



Ah, Holy Jesus



Notes from the Arranger

“Ah, Holy Jesus” is one of the most poignant hymns for Holy Week, as it describes the events of the passion of Jesus. My goal was to musically capture these events from Jesus’ quiet, fervent prayers in the Garden of Gethsemane, his trial and gruesome mistreatment, his agonizing journey as he carried his cross through the streets of Jerusalem, to his last breath, commending his spirit into his Father’s hands.

The repetitive quarter note chords which dominate this arrangement serve to illustrate Jesus’ conflict in doing his Father’s will and his own human fear of the horrible mistreatment and death he will suffer. In order to play these chords together and without rushing, make sure ringers are subdividing, keeping the eighth note pulse constant. Breathing together before each measure will not only provide rhythmic stability, but will help the group feel the piece as one unit instead of as several, separate players. Try the slightest accent on beats 1 and 3 for a more “forward” feel as the piece progresses.

As the quarter note chords become more and more heavy and thick in measures 31-44, keep a steady, ponderous tempo, being careful not to rush. In this section do not accent beats 1 and 3, but keep each chord at the same volume, representing Jesus’ steps carrying his cross, and the hammering of the nails.

In measures 45 to the end, reflect on the last words of Jesus before his final breath:

“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34)

“Today you will be with me in Paradise” (Luke 23:43)

“Woman, behold your son! Behold, your mother!” (John 19:26-27)

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (Matthew 27:46)

“I thirst” (John 19:28)

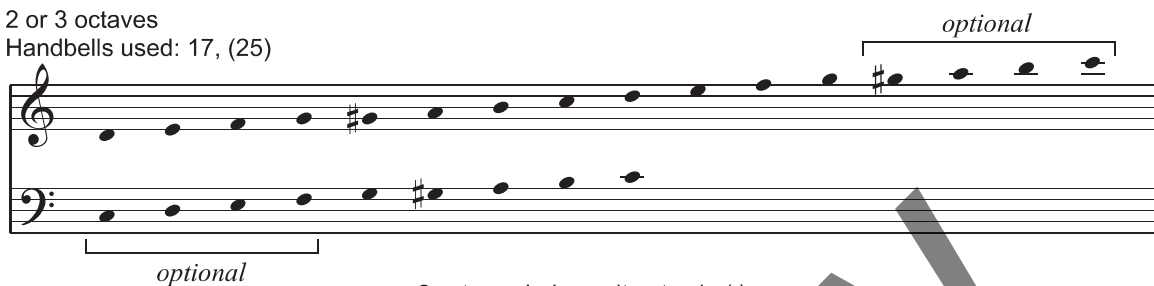
“It is finished” (John 19:30)

“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit” (Luke 23:46)

— Cathy Moglebust

Ah, Holy Jesus

2 or 3 octaves
Handbells used: 17, (25)



2 octave choirs omit notes in ().

HERZLIEBSTER JESU
Johann Crüger, 1598-1662
arr. Cathy Moglebust (ASCAP)

Meditative (♩ = ca. 66)

An edition for 3, 4, or 5 octaves is available, code CGB1408. The two editions are compatible for massed ringing.

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CGB1407

PREVIEW

10 11 12

13 14 15

16 17 18

19 20 21

f

The image displays a musical score for piano, spanning measures 10 to 21. The score is written for two staves, treble and bass. Measures 10-12 show a sequence of chords in the bass staff and single notes in the treble staff. Measures 13-15 show a sequence of chords in the bass staff and single notes in the treble staff. Measures 16-18 show a sequence of chords in the bass staff and single notes in the treble staff. Measures 19-21 show a sequence of chords in the bass staff and single notes in the treble staff. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is present at the beginning of measure 21. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'PREVIEW' is overlaid across the center of the page.

PREVIEW

34

35

36

37

38

39

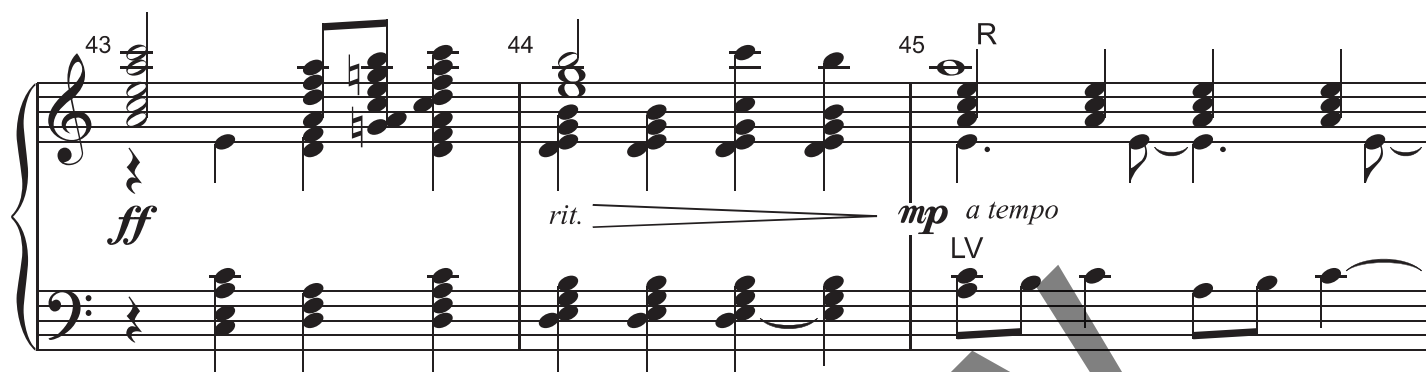
40

41

42

The image displays a musical score for piano, spanning measures 34 to 42. The score is written for two staves, treble and bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The music features a combination of chords and melodic lines. Measures 34-35 show a melodic line in the treble staff and chords in the bass. Measures 36-38 continue the melodic development in the treble, with chords in the bass. Measures 39-40 show a more active melodic line in the treble. Measures 41-42 conclude the section with chords in both staves. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'PREVIEW' is overlaid across the center of the page.

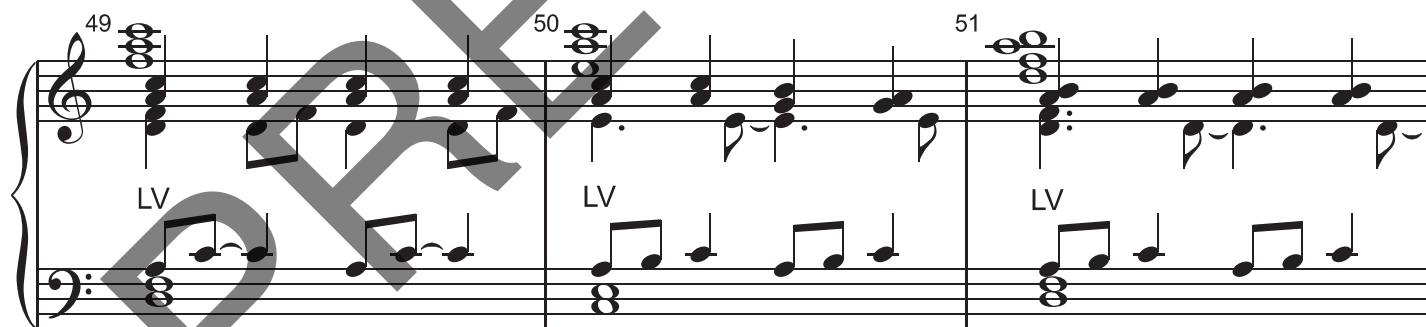
43 *ff* 44 45 R *rit.* *mp a tempo* LV



46 47 48 LV LV LV



49 50 51 LV LV LV



52 53 54 LV *poco rit. e dim. al fine* R *pp*

