

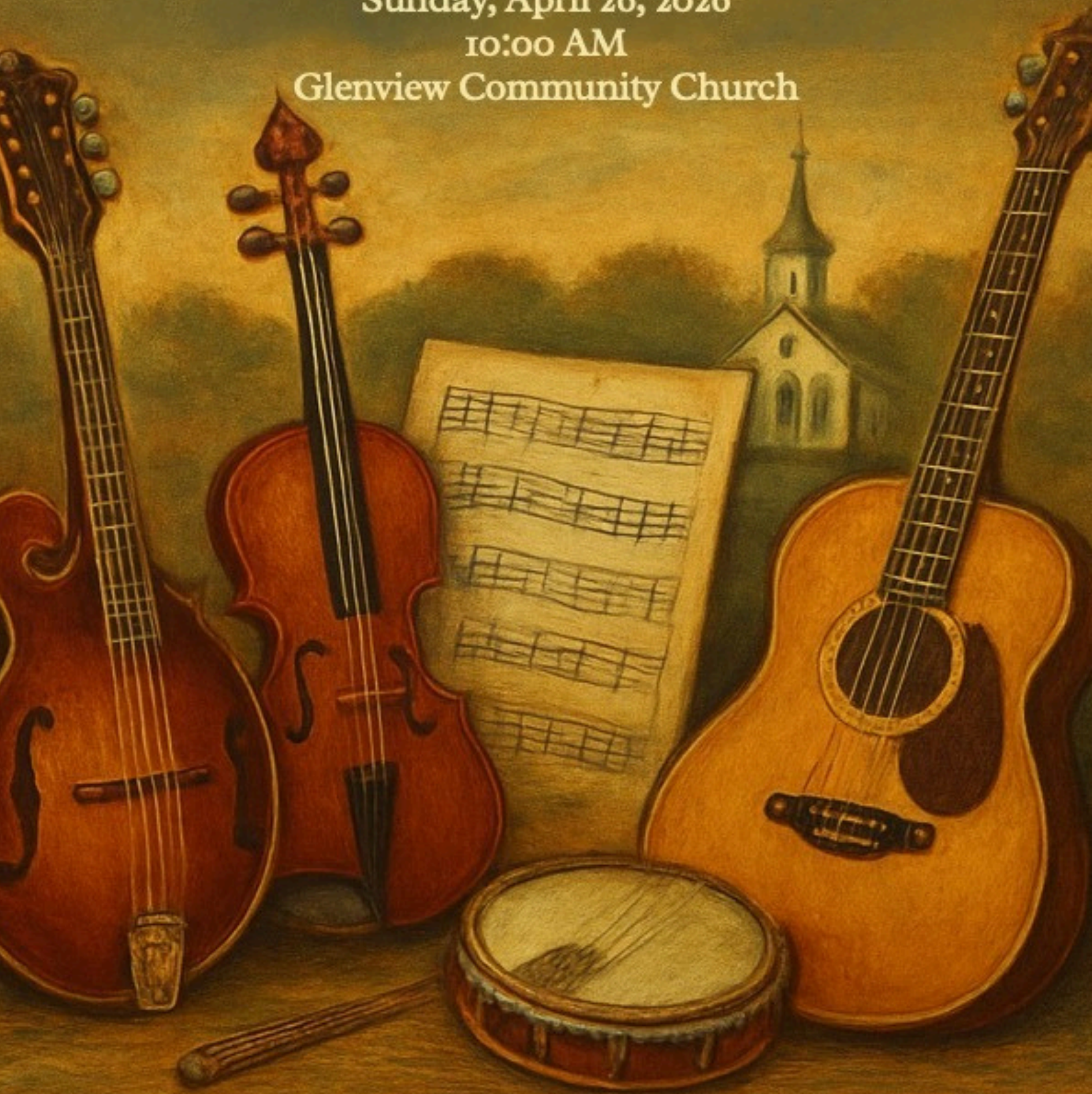
# *The World Beloved*

## A BLUEGRASS MASS

Sunday, April 26, 2026

10:00 AM

Glenview Community Church



# The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass

Composed by Carol Barnett

Libretto by Marisha Chamberlain

Performed by The Chancel Choirs of  
Glenview Community Church and First Presbyterian Church–Arlington Heights

*In this is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us ... John 4:7-21*

PRELUDE      *Three Reels*

Trad. Irish

\*OPENING HYMN #14      *For the Beauty of the Earth*

DIX

\*WELCOME

\*RESPONSIVE PSALM 148

One: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights.

**All: Praise the Lord, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

One: Praise the Lord, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.

**All: Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.**

One: Let them praise the name of the Lord, who commanded, and they were created,

**All: who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law which shall not pass away.**

One: Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

**All: fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

One: mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

**All: wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;**

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

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

One: Let them praise the name of the Lord,

whose name only is exalted,

whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

**All: 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.**

**READING** I John 4:7-12, 19-21

I. Ballad: Refrain

II. Kyrie

**READING** Genesis 3:5

III. Ballad: First Verse

IV. Gloria

**REFLECTION**

Rev. Dr. James Matarazzo

V. Ballad: Second Verse and Refrain

VI. Credo

**A NEW CREED** *The United Church of Canada, 1968/1980*

**We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.  
We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.  
We trust in God.  
We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.  
In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.  
We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.**

VII. Sanctus

**READING** Psalm 22:19-28

VIII. Ballad: Third and Fourth Verses

IX. Agnus Dei

**CALL TO OFFERING**

X. Instrumental: Art Thou Weary?

**\*OFFERING RESPONSE HYMN #796** *We Come to You for Healing, Lord*  
*Vv. 1, 4*

LAND OF REST

**\*CALL TO PRAYER**

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Christ is risen!

**All: The Lord is risen indeed.**

One: Let us pray.

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN #366** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

HYFRYDOL

XI. Benediction

XII. Conclusion



**Soloists (in order of appearance):**

Tricia Melzer Swaydrak

Beth Forrester

Laura Hancko

Bruce Wedell

Sue Newberry

**Instrumentalists:**

Colin Cosgrove - Mandolin

Simon Cropp - Guitar

Sue Cunningham - Flute

Ken Haebich - Bass

Amelia Mason - Banjo

Gary Wendt - Accordion

Emily Williams - Fiddle

**Musical Leaders:**

Choir Director: Kate Lee

Director of Music: Gary Wendt

**Worship Leaders:**

Ministers: Rev. Dr. James Matarazzo,

Rev. Abigail Lutz

**Worship Volunteers:**

Ambassadors: Ginny Hotaling, Tom Thuresson

Head Usher: Colin Crawford

Ushers: Natalie Banovitz, Bob Hinchsliff, Nan

Hinchsliff, Gordon Jones, Paul Kunkel

Technical Engineer: Barry Nelson

Offering Steward: Nathan Shook

**Combined Chancel Choirs:**

First Presbyterian Church-Arlington Heights

Glenview Community Church

**Lay Leader:**

Moderator: Laura Heyser

*moderator@gccucc.org*

# Words to The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass

## 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 tree  
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 help each other bear  
Life's burdens. Pain and suffering ease.  
Oh, Glory be, oh, Glory be.

## V. Ballad: Second Verse

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.

*Refrain*

## VI. 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.

### **VIII. Ballad: Third and 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?

#### *Refrain*

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 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.

### **X. Instrumental Interlude: Art Thou Weary?**

#### **XI. Benediction**

Blessings be upon your heads.

Bless the living, bless the dead.

Blessings 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.

#### **From the Composer Carol Barnett**

The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass – To bring the solemnity of the classical choir-based mass together with the down home sparkle of bluegrass—now there's an assignment. My highest hope is that 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. And it's 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.

#### **From the Librettist Marisha Chamberlain**

If you Google the term Bluegrass Mass, you'll get Websites for several churches across the country who add Bluegrass music to enliven their worship services. Great Bluegrass music is infectious and lively, so it's easy to see why any church would want to add Bluegrass, but why call it a Bluegrass Mass unless there's liturgy, too—a text in the Bluegrass tradition? Bluegrass is more than a sound. The lyrics of so many Bluegrass songs display an unpretentious, earthy philosophy that is easy to sing and easy to understand: Adam lives just up the street and Eve's the girl next door. Love is the major theme—frustrated yearning love, secret, satisfied love or boldly proclaimed love. And although romantic love between two people is huge in Bluegrass, so is love of God, the Gospel tradition. In this is love, not that we loved God but that He loved us, says John in the Gospel, which launches our Bluegrass Mass as an earthy, immediate story of love between Creator and creation.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Food on The First!**

Every First Sunday of the Month GCC collects food to donate to the Northfield Township Food Pantry! We call this "Food on the First!" Bring some non-perishable groceries **next Sunday** to donate to our local food pantry!

### **Confirmation & Youth Sunday**

*Sunday, May 3, 10 a.m. - Sanctuary*

Join us next Sunday for our annual service to celebrate the many youth milestones at GCC!

### **Scenes From An Italian Restaurant: An Event to Benefit the GCC Friends of Music Fund**

*Friday, May 8, 5:30 p.m. - The Commons*

All are invited to buy a ticket and join us for this night of Italian dining celebrating the vibrant music ministry of Glenview Community Church! Purchase your ticket after worship today at the table in the Commons. Don't miss out—buy your ticket today!

### **Chicago River Clean Up**

*Saturday, May 9, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. - Techny Basin*

Join GCC volunteers for Chicago River Day as we help care for our local river through cleanup and restoration. Families with children 8+ are welcome, and participants receive a T-shirt! Register using [this link](#), then please email Cathy Shapiro at [cshapiroeditor@gmail.com](mailto:cshapiroeditor@gmail.com).

### **Puppet Show: Calm Seas Ahead**

*Sunday, May 10, during 10 a.m. worship - The Youth Room*

Church School students (and people of all ages!) are invited to attend GCC's Spring Puppets performance. Students will start in worship and head to the show after the blessing exchange.

### **GCC Children's Musical: Magic Schoolboat**

*Sunday, May 17, 10 a.m. - The Sanctuary*

Join us for a whale of a tale as Voices of GCC, our children's choir, takes off on a magical journey to learn about Noah and Jonah! This musical was written by Voices of GCC.

### **Glenview Community Church Annual Congregational Meeting**

*Sunday, May 17, 11:15 a.m. - The Sanctuary*

GCC's Annual Congregational Meeting will be held immediately following worship with agenda items to include Approval of Minutes from the Midwinter Congregational Meeting, Receipt of Reports, Nominations for and Elections to Leadership Positions, and the 2026 Capital Project Plan. This notice constitutes the official call to meeting. In accordance with the Church Constitution, no other business shall be transacted. Fifty members shall constitute a quorum, so please plan to attend!

### **Electronic Giving**

Didn't bring your cash? No more checks? No problem! [Click here](#) to be directed to the GCC giving web page where you can make a donation directly from your phone or computer. Thank you to everyone for their continued support!

# FIND YOUR **GLENVIEW** COMMUNITY **CHURCH**

1000 Elm Street  
Glenview, IL 60025  
Phone: (847) 724-2210  
website: [www.gccucc.org](http://www.gccucc.org)

## **MINISTERS**

Rev. Dr. James M. Matarazzo, Jr., Senior Minister  
Rev. Abigail Lutz, Associate Minister

## **PROGRAM STAFF**

Gary Wendt, Director of Music & Organist  
Kate Lee, Director of Vocal Music  
Chris Calandra, Children's Ministry Director  
Meredith Estes, Youth Ministry Director  
Laura Dillon, GCC Nursery School Director  
Karen Ornduff, New To You Manager

## **OFFICE STAFF**

Dave Aki, Director of Operations  
Kathryn Heyser, Church Administrator (*interim*)  
Julie Evans, Business Manager  
Javier Avila, Custodian

## **YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!**

Glenview Community Church is a Christian community of acceptance and welcome for all God's people. We strive to make our buildings and grounds a place of sanctuary and safety for each person who comes here. Our church community is:

Inspired by Christ,  
Enriched by Faith,  
Committed to Inclusivity.

We serve God as advocates for Justice, Compassion, and Peace.