

## Director's Notes

### Exaltate Choir

#### Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

We will have a choir, so this handbell arrangement will serve as an accompaniment to the choir. The challenge in this piece is to keep the tempo steady at 60 bpm for the quarter note. The temptation will be to increase the tempo. Everyone will need to count silently as they play, or the accompaniment will not hold together. Please avoid using your feet to keep the tempo. Otherwise, we will perform the piece as indicated in the score.

#### For All the Saints

This piece will be performed with the optional handchimes and trumpet. We will perform the piece as written. A potential challenge might be to keep the tempo going while performing the diminuendo at the bottom of page 4. Another challenge would be to observe the LVs on pp. 5-6. Please note the indication to ring three notes in the first part of measure 38. Observing the LV markings will help keep the piece from sounding too muddy. The tempo broadens significantly in measure 59. Be sure to watch the director.

#### Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness

We will perform this piece as written. There are several ritardando indications in the score. In the measures with a ritardando indication, practice counting the beats (with their "ands") in your head as you relax the tempo. You could practice counting aloud while performing these measures as you rehearse. We will count aloud in the mass rehearsal in these spots to internalize the slowing. When we perform, obviously we will not count aloud. (My directing pattern will get too small for our large group if I subdivide the beats in those spots). You will see my pattern get larger and more expansive as I conduct the quarter notes in these spots.

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