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Preface

Introduction
Sing It Simply is a collection of twenty-five familiar hymntunes arranged for piano with optional guitar, handbells, and bass. The settings are intended for unison singing, and many are in a lower key than is found in most standard hymnals. Some are complete reharmonizations while others are closely parallel standard harmonizations. The idea for this collection came from a presentation at a Hymn Society Conference on arranging hymntunes for folk-style piano and guitar.

Descants
Optional descants are provided for each tune. Intended for handbells, most utilize bells found within a two-octave set, and some may be played as bell tree arrangements. They may also be played on a C instrument, or in a few cases, might be sung by a small group on a syllable designated by the director. Consider using the descants sparingly, perhaps only on the introduction and final stanza.

Guitar, Bass, and Other Instruments
A separate guitar/bass part is provided with chords and melody. A bass player can play a bass line from the piano part or guitar lead sheet. Consider adding percussion instruments such as shakers, congas, or others. One might layer the parts, starting with piano and adding or subtracting the descant or other instruments on succeeding verses.

If the guitar player is able to do so, encourage him or her to improvise a free standing hymn stanza or a prelude or offertory based on the lead sheet. Include the bass player if possible.

I hope you will find these settings useful in your music ministry.

Thomas Keesecker
Metrical Index of Tunes

SM
(Short Meter—66 86)
St. Thomas

CM
(Common Meter— 86 86)
Azmon
Detroit
Land of Rest

CMD
(Common Meter Double—86 86 86 86)
Kingsfold

LM
(Long Meter— 88 88)
Duke Street
O Waly Waly

66 84 D
Leoni
Yigdal

76 76 D with refrain
Hankey

78 78 88
Liebster jesu, wir sind hier

84 84 88 44
Ar hyd y nos

86 866
Dove of Peace

87 87
Merton
St. Columba

87 87 D
Beach Spring
Holy Manna
Hyfrydol
Lord, Revive Us

8 7 8 7 8 7
Lauda Anima
Picardy
Praise, My Soul

10 10 with refrain
Break Bread Together
Let Us Break Bread

10 10 10 10 or 10 11 11 12
Slane

11 11 11 11
St. Denio

11 12 12 10
Nicaea

Irregular
Give Me Jesus
Nicaea
Ar hyd y nos
Piano with opt. Guitar, Handbells or C Instrument, and Bass

2 Octaves
Handbells Used: 8

Thomas Keesecker

Tune: AR HYD Y NOS, Traditional Welsh (PD).
Music: Newly composed, and copyright © 2012 with this publication.
Ar hyd y nos
Piano with opt. Guitar, Handbells, or C Instrument, and Bass

Thomas Keesecker

Guitar/Bass:
Capo 3

Tune: AR HYD Y NOS, Traditional Welsh (PD).
Music: Newly composed, and copyright © 2012 with this publication.
Handbells/C Instrument

Tune: *AR HYD Y NOS*, Traditional Welsh (PD).

Music: Newly composed, and copyright © 2012 with this publication.
Hyfrydol
Piano with opt. Guitar, Handbells or C Instrument, and Bass

2 Octaves
Handbells Used: 7

Tune: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887, and written in 1831 (PD).
Music: Newly composed, and copyright © 2012 with this publication.
Guitar/Bass

Hyfrydol

Piano with opt. Guitar, Handbells or C Instrument, and Bass

Thomas Keesecker

Tune: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887, and written in 1831 (PD).
Music: Newly composed, and copyright © 2012 with this publication.

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Hyfrydol

Handbells/C Instrument

Piano with opt. Guitar, Handbells or C Instrument, and Bass

Thomas Keesecker

Tune: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887, and written in 1831 (PD).
Music: Newly composed, and copyright © 2012 with this publication.
Nicaea
Piano with opt. Guitar, Handbells or C Instrument, and Bass

2 Octaves
Handbells Used: 9

Piano

Handbells

C Am7 G G/E F C

Tune: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823-1876, and written in 1861 (PD).
Music: Newly composed, and copyright © 2012 with this publication.
Reproducible Part for Guitar/Bass

Guitar/Bass

Nicaea
Piano with opt. Guitar, Handbells or C Instrument, and Bass

Thomas Keesecker

Guitar/Bass: C Am7 G C /E F C

G Am7 G/B C G/D D7 G7

C Am7 G C /E F FM7 C /B

Am7 Em7 F C C#7 Dm7 Gsus G7 C C

Tune: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823-1876, and written in 1861 (PD).
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Reproducible Part for Handbells/C Instrument

Nicaea
Piano with opt. Guitar, Handbells or C Instrument, and Bass

2 Octaves
Handbells Used: 9

[Music notation]

Thomas Keesecker

Tune: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823-1876, and written in 1861 (PD).
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