



Christmas Bells

*I heard the bells on Christmas day
Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good will to men!*

*And though how, as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along
The unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good will to men!*

*Till ringing, singing on its way
The world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime,
A chant sublime
Of peace on earth, good will to men!*

*Then from each black, accursed mouth
The cannon thundered in the South,
And with the sound
The carols drowned
Of peace on earth, good will to men!*

*It was as it an earthquake rent
The hearth-stones of a continent
And made forlorn
The households born
Of peace on earth, good will to men!*

*And in despair I bowed my head.
"There is no peace on earth," I said
"For hate is strong,
And mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good will to men!"*

*Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
"God is not dead, nor doth He sleep!
The Wrong shall fail,
The Right prevail
With peace on earth, good will to men!"*

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Merry Christmas