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Variations on
“Wondrous Love”
for organ

Robert Lau

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Dr. Lau is the Organist/Choirmaster at Mt. Calvary Episcopal Church, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. In addition he teaches violin, viola and composition privately. He has more than 200 choral and keyboard works published by the leading music publishing companies in the United States and has been commissioned to write choral, keyboard and vocal works for a variety of institutions, churches and individuals. He is a consistent winner of Special Awards from ASCAP for his published choral and keyboard music.

Dr. Lau is Artistic Director of Jubilate! Choral Ensemble of Gettysburg, PA.

Notes

The style and mood of each variation of this work was inspired by various passages from the text of the hymn. The texts appear at the beginning of each variation.

Commissioned by Camp Hill Presbyterian Church, Camp Hill, PA
in honor and celebration of the new Schantz pipe organ
and the newly renovated sanctuary.

Wondrous Love

Variation 1

“What wondrous love is this, O my soul...”

Sw.: Flutes, Strings
Gt.: Solo 8'
Ped.: 16', 8'

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Moderato $\text{♩} = 56$ In a lilting manner

The musical score is written for organ and guitar. It consists of two systems of staves. The first system includes a grand staff for the organ (treble and bass clefs) and a single staff for guitar. The organ part begins with a *mp* dynamic and features a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. The guitar part enters in the second measure with a *mf* dynamic. The second system starts at measure 5 and continues the organ and guitar parts. The organ part has a *mf* dynamic and a *Sw.* (Schantz) marking. The guitar part continues with a *mf* dynamic. The score is marked with a tempo of Moderato and a metronome marking of 56 quarter notes per minute. The piece is in 3/2 time and is described as being in a lilting manner.

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10

Gt.

mf

15

Sw.

cresc.

20

Gt.

dim.

mf

25

Musical score for measures 25-29. Treble clef with a slur over the first five measures. Bass clef with chords and some eighth notes. A second bass clef line below shows a single melodic line.

30

Musical score for measures 30-33. Treble clef with a slur over the first four measures. Bass clef with chords and eighth notes. A second bass clef line below shows a single melodic line. A "Sw." (Sforzando) marking is present in measure 33.

34

Musical score for measures 34-38. Treble clef with chords and eighth notes. Bass clef with a single melodic line. A second bass clef line below shows a single melodic line.

39

dim.

poco rit.

Musical score for measures 39-43. Treble clef with a "dim." (diminuendo) marking in measure 39 and a "poco rit." (ritardando) marking above measure 40. Treble clef has chords and a fermata in measure 43. Bass clef has a single melodic line. A second bass clef line below shows a single melodic line.

Wondrous Love

Variation 2

“to God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM”

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Sw.: String celestes, Trem.
Gt.: Flute or Solo 8'
Ped.: 16', 8'

Mysterioso $\text{♩} = 54$

Organ

p

5

10

Gt.

mp

16

Sw.
p

21

Gt.
mp

25

mp

30

Gt.
mf

35

Musical score for measures 35-40. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass clef staff below. The music features a melodic line in the treble clef and a complex accompaniment in the bass clef with many beamed notes. A fermata is placed over the final note of the first staff.

41

Musical score for measures 41-46. The system consists of three staves. The music continues with a melodic line in the treble clef and accompaniment in the bass clef. A fermata is placed over the final note of the first staff. A dynamic marking 'Sw.' is present in the middle of the system.

47

Musical score for measures 47-52. The system consists of three staves. The music continues with a melodic line in the treble clef and accompaniment in the bass clef. A fermata is placed over the final note of the first staff. Dynamic markings 'p' and 'Sw.' are present in the system.

53

Musical score for measures 53-58. The system consists of three staves. The music continues with a melodic line in the treble clef and accompaniment in the bass clef. A fermata is placed over the final note of the first staff. Dynamic markings 'dim. poco a poco' and 'pp' are present in the system.

Wondrous Love

Variation 3

"to bear the heavy cross for my soul..."

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Sw.: Soft Flutes and Principals 8' and 4'
Ped.: 16', 8'

Larghetto ♩ = 66

Organ

Sw. *mp*

4

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9

Musical score for measures 9-12. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass clef staff. The music features a melodic line in the treble clef and a bass line in the grand staff. A large slur covers measures 9-12. A crescendo hairpin is present in measure 9.

13

Musical score for measures 13-17. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass clef staff. The music features a melodic line in the treble clef and a bass line in the grand staff. A large slur covers measures 13-17. A crescendo hairpin is present in measure 13. The instruction "poco a poco cresc." is written in the right margin of measure 15.

18

Musical score for measures 18-21. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass clef staff. The music features a melodic line in the treble clef and a bass line in the grand staff. A large slur covers measures 18-21. A crescendo hairpin is present in measure 18, and a decrescendo hairpin is present in measure 21.

22

Musical score for measures 22-25. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass clef staff. The music features a melodic line in the treble clef and a bass line in the grand staff. A large slur covers measures 22-25. A decrescendo hairpin is present in measure 22. The instruction "molto rit. e dim." is written in the right margin of measure 23.

Wondrous Love

Variation 4

*“And when from death I’m free,
I’ll sing on.....”*

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Sw.: Foundations 8', 4', 2'
Gt.: Foundations 8', 4', 2', Light Mixture
Ped.: 16', 8', 4' Sw. and Gt. to Ped.
Sw. to Gt. 8' and 4'

Allegro energico ♩ = 120 - 132

Organ

detached
Gt. *f*

5

legato

10

detached

14

Musical score for measures 14-18. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass clef staff. The time signature is 4/8. Measure 14 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music features chords and melodic lines in both hands, with a long slur spanning across measures 14, 15, and 16. Measure 17 continues the melodic line in the treble, while the bass clef staff has a whole note chord. Measure 18 concludes the system with a final chord in the treble and a whole note chord in the bass clef staff.

19

Musical score for measures 19-21. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff and a separate bass clef staff. The time signature is 4/8. Measure 19 begins with the instruction "legato" and shows a continuous eighth-note melody in the treble hand. The bass clef staff provides a simple accompaniment. Measures 20 and 21 continue the legato melody in the treble, with the bass clef staff having whole note chords.

22

Musical score for measures 22-25. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff and a separate bass clef staff. The time signature is 4/8. Measure 22 features a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music includes chords and melodic lines. Measure 23 has the instruction "detached" and shows chords with a slur. Measure 24 has the instruction "simile" and shows chords with a slur. Measure 25 concludes the system with a final chord in the treble and a whole note chord in the bass clef staff.

26

Musical score for measures 26-30. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff and a separate bass clef staff. The time signature is 3/8. Measure 26 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The music features chords and melodic lines in both hands, with a long slur spanning across measures 26, 27, and 28. Measure 29 continues the melodic line in the treble, while the bass clef staff has a whole note chord. Measure 30 concludes the system with a final chord in the treble and a whole note chord in the bass clef staff.

30

Sw.

Gt. *f*

mf

36

mf

40

Sw.

Sw.

mf

45

Gt. *f*

49

legato

53 gradually add cresc. pedal

57

ff

Musical score for measures 57-61. The piece is in 4/4 time. The right hand features a melodic line with a fermata over measures 57-58, followed by a series of chords and eighth notes. The left hand provides a steady accompaniment with quarter notes and chords.

62

Musical score for measures 62-66. The piece is in 3/4 time. The right hand has a melodic line with a fermata over measures 62-63, followed by eighth notes and chords. The left hand has a bass line with quarter notes and chords.

67

Largo

Full Organ

fff

a tempo

+ pedal reeds

Musical score for measures 67-72. The piece is in 3/4 time. Measures 67-68 are marked 'Largo'. At measure 69, there is a 'Full Organ' effect and a dynamic marking of '*fff*'. The tempo returns to 'a tempo' at measure 71. The right hand has a melodic line with a fermata over measures 69-70. The left hand has a bass line with quarter notes and chords. A note at the end of measure 72 is marked '+ pedal reeds'.

73

no ritard

no ritard

Musical score for measures 73-77. The piece is in 3/4 time. Both the right and left hands have melodic lines with fermatas over measures 73-74. The right hand continues with a melodic line, and the left hand has a bass line with quarter notes and chords. Both parts are marked 'no ritard'.

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