

Level

THE MICHAEL R. KELLER
HANDBELL SERIES

HOPE Publishing Company

Since 1892

Five Easy Celebrations

Arranged for 3-5 Octave handbells

by

Michael R. Keller

AGAPE A Division of
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800-323-1049

FIVE EASY CELEBRATIONS

[See Composer's Notes on back page]

CELEBRATION No. 1 in G

Handbells used: 3 octaves (22 bells);
4 octaves (25 bells);
5 octaves (33 bells)

optional



4 octave choirs do not play E7, F#7, G7

Maestoso ♩ = 96

optional

MICHAEL R. KELLER (ASCAP)

Mallet (or Pluck)

*Five octave choirs may double the top note up an octave in measures 1–8 and from the third beat of measure 16 through measure 27.

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Measures 13-28. Dynamics: *ff*, *mp*, *cresc.*, *ff*, *rit.*. Markings: *Sk*, *R*, ****.

*Do not play D4 if B3 is available.

**The D4 should be rung by four and five octave choirs only.

Five Easy Celebrations

CELEBRATION No. 2 in E \flat

Handbells used: 3 octaves (22 bells);
4 octaves (25 bells);
5 octaves (32 bells)



4 octave choirs do not play F7, G7

Andante $\text{♩} = 100$

MICHAEL R. KELLER (ASCAP)

1 2 3 4 5

ff

**

6 7 8 9 10

Mallet

mf

simile (thru meas. 16)

Mallet

11 12 13 14 15

*Five octave choirs may double the melody up an octave in measures 1–8 and 25–33.

**In measures 2, 6, 26 and 30, do not play the C4 if A \flat 3 is available.

16 17 18 19 20

mf *R*

21 22 23 24 25

cresc. *ff*

26 27 28 29 30

31 32 33 34 35

senza ritard.

*

*The B \flat 3 should be rung by five octave choirs only.

Five Easy Celebrations

for Greig Ashurst

CELEBRATION No. 3 in F

Handbells used: 3 octaves (23 bells);
4 octaves (27 bells);
5 octaves (28 bells)

optional

Andante

♩ = 96

MICHAEL R. KELLER (ASCAP)

ff

mf

mp

simile (thru meas. 16)

Mallet (or Pluck)

*In measure 8 the C4 should be rung by five octave choirs only.

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13 14 15 16 *ff*

17 18 19 20

21 22 23 24

25 26 27 28 *mp cresc.* *ff rit.* *

*The C4 should be rung by five octave choirs only.

Five Easy Celebrations

CELEBRATION No. 4 in F

Handbells used: 3 octaves (22 bells);
4 octaves (24 bells);
5 octaves (30 bells)

optional

4 octave choirs do not play G7

Allegro ♩ = 108

MICHAEL R. KELLER (ASCAP)

1* 2 3 4

ff

5 6 7 8

9 *mf* 10 11 12 13

Mart. or Mallet

f

*Five octave choirs may double the top two notes up an octave in measures 1–8 and 17–29.

14 15 16 17 R 18

ff

19 20 21 22

23 24 25 26

27 28 29 30 31

senza ritard.

Mart.

R

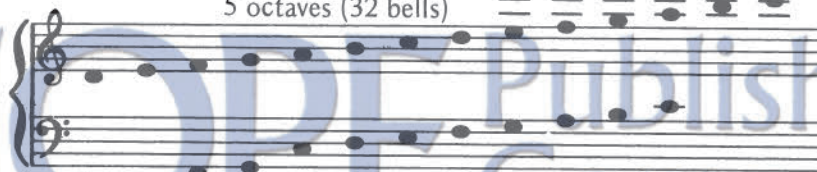
*The C4 should be rung by five octave choirs only.

Five Easy Celebrations

CELEBRATION No. 5 in C

Handbells used: 3 octaves (22 bells);
4 octaves (25 bells);
5 octaves (32 bells)

optional



4 octave choirs do not play F7.

Andante ♩ = 100

MICHAEL R. KELLER (ASCAP)

The main musical score is written for piano and handbells. It consists of three systems of staves. The first system (measures 1-4) is marked *ff* and includes a first ending bracket. The second system (measures 5-8) continues the piano melody. The third system (measures 9-12) is marked *mf* and includes a first ending bracket. The piano part is marked *f* and includes a first ending bracket. The handbell part is marked *ff* and includes a first ending bracket. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

*Five octave choirs may double the melody up an octave in measures 1–8 and 17–27.

**Five octave choirs may double the bass line melody down an octave in measures 9–16.

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Measures 13-28 of the musical score.

*The G3 should be rung by five octave choirs only.

Five Easy Celebrations

COMPOSER'S NOTES

The *Five Easy Celebrations* were written for use by younger choirs, youth, adults or seniors. They may be used in anything from junior high school music programs to worship services or weddings and other festive occasions.

All of the works were written in a short fanfare-like form, which is appropriate for church or school, and require few if any bell changes. Ringers are not asked to quickly alternate bells, and all of the works move to the relative minor key for their middle section so that tonal contrast is achieved without having to change bells.

Each work uses different rhythmic values:

No. 1 uses half notes and quarter notes;

No. 2, quarter notes and eighth notes;

No. 3, quarter notes and triplet eighth notes;

No. 4, dotted quarter and eighth notes; and

No. 5 uses a combination of the values used throughout the collection.

Thus they may be used to introduce and teach different rhythmic concepts, while still being suitable for public performance. Several different handbell techniques are used as well, including the Shake, Plucking, Martellato and Malleting.

Optional notes for four and five octave choirs have been added since there is very little easy literature published for groups with larger bell sets. Doubling notes up an octave has been suggested in footnotes only so that the score is easier to read.

Directors are encouraged to adapt the works to suit their own needs. Additional length may be achieved by playing a Celebration through *mezzo piano* the first time, then *fortissimo* the second time. The form will even allow the work to be rung three times: *fortissimo*, *mezzo piano*, and *fortissimo*. If performed in this manner, groups with four or five octaves of bells may wish to ring three octaves for the quiet section and then add the optional notes to the *fortissimo* section to produce even greater contrast.

It is the composer's hope that these works will give choirs of all ages a relatively quick way to experience success, and that the resulting enthusiasm will carry them forward to meet the challenges of more demanding literature.



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