

# JINGLE BELLS

Two-part voices with Piano

James Lord Pierpont

Arranged by Laura Farnell

**BriLee Music**  
**Part-by-Part**



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Range:



Language: English  
Use: Holiday  
Time: Approx. 3:15  
\*Difficulty: Moderate

## Performance Notes

*Jingle Bells* is one of the most popular American Christmas carols and is known world-wide. Though the piece is now most often sung at Christmas, it was originally intended to be sung at Thanksgiving. Written by James Pierpont in the fall of 1857, the piece describes a ride through the snow in an uncovered (open) sleigh behind one horse. Long ago when people used horse-drawn sleighs for winter transportation, bells were attached to the horse's harnesses so that they would jingle as the horse trotted. Since a trotting horse and gliding sleigh make almost no noise on the snow, these bells helped alert other people that a sleigh was coming and prevented collisions. Listen for the sound of the jingling bells in both the rhythm of the original tune, as well as the "jing-a-ling" motives throughout the piece.

The lesser-known second verse of the carol describes how the sleigh driver decided to invite "Miss Fannie Bright" to ride along in the sleigh. However, because the horse seemed accident-prone, the driver and passenger ended up in the snow when the sleigh overturned! Listen for the changes in the piano accompaniment at the end of verse two that depicts the sleigh getting "upsot". ("Upsot" is the past tense of "upset", which in this case means "turned over".)

This arrangement has a multi-meter (3+3+2) feel in many places, giving it a fun, dance-like quality. Listen for the ways the motives and rhythms match in the first and second halves of the piece to help you perform the meter changes. Also, when performing the "jing-a-ling" motives, strive for an almost whispered quality with a lot of initial "J" consonant to remind your audience of the jingling bells. Sing this piece with a lot of energy and excitement, both in your consonant articulation (how clearly you pronounce the words) and in your facial expressions to make this fun story come to life for your audience!

## About the Arranger

Laura Farnell is a choral composer, clinician, accompanist, and adjudicator from Arlington, Texas. After graduating summa cum laude from Baylor University with her Bachelor of Music Education in Choral Music (with a piano emphasis), Laura taught elementary music for two years in Mansfield, Texas, followed by eight years of teaching junior high choir in Arlington, Texas. She was honored by both of her schools with Teacher of the Year awards in 2000 and 2003, and she received an Excellence in Education Award in 2004 as the Arlington Independent School District's outstanding junior high teacher of the year.

Laura presently serves as an invited clinician for district, region, and state honor choirs across the country. She also presents workshops and music reading sessions for choir directors at both district and state levels. She has served as a clinician and/or presentator at music conferences in Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Texas, and Wisconsin. A prolific composer, she especially enjoys writing and arranging music for middle school choirs. She is represented by several music publishers with more than sixty choral compositions in print. She is the co-author of *SOS: Save our Sightsinging*, a method book published by BriLee Music.

# Jingle Bells

for Two-part Treble Voices\* with Piano

3

Traditional Christmas Song

Traditional Christmas Song  
*Arranged by Laura Farnell*

♩ = 108 - 112

Piano

*mp*

3 Part 2 *mp*

Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing, jing. Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing, jing.

5 Part 1 *mf*

Dash - ing through the snow in a

Part 2

Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing, jing. Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing, jing.

\* Also available for Three-part Mixed Voices (BL878).

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one horse — o - pen sleigh.

Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing, jing. Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing, jing.

O'er the — fields we go,

Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing, jing. Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing, jing.

laugh - ing all the way! — Bells on — bob-tail

Laugh - ing, laugh - ing all — the way!

15

ring! Yes, they're mak - ing spi - rits

Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing, jing. Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing, jing.

17

bright! What fun it is to

Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing, jing. Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing, jing.

19

ride and sing a sleigh - ing song to - night! Oh!

Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing-a-ling-a-ling, a sleigh - ing song to - night! Oh!

\*Throughout piece, omit cued notes if more accessible accompaniment part is desired.

♩ = 112-116 (♩ = ♩)

22

*mf* unis.

Jin - gle bells! Jin - gle bells!

*mf*

26

Jin - gle all the way! \_\_\_\_\_

30

Oh, what fun it is to

33

ride in a one horse o - pen sleigh! \_\_\_\_\_

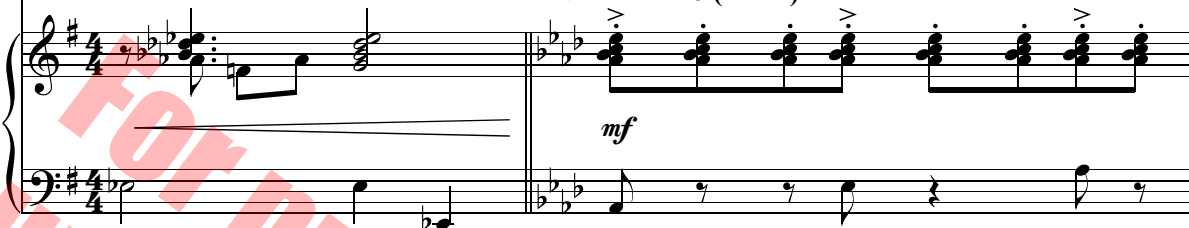


53

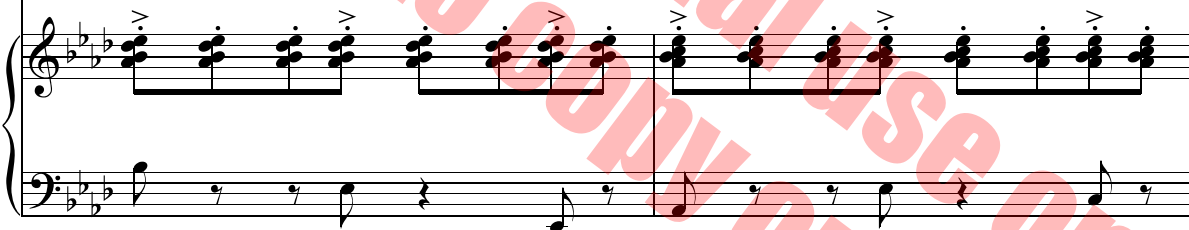
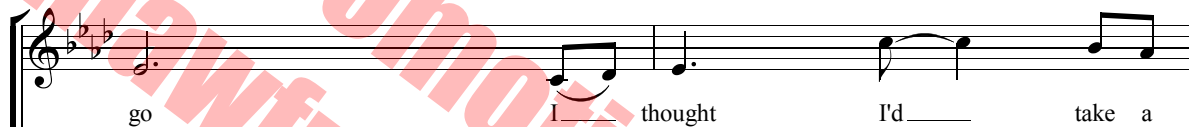
## Part 1

*f* $\text{♩} = 112-116 (\text{♩} = \text{♩})$ 

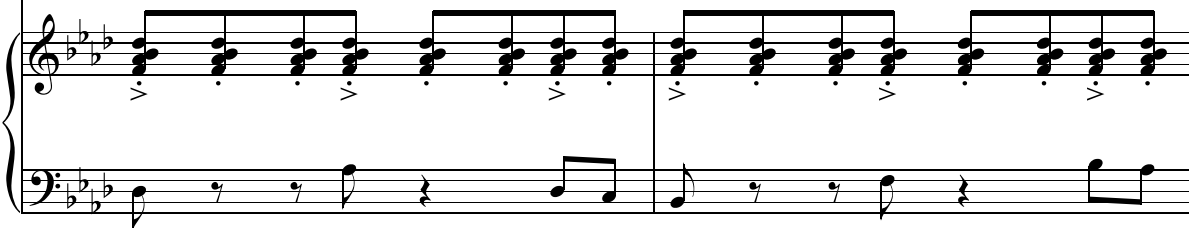
## Part 2

*mf* $\text{♩} = 112-116 (\text{♩} = \text{♩})$ 

55



57





59

Bright was seat - ed by \_\_\_\_ my

Jing - a - ling - a - ling, Jing - a - ling - a - ling, Jing, jing.

61

side. The horse was \_\_\_\_ lean and

Yes, she was seat - ed by my side.

63

lank. Mis - for - tune \_\_\_\_ seemed his

Jing - a - ling - a - ling, Jing - a - ling - a - ling, Jing, jing. Jing - a - ling - a - ling, Jing - a - ling - a - ling, Jing, jing.

65

lot We got in - to a

Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing, jing. Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing, jing.

67

drift - ed bank then we got up - sot. \_\_\_\_\_

Jing-a-ling-a-ling, Jing-a-ling-a-ling, And then we got up - sot. \_\_\_\_\_

70

*rit.* $\text{♩} = 112-116 (\text{♩} = \text{♩})$ ***f*** unis.

Jin - gle bells! Jin - gle

***f***

74

bells!      Jin - gle      all      the      way! \_\_\_\_\_

78

—      Oh,      what      fun      it      is      to

82

ride      in      a      one      horse      o - pen      sleigh! \_\_\_\_\_

86

Jin - gle      bells!      Jin - gle      bells!

Jin - gle all the way! \_\_\_\_\_

Oh, what fun it is to ride in a

one horse o - pen sleigh! \_\_\_\_\_

## Part 1

*cresc.*

One horse o - - pen sleigh! \_\_\_\_\_

Part 2

One horse o - - pen sleigh! \_\_\_\_\_

*cresc.*

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