

*HYMN “In the Midst of New Dimensions” 391

*INVOCATION

God of winding roads and steady rhythms, You call us into a living holiness, a way of walking gently upon this sacred earth, rooted not in perfection, but in love. So gather us now, O Holy One. Tune our hearts to your grace. Remind us that we belong to one another and to you, in a world you have already named beloved. Shape our steps, that we may carry your love wherever we go. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass

Text by Marisha Chamberlain

(In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us...John 4:7-21)

I. Ballad: Refrain- soloist: Katie Miller

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 your souls!

III. Ballad: First Verse- soloist: Madi Maschmann

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 to 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’ns 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 can help each other bear life’s burdens. Pain and suffering ease.

Oh Glory be, oh, Glory be.

V. Ballad: Second Verse and Refrain- soloist: Madi Maschmann & SA choir

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 said 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.

VI. Credo- soloists: Sam Vangerpen & Deedra Holdhusen

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 along.

*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.

Translation:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Lord, God of Hosts

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosannah in the highest.

**VIII. Ballad: Third and Fourth Verses and Refrain- soloists: Maleah Wright & Sam Vangerpen
trio: Media Graham, Kacie Hall, & Kurt Hackemer**

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 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 down.

Oh, I am here among you now tho’ I must pass unseen, and cannot show 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 among you now, I come on down.

IX. Agnus Dei- double quartet

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.

Translation:

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, grant us peace.

X. Instrumental Interlude: Art Thou Weary

Offertory

XI. Benediction

Blessings be upon your heads. Bless the living, bless the dead. Blessings be upon you, my people. Blessings 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- soloist, Katie Miller

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.