



Beauty All Around

Margaret Angelini • July 30, 2026

Terrestrial

America the Beautiful
On the Back of the Turtle
Bells in the Mist
Spring's First Rain
Over the Rainbow

Samuel H. Ward, arr. Myhre
Beverly McKiver
Blanche Selva, arr. Ferguson
Milo Brandt
Harold Arlen & E. Harburg, arr. Angelini

Celestial

Sunrise, Sunset
Clair de Lune
Asteroids
Theme from Jupiter, The Planets
Andromeda
Here Comes the Sun

Jerry Bock, arr. Warner
Claude Debussy, arr. Angelini
Gary White
Gustave Holst, arr. Stelben
Yvette Janine Jackson
George Harrison, arr. Angelini

Spiritual

A Sacred Suite
I. Da Pacem Domine
II. Regina Coeli
III. Sancti Spiritus
Wade in the Water
We Shall Overcome
Chorale Partita V
Andante
Piu mosso
Dolce
Poco piu mosso

Geert D'hollander

Spiritual, arr. Zettek
Charles Tindley, arr. Myhre
John R. Knox





Program Notes

When the going gets rough, it's easy to forget to look around and see just how much beauty surrounds us. The text to America the Beautiful was written by Katherine Lee Bates at the top of Pike's Peak, a striking place for inspiration. On the Back of the Turtle, composed by First Nations member Beverly McKiver, reflects the Indigenous love for the earth as they envision it, carried on a turtle's back.

The beauty of the sky with mist, rain, and rainbows leads to the contemplation of the beauty of the universe. We encounter Debussy's haunting image of moonlight, then crash into the tension-filled asteroid belt in White's composition. See if you can hear a bit of "Stardust" at the end of the piece. After a pause to admire Jupiter with two familiar hymns woven together, we reach both outwards to a nearby galaxy and back in time to a Greek myth. Harvard University Professor Yvette Janine Jackson wrote Andromeda to "simultaneously invoke the mysteries of the stars and the sea."

Back on earth we continue to reach for the heavens. The Sacred Suite of Geert D'hollander was written both for the dedication of a new carillon in the Netherlands, and as a centennial commemoration of the end of World War I. It is based on three plainsong melodies asking for peace and joy. Many before us have also gone through rough times, as sung in the spiritual Wade in the Water, and have also endured, as shared in We Shall Overcome. The last composition is not so much in separate movements as it is different parts of one work. It is based on an older melody for the text "All My Hope on God is Founded."

*Thank you for coming and listening this evening.
I hope you find beauty wherever you look!*

Biography

Margaret Angelini began her organ studies as a first year at Wellesley College with Frank Taylor, and graduated in 1985 as a music major. She then completed a Masters Degree in Organ at New England Conservatory with William Porter. She discovered the carillon by opening the window of her dorm room on her second day at the Wellesley College campus, and promptly fell in love with the sound of the bells. She now teaches carillon at Wellesley College, where she acts as the faculty advisor to the 20-member student Guild of Carillonneurs. She also serves as organist at St. John's Episcopal Church in Sharon. When not playing keyboards of all sizes or dragging students to distant bell towers, she can be found walking, cooking, gardening, and crocheting afghans for her nieces and nephews.



Upcoming Performances at First Church:

Tuesday, August 11: Brown Paper Sax

Tuesday, August 18: Rock Voices

Tuesday, August 25: Still Kickin' with the Big City Horns



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