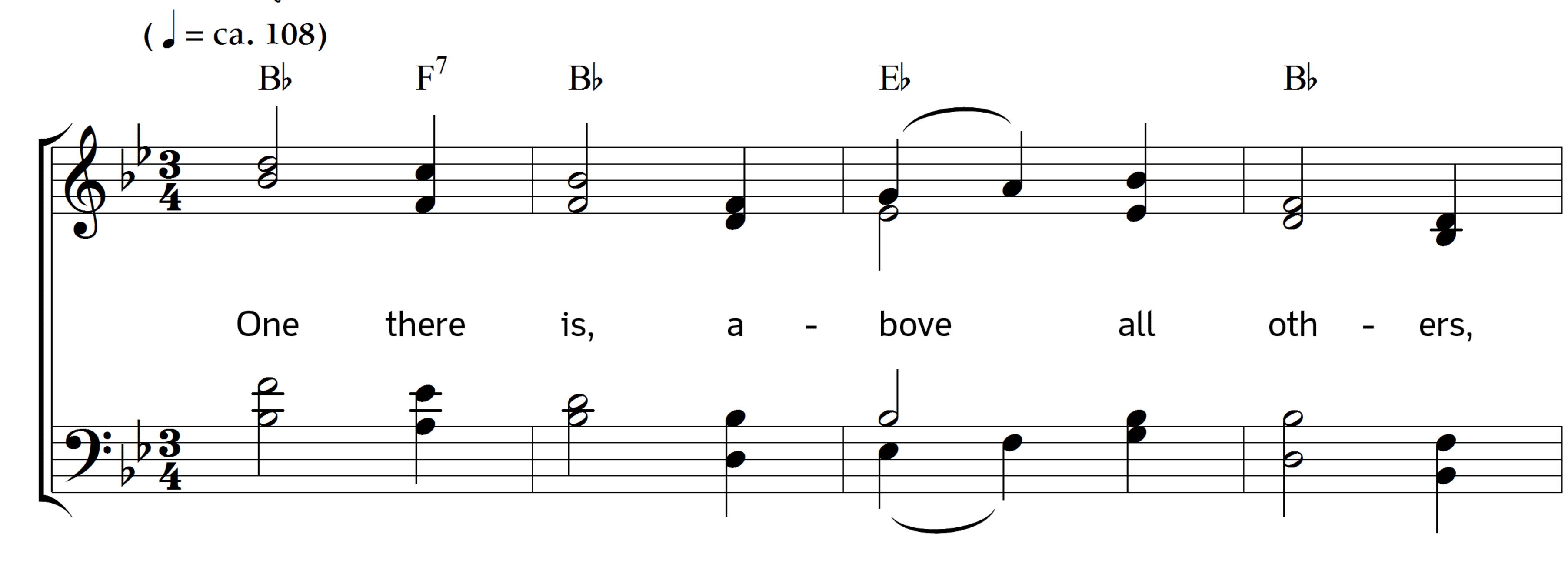
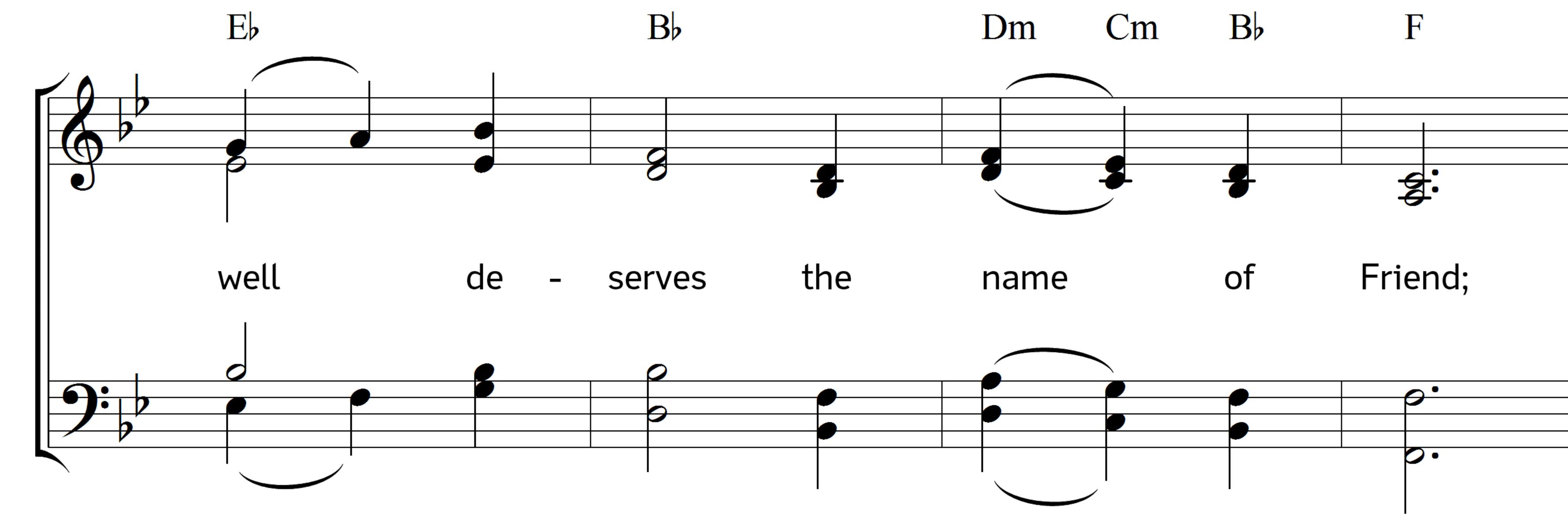
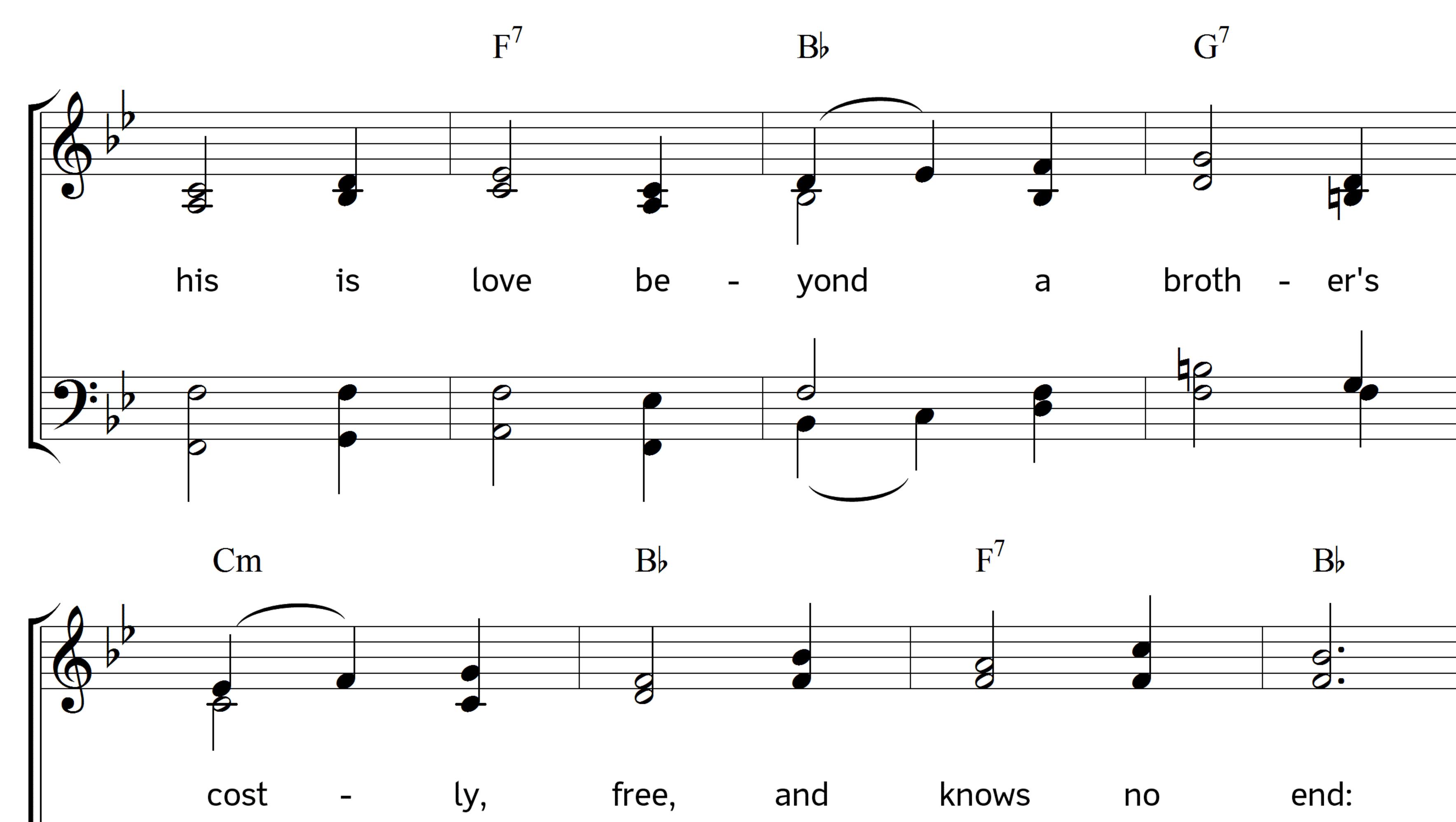
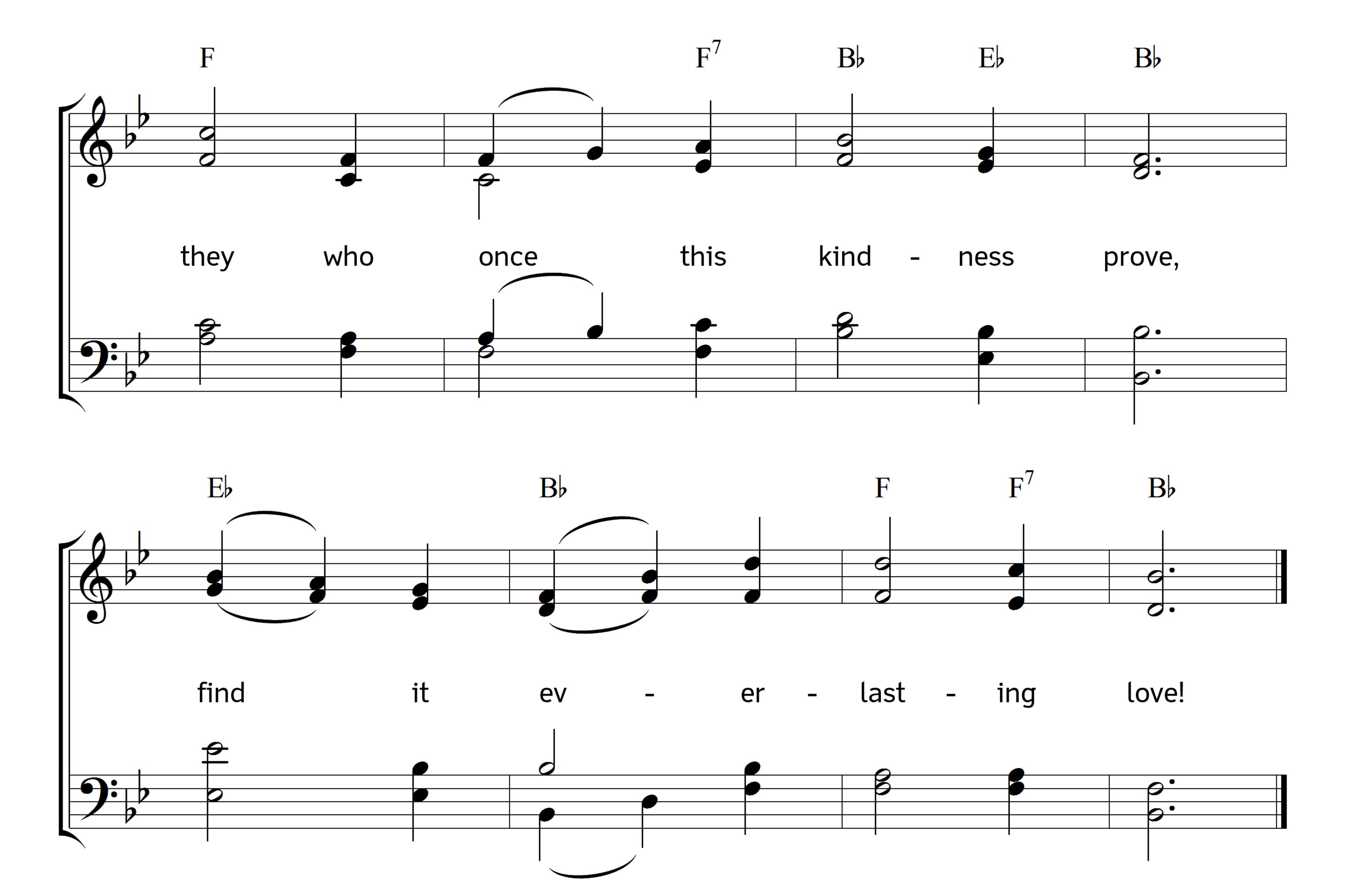
A FRIEND ... CLOSER THAN A BROTHER









- 2. Which of all our friends, to save us, could or would have shed their blood? But our Jesus died to have us reconciled in him to God; this was boundless love indeed! Jesus is a Friend in need.
- 3. Men, when raised to lofty stations, often know their friends no more; slight and scorn their poor relations, though they valued them before; but our Saviour always owns those whom he redeemed with groans.
- 4. When he lived on earth abased,
 Friend of sinners was his name;
 now, above all glory raised,
 he rejoices in the same:
 still he calls them Brethren, Friends,
 and to all their wants attends.

- 5. Could we bear from one another what he daily bears from us?
 Yet this glorious Friend and Brother loves us, though we treat him thus: though for good we render ill, he accounts us brethren still.
- 6. Oh! for grace our hearts to soften!
 Teach us, Lord, at length to love;
 we, alas! forget too often
 what a Friend we have above.
 But, when home our souls are brought,
 we will love thee as we ought.

Words: John Newton. Music: Johannes Thomas Rüegg.
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