

# After the Prelude, Year B

## Handbell Resources to Enhance Worship

by William H. Mathis

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Digital and Printed Versions

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#### Chart of Audio CD Track Numbers, Titles, and File Names

An audio demo CD is included with both the Digital and Printed Versions of this product. The chart in this booklet shows the order in which the pieces appear on the audio CD, and serves as both a track list and a contents list. In the Printed Version, the loose-leaf master pages appear in this same order as on the list. In the Digital Version, pdf files of music files and indexes are found on a CD-ROM.

#### Hymns

For settings that are designed to be used with congregational singing of hymns, the word “hymn” appears in the title. To aid in worship planning, their file names are the hymntune names, making it easier to identify those settings that can be paired with other hymn texts.

#### Music Files

Reproducible music files/pages are provided for ringers and other instrumentalists. Although the masters of two-page pieces appear back-to-back in the Printed Version, you may want to copy them on facing pages to avoid page turns for ringers.

#### Congregational Parts

Some items also have congregational parts, which are provided in two widths: 4 1/2” and 6”, to accommodate various sizes/formats of printed orders of worship. In the Printed Version, the congregational parts will follow the main file for each piece. In the Digital Version, pdf and tiff congregational parts will be found in Congregational Parts folders. *It is suggested that the tiff files be imported into computer word processing or layout programs when producing printed orders of service, as they will not require cropping.*

#### Indexes

- Hymntune Settings for Leading Congregational Singing (listed by tune name)
- Hymntune Settings for Leading Congregational Singing (partial listing by title)
- Hymntunes Used in Refrains and Other Service Music
- Settings with Other Instruments
- Spoken Liturgical Elements
- Psalm Refrains
- Scripture Index

**This is a reproducible product!**

The Digital Version provides PDF files to be printed by a computer printer.  
The Printed Version provides loose-leaf, hard copy masters to be copied on a photocopier.

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## Preface

The ringers have finished their prelude, and now they have no other role in the worship service. Wouldn't it be great if there were some exciting, fun, and meaningful ways for them to participate in worship leadership in other parts of the service?

*After the Prelude, Year B* is one of three volumes generally keyed to the Revised Common Lectionary (a three-year cycle of scripture readings used in many denominations.) This collection includes musical and liturgical elements you can use to bring the special sound of bells and chimes into more of a leadership role in worship. Everything is designed to be prepared fairly quickly, and to involve the emotions as well as the intellect.

Some of the things you'll see are intended as examples to prime your own pump, to encourage you to write your own pieces of bell/chime leadership moments. They needn't be complicated – as we know, sometimes the most effective things we experience in worship are the most simple and to-the-point. As you'll see in the Advent hymn, "My Soul Gives Glory to My God," bells can add a lot in very simple ways. And remember that handbells and handchimes sound an octave higher than they're written, so add whatever you can on the lower end of your range to give support to singing, playing, or speaking.

In general, the music you'll find here is arranged sparsely for 3, 4 or 5 octaves. Directors with fewer or more bells than are called for in a particular piece should certainly use their own judgment in omitting or adding notes to fit available range, number of ringers, or acoustics.

Similarly, hymns and refrains which have multiple stanzas (verses) or repetitions shouldn't generally be used in exactly the same way on every repetition. Use your own creativity in additions or deletions of handbell techniques, handchimes, range, and auxiliary instruments – anything that might add interest and color.

The music in this volume is laid out in ways which make it easy to reproduce pages to hand out to your ringers and other worship leaders (sometimes a speaker, organist, or other instrumentalist).

– William H. Mathis

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**William H. Mathis** is Minister of Music and Fine Arts at the Hennepin Ave. United Methodist Church in Minneapolis. In addition to his work at church, Bill is an active clinician in both the choral and handbell fields, giving special emphasis to teaching rehearsal technique and musicianship. He has been the conductor of AGEHR's National Festivals and Directors' Seminar, as well as many events at the local and regional levels. He is also the music director of the Twin Cities community handbell ensemble, Bells of the Lakes, a group noted for its dual focus of performance and education. His choral and handbell compositions are found in the catalogues of fourteen publishers.

# Lighting the Advent Candles

Isaiah's prophecies lead us into an Advent season with the hope for justice and peace. The handbell part of this setting is designed to be simple enough that any group of just a few ringers can lead it each week of Advent. Be sure to have a choir or somebody prepared to start singing at the right time.

The four phrases of the text correspond to one traditional order of the Advent candles (hope, peace, love and joy.) If you use a different scheme, you may want to write your own text to match it.

On one or more weeks, the right hand of the organ part might be played by a few people on handchimes.

3, 4 or 5 octaves  
Handbells used: 6, (7), (8)

optional

2 octaves  
Optional Handchimes used: 10

William H. Mathis

PICARDY  
French folk tune, 17th cent.  
arr. William H. Mathis

$\text{♩} = \text{c. } 50-54$

Voices

Shine on us with hope and jus - tice;

1 2 3 4 5

Handbells

LV

(Optional Handchimes)

Organ

Ped.

See also: congregational part

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6

Give your peace in age and youth. Shine on us with love and

6 7 8 9 10

11

com - fort; Light our path to joy and truth.

11 12 13 14 15



Shine on us with hope and\_\_ jus - tice;

Give your peace in age and\_\_ youth. Shine on us with

love and\_\_ com - fort; Light our path to joy and\_\_ truth.

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