REHEARSAL NOTES

A Gospel Hymn Sing was written to give the effect of a Sunday night, gospel hymn sing complete with a few country or bluegrass pickers in the group! The tempo needs to keep flowing, even with the fermatas, which should be just a stretch and not a "pause." All the stopped techniques such as mallets, thumb damps and marts should be executed crisply and damped cleanly. In measures 25–32 don't let the chords with marts and mart lifts overshadow the upper melody.

The setting of "Rock of Ages," normally in 3/4 meter, is augmented to be in 4/4. Make sure you know if you're part of the melody (such as measure 42) or the "fill-parts" (upper bells in 43) and bring those out accordingly. There is a kind of echo interplay between the two.

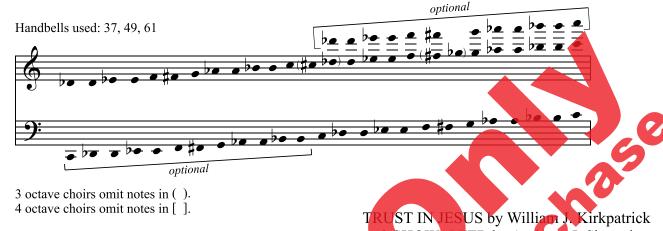
In measures 42–61 only the lowest bass note is malleted. All of these are in the 5th octave. Three octave choirs should ring all their notes to give a good foundation for the layers higher up. Although the music may lend itself to a ritardando in measure 65, resist and keep the music driving to the end!



Tammy Waldrop is a graduate of Baylor University with a Bachelor of Music and a Master of Music degree in Theory and Composition. Tammy has been writing and arranging for handbells and vocal choirs since 1980, placing over 350 publications with 19 publishers. She has held music editor positions at Word Music, Ring Out! Press, and Alfred Music Publishing and has served numerous churches in various denominations. She is a frequent clinician/director for workshops, music weeks and festivals across the country. She is currently Musical Director for the Community Landbell Ensemble, Strikepoint of Texas as well as Sanctuary Bells of First Presbyterian Church in Kingwood, Texas. Tammy enjoys vegetable and herb gardening and writing children's fiction. She resides in New Caney, Texas with her husband, Emanuel Hollander, and three Eskie canines—Gretel, Johann Sebastian Bark (aka Hanzie) and Lillie Belle.

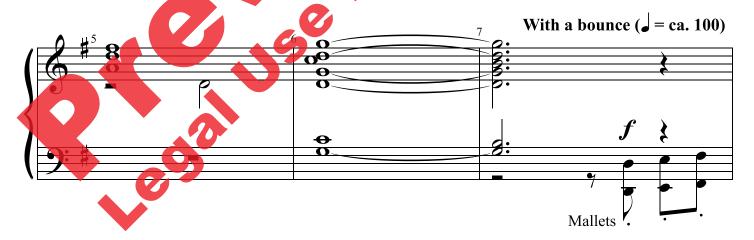
A Gospel Hymn Ring

for 3-5 octaves of Handbells*



TRUST IN JESUS by William J. Kirkpatrick with SHOWALTER by Anthony J. Showalter and TOPLADY by Thomas Hastings Arranged by TAMMY WALDROP (ASCAP)





^{*} To purchase a full-length performance recording (46228) of this piece, go to alfred.com/downloads.

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