

For the Grace United Methodist Church Choir, Wilmington, Delaware

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

SATB, Flute, Handbells, and Harp or Piano

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Neil Harmon

Joyfully (♩ = 67)

Harp
or
Piano

(Handbells)

8

16

Unison mf

S
A

I heard the bells on Christ - mas Day their old — fa - mil - iar

T
B

Unison mf

mf

Available editions:

Choir Score, Order No. MSM-50-1580.

Full Score, Order No. MSM-50-1580A.

Reproducible instrumental parts (Flute, Handbells, and Harp), Order No. MSM-50-1580B.

NOTE: Throughout, choirs may wish to substitute "...good will to all!" for the original "...good will to men!"

Text: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 1807-1882, and published in 1867 as "Christmas Bells" in the volume titled *Flower-de-Luce* (PD).

Music: Newly composed, and copyright © 2013 with this publication.

Copyright © 2013 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP)

A division of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc., St. Louis, MO

All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A. 1.800.647.2117 www.MorningStarMusic.com

Reproducing this publication in any form is prohibited by law without the permission of the publisher.

MSM-50-1580

The CCLI License does not give permission to copy this music.

20

car - ols play, and wild and sweet the words re - peat of peace on earth, —

24

A

— good will to men!

28

Div. mf

S
A

And thought how, as the day had come, the bel - fies of all

32

Chris - ten - dom had rolled a - long th'un - bro - ken song of peace on earth, —

36

— good will to men!

rit.

(Handbells)

rit.

42

B **Slow and ponderous**

mp

And in de - spair I

Div. mp

Slow and ponderous

S
A

T
B

46

bowed— my head; “There is no peace on earth,”— I said; “For

hate— is strong,— and mocks— the song— of peace on earth,—

peace, peace on

49

hate— is strong,— and mocks— the song— of peace on earth,—

peace, peace on

C **Tempo primo** (♩ = 67)

52

good will to men.”

earth, good will to men.”

Tempo primo (♩ = 67)

(Handbells)

57

Piano accompaniment for measures 57-63. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with chords and single notes.

64

Unison f

S
A

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: "God is not dead, nor

T
B

Unison f

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: "God

Piano accompaniment for measures 64-67. The right hand has a more active melodic line, and the left hand continues with a bass line. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is present in measure 65.

68

Div.

sub. mp
with

doth he sleep! The Wrong shall fail, the Right pre-vail, with

Div.

with
sub. mp

is not dead;

Piano accompaniment for measures 68-74. The right hand features a complex texture with chords and a melodic line. The left hand has a bass line with chords. A dynamic marking of *f* is present in measure 68. A glissando marking is present in measure 74.

D

72

peace on earth, good will to men."

peace, peace on earth, good will to men."

peace on earth, good will to men."

sub. mp *mf*

76

Till, ring - ing, sing - ing on its way, the

f

Till ring - ing, sing - ing on its way, the

Till, ring - ing, sing - ing on its way, the

f

Till, ring - ing, sing - ing on its way, the

f

world re-volved from night to day, A voice, a chime; _____

80

world re-volved from night to day, A voice, a chime, a
world re-volved from night to day, A voice, a chime; _____

world re-volved from night to day, A voice, a chime, a

_____ a voice, a chime; _____ a

83

chant sub-lime; a voice, a chime, a chant sub-lime; a
_____ a voice, a chime; _____ a

chant sub-lime; a voice, a chime, a chant sub-lime; a

voice, a chime; _____ of peace on earth, _____

86

voice, a chime, a chant sub-lime of peace on earth, _____
 voice, a chime; _____ of peace of earth, _____

voice, a chime, a chant sub-lime of peace on earth, _____

_____ good will to men! **E** Peace on earth, good

89

_____ good will to men!
 _____ good will to men! Peace on earth, good

_____ good will to men!

94 will to men! Peace on earth, good will to
 Peace on earth, good will to men! Peace on
 will to men! Peace on earth, good will to
 Peace on earth, good will to men! Peace on

99 men! Peace on earth!
 earth, good will to men! Peace on earth, good
 men! peace on earth!
 earth, good will to men!

104

will to men! A - men!

ff

ff

109

A - men!

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.