Be Still My Soul

CJ MADSEN MUSIC

CJ Madsen (b. 1993)

Christopher Jed "CJ" Madsen is a first-year doctoral student at the University of Arizona, with an emphasis in choral conducting. CJ recently received a Master of Music degree from Brigham Young University (BYU), in Provo, Utah, with an emphasis in choral conducting. He also received a bachelor's degree in piano performance from BYU.

As a composer and arranger, CJ has had his works performed by all the auditioned BYU choirs. CJ's most recent large work, an opera entitled *He Shall Prepare a Way*, was staged in April 2022 and released as an album and concert video. In addition, CJ is the composer of *One Fold, One Shepherd*, a sacred work for choir and orchestra released in 2019.

CJ grew up in West Jordan, Utah, and was a volunteer missionary for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from 2012 to 2014 in North Carolina. Much of CJ's inspiration as a conductor, composer, and pianist come from his belief in Christ, his passion for people, his thirst for powerful music, and his love for his wife (Samm) and four children (Hollis, Charlotte, Jonathan, and Taran). For more information, see CJMadsenMusic.com.

Notes from the Arranger

This work is the ninth piece that I've written that was commissioned by Chris and Cosette Jones, a couple from Utah whom I met in early 2022. Cosette is a vocalist, and she and Chris want to create a series of music arrangements that showcase her talent as well as inspire others.

This fourth arrangement is the fourth iteration of a "Be Still, My Soul" concept that began in the summer of 2012 in a religion class about hymns. A friend, Samm Boldrin, asked if I could help her with a hymn project where students had to share their favorite hymns with the class in some special format. We decided to craft an arrangement of one of Samm's favorite hymns, "Be Still My Soul", but one that sought to tell a musical story of grief, endurance, hope, and ultimately overflowing joy. You can hear this story arc in the tone and harmony of the accompaniment as the soloist sings the hymn melody. The tempestuous introduction represents the storms of life. The later flowing chords in the third verse represent the bounteous blessings that await the ultimate day of healing and rest for the faithful.

A lot has happened in my life since creating that first version of "Be Still My Soul", including marrying the girl I co-wrote the arrangement with. I still find the words of the hymn to be a deep comfort: "Be still my soul, when change and tears are past / all safe and blessed we shall meet at last."

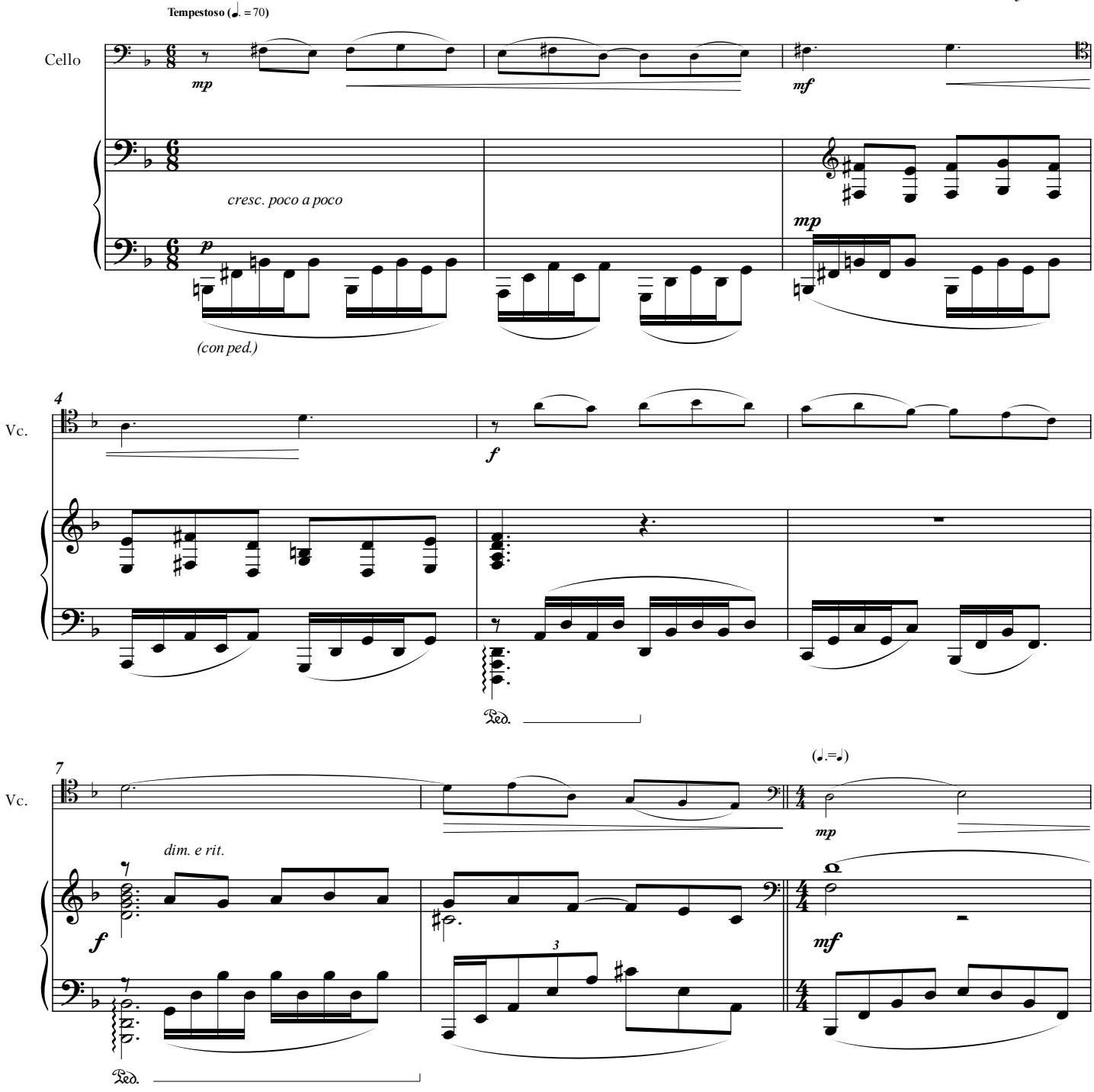
Other versions of this arrangement have included solo/piano, and duet/piano. The piano part in the final verse should take care that the melody is emphasized and the multitude of quick notes are kept subdued and in the background, so as not to overpower the other performing forces.

Be Still My Soul

For Soprano, Cello, and Piano

Katharina von Schlegel

JEAN SIBELIUS
Arr. Samm and CJ Madsen



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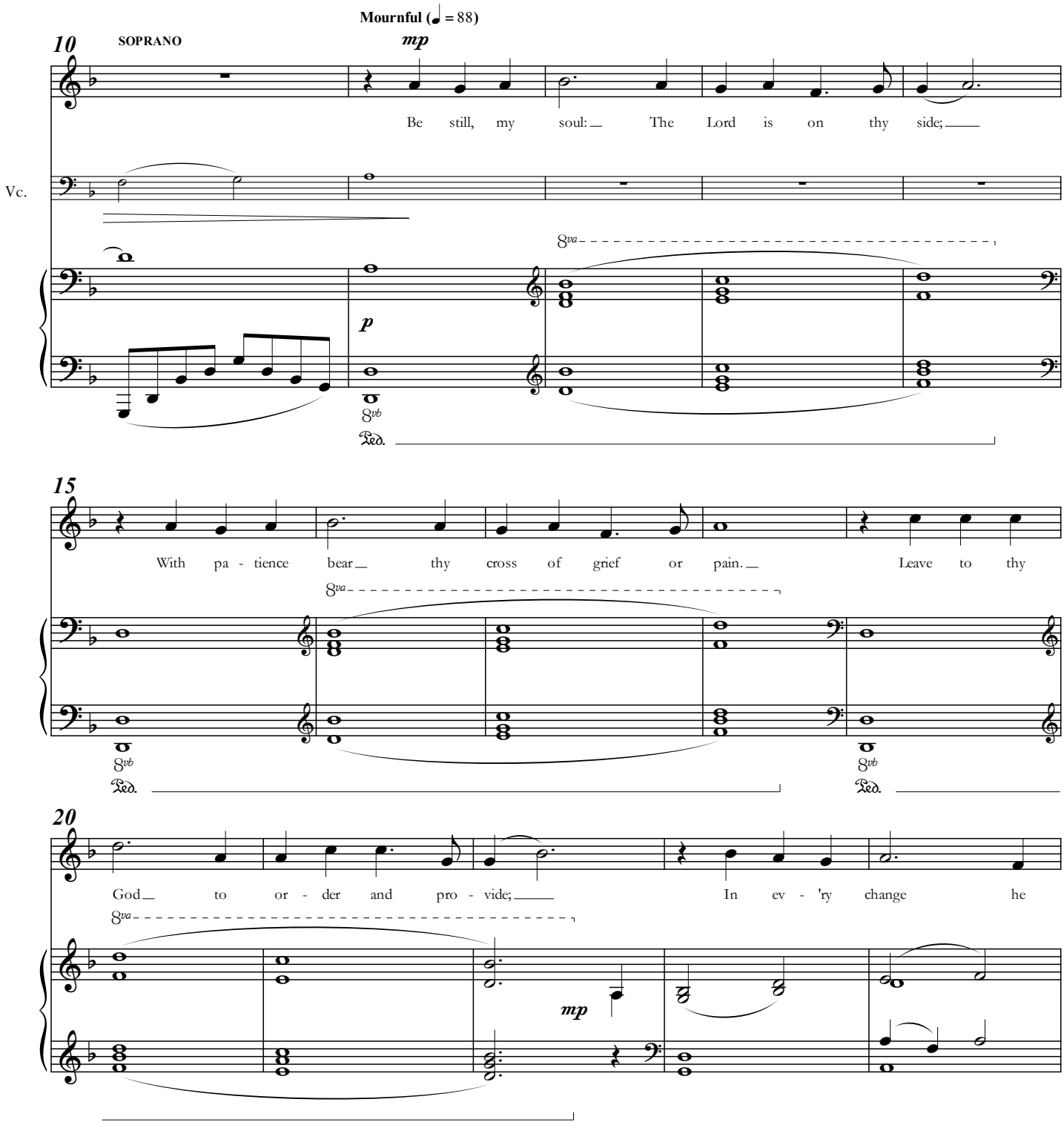
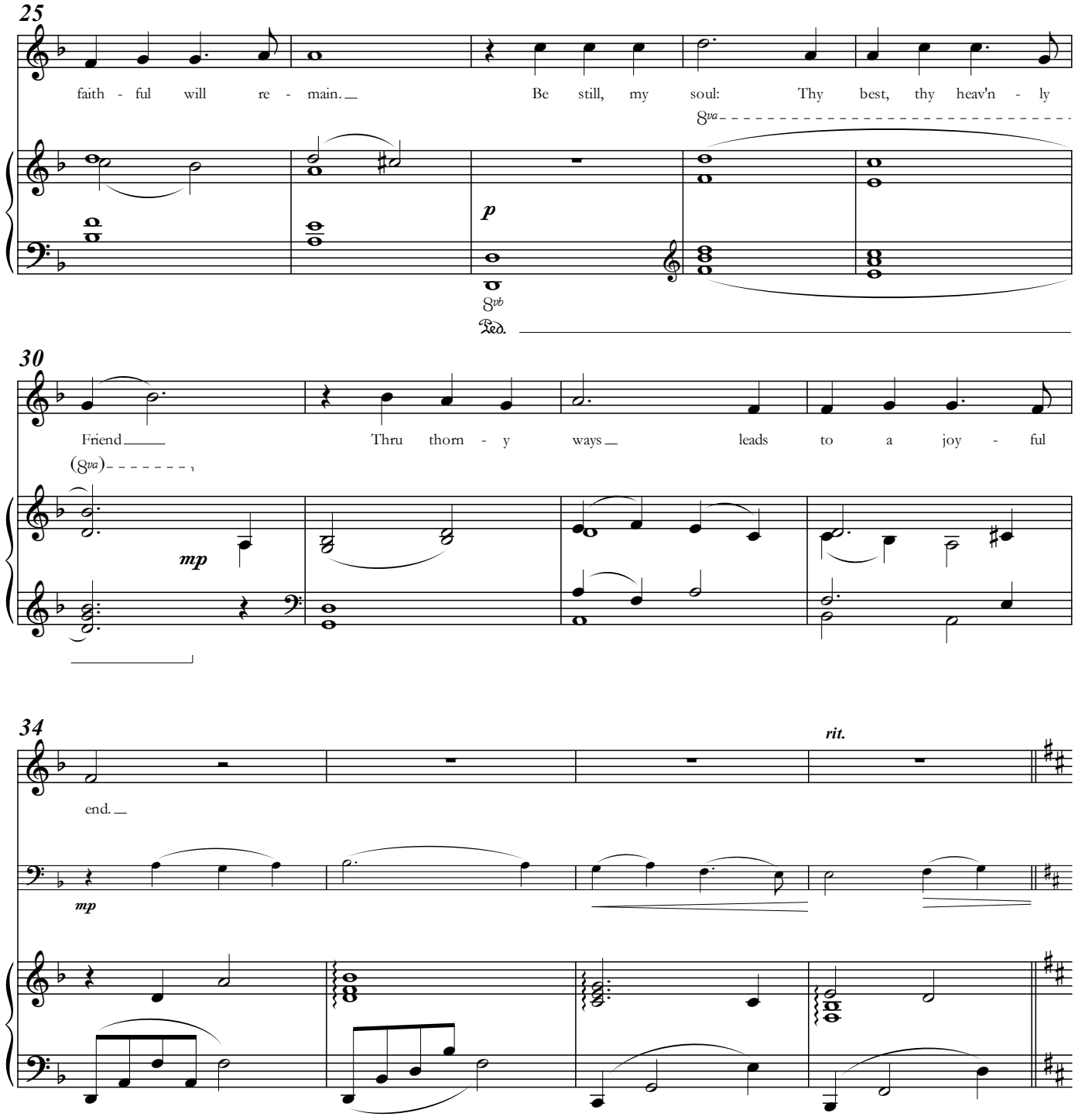
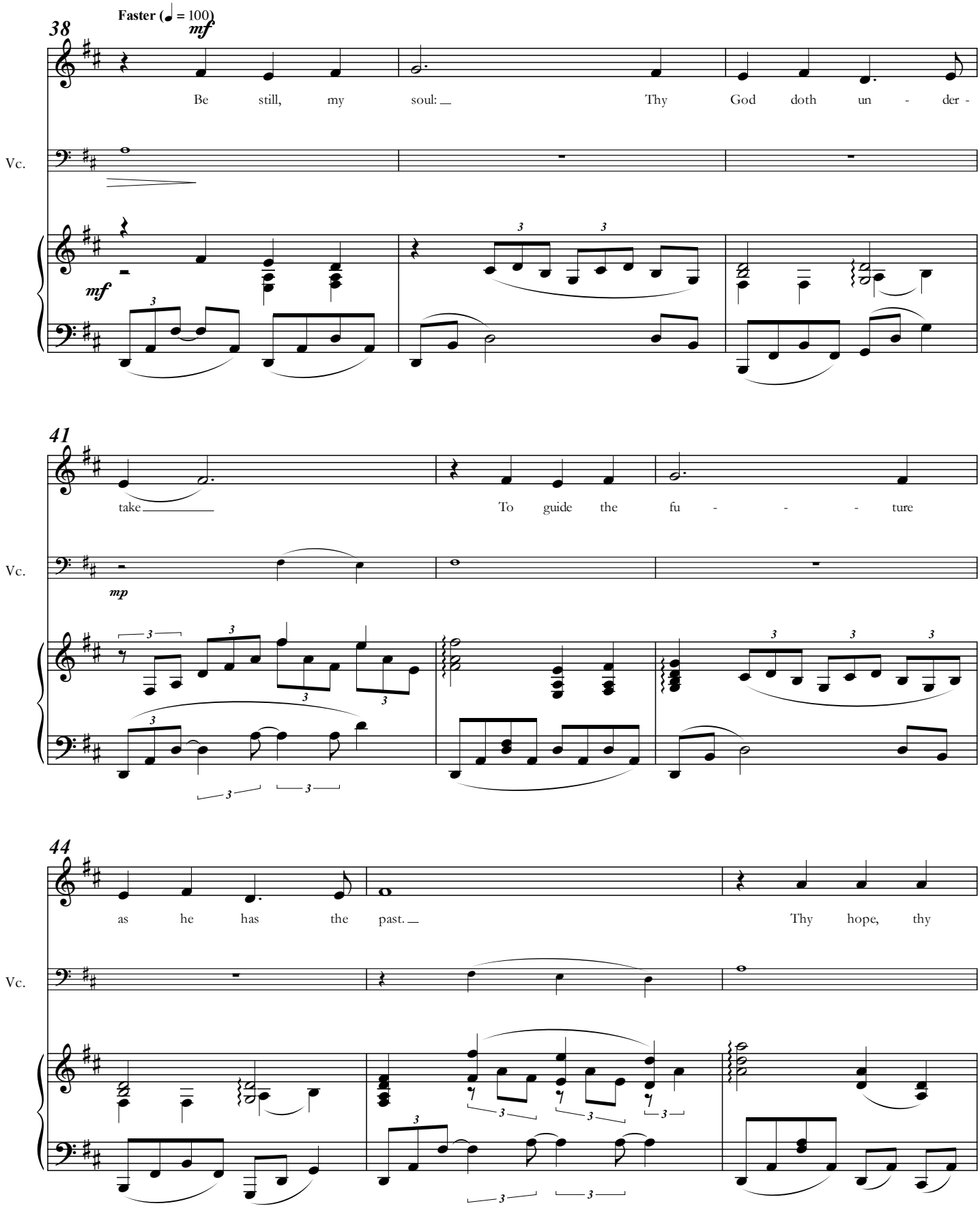
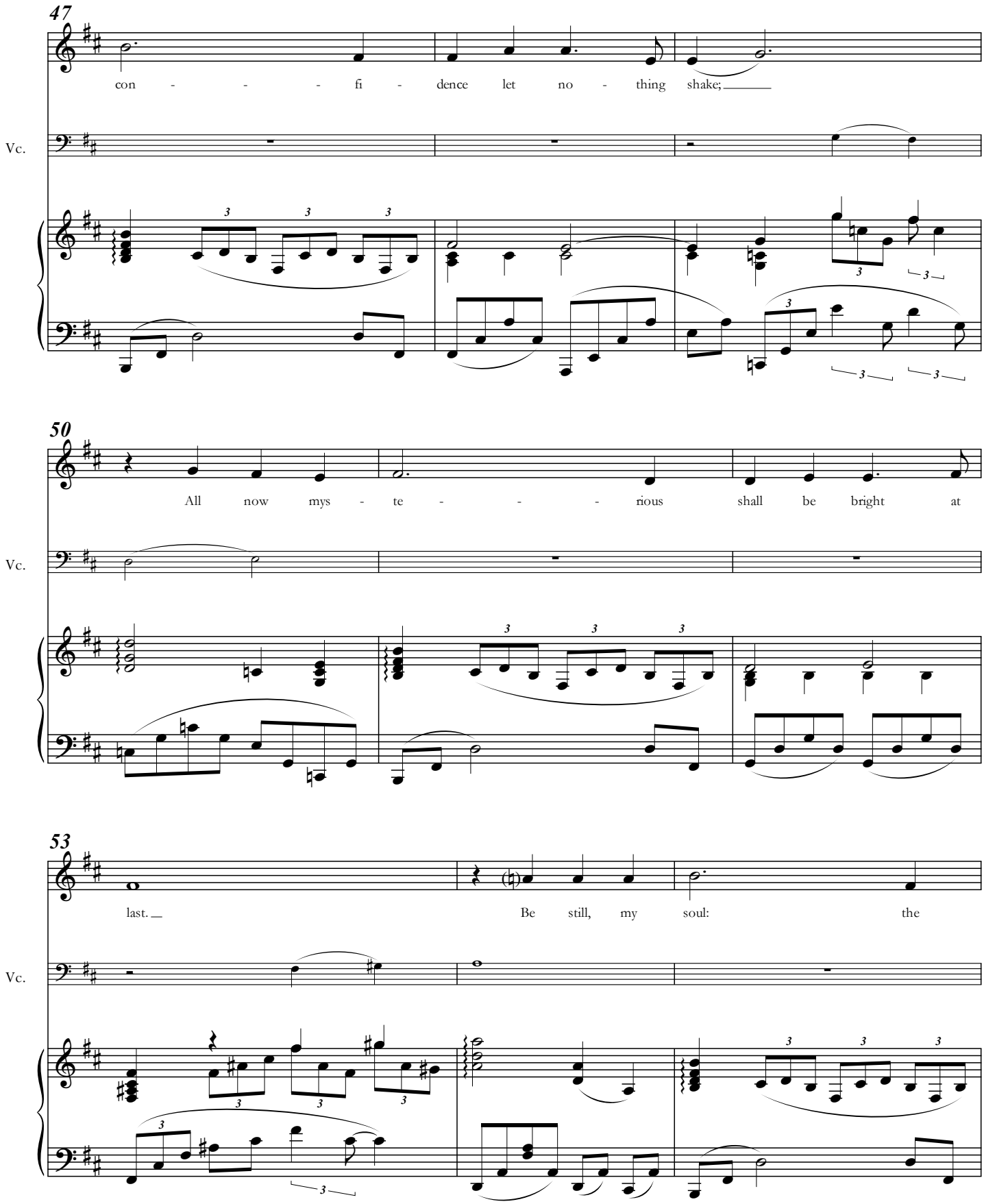
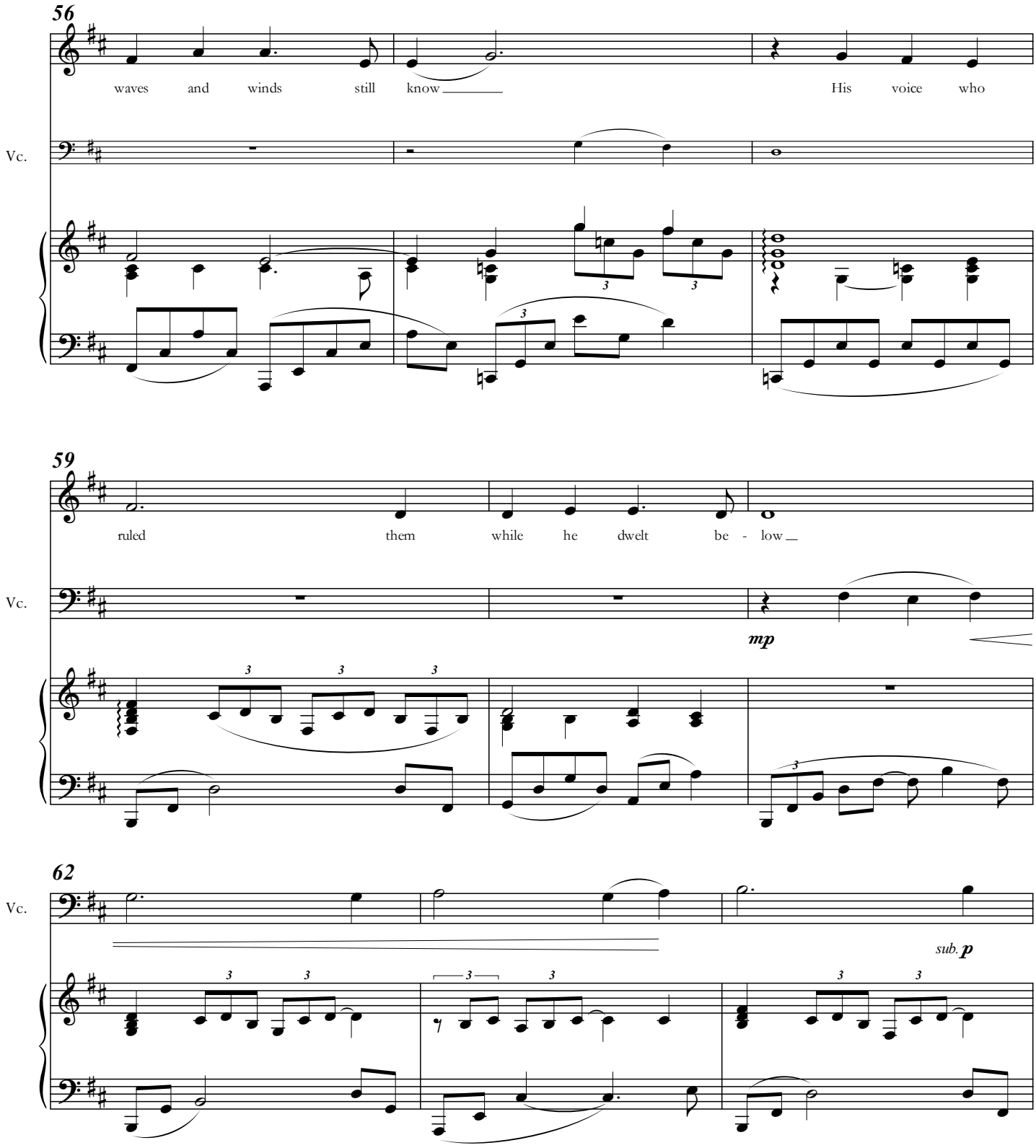
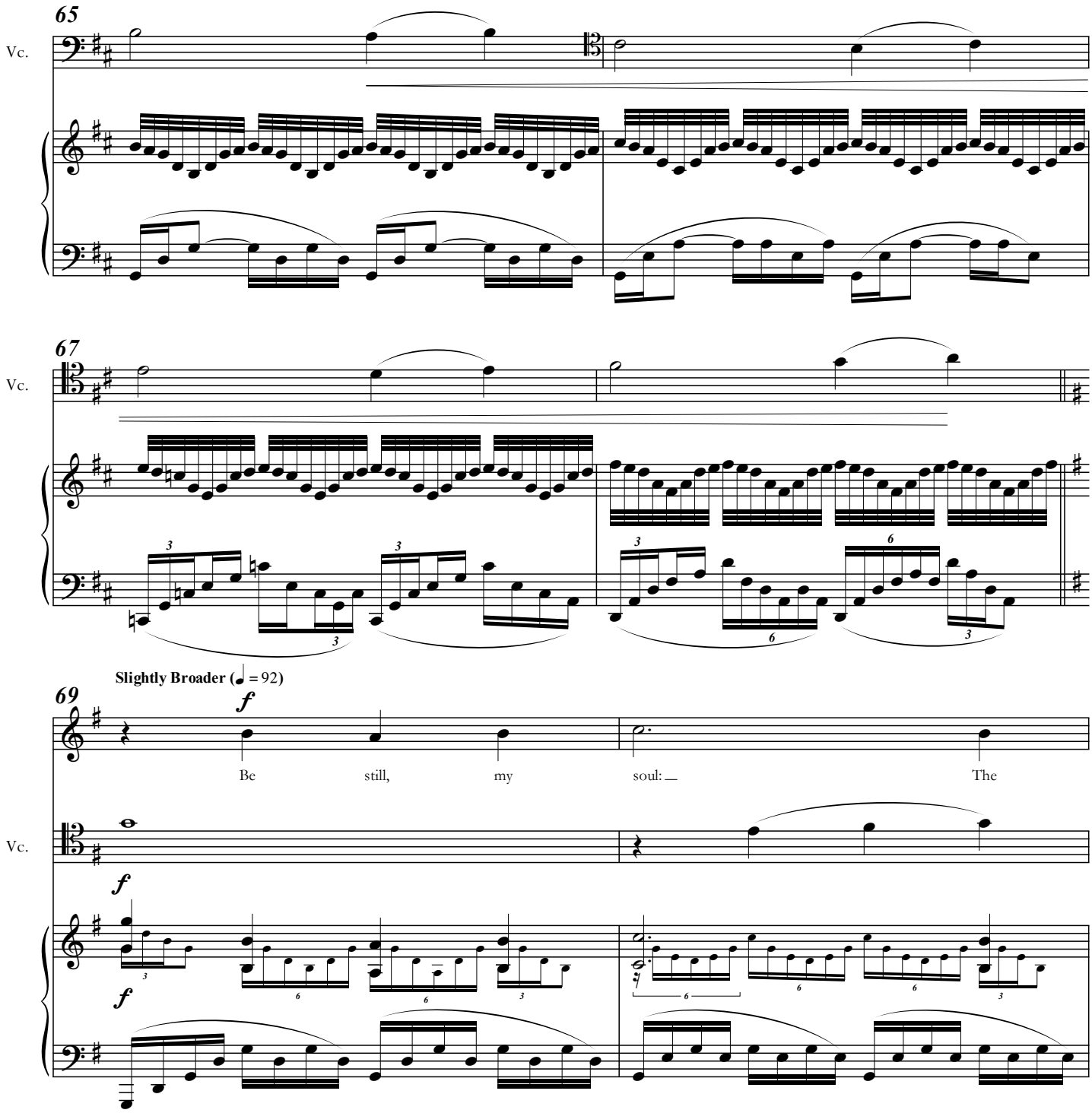

Mournful (♩ = 88)
10
SOPRANO
mp
Be still, my soul: The Lord is on thy side;
Vc.
8va
p
8vb
Ped.
15
With pa - tience bear thy cross of grief or pain. Leave to thy
8va
8vb
Ped.
20
God to or - der and pro - vide; In ev - 'ry change he
8va
mp

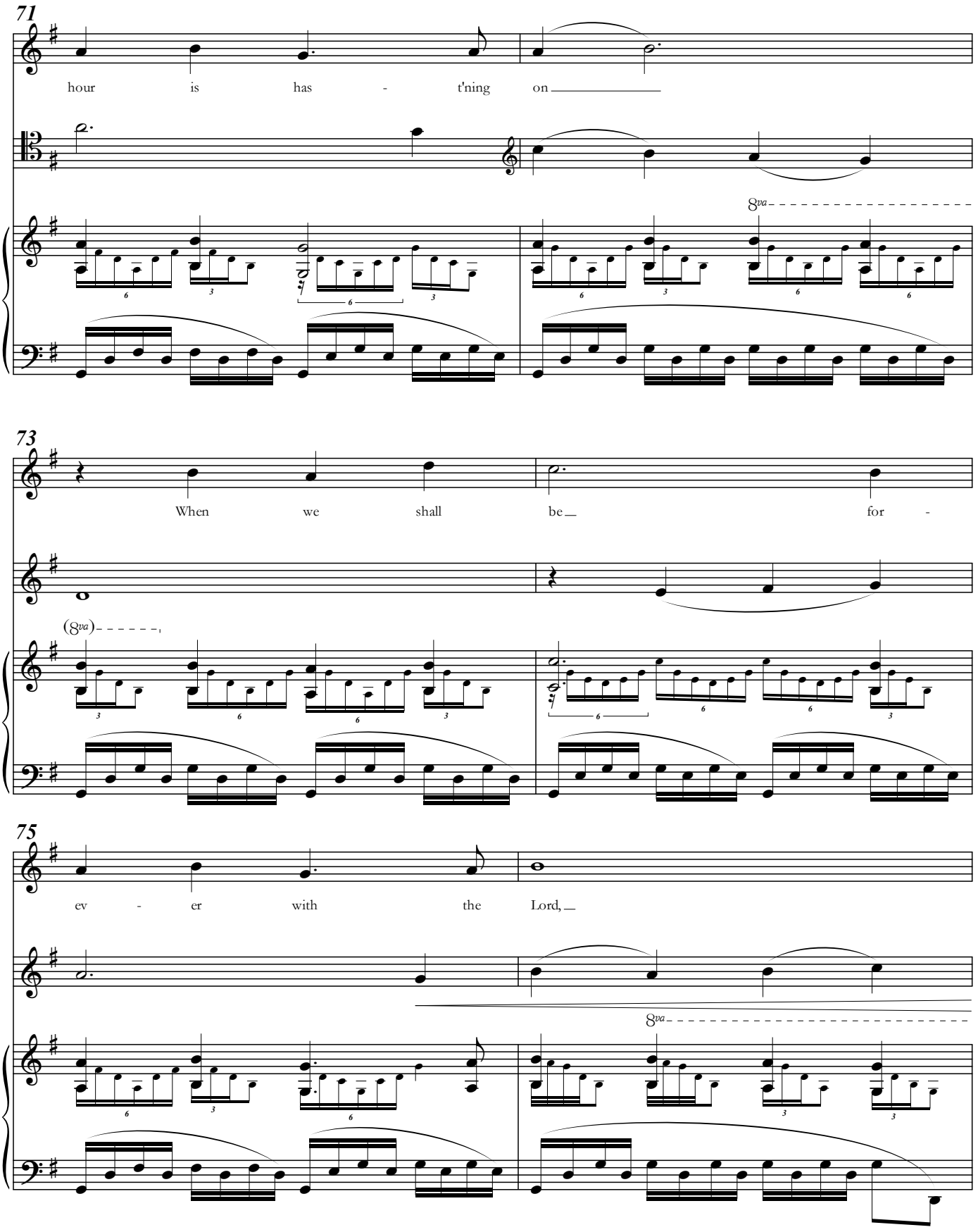

25
faith - ful will re - main. Be still, my soul: Thy best, thy heav'n - ly
8va
p
8vb
Ped.
30
Friend Thru thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful
(8va)
mp
34
rit.
end.
Vc.
mp

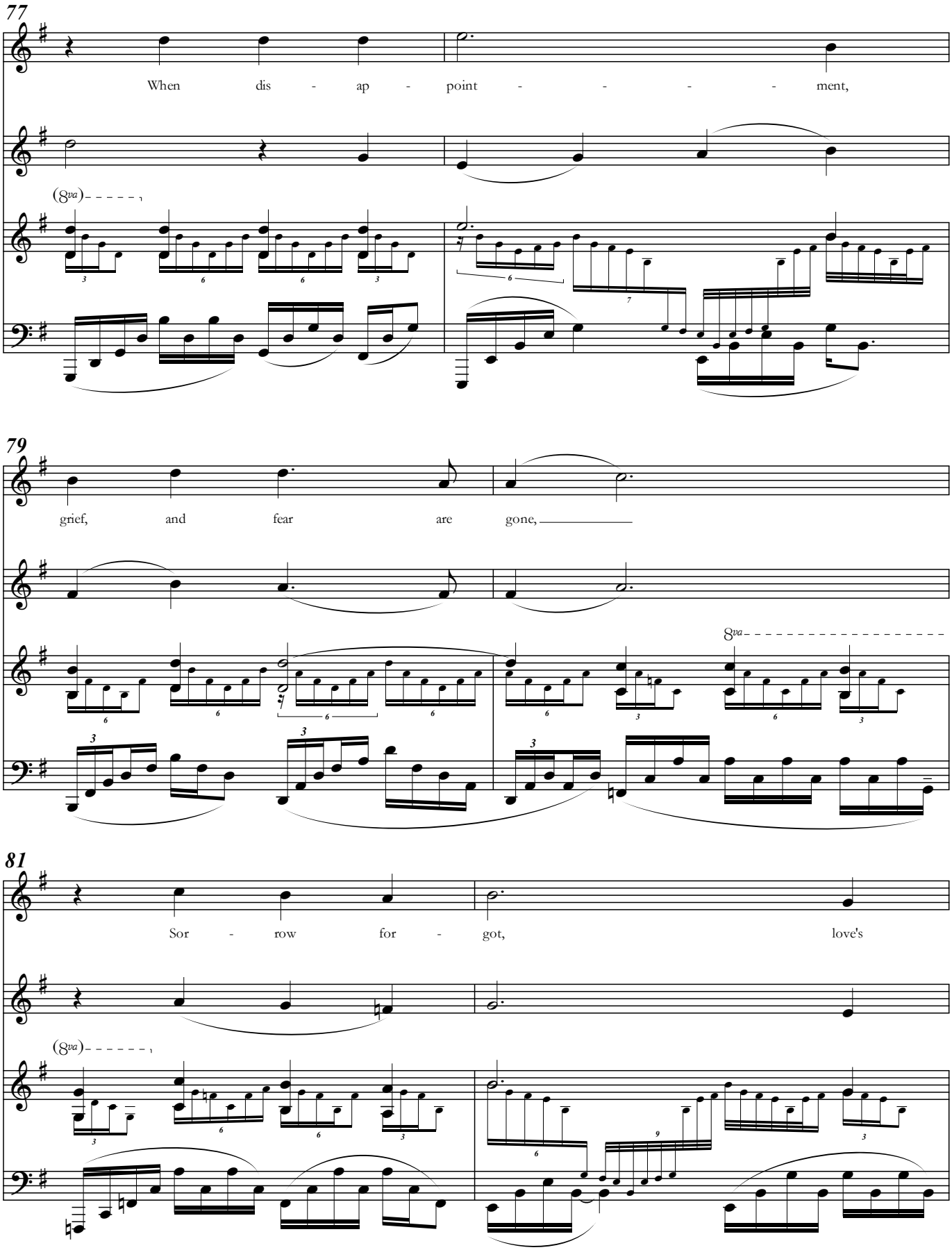

Faster (♩ = 100)
38
mf
Be still, my soul: Thy God doth un - der -
Vc.
mf
41
take To guide the fu - - - ture
Vc.
mp
44
as he has the past. Thy hope, thy
Vc.

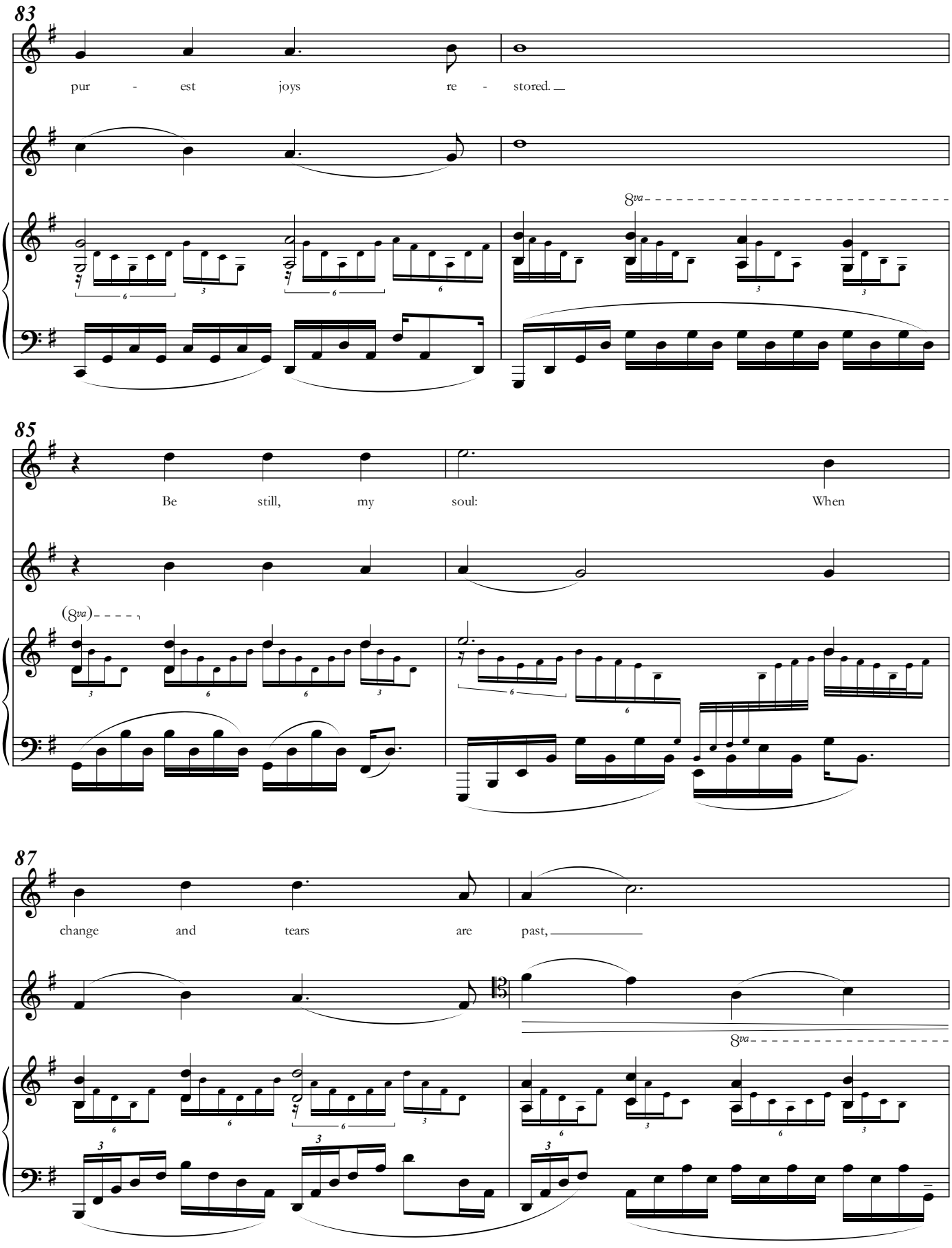

47
con - - - - fi - dence let no - thing shake;
Vc.
50
All now mys - te - - - - rious shall be bright at
Vc.
53
last.
Be still, my soul: the
Vc.

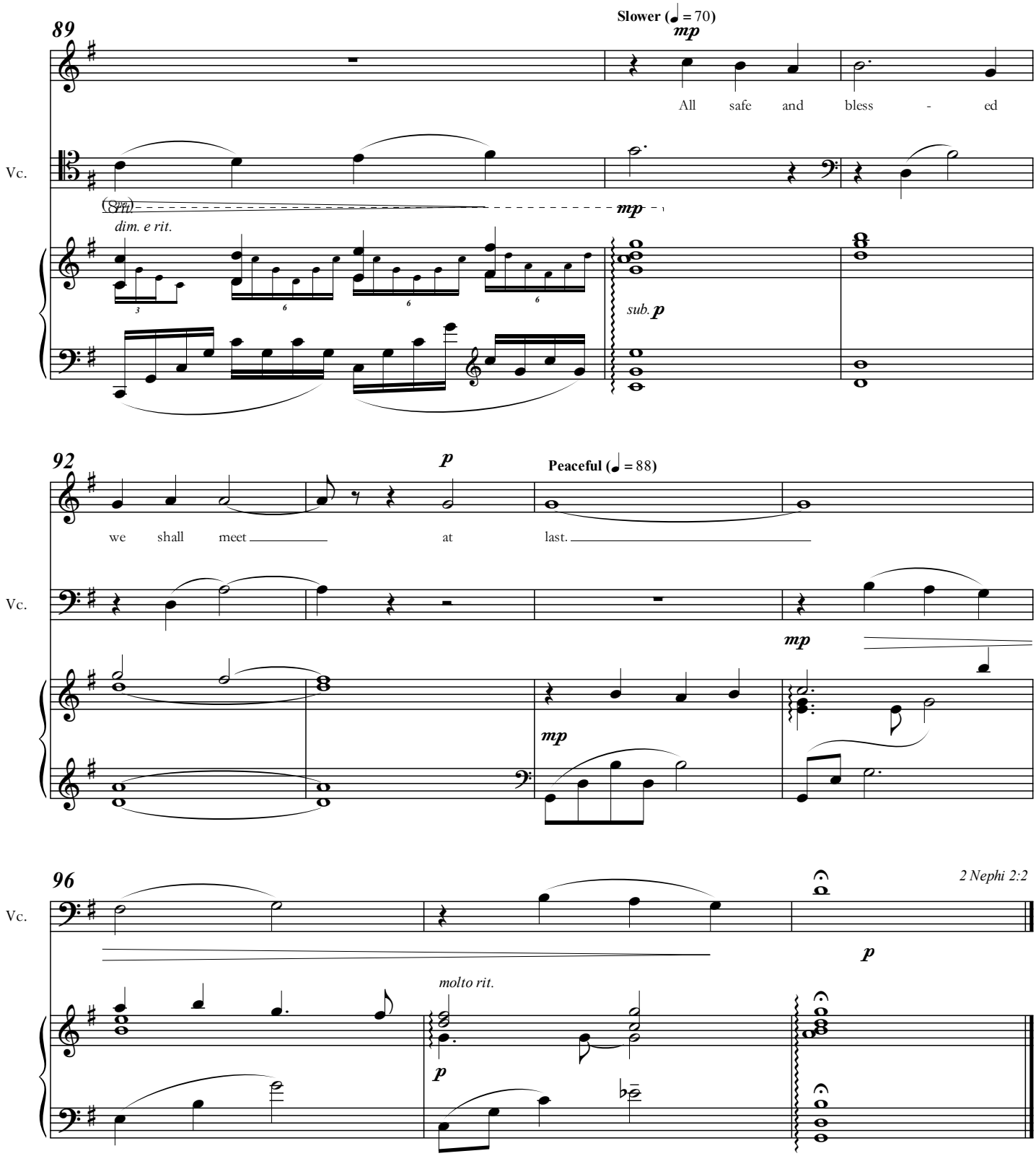

56
waves and winds still know
His voice who
Vc.
59
ruled them while he dwelt be - low
Vc.
mp
62
Vc.
sub. p


65
Vc.
67
Vc.
Slightly Broader (♩ = 92)
69
f
Be still, my soul: The
Vc.
f
f


71
hour is has - t'ning on
Vc.
8va
73
When we shall be for -
Vc.
(8va)
75
ev - er with the Lord,
Vc.
8va


77
When dis - ap - point - - - - ment,
Vc.
(8va)
79
grief, and fear are gone,
Vc.
8va
81
Sor - row for - got, love's
Vc.
(8va)


83
pur - est joys re - stored.
Vc.
8va
85
Be still, my soul: When
Vc.
(8va)
87
change and tears are past,
Vc.
8va



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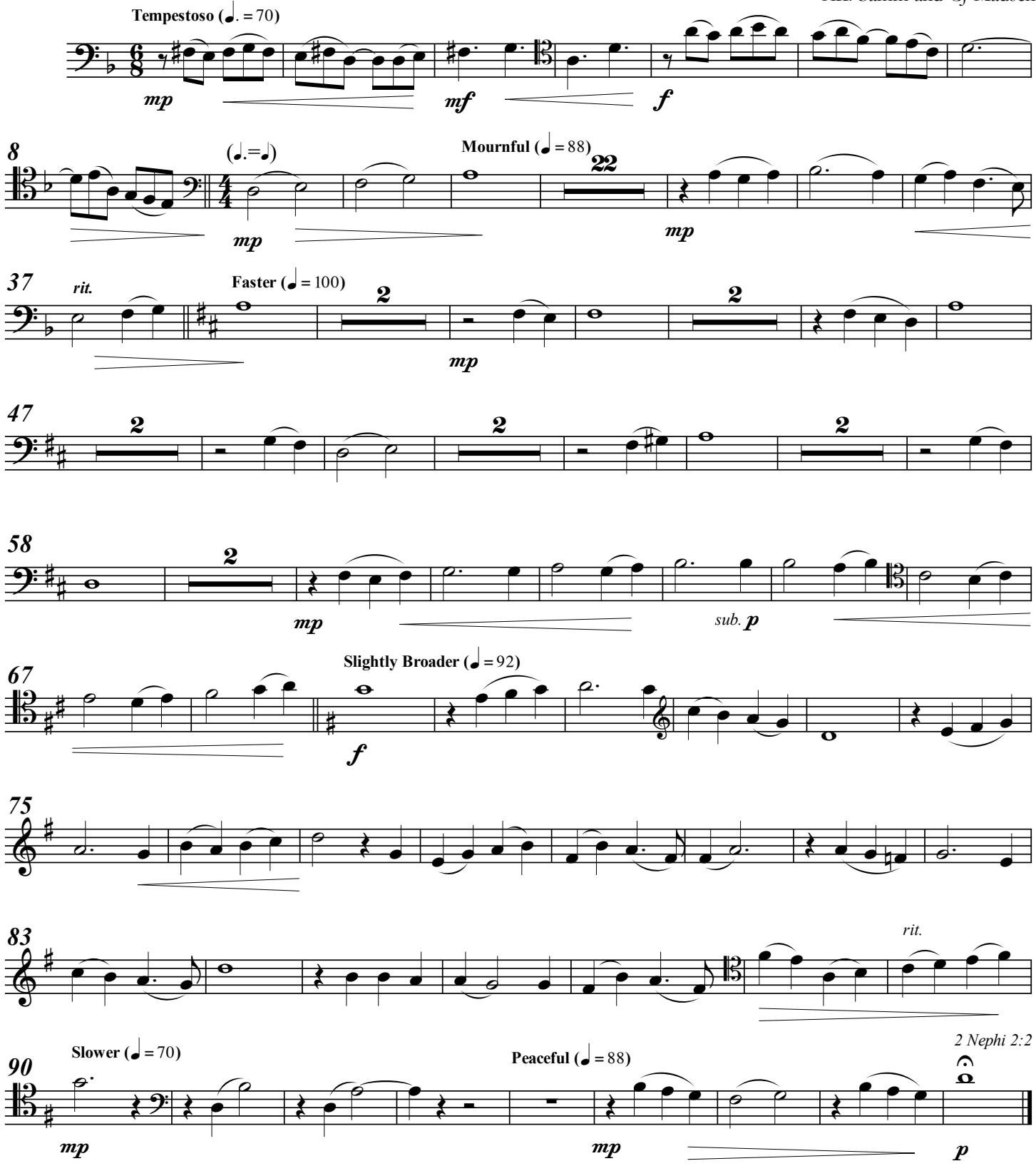

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