

# I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

Text: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

SATB, youth choir (opt.), organ & piano, chimes

Music: Jules Baptiste Calkin  
Arranged by Catherine A. Tibbitts

**With feeling** *Children's chorus:* *mf* I heard the bells on Christ-mas Day, their old fa-mi-liar car-ols play, and

*Adult Choir Women:* *mf* I heard the bells on Christ-mas Day, their old fa-mi-liar car-ols play, and

chimes on synthesizer

Synthesizer (or real chimes)

Organ *ORGAN*

Piano *PIANO*

**With feeling**

9

Choir wild and sweet the words re-peat of peace on earth good will to men. I thought how, as the day had come, the

*All men* *mf*

Synth.

Org.

Pno.

17

Choir  
 bel -fries of all Chris -ten -don had rolled a long th'un -bro - ken song of peace on earth, good will to men.

Synth.

Org.  
 organ manuals only, *mp*

Pno.  
*tr*  
*simile*

24

Choir  
*mp* And in des-pair I bowed my head."There is no peace on earth," I said."For  
 In de - spair There is no peace. For

Synth.

Org.  
*mp* still only manual

Pno.  
*mp*

31 *Children's chorus*

*f* Then pealed the bells more

hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men. *f* Then pealed the bells more

hate is strong and mocks the song of peace *f* Then pealed the bells more

Org. *add pedals*

Pno. *no pedals*

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38

loud and deep! God is not dead, nor doth he sleep; the wrong shall fail, the right pre-vail, with peace on earth, good will to

loud and deep! God is not dead, nor doth he sleep; the wrong shall fail, the right pre-vail, with peace on earth, good will to

loud and deep! God is not dead, nor doth he sleep; the wrong shall fail, the right pre-vail, with peace on earth, good will to

Synth.

Org. *no pedals*

Pno. *no pedals*

45

*Children's chorus*

*ff* Till, ring - ing sing - ing

*First Sopranos*

men." *ff* Till, ring - ing sing - ing

*2nd Sopranos and Altos*

men." *ff* Till, ring - ing sing - ing

*Tenors and Basses*

men." *ff* Till, ring - ing sing - ing

Synth. *chimes on synthesizer*

Org. *add* *mf*

Pno. *ff* 1 2 3 1 6 *ff* *ff*

50

on its way, the world re - volved from night to day, a voice a chime a chant su - blime, of

on its way the world from night to day a voice a chime a chant su - blime, of

on its way, the world re - volved from night to day, a voice, a chime, a chant su blime, of

on its way, the world re - volved from night to day, a

Synth.

Org.

Pno.

55

The musical score for page 55 consists of four staves: Choir, Synth., Org., and Pno. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics for the choir are "peace, of peace." repeated across the staves. The score includes various performance markings such as *mp*, *poco rit.*, *mf*, *a tempo*, *p*, and *reduce*. The Pno. part features a complex rhythmic pattern with many beamed notes and rests. The Org. part has a similar rhythmic pattern with some sustained chords. The Synth. part has a melodic line with many beamed notes. The Choir part has a simple melody with long notes and rests.

Choir  
peace, of peace.  
peace, of peace.  
peace, of peace.  
of peace of peace.

Synth.

Org.  
*poco rit.*  
*reduce*  
*p*  
*mp*

Pno.  
*poco rit.*  
*mf*  
*a tempo*  
*rit*  
*p*