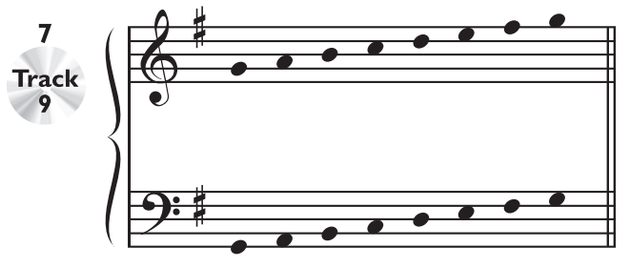
Transposing to the Key of G Major

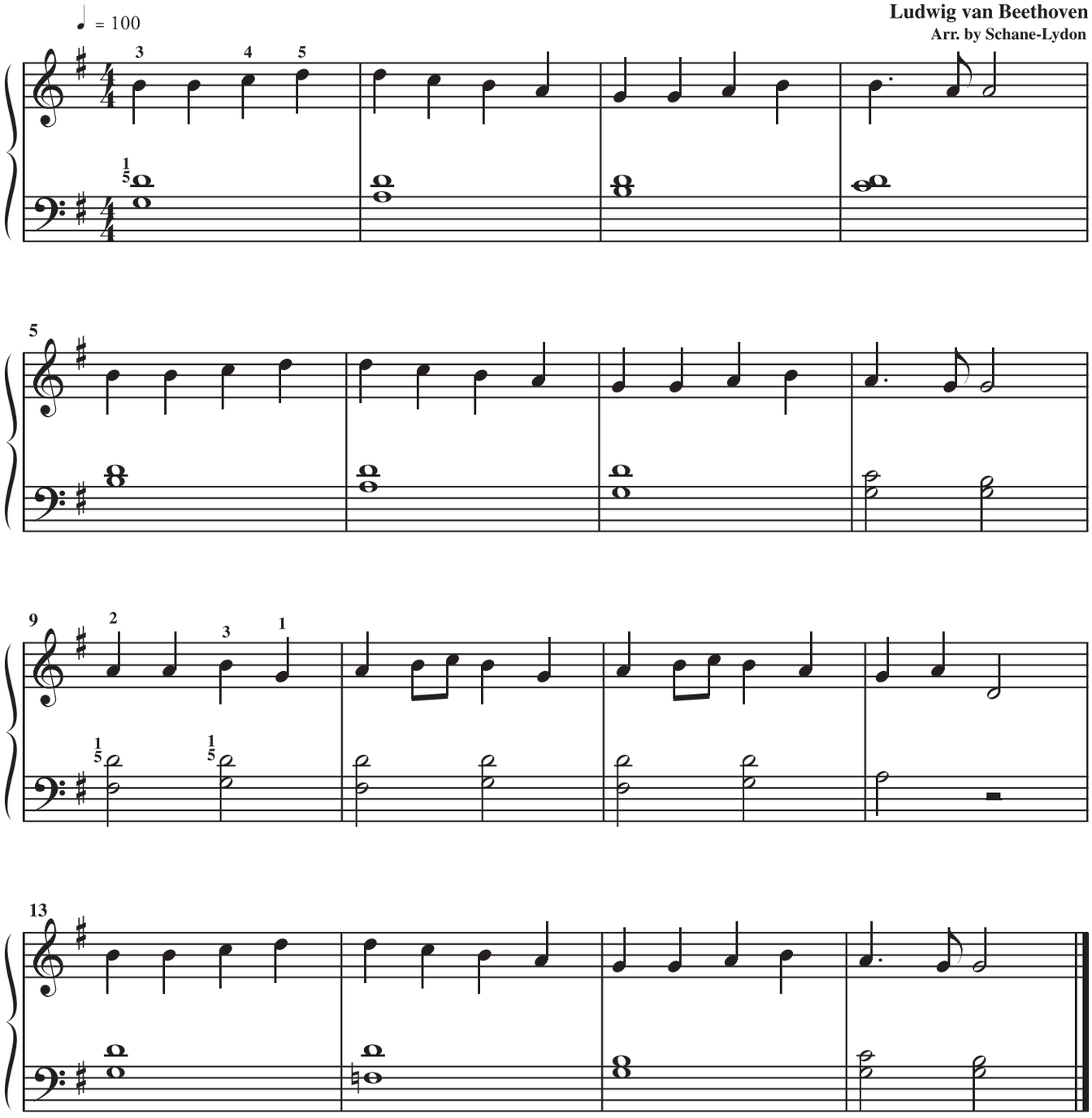
To the right is the G Major scale. Notice that the key signature has only one sharp, F♯. Do not forget to replace F with F♯ in the scale! Try playing through it here and on page 100 as well. Get used to the fingerings and how the intervals fall on the keys. Play through it many times, then go on to the piece below.

Let's play "Ode to Joy" in the key of G Major. Like before, the melodic and harmonic intervals did not change, only the tonal center has changed.



Ode to Joy
(Key of G)

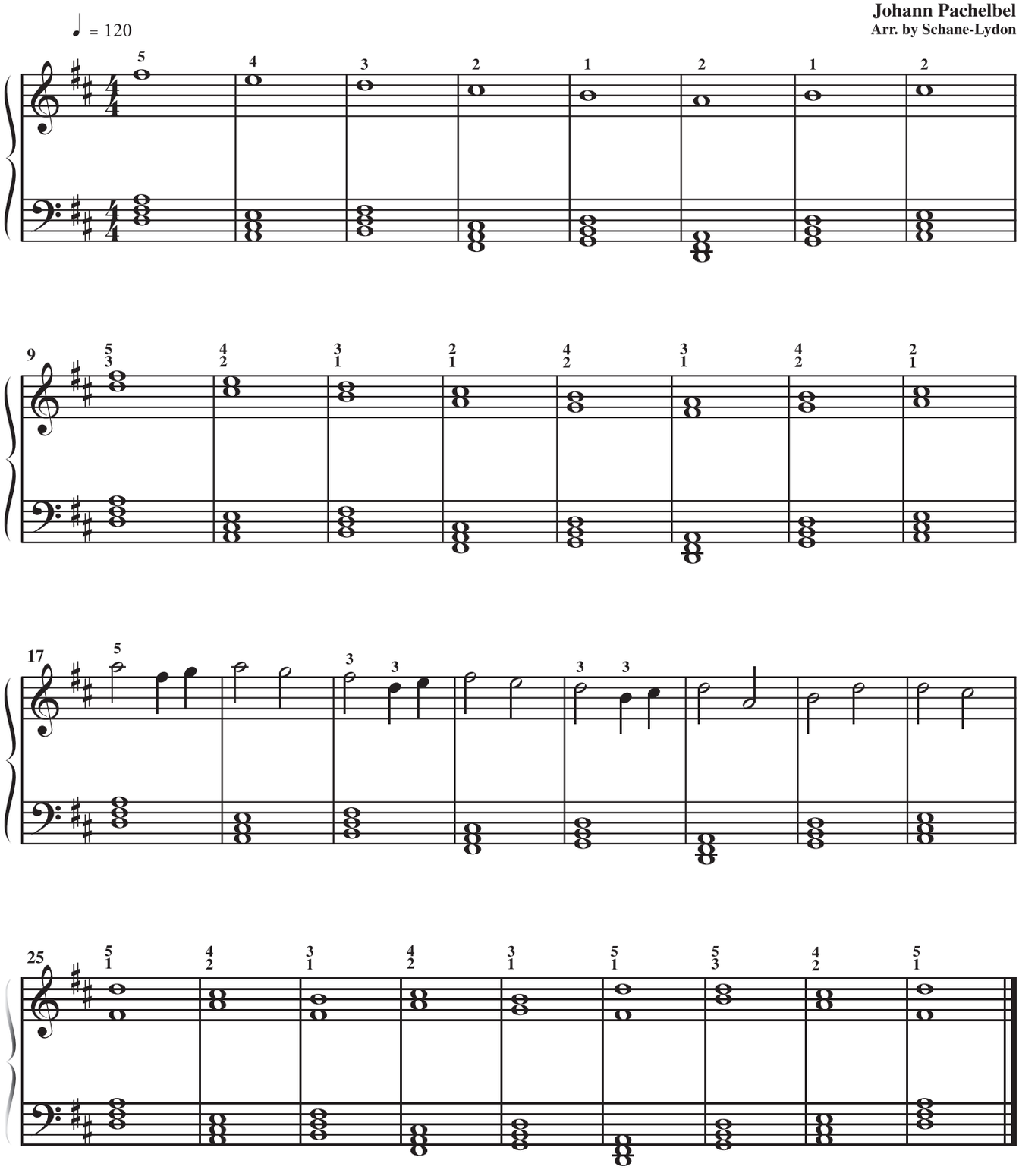
Track 10



Once you're comfortable with the arrangement on the previous page (and your left hand is successfully jumping around and hitting those chords), try the following arrangement in the original key of D Major. Remember that the scale of D Major has two sharps: F♯ and C♯.

Pachelbel's Canon (Key of D, Triads)

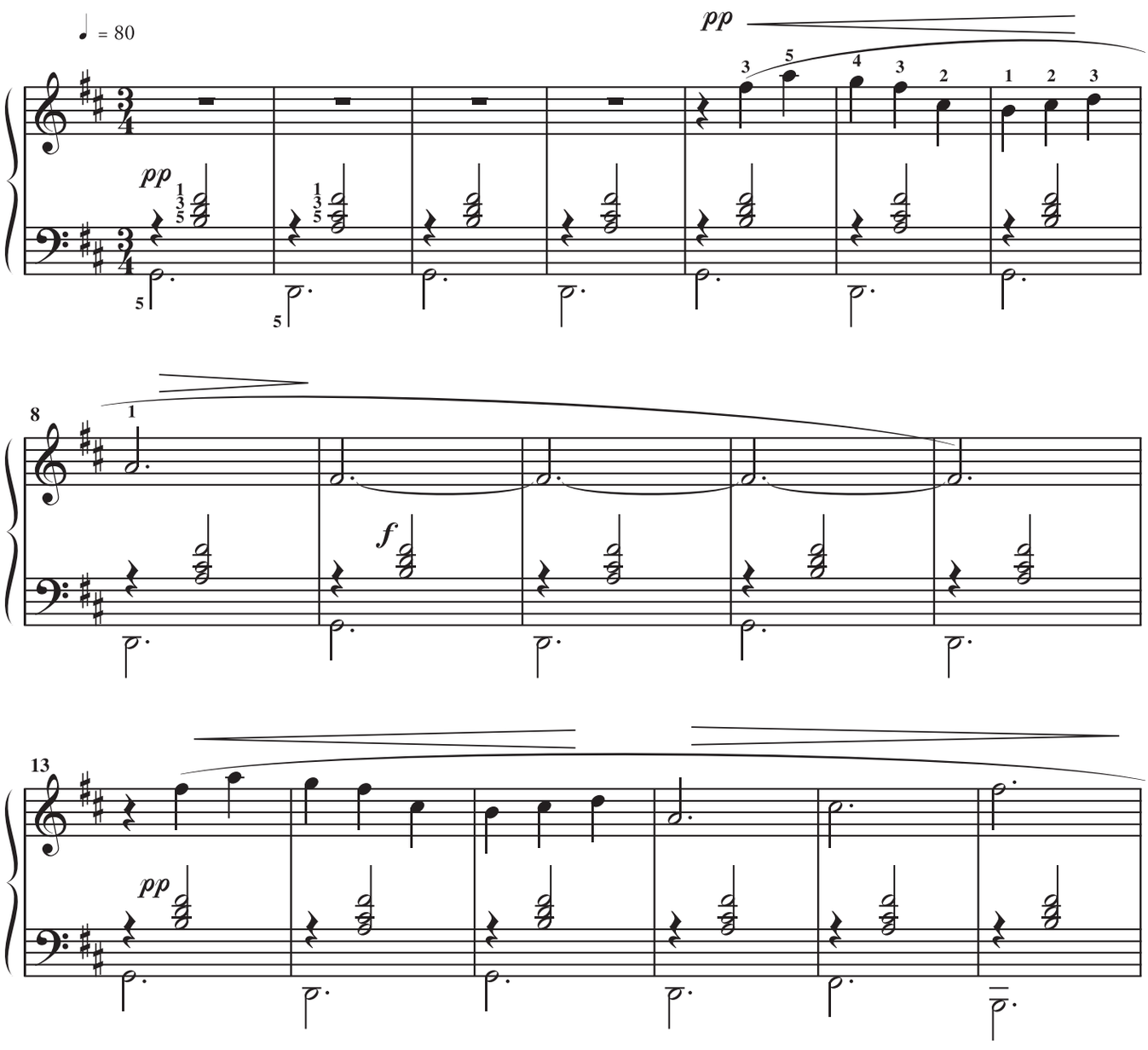
Johann Pachelbel
Arr. by Schane-Lydon



Preparing for "Gymnopédie No. 1"

"Gymnopédie No. 1" is by the French composer Erik Satie (1866–1925). This piece, written in $\frac{3}{4}$ time, should be performed slowly, with almost a bittersweet quality. You'll notice in the accompaniment that the left hand plays a bass note followed by the rest of a chord in a very slow, sort of stride style. (Stride is a piano style characterized by large leaps in the left hand). The right hand plays the melody and occasionally helps out the left with a well-placed thumb. The trick here is to make everything sound effortless, legato, and calm. You'll want to use a lot of sustain pedal to help smooth everything out. When playing this piece, think of a soft, dreamy summer day, with no place to go—just taking the time to breathe and watch the clouds go by.

Track 56

Gymnopédie No. 1

Erik Satie