

REHEARSAL NOTES

The joyous tune “DIX” is perhaps most commonly associated with the hymn text “For the Beauty of the Earth,” frequently used at Thanksgiving services or for general worship. The tune is also often used with the Epiphany text “As with Gladness Men of Old,” and the arrangement may be retitled accordingly, if desired, when used during this season.

Use the gradual crescendo in measures 1-8 to create a sense of excitement and anticipation as you build to the first presentation of the melody in measure 9. Measures 37-53 are intended as a quieter, more prayerful reflection on the gifts of God, and should contrast with the opening section accordingly; a bit of flexibility with the tempo is OK in this passage. Measures 54-61 can be grand and powerful, before launching back into the final rhythmic section starting at measure 62. A strong crescendo into the final measure will make for a dramatic finish.

Above all, this piece should be performed with a great sense of joy, both in the musical expression and in the demeanor of the ringers, as you celebrate all the amazing gifts God has given us. Have fun!



RON MALLORY earned a Master’s degree in choral conducting from the University of Washington and a Bachelor’s degree in music composition from California State University, Long Beach. He teaches handbell classes at Forest Ridge School of the Sacred Heart in Bellevue, WA, directs the Rainier Ringers community handbell ensemble in Tacoma, WA, and serves as choir director at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Des Moines, WA. Ron has numerous published compositions and arrangements for handbells and for choir, and has won composition contests sponsored by Bells of the Sound and Handbell Musicians of America. Ron also has professional experience as a piano teacher, jazz band leader, and studio musician. His non-musical interests include astronomy, reading, skiing, travelling, and the visual arts. Ron lives in Maple Valley, WA with his wife Emily and their daughter Vivian and son Miles. A lifelong Christian, Ron is always working to grow in his relationship with God.

For the Beauty of the Earth

for 3–5 octaves of Handbells with optional Handchimes*

Handbells used: 32, 40, 48
G#3 is not used in 4 octave version.

Handbell notation on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The treble clef part contains a melodic line with notes and rests. The bass clef part contains a bass line. Above the treble clef, there is a bracketed section of notes labeled "optional" with a wedge-shaped dynamic marking above it. Below the bass clef, there is a bracketed section of notes labeled "optional".

Handchimes used: 9

Handchime notation on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The treble clef part contains a melodic line with notes and rests. The bass clef part contains a bass line with notes and rests.

3 octave choirs omit notes in ().
4 octave choirs omit notes in [].

Tune: DIX
By Conrad Kocher (1786-1872)
Arranged by RON MALLORY (ASCAP)

Allegro (♩ = ca. 126)

Piano accompaniment score in 4/4 time. The score is written on a grand staff with treble and bass clefs. It includes dynamics such as *mf* and *cresc. poco a poco*. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5. There are also articulation marks like slurs and accents. A large red watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid diagonally across the score.

* To purchase a full-length recording of this piece, go to alfred.com/downloads.

Musical notation for measures 8 through 11. The score is written for piano with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). Measure 8 begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. Measures 9 and 10 feature a dynamic marking of *f* (forte). The notation includes chords, eighth notes, and sixteenth notes. A large red watermark is overlaid on the right side of the page.

Musical notation for measures 12 through 15. The score continues with the grand staff. Measure 12 starts with a treble clef. Measures 13 and 14 include a dynamic marking of *f*. The notation consists of chords and melodic lines in both hands. A large red watermark is overlaid on the right side of the page.

Musical notation for measures 16 through 19. The score continues with the grand staff. Measure 16 starts with a treble clef. Measure 19 ends with a 2/4 time signature. The notation includes chords and melodic lines. A large red watermark is overlaid on the right side of the page.

Musical score for measures 20-23. The score is written for piano in 2/4 time. Measure 20 starts with a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature. Measure 21 changes to a 4/4 time signature. Measure 22 features a fermata over a whole note chord. Measure 23 continues in 4/4 time. The bass line includes a 'R' marking below measure 20. A dynamic marking of *mf* is present in measure 23.

Musical score for measures 24-27. The score continues in 4/4 time. Measure 24 has a whole rest in the treble clef. Measures 25-27 show a steady rhythmic pattern in both hands.

Musical score for measures 28-31. The score continues in 4/4 time. Measure 28 has a whole rest in the treble clef. Measure 31 ends with a key signature change to one flat (B-flat) in the bass clef.

32 33 34 35

molto rit.

This system contains measures 32 through 35. The right hand features a melodic line with some grace notes and rests. The left hand has a rhythmic accompaniment with some chords. A 'molto rit.' (ritardando) instruction is placed above the right hand in measure 35.

Andante (♩ = ca. 88)

36 37 38 39

vib.
mp

This system contains measures 36 through 39. The tempo is marked 'Andante' with a quarter note equal to approximately 88 beats per minute. The right hand has a sustained chord in measure 39 with a 'vib.' (vibrato) instruction. The left hand has a melodic line. A 'mp' (mezzo-piano) dynamic marking is present in measure 39.

40 41 42 43

This system contains measures 40 through 43. The right hand has a melodic line with some slurs. The left hand has a bass line with some chords.

44 45 46 47

vib.

This system contains measures 44 through 47. The right hand has a melodic line with some slurs. The left hand has a bass line with some chords. A 'vib.' (vibrato) instruction is placed above the right hand in measure 47.

48 49 50 51

Slightly faster

52 53 54 55

poco accel.

ff

56 58 59

60 61 62 63

Tempo I (♩ = ca. 126)

decresc.

rit.

mf *cresc. poco a poco*

64 65 66

67 68 69

70 71 72 73

f *ff*

RT

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