

I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day

The lyrics of “I Heard the Bells On Christmas Day” were written during the Civil War by the famous American poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

His incessant wish for “peace on earth good will to men” reflects his, and the whole country’s anxieties in a time of war, especially while entering the joyful Christmas season.

Arnold Harris' new melody and setting for these words has two contrasting sections, each in a different meter and mood.

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I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day

words by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

music by Arnold Harris ©2021

♩ = 72 ♩♩ = ♩♩

I heard, I heard the bells
And thought how as the day
And in des-pair I bowed
Till ring - ing sing - ing on

on Christ-mas Day I heard, I heard the bells
the day had come and thought how as the day
and in des - pair I bowed my head, I bowed
Till ring - ing sing ing on its way its way

on Christ-mas Day
the day had come
I bowed my head
on its way

I heard, I heard the bells
how as the day had come
and in des - pair I bowed
til ring - ing sing - ing on

I heard, I heard the bells
and thought how as the day
and in des - pair I bowed
till ring - ing sing - ing on

♩.=60

27

on Christ-mas Day. Their old fa - mil - iar
 on Christ-mas Day The bel - fries of all
 on Christ-mas Day "There is no peace on
 on Christ-mas Day The world re - volved from

— on Christ-mas Day _____ Their old fa - mil - iar
 — the day had come _____ The bel - fries of all
 — I bowed my head _____ "There is no peace on
 — on _____ its way _____ The world re - volved from

11

ca - rols play and wild _____ and sweet the
 Christ - en - dom had rolled _____ a - long th'un -
 earth" I said; "for hate _____ is strong, and
 night to day a voice _____ a chime a

15

words re - peat of of peace _____ on earth good
 bro - ken song, of of " " " "
 mocks the song of of " " " "
 chant sub - lime of of " " " "

mp

mp

19

will to men_____

will to men_____

Their old fa -
 The bel - fries
 "There is no
 Till ring - ing

23

Their old fa - mil - iar ca - rols
 The bel - fries of all Christ en -
 "There is no peace on earth" I
 Till ring - ing sing - ing on its

mil - iar ca - rols play and wild and
 of all Christ - en - dom had rolled a -
 peace on earth" I - said, "for hate is
 sing - ing on its way the world re -

27

play of peace on earth of peace
 dom had rolled a - long th'un bro -
 said "for hate is strong and mocks
 way the world re - volved from night

sweet of peace on earth on
 long had rolled a - long ken
 strong, for hate is - strong the
 volved, the world re - volved to

37

of had peace on a earth good
 had rolled a - long th'un
 for hate is strong and
 a voice a chime a

earth, of had peace on earth good
 song had rolled a long th'un
 song "for hate is strong and
 day, a voice a chime a

35

will to men, peace on earth, good
 bro - ken song, " " " "
 mocks the song, " " " "
 chant sub - lime, " " " "

will to men, peace on earth, good
 bro - ken song, " " " "
 mocks the song, " " " "
 chant sub - lime, " " " "

39

will, good will to men!

will, good will to men!

43 rit.
4.

men, _____ peace on _____ earth, good

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 43 through 46. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Above the treble staff, a 'rit.' (ritardando) marking is indicated with a dashed line. A '4.' marking is placed above the first measure. The lyrics 'men, _____ peace on _____ earth, good' are written below the treble staff. The music consists of chords and single notes, with some notes tied across measures.

47

will to men! _____

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 47 through 50. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics 'will to men! _____' are written below the treble staff. The music consists of chords and single notes, with some notes tied across measures.

PREVIEW ONLY

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