Simple Sample of Gifts by Julie Goldberg; Based on the Shaker Melody, Simple Gifts by Elder Joseph Brackett

Notes

Guitar I is the most difficult. It employs notes in the higher positions and more challenging techniques. Often doubling Guitar II, or harmonizing the melody at a higher octave Guitar.

Guitar II carries the main melody of this piece and plays notes almost exclusively in first position. The exception is in M44 where Guitar II plays “a” first string 5th fret. Rhythms include half, whole, quarter, dotted-quarter and eighth notes.

Guitar III employs the first 3 strings of the guitar and open chords.

Guitar IV is a rhythm guitar part with chords symbols and extended percussion techniques.

Guitar V can be played on a traditional guitar or on a contra (bass) guitar.

Extended Techniques and Special Effects

Strum Down, from lowest to highest sounding string.

Strum up, from highest to lowest sounding string.

Strum down, down-up, down, down.

Harmonics. Play the harmonic on the string 1st string at the 12th fret, followed by the harmonic on the 3rd string at the fifth fret.
Snare Drum Effect. Cross the fifth string over the sixth string with the left hand finger at the seventh fret. Play the strings so that both string are struck at the same time. As the crossed strings rattle against the fret bars, a drum-roll like sound is produced.

Windmill Effect. Strum all six strings above the nut, up-down-up. A pick can be used to get a louder sound.

Portamento. Play all notes on the first string. Pluck or articulate the grace note on the beat. Slide to the second note. Do not articulate the second note with the right hand.

Bartok pizzicato. Fret the note as indicated. With your right hand, hold the string between your thumb and index finger. Pull the string away from the fret-board. Release or pluck the string and let it snap back onto the fretboard.

Golpe. Strike the side of the guitar with right finger-tips or palm, right hand, left hand, right hand.