Matthew Compton

3, 4, 5, 6, or 7 octaves handbells
and optional 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7 octaves handchimes

CGB1410

choristersguild

# and the wind blows

## Composer's Notes

When I was approached to compose ***and the wind blows***, I took to the project with as much sensitivity as I could. The piece was commissioned in memory of a beloved ringer of First Lutheran Church in Colorado Springs, Colorado (my home congregation) who had sadly passed away very suddenly, and at an unexpected time of life. Deana Sherman was a joyful person and very much loved amongst the church. Her death was such a surprise for everyone.

I was left with a very small request regarding the work: please have an emphasis on the use of bass chimes, and if possible an emphasis on CD4, her favorite position. Beyond that, the piece was left to me to compose.

I spent a lot of time considering the challenges and emotions that come with a loved one or friend passing away, especially unexpectedly. As I talked to Joan Kuehn, the Director of Music Ministries at First Lutheran, I noticed some common trends in the way she talked about this. First comes the initial pure sadness and heartbreak of the situation. Then, there is grieving; a state of almost unrest and tension. There's a buildup of unanswered questions – why? Why now? Why her? There's almost a sense of anger and frustration in not knowing why and so we cry out to God asking "why?"

But death is not an end for all. There is hope. Light. Peace. We find it in the memories and loved ones still here who can talk about Deana or our own lost friends and family. We can find joy in knowing they are in a better place – the tension is relieved and an almost heavenly sound comes. We can eventually find peace and rest and know that, even if we don't understand, all will be well and we can find solace in this.

The title and the wind blows was inspired by John 3:8 (The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.) and Ecclesiastes 11:5 (As you do not know the path of the wind, or how the body is formed in a mother's womb, so you cannot understand the work of God, the Maker of all things.). These two verses speak to the knowledge that even though we do not understand God and his ways, if we take refuge in knowing he will provide, we can find peace through him.

It is my hope that while you play and the wind blows you consider your own friends and family and the impact you have on their lives, and theirs on you.

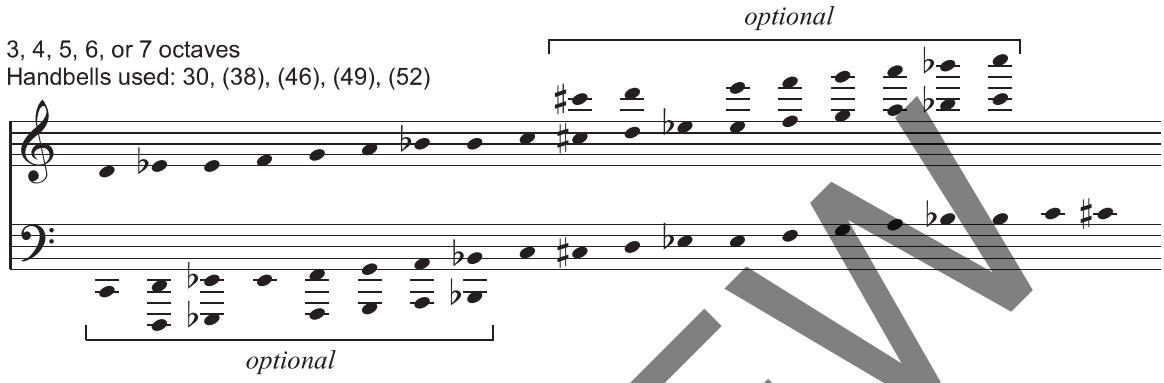
Matthew Compton

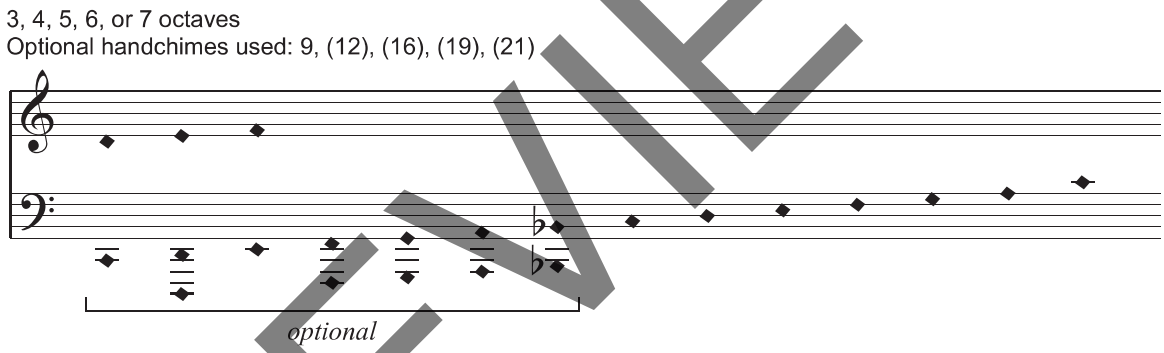
PREVIEW

*in loving memory of Deana Sherman, friend and fellow ringer*
*from the Joy Ringers of First Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs, Colorado*

# and the wind blows

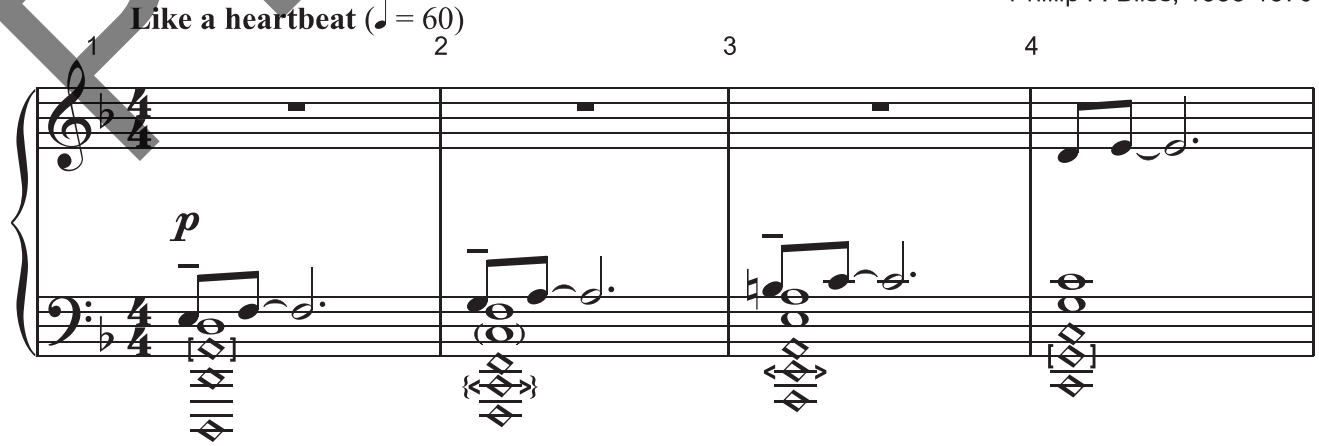
## *based on John 3:8 and Ecclesiastes 11:5*




3 octave choirs omit notes in ( ).
4 octave choirs omit notes in [ ].
5 octave choirs omit notes in < >.
6 octave choirs omit notes in { }.
Mallets are required for handbells C6 through A7.

Matthew Compton
incorporating *VILLE DU HAVRE*
Phillip P. Bliss, 1838-1876

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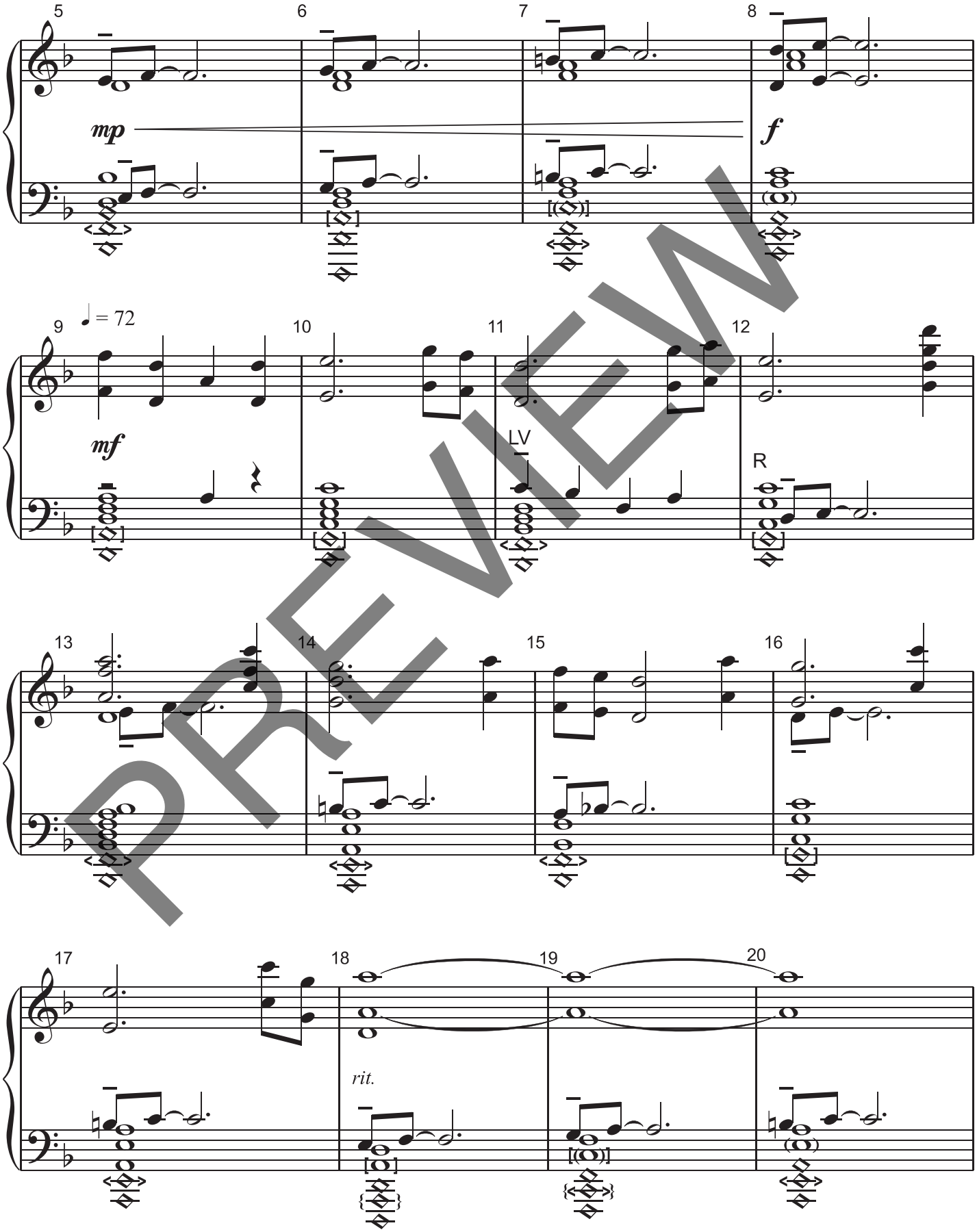


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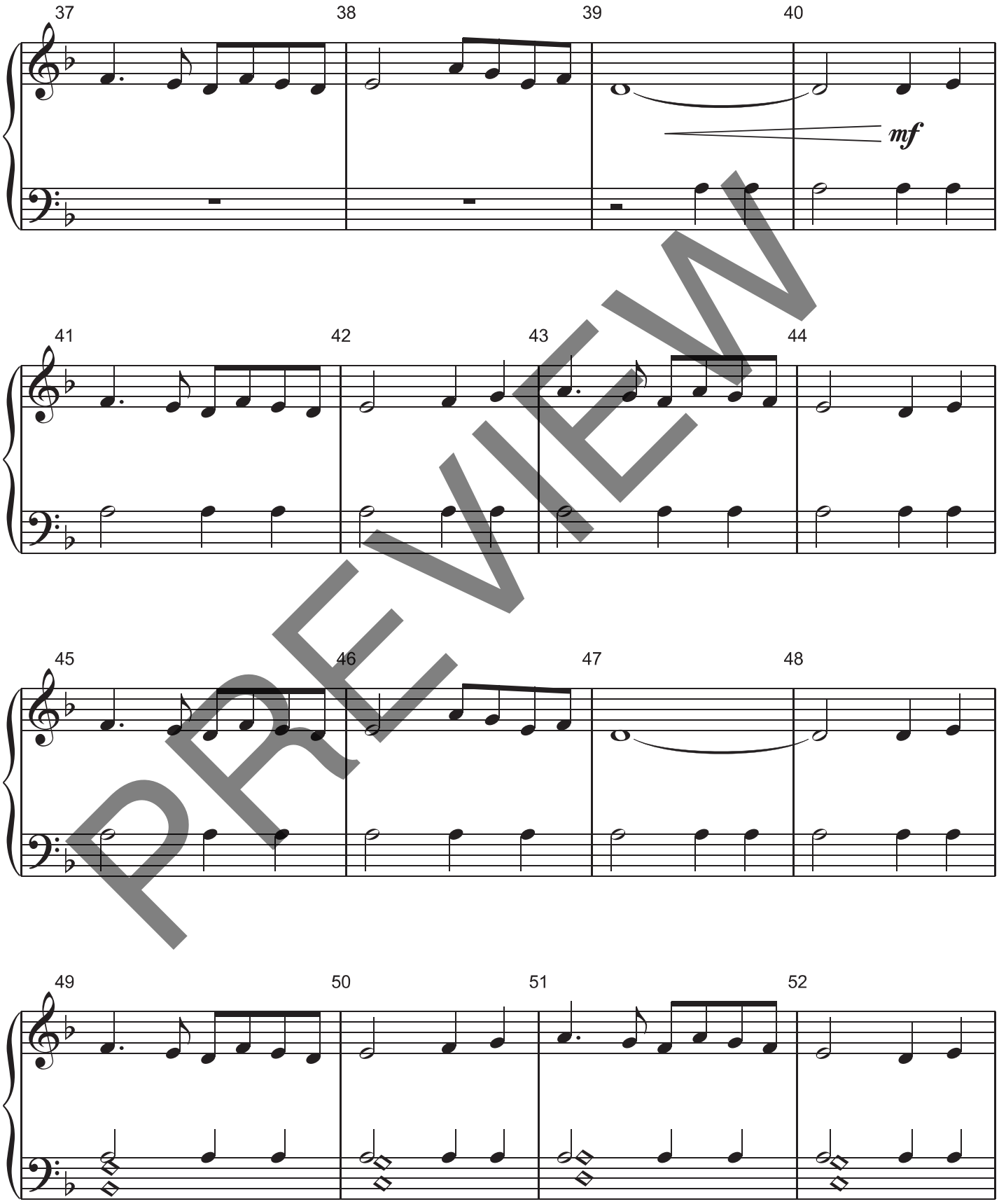


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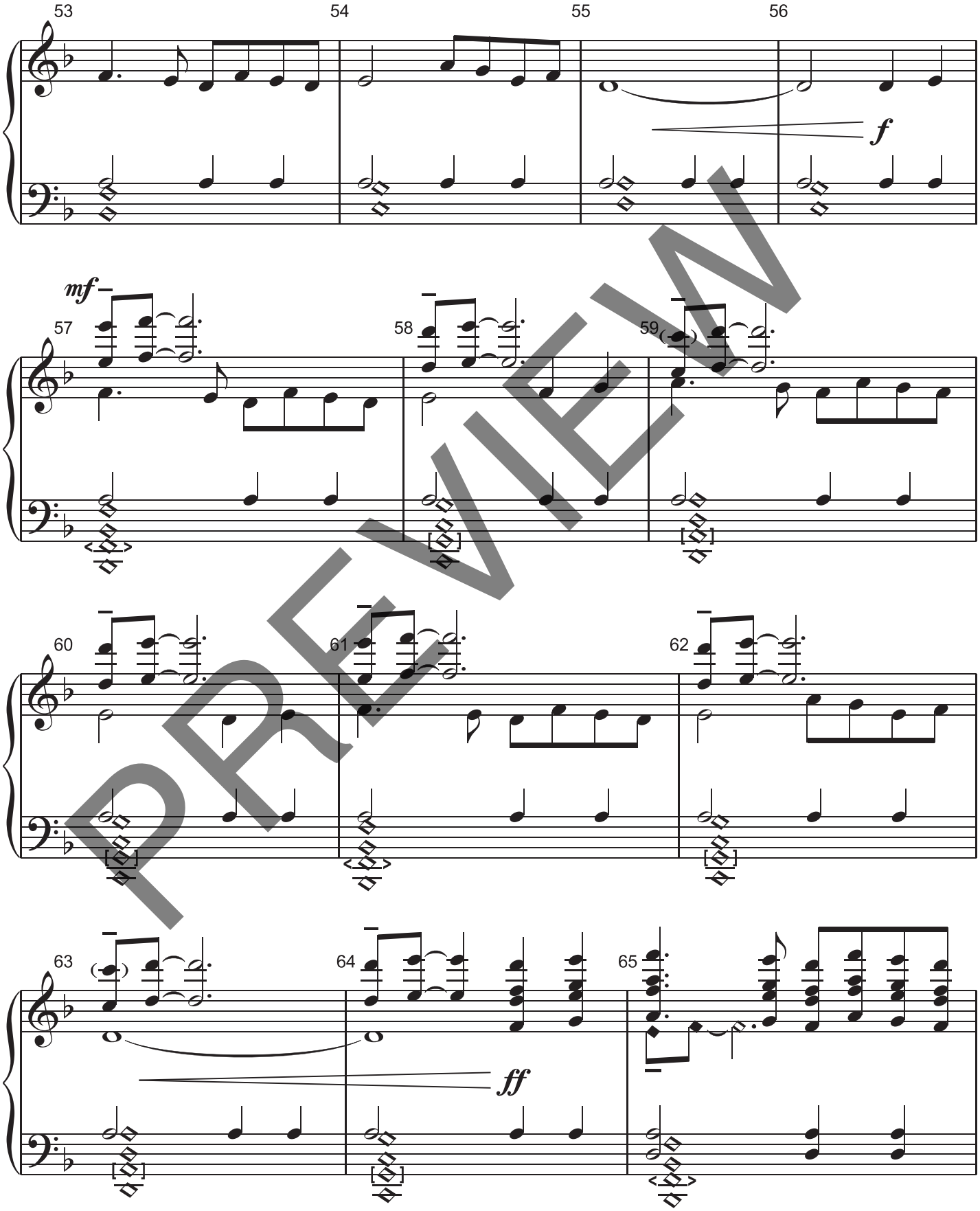


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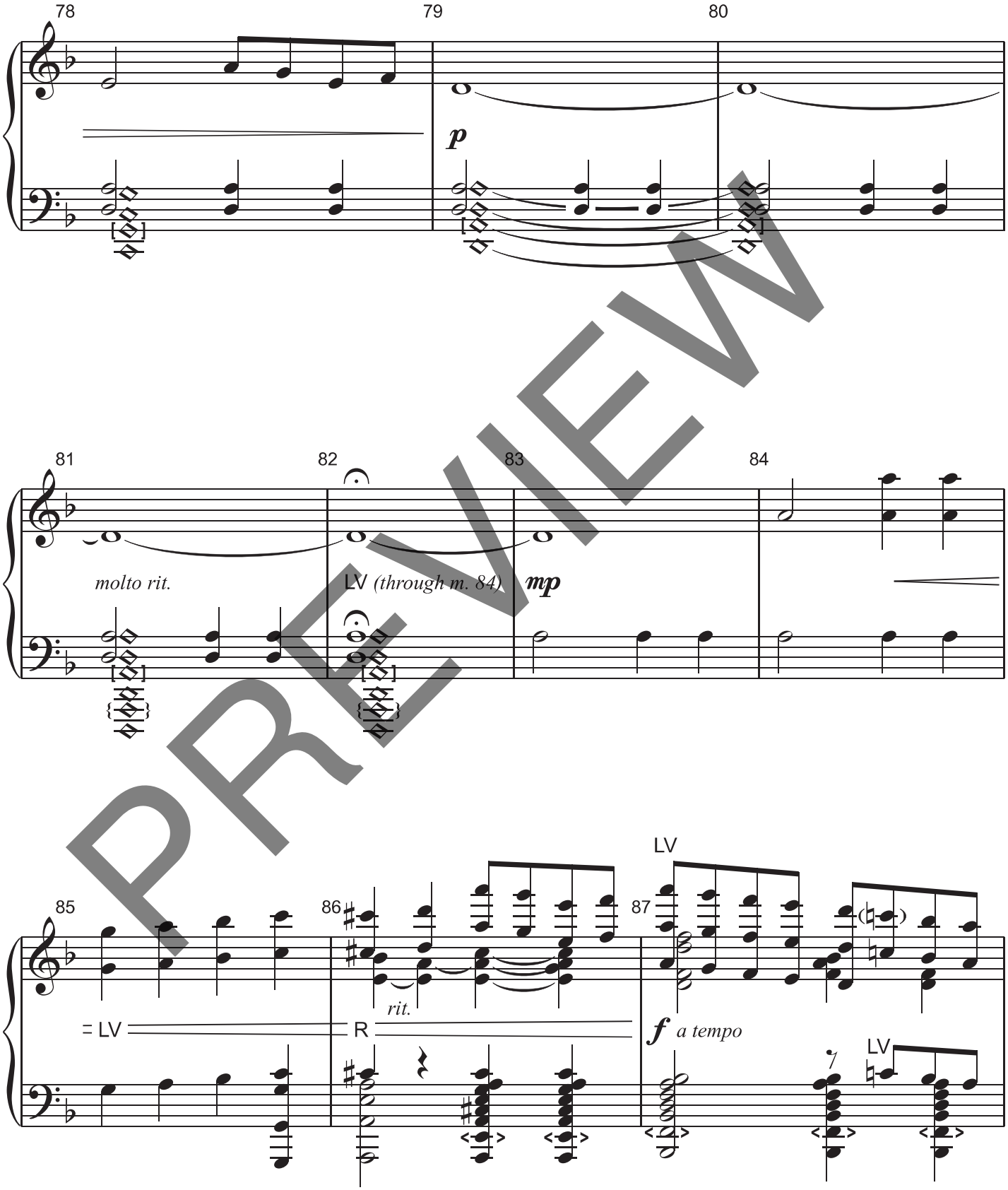
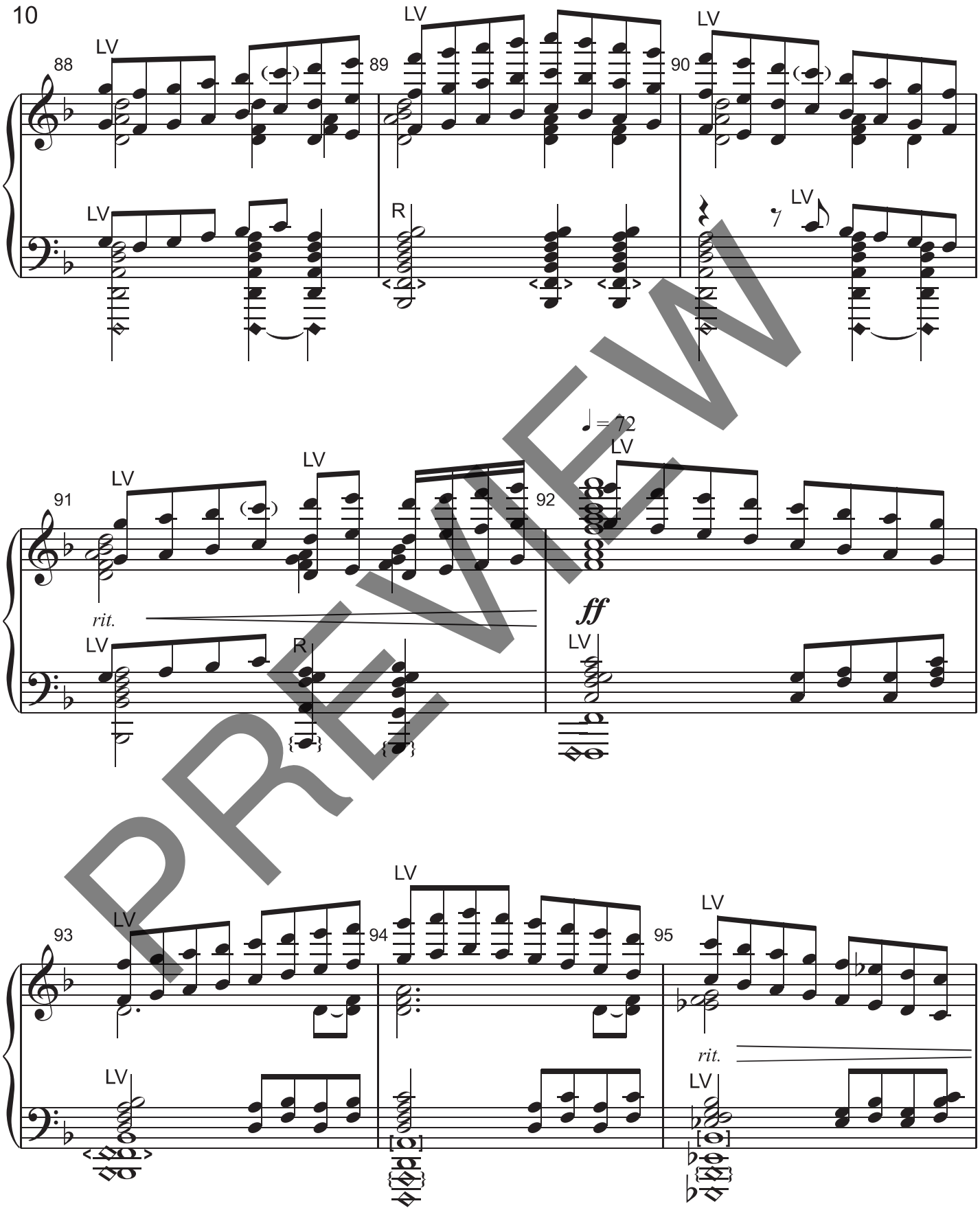

78
79
80
p
81
82
83
84
molto rit.
LV (through m. 84)
mp
85
86
87
LV
= LV
rit.
R
f a tempo
LV

PREVIEW

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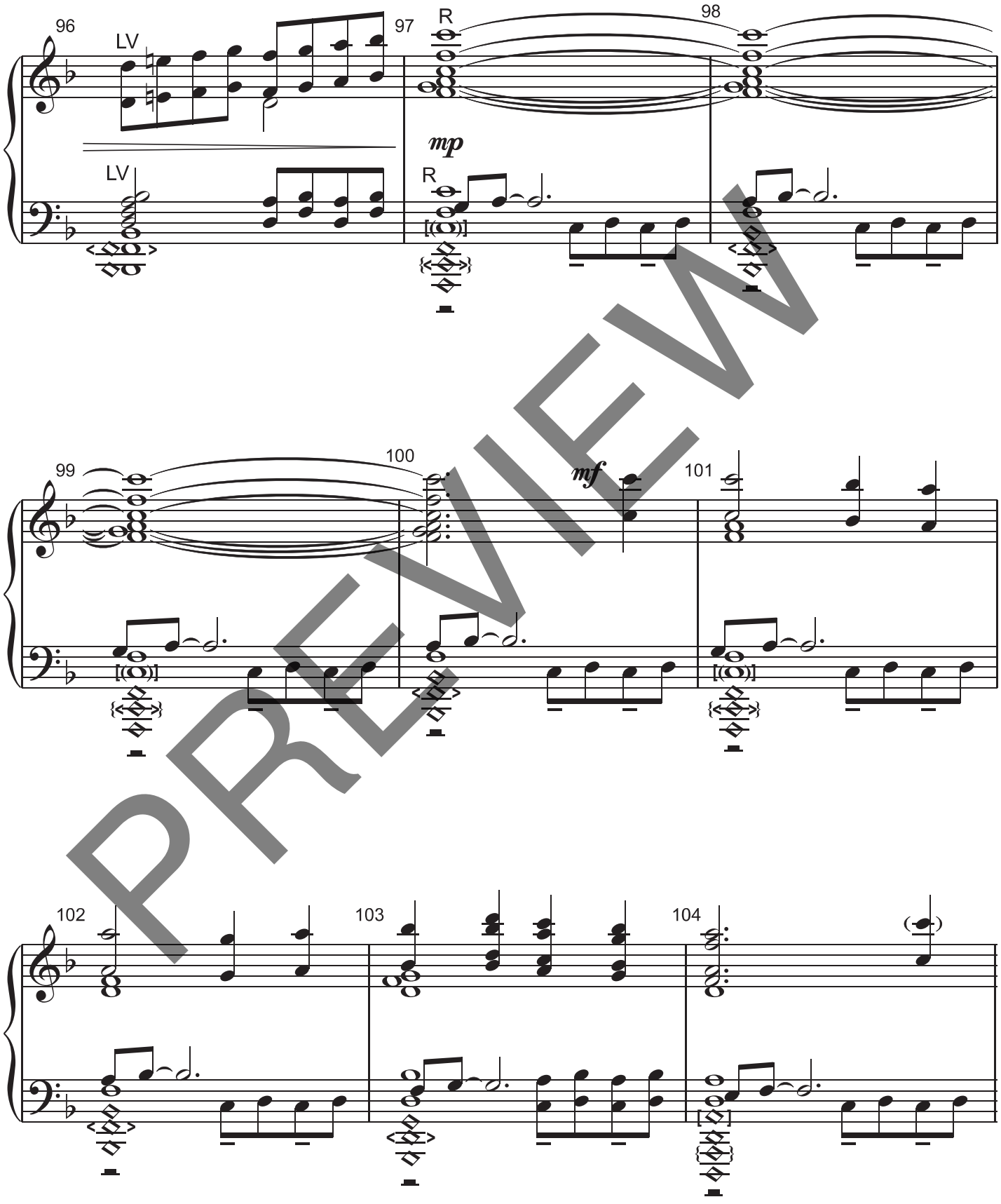


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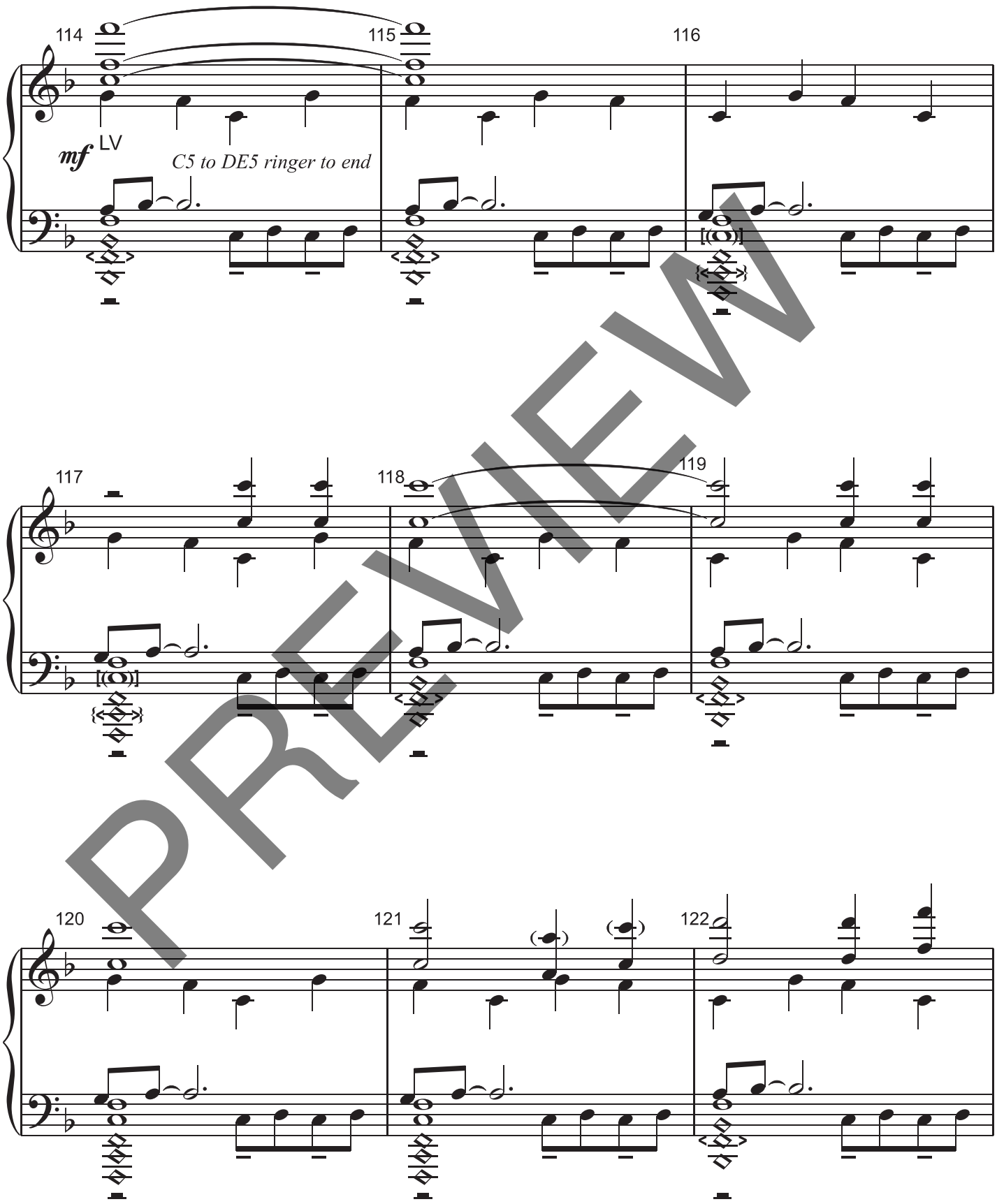


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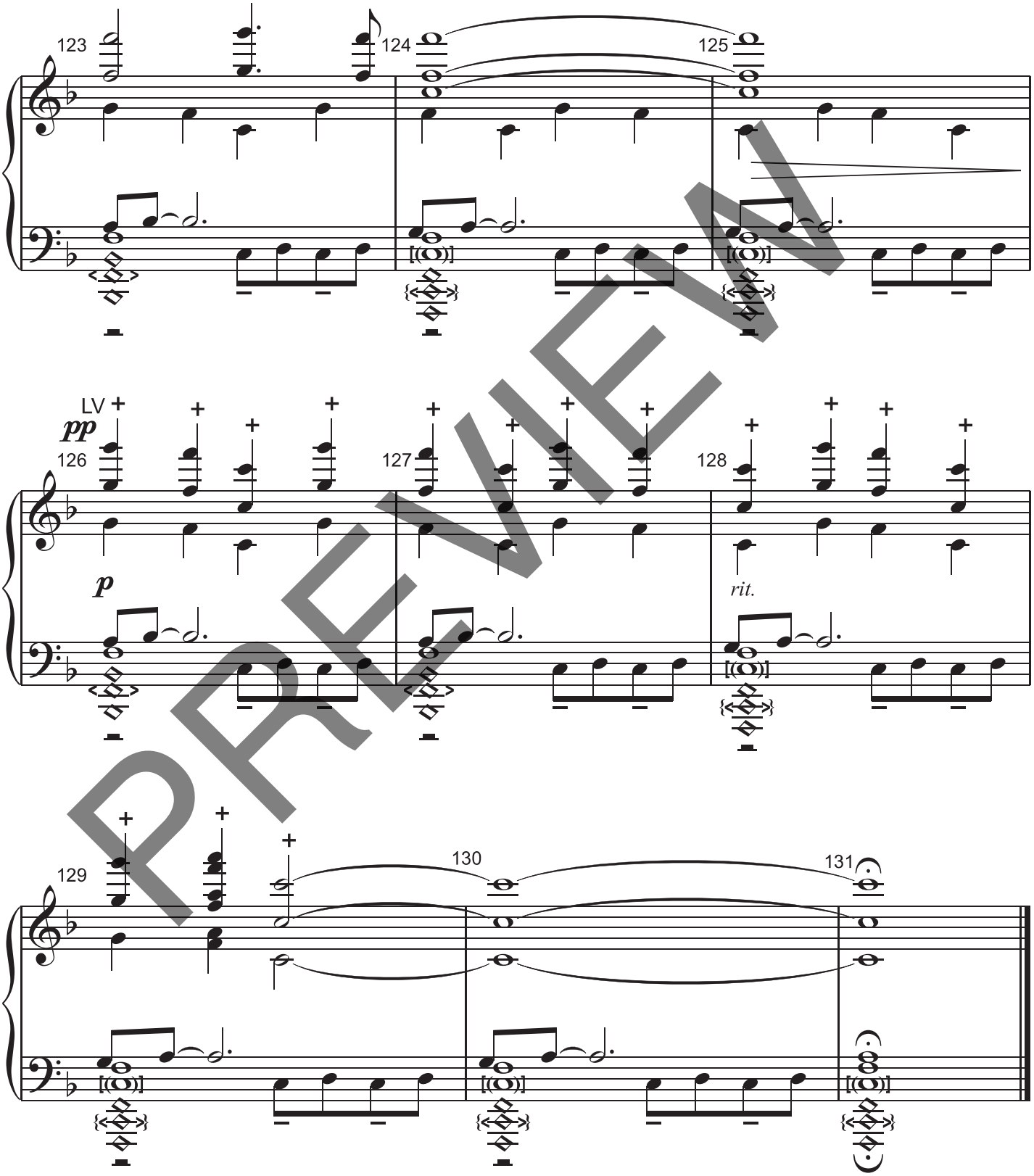


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CGB1410 HS4

## Other Matthew Compton titles from Choristers Guild:

*Aurora*
5, 6, 7 or 8 octaves handbells and 5 or 6 octaves handchimes
Matthew Compton
Level 5- • CGB1193

*Rejoice, the Lord Is King!*
3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 octaves handbells with optional 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 octaves handchimes
arr. Matthew Compton
Level 4- • CGB1155

*Rhapsody in Bb minor*
5, 6 or 7 octaves handbells with optional 5 octaves handchimes
Jacob Erdman & Matthew Compton
Level 4+ • CGB1065

*Spiritus Sanctus*
3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 octaves handbells with optional 3 octaves handchimes
Matthew Compton
Level 3+ • CGB1167

*The Storm Shall Pass (Introspection)*
3, 4, 5 or 6 octaves handbells with optional 3, 5 or 7 octaves handchimes
Jacob Erdman and Matthew Compton
Level 3 • CGB1038

*Through the Walk of Life*
3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 octaves handbells
Matthew Compton
Level 4+ • CGB813

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