The First Noel

Traditional English carol
arr. NJ Music Center

C major · 3/4 · Flowing, not too fast · Count "1, 2" and start on beat 3.
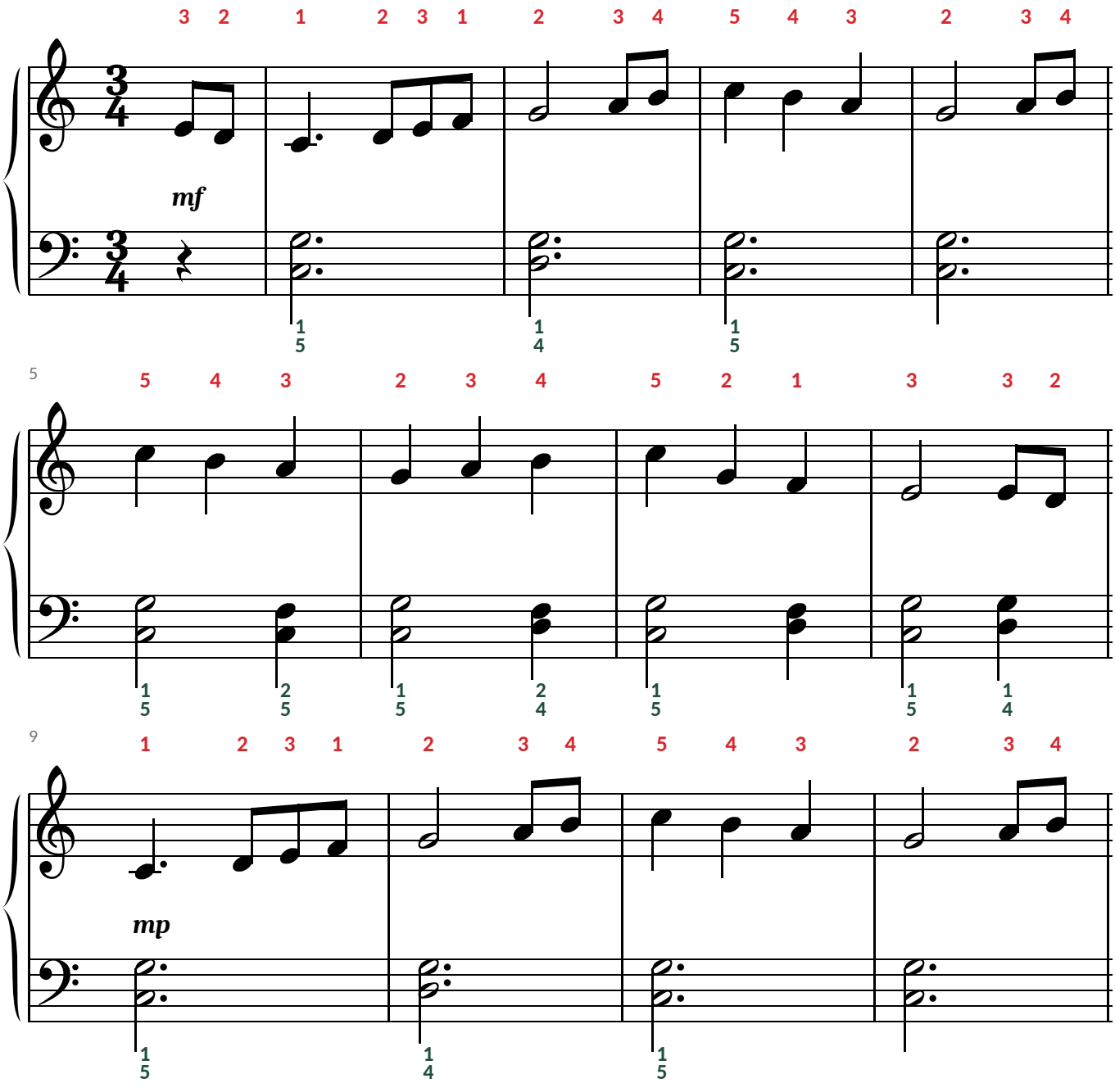
RIGHT HAND · RED NUMBERS ON TOP
Thumb on **Middle C**. In bar 1 the thumb passes under to **F**, and the hand stays there until bar 8.

LEFT HAND · GREEN NUMBERS BELOW
Little finger on the **C** below Middle C. It stays there for the whole song.

RIGHT-HAND MOVES
b.1, 9, 17 thumb passes under to F
b.8, 16, 24 3 crosses over thumb to E
everywhere else the hand stays: G=2 A=3 B=4 C=5

VERSE The first Noel the angel did say
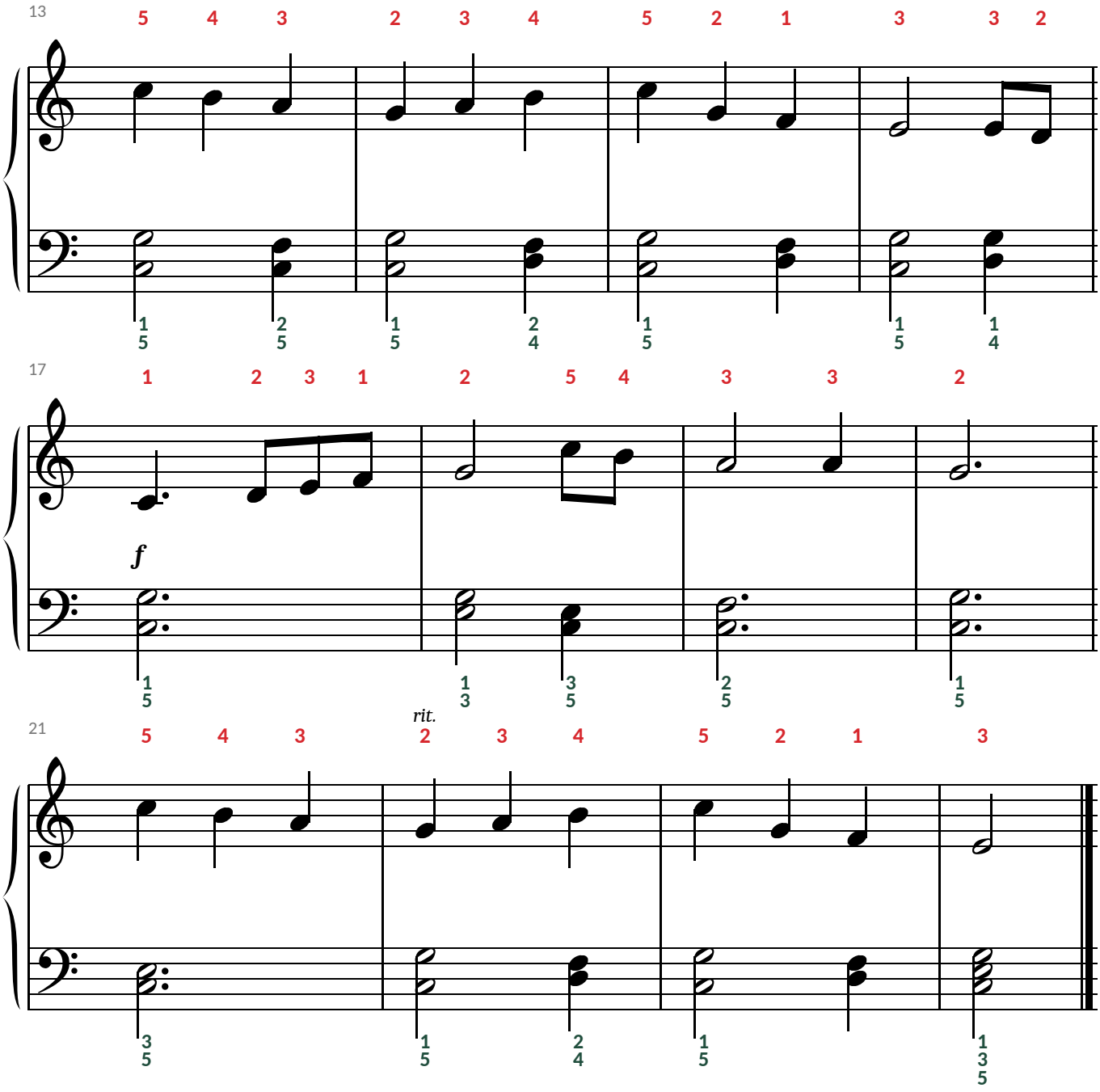
Bars 1–12



REFRAIN

Noel, Noel!

Bars 13–16 end the verse · refrain from bar 17



VERSE 1 · SING ALONG

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

REFRAIN

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.

TIPS

- Bars 1–8 and 9–16 are the same music: learn it once, play it twice.
- Practise the C scale with "thumb under" and "3 over" first: it is the key to this song.
- The refrain (bar 17) is louder: *f*. Slow down at the end (*rit.*).

I practised! ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆