

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

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The musical score is presented on two staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. It contains six measures of music with the following chords: G, D7, G, D7, G, and Bm. The second staff continues with twelve measures, with chords: C, Em, C, Bm, C, A, G, C, G, C, D, and G. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

This is a slightly ornamented version of an old Christmas standard. You can find full lyrics and several sung versions on the internet, so I won't include the lyrics here.

The lyrics were written by the American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in 1863, during the American Civil War, when "...hate was strong and mocks the song, of peace on earth, good will to men." But Longfellow's last verse regains hope that "...God is not dead, nor does He sleep."