RING THE CHRISTMAS BELLS

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied, with opt. handbells*

Words by TINA ENGLISH

Music by JOSEPH M. MARTIN



^{*} Part for 15-note (2 octaves) handbells may be found on page 12. Also available: FlexTrax Accompaniment CD, Vol. 6 (46490). To purchase a full-length performance recording (46509) of this piece, go to alfred.com/downloads.

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^{*} Optional italicized words are for use duing Advent.





















Ring the Christmas Bells is a joyous proclamation of Christ's coming. To broaden the usage of the anthem to the Advent season, the choir can sing the alternate, italicized text. Appropriate scripture references include John 1:14, Isaiah 9:6-7 and Luke 2:10.

Rehearse the melody with all voices singing energetically but lightly in unison on a neutral syllable such as "doo? Strive for a brightly focused and articulate sound. Keep the voices evenly matched in the canon that begins in m. 55, adding the keyboard right hand as an equally articulate descant to the singers.

Joseph M. Martin earned degrees in Piano Performance from Furman University and the University of Texas, Austin. He is recognized throughout the United States for his many choral compositions, both sacred and secular. Over 1,200 compositions are currently in print and the list continues to grow. He has performed solo piano recitals and has been the featured artist with symphony orchestras in the United States and Mexico. Though he continues to perform in concert, he now devotes his efforts to playing in churches and for conferences of church musicians. Joseph lives in Austin, Texas, with his children Jonathan and Aubrey and his wife Sue.

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