

For the Lutheran Schools Handbell Festival of Southeast Michigan, October 15, 2009

Sing We Now of Christmas

for 2 – 3 Octaves of Handbells and optional Tambourine

Handbells used: 16 – 22

Handbell introduction notation in treble and bass clefs. The treble clef has notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, C4. The bass clef has notes G3, F#3, E3, D3, C3. There are 'optional' markings above and below the staff. A note in the treble clef (C5) is circled with the word 'optional' above it. Text below the staff reads: 'see performance notes for bell change suggestions'.

2 octaves omit notes in ().

Joyfully! (♩ = ca. 104 – 112)

NOEL NOUVELET
TRADITIONAL FRENCH CAROL
Arranged by JUDY PHILLIPS

Handbell and piano introduction notation in 4/4 time. Measures 1-2 are rests for both. Measure 3 starts with piano (p) and a tambourine (TD) pluck. Measure 4 has piano (p) and a right-hand (R) pluck. Text: 'If tambourine is not available, begin at measure 3.' * TD, Pluck, or mallet throughout

Tambourine notation in 4/4 time. Measure 1: mp, quarter note G4, quarter rest. Measure 2: mp, quarter note A4, quarter rest. Measure 3: mp, quarter note B4, quarter rest. Measure 4: mp, quarter note C5, quarter rest. Measure 5: mp, quarter note B4, quarter rest. Measure 6: mp, quarter note A4, quarter rest. Measure 7: mp, quarter note G4, quarter rest. Measure 8: mp, quarter note F#4, quarter rest.

Handbell and piano notation in 4/4 time. Measure 5: mp, piano (p) and right-hand (R) pluck. Measure 6: mp, piano (p) and right-hand (R) pluck. Measure 7: mp, piano (p) and right-hand (R) pluck. Measure 8: mp, piano (p) and right-hand (R) pluck.

Tambourine notation in 4/4 time. Measure 5: mp, quarter note G4, quarter rest. Measure 6: mp, quarter note A4, quarter rest. Measure 7: mf, quarter note B4, quarter rest. Measure 8: mf, quarter note C5, quarter rest.

Musical notation for measures 9-12. The system includes a grand staff with treble and bass clefs, and a separate line for a percussion instrument. Measures 9, 10, 11, and 12 are marked with a red 'R' in the treble clef. The percussion line shows a sequence of notes with a fermata over measure 11.

Musical notation for measures 13-16. The system includes a grand staff with treble and bass clefs, and a separate line for a percussion instrument. Measures 13, 14, and 15 are marked with a red 'R' in the treble clef. The percussion line shows a sequence of notes with a fermata over measure 15.

Musical notation for measures 17-20. The system includes a grand staff with treble and bass clefs, and a separate line for a percussion instrument. Measures 17, 18, 19, and 20 are marked with a red 'R' in the treble clef. The percussion line shows a sequence of notes with fermatas over measures 17 and 19.

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Musical score for piano and guitar, measures 21-32. The score is divided into three systems. Each system contains a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a guitar staff. Measure numbers 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, and 32 are indicated above the piano staves. The piano part includes various musical notations such as chords, single notes, and dynamics. The guitar part includes rhythmic notation and fretting instructions. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page, reading "Preview Only - Legal Use Requires Purchase".

* E \flat 5 change to E5
** E5 change to E \flat 5

Musical notation for measures 33-36. Treble clef, bass clef. Dynamics: *mf*, *mp*. Includes fingerings and articulation marks.

Pedal point notation for measures 33-36. Dynamics: *mf*, *tr*, *mp*.

Musical notation for measures 37-40. Treble clef, bass clef. Dynamics: *f*. Includes fingerings, articulation marks, and performance instructions like *R* and ****.

Pedal point notation for measures 37-40. Dynamics: *f*, *tr*.

Musical notation for measures 41-44. Treble clef, bass clef. Dynamics: *mf*. Includes fingerings and articulation marks.

Pedal point notation for measures 41-44. Dynamics: *tr*, *mf*, *tr*.

* E \flat 5 change to E5
** E5 change to E \flat 5

Musical notation for measures 45-47. Treble and bass clefs. Measure numbers 45, 46, and 47 are indicated. Dynamics include *f*.

Musical notation for measure 45. Treble clef. Measure number 45 is indicated. Dynamics include *f*.

Musical notation for measures 48-50. Treble and bass clefs. Measure numbers 48, 49, and 50 are indicated. Dynamics include *mp*. A red watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid on this section.

Musical notation for measure 48. Treble clef. Measure number 48 is indicated. Dynamics include *mp*.

Musical notation for measures 51-53. Treble and bass clefs. Measure numbers 51, 52, and 53 are indicated. Dynamics include *mf*, *f*, *ff*, and *mp*. A red watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid on this section.

Musical notation for measure 51. Treble clef. Measure number 51 is indicated. Dynamics include *mf*, *f*, *ff*, and *mp*.

Sing We Now of Christmas

TAMBOURINE

NOEL NOUVELET
TRADITIONAL FRENCH CAROL
Arranged by JUDY PHILLIPS

Joyfully! (♩ = ca. 104 – 112)

The musical score is written on a single staff with a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Joyfully!' with a quarter note equal to approximately 104-112 beats per minute. The score consists of 52 measures, divided into systems of four measures each. The dynamics range from mezzo-piano (mp) to fortissimo (ff). There are several trills marked with a 'tr' symbol and a wavy line. The piece concludes with a double bar line.



Sing We Now of Christmas, arranged by Judy Phillips for 2-3 octaves of handbells, displays a spectrum of musical color created by various bell techniques and the optional tambourine part. This lively setting of the French carol is a perfect fit for worship or concert in the Christmas season.

Performance notes:

- The footnotes in measures 26 – 32 and 38 – 40 give suggestions for changing the E flat 5 and E natural 5 bells during those measures. Assign this position to your best ringer.
- The staccato markings may be played by thumb damping, plucking, or malleting. The director may choose to have the treble clef thumb damp and the bass clef mallet or pluck.
- Have your ringers notice how the dynamics increase a level every two measures from m. 3 – 7. Practice counting out loud in the given dynamic to help them realize the change in volume.
- In measure 27 the melody is in the inner bells between the bass and treble clefs. Rehearse bringing this line out and keeping the half-note chords in the treble clef at a softer dynamic.
- The echo technique, \uparrow beginning in measure 30, applies only to whole notes. Strike the bell then lightly touch the lip of the bell into the table on the designated beats. Don't press too firmly or the bell will stop sounding. If done properly, the technique should result in a "wa-wa" sound.

Judy Phillips is a native of the Detroit area. She earned a bachelor's of music degree in Public School Music from Western Michigan University, as an oboe major. Her Master of Church Music degree was earned from Concordia University Wisconsin with a handbell emphasis, and included studies in handbell composition with Arnold Sherman. Judy teaches elementary band and general music for the Warren Consolidated Schools in Warren, Michigan. She loves ringing, and is a member of the Detroit Handbell Ensemble. Judy and her husband Larry have four grown children. They live in Waterford, Michigan.

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