

High School Plays World Anthem For Graduation Ceremony

Note from Pastor Kevin: The following article should erase any doubt in people's minds that very powerful forces (inspired by Satan) are at work to destroy the nation states that God established at the time of the tower of Babel (Gen 11) and replace them with a final global government. This final world government is prophesied in the Book of Daniel, and will be headed by a man the Bible calls the Antichrist. This new world anthem speaks of peace an love, but, according to the Bible, will bring death and hatred. The Christian can take comfort in Psalms 2.

Ps 2:1 Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing? 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed (Jesus), saying, 3 "Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us." 4 He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; the LORD shall hold them in derision. 5 Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, and distress them in His deep displeasure:

Poudre High School's (FT. COLLINS, COLORADO) decision to play the World anthem for its graduation ceremony sparked an angry reaction from a parent who wanted to hear the national anthem and stirred a dust-up on talk radio this week.

Gail Wagner, whose daughter graduated May 24, wrote a letter to the school principal, the district superintendent and the Denver Rocky Mountain News calling the anthem "an insipid little song about a world of peace and love" and an insult to America.

She said it took the place of the national anthem.

It did not, said Poudre High Principal Sandra Lundt. Lundt said she was surprised to find the decision scolded on Mike Rosen's KOA talk show and Peter Boyles' KHOW show Thursday morning. Lundt said the Fort Collins school has never played the national anthem at its graduation. "This was never meant to take the place of the national anthem," Lundt said. "It's an anthem that really celebrates every nation."

Wagner's husband, Fred, and daughter, Erin, also opposed the playing of the world anthem. Erin said she was surprised "The Star Spangled Banner" wasn't played. "It didn't make much sense," Erin said. "We live in America, so they should have played it. I guess I would say I was offended."

Lundt said the school's senior class council, a group of 15 to 20 students, participated in the decision to play the world anthem. The school's orchestra, band and choir teamed to perform the piece. The senior class council "was very excited about the opportunity," Lundt said, noting that one of the people who helped promote broader performance of the anthem, Ed Goodman, is a 1973 graduate of Poudre High.

The world anthem was conceived in 1996 and completed by 2000. The idea behind

the piece, according to the Web site www.worldanthem.org, is this: "We believe there is a wonderful way to bring a message of hope, healing, peace and unification to all people through the universal language of music .. to give the world a gift, to bring about a symbol for peace and a common spirit of trust toward the idea of one people, one world."

Its creation, even those involved acknowledge, borders on the bizarre. Music from the anthems of every country in the world were combined in a computer. Using musicology software, a blended creation emerged. The same technique was used to produce the lyrics, according to Goodman. "This is not two bars of 'The Star Spangled Banner,' then a bar of 'O Canada,'" Goodman said.

"It's more like if you took all the melodies, harmonies, rhythms and tempos and somehow were able to average them. ... It's very, very sophisticated; it took years of work to accomplish."

This means, Goodman said, that the piece wasn't composed by any one person or any one nation. "The point of it was to have one song that all nations could share," he said.

The piece has a significant history in Colorado. It was heard for the first time at the Denver Millennium Celebration on Dec. 31, 2000, at the stroke of midnight in conjunction with fireworks, according to historians of the anthem. In November 2001, the Colorado Symphony Orchestra provided the first live performance of the piece.

Goodman said that even Air Force's Band of the Rockies is taken with the piece and arranging its own version. It's slated to be played at an upcoming global peace conference in Croatia and at a ceremony celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Peace Corps this summer.

The Wagners are not impressed. "No matter how much the principal gushed over the privilege of being one of the first to hear this piece performed, we did not feel privileged or find it inspirational, heartwarming or moving," Gail Wagner wrote to the News.

The World Anthem

World Anthem lyrics June 7, 2002

Throughout the world, We sing our praise to peace, Our bond of love, Will serve us endlessly. May we sing loud, To fire our hopes and joys, And let us now, Believe in trust, Eternally for all. All the winds, And all the storms, All the passions, Be calm. Let the earth's foundations rise, To call us all as one. This song we sing, To lead us through the night, To see us through, The trying times, To a future bright. Throughout the world, We sing our praise to peace, Our bond of love, Will serve us true for, All as one for all.

