

## REHEARSAL NOTES

The hymn tune MORNING STAR is used for this arrangement of “Brightest and Best of the Stars” for handbell choir. Appropriate for Epiphany, this piece features many handbell effects, including gyros, to musically represent stars appearing in the night sky. Special attention to dynamics and tempo variations will help make this a perfect transitional piece following the Christmas season.



Bruce W. Tippet (b. 1985) is a composer, performer, and educator. He holds a Master of Music from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts in music composition and a Bachelor of Music in both music composition/theory and also music education from Appalachian State University. His published compositions for chorus, concert band, orchestra, handbells, and solo/small ensembles have been performed internationally, and he actively receives commissions for both choral and instrumental ensembles. In addition to his concert works, Tippet has composed original compositions for choreographers, film, and has co-composed music for a children’s musical. Tippet’s work *Unconquered*, written for orchestra, won the 2012 Mary Starling Composition Competition, and the Winston-Salem Symphony performed it four subsequent times. Additionally, he was chosen in 2012, 2013 and 2014 to compose five new works as part of an experimental collaboration with Cirque du Soleil and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

Tippet is the recipient of many awards, including the North Carolina Teaching Fellows Scholarship and the Lynn Freeman Olson Composition Award for his piano solo *Dance of Fire*. As an educator, he teaches music composition, theory, piano, and voice at the Community Music School of the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, and he is the Youth Music and Handbell Director at Augsburg Lutheran Church. He works as a collaborative pianist in the School of Drama at UNCSA and is a frequently sought-after rehearsal accompanist. He resides in Winston-Salem, North Carolina with his wife, and frequent collaborator, Elizabeth, and their son and daughter.

Please visit [www.brucewtippet.com](http://www.brucewtippet.com) to learn more.

For the Adult Handbell Choir of Augsburg Lutheran Church – Winston-Salem, NC

# Brightest and Best of the Stars

for 3–5 octaves of Handbells\*

Handbells used: 31, 40, 48

optional

3 octave choirs omit notes in ( ).

4 octave choirs omit notes in [ ].

MORNING STAR by James P. Harding (1892)  
Arranged by Bruce W. Tippet

Gently (♩ = ca. 80)

1 2 3 4

LV mp R LV R

5 6 7 8

rit. R

\* To purchase a full-length performance recording of this piece (47802), go to [alfred.com/downloads](http://alfred.com/downloads).

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9 *a tempo*  
*p*

Musical notation for measures 9-12. The piece is in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. Measure 9 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The tempo is marked 'a tempo' and the dynamics 'p'. The right hand plays a melody of quarter notes, while the left hand provides a simple accompaniment of quarter notes.

13 *mp*

Musical notation for measures 13-16. The dynamics are marked 'mp'. The right hand features a more complex melody with some slurs and accents. The left hand continues with a steady accompaniment. A fermata is placed over the final note of measure 16.

17 *mf*

Musical notation for measures 17-20. The dynamics are marked 'mf'. The right hand has a more active melody with some slurs. The left hand accompaniment remains consistent. A fermata is placed over the final note of measure 20.

21

Musical notation for measures 21-23. The right hand continues with a melodic line, and the left hand provides accompaniment. A fermata is placed over the final note of measure 23.

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Musical score for piano, measures 24-36. The score is written for two staves (treble and bass clef) with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music is divided into four systems of two staves each. Measure numbers 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, and 36 are indicated. Performance markings include *mp* (mezzo-piano), *f* (forte), *cresc.* (crescendo), *rit.* (ritardando), and *tempo*. Hand positions are marked as LV (left hand) and R (right hand). There are also circular symbols above measures 25 and 27. A large red watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid diagonally across the page, and "Legal use Requires Purchase" is written below it.

This image shows a page of musical notation for piano, consisting of five systems of staves. Each system contains a grand staff with a treble clef on top and a bass clef on the bottom. The music is written in a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The measures are numbered 37 through 48. Measure 37 begins with a circled 'C' above the treble staff. Measures 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, and 48 contain various musical notations including chords, arpeggios, and melodic lines. Performance markings include 'R' (Right hand), 'LV' (Left hand), and 'dmp' (diminuendo). A large, diagonal red watermark is overlaid across the entire page, reading 'Preview Only Legal Use Requires Purchase'.

49 *f*

50

51

52 *subito p*

53

54 *p*

55

56 *mf*

57 *rit. al fine*

58

59

60 *R p*

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