# PEDAL TECHNIQUE

Position on the bench:

- 1. Sit in middle of the bench with the right foot hovering over tenor "e" and the left foot hovering over tenor "c" (pedal board includes bottom 32 notes of keyboard).
- 2. Sit tall (as if sternum is attached to the ceiling with a string) with half your thighs supported by the bench and legs hanging at a 90-degree angle from thighs to feet.

3. Move bench forward enough that toes fall 1½ to 2 inches in front of black (chromatic) pedal notes.

4. If bench is adjustable, pedal notes should stop sounding (with pedal stops on) if abdominal muscles tighten to lift legs just a quarter of an inch.

# Make your legs and feet as efficient as your hands and fingers:

1. Thighs and knees together = palm of hand (pillar of stability)

2. Legs = fingers

- 3. Big toe (flat) on front third/half of black (chromatic) pedal notes, and surface of foot from ball to big toe (tipped inward) on white pedal notes = finger tips
- 4. Pedal is played using the ankle as the fulcrum (hinge), not the pelvis. Head and torso should not move when pedal is played; neither should the knee lift the foot.
- 5. When the toe depresses a white pedal key, the heel should slightly leave the surface of the key. When the pedal is released, toe and heel should be level again, lightly touching the surface of the pedal key.
- 6. When a pedal is released, the foot should not leave the surface of the key. Do not let the pedal snap back to its original position; let the toe control the pedal release.

## Contact between feet:

- 1. Through the interval of a 4<sup>th</sup> (G C for example), heels should stay touching when both toes are on black (chromatic) pedal notes.
- 2. Through the interval of a 4<sup>th</sup>, heel/arch should maintain contact when playing white pedal notes or one white/one black pedal note.
- 3. When the right toe needs to scissor outward to a new note, the left heel (or heel/arch) should move to the right to open the angle between the toes.
- 4. When the left toe scissors outward to a new note, the right heel (or heel/arch) should move to the left to open the angle between the toes.
- 5. The angles between the heels or heel/arch should be equal at the point of contact.

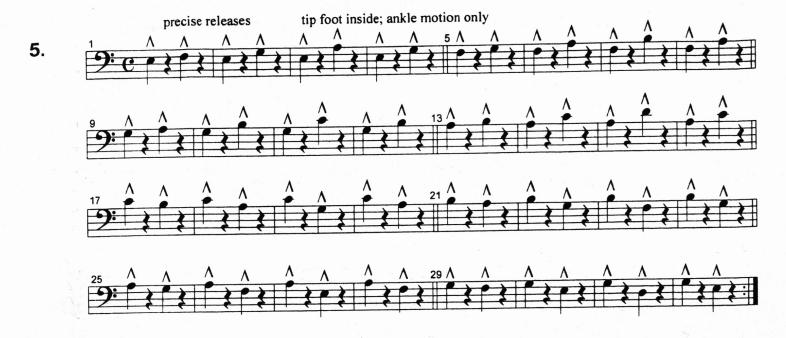
## Reference tools for the feet:

- 1. Sensing notes with the bottoms of the feet
- 2. Visualizing angles between the feet
- 3. Using "corner chromatics"

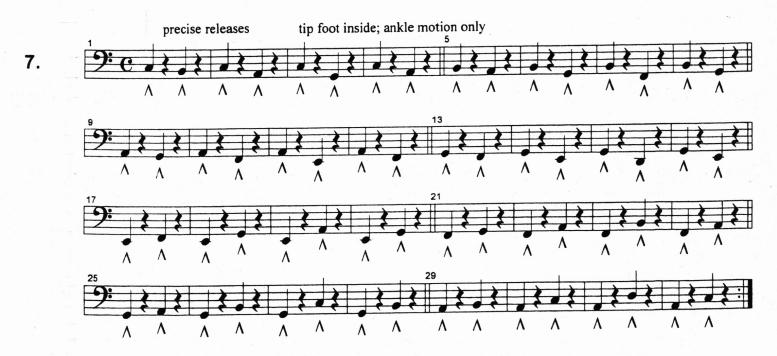
# SENSING WITH BOTTOM OF FOOT







6. Play exercise in three flats (play as written, but play all Bs, Es, and As flat).



8. Play exercise in three flats (play as written, but play all Bs, Es, and As flat).

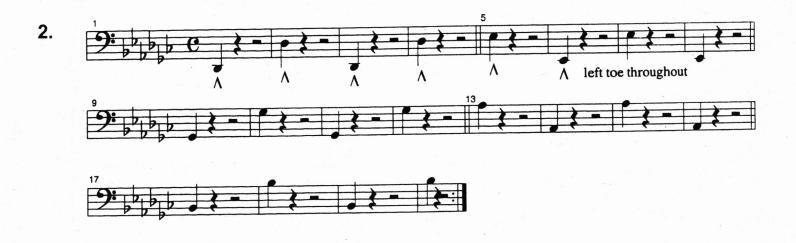
# **VISUALIZING ANGLES**



# "CORNER CHROMATICS"



Play exercise an octave lower with the left toe.

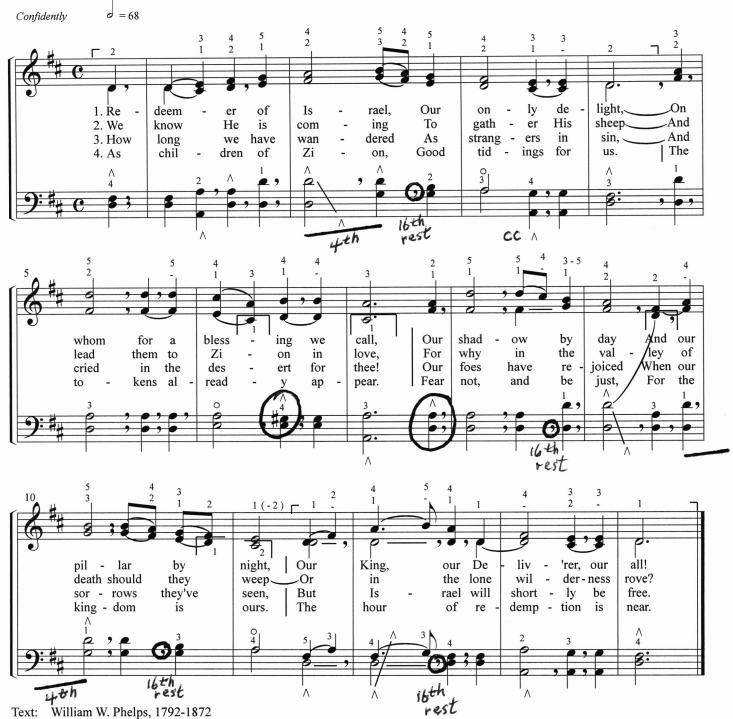






### **Redeemer of Israel**

#### "Dulcimer"

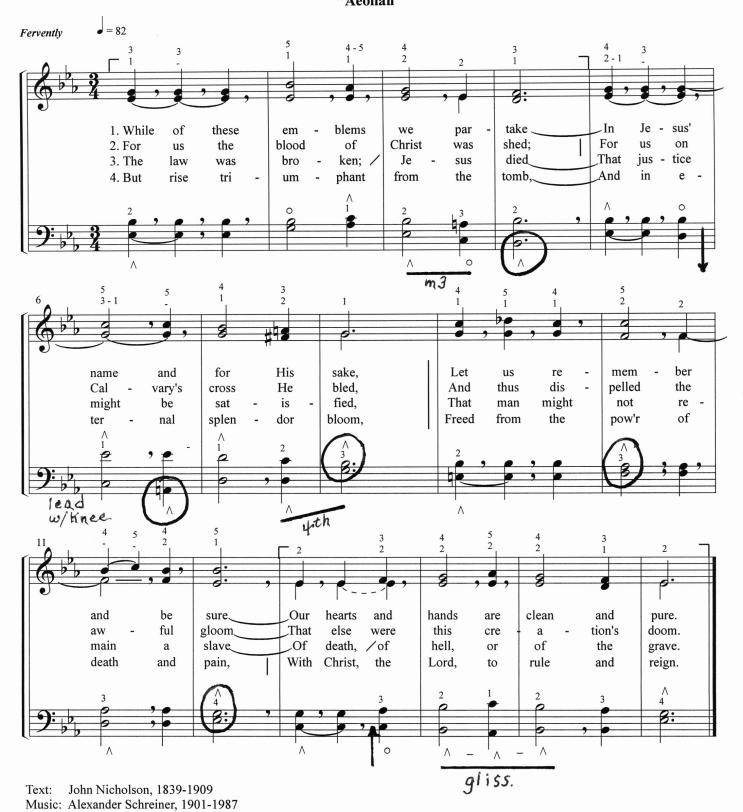


William W. Phelps, 1792-1872 Music: Freeman Lewis, 1780-1859

> 5. Restore, my dear Savior, The light of thy face; Thy soul-cheering comfort impart; And let the sweet longing For thy holy place Bring hope to my desolate heart.

6. He looks! and ten thousands Of angels rejoice, And myriads wait for his word; He speaks! and eternity, Filled with his voice, Re-echoes the praise of the Lord.

# While of These Emblems We Partake "Aeolian"



#### ORGAN SHOES

#### (www.store.organmastershoes.com) Organmaster Shoes

Women's:

Mary Jane

\$52.50

Stocked sizes: 4 to 11 (3 widths - whole and half sizes)

+ shipping

Colors: black, navy, bone, and white

Leather uppers, suede leather soles, elasticized strap

with buckle for perfect fit

Diana

\$52.50

Stocked sizes: 4 to 11 (3 widths - whole and half sizes)

+ shipping

(This style runs a bit small - order ½ size larger)

Colors: silver or soft gold

Fabric uppers, suede leather soles, elasticized strap

with buckle for perfect fit

Men's:

Lace-up Oxford

\$60.50

Stocked sizes: 6.5 to 16 (3 widths up to size 14)

+ shipping

Color: black only

Tic Tac Toe Shoes

(Google: TicTacToe Shoes Organ)

These shoes run anywhere from \$10.00 to \$15.00 more than Organmaster Shoes. However, they have more styles and colors available.