

# WHY DO BELLS FOR CHRISTMAS RING?

for 3-part mixed voices and piano  
with optional SoundTrax\*

*Including Words from Traditional Carols  
and a poem by EUGENE FIELD (1850-1895)*

*Music by  
GREG GILPIN*

With an Eastern European lilt ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 120$ )

The musical score consists of four staves. The top three staves are labeled PART I, PART II, and PART III, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The bottom staff is labeled PIANO, with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The music is in common time (indicated by a '4'). The vocal parts have long dashes for most notes, while the piano part has a more complex harmonic progression with dynamics like *mf* and *decrec.*

\* Also available for 2-part (48303).  
SoundTrax available (48304). Visit [alfred.com](http://alfred.com) for digital scores and audio.

NOTE: The first two lines of text are attributed to Eugene Field, an American writer best-known for his children's poetry and humorous essays. Mr. Field is often referred to as the "poet of childhood."

PERFORMANCE SUGGESTION: Miniature tambourines may be played by a small group, a soloist, or the entire choir. Strike on beats 2 and 4 during each refrain, or throughout if desired. Tie festive ribbons to the tambourines to add a bit of holiday color.

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

4

*mp*

Why do bells for Christ - mas ring?

*mp*

Why do lit - tle

*mp*

Why do bells for Christ - mas ring? Why do lit - de

7

All a - round the world to - night

chil - dren sing? All a - round the world to - night

chil - dren sing? All a - round the world to - night

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7

All a - round the world to - night

chil - dren sing? All a - round the world to - night

chil - dren sing? All a - round the world to - night



15

All a - round the world to - night  
chil - dren sing?  
chil - dren sing?  
All a - round the world to - night

All a - round the world to - night

18

*mf*

chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!  
*mf*  
chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!  
*mf*  
chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!

20

Jin - gle bells, jin - gle all the way!

Jin - gle bells, jin - gle all the way!

Jin - gle bells, jin - gle bells, jin - gle all the way!

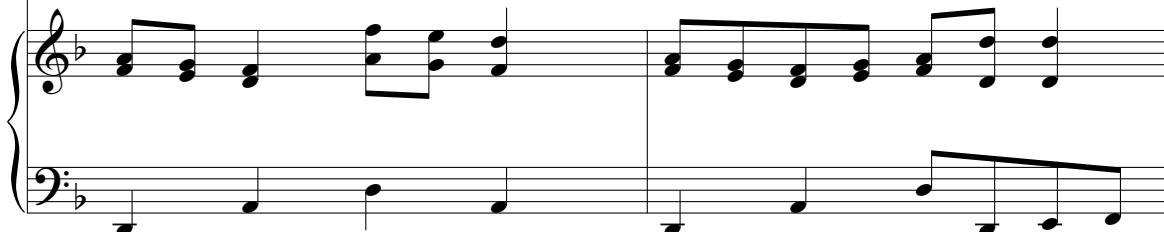


22

Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one-horse o - pen sleigh!

Oh, what fun in a one-horse o - pen sleigh!

Oh, what fun in a one-horse o - pen sleigh!



24

Jin - gle bells, jin - gle all the way  
Jin - gle bells, jin - gle all the way  
Jin - gle bells, jin - gle all the way

26

in a one - horse sleigh!  
in a one - horse sleigh!  
in a one - horse sleigh!

28

*mp*

Why do bells for Christ - mas ring?

*mp*

Why do lit - tle

*mp*

Why do bells for Christ - mas ring? Why do lit - tle

*mp*

31

All a - round the world to - night

chil - dren sing? All a - round the world to - night

chil - dren sing? All a - round the world to - night

34

*mf*

chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!

*mf*

chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!

*mf*

chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!

*mf*

chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!

36

*mp*

Why do bells for Christ - mas ring?

*mp*

Why do lit - tle

*mp*

Why do bells for Christ - mas ring? Why do lit - tle

*mp*

10

39

All a - round the world to - night  
chil - dren sing? All a - round the world to - night  
chil - dren sing? All a - round the world to - night

42

*mf*

chil - dren sing with voic - es bright! \_\_\_\_\_

*mf*

chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!

*mf*

chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!

*mf*

44

Deck the hall with boughs of holly.  
Deck the hall with boughs of holly.  
Deck the hall with boughs of holly.

The musical score consists of four staves of music. The top two staves are soprano voices, the third is a bassoon, and the bottom two are a basso continuo section. The key signature is one flat, and the time signature is common time. The vocal parts sing the first three lines of the traditional Christmas carol "Deck the Hall". The bassoon part provides harmonic support, and the continuo part includes basso and harpsichord parts.

46 *mp*

'Tis the sea - son to be jol - ly.  
'Tis the sea - son to be jol - ly.  
'Tis the sea - son to be jol - ly.

The musical score continues with three staves. The top staff is a soprano voice, the middle is a bassoon, and the bottom is a basso continuo section. The key signature changes to no sharps or flats, and the time signature remains common time. The vocal part sings the second three lines of the carol, and the bassoon and continuo provide harmonic support. Measure numbers 46 and 47 are indicated, with measure 47 starting at the beginning of the third line of text.

48

*mf*

Fol - low me in mer - ry meas - ure

*mf*

Fol - low me in mer - ry meas - ure

*mf*

Fol - low me in mer - ry meas - ure

*mf*

Fol - low me in mer - ry meas - ure



while I tell of Yule - tide treas - ure! —

while I tell of Yule - tide treas - ure! —

while I tell of Yule - tide treas - ure! —



52

*mp*

Why do bells for Christ - mas ring?

*mp*

Why do lit - tle

*mp*

Why do bells for Christ - mas ring? Why do lit - tle



55

All a - round the world to - night

chil - dren sing? All a - round the world to - night

chil - dren sing? All a - round the world to - night



58

*mf*

chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!

*mf*

chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!

*mf*

chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!

*mf*

chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!

60

*f*

Why do bells for Christ - mas ring? Why do lit - tle

*f*

Why do bells for Christ - mas ring? Why do lit - tle

*mf*

Jin - gle bells, jin - gle bells. Deck the hall with

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*f*

63

chil - dren sing? All a - round the world to - night  
chil - dren sing? All a - round the world to - night  
boughs of hol - ly. All a - round the world to - night

65

66

chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!  
chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!  
chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!

67

68

*mp*

Chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!

*cresc.*

Hear them ring on

*cresc.*

*mp*

Chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!

Hear them ring on

*cresc.*

*mp*

Chil - dren sing with voic - es bright!

Hear them ring on

*cresc.*

71

*f*

Christ - mas night!

*f*

Christ - mas night!

*f*

Christ - mas night!

*f*

*mp* *f*

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