



THE WORLD BELOVED

A BLUEGRASS MASS

BY CAROL BARNETT

A CHORAL EVENING SERVICE
WITH
THE ADULT CHOIR
&
THE BROOKLYN BLUEGRASS COLLECTIVE

APRIL 5, 2025 5:00 PM

NASSAU PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
61 NASSAU STREET
PRINCETON, NJ 08542

IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM @ [NASSAUCHURCH.ORG](https://nassauchurch.org)

PARTICIPANTS

Liturgists

Rev. Len Turner Scales
Rev. Dr. David A. Davis

Nassau Presbyterian Church Adult Choir

Noel Werner, *conductor*

Kelsey Hendler, *soprano soloist*
Lauren Cook, *mezzo-soprano soloist*
George Ross Somerville, *tenor soloist*

Carol Fagundus, Rebecca Soulen, Grace Coogan,
Peggy Mankey, Barbara Greenfeldt, Miriam Eley
Joe Kelley, Don Dolan, Craig Tipton, *small ensemble*

Don Dolan, *accompanist*

The Brooklyn Bluegrass Collective

presents

Tom Gause, *fiddle*
Andrew Sheron, *mandolin*
Dan Whitener, *banjo*
Landon Trust, *guitar*
Nathan Haselby, *string bass*

Technical Team

Nick Mastalesz, *sound engineer*
Tom Coogan & Doug Ladendorf, *livestream operators*

Prelude St. Anne's Reel Traditional

Opening Sentences John 3:16-17

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn What Wondrous Love Is This Red Hymnal 215
verses 1 & 4: all
verse 2: lower voices; verse 3: higher voices

Welcome

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson Psalm 148 Book of Common Worship

Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise God in the heights.

**Praise the LORD, all you angels;
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

Praise the LORD, sun and moon;
sing praise, all you shining stars.

**Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.**

Let them praise the name of the LORD,
who commanded, and they were created,
**who made them stand fast forever and ever,
giving them a law which shall not pass away.**

Praise the LORD from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;
**fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;
**wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds;**

sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;

**young men and maidens,
old and young together.**

Let them praise the name of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted,
whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

**The LORD has raised up strength for the people
and praise for all faithful servants,
the children of Israel, the people who are near the LORD.**

Second Scripture Lesson I John 4:7-12,19-21

Cantata

The World Beloved

Carol Barnett, composer

Marisha Chamberlain, librettist

I. Ballad: Refrain

They say God loved the world so dear,
He set aside His crown
And cloaked Himself in human shape;
They say that He came down
And dwelt awhile among us here.
He came on down.

II. Kyrie

Mercy!
Oh, Kyrie! Have mercy! Oh, Christe!
Mercy, Oh mercy, eleison, eleison.
Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison,
Kyrie eleison, have mercy on creation!
Christe eleison, have mercy on our souls!

III. Ballad: First Verse

A child walked forth on Eden's way,
A child stretched out her hand.
O, may I taste the apple there
And take to understand
The fruit of knowledge in my mouth,
And know of God firsthand?

IV. Gloria

Glory be to God on high,
Who launched the sunlight, loosed the rain,
Who scattered stars across the sky,
Who piled the mountains, rolled the plains,
Who spilled the rivers and the seas.
Oh, Glory be, oh, Glory be.

Glory be God below,
For feather, fur, for scale and fin,
For vine uptwisting, blossom's fire,
For muscle, sinew, nerve and skin,
And every feature set aglow,
Oh, Glory be to God below.

Oh, Glory be for peace on earth,
And prayerful be the human heart
That has required a Savior's birth
To make of earth heav'n's counterpart,
So strife might stop and warring cease.
Oh, Glory be for peace, oh, be for peace.

Oh, Glory be the generous Hand
Who left us to our work and care,
Who gave us only few commands
But that we help each other bear
Life's burdens, pain and suffering ease.
Oh, Glory be, oh, Glory be.

V. Ballad: Second Verse & Refrain

Adam, he labored, Eve, she toiled,
And many children bore,
And sometimes all was fruitfulness,
And sometimes seasons wore
Them down to dust and emptiness
And hunger at the door.

But they say God loved the world so dear,
He set aside His crown
And cloaked himself in human shape;
They say that He came down
And dwelt awhile among us here.
He came down.

VI. Ballad: Credo

Oh, I do believe a place awaits us
far across the Jordan,
And when we reach those mossy banks
we'll cast aside our oars.
Row on, row on, we're crossing River Jordan,
Row on, and no one goes alone.

Oh, I do believe a place awaits us
high above the mountains
And when we reach that highest peak,
we'll spread our wings and soar.
Climb on, climb on, we're climbing Jacob's Ladder.
Climb on, climb on, and no one goes alone.

Oh, I do believe a resting place awaits us
'cross the Jordan.
We'll toss our coats, throw off our hats
and take the seat of ease.
And it's not the seat of riches and it's not the seat of power.
Row on, row on, and no one goes alone.

VII. Sanctus

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus.
Dominus Deus Sabaoth;
pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy.
Lord God of hosts;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

VIII. Ballad: Third & Fourth Verses

The skies exploded, towers fell; the floods came rushing down,
And many souls were burned alive, and many souls were drowned,
And others set to marching, marching far from house and home.
Where are you now, our Savior dear, when we are all undone?

They say God loved the world so dear,
(So they say)

He cast aside His crown
And cloaked himself in human shape;
They say that He came down,
And dwelt awhile among us here.

He came on down.

Oh, where are you now, our Savior dear?

Oh, I am here among you now tho' I must pass unseen,
And cannot say why this must be nor how I walk between
Your souls and greater dangers than you have ever known,
To laugh with you and weep with you, my people, oh my own.

It's true, I love the world so dear

I cast aside My crown
And cloak Myself in mystery
So I can come on down
And dwell in and among you now.

I come on down.

IX. Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, give us peace.

X. Art Thou Weary?

Instrumental interlude

XI. Benediction

Blessing be upon your heads.

Bless the living, bless the dead.

Blessing be upon you, my people.

Blessing so that you may go

Lightly through this world of woe.

Blessing be upon you, my people.

Blessings, and may you embrace

God in guise of human grace.

Blessings now and forever.

XII. Conclusion

They say God loved the world so dear,

She set aside her crown

And cloaked Herself in human shape;

They say that She came down,

And dwelt awhile among us here.

She came on down.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Offering	The Gleaning Project Society of St. Andrew	Lynette Johnson Executive Director
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Offertory	Grey Owl	Traditional
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Words of Thanksgiving

Hymn	For the Fruit of All Creation	Red Hymnal 36
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Benediction

Postlude	Big Sciota	Traditional
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The Worship and Arts Committee warmly invite all to share thanksgiving with the choir and instrumentalists following worship at a reception in the Assembly Room.



We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of our congregation.

The appearance by the Brooklyn Bluegrass Collective is made possible through the generosity of Lorraine Sarhage, to the Glory of God.

The Clarence Ammons Music Fund of Nassau Presbyterian Church provided additional funding.

PROGRAM NOTE

To bring the solemnity of the classical-based Mass together with the down-home sparkle of bluegrass – now there’s an assignment. My highest hope is that the listeners coming from one tradition – classical or bluegrass – and perhaps dubious about the other, might discover something new and wonderful in the combination, as I have. Composing the music for *The World Beloved* has given me the chance to write cheery sacred music – all too rare in a medium rife with staid and even lugubrious settings. It has brought me back to memories of music heard while visiting my grandparents: country music with a church flavor that told stories and came out of a scratchy old record player. Grandma would not have allowed dancing, but under the table I tapped my toes.

— Carol Barnett

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Carol Barnett’s music has been called audacious and engaging. Her varied catalog includes works for solo voice, piano, chorus, diverse chamber ensembles, orchestra, and wind ensemble. She was awarded the 2003 Nancy Van der Vate International Prize for Opera for her chamber opera, *Snow*; her music theater work, *Meeting at Seneca Falls*, was featured at the 2006 Diversity Festival in Red Wing, MN. *The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass*, commissioned in 2006 by VocalEssence and written with Marisha Chamberlain, had its Carnegie Hall debut in February 2013 and has become a favorite across the country. Barnett is a charter member of the American Composers Forum and a graduate of the University of Minnesota, where she studied composition with Dominick Argento and Paul Fetler. She was composer-in-residence with the Dale Warland Singers from 1992-2001 and an adjunct faculty member at Augsburg College from 2000-2015.



Society of St. Andrew
GLEANNING AMERICA'S FIELDS
FEEDING AMERICA'S HUNGRY

Join us while we glean food in the fields to help **feed** local people in great need.

EndHunger.org



The Problem

More than 40 million Americans go hungry, including women, children, and the working poor. And yet, plenty of food is available! The USDA estimates that 35% of the food grown in the U.S. is never made available for people to eat—much of it is left in fields after harvest. It is plowed over or dumped into landfills, where it creates a harmful greenhouse gas: methane. After the remaining food is delivered to supermarkets and restaurants, another 133 billion pounds of food is thrown away annually.



Mission

The Society of St. Andrew brings people together to harvest and share healthy food, reduce food waste, and build caring communities by offering nourishment to hungry neighbors.



The Solution

When SoSA's partner farmer's signal their crops are available, volunteers are called to the fields and orchards. They gather the food and pack it for delivery. Local feeding agencies pick up the food, or it is delivered directly to food pantries, often eaten the same day it was picked. Learn more about all of our programs to salvage food.

Get Involved

Society of St. Andrew
3383 Sweet Hollow Road
Big Island, VA 24526

800-333-4597
info@endhunger.org
EndHunger.org/get-involved
EndHunger.org/donate



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Additional music, “St. Anne’s Reel,” “Grey Owl,” and “Big Sciota,” traditional bluegrass tunes arranged and presented by The Brooklyn Bluegrass Collective.

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