WELS SE Regional Handbell Festival 2019 Laudate Notes

Greetings, Directors! I am honored to prepare the Laudate music with your musicians at this year's festival. If you have any questions about the notes, please call me at (414) 530-5696 or email me at keggers@davidsstar.org.

Kris Eggers

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Tempo-- marked 88, but the recording tends to speed up a little. If we can play a little faster than 88 and stay together, great!

Keep the melody prominent in each "verse," especially mm. 16-24 and 28-36.

During the interludes (before and after all the "verses") and especially in the last 2 measures of the piece, I find it helpful to count eighth-note beats out loud to prevent rushing.

News! News!

I would like to play this joyful Christmas piece no faster than 116 so we can maintain control with a larger group.

In measures 8-20, middle/upper bells should bring out the melody while bass clef bells provide a softer background with the brush damp. Bass clef bells can play out with the melody from measures 27-34.

We WILL play the optional repeat after measure 40.

I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light

Please follow all the dynamic markings in this lyrical, gentle arrangement of a beautiful hymn! I plan to direct at or just slower than the suggested speed of 100.

For the 2 fermatas (m. 38 and 80), I will begin a slight ritardando in the previous measure (37 and 79). There will not be a cutoff. After a large, clear prep beat, we will continue "a tempo." I suggest having your ringers memorize the whole measure after the fermata (39 and 81) so that they can watch me for the exact placement of beats 2 and 3. It would be good to memorize from meas. 92 to the end for the same reason.

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

What a delightful piece for expressing our Easter joy at our Savior's resurrection! The biggest challenge will be maintaining a constant tempo. I will be happy with a speed closer to 120 if it means we stay together better.

Please rehearse the piece very slowly at first to achieve accuracy, especially with the eighth notes at the end of many phrases (like in meas. 25, 29, 33, 58, 62, 66).

At the end, meas. 71-72 should be played at a volume of "mp," meas. 73-74 at "mf," and meas. 75-76 at "f." Then, measures 79 to the end should be played at "ff." There will be a slight ritardando in meas. 75-76 and we will continue at that tempo till the end (with no further ritardando).

May God bless all your festival preparations! To him be the glory!