Notes from the composer

Yellowstone National Park is a vast wonderland of beauty filled with a diversity of landscapes, flora, and fauna. Perhaps the first thing that comes to mind for most people, however, are geysers, and one in particular: Old Faithful. That particular geyser, famed for its regular and rhythmic eruptions, has many nicknames, among them “Eternity’s Timepiece.”

The piece opens with a motif depicting the eruption of Old Faithful, which then gives way to an expansive theme portraying the wide-open, majestic landscapes of the park, before returning again to the geyser motif. A series of descending scales describe the numerous waterfalls found throughout the park, followed by the introduction of the hymntune DIX (For the Beauty of the Earth). The piece returns to a final iteration of the geyser theme, closing with an ethereal section on handchimes and suspended bells played with mallets.

Jason W. Krug
Commissioned by Bells of the Bridgers; Bozeman United Methodist Church’s “Glory Ringers”; and Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ’s “Pilgrim Peace Ringers”; and dedicated to Bozeman, Montana’s handbell director extraordinaire, M.A. Bellingham, and her passion for handbells, and Yellowstone National Park. Premiered at the 2017 Big Sky Handbell Festival, Belgrade Montana.

Eternity’s Timepiece

Yellowstone

for Handbells (3, 4, 5, or 6 octaves) with optional Handchimes (3, 4, 5, or 6 octaves)

Handbells used: 37, 48, 58, 65

optional

Handchimes used: 18, 21, 23, 25

optional

PERFORMANCE NOTES:
3-octave ensembles should omit notes in ( ).
4-octave ensembles should omit notes in [ ].
3 and 4-octave ensembles should omit notes in < >.
5-octave ensembles should omit notes in { }.

Expectantly $\frac{\dot{\cdot}}{} = \text{ca. 90}$

JASON W. KRUG

incorporating the hymn tune DIX

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*LV all treble and bass notes in the LVs through m. 20.
*5 and 6-octave ensembles may double the top notes an octave higher.
**5-octave ensembles may double the A6 an octave higher.
***5 and 6-octave ensembles may double the up-stem notes an octave higher.
*5 and 6-octave ensembles may double the up-stem notes an octave higher.