

HYMN

# Unchanging God

A Hymn for Bell Ringers

Words by Henry Charles Wilder  
Set to music by Richard Taulbut

2013

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Henry Charles Wilder

Music by  
Richard Taulbut

UNCHANGING GOD 76 76 D (Unison)

Un - chang - ing God who liv - est en - throned in realms on

The first system of musical notation for 'Unchanging God' consists of a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The melody is a simple, steady line of quarter notes. The accompaniment consists of chords, primarily triads and dyads, providing harmonic support.

high, to men the power thou giv - - - est thy

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics 'high, to men the power thou giv - - - est thy' are aligned with the notes. The melody has a slight rise in pitch towards the end of the phrase.

name to mag - ni - fy. We raise the bells for

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics 'name to mag - ni - fy. We raise the bells for' are aligned with the notes. The melody has a slight rise in pitch towards the end of the phrase.

ring - - - ing with rea - dy mind and will, and

The fourth system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics 'ring - - - ing with rea - dy mind and will, and' are aligned with the notes. The melody has a slight rise in pitch towards the end of the phrase.

come be - fore thee, bring - ing our hearts, our strength, our skill.

The fifth system concludes the piece. The lyrics 'come be - fore thee, bring - ing our hearts, our strength, our skill.' are aligned with the notes. The melody has a slight rise in pitch towards the end of the phrase.

U nchanging God, who livest  
Enthroned in realms on high,  
To men the power thou givest  
Thy name to magnify.  
We raise the bells for ringing  
With ready mind and will,  
And come before thee, bringing  
Our hearts, our strength, our skill.

We call, from tower and steeple,  
Upon the day of days,  
All faithful Christian people  
To worship, prayer and praise;  
We ring with joyous gladness  
When man and wife are blessed;  
We peal in muffled sadness  
For loved ones laid to rest.

By union free and willing  
The work of God is done;  
Our Master's prayer fulfilling,  
We would in him be one:  
One as the Church our Mother  
Would have her children stand,  
Befriending one another,  
A strong and steadfast band.

Our lives, like bells, while changing,  
An ordered course pursue;  
Through joys and sorrows ranging,  
May all those lives ring true.  
May we, through Christ forgiven,  
Our faults and failures past,  
Attain our place in heaven,  
Called home to rest at last.

HENRY CHARLES WILDER (1860 – 1948)