PAUL DICKINSON

# Five Haiku

*for piano*

**Five Haiku** (2007)
for piano (10 minutes)

*Five Haiku* was written for my wife, who requested some short piano pieces with an Asian influence, and using extended techniques. I was also able to include some other interests of mine: birds, and the relation between text and music. Each piece is based on a haiku and two quote birdsong. The characteristic line structure of haiku is reflected in the form of the pieces—seventeen measures divided into three sections, 5+7+5. On a more abstract level, the twelve notes of the chromatic scale are divided into groups of five and seven notes. However, the way they are combined varies from piece to piece. Overall, I tried to compose pieces that are evocative of nature, Eastern as well as Western culture, and are fun to play.

green blue orange pink
blending at the horizon
earth and heaven meet

wind in branches stirs
young leaves gilded by sunshine
he sings and she wakes

gathering guarding
fluttering activity
nestlings needing more

lengthening shadows
cool envelops creation
evensong begins

dusk descends; like moon
and stars our hope and prayer:
sun will come again

The music of Paul Dickinson is characterized by a dramatic contrast of musical ideas integrated into organic formal structures. Art, literature, and music of all eras influence his diverse musical output. He has received awards from the Fromm Music Foundation, the Arkansas Arts Council, the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service), a BMI Award, and numerous commissions. His music has been performed throughout North America, Europe and China, and is recorded on Capstone Records. He received degrees from the Eastman School of Music and Northwestern University. Dickinson now teaches Music Theory and Composition at the University of Central Arkansas.

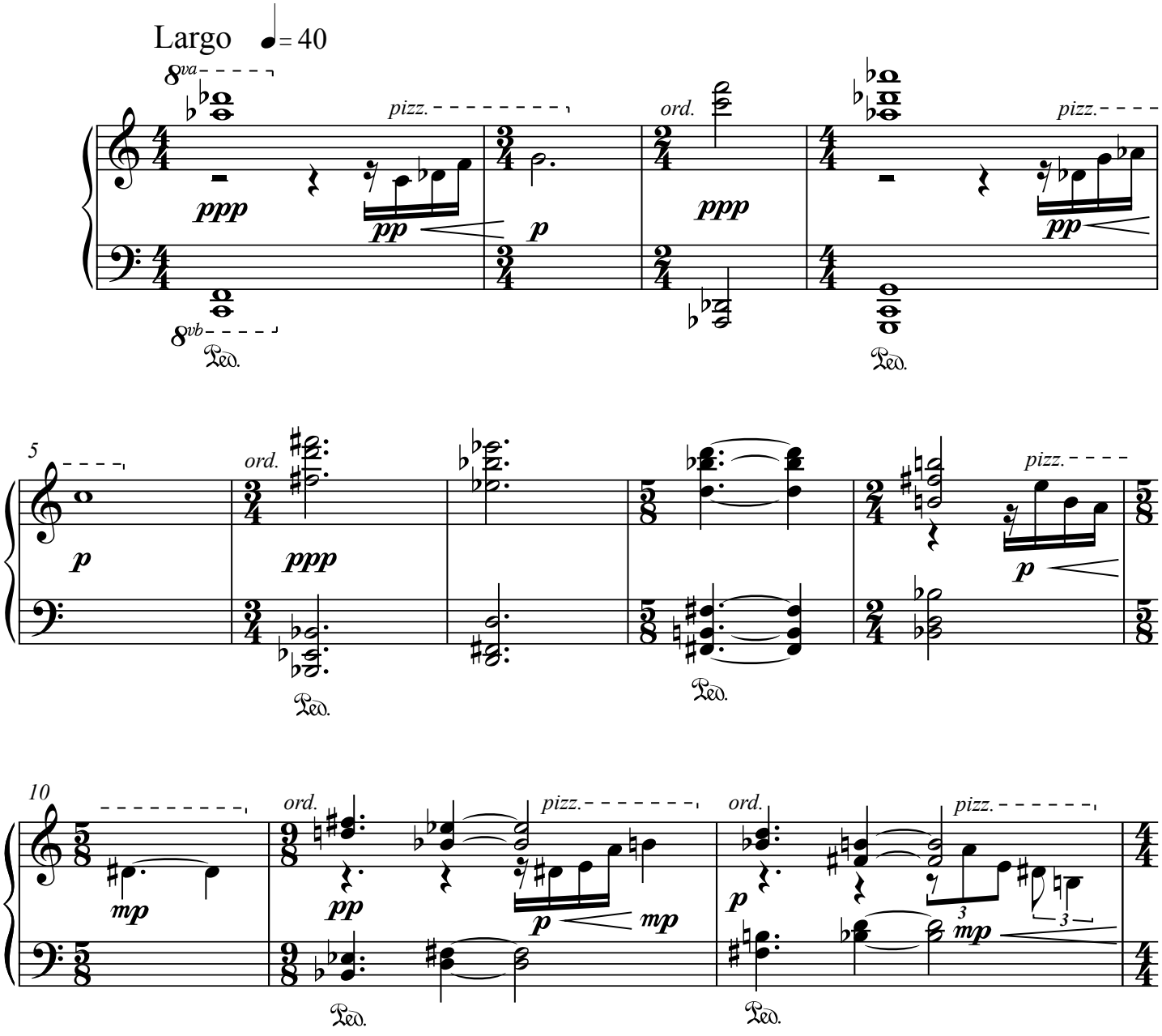
*for Stefanie*

# Five Haiku

Paul Dickinson

## 1

green blue orange pink
blending at the horizon
earth and heaven meet

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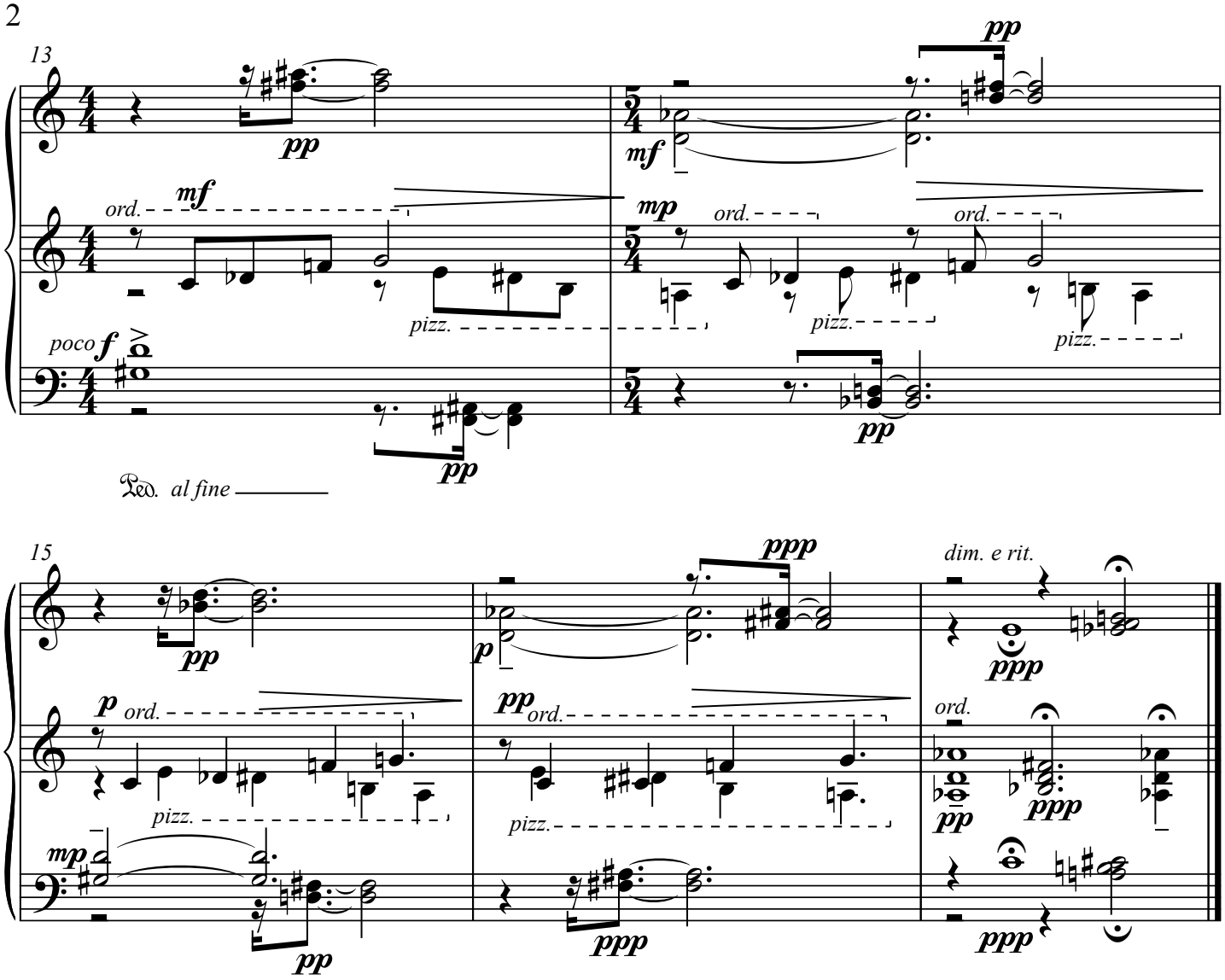
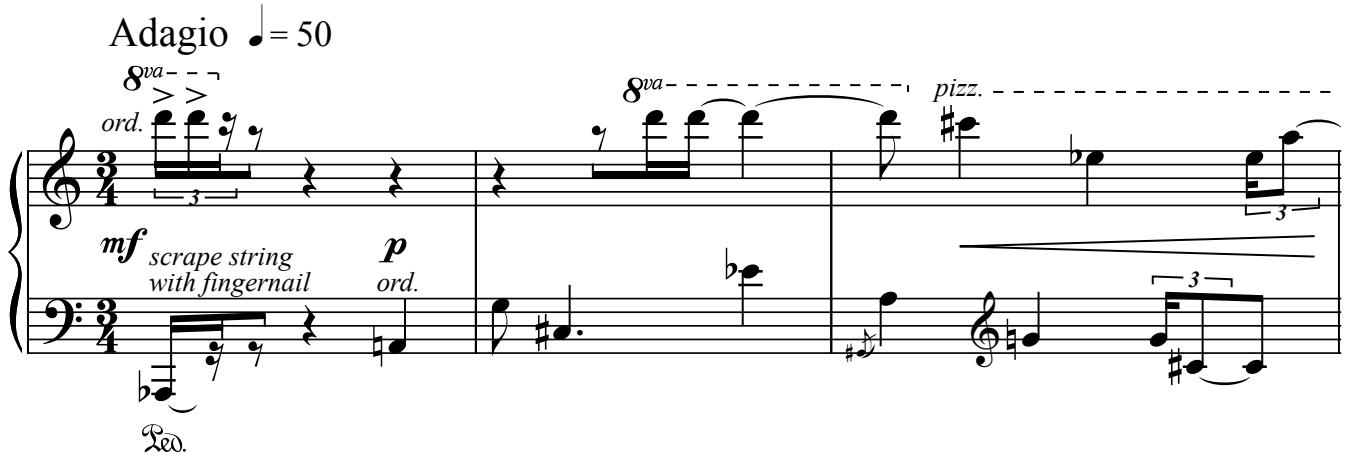
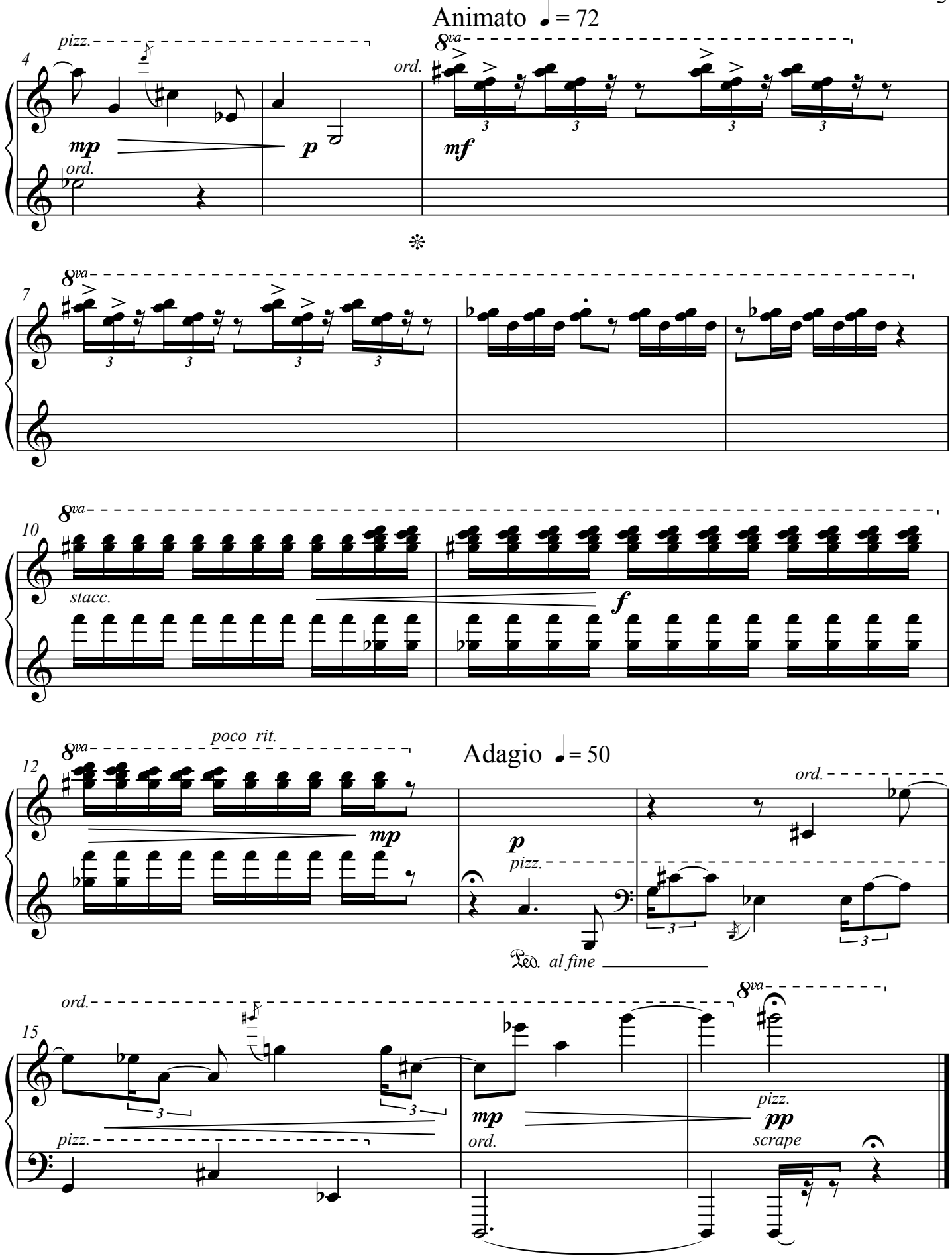



# 2

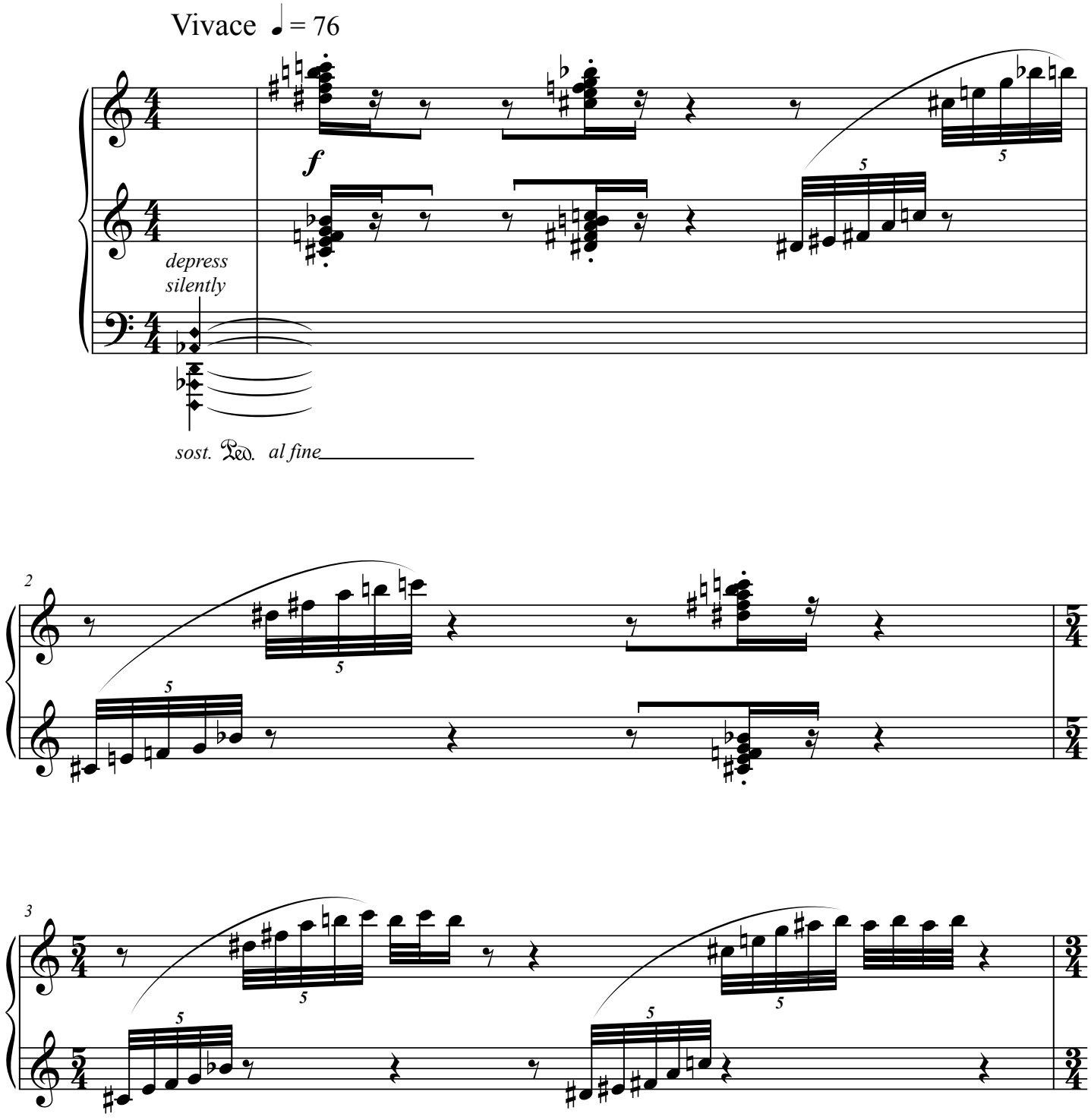
wind in branches stirs
young leaves gilded by sunshine
he sings and she wakes

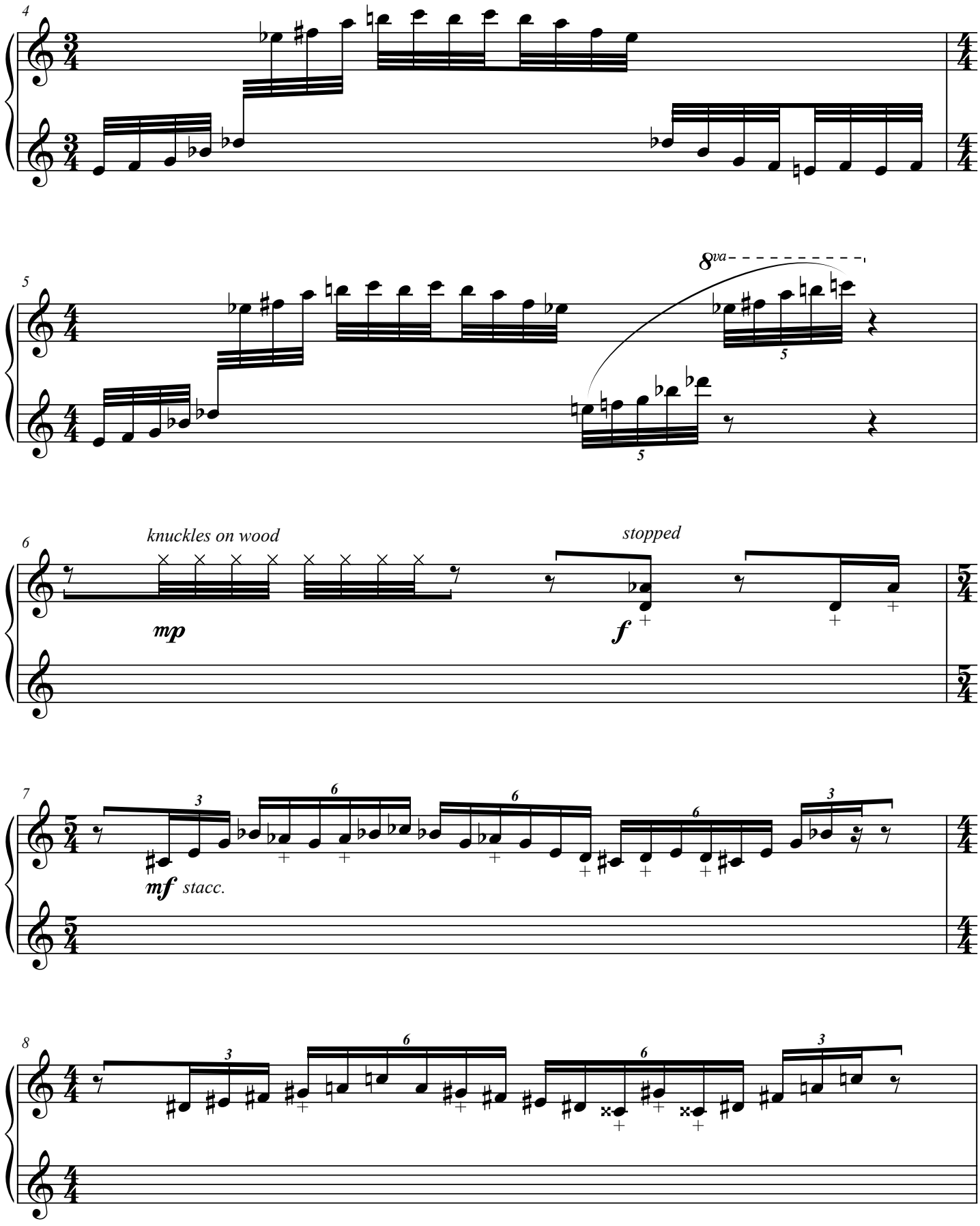


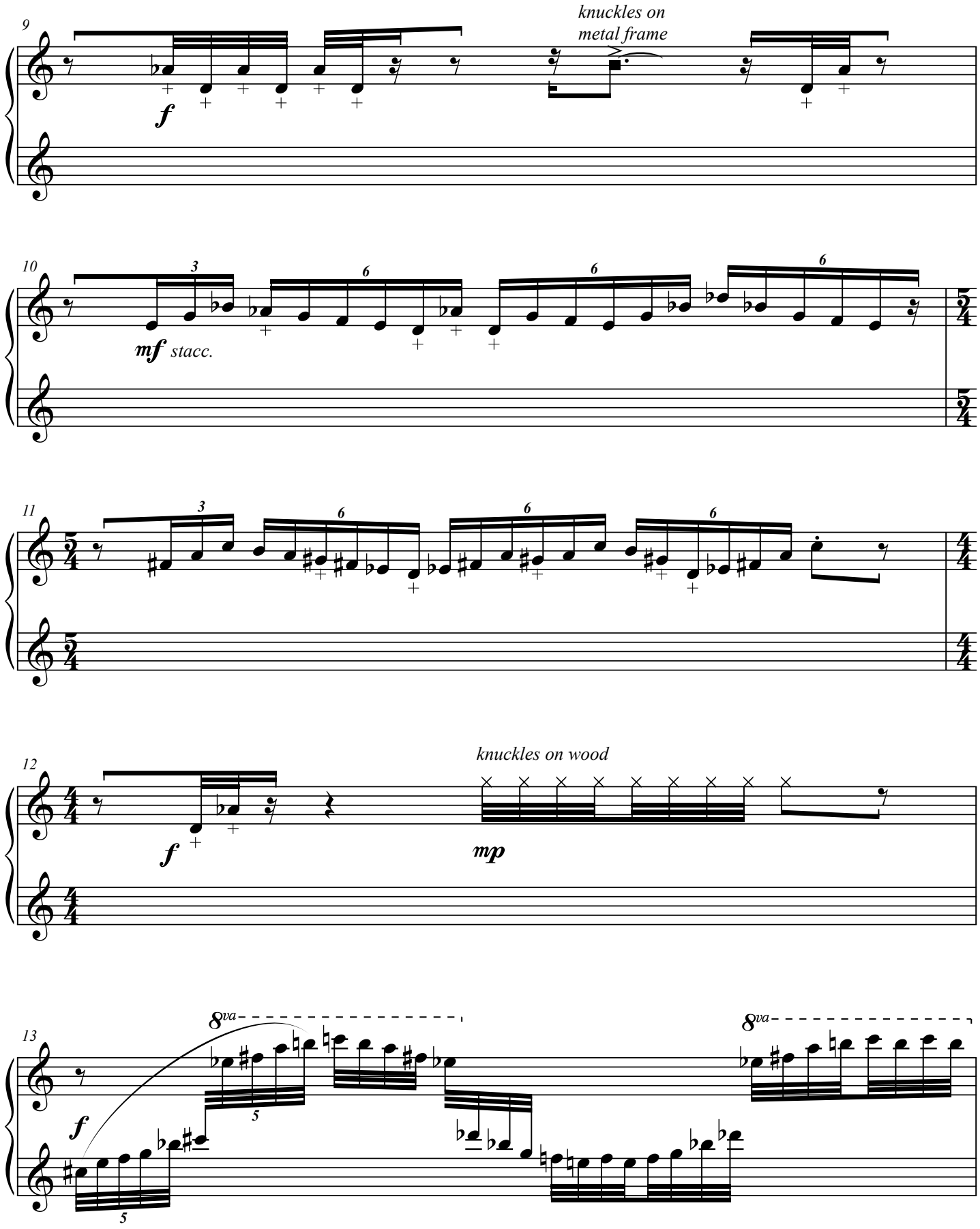

Animato ♩= 72
pizz.
4
mp
ord.
p
ord.
8va
mf
8va
7
8va
10
stacc.
f
8va
poco rit.
12
mp
Adagio ♩= 50
p
pizz.
ord.
Ped. al fine
ord.
8va
15
pizz.
mp
ord.
pizz.
pp
scrape

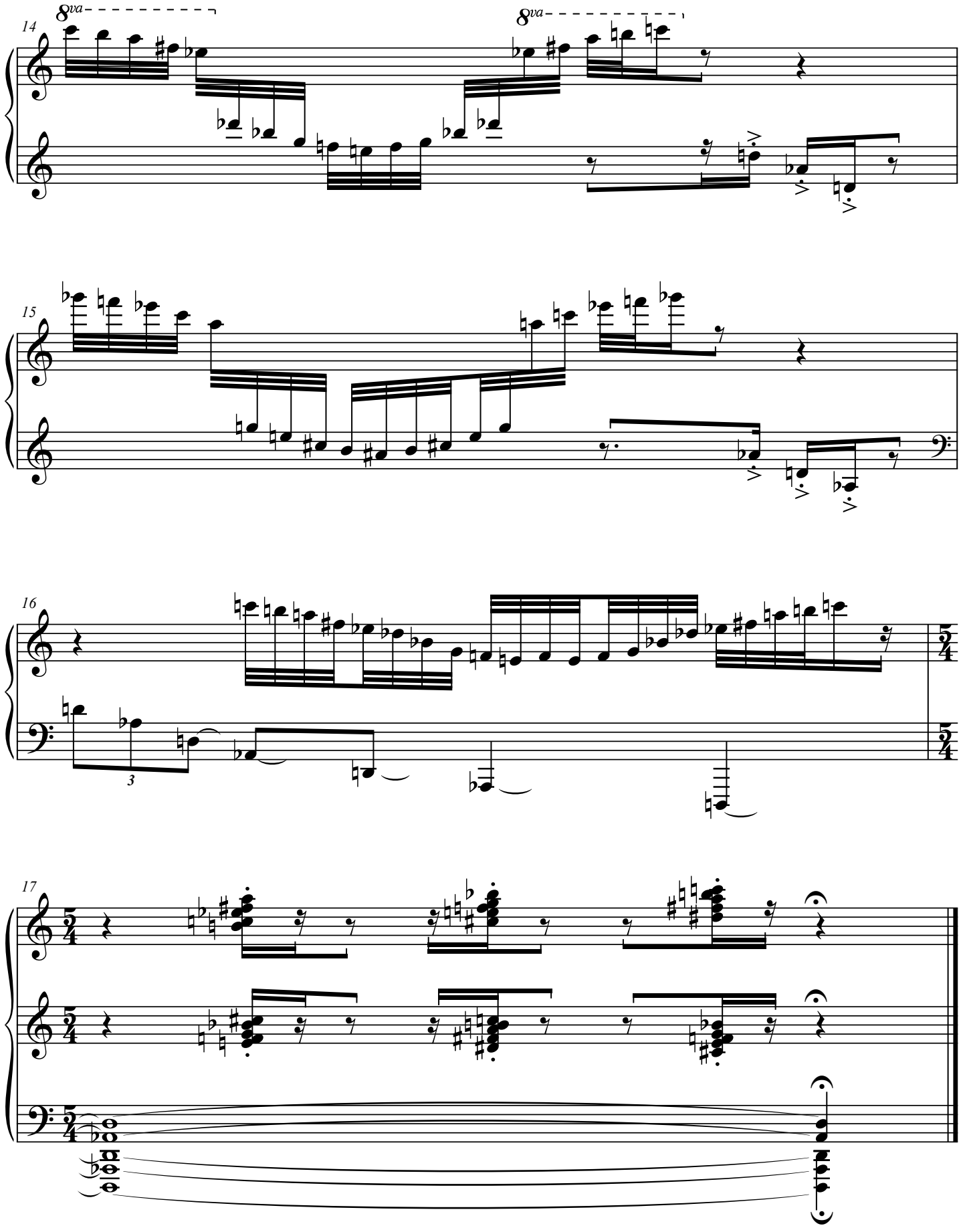
# 3

gathering guarding
fluttering activity
nestlings needing more



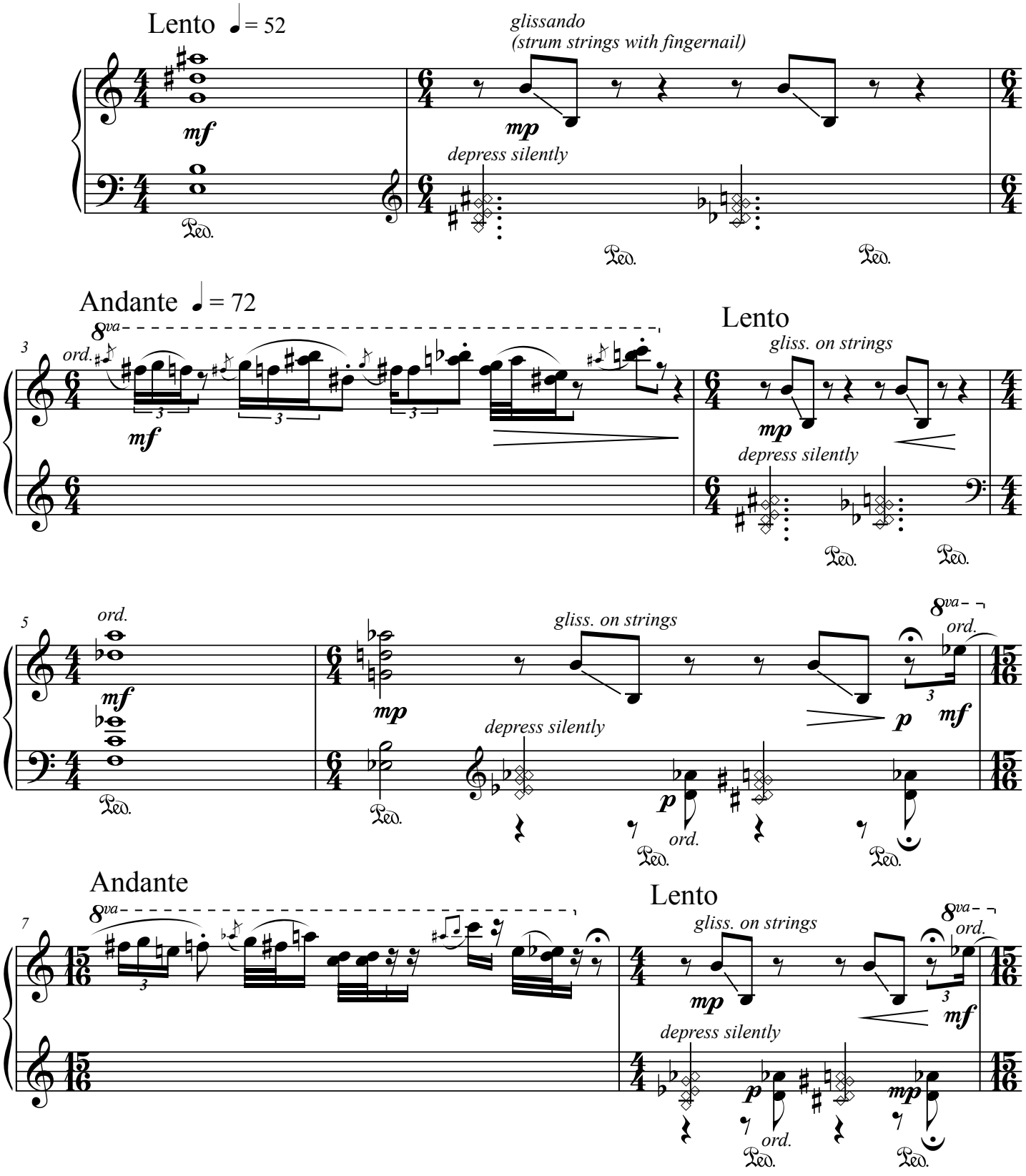

4
5
8va
6
knuckles on wood
mp
stopped
f
7
mf stacc.
8

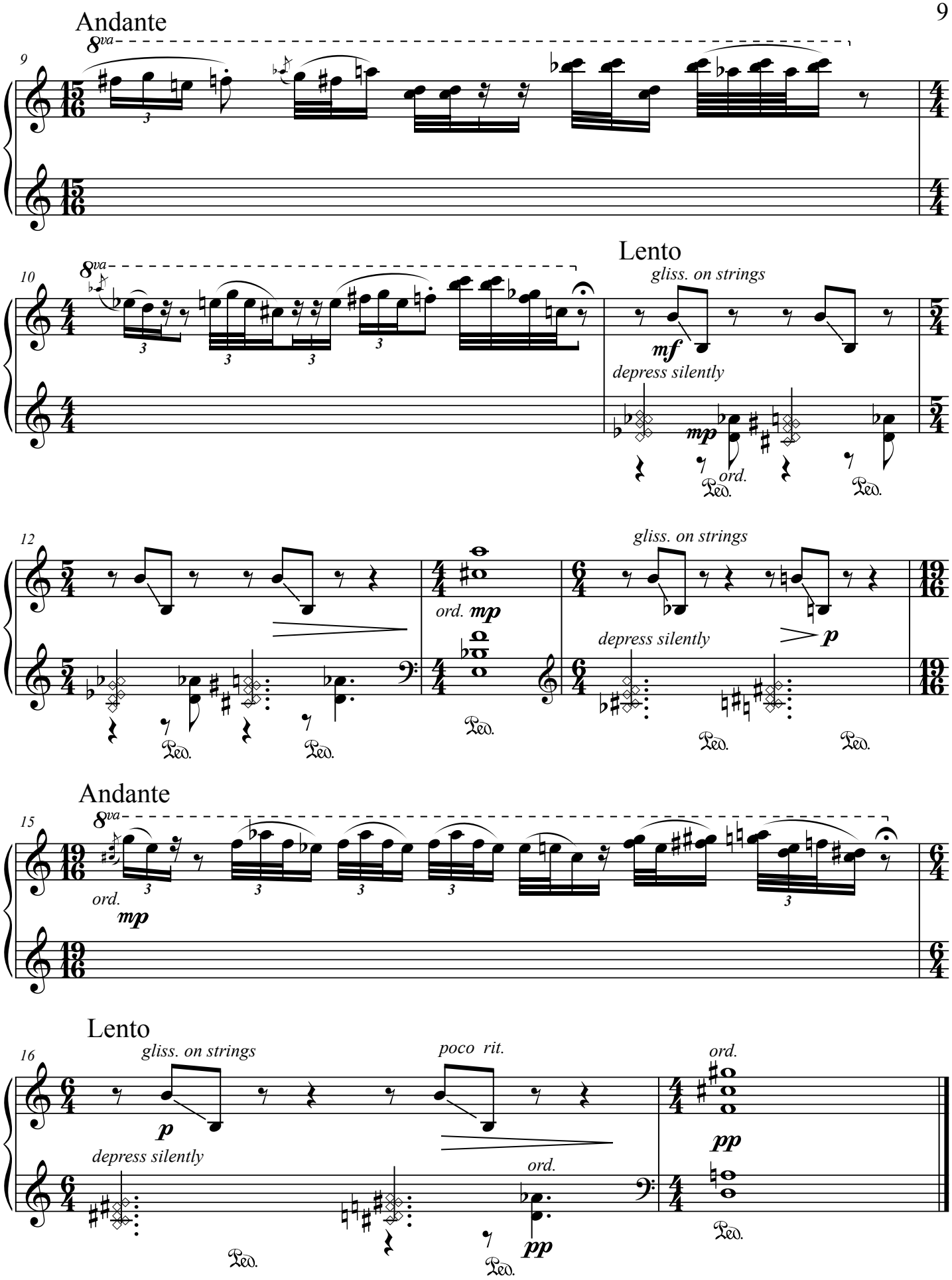

9
knuckles on
metal frame
f
10
mf stacc.
11
12
f
knuckles on wood
mp
13
f
8va
8va


14
8va
8va
15
16
3
5/4
17
5/4

# 4

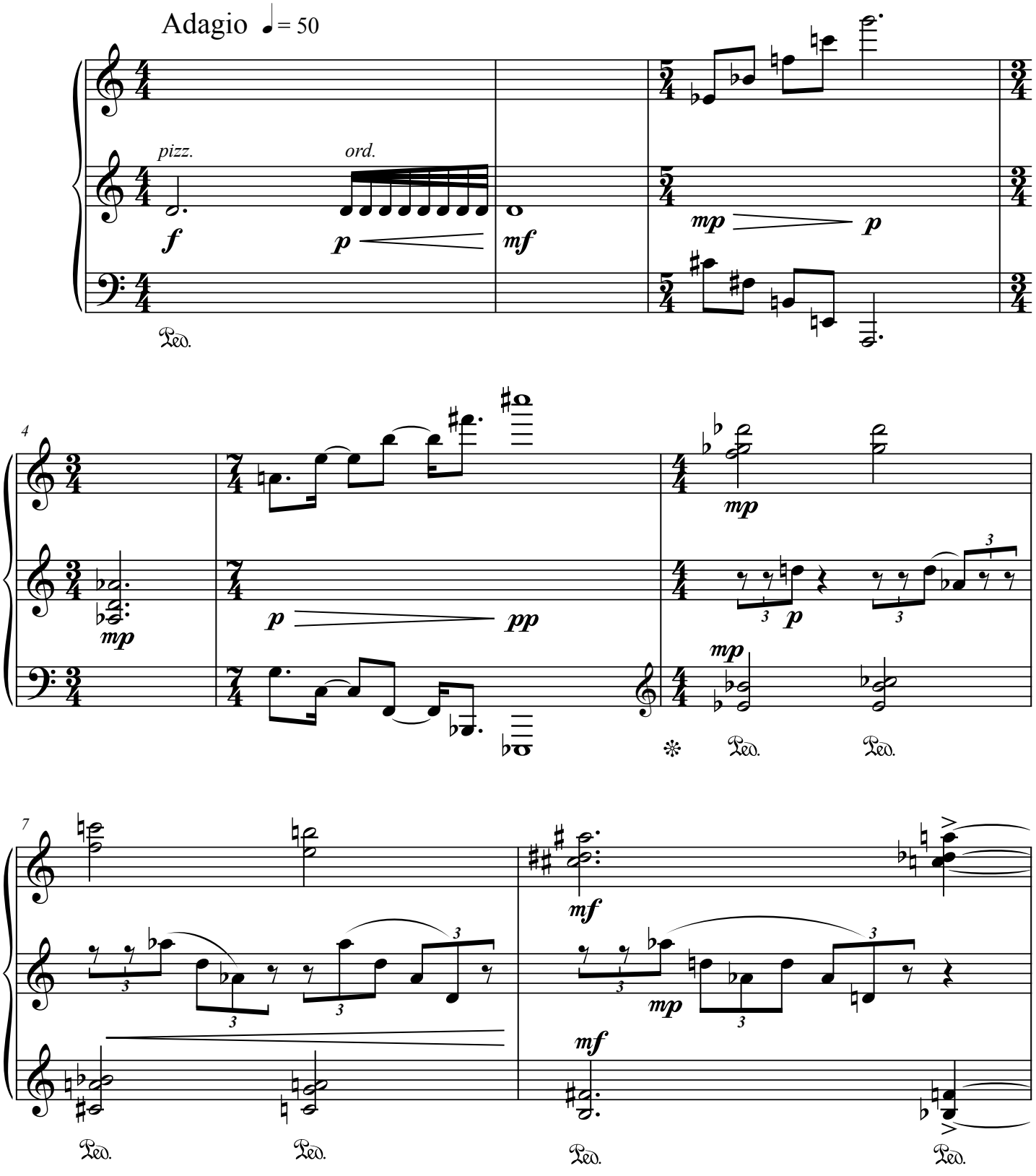
lengthening shadows
cool envelops creation
evensong begins

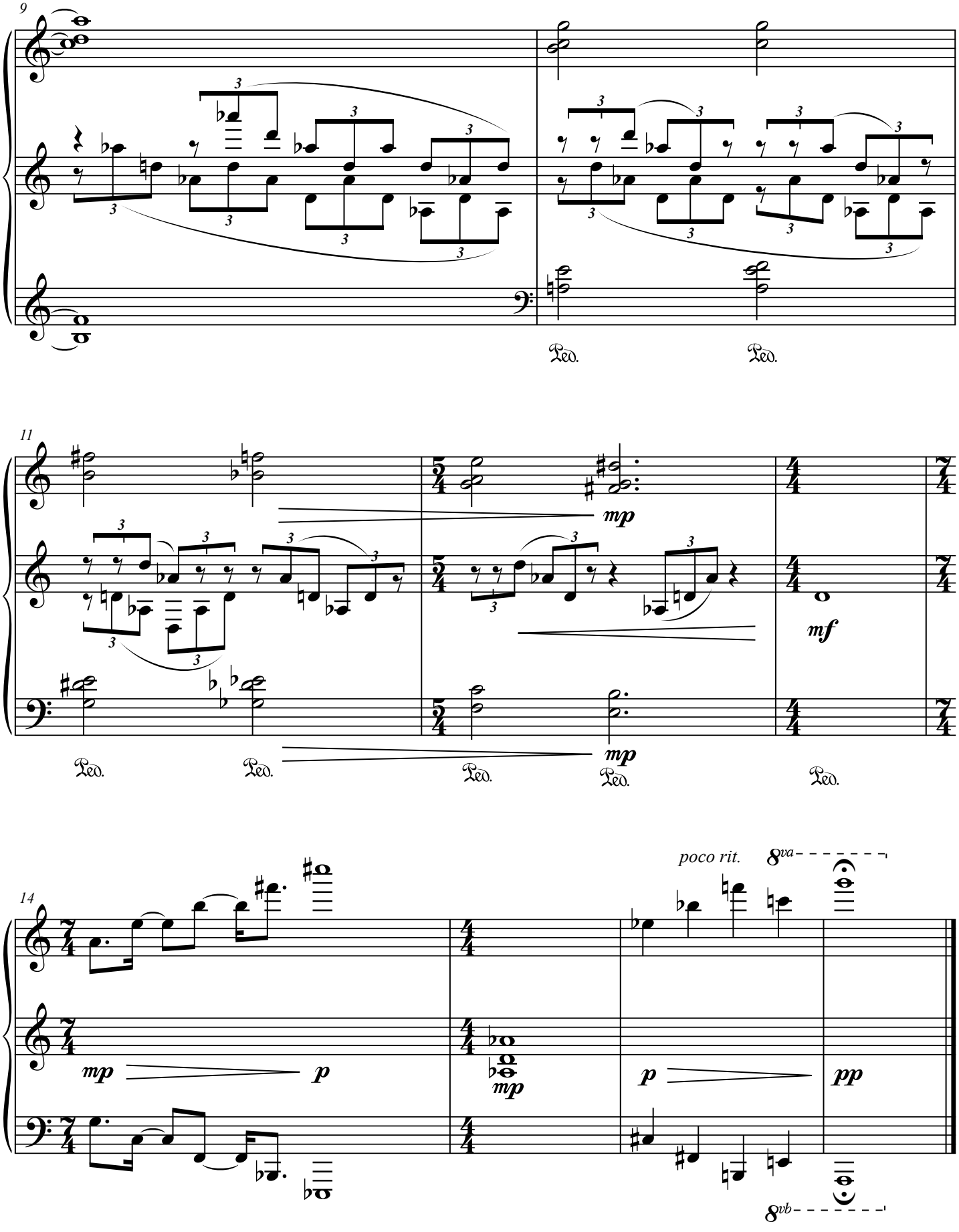



Andante
8va
Lento
gliss. on strings
mf
depress silently
mp
ord.
Ped.
gliss. on strings
ord. mp
depress silently
p
Andante
8va
ord.
mp
Lento
gliss. on strings
p
poco rit.
ord.
pp
depress silently
ord.
pp

# 5

dusk descends; like moon
and stars our hope and prayer:
sun will come again




9
Ped.
Ped.
11
mp
mf
mp
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
14
poco rit.
8va
mp
p
mp
p
pp
8vb