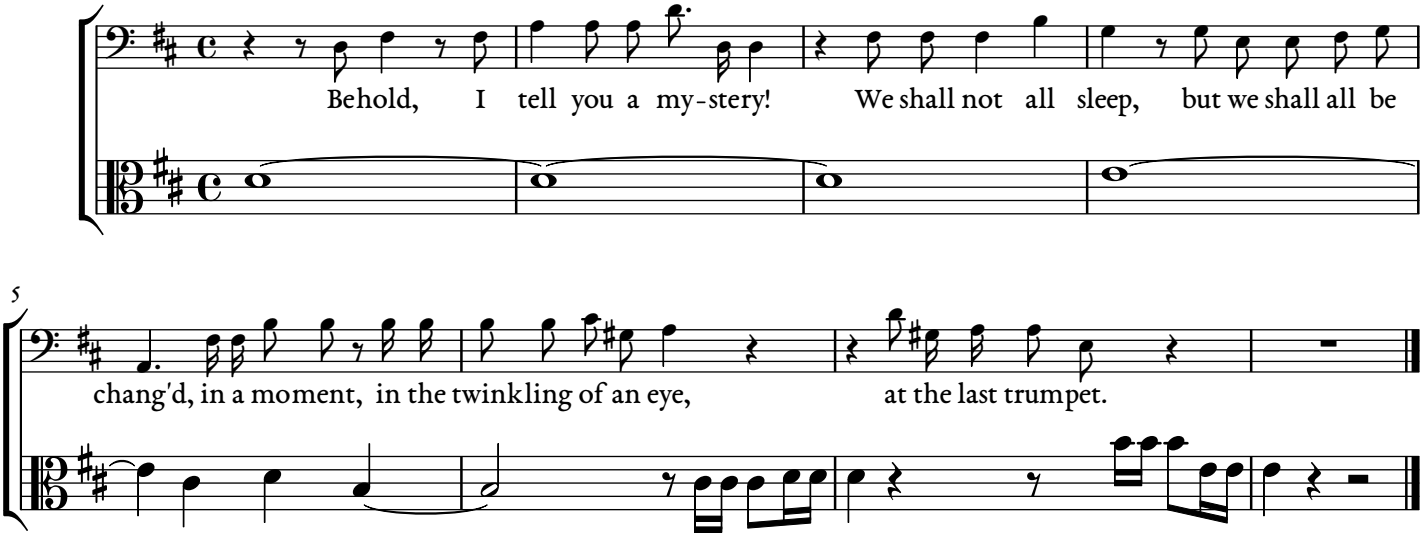
3-1 Air: *I know that my Redeemer liveth* (soprano)

I know that my redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand on the latter day upon the earth:
And though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God.
For now is Christ risen from the dead, the firstfruits of them that sleep.

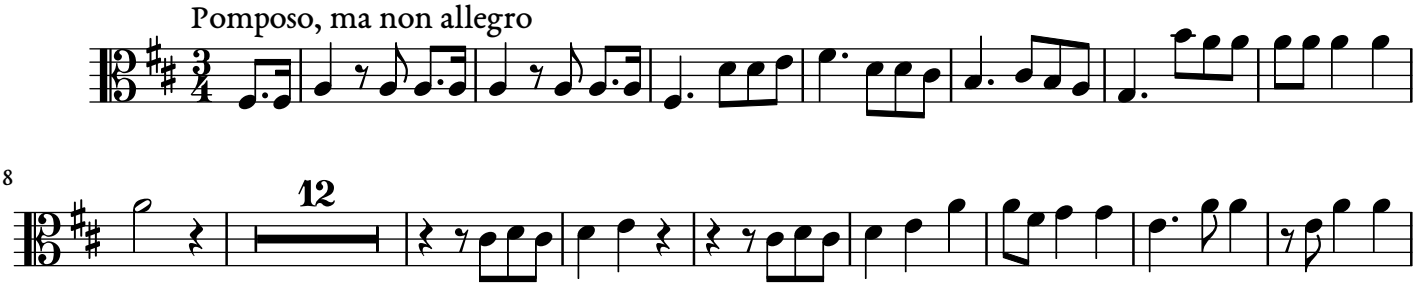
3-2 Chorus and soli: *Since by man came death*



3-3 Recitative: *Behold, I tell you a mistery* (bass)



3-4 Air: *The trumpet shall sound* (bass)



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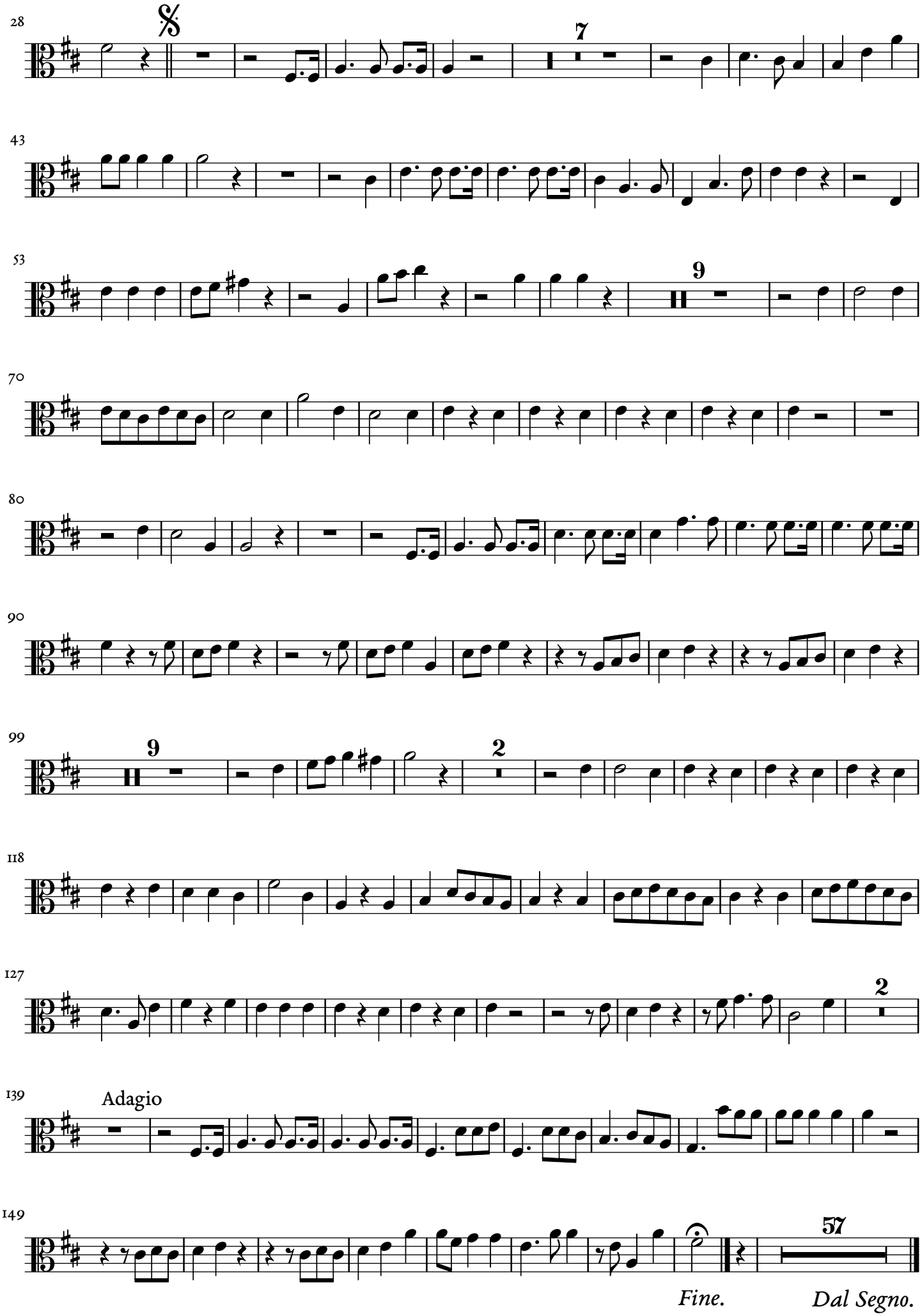

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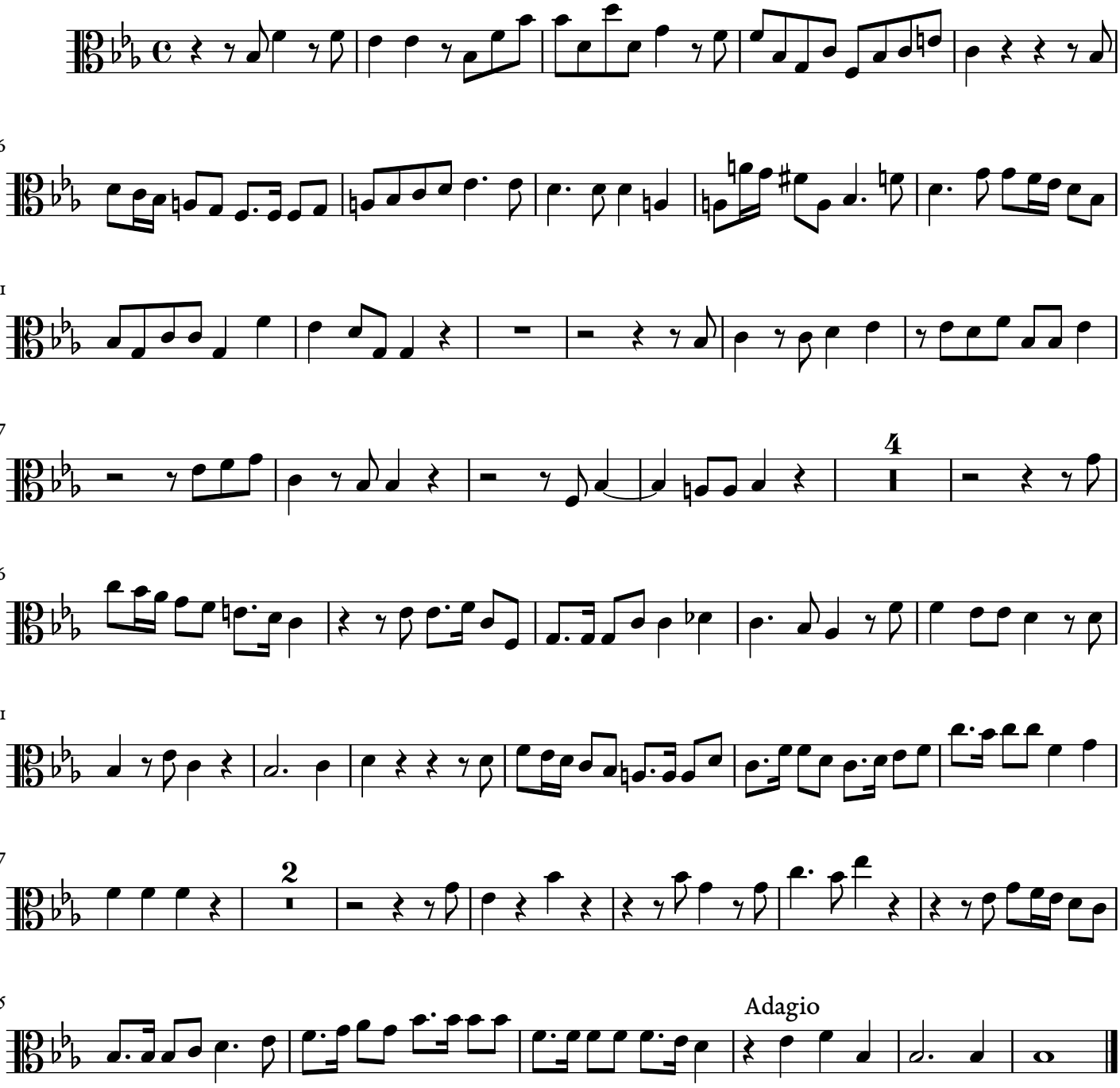
3-5 Recitative: *Then shall be brought to pass* (contr'alto)

Then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, 'Death is swallowed up in victory.'

3-6 Duet: *O death! where is thy sting?* (contr'alto and tenor)

O death, where is thy sting? O grave where is thy victory?
The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

3-7 Chorus: *But thanks be to God*



3-8 Air: *If God be for us* (soprano)

If God be for us, who can be against us?
Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.
Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is at the right hand of God, who makes intercession for us.

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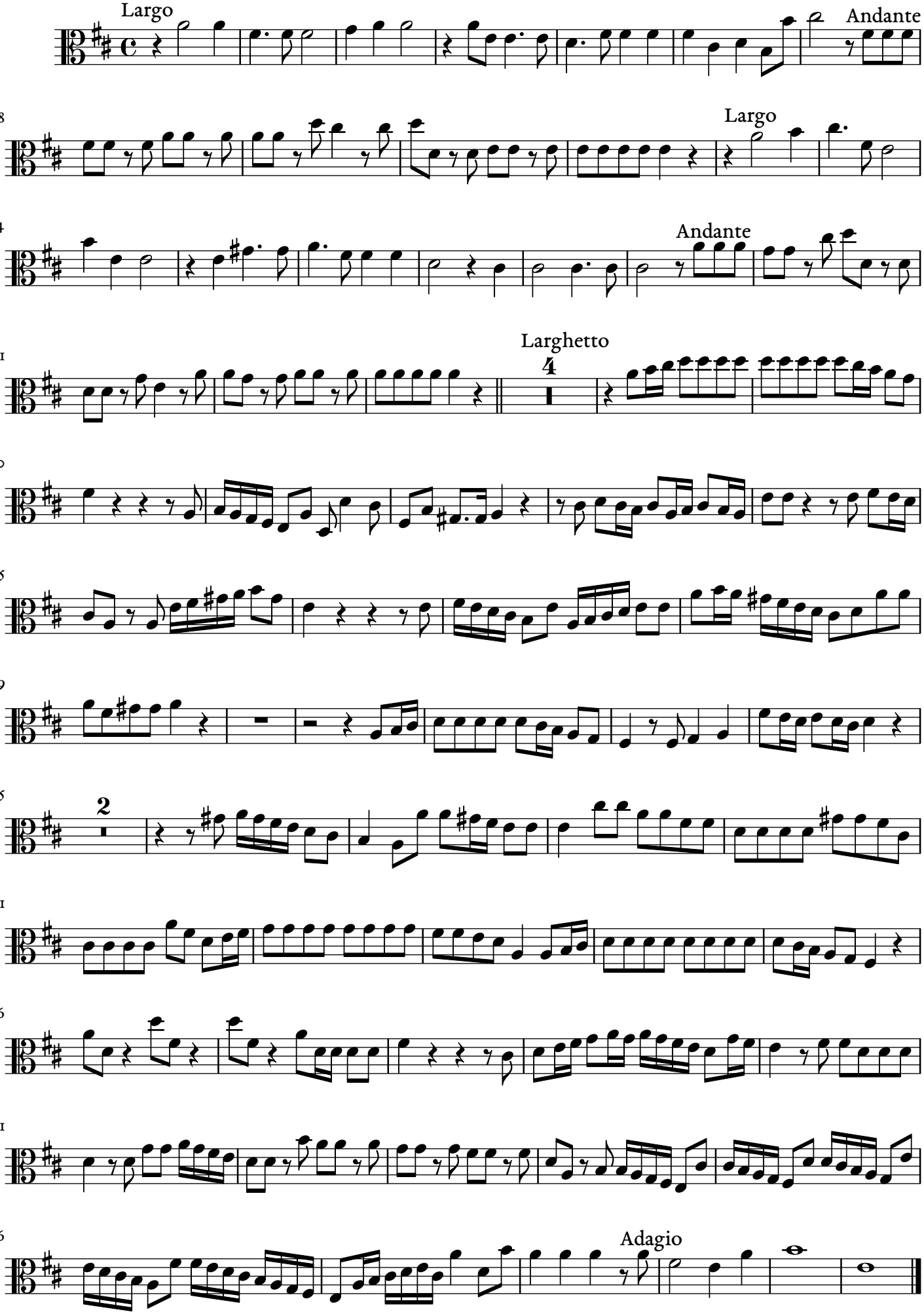
3-9 Chorus: *Worthy is the Lamb*



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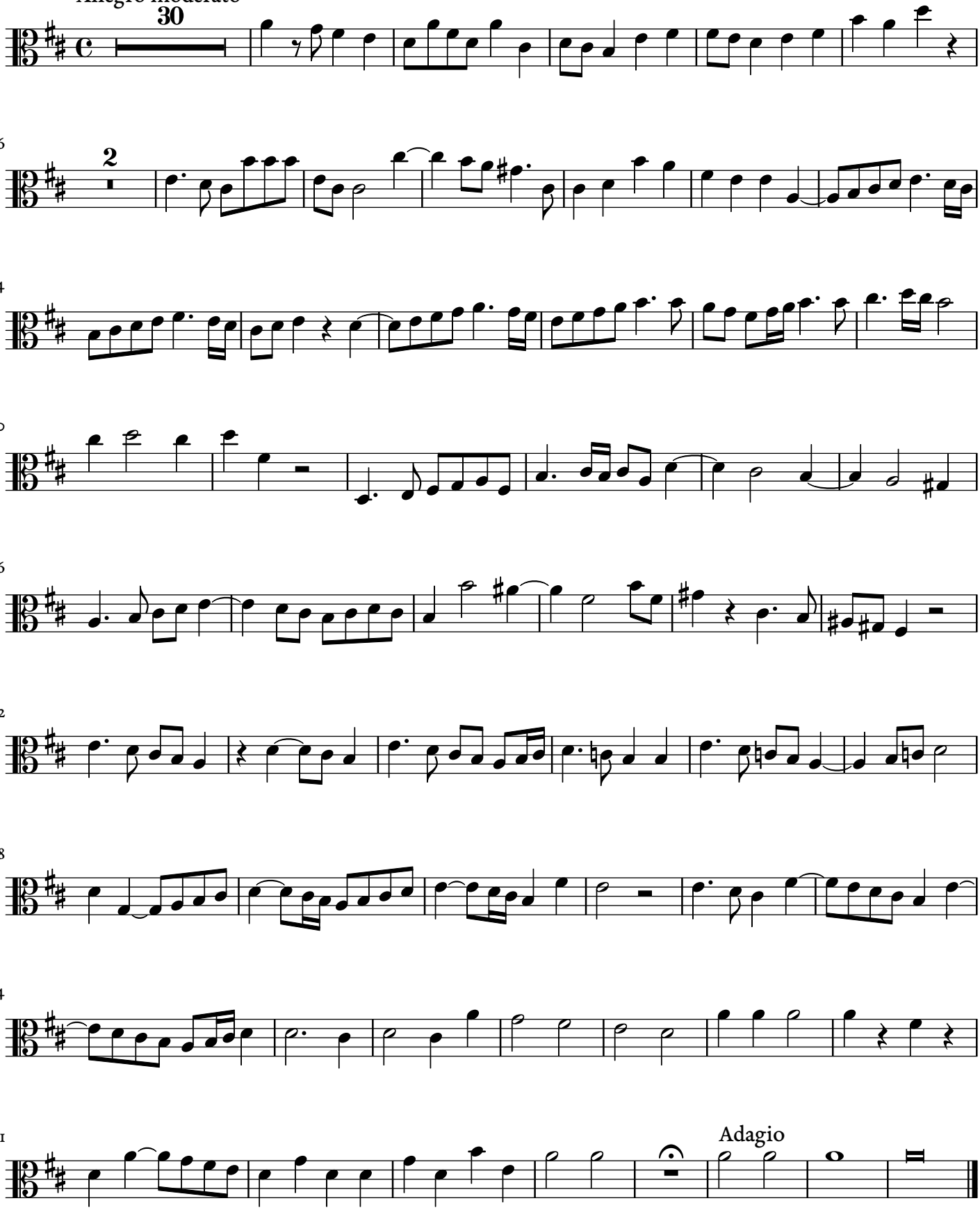
3-10 Chorus: *Amen*

Allegro moderato



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