

Composed for Embellish Handbell Ensemble and the Calvin College Women's Chorus

Response of the Angels

for Handbells and Women's Chorus (SSAA)

6 octaves
Handbells used: 67

Scott Pfitzinger

Majestic ♩ = 60 *ff*

S

Ahh (throughout) *ff*

A

2 3 4 3 5 6

p *ff*

S
A

7 8 9 10 11 12

mp

7 8 9 10 11 12

mp

7 8 9 10 11 12

f

Detailed description: This system contains measures 7 through 12. The Soprano and Alto parts feature a melodic line with a crescendo leading to a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A fortissimo (*f*) dynamic is indicated at the start of measure 12.

S
A

13 14 15 16 17 18

13 14 15 16 17 18

13 14 15 16 17 18

Detailed description: This system contains measures 13 through 18. The vocal parts (Soprano and Alto) are mostly silent, with only a few notes in measure 18. The piano accompaniment continues with a complex texture of chords and moving lines in both hands.

Musical score for Soprano (S), Alto (A), and Piano accompaniment, measures 19-29.

Measures 19-23:

- Soprano (S):** Measures 19-20 are rests. Measure 21 begins with a half note G4 (piano), followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5 (mezzo-forte). Measure 22 is a half note C5, and measure 23 is a half note B4.
- Alto (A):** Measures 19-20 are rests. Measure 21 begins with a half note G4 (piano), followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5 (mezzo-forte). Measure 22 is a half note C5, and measure 23 is a half note B4.
- Piano:** Measures 19-20 feature dense chordal textures. Measure 20 includes a tempo marking of $\text{♩} = 110$. Measures 21-23 feature sustained chords in the right hand (LV) and single notes in the left hand. A crescendo leads to a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic in measure 21.

Measures 24-29:

- Soprano (S):** Measure 24 is a half note G4. Measure 25 is a half note A4. Measure 26 is a half note B4. Measure 27 is a half note C5. Measure 28 is a half note B4. Measure 29 is a half note A4.
- Alto (A):** Measure 24 is a half note G4. Measure 25 is a half note A4. Measure 26 is a half note B4. Measure 27 is a half note C5. Measure 28 is a half note B4. Measure 29 is a half note A4.
- Piano:** Measures 24-29 feature sustained chords in the right hand (LV) and single notes in the left hand. Measure 29 includes a right hand (R) part. The piano accompaniment concludes with a final chord in the right hand.

30 31 32 33 34 35

S

A

30 31 32 33 34 35

LV LV V V R LV LV

36 37 38 39 40 41

S

A

36 37 38 39 40 41

LV f LV LV

S
A

42 43 44 45 46 47

Detailed description: This block contains the vocal staves for Soprano (S) and Alto (A) for measures 42 through 47. Both parts are written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Soprano part begins with a whole note G4 in measure 42, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5 in measure 43, a whole note D5 in measure 44, a whole rest in measure 45, quarter notes E5 and F5 in measure 46, and a half note G5 in measure 47. The Alto part follows a similar melodic line, starting with a whole note G4 in measure 42, quarter notes A4, B4, and C5 in measure 43, a whole note D5 in measure 44, a whole rest in measure 45, quarter notes E5 and F5 in measure 46, and a half note G5 in measure 47.

42 43 44 45 46 47

LV LV R LV LV

Detailed description: This block shows the piano accompaniment for measures 42-47. The right hand (RH) and left hand (LH) are both in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 42 features a piano (p) dynamic. The RH plays a series of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5. The LH plays a whole note G4. Measure 43: RH continues with eighth notes: A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5. LH plays a whole note G4. Measure 44: RH plays a quarter note G5, followed by eighth notes A5, B5, C6, D6. LH plays a whole note G4. Measure 45: RH plays a quarter note G5, followed by eighth notes A5, B5, C6, D6. LH plays a whole note G4. Measure 46: RH plays a quarter note G5, followed by eighth notes A5, B5, C6, D6. LH plays a whole note G4. Measure 47: RH plays a quarter note G5, followed by eighth notes A5, B5, C6, D6. LH plays a whole note G4.

S
A

48 49 50 51 52 53

Detailed description: This block contains the vocal staves for Soprano (S) and Alto (A) for measures 48 through 53. Both parts are written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Soprano part begins with a whole note G4 in measure 48, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5 in measure 49, a whole note D5 in measure 50, a whole rest in measure 51, quarter notes E5 and F5 in measure 52, and a half note G5 in measure 53. The Alto part follows a similar melodic line, starting with a whole note G4 in measure 48, quarter notes A4, B4, and C5 in measure 49, a whole note D5 in measure 50, a whole rest in measure 51, quarter notes E5 and F5 in measure 52, and a half note G5 in measure 53.

48 49 50 51 52 53

V V R LV LV LV

Detailed description: This block shows the piano accompaniment for measures 48-53. The right hand (RH) and left hand (LH) are both in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 48 features a piano (p) dynamic. The RH plays a series of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5. The LH plays a whole note G4. Measure 49: RH continues with eighth notes: A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5. LH plays a whole note G4. Measure 50: RH plays a quarter note G5, followed by eighth notes A5, B5, C6, D6. LH plays a whole note G4. Measure 51: RH plays a quarter note G5, followed by eighth notes A5, B5, C6, D6. LH plays a whole note G4. Measure 52: RH plays a quarter note G5, followed by eighth notes A5, B5, C6, D6. LH plays a whole note G4. Measure 53: RH plays a quarter note G5, followed by eighth notes A5, B5, C6, D6. LH plays a whole note G4.

54 55 56 57 58

S

A

LV

Detailed description: This system contains measures 54 through 58. The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts are written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The piano accompaniment is in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The piano part features a complex texture with many beamed sixteenth notes in the right hand and simpler accompaniment in the left hand. The label 'LV' is placed below the piano part for measures 54-57, and 'LV' is also present in measure 58. The vocal lines consist of quarter and eighth notes.

59 60 61 62 63 64

S

A

LV R LV LV

Detailed description: This system contains measures 59 through 64. The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts continue in the same key signature. The piano accompaniment shows a change in texture, with the right hand having fewer notes and more rests. The label 'LV' is present in measures 59, 60, 63, and 64, while 'R' is present in measure 61. The vocal lines continue with quarter and eighth notes.

65 66 67 $\text{♩} = 120$ 68 69 70

S

A

65 66 67 $\text{♩} = 120$ 68 69 70

R

f

71 72 73 74

S

A

71 72 73 74

75 76 77 78

S

A

Detailed description: This system covers measures 75 to 78. The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measures 75 and 76 show rests for both voices. In measure 77, both voices enter with a half note G4, marked with a forte (f) dynamic. In measure 78, the Soprano has a half note G4 and the Alto has a half note F#4. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves. The right hand has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and chords, while the left hand has a steady eighth-note bass line. Measure 77 includes a fermata over the piano accompaniment.

79 80 81 82 83

S

A

Detailed description: This system covers measures 79 to 83. The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measures 79 and 80 show rests for both voices. In measure 81, the Soprano has a half note G4 and the Alto has a half note F#4. In measure 82, the Soprano has a half note G4 and the Alto has a half note G4. In measure 83, the Soprano has a half note G4 and the Alto has a half note F#4. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves. The right hand has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and chords, while the left hand has a steady eighth-note bass line. Measures 81 and 82 include a fermata over the piano accompaniment.

84 85 86 87 88

S

A

84 85 86 87 88

84 85 86 87 88

Detailed description: This system covers measures 84 to 88. The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Soprano part features a melodic line with a long note in measure 87. The Alto part provides harmonic support with chords and a similar melodic contour. The piano accompaniment consists of a right-hand part with chords and a left-hand part with a steady eighth-note bass line. Measure numbers 84, 85, 86, 87, and 88 are indicated above the vocal staves.

89 90 91 92 93 94

S

A

89 90 91 92 93 94

89 90 91 92 93 94

Detailed description: This system covers measures 89 to 94. The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Soprano part begins with a *mp* dynamic marking and features a melodic line with a long note in measure 90. The Alto part provides harmonic support with chords and a similar melodic contour. The piano accompaniment consists of a right-hand part with chords and a left-hand part with a steady eighth-note bass line. Measure numbers 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, and 94 are indicated above the vocal staves.

95 96 97 98 99 100

S

A

95 96 97 98 99 100

95 96 97 98 99 100

101 102 103 104 105

S

A

101 102 103 104 105

101 102 103 104 105

f

106 107

S

mf

106 107

A

mf

106 107

mf

108 109

S

108 109

A

108 109

108 109

110 111

S

A

110 111

sva *sva*

112 113

S

A

112 113

sva *sva*

114 *cresc. poco a poco* 115

S

A

cresc. poco a poco

114 115

Detailed description: This system covers measures 114 and 115. The vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) contain rests for both measures. The piano accompaniment is written in treble and bass clefs. The right hand plays a series of chords and eighth-note patterns, while the left hand provides a harmonic foundation with sustained notes and some movement. The tempo/mood is marked 'cresc. poco a poco'.

116 117 118

S

A

116 117 118

Detailed description: This system covers measures 116, 117, and 118. The vocal staves show some activity: Soprano has notes in measures 116 and 118, and rests in 117; Alto has notes in measures 116 and 118, and rests in 117. The piano accompaniment continues with complex textures. The time signature changes from 6/4 in measure 116 to 3/4 in 117, and back to 6/4 in 118. The right hand features dense chordal textures, and the left hand has moving lines and sustained notes.

119 120 121

S

A

Musical score for measures 119-121, Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure 119 is in 3/4 time, measure 120 is in 5/4 time, and measure 121 is in 4/4 time. The Soprano part consists of single notes, while the Alto part consists of chords. Measure 121 features a fermata over the final note.

122 123 124 125

S

A

Musical score for measures 122-125, Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure 122 is in 3/4 time, measure 123 is in 3/4 time, measure 124 is in 2/4 time, and measure 125 is in 9/4 time. The Soprano part consists of single notes, while the Alto part consists of chords. Measure 125 features a fermata over the final note.

S
A

126 *ff* 127 $\text{♩} = 60$ 128 $\text{♩} = 70$ *p*

126 *ff* 127 128 *p*

126 *ff* $\text{♩} = 60$ 127 $\text{♩} = 70$ 128 *p*

S
A

129 130 131 132 133 134

129 130 131 132 133 134

129 130 131 132 133 134

135 136 137 138 139 140

S

A

Detailed description: This system contains measures 135 through 140. It features three staves: Soprano (S), Alto (A), and Piano. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The vocal parts have lyrics corresponding to the measure numbers. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and melodic lines in both the right and left hands.

141 142 143 144 145

S

A

♩ = 90

Exuberantly

fff

141 142 143 144 145

Exuberantly

Sk

fff

3

Detailed description: This system contains measures 141 through 145. It features three staves: Soprano (S), Alto (A), and Piano. The key signature has one sharp (F#). Measure 142 has a tempo marking of quarter note = 90. The vocal parts have lyrics corresponding to the measure numbers. The piano accompaniment includes dynamic markings such as *p* and *fff*, and performance instructions like "Exuberantly" and "Sk" (likely for a flourish). There are also triplet markings in measures 144 and 145.

S 146 147 148 149 150 *rall.*

A 146 147 148 149 150

146 147 148 149 150 *rall.*

S a tempo 151 152 153 154 155 156

A 151 152 153 154 155 156 *ff*

a tempo 151 152 153 154 155 156 *ff*

157 158 159 160 *rall.* 161 162

S

A

157 158 159 160 161 162

rall.

157 158 159 160 161 162