

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

*And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,
"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!" Luke 2:13-14*

The musical score is written for a four-part vocal ensemble (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The score consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line with four parts and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines. The first system covers the first four lines of the lyrics. The second system covers the next four lines. The third system covers the final four lines, including a repeat sign at the end.

1. I heard the bells on Christ - mas day their old fa -
2. I thought how, as the day had come, the bel - fries
3. And in de - spair I bowed my head: "There is no
4. Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: "God is not

mil - iar car - ols play, and wild and sweet the
of all Chris - ten - dom had rolled a - long th'un -
peace on earth," I said, "For hate is strong, and
dead, nor does He sleep; the wrong shall fail, the

words re - peat of peace on earth, good will to men.
bro - ken song of peace on earth, good will to men.
mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men."
right pre - vail, with peace on earth, good will to men."

TEXT: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 1864

MUSIC: John Calkin, 1872