

April 2025

The Handcart Song

Merrily ♩ = 80-88 (Conduct two beats to a measure.)

When pi - o-neers moved to the West, With cour-age strong they met the test. They

Chords: B^b, E^b, B^b, F⁷, B^b

Fingerings: 1, 4, 5, 5, 5, 2, 1

Bass line: 5, 1, 5, 3, 5

pushed their hand - carts all day long, And as they pushed they sang this song:

Chords: E^b, B^b, F⁷, B^b

Fingerings: 3, 1, 1, 5, 1, 5

Bass line: 3, 2, 1, 5, 1, 5

Optional descant

Push and pull As we go up the hill;

Chords: E^b, B^b, F⁷, B^b

Fingerings: 5, 4, 5

Bass line: 5, 4, 5

For some must push and some must pull, As we go march - ing up the hill;

So on our way Un - til we reach the Val - ley - o.

Chords: E^b, B^b, F⁷, B^b

Fingerings: 2, 3, 1

Bass line: 5, 5, 5

So mer - ri - ly on our way we go Un - til we reach the Val - ley - o.

Words: Original text by John Daniel Thompson McAllister, 1827-1910.

New verse by Lucile Cardon Reading, 1909-1982. © 1969 IRI

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