

The Bells of Grace Church in New York

from the Church Year Book 1925

OUR MEMORIAL BELLS

The bells in the tower of Grace Church now number twenty, a complete carillon, and they furnish a full chromatic scale covering an Octave and about two-thirds, or exactly from the lowest toned bell B flat to F natural above the second C, for the highest tone.

The eleven former bells have been recast to perfect pitch and tone color with the nine new bells.

The first ten bells were played for the first time on Easter morning, 1873, the eleventh bell on Easter morning 1916, and the last nine bells, the complete carillon, on Easter, 1925.

The complete mechanical playing action for the bells was given by Mrs. Francis C. Huntington.

It is largely owing to the devoted interest of Miss Mary H. Gilles, assistant organist of Grace Church, that the new memorial bells were given.

Below follow the bells, in numerical order, in memoriam, and the donors:

In Memoriam

1. "The Great Bell"
The Reverend Thomas House Taylor, D.D.
By Members of the Congregations.
2. John David Wolfe (Warden).
By Catharine Lorillard Wolfe.
3. George Barclay (Warden).
By His Daughter.
4. Edward Renshaw Jones (Warden), and Edward Jones (Vestryman).
By Wife and Mother.
5. Mary A.C. McCollum.
By Her Husband.
6. William Seward Roberts.
By His Mother.
7. Julian Broon Livingston.
By His Parents.
8. Henry A. Schermerhorn.
By His Mother.
9. Alfred H. Easton.

- By His Wife.
10. "The Children's Bell"
By Sarah Marsh Auchinloss.
 11. Cornelia Stewart Butler
By Charles Stewart Butler.
 12. Watson Bradley Dickerman.
By Florence and Watson Dickerman.
 13. Mary Rhinelander Stewart.
By William Rhinelander Stewart and Lispernard Stewart.
 14. Dorothea Wolfe Hoffman.
By Mary U. Hoffman.
 15. Augusta Berwind and Infant Son.
By John E. and Katharine M. Berwind.
 16. Alfred Duane Pell.
By Cornelia Livingston Pell.
 17. Frank Spencer Witherbee and Lispernard Stewart Witherbee.
By Mary Stewart Witherbee.
 18. Henry Wheeler de Forest.
By Henry W. de Forest and Julia N. de Forest.
 19. Charles Denston Dickey.
By Louise Dickey, Charles Denston and Lawrence Witherspoon Dickey.
 20. May Toel Landon and Katharine Pratt Winchester.
By Families of Francis Griswold Landon and Dallas Bache Pratt.

Additional Information:

The 20 bell chime (The cast bell chime is defined as a musical instrument possessing between eight and twenty-two bells, played from a keyboard. Instruments with twenty-three or more bells are known as carillons) located in the tower of Grace Church was cast in the year 1924 by the Meneely Bellfoundry of Troy, New York.

In 1925 the mechanical playing action activated from a keyboard high up in the tower was replaced by an electro-pneumatic high wind pressure action built by Ernest M. Skinner of Boston. The bells from 1925 until 1998 were played from the organ console of the church. The keyboard high up in the tower was removed.

In 1998, the former electro-pneumatic action was replaced by a modern electric system by the vanBergen Company. The bells are now played from a small keyboard located next to the Organ Console in the Choir. This playing system for the bells was first used on Easter Sunday 1998.

The Chime of Bells has been restored to the glory of God through the generosity of Mrs. Carter M. Braxton and Michael and Philippa Straus. Easter Sunday 12 April 1998.

The Bells

<u>Bell No.</u>	<u>Diameter</u>	<u>Height</u>	<u>Bell Bolt</u>	<u>Note and Weight</u>
1	59"	47"	2" x 36"	C - 5000
2	55 ½	45 ½	2" x 36"	C# - 4000
3	53 ¼	43 ½	2" x 36"	D - 3500
4	49 5/8	40 ½	2" x 36"	D# - 3000
5	46	37 ¾	1 7/8 x 30	E - 2400
6	43 ½	36	1 ½ x 30	F - 2000
7	42	35 ¼	1 3/8 x 30	F# - 1650
8	39	33	1 1/8 x 30	G - 1500
9	36 ¼	31	1 1/8 x 30	G# - 1250
10	33 ¼	28 ½	1 x 30	A - 1000
11	32 ¼	27	1 x 30	A# - 850
12	30	25	1 x 24	B - 700
13	28 ¼	25	1 x 24	C - 600
14	27 ¼	23 ½	1 x 24	C# - 500
15	26	22	7/8 x 24	D - 400
16	24 ½	22 ¼	7/8 x 24	D# - 350
17	23	20 3/8	7/8 x 24	E - 300
18	22 ¾	19 ¾	7/8 x 24	F - 250
19	22 5/8	20	7/8 x 24	F# - 225
20	20	19	7/8 x 24	G - 200