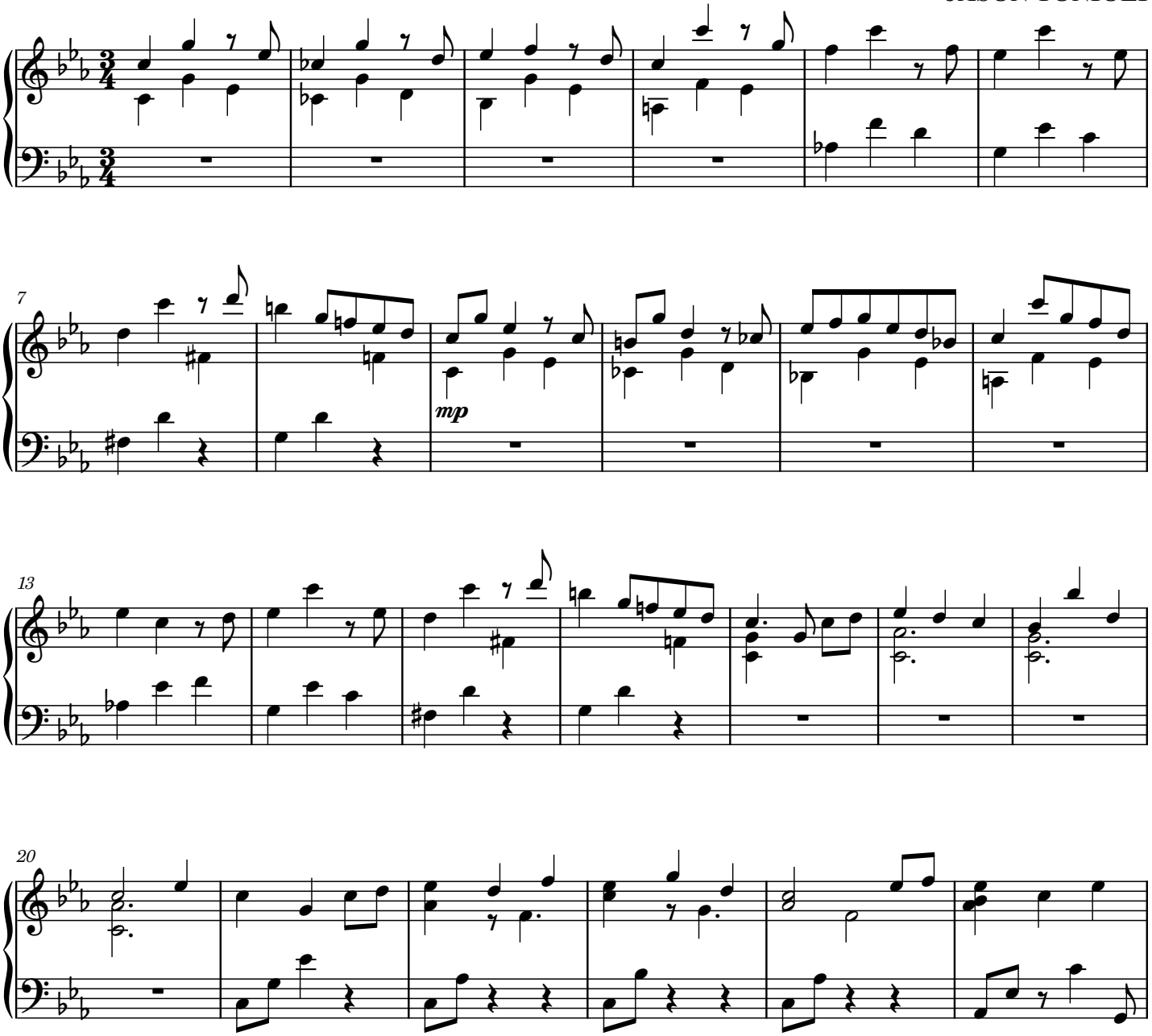34.

Side Notes: This song began as a piano solo years ago and eventually became a violin and piano duet that my violinist and I would play a little differently each Christmas. Parts of the melody may feel familiar and leave you wondering if you recognize a tune from somewhere. This piece often makes me think of my sister, who chooses to live homeless. During the winter months especially, I think about her situation and the frustration that comes from being willing and able to help someone who is unwilling to accept that help. As I play this song, my thoughts turn to children living in poverty through no choice of their own. As you play this, picture a young child singing on a cold winter street... hoping someone might stop, listen, and be willing to help in some small way. I hope these melodies cause you to pause and notice those who may be around you and struggling. I hope it inspires you to show a little more love and kindness to those people who you see this winter.

The Street Carol

JASON TONIOLI



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