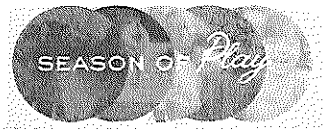
Trinity United Methodist Church
Sunday, August 30, 2026
10:00 am



Prelude MaryRose Clark

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Dr. Deb De Vos

Blessing of the Backpacks

* **Opening Prayer**

Creator God, you have made each of us in your image and called us your handiwork. As we worship today, help us rediscover the joy, wonder, and creativity that come from you. Open our hearts to your Word and remind us that you created us for a purpose. In Jesus' name, Amen.

* **Opening Hymn** *"Love Devine, All Loves Excelling"* 384

* **Passing of the Peace**

Scripture Reading *Genesis 1:27; Ephesians 2:10*

Hymn of Preparation *"It Is Well with My Soul"* 377

Message *"Season of Play: God's Handiwork"* Rev. Erica Munoz

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Ministry of Music Anthem *"Put Your Hand in the Hand"* Arlene McCollum

Offering Prayer

Gracious God, we give thanks that we are your handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for good works. Receive these gifts and use them to bring joy, hope, and blessing to others. May our giving reflect your generosity and love. In Christ's name, Amen.

* **Closing Hymn** *"How Great Thou Art"* 77

Benediction

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

Join us next weekend as we conclude our sermon series *Season of Play* with the sermon *Soul Song Sunday.* using the scriptures *Psalm 150, Colossians 3:16, Ephesians 5:19, and Isaiah 55:12.*

Prayer Concerns

Andy Martin, Barbara Blumetti, Thomas Nortey, Keith Brodine Jr., Kevin Parker, Nico, Allie A., Jim Alexander, Debbie Sutuls, Nicole Marie, Henessey Dekmar, Bill Osa, Neil DeCostanza, Tucker Ford, Nancy & Robert Ostman, Kayla Moyer, Michael & Elijah Sepulveda, Nevaeh, Jemma, Steve & Sharon Roff, Robby Littlewood, Nancy Blazier, Janice & Bruce Blaskopf, Laura Spann, Lisa Pace, Nick & Emily, Cathy, Carol Gensler, Kristin, John Flood, Bob Thorton, Joy Snyder, Tara, Andy Barber, Lisa Dittman, Sanna, Jamie, Lori Murray, Bennett Onderko, Hope Dingley, Mary Lou Dunn, Phil & BJ Hammel, Hana Hund, Norm & Edna Barrier, Evan Duryea, Becky Neidhart, Joe Carr, George Hackett, George Weiser, Annette Parker, Jennifer Bush, Diana Karns, Skylar Lynn, Laurie O'Mally, Russell Blazier, Stanley Jacobowski, George Fisher, Doris Fisher, Edna Burton, Dolly Miranda, Gean, Julius Somogyi, Claude Buchman, Evan Fondiller, Candace, David Izatt, Arthur & Jean Koenig, Jack Bozzuffi, Candice, Sarah Hergert, Jerry, Colleen, Stewart, Kathy, Mary, Sarah, Linda, Erica H., Nathan, Matthew Lott, Ted Ziegert, Terry & Donald Perrine, Anthony Pami, Meghan MacDonald, Matthew McKinnon, Linda Blazier, Bradley, Meghan W., Danny

Scripture Readings

Genesis 1:27 (NIV)

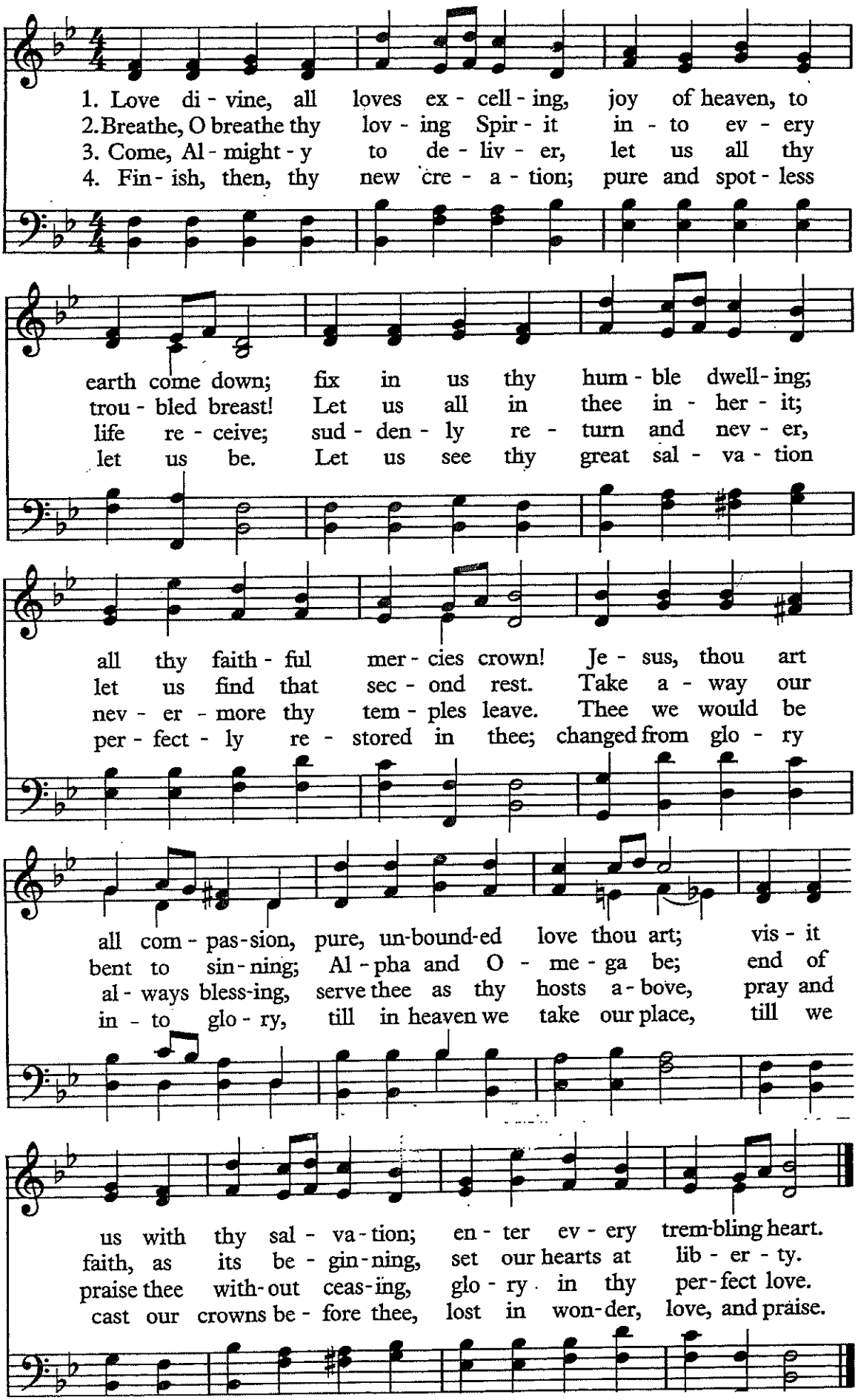
So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

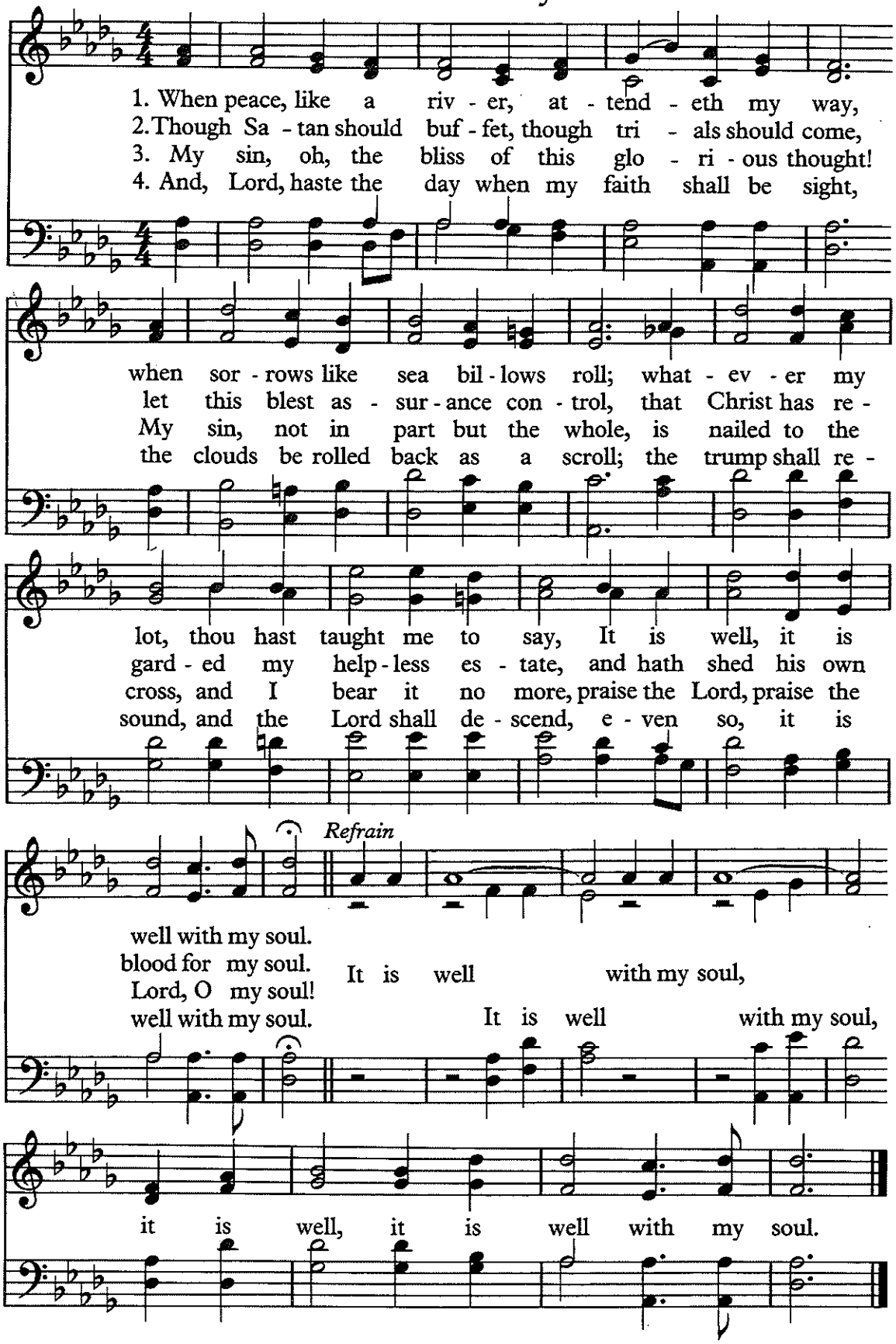
[10] For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Pastoral Team
Rev. Erica Munoz – Lead Pastor
Rev. Dr. Deb De Vos – Associate Pastor, Spiritual Formation & Discipleship
Rev. Donald Gebhard – Associate Pastor
213 Main Street, Hackettstown, NJ 07840 I 908-852-3020 I kanzel@catchthespirit.org I catchthespirit.org

384 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



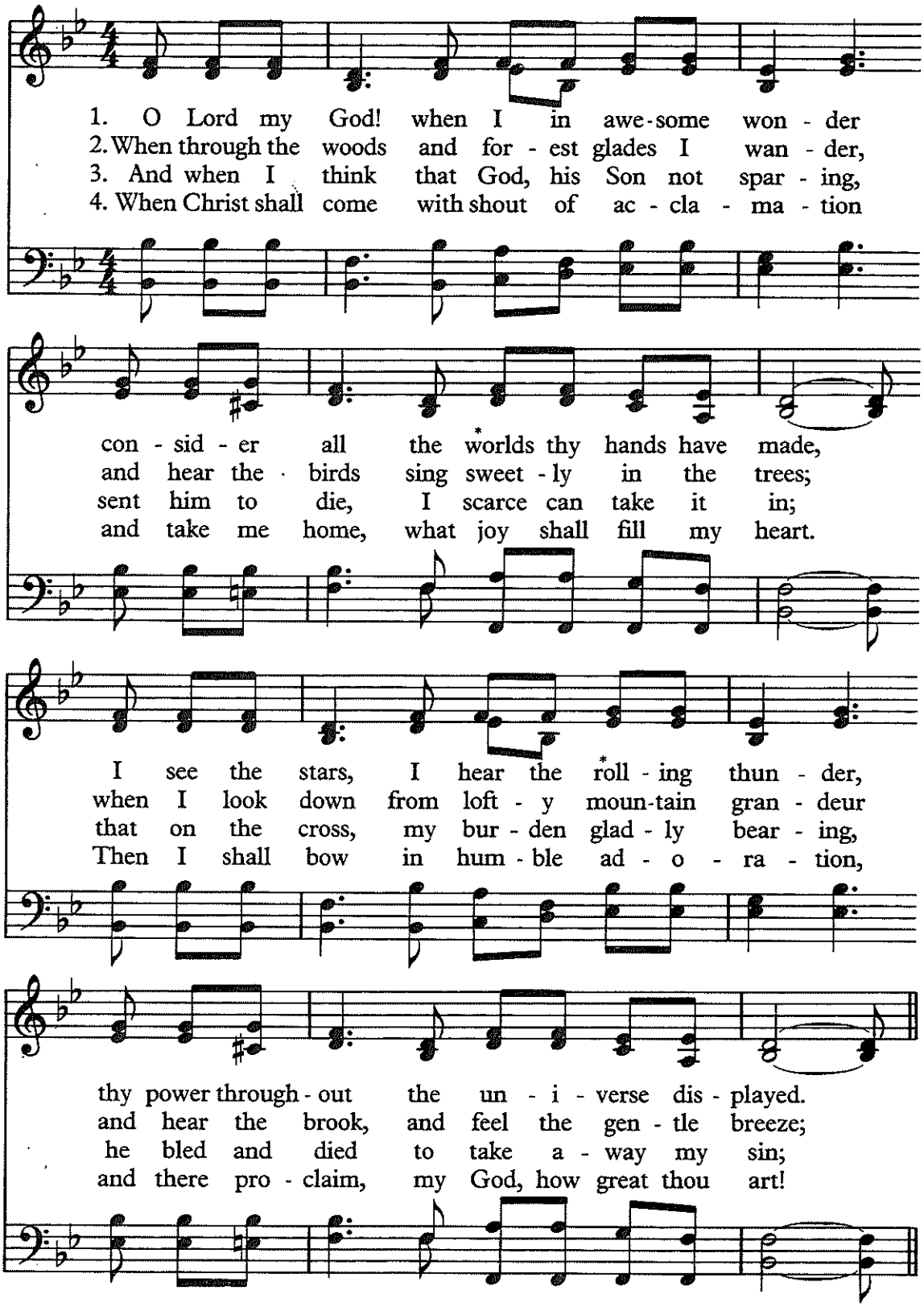
377 It Is Well with My Soul



WORDS: Horatio G. Spafford, 1873
MUSIC: Philip P. Bliss, 1876

VILLE DU HAVRE
11 8.11 9 with Refrain

77 How Great Thou Art



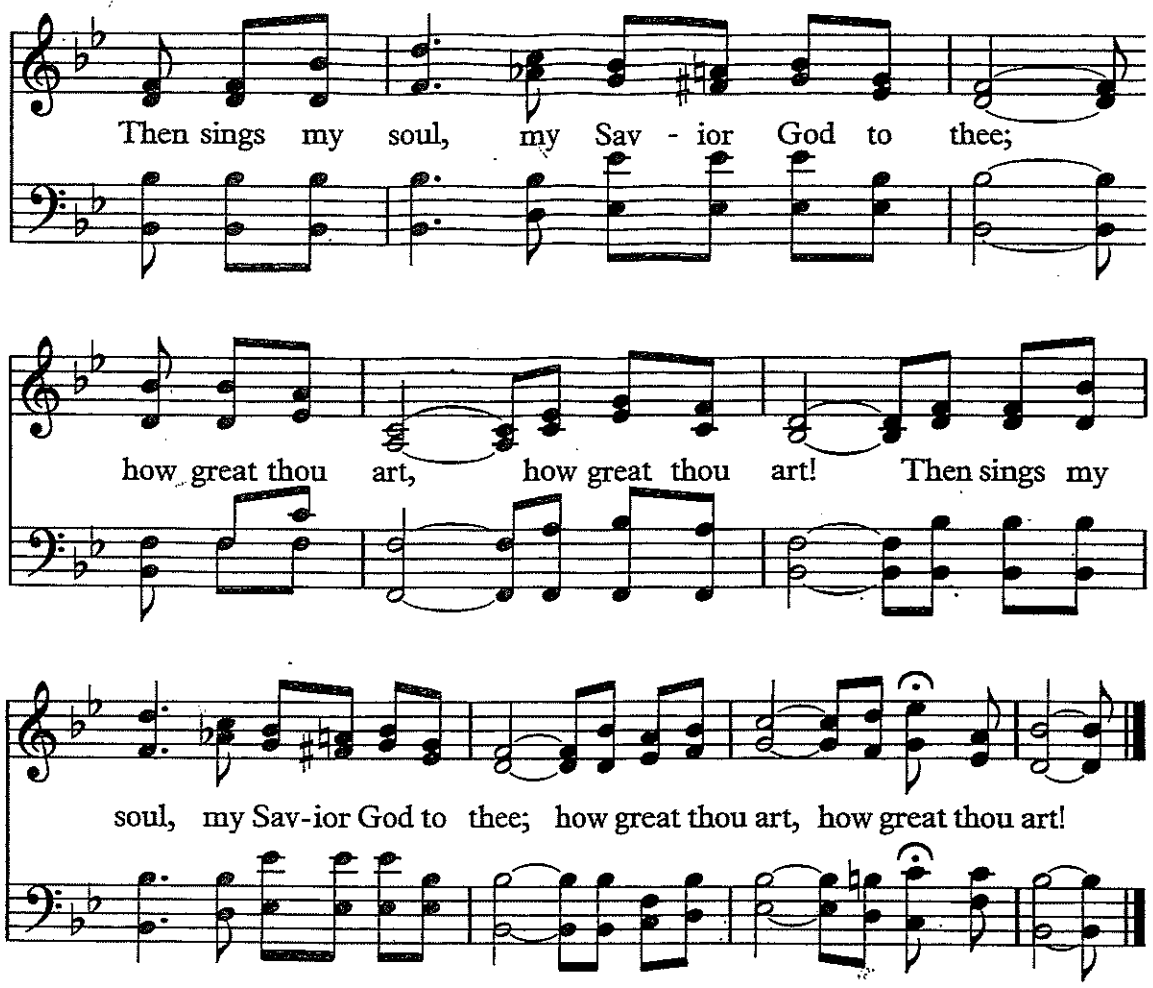
*Authors's original words are "works" and "mighty."

WORDS: Stuart K. Hine, 1953
MUSIC: Stuart K. Hine, 1953

HOW GREAT THOU ART
Irr. with Refrain

© 1953, renewed 1981 Manna Music, Inc.

Refrain


Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God to thee;
how great thou art, how great thou art! Then sings my
soul, my Sav-ior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art!

Announcements

Worship Attendance

August 29/30	In Person	Facebook Peak Views
5:00	52	4
10:00	102	33

Please note that online numbers represent devices.

-Special Communion Offering – The special offering taken during Communion next weekend, Sept 5/6, will support Trinity's new Laundry Ministry. This ministry will help ease the financial burden of laundry for local families while offering them a warm and welcoming place to connect. Volunteers will welcome families, distribute laundry supplies, and—most importantly—offer a friendly, caring presence. It is a simple but meaningful way to help families begin the school year with clean clothes and one less expense to worry about.

-Rally Day – will be held **Sunday, September 13th**.

- Worship will return to the sanctuary.
- KidVenture (3yr – 6th Grade) will begin
- Sunday Huddle (7th -12th Grade) will begin
- Small Group Ministry Team will be available with in-person Small Group signups
- Special Fellowship Time featuring the Coldstone Creamery truck after worship

-KidVenture and Youth Ministry Registration – Registration forms are available in the foyer, through the church office and on our website. A new form is needed each year to make sure we have the most current information.

-Chancel Choir - Rehearsals resume **Wednesday, September 9th** at 7:30 pm in the Music Room off the Rotunda. All 7th graders – adults are welcome to join.

-Agape Ringers – Rehearsals resume **Wednesday, September 16th** at 6:00 pm in the Music Room off the Rotunda. All 7th graders – adults are welcome to join.

-Small Group Booklet – Check out the new small group offerings for fall. The booklet as well as the online signup form are available on our website. In person sign up will begin Rally Day weekend.

-Community Dinners - will begin again in September. Please consider joining a team to cook once a month on a Wednesday. The meals are easy to prepare and can be done at home in a crock pot. For more information or to volunteer use Just Say Yes #4 or speak with Irene Penza.

-Make A Difference at the Lord's Pantry! - Computer Skills Volunteer-Help someone take an important step toward employment and greater independence! We are looking for a patient volunteer to teach basic computer skills, including searching and applying for jobs, completing online forms, and navigating essential websites. Volunteer once a week or as needed—your knowledge and encouragement can open doors for someone in our community. Interested? Please complete Just Say Yes #5.

-Laundry, Laughter and Community - Trinity's next Laundry Ministry Day will be held on **Thursday, September 17th**, at 1:00 pm at The Laundry Basket. Volunteers are invited to spend approximately two hours engaging with our neighbors, offering a warm and welcoming presence, and playing games with children while their families' laundry is being washed and dried. If you are interested in volunteering, please complete Just Say Yes # 6.

-Food Drive - Help support Trinity and the Lord's Pantry during the ShopRite Partners in Caring Food Drive on **Saturday, September 12th**. Volunteers are needed to greet shoppers and collect food donations during one of three two-hour shifts: 9:00–11:00 am, 11:00 am–1:00 pm, or 1:00–3:00 pm. This is an easy and meaningful way to help stock our pantry shelves and support local families. Please contact Trisha Massa at tmassa@catchthespirit.org to volunteer.

-Make a Difference—And Have Fun Doing It! Volunteers are needed for Trinity's Middle School Drop-In Center, open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Opportunities include welcoming students at reception, helping serve dinner one day a week, supervising the LEGO Room, assisting with art or STEM activities, organizing basketball games, playing board games, or simply spending time encouraging our young people. Days are flexible, no special experience is required, and even a few hours once a month can make a lasting difference by giving students a safe, welcoming place where they feel supported and valued. Please contact Trisha Massa at tmassa@catchthespirit.org to learn more.

-UMM Breakfast– Our **Saturday, September 12th** breakfast will feature our own John Torkos who, in recognition of our country's 250th birthday, will share some interesting facts about George Washington. We continue to collect new underwear and socks, and gently used shirts, pants, and jackets for Midnight Run. Breakfast begins at 8:00am with coffee at 7:45am for early arrivals and ends at 9:30. Everyone is invited to UMM breakfasts. Use Just Say Yes #2 to let us know you will attend.

-Senior Social – Join us on **Thursday, September 17th** at 1:00pm for a Welcome Back Get Together. There will be snacks, beverages, and conversation to enjoy. We are looking forward to seeing everyone. All are welcome and bring a friend. We will meet in Trinity House.

-Golden Gathering First Day of Autumn Appetizer Luncheon - All Seniors welcome. Join us on **Tuesday, September 22nd** at 11:30 am in the Connection Café in Trinity House for some Fun, Food & Fellowship. Please let us know you will join by using Just Say Yes #3.

-Youth & Young Adult Ministry – Calling all those in grade 7 through age 22! We are going to Sandy Cove Ministries in Maryland for the MidWinter Advance January 15 -17, 2027. MidWinter Advance is a high-energy winter weekend experience designed to help youth and young adults grow in their faith, build friendships, and have fun together. The weekend includes worship, fellowship, games, sports, activities, and opportunities to explore faith in Jesus. The theme for this year is New Beginnings. The registration cost is $200 if committed by August 30th and $225 if committed after August 30th.

-Pastoral Care – If you or a family member are in the hospital, please contact the church office 908-852-3020. The hospitals no longer contact clergy when a parishioner is admitted, nor do they keep a list of patients by denomination. The only way the pastors will know if you or a loved one are in the hospital is if you contact us. We are more than ready and glad to visit. Please contact us even if it is to pray for you.

This Week at Trinity August 30 – September 6

Tuesday	7:00 pm	Room 103	Trinity Banned Book Club
Wednesday	10:30 am	Connection Café	Wisemen's Journey
Thursday	9:00 am	Kitchen	Faithful Food Share
Friday	3:30 pm	Connection Café	Voices for Justice
Saturday	10:00 am	KidZone	Scrapbooking Workshop

KIDS AND FAMILY FALL PREVIEW

Save the Dates: Fall Kickoff!

- **Sun, Sept 13 | Rally Day!** Small Groups Sign Ups & KidVenture Start
- **Sun, Sept 13 | LOL Kickoff** • 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM @ Starr Hall (5th & 6th Grade, 2nd Sunday of each month)
- **Sun, Sept 20 | Sunday Night Social Kickoff** • 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM @ Upper Room (7th – 12th Grade, 3rd Sunday of each month)
- **Sun, Oct 4 | LIFT Begins!** • Dinner and Fellowship (All Ages, 1st Sunday of each month)

Guardian Angel Program

Guardian Angels (Student)- Calling all young adults heading off to the military, college or trade school! This is for those going off for the first time and those that are returning! We have a program here at Trinity that we hope will help you still feel connected as you head off on your next adventure. An adult here from your church home will be your Guardian Angel. This entails you receiving letters, cards, small care packages and lots of prayers sent up for you throughout the next year (September '26-May '27).

Student's Name: _____

School Name and Address: _____

_____

Home Address: _____

Email Address (school or personal – which do you prefer?): _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Birthday: _____

Some of your "favorites" (e.g. candy, type of music, snack foods, color, movies/TV shows, restaurants/food/coffee places): _____

Guardian Angels (Adults)- If you are an adult or family of any kind here at Trinity and would like to help out with our young adults who are venturing off to the military, college or trade school, then have we got a program for you! As what we call a Guardian Angel, once a month you will simply reach out via text, email, card, or letter to someone who is a member of our church family who could use some support and encouragement while they are away from their church home. Small care packages are also a nice touch to send from time to time! Please pray and consider this act of mission that you can do right from your own house on a schedule that works best for you.

Your name: _____

Your email: _____

Your cell phone number: _____

Your preference (circle one): Male Female No preference

If you have any questions, reach out to Laura Iacampo (iacampo.laura@gmail.com or text 201-787-6842). Thank you for being willing to assist in this important ministry!

Just Say Yes - Opportunities To Serve

1. **Explore: God's Word & God's Creation - Sunday, September 20th**, 11:30 am: Tripod Rock at Pyramid Mountain Natural Historic Area, approximately 4 mile loop on the blue and orange trails. This is a moderate difficulty hike, due to length of hike, rocky terrain, and approximately 500 feet in elevation change. Trail highlights: viewpoint, Tripod Rock, Taylortown Reservoir.

   _____Yes, I would like to attend the hike on Sunday, September 20th.

2. **UMM Breakfast** - Our **Saturday, September 12th** breakfast will feature our own John Torkos who, in recognition of our country's 250th birthday, will share some interesting facts about George Washington. We continue to collect new underwear and socks, and gently used shirts, pants, and jackets for Midnight Run. Breakfast begins at 8:00am with coffee at 7:45am for early arrivals and ends at 9:30. Everyone is invited to UMM breakfasts.

   _____Yes, I would like to attend the UMM breakfast on Saturday, September 12th.

3. **Golden Gathering First Day of Autumn Appetizer Luncheon** - All Seniors welcome. Join us on **Tuesday, September 22nd** at 11:30 am in the Connection Café in Trinity House for some Fun, Food & Fellowship.

   _____Yes, I plan to attend the Golden Gathering on September 22nd.

4. **Community Dinners** - will begin again in September. Please consider joining a team to cook once a month on a Wednesday. The meals are easy to prepare and can be done at home in a crock pot.

   _____Yes, I would like more information about the community dinners.

5. **Lord's Pantry Computer Skills Volunteer** - Help someone take an important step toward employment and greater independence! We are looking for a patient volunteer to teach basic computer skills, including searching and applying for jobs, completing online forms, and navigating essential websites. Volunteer once a week or as needed—your knowledge and encouragement can open doors for someone in our community. will begin again in September. Please consider joining a team to cook once a month on a Wednesday. The meals are easy to prepare and can be done at home in a crock pot.

   _____Yes, I would like to be the Lord's Pantry computer skills volunteer.

6. **Laundry, Laughter and Community** - Trinity's next Laundry Ministry Day will be held on Thursday, September 17th, at 1:00 pm at The Laundry Basket. Volunteers are invited to spend approximately two hours engaging with our neighbors, offering a warm and welcoming presence, and playing games with children while their families' laundry is being washed and dried.

   _____Yes, I would like to help on Thursday, September 17th.

Name: _____

Phone: _____ **Email**_____