

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

Words Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

For SSATB Choir

Music John Baptiste Calkin

Arr. Amy Dalton

Thoughtfully ♩ = 76

mp

The piano introduction is in 4/4 time, marked *Thoughtfully* with a tempo of ♩ = 76. It features a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, both in a B-flat major key signature.

*“Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace, good will
toward men.” - Luke 2:14*



4 5 *women unison*

mp I heard the bells on Christ - mas day Their old fa - mil - iar

The first vocal line is marked *women unison* and begins at measure 4. The piano accompaniment continues from the previous section. The lyrics are: "I heard the bells on Christ - mas day Their old fa - mil - iar".

8

car - ols play, And wild and sweet the words re-peat Of peace on earth, good

The second vocal line begins at measure 8. The piano accompaniment continues. The lyrics are: "car - ols play, And wild and sweet the words re-peat Of peace on earth, good".

12 13

will to men.

men unison

I thought how, as the day had come, The bel-fries of all

12 *l.h.*

16

Chris - ten-dom Had rolled a-long th un - bro - ken song Of peace on earth, good

16

20 *S. A.* 21

T. B. And in despair I bowed my head: There is no peace on

will to men.

20

24 25

earth, I said, For hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, of

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in G major with a key signature of one flat (F major). It begins with a treble clef and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "earth, I said, For hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, of". A box containing the number "25" is positioned above the second measure. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment with a bass clef and a common time signature, featuring a steady bass line and chords.

Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for the first system. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef, both in G major with a key signature of one flat. The music consists of chords and a simple bass line.

28

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

Detailed description: This system contains the second two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics: "peace on earth, good will, good will to men." The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment. A fermata is placed over the final measure of the vocal line.

Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for the second system. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef, both in G major with a key signature of one flat. The music features chords and a moving bass line.

32 35

mf Then pealed the bells more

Detailed description: This system contains the third two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics: "Then pealed the bells more". A box containing the number "35" is positioned above the second measure. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment. The dynamic marking *mf* is placed above the first measure of the vocal line.

Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for the third system. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef, both in G major with a key signature of one flat. The music features chords and a moving bass line.

36

loud and deep: God is not dead, nor doth he sleep; The wrong shall fail, the

40 *cresc.*

right pre-vail, With peace on earth, good will to men, with

cresc.

44

peace on earth, good will to men. *f* Till,

48

ring - ing, sing - ing, on its way, The world re - volved from night to day, A

52

voice, a chime, a chant sub-lime, Of peace on earth, good will to

52

56

dim.

women unison 58

men! *mp* I heard the bells on Christ - mas day sing

men unison

mp

The

56

dim.

mp

60

peace on earth. Then pealed the bells more loud and deep with
 bel - fries of all Chris - ten-dom sang peace on earth. And

60 *l.h.*

64

peace on earth. peace on
 rolled a-long th un - bro - kensong of peace on earth.

68

69

earth, *p* peace on earth.

68 *p* *L.h.*