

# Holiday Favorites for Handbells

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Since 1892

*Compiled and Arranged  
for 3-5 Octave Handbells by*

MARTHA LYNN THOMPSON

*Jingle Bells*

*Up on the Housetop*

*Winter Wonderland*

*Frosty the Snowman*

*The Little Drummer Boy*

*Santa Claus Is Coming to Town*

*Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*

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## Foreword

*Holiday Favorites for Handbells* is a collection of seven well-known Christmas songs. All may be rung with 3-octaves of handbells (or handchimes), but there are optional bells for 4- and 5-octave choirs. All the selections are ideal for any secular holiday concert or venue and you might find "The Little Drummer Boy" appropriate for use in a worship service.

Although these aren't beginning pieces, the arrangements are not difficult. The chromatics found in many of the pieces will necessitate careful planning of bell assignments.

If the arrangements are rung on handchimes, some of the special techniques may need to be omitted, substituting "Ring" for the indicated technique. Ringers of all ages are bound to enjoy these delightful Christmas favorites.



# UP ON THE ROOFTOP

Handbells used: 3 octaves (24)  
4 octaves (30)  
5 octaves (32)

opt.

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4 octave choirs omit notes in [ ].

opt.

BENJAMIN R. HANBY

Arranged by Martha Lynn Thompson

Moderato

1 TD pp

2

3 R mf LV

4

5 LV

6 LV

7 LV

8

9 LV

10 LV R

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11 12 13

14 15 16

17 18 19 20

21 22 23

LV LV LV

LV LV R

TD

pp

pp

R f

LV LV

mf



24 25 26

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27 28 29

LV R

f

30 31 32

LV

33 34 35 36

LV R

TD •  
\* *pp*

37 38 39

R

*f*

LV

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40 41 42

LV

LV

R

43 44 45 46

*f*

LV

LV

R

*pp*

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\* 3 octave choirs omit up-stemmed chords. If desired, sleigh bells may be used in place of chords.



# SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN<sup>7</sup>

Handbells used: 3 octaves (31)  
4 octaves (35)  
5 octaves (38)

opt.

opt.

4 octave choirs omit notes in [ ].

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J. FRED COOTS

Arranged by Martha Lynn Thompson

*Allegro moderato*

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

*f*

*dim.*

*mp*

*mf*



11 12 13 14

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PI/Mallets

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of musical notation, measures 11 through 14. The music is written for piano and mallets on a grand staff. Measure 11 features a complex chordal texture in the right hand. Measures 12 and 13 show a melodic line in the right hand moving downwards. Measure 14 concludes with a sustained chord. A large, semi-transparent watermark for 'HOPE Publishing Company' is overlaid across the system.

15 16 17

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Detailed description: This block contains the second system of musical notation, measures 15 through 17. Measure 15 has a simple chord in the right hand. Measure 16 features a melodic line in the right hand. Measure 17 shows a more complex chordal texture. The 'FOR PROMOTIONAL USE ONLY' watermark continues diagonally across the page.

18 19 20 21

FOR PROMOTIONAL USE ONLY

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of musical notation, measures 18 through 21. Measures 18 and 19 feature complex chordal textures. Measures 20 and 21 show a melodic line in the right hand. The 'FOR PROMOTIONAL USE ONLY' watermark continues diagonally across the page.

22 23 24 25

FOR PROMOTIONAL USE ONLY

**f**

PI/Mallets

Detailed description: This block contains the fourth system of musical notation, measures 22 through 25. Measures 22 and 23 feature complex chordal textures. Measures 24 and 25 show a melodic line in the right hand. A dynamic marking of 'f' (forte) is present in measure 25. The 'FOR PROMOTIONAL USE ONLY' watermark continues diagonally across the page. The page number '8' is in the top left corner.

26 27 28 29

30 31 32 33

34 35 36

37 38 39 40 TD

Mallet  
(on table)

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This musical score is for a mallet on table, spanning measures 26 to 40. It is written in treble and bass clefs. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The notation includes various chords and single notes. A large, diagonal watermark reads 'PREVIEW COPY NOT FOR PROMOTIONAL USE ONLY NOT FOR PERFORMANCE'. The publisher's name 'HOPE Publishing Company' and 'Since 1892' are also visible. The score ends with a 'TD' (Tutti) marking and a '+' sign in the bass staff.



Mallet (on table)

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The musical score is written for a mallet on a table, indicated by the instruction "Mallet (on table)". It consists of four systems of two staves each (treble and bass clef). The measures are numbered 41 through 56. The notation includes various note values (quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes), rests, and dynamic markings such as *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *f* (forte). A large, diagonal watermark reading "PREVIEW COPY NOT FOR PERFORMANCE" is overlaid across the entire page. The publisher's name "HOPE Publishing Company" and the phrase "Since 1892" are also visible in the background.



57 58 59 60

*mf*

PI/Mallets



61 62 63 64



65 66 67 68



69 70 71 72

LV LV LV LV LV LV

R

PI/Mallets



# JINGLE BELLS

Handbells used: 3 octaves (23)

4 octaves (29)

5 octaves (31)

opt.

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3 octave choirs omit notes in ( ).

J. PIERPONT

Arranged by Martha Lynn Thompson

Allegro

Sk

R

Sk

R

1 Sk

2 R

3 Sk

4 R

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

LV

R

LV



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This musical score is for a piano piece, spanning measures 13 to 28. It is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score is presented in four systems, each with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). Measures 13-16 are marked with 'R' in the bass staff, indicating a right-hand play. Measures 17-20 are marked with 'LV' in the bass staff, indicating a left-hand play. Measures 21-24 are marked with 'LV' in the bass staff. Measures 25-28 are marked with 'LV' in the bass staff. The score includes various musical notations such as chords, single notes, and rests. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'PREVIEW COPY NOT FOR PERFORMANCE' is overlaid across the entire page.



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29 30 31 32

33 34 35 36

\* TD  
pp

37 38 39 40

41 42 43 44

LV R LV

\* Up-stemmed notes for 4-5 octave choirs only. 3 octave choirs may use sleigh bells in place of chords.

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45 46 47 ( )

48 49 50 LV

51 52 53

*f* TD/PI *pp* PI

R

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# FROSTY THE SNOWMAN

Handbells used: 3 octaves (32)

4 octaves (35)

5 octaves (36)

opt.

opt.

3 octave choirs omit notes in ( ).

4 & 5 octave choirs omit notes in < >.

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STEVE NELSON and JACK ROLLINS

Arranged by Martha Lynn Thompson

Moderato

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13 14 15 16

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Detailed description: This block contains the first system of musical notation, measures 13 through 16. It is written for piano in treble and bass staves. The music features a mix of chords and single notes. A large, semi-transparent watermark for 'HOPE Publishing Company' is overlaid across the system. Below the watermark, the text 'Since 1892' is visible. A diagonal watermark reading 'FOR PROMOTIONAL USE ONLY' and 'NOT FOR PERFORMANCE' spans across the entire page.

17 18 19 20

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of musical notation, measures 17 through 20. The notation continues with piano accompaniment. The diagonal watermark 'FOR PROMOTIONAL USE ONLY' and 'NOT FOR PERFORMANCE' is prominent across the system.

21 22 23 24

*mf*

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of musical notation, measures 21 through 24. The dynamic marking *mf* (mezzo-forte) is placed at the beginning of measure 21. The notation shows a continuation of the piano accompaniment. The diagonal watermark 'FOR PROMOTIONAL USE ONLY' and 'NOT FOR PERFORMANCE' is visible across the system.

25 26 27 28

Detailed description: This block contains the fourth system of musical notation, measures 25 through 28. The notation concludes the page with piano accompaniment. The diagonal watermark 'FOR PROMOTIONAL USE ONLY' and 'NOT FOR PERFORMANCE' is visible across the system.

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29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44

*mp*

The image displays a musical score for piano, spanning measures 29 to 44. The score is written for two staves, treble and bass. The music features a variety of note values, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. A large, diagonal watermark reading "PREVIEW COPY NOT FOR PERFORMANCE" is overlaid across the entire page. The publisher's name, "HOPE Publishing Company", and the text "Since 1892" are also visible. The measure numbers 29 through 44 are printed above the corresponding measures. A dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) is present in measure 37.



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This musical score is for a piano piece, spanning measures 45 to 64. It is written for a grand piano, with a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into five systems, each containing two staves. Measure numbers 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, and 64 are placed above the first staff of each system. The music features a variety of chords, including triads and dyads, and some melodic lines. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'PREVIEW COPY NOT FOR PERFORMANCE' is overlaid across the entire page. The publisher's name 'HOPE Publishing Company' and 'Since 1892' are also visible in the upper left area.



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65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80

TD/Mallet

*mp*

PI/Mallets

*mf*

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\* If desired, chord may be rung rather than played with mallets on suspended bells.

# RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER

Handbells used: 3 octaves 35

4 octaves 40

5 octaves 42

opt.

3 octave choirs omit notes in ( ).  
4 & 5 octave choirs omit notes in < >.

Moderato (in 2)

JOHNNY MARKS

Arranged by Martha Lynn Thompson

1 2 3 4

mf

5 6 7 8

mp

9 10 11 12

rit.



13 14 15 16

*mp-mf*  
(R) *a tempo*

17 18 19 20

21 22 23 24

25 26 27 28

29 30 31 32

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33 34 35 36

37 38 39 40

41 42 43 44

1.  
LV

45 46 47 48 49

R LV LV R

Pl

# THE LITTLE DRUMMER BOY

**Handbells used: 3 octaves (18)**

**4 octaves (24)**

5 octaves (27)

opt.



opt. Since 1892 opt.  
\* D4 not used in

\* D4 not used in 3 octave version

**3 octave choirs omit notes in ( ).**

**4 octave choirs omit notes in [ ].**

\* 4 and 5 octave choirs may double melody notes an octave higher in measures 29-72. Occasionally it may be desirable to double the top *two* notes.

KATHERINE K. DAVIS

Arranged by Martha Lynn Thompson

**Moderato (in a feeling of 2 beats)**



**NOTE:** Since E4 & F4 are not used in this arrangement, the ringer usually assigned those bells could play the hand drum, deriving the part from the rhythmic pattern in the bass clef. If a drum is not used, this ringer could play the Finger Cymbals. Be creative!



9 10 *pp* 11 12

13 14 *pp* 15 16

17 18 19 20

21 22 23 24 *pp*

*mf* *cresc.* *f* *dim.* *mf*

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26

26

27

28

25 *mf* *dim.* *mp*

29 \* 30 31 32 *pp*

33 34 35 36 *pp*

37 38 39 40

41 *mp* *cresc.* *mf* 42 43 44

\* 4 & 5 octave choirs may begin doubling top melody note(s) measure 29 - 72. See note beneath handbells used chart on page 24.

45 46 47 48

*mf* *dim.* *mp*

49 50 51 52

*mp*

53 54 55 56

*mp* *cresc.* *mf*

\* 5 octave choirs P1/Mallet C3 & G3

57 58 59

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The musical score is written for piano and mallet percussion. It consists of four systems of music, each with a grand staff (treble and bass clef) and a mallet percussion part. The measures are numbered 45 through 59. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf*, *dim.*, *mp*, and *cresc.*. A performance instruction at the bottom of the page reads: "\* 5 octave choirs P1/Mallet C3 & G3". The score is watermarked with "HOPE Publishing Company Since 1892" and "PREVIEW COPY NOT FOR PERFORMANCE".



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60 61 62

63 64 65

66 67 68

*mf* *cresc.*

\* 5 octave choirs PI/Mallet C3

69 70 71

*ff* *dim.*

\*\* 3 & 4 octave choirs omit ties on C4, measures 69-72.

3 3 3 3 3

72

Melody doubling ends here. 73

74

*mf* *dim.*

3 3

\* 5 octave choirs PI/Mallet C3 & G3

75

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76

77

78

79

80

81

82

83

84

TD

*pp* *dim.* *ppp*

PI/Mallets (all notes)

\*\* 3 & 4 octave choirs omit ties on C4.



# WINTER WONDERLAND

Handbells used: 3 octaves (33)  
4 octaves (40)  
5 octaves (44)

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opt.

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

Moderato

FELIX BERNARD  
Arranged by Martha Lynn Thompson

1

*mf*

2

3

4

5

*p*

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Measures 6, 7, and 8 of the musical score. Measure 6 features a treble clef with a half note G4 and a dotted half note F#4, and a bass clef with a half note E3 and a dotted half note D3. Measure 7 features a treble clef with a half note G4 and a dotted half note F#4, and a bass clef with a half note E3 and a dotted half note D3. Measure 8 features a treble clef with a half note G4 and a dotted half note F#4, and a bass clef with a half note E3 and a dotted half note D3.

Measures 9, 10, and 11 of the musical score. Measure 9 features a treble clef with a half note G4 and a dotted half note F#4, and a bass clef with a half note E3 and a dotted half note D3. Measure 10 features a treble clef with a half note G4 and a dotted half note F#4, and a bass clef with a half note E3 and a dotted half note D3. Measure 11 features a treble clef with a half note G4 and a dotted half note F#4, and a bass clef with a half note E3 and a dotted half note D3.

Measures 12, 13, and 14 of the musical score. Measure 12 features a treble clef with a half note G4 and a dotted half note F#4, and a bass clef with a half note E3 and a dotted half note D3. Measure 13 features a treble clef with a half note G4 and a dotted half note F#4, and a bass clef with a half note E3 and a dotted half note D3. Measure 14 features a treble clef with a half note G4 and a dotted half note F#4, and a bass clef with a half note E3 and a dotted half note D3.

Measures 15, 16, and 17 of the musical score. Measure 15 features a treble clef with a half note G4 and a dotted half note F#4, and a bass clef with a half note E3 and a dotted half note D3. Measure 16 features a treble clef with a half note G4 and a dotted half note F#4, and a bass clef with a half note E3 and a dotted half note D3. Measure 17 features a treble clef with a half note G4 and a dotted half note F#4, and a bass clef with a half note E3 and a dotted half note D3.



18 19 20

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21 22 *pp* 23

24 25 26

27 28 29

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This musical score is for a piano piece, spanning measures 18 to 29. It is written for a grand piano, with a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into four systems. The first system contains measures 18, 19, and 20. The second system contains measures 21, 22, and 23, with a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic marking above measure 22. The third system contains measures 24, 25, and 26. The fourth system contains measures 27, 28, and 29. The music features a variety of textures, including chords, arpeggios, and single-note passages. A large, diagonal watermark is overlaid across the center of the page, reading 'PREVIEW COPY NOT FOR PROMOTIONAL USE ONLY NOT FOR PERFORMANCE'. The publisher's name, 'HOPE Publishing Company', and 'Since 1892' are printed in a large, blue, serif font across the middle of the page.

30 31 32

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This block contains the first system of musical notation, measures 30 through 32. It is written for piano on a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. Measure 30 features a complex chordal texture in the right hand. Measure 31 continues this texture with some movement in the left hand. Measure 32 shows a shift in the right hand's harmony. A large, semi-transparent watermark for 'HOPE Publishing Company Since 1892' is overlaid across the system.

33 34

This block contains the second system of musical notation, measures 33 and 34. Measure 33 shows a continuation of the piano accompaniment with a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand. Measure 34 introduces a new harmonic element in the right hand. The watermark continues across this system.

35 36 37

This block contains the third system of musical notation, measures 35 through 37. Measure 35 features a more active right hand with sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 36 has a prominent chord in the right hand. Measure 37 shows a return to a more sustained texture. The watermark continues across this system.

38 39 40

This block contains the fourth system of musical notation, measures 38 through 40. Measure 38 features a complex chordal texture in the right hand. Measure 39 continues this texture with some movement in the left hand. Measure 40 shows a shift in the right hand's harmony. The watermark continues across this system.



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41 42 43

44 45 46

47 48 49

50 51 52

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This musical score is for a piano piece, spanning measures 41 to 52. It is written for two staves, treble and bass. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'FOR PROMOTIONAL USE ONLY' is overlaid across the entire page. The publisher's name, 'HOPE Publishing Company', and the founding year, 'Since 1892', are printed in the upper left area of the score.

53 54 *pp* 55

56 57 58

59 60 61

62 63 64

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Musical notation for measures 65 and 66. The notation is in treble and bass clefs, showing chords and melodic lines. A large, semi-transparent watermark "HOPE Publishing Company" is overlaid across the center of the page, with "Since 1892" written below it.



Musical notation for measures 67 and 68. The notation is in treble and bass clefs, showing chords and melodic lines. A large, semi-transparent watermark "HOPE Publishing Company" is overlaid across the center of the page, with "Since 1892" written below it.

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