

Three Handbell Sketches for Worship

I. Keep Silence

“The Lord is in his holy temple, let all the earth keep silence.” Habakkuk 2:20

II. Praise the Lord

“Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!” Psalm 150:6b

III. God, Our Dwelling Place

“Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.” Psalm 90:1

Notes from the Composer

Worship planners are encouraged to be creative in the use of these sketches. One option would be for a given selection to be played as a handbell Introit (I), Offertory (II), and a Going Forth (III).

Combining two or three of the pieces provides an option for a longer prelude or postlude.

Sketch I would be appropriate as an instrumental meditation at communion or other reflective times in worship.

I. Keep Silence

“The Lord is in his holy temple, let all the earth keep silence.” Habakkuk 2:20

3, 4, or 5 octaves

Handbells used: 25, (32), (36)

optional

optional

3 octave choirs omit notes in ().
4 octave choirs omit notes in [].

PICARDY

French carol, 17th cent.
arr. Hal H. Hopson

With mystery, in a slow, gentle flow (♩ = ca. 50)

1 2 3 4

mp

pp

rit.

5 6 7 8

p *a tempo*

9 10 11 () 12

mp

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II. Praise the Lord

“Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!” Psalm 150:6b

3, 4, or 5 octaves

Handbells used: 22, (29), (33)

Musical notation for handbells, consisting of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a bracket labeled "optional" over the last four notes. The bass staff has a bracket labeled "optional" under the first four notes.

3 octave choirs omit notes in ().
4 octave choirs omit notes in [].

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, 1623

arr. Hal H. Hopson

With a joyful flair (♩ = ca. 76)

Musical notation for piano, measures 1-4. The piece is in 3/4 time. Measure 1 starts with a forte dynamic (*ff*) and a volume marking (LV). Measure 4 contains notes in parentheses, which are optional for 3-octave choirs.

Musical notation for piano, measures 5-8. Measure 5 has a volume marking (R). Measure 6 includes a ritardando marking (*rit.*). Measure 7 includes a tempo marking (*a tempo*) and a dynamic marking (*mf*). Measure 8 contains notes in parentheses, which are optional for 3-octave choirs.

III. God, Our Dwelling Place

“Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.” Psalm 90:1

3, 4, or 5 octaves

Handbells used: 24, (32), (36)

Handbell musical notation for 3, 4, or 5 octaves. The score consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The melody is written in a simple, stepwise fashion. Brackets labeled "optional" indicate specific notes in both staves that can be omitted for shorter octave choirs.

3 octave choirs omit notes in ().

4 octave choirs omit notes in [].

ST. ANNE
melody attr. William Croft, 1678-1727
arr. Hal H. Hopson

With majestic vigor (♩ = ca. 80)

Piano accompaniment for measures 1-3. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo/mood is "With majestic vigor" with a quarter note equal to approximately 80 beats per minute. The dynamic marking is *mf*. Measure numbers 1, 2, and 3 are indicated above the staff.

Piano accompaniment for measures 4-6. The score continues in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure numbers 4, 5, and 6 are indicated above the staff.