Simply MARK HAYES

SACRED SOLOS FOR THE BEGINNING PIANIST

Sample

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Foreword

For anyone who took piano lessons as a child, you probably remember that iconic first book. For me, it was a red landscape-sized book called *Teaching Little Fingers to Play* by John Thompson. When I had mastered that, my first teacher, Hazel Burke, gave me a book of jazzy songs by Neal Hefti. I was in heaven! Mrs. Burke also taught me how to play hymns from the hymnal and add extra notes. That was my first introduction to improvisation, and I remain grateful to Mrs. Burke for teaching me that you could play something beyond what was on the page.

I kept playing—and playing—after my lessons with Mrs. Burke. But I hear from others who got distracted by the activities and interests of childhood, or maybe didn't have their own Mrs. Burke, so quit playing. If "I wish I had not stopped my lessons. I'd love to play again," is your common refrain, then this book is for you!

I've chosen time-honored hymns and arranged them very simply. There are no octave stretches in either hand. When the right hand is doing something challenging, the left hand is just supporting the right hand. The key signatures are friendly…no songs in C-flat major! The time signatures are easy to figure out. Where there are 16th notes, which can look rather scary on the page, they fit nicely in your hand and can be played as slowly as you want until you master them. And I hope you'll find that each arrangement, even at this easy level, has a style and creativity that makes them worth mastering.

For those of you who haven't played in a while, I hope this book will help you fall in love with playing the piano again. For beginners, please take this opportunity to learn these hymns of the faith. We need more church pianists!

Please send me feedback. I'd love to know if this is too easy, too hard, or just right.

—Mark Hayes

Sample

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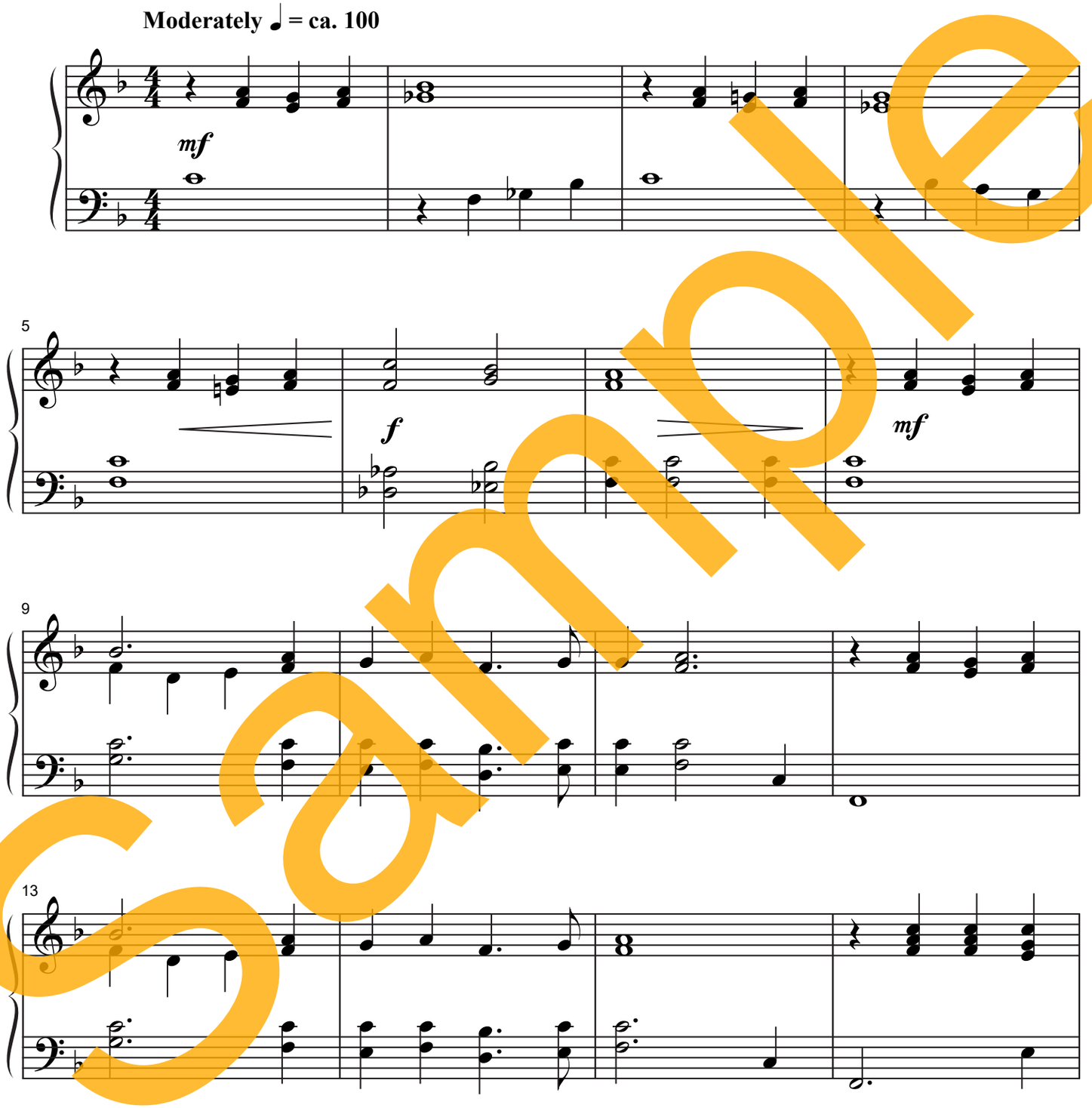
NEAR THE CROSS

Sample

Be Still, My Soul

Mark Hayes
Tune: **FINLANDIA**
by **Jean Sibelius** (1865-1957)



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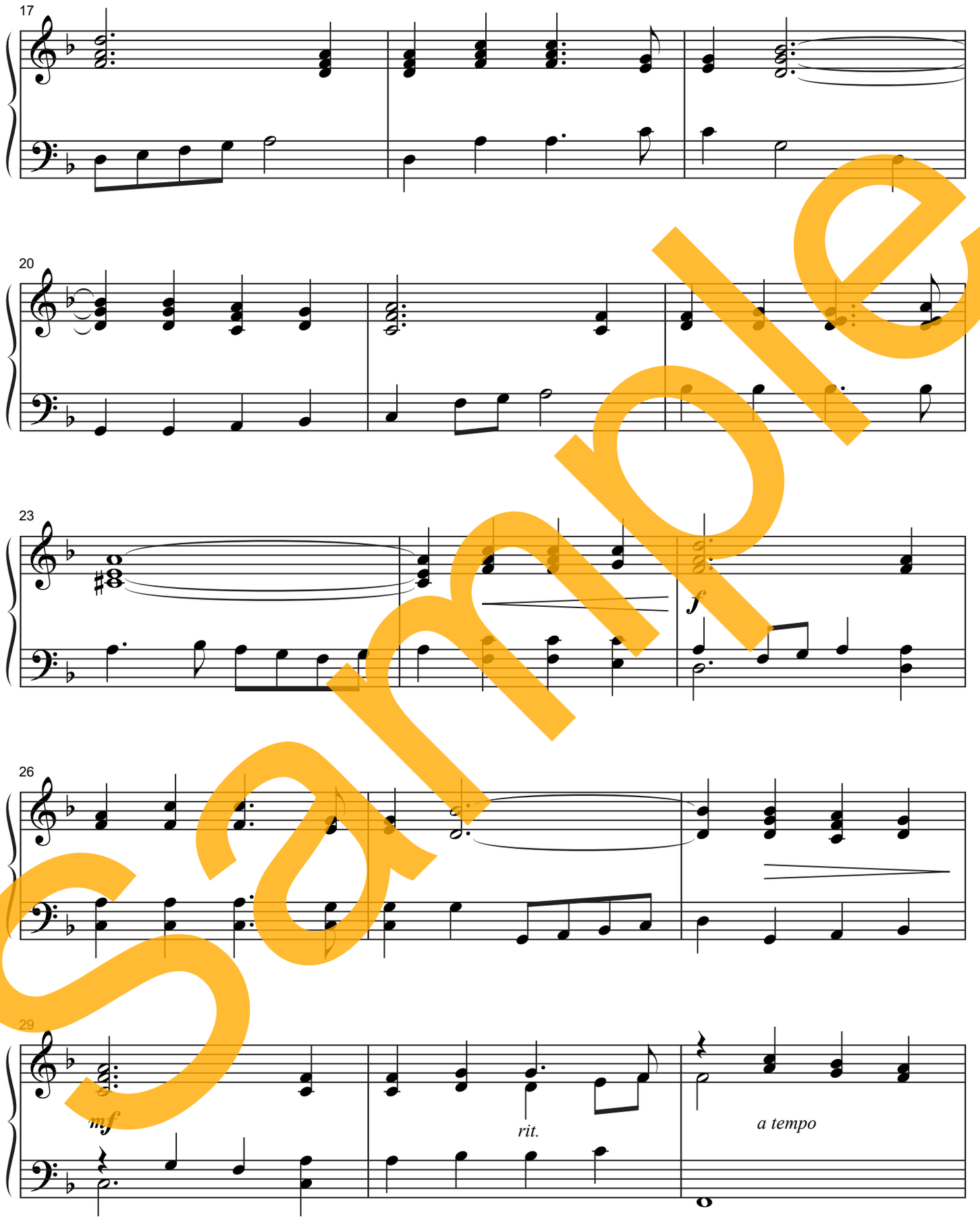

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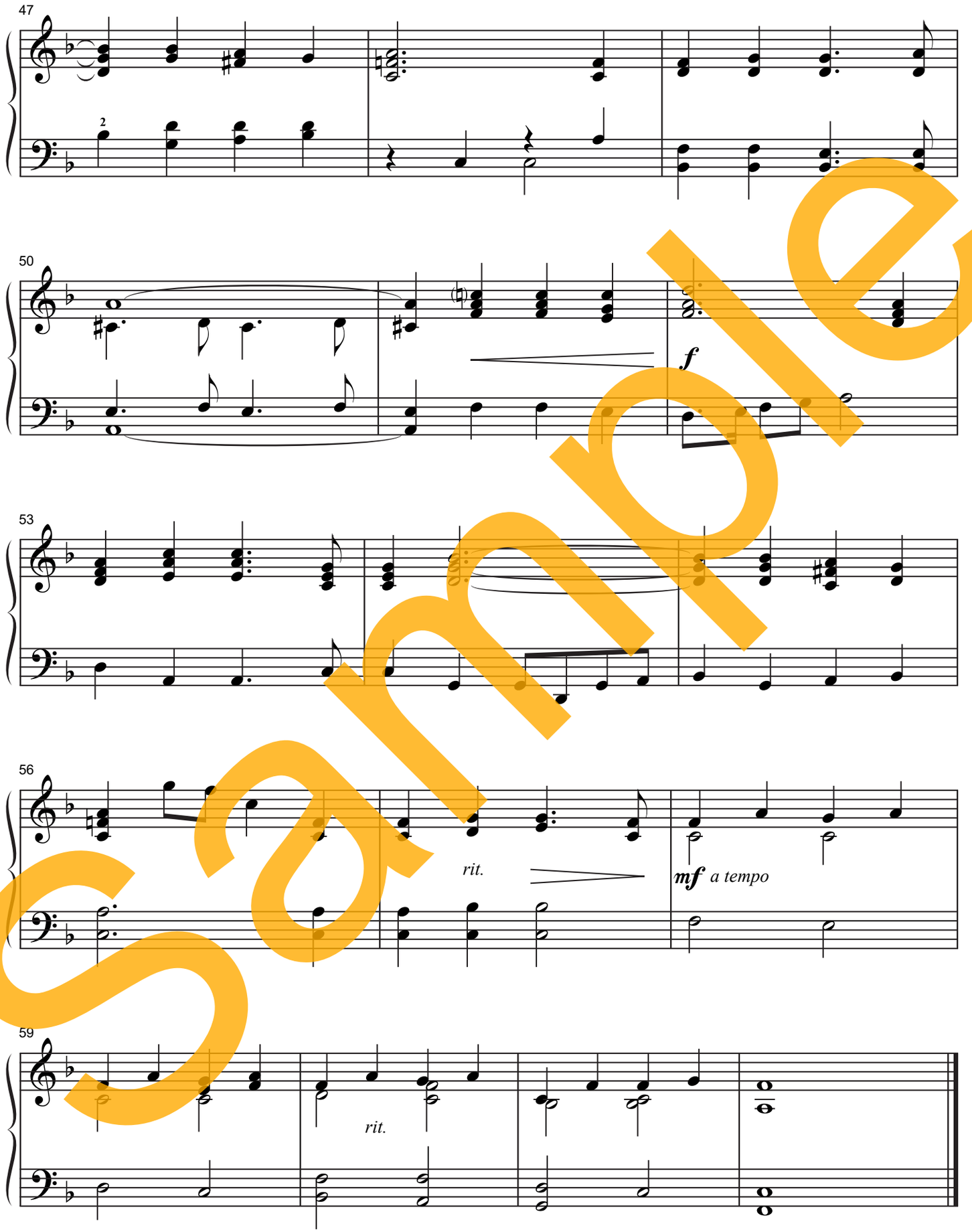
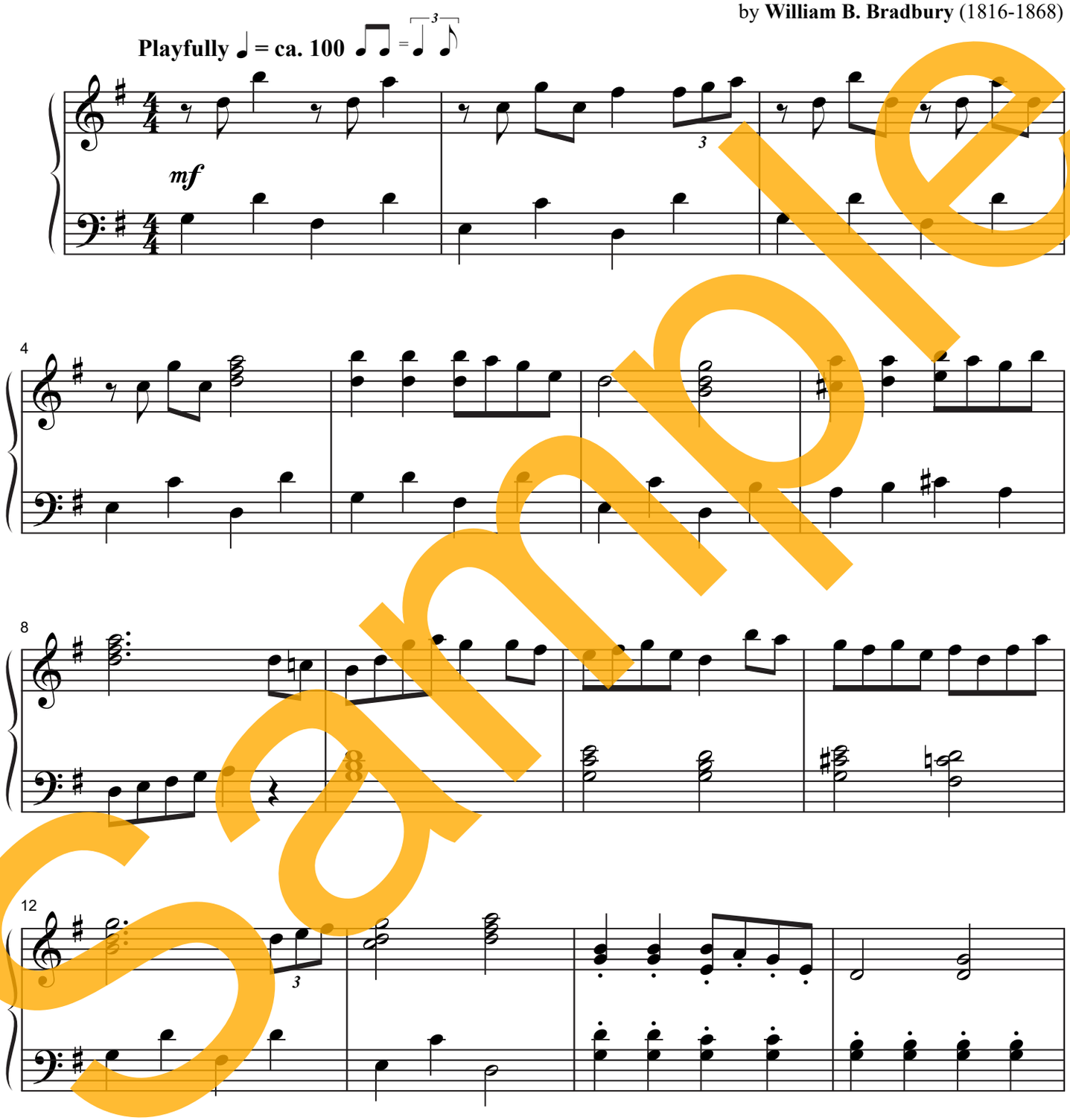


sample

Children's Medley

Jesus Loves the Little Children
with Jesus Loves Me

Mark Hayes
Tunes: **CHILDREN**
by **George F. Root** (1820-1895)
and **JESUS LOVES ME**
by **William B. Bradbury** (1816-1868)



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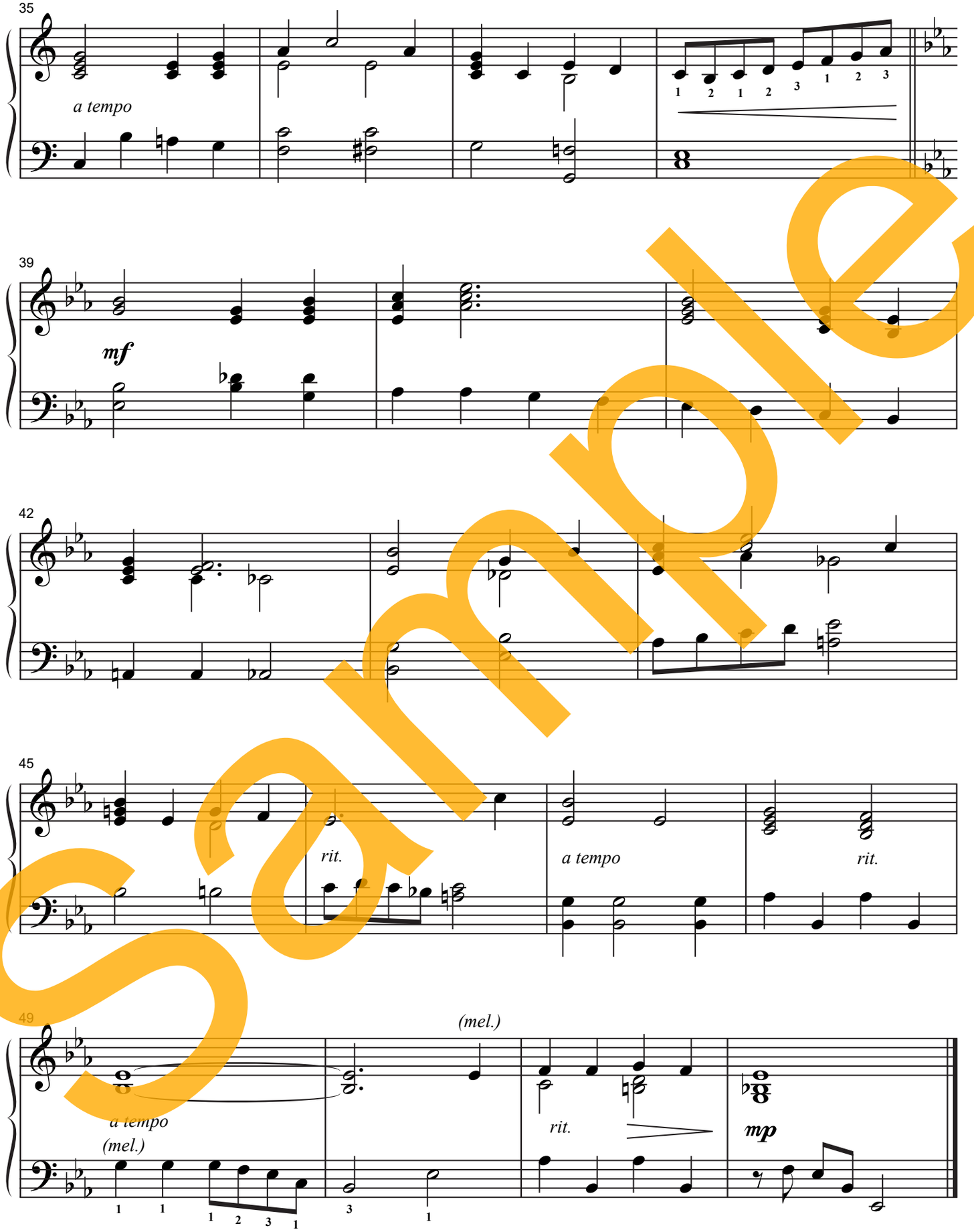
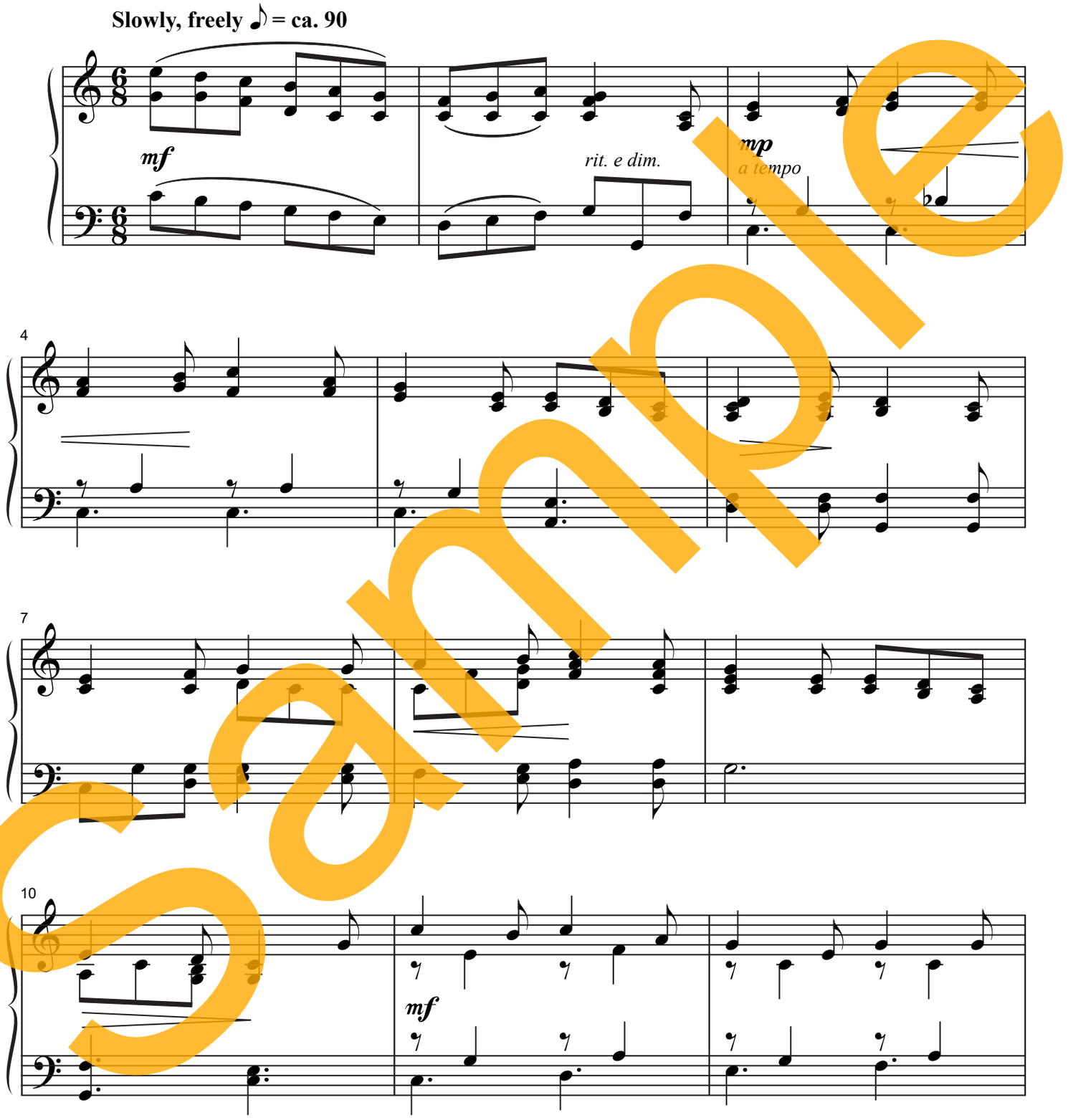

35
a tempo
1 2 1 2 3 1 2 3
39
mf
42
45
rit.
a tempo
rit.
49
(mel.)
a tempo
(mel.)
rit.
mp

Sample

Sweet Hour of Prayer

Mark Hayes
Tune: SWEET HOUR
by **William B. Bradbury** (1816-1868)



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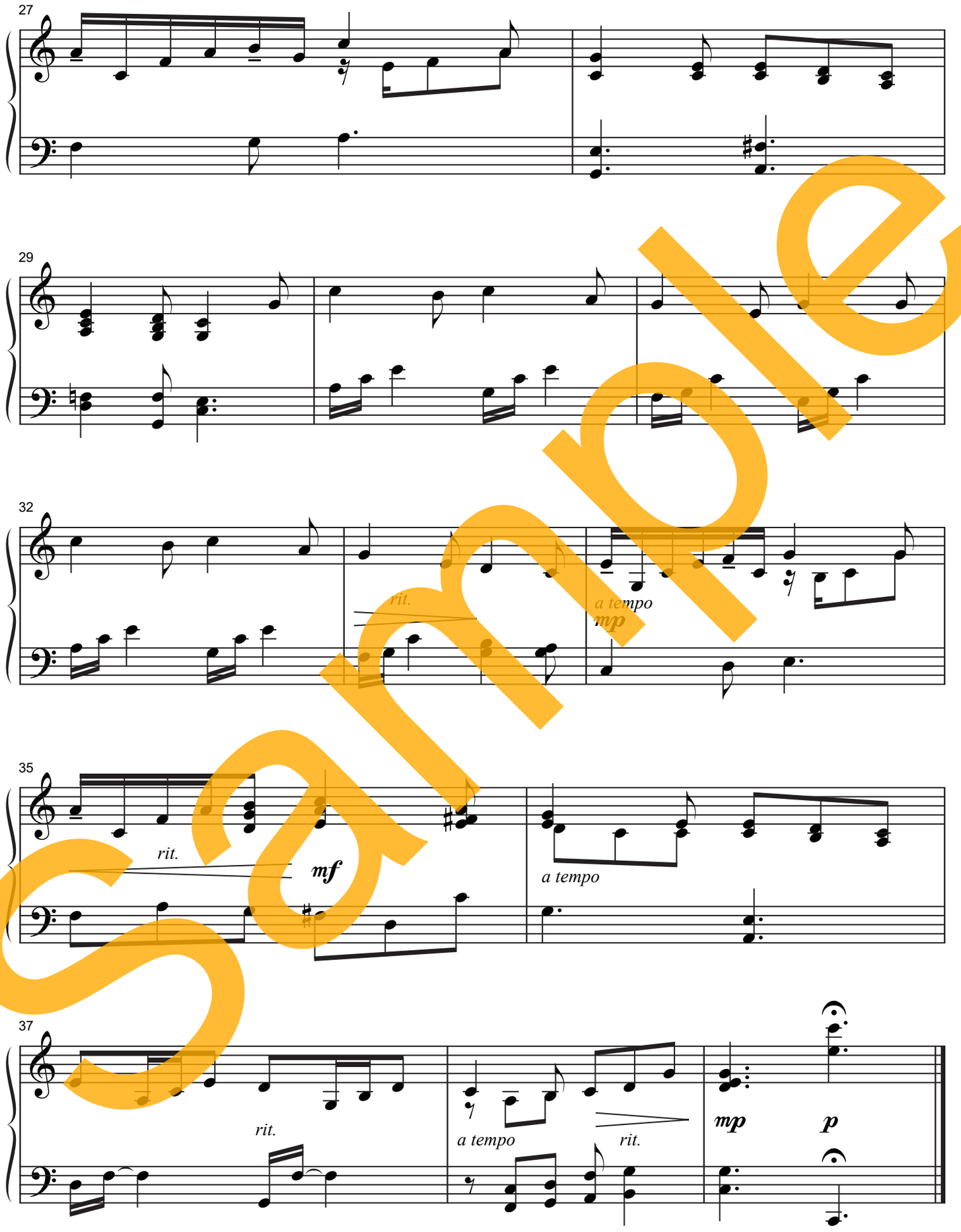
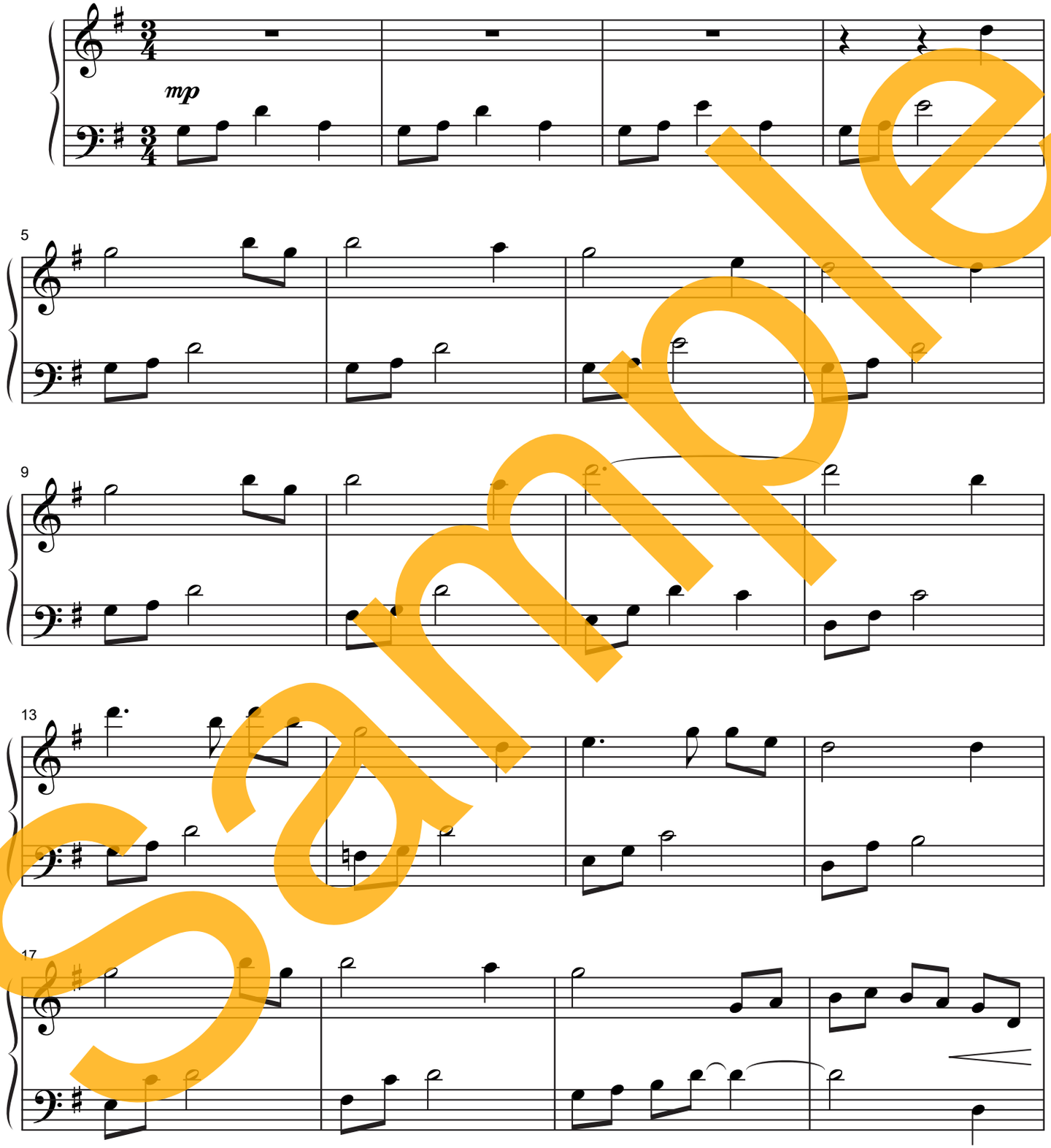


sample

Amazing Grace

Mark Hayes
Tune: **NEW BRITAIN**
Virginia Harmony, 1831

Reflectively ♩ = ca. 92



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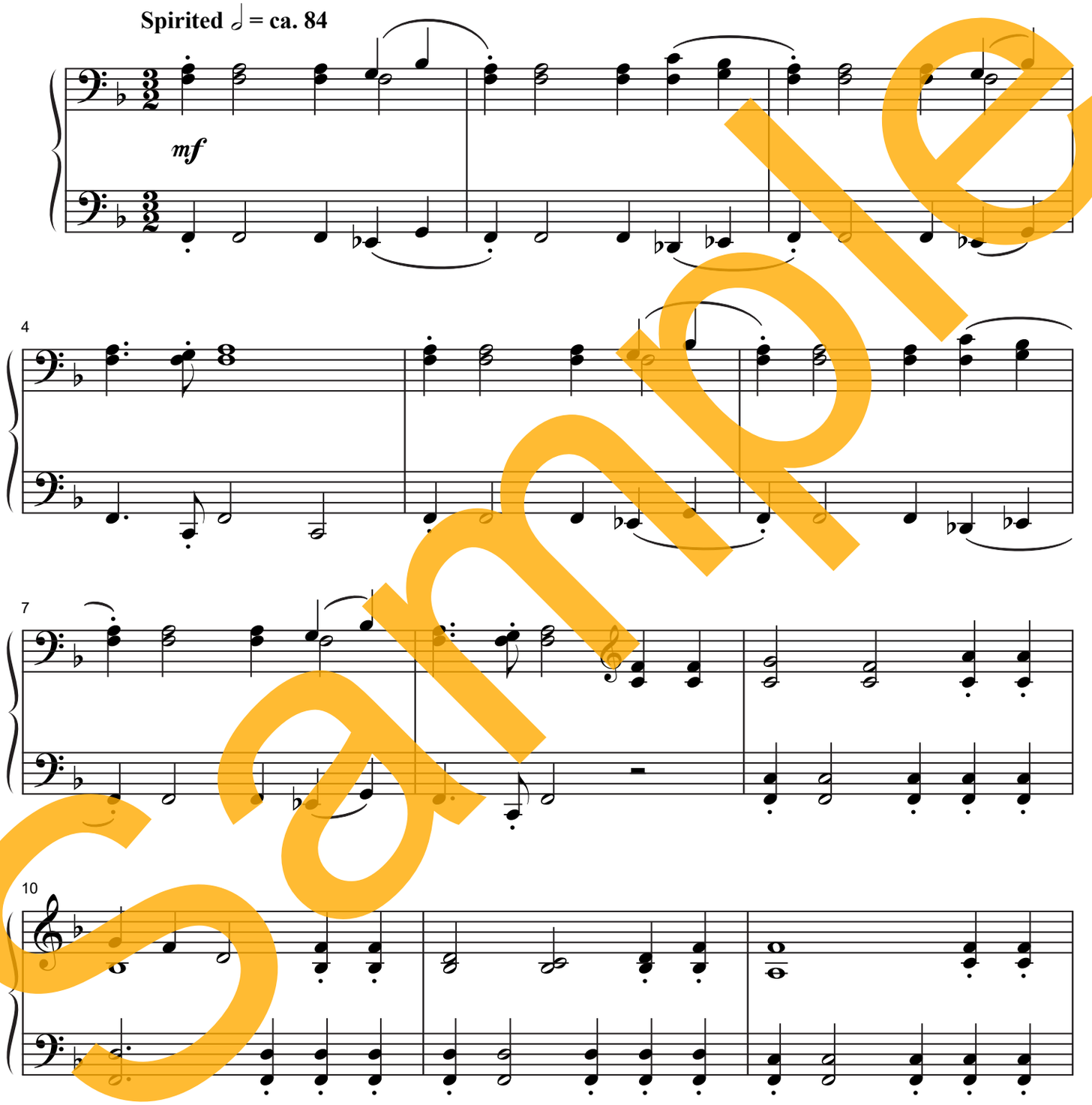
Come, All Christians, Be Committed

Mark Hayes
Tune: **BEACH SPRING**
The Sacred Harp, 1844
Traditional American Melody



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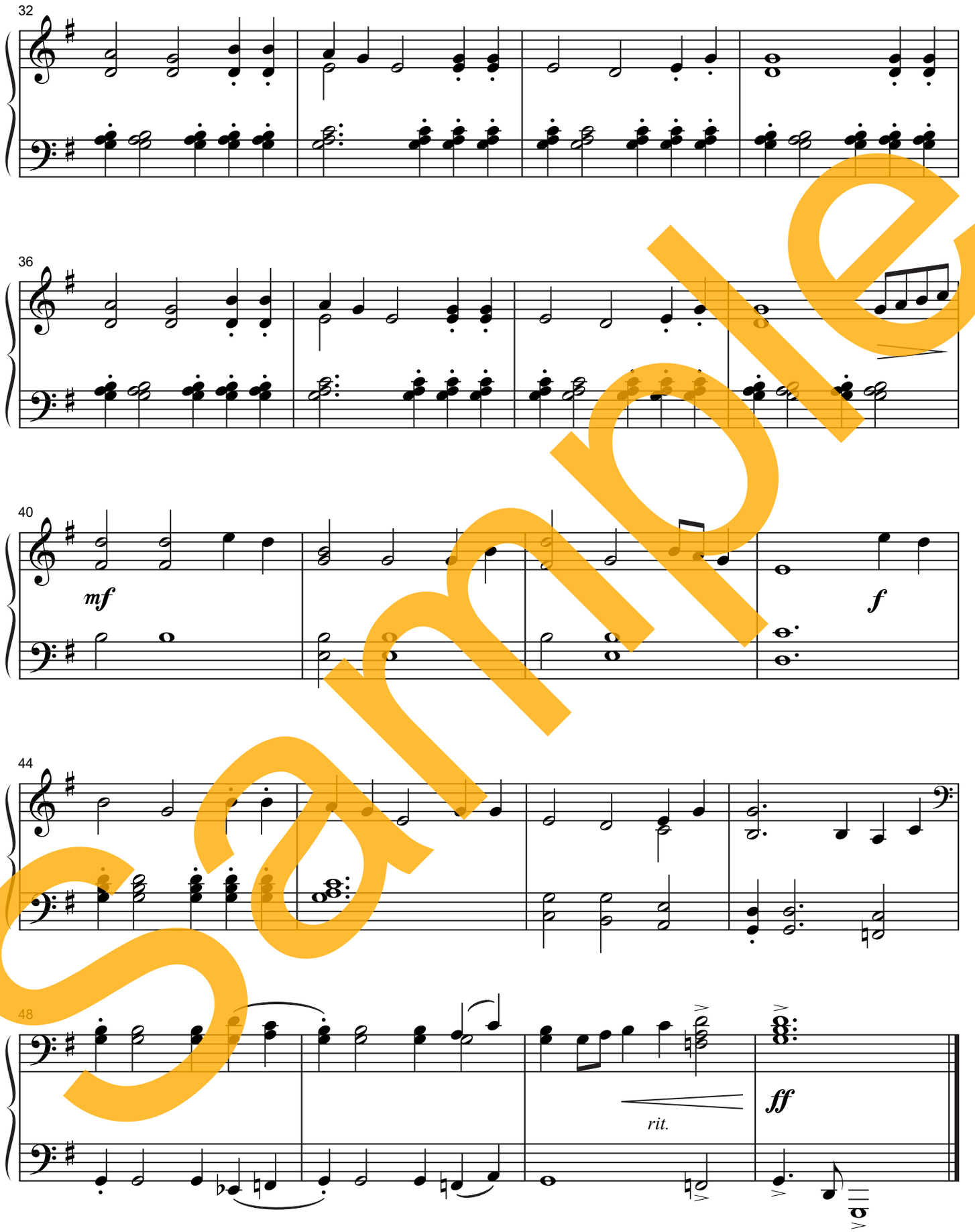
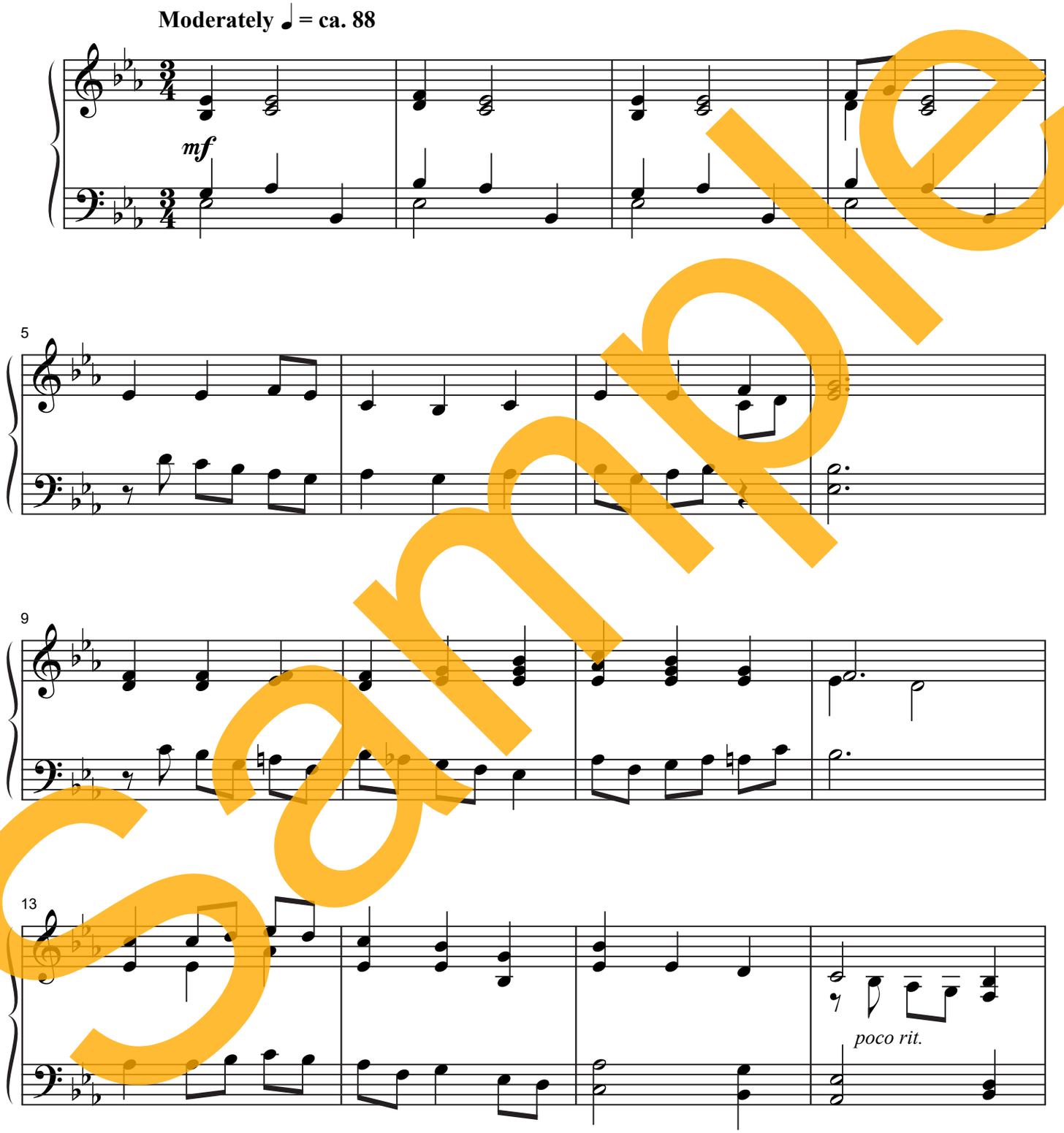


Sample

Be Thou My Vision

Mark Hayes
Tune: **SLANE**
Irish Folk Melody



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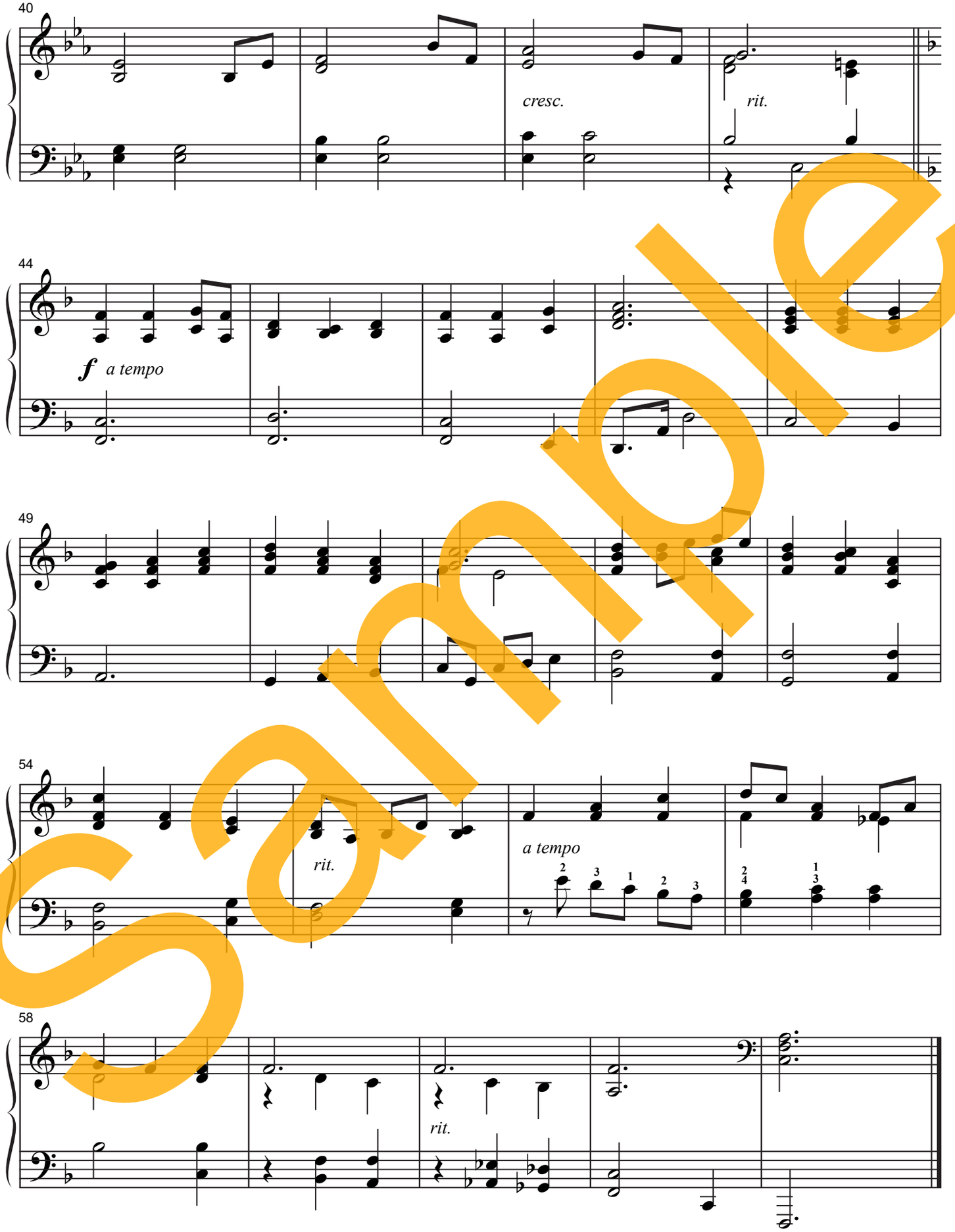
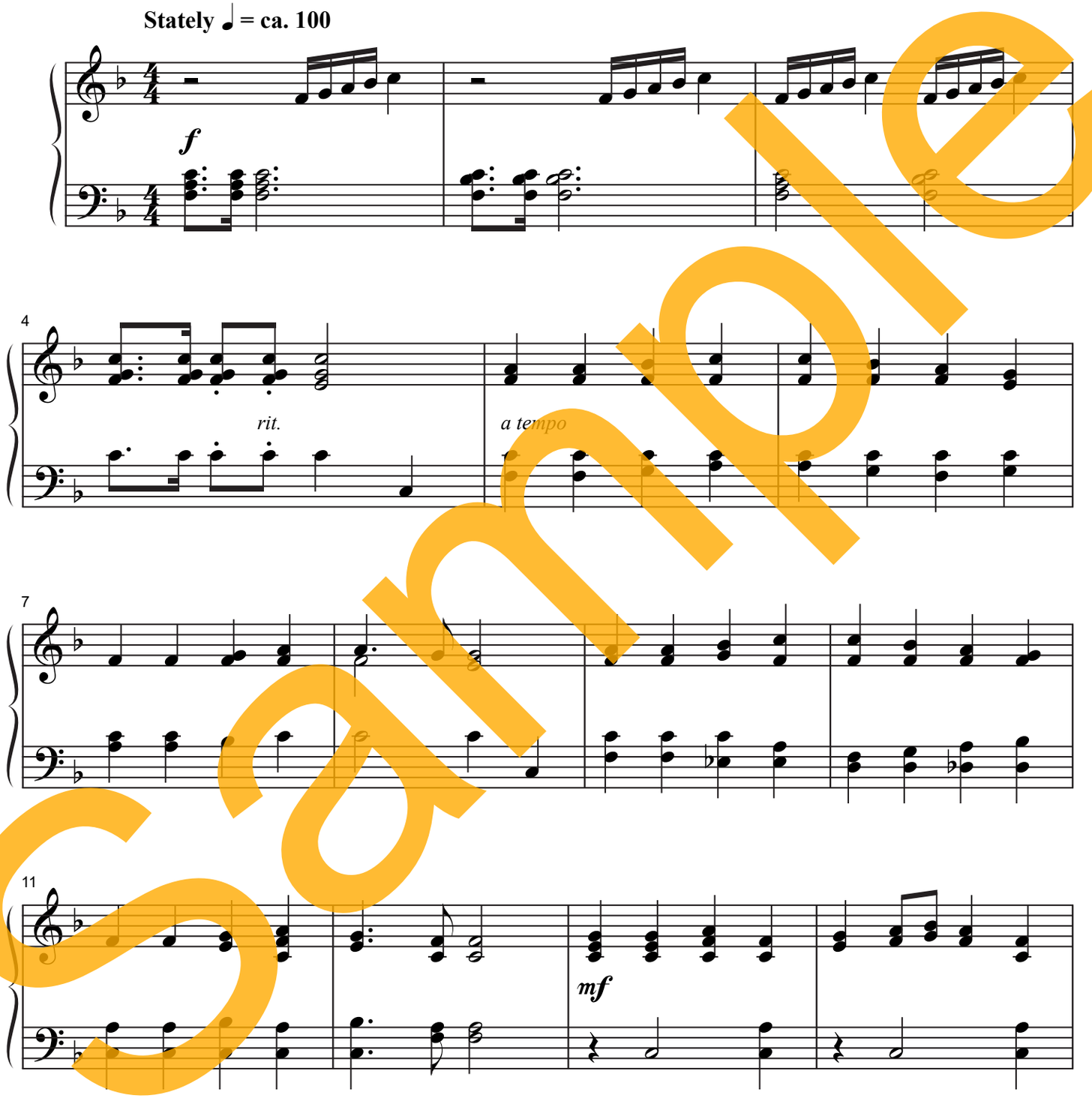


sample

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Mark Hayes
Tune: **ODE TO JOY**
by **Ludwig Van Beethoven** (1770-1827)



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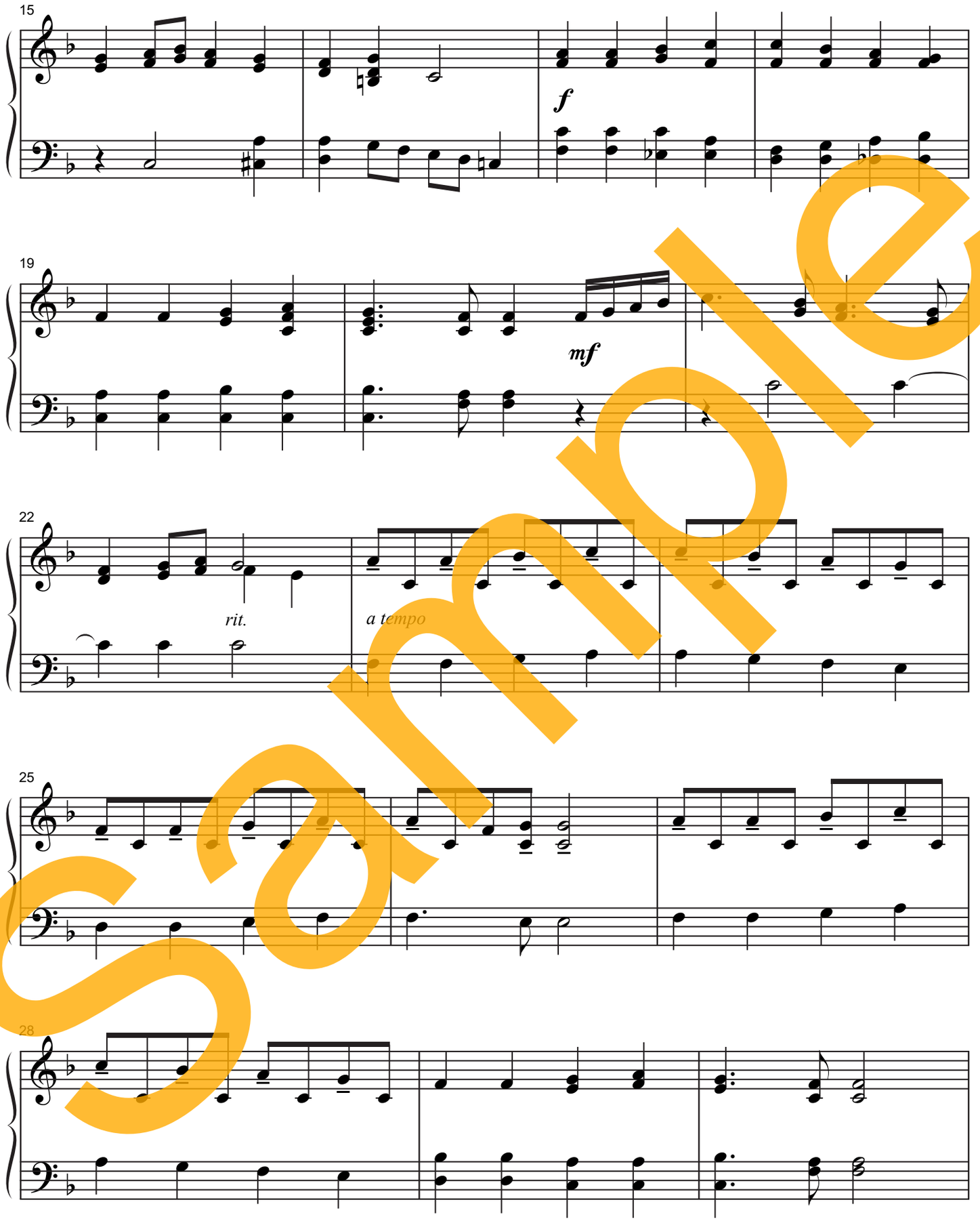

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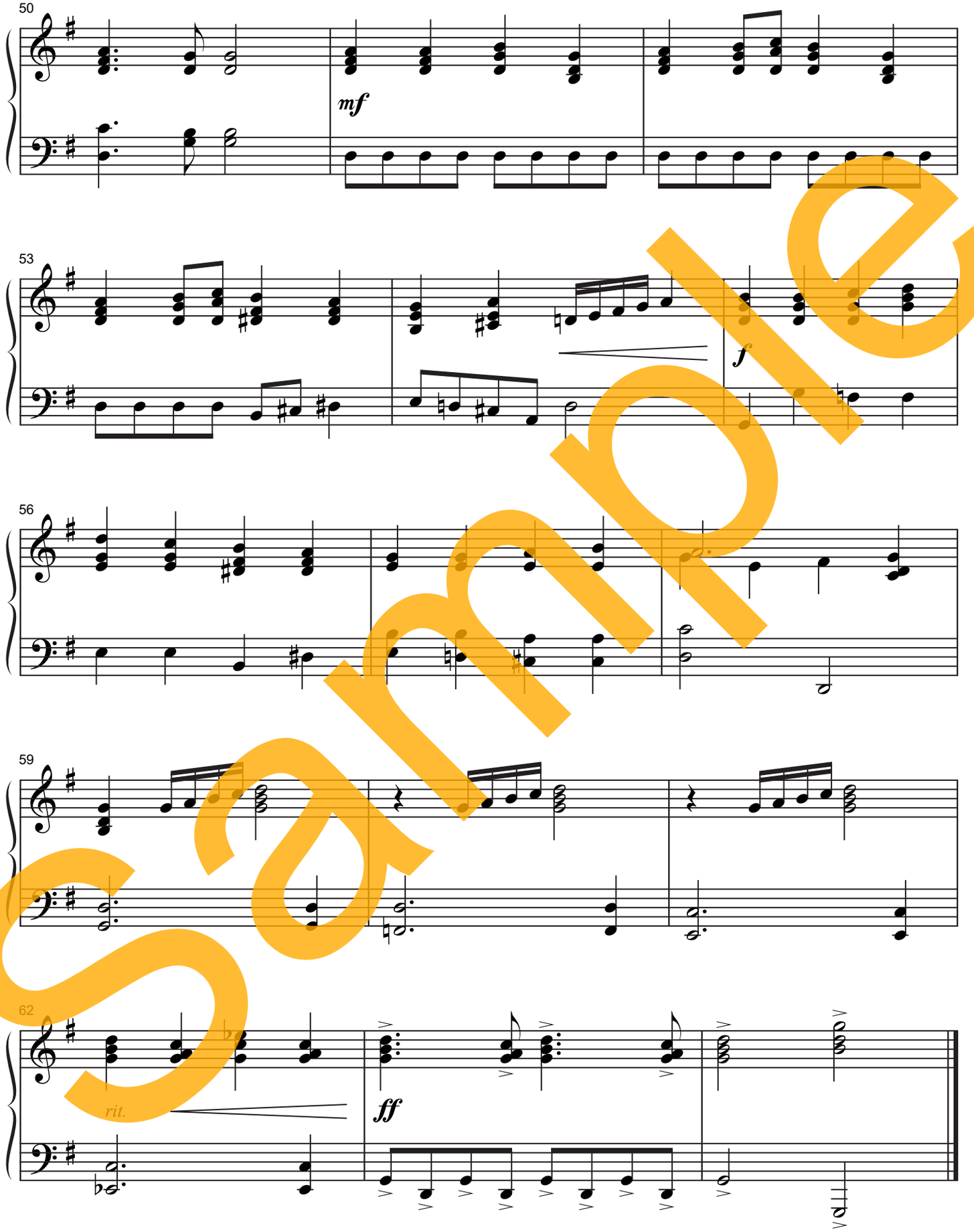
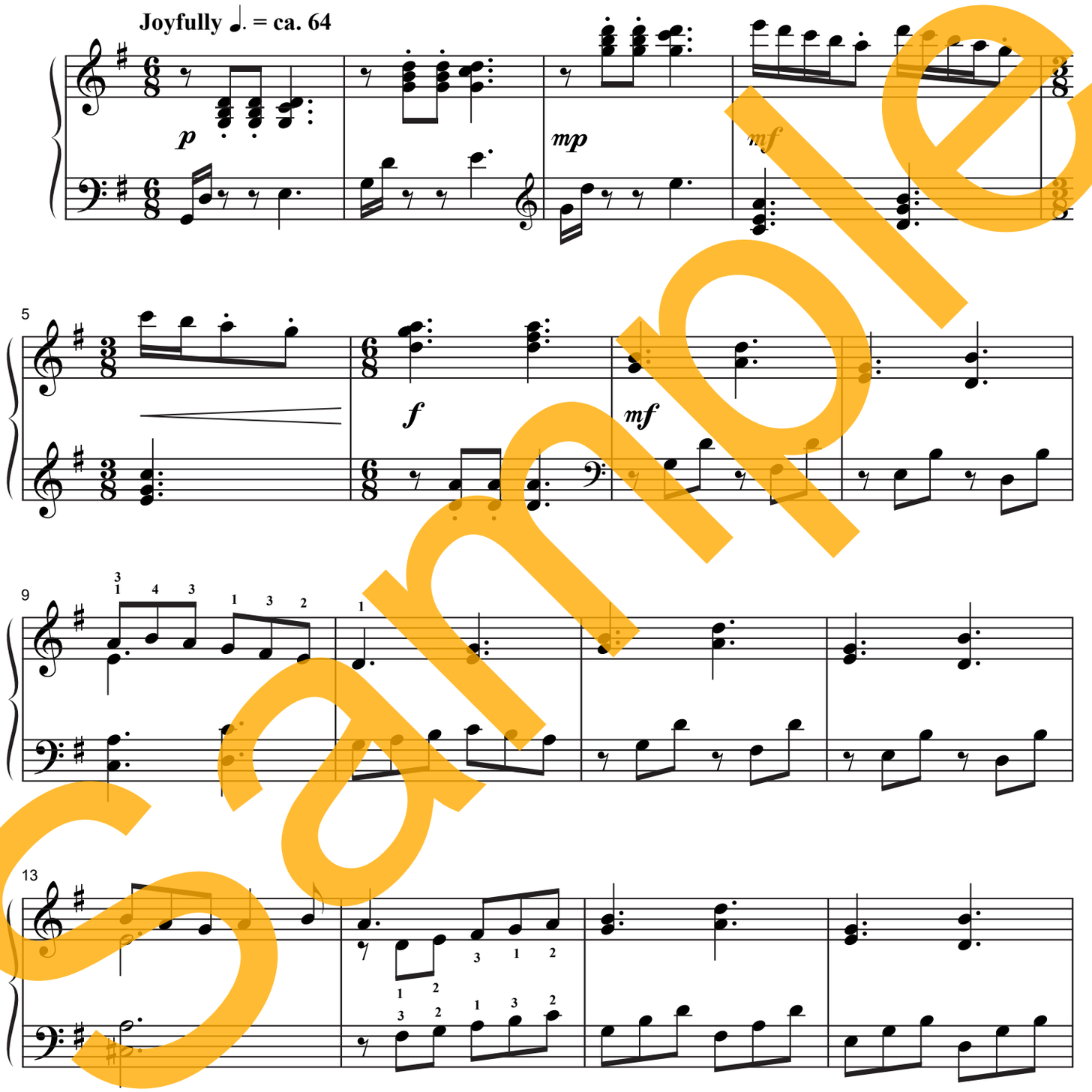


Sample

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Mark Hayes
Tune: **JOYFUL SONG**
by **Chester G. Allen** (1838-1878)



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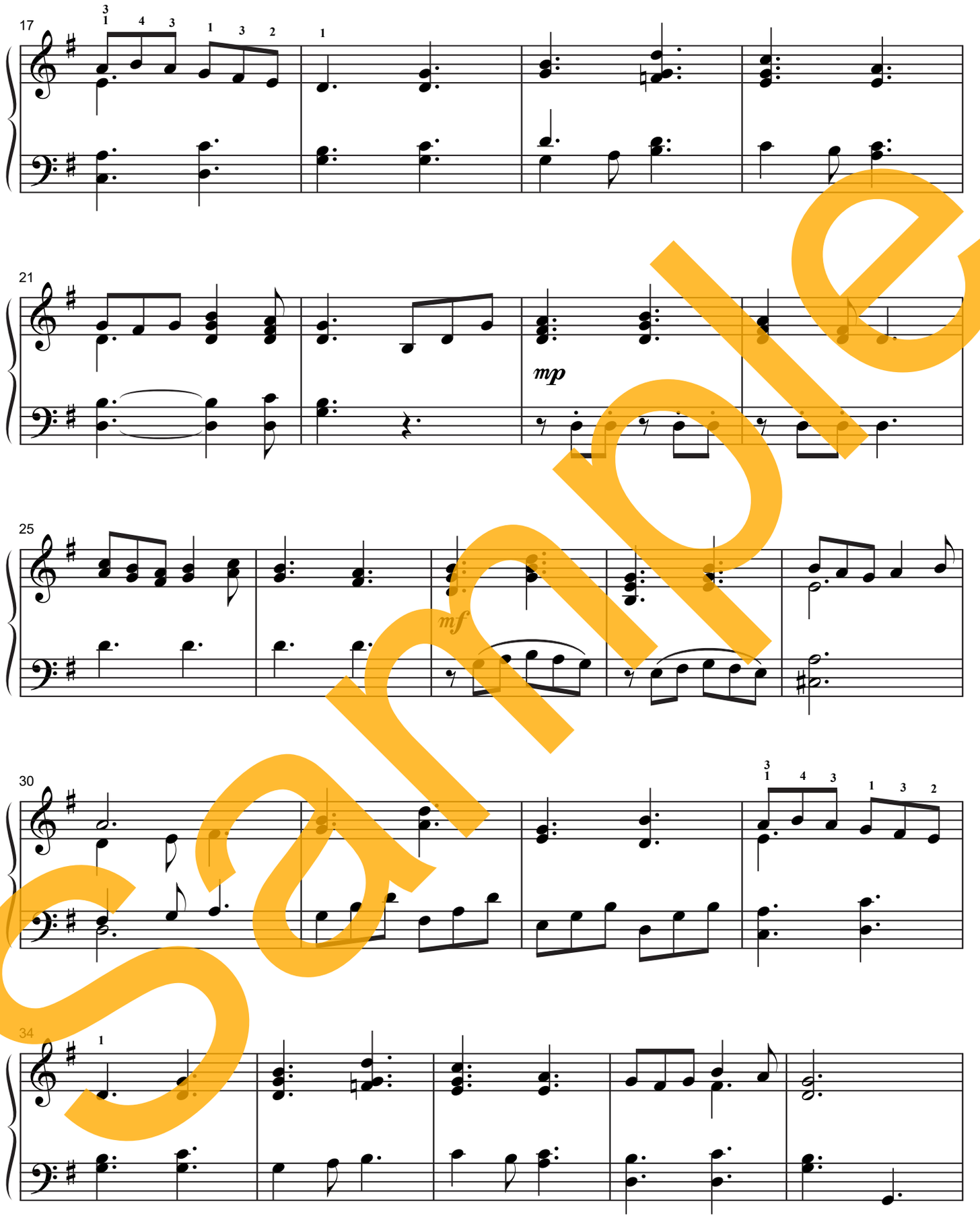

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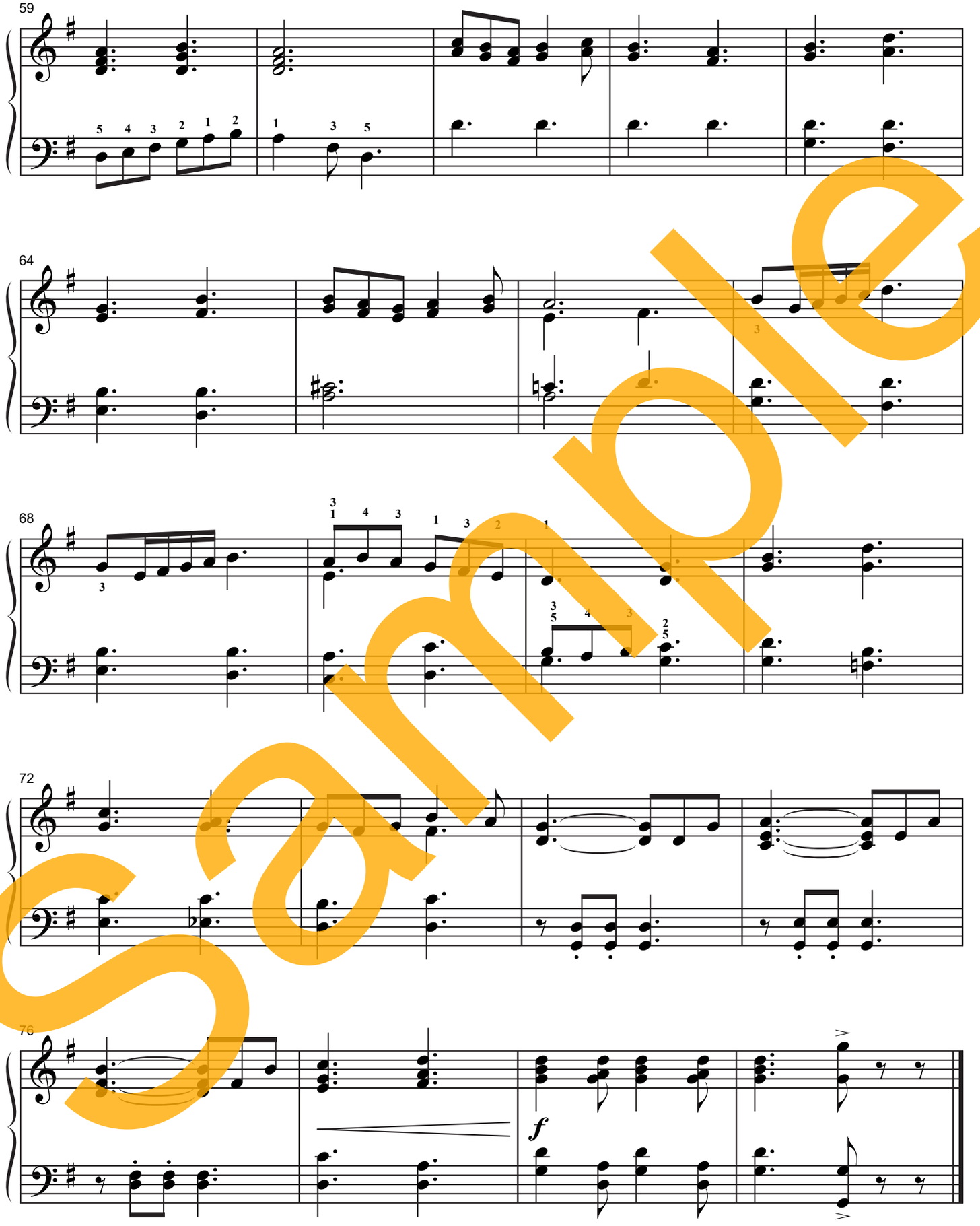
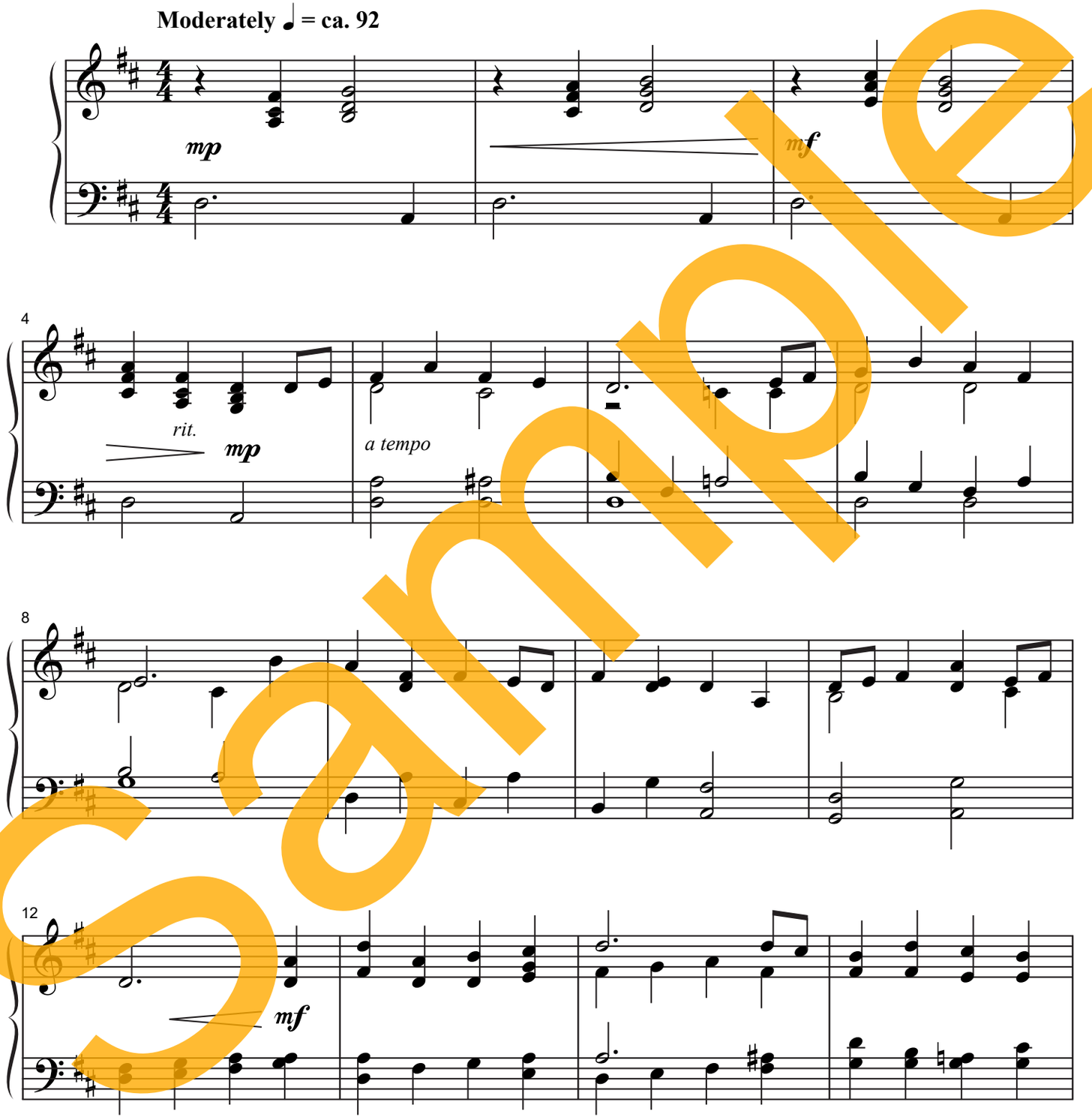


Sample

This Is My Father's World

Mark Hayes
Tune: **TERRA BEATA**
by **Franklin L. Sheppard** (1852-1930)



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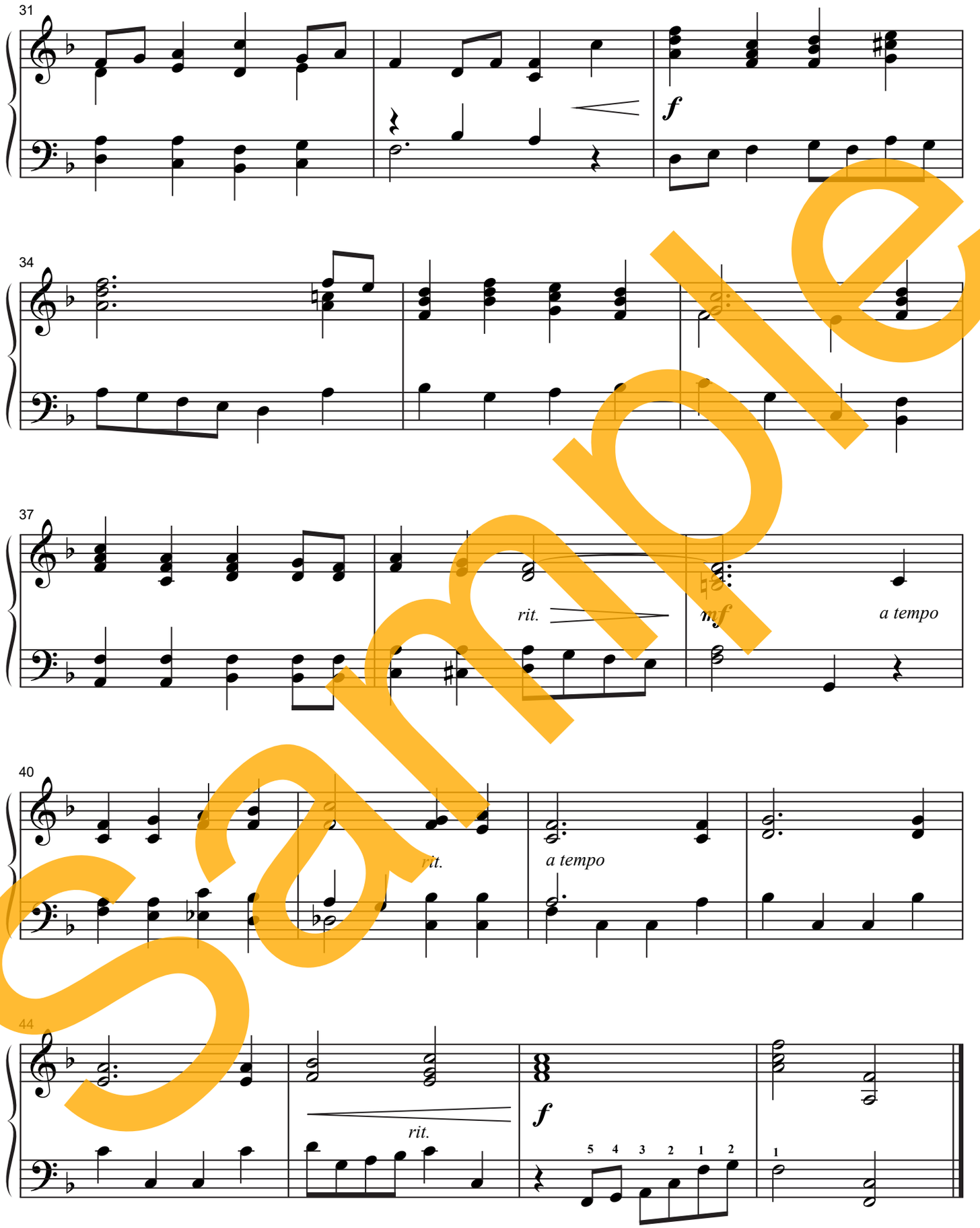
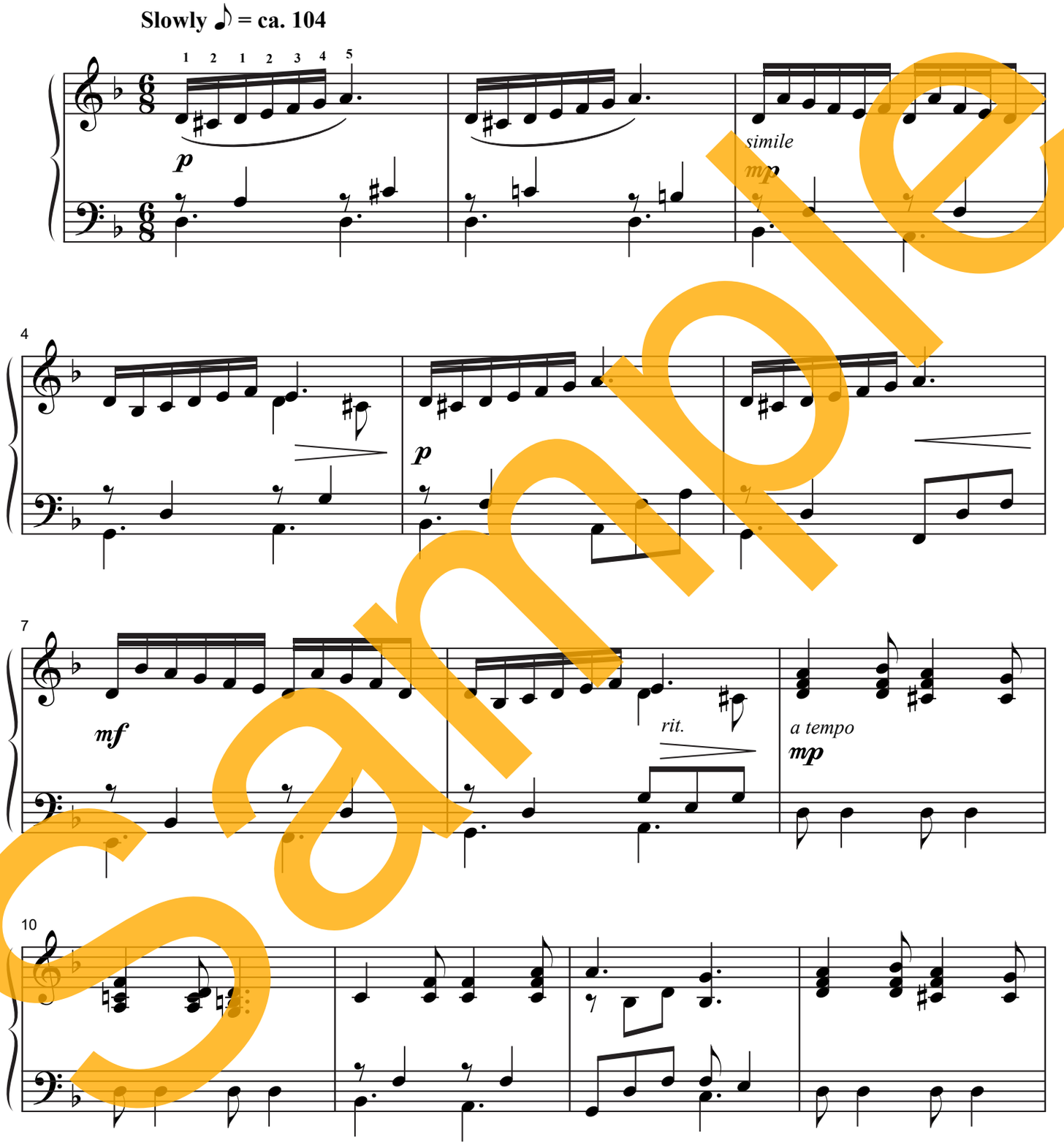


Sample

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

Mark Hayes

Tune: NEAR THE CROSS
by **William H. Doane** (1832-1915)



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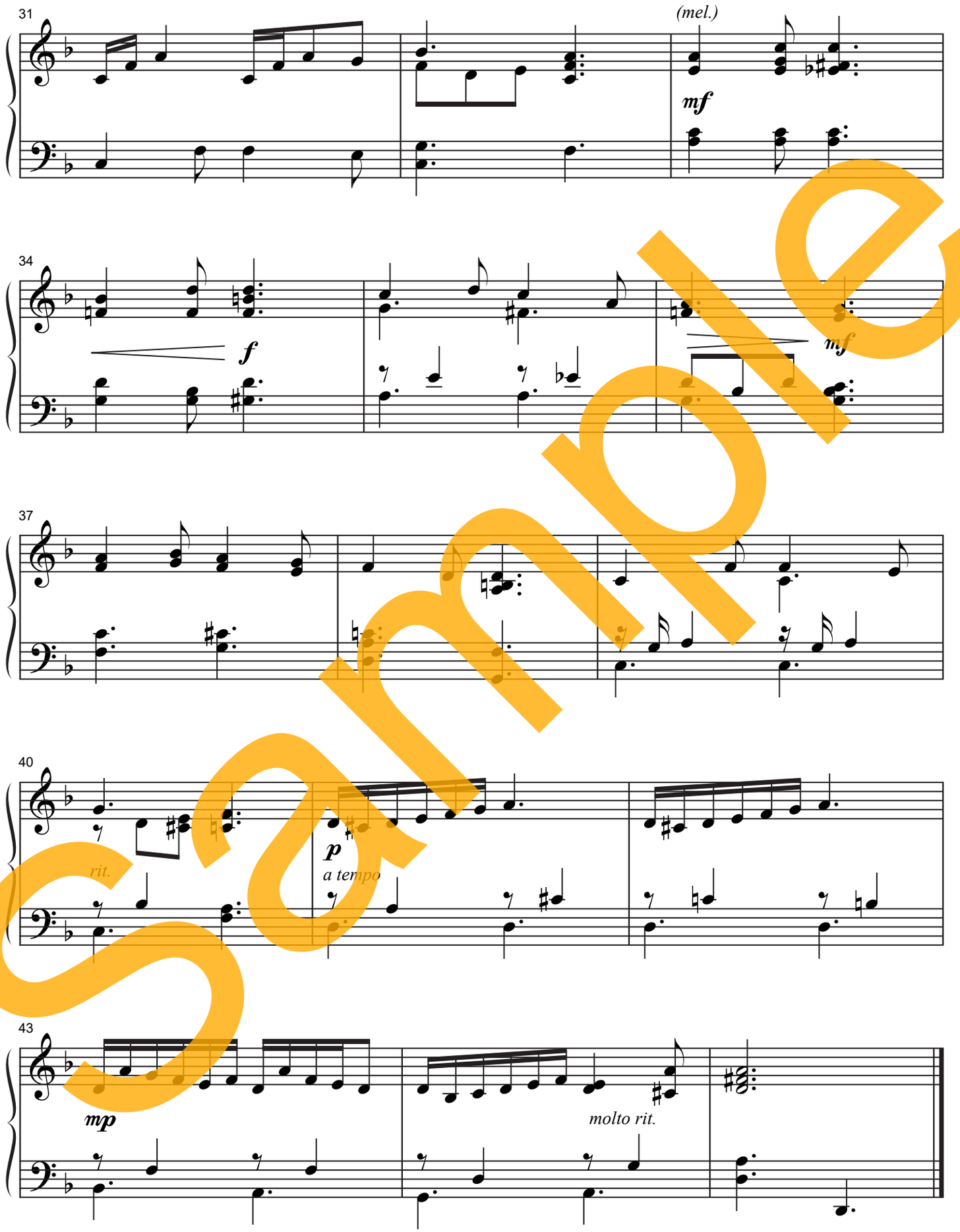

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