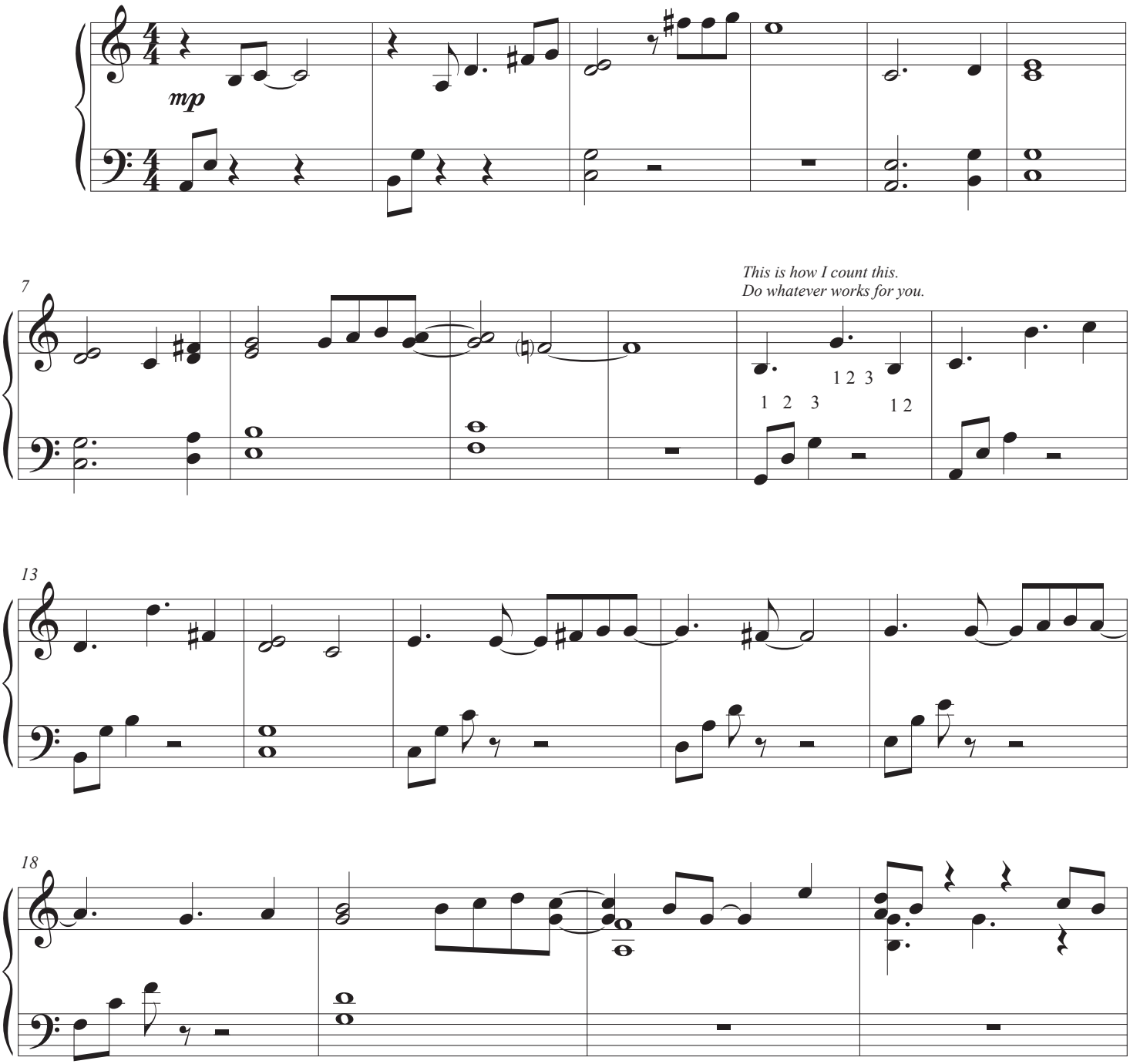Side Notes: The skill of listening isn't easy to master. When I started writing this tune, the pauses between the phrases felt like they would fit with a conversation between two friends. As you play through this piece, I hope you'll recognize the pauses in the music and let it be a reminder to you to work on being a better listener for our friends and loved ones.

As you listen to music and especially when you play it, I find it is always helpful to try and picture a place, a situation or person and then think of the emotion that you or the person in the image might be feeling. Then, as you play the music, play as if it were a soundtrack to the image or emotion you envisioned. Bringing feeling and emotion into your music will make all the difference with how you feel as you play it as well as how those who are listening to you play feel about your music.

A Listening Ear

JASON TONIOLI



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