

In honor of the 250th anniversary of the death of Johann Sebastian Bach

God's Time Is Always Best

Cantata # 106 - *Gottes Zeit ist die allerbeste Zeit*

Level II

3, 4, or 5 octaves

Handbells used: 30, (38), (45)

Handbell notation for the first system, showing a treble and bass staff with various notes and optional markings. The treble staff has a melodic line with some notes marked as optional. The bass staff has a similar line. A bracket labeled 'optional' spans the end of the treble staff.

3 octave choirs omit notes in ().

J. S. Bach, 1685–1750

Arranged by John A. Behnke (ASCAP)

Piano accompaniment notation for the first system, including measures 1 through 6. The tempo is marked 'Adagio, ♩ = 70'. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 4/4. The notation includes various chords and melodic lines for both hands. Dynamics include *mp* (mezzo-piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *rit. p* (ritardando piano). Measure 1 starts with a rest in the treble and a bass line. Measures 2-3 show more complex chordal textures. Measure 4 has a *mf* dynamic. Measure 5 has a *rit. p* dynamic. Measure 6 ends with a final chord. There are also some optional markings like '*' and '+' in the bass line of measure 1.

* If possible, mallet the bottom octave bass notes with stems down (bells on table). All other notes are rung.

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* [Musical notation for measures 7-9]

7 8 9

a tempo *mf*

10 11 12

f

13 14 15

mf

16 17

f

* 4 and 5 octave choirs may double the top note an octave higher through measure 19, beat 3.

** Throughout the piece, the melody should always be slightly louder than the accompaniment below.