

Catalog # 1052

3 octave 4-in-hand handbell quartets

Difficulty EM

Five by Four for Christmas

Joy to the World
In the Bleak Midwinter
Rise Up Shepherd and Follow
Silent Night
The First Noel



arranged by
Guy Ragan

From the Top Music
Albuquerque, NM
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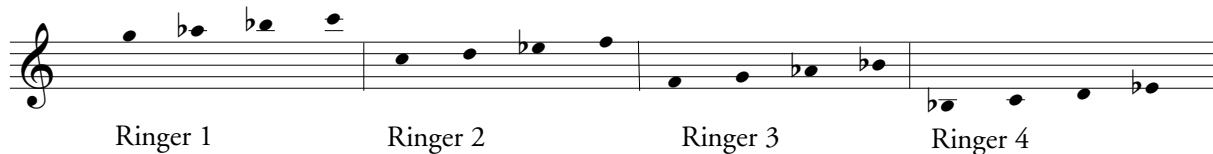
Five by Four for Christmas

Cat. 1052

Difficulty: EM

3 octave 4-in-hand quartets ~
some with vocal or C-instrument solo

Ringers are assigned the following handbells in all five arrangements



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The governing philosophy behind these arrangements is simple beauty. Ideally, the dynamics of each piece will be developed organically by the musicians as they rehearse together. Four of the pieces are in Eb major. A variation in tonality is provided with Rise Up Shepherd in Bb mixolydian mode.

The use of the same set of sixteen handbells allows any subset of the five pieces to be played by the same four-in-hand quartet with no change of handbells. In addition, each piece is formatted to fit onto two facing pages to avoid page turns. This frees the ringers from the need to stand behind a handbell table. The range of handbells used is intended to strike a balance between the comfort of the listener, who may prefer a lower range, against the comfort of the ringers, especially the one on the bottom, who may prefer lighter handbells when ringing four-in-hand.

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Guy Ragan

Joy to the World

Cat. 1052

3 octave, 4-in-hand quartet
with vocal or C instrument solo

G.F. Handel, 1741
arr. Guy Ragan

The musical score is arranged in two systems. The first system covers measures 1 through 4. The Solo part is written on a single treble clef staff with a 2/4 time signature and a key signature of two flats. It contains four whole rests, one in each measure, with measure numbers 2, 3, and 4 written above the staff. The Handbells part consists of four staves, numbered 1 to 4, with a brace on the left labeled 'Handbells'. Each staff has a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature. The music begins with a repeat sign and a first ending bracket. The second system covers measures 5 through 9. The Solo part has a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature. It begins with a repeat sign and a first ending bracket. The lyrics are written below the staff: 'Joy to the world, the Lord is come. Let earth re -'. The Handbells part continues with four staves, numbered 1 to 4, with a brace on the left labeled 'HB'. Each staff has a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature. The music begins with a repeat sign and a first ending bracket.

10 11 12 13 14

Solo
 ceive her King. Let ev - ery heart pre -

1
 2
 HB
 3
 4

15 16 17 18 19

Solo
 pare him room, and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture

1
 2
 HB
 3
 4

20 21 22 23 24

Solo
 sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.

1
 2
 HB
 3
 4

In the Bleak Midwinter

3 octave, 4-in-hand quartet

Cat. 1052

Gustav Holst, 1874-1934

arr. Guy Ragan

Musical score for Ringers 1-4, measures 1-4. The score is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. Ringer 1 has a melodic line with notes G4, A4, Bb4, C5, and D5. Ringer 2 provides harmonic support with chords. Ringer 3 has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Ringer 4 has a bass line with notes G3, F3, E3, D3, C3, B2, A2, G2.

Musical score for Ringers 1-4, measures 5-8. Measure 5 continues the melodic line in Ringer 1. Measure 6 features a whole note chord in Ringer 2. Measure 7 has a melodic line in Ringer 1. Measure 8 features a whole note chord in Ringer 2 and Ringer 3.

9 10 RT 11 12

Musical score for measures 9-12. The score is written for four staves (1-4) in a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). Measure 9: Staff 1 has a dotted quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, and a quarter note B4. Staff 2 has a dotted quarter note G4. Staff 3 has a dotted quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, and a quarter note B4. Staff 4 has a dotted quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, and a quarter note B4. Measure 10: Staff 1 has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Staff 2 has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Staff 3 has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Staff 4 has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Measure 11: Staff 1 has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Staff 2 has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Staff 3 has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Staff 4 has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Measure 12: Staff 1 has a whole note G4. Staff 2 has a whole note G4. Staff 3 has a whole note G4. Staff 4 has a whole note G4.

13 14 15 16 Last time

Musical score for measures 13-16. The score is written for four staves (1-4) in a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). Measure 13: Staff 1 has a dotted quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, and a quarter note B4. Staff 2 has a dotted quarter note G4. Staff 3 has a dotted quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, and a quarter note B4. Staff 4 has a dotted quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, and a quarter note B4. Measure 14: Staff 1 has a whole note G4. Staff 2 has a whole note G4. Staff 3 has a whole note G4. Staff 4 has a whole note G4. Measure 15: Staff 1 has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Staff 2 has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Staff 3 has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Staff 4 has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Measure 16: Staff 1 has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Staff 2 has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Staff 3 has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Staff 4 has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Rise Up Shepherd

Cat. 1052

3-octave, 4-in-hand quartet

Spiritual
Arr. Guy Ragan

The musical score is arranged for four hands, labeled Ringer 1 through Ringer 4. It is in 4/4 time and features a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score is divided into three systems, each containing four staves. The first system covers measures 1 through 3, the second system covers measures 4 through 7, and the third system covers measures 8 through 12. The notation includes various rhythmic values such as quarter notes, eighth notes, and dotted notes, as well as triplet markings. A repeat sign is present at the beginning of the first system. The score concludes with a double bar line and a final fermata over the last note of the fourth hand in measure 12.

13 14 15 16 17

1
2
3
4

Detailed description: This system contains measures 13 through 17. The music is in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The first staff (treble clef) has rests in measures 13 and 17, and notes in measures 14, 15, and 16. The second staff (treble clef) features a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes, including triplet markings in measures 15 and 17. The third and fourth staves (treble clef) provide harmonic support with chords and moving lines, also featuring triplet markings in measures 15 and 17.

18 19 20 21

1
2
3
4

Detailed description: This system contains measures 18 through 21. The first staff (treble clef) has notes in measures 18, 19, and 20, with a triplet in measure 19, and a whole note in measure 21. The second staff (treble clef) continues the melodic line with eighth and quarter notes, including triplet markings in measures 20 and 21. The third and fourth staves (treble clef) provide harmonic support with chords and moving lines, including a triplet in measure 21.

22 23 24 25

1
2
3
4

Detailed description: This system contains measures 22 through 25. The first staff (treble clef) has notes in measures 22, 23, 24, and 25, with triplet markings in measures 24 and 25. The second staff (treble clef) continues the melodic line with eighth and quarter notes, including triplet markings in measures 23 and 24. The third and fourth staves (treble clef) provide harmonic support with chords and moving lines, including triplet markings in measures 23 and 24. A repeat sign is present at the end of measure 24, leading to a first ending (1.) and a second ending (2.) in measure 25.

Silent Night

Cat. 1052

3 octave, 4-in-hand quartet
with vocal or C instrument solo

Franz Gruber, 1787-1863
arr. Guy Ragan

1 2 3 4

Solo

Si - lent night; Ho - ly

Handbells

1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8 9

Solo

night; All is calm, All is bright.

HB

1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8 9

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10 11 12 13 14

Solo
'Round yon Vir - gin Moth - er and Child. Ho - ly

1
2
HB
3
4

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15 16 17 18 19

Solo
In - fant so ten - der and mild. Sleep in heav - en - ly

1
2
HB
3
4

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20 21 22 23 24 25

Solo
peace. _____ Sleep in hea - venly peace. _____

1
2
HB
3
4

The First Noel

Cat. 1052

Traditional English Carol
arr. Guy Ragan

2 3 4 5

Solo

1 2 3 4

HB

The first No -

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6 7 8 9 10

Solo

6 7 8 9 10

HB

el the an - gel did say, was to cer - tain poor shep-herds in

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11 12 13 14 15

Solo

11 12 13 14 15

HB

fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keep - ing their

16 17 18 19 20

Solo

sheep, on a cold win - ter's night that was — so deep. No -

16 17 18 19 20

1
2
3
4

HB

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21 22 23 24 25

Solo

el, — No - el, No - el, No - el, born is the

21 22 23 24 25

1
2
3
4

HB

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26 27 28 29

Solo

King — of Is - ra - el. The el.

26 27 28 29

1
2
3
4

HB