

First performed and composed for the 2007 Nittany Valley Handbell Festival, State College, PA, Gail Ritchey, festival host.  
"Simple Gifts" was the first co-writing venture by handbell composers Kevin McChesney and Jefferey A. Hall.

# Simple Gifts

3-5 Octaves  
Level III

Traditional Shaker Melody  
arr. Jefferey A. Hall and Kevin McChesney

3, 4, or 5 octaves (D8 optional)  
Handbells Used - 37, 46, 56 (57)

Musical notation for handbells, showing a treble and bass clef staff with notes and a diagram of handbell positions above.

3 octave choirs omit notes in ( ).  
4 octave choirs omit notes in [ ].

3 or 5 octaves  
Optional Handchimes Used - 7, 13

Musical notation for optional handchimes, showing a bass clef staff with notes.

$\text{♩} = 90$

Musical notation for handbells, showing a treble and bass clef staff with notes, dynamics (*mp*, *mf*), and articulation (LV). Includes a diagram of handbell positions above the staff.

Musical notation for handbells, showing a treble and bass clef staff with notes and articulation (s.).

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9 10 11

12 13 14

15 16 17

18 19 20

LV R LV LV R LV LV

LV LV R

\*

\*5 octave choirs double melody an octave lower m.19-28; play lower octave on handbells if handchimes are not available.

21 22 23

LV LV R

24 25 26

LV LV

27 28 29

R f LV

30 31 32

LV

33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47

LV LV LV R LV LV R LV LV R

*mf*

*cresc.*

*f*

$\text{♩} = 144$

\*

\*5 octave choirs double melody an octave higher m.46-58 beat one. Play Bflat7 on the "and" of beat two in m. 49 and m.57 if D8 is not available.

48 49 50 51 52

53 54 55 56 57

58 59 60 61 62 63

64 65 66 67 68

*rit.*

Tempo I ♩ = 90

LV

69 LV LV rit. R

dim.

72 ♩ = 110

mf

mallets

73 \*

74

75 76 77

78 79 80

\*5 octave choirs double melody an octave higher m.73-87 beat one.

81 82 83 84

Musical notation for measures 81-84. The piece is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats. Measure 81 features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. Measure 82 has a fermata over the right hand. Measure 83 includes a dynamic marking of *f* and a breath mark *R*. Measure 84 continues the melodic and bass lines.

85 86 87 88

Musical notation for measures 85-88. Measure 85 shows a complex chordal texture. Measure 86 has a fermata over the right hand. Measure 87 features a melodic line in the right hand. Measure 88 includes a fermata over the right hand.

89 90 91

Musical notation for measures 89-91. Measure 89 has a fermata over the right hand. Measure 90 features a melodic line in the right hand. Measure 91 includes a fermata over the right hand.

92 93 94

*poco rall.*

*dim.*

Musical notation for measures 92-94. Measure 92 includes a fermata over the right hand. Measure 93 has a dynamic marking of *dim.* and a breath mark *R*. Measure 94 includes a fermata over the right hand.

Tempo I ♩ = 90

Musical score for piano, measures 95-107. The score is written for a 3-5 octave instrument. It features a treble and bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked 'Tempo I' with a quarter note equal to 90 beats per minute. The dynamics range from *mf* (mezzo-forte) to *p* (piano). The score includes various articulations such as accents, slurs, and fermatas. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5. The piece concludes with a final cadence in measure 107.

Measures 95-107. Dynamics include *mf*, *dim.*, and *p*. Performance markings include *rit.*, *LV*, *R*, and *p*.