

Commissioned by Area III of The American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, Inc.,
for its 1981 Festival, Ken Bissell, Chairman, Ferrum, Virginia.

A Poem of Thanksgiving

3, 4, 5, or 6 Octaves
Bells Needed: 37 (49) (58) (59)

Optional

Optional

A musical score for the first system, consisting of a treble and bass staff. Above the treble staff, there are two sets of bell positions indicated by brackets and notes, labeled "Optional". The first set includes notes for bells #37, #49, #58, and #59. The second set includes notes for bells #37, #49, #58, and #59. A large watermark "MUSIC" is overlaid on the score.

Donald E. Allured

1 *Maestoso* ♩ = 54 2 *p* 3 *p* 3 *mf*

4 5 6 *mf*

7 8 9 10 *cresc.*

A musical score for the second system, consisting of a treble and bass staff. The score is divided into ten measures, numbered 1 through 10. Measure 1 is marked "Maestoso" with a quarter note equal to 54. Measure 2 is marked "p". Measure 3 is marked "p" and contains a triplet of sixteenth notes. Measure 4 is marked "mf". Measure 5 is marked "mf". Measure 6 is marked "mf" and contains a triplet of sixteenth notes. Measure 7 is marked "mf". Measure 8 is marked "mf". Measure 9 is marked "mf" and contains a triplet of sixteenth notes. Measure 10 is marked "cresc.". A large watermark "MUSIC" is overlaid on the score.

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11 *f* 12 13 *p* *dim.* *pp* *p*

14 *p* *Pluck* 15 16 *rit.* *pp* *Ring*

17 *a tempo* *mp* 18 19 20

Espressivo 21 *mp* 22 23 24

* Omit G6 if G7 is available.

Musical notation for measures 25-28. The system consists of two staves. Measure numbers 25, 26, 27, and 28 are indicated above the treble staff. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes in the treble and chords in the bass.

Musical notation for measures 29-31. The system consists of two staves. Measure numbers 29, 30, and 31 are indicated above the treble staff. A *cresc.* marking is present in the bass staff between measures 30 and 31. The music continues with similar rhythmic patterns.

Musical notation for measures 32-34. The system consists of two staves. Measure numbers 32, 33, and 34 are indicated above the treble staff. Measure 32 contains a dense texture of chords. Measure 33 features a *fff* dynamic marking in the bass and a *pp* marking in the treble. Measure 34 includes a triplet of chords in the treble and a *pp* marking in the bass.

Musical notation for measures 35-37. The system consists of two staves. Measure numbers 35, 36, and 37 are indicated above the treble staff. Measures 35 and 36 feature triplet markings in both staves. Measure 37 continues with triplet markings in the bass staff.

38 39 40

L.V. L.V. L.V.

41 42 43

L.V. L.V. L.V.

44 45 46

L.V. L.V. L.V.

cresc. mf p

47 48 49

L.V. L.V. L.V.

p

50 51 52

mf *p* *pp*

53 54 55

cresc. *mf* *p*

56 57 58

pp *pp* *rit.*

59 60 61 62

pp *a tempo* *pp* *p*

* Notes in brackets [] omitted by 3 octave choirs.

63 *mf* 64 65

66 67 68 *p* *Espressivo*

69 *Sk.* 70 *Sk.* 71

72 73

* Notes in brackets [] for 3 octave choirs only.

74 *cresc.* 75

76 77

78 *fff* 79 80 *f* 81 *mf* *p*

82 *pp* 83 *p* 84 85

* 3 octave choirs omit all notes in brackets [] to measure 85.

86 87 88

L.V. cresc.

89 90 91

f dim.

92 93 94

p molto cresc. ff L.V. pp Espressivo

95 96 97

rit.

98 99 100

pp ppp

Completed January 20, 1981, and dedicated to the freeing of the American hostages from Iran.