FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

(269) 381-6340 ✝ www.umc-kzo.org

November 12, 2023
10:00 a.m.

God Grant Us Music

When we are living in that space between fear and trust where
we feel tossed around by the uncertainty of life,
God grant us music.
Grant us a choir of voices around us.
Grant us strong voices that we can hear and match our pitch to
when we are not certain of the melody.
Grant others of us the ability to be the voice that knows the song
to sing for the one who needs to hear.
Allow us those moments when our part rests
as another section takes up the tune
and times we carry it while others rest.
May we find times we can sing the melody as others ground us
with those deeper notes,
And may we find the times when the sameness of the underlying note
we sing provides stability for a melody that may rise.
May we linger in those minor keys when we need to mourn
and may we find others to help us find the music in it.
May we rejoice in other melodies that carry us along
and help us trust in the community that brings it all together
in an anthem that is so much more than any one of us could ever be
and reminds us that we are never alone.

by Jan Schoenherr

We are a Reconciling Congregation, welcoming all.

First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo invites all persons to join us on our journey of faith. Jesus Christ calls us to be an inclusive church that exemplifies the kingdom of God. We strive to move toward reconciling relationships with all, affirming those who are marginalized for any reason, including sexual orientation or gender identity.

We welcome all with ***open hearts, open minds, open doors.***

We would like to connect with you.
Please fill out the attendance pad and introduce yourself as you pass it to your neighbor.
You are invited in these beginning moments to use the green prayer cards found in the pews.
The cards will be collected by an usher during the opening hymn to be shared with clergy.

** Please rise in body or in spirit*

GATHERING MUSIC *How Great Thou Art* arr. Craig Curry

INTROIT *Jazz Introit*
I was glad when they said unto me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." Enter His gate with thanksgiving. Come into His courts with praise. Sing of God's mercies, made new every day, and praise God's holy name.

CALL TO WORSHIP Michel Pierce

***OPENING HYMN #131** *We Gather Together* (UMH-red hymnal)
During the hymn, ushers will pass through the sanctuary collecting the green prayer cards.

WELCOME & PASSING THE PEACE Rev. Matt Weiler

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE Rev. Julie Kline

SUNG RESPONSE *Let It Rain* David Crowder & Ed Cash
Is there anybody's sunshine been turned to rain? Is there anyone's blue sky been turned to gray? Is there anybody's good time turned out real bad? Is there anyone's happiness turned out sad? And I know I can't trust in the things that I see. All I know, he's at work and he's working on me. So let it rain let it pour; Lord, I need you more and more. Let rain, rain down on me. Every day, whatever you want, not my will but yours, Lord. Is there anybody's mountain too tall to climb? Is there anybody's faith feel like you're running dry? Let me tell you, he's able; he's done it for me. He can make every mountain, he'll throw that mountain into the sea! Yeah the same God who brought the sunshine is the same One who brings the rain and the same God who knows my name.

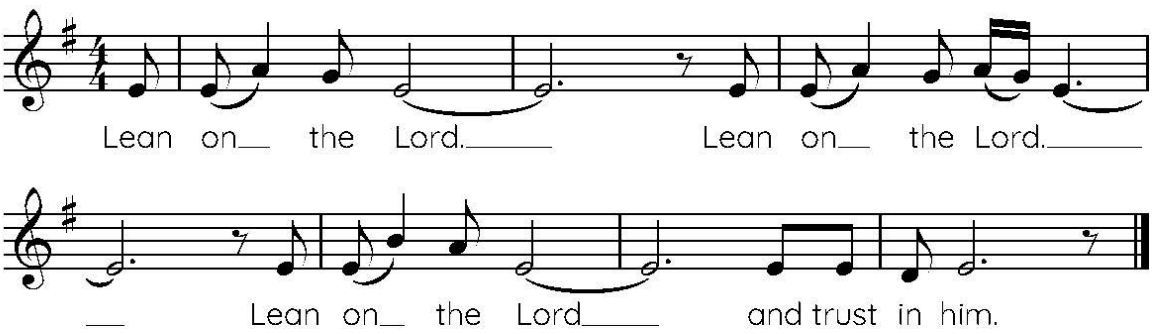
***GOSPEL READING** Matthew 14:22-33 (NRSV) Carol Hodges

This is what the Spirit is saying to the church.
Thanks be to God.

A TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN US ALL Julia Librizzi

HYMN #2233 *This is Where Children Belong* (FWS-black hymnal

PSALM 121 with sung refrain: *Lean on the Lord and Trust in Him.*



Refrain by J. Stilger

One: I lift up my eyes to the hills, from where will my help come?
All: **My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**
One: The Lord will not let your foot be moved; God who keeps you will not slumber
All: **He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

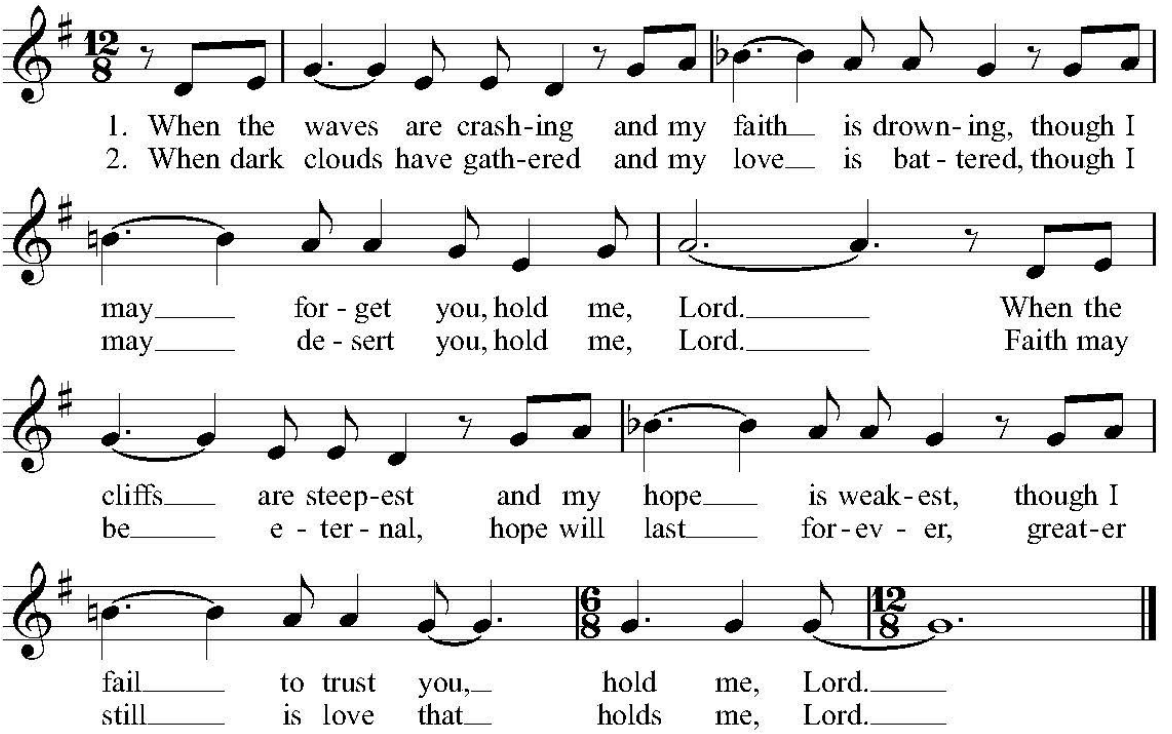
Sung Refrain

One: The Lord is your keeper. The Lord is your shade at your right hand.
All: **The sun shall not strike you by day nor the moon by night.**
One: The Lord will keep you from all evil. He will keep your life.
All: **The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.**

Sung Refrain

MESSAGE *The Space Between Fear and Trust* Rev. Matt Weiler

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** *When the Waves are Crashing*



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PRAYER *God Grant Us Music*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Standing and Leaning* arr. Craig Curry

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OUR SHARED LIFE

***CLOSING HYMN #77** *How Great Thou Art* (UMH-red hymnal)

SUNG BENEDICTION *Jazz Benedictus* Craig Curry

BLESSING

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Matt Weiler, Rev. Julie Kline, Michel Pierce, Carol Hodges

Director of Music	Pianist	Percussion
Jacqueline Stilger	Bernie Foulk	Joe Miller
Saxophone	**Bass**	
Frank Silva	Chris Haber	

Satellite Worship Coordinator: Pastor Thom Victor

Acolytes: Michael Bovid & Neela Parthasarathy

AV Team: Casey Curran, Bryan Heany

INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

In our worship, we strive to witness to the wholeness of God, embracing the diversity of images of God that are found within Scriptures. We will seek to include male, female, and gender-neutral language and imagery for God, and utilize language that helps to avoid binary terms in pronouns and images of people. In our hymns and liturgy, we invite you to use pronouns that best express your practice and affirm your faith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Sunday School Opportunities.

Family Foundations: A Sunday School class for parents of young children will begin with fellowship and coffee in room 209.

Clergy 101. A new four-week series will begin today in the Fellowship Room. Based on her experience on the Board of Ordained Ministry, Carol Hodges will lead this class meeting through November 26.

Camping. Families of all ages, shapes, and sizes are invited to go camping with church friends. We plan to camp at Lake Michigan Camp & Retreat Center in Pentwater, MI from June 7 - June 9, 2024. Contact Katy McGinnis, mcginnik82@gmail.com for more information.

Music at First United Methodist Church. Music ministry happens in the church with the full participation of its congregants in the pews, choirs in the chancel, ringers at the tables, and instrument at a music stand. Whether vocalist or instrumentalist, please contact Music Director, Jacqueline Stilger, jstilger@umc-kzo.org for more information about any of the music ensembles. Let us make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

The Generosity Team is pleased to announce, as of November 7, 126 estimates of giving for the 2024 operating budget have been turned in totaling $684,285. Last year at the same time, 94 pledges had been turned in totaling $404, 696.

Grief Group. You are invited to join with others in creating sacred space for losses led by Jan Schoenherr, LPC and Deb Search Willoughby, LMS. If you're interested in participating, please reach out to one of the leaders: Jan at schoenherrjan@gmail.com, Deb at dsearchwillo@gmail.com, or any of our pastors. Our next meeting is Nov. 26 at 6 p.m.

Something New! Pastor Matt is teaching a Bible Study BEFORE worship from 9:00 a.m.-9:50 a.m. in room 304. November 12 to December 17, this study is a deep dive into the Book of Acts. As we listen to this narrative essential to Christian identity - one formed by the Holy Spirit, calling the church to be an alternative voice to nationalism, racism, and domination - the writer, Luke, was a New Storyteller. As the church reads this book we are called to be New Storytellers within an ancient history.

Spring Valley Elementary Food Baskets. On Sundays, November 5 and 12, the Outreach Team will be collecting non-perishable items and money to purchase turkeys. There will be carts outside the sanctuary on these Sundays, for these non-perishable items: canned green beans, canned corn, boxed potatoes, boxed macaroni and cheese, brownie or cake mix, canned sweet potatoes, bagged mini-marshmallows, canned pie filling, and boxed pie crust mix. You may donate monetarily online or use the white envelopes in the pews and put them in the collection plate. Please write on the envelope "SV Thanksgiving." If donating by check, also write those words on the check. Thank you.

November Mission of the Month. The Salvation Army Angel Tree will arrive soon! Please choose an angel tag and return it to the tree with your unwrapped gift by Sunday, December 3. (Please leave gift cards with Robin at the Security Desk on Sundays November 26 and December 3.) You may also mail a check to the church with "Salvation Army Angel Tree" in the memo line or donate online by clicking the Online Giving link on our website.

Winter Weather Closing Policy. The church will always be open for worship on Sundays. Please use discretion deciding when to venture out. Weekday meetings may be cancelled if travel is dangerous. Please check Channel 3 news, our website, Facebook, or email for closing notices.

UPCOMING WORSHIP

November 19
10:00 a.m. Worship
Thanksgiving Sunday
Rev. Julie Kline
The Beloved is Near
Philippians 4:4-13

November 26
10:00 a.m. Worship
Reign of Christ Sunday
Rev. Matt Weiler
The Fullness of the One who Fills
Psalms 95:1-7, Ephesians 1:15-23

We're glad you are our guest today!
If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please stop by the Welcome Center.

Child care with trained and fully vaccinated staff is provided on the second floor for infants through three-year-olds.

Worship activities for children can be found on a cart outside the said sanctuary doors.

LARGE print bibles and Hymnals are available at the Park Street entrance.

Hearing assistance devices are available at the Welcome Center.

Today's service is being livestreamed and recorded. You may request a free copy of the DVD from the office. Previous worship services may be found on our website: www.umc-kzo.org. You may view worship services on our YouTube channel: Kalamazoofirstunitedmethodistchurch

Clergy & Directors

Rev. Julie Kline
Lead Pastor
Rev. Matt Weiler
Pastor of Community Formation
Jacqueline Stilger
Director of Music
Julia Librizzi
Director of Children and Families Ministries
Thom Victor
Pastor of Congregational Care
Ruth LaMachia
Director of Business Administration

First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo

OUR MISSION

We are called to
Experience God's love
Celebrate God's love
Share God's love

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, November 12
9:00 a.m. The New Storyteller - 304
10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Friendship Village Satellite Worship
11:00 a.m. Immigration Law & Justice Talk - Parlor
11:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
11:15 a.m. Church Council Vision Follow-up - Chapel
6:00 p.m. Grief Group - Chapel
6:00 p.m. Youth Group - Youth Center

Monday, November 13
12:45 pm Prayer Group
5:00 p.m. Finance Team - Zoom

Tuesday, November 14
9:30 a.m. Worship Planning - Zoom
12:30 p.m. All Staff Meeting - Parlor
4:15 p.m. First Beats - Choir Room
6:00 p.m. KR Rehearsal - Wesley Hall
6:30 p.m. Manna - Youth Center

Wednesday, November 15
8:00 a.m. Yoga - Zoom (All are welcome)
9:00 a.m. Dawn Patrol - Parlor
12:00 p.m. Cuppa Inspiration - Facebook Live
12:30 p.m. Food Pantry
3:00 p.m. HON - TBD
7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry - Chapel

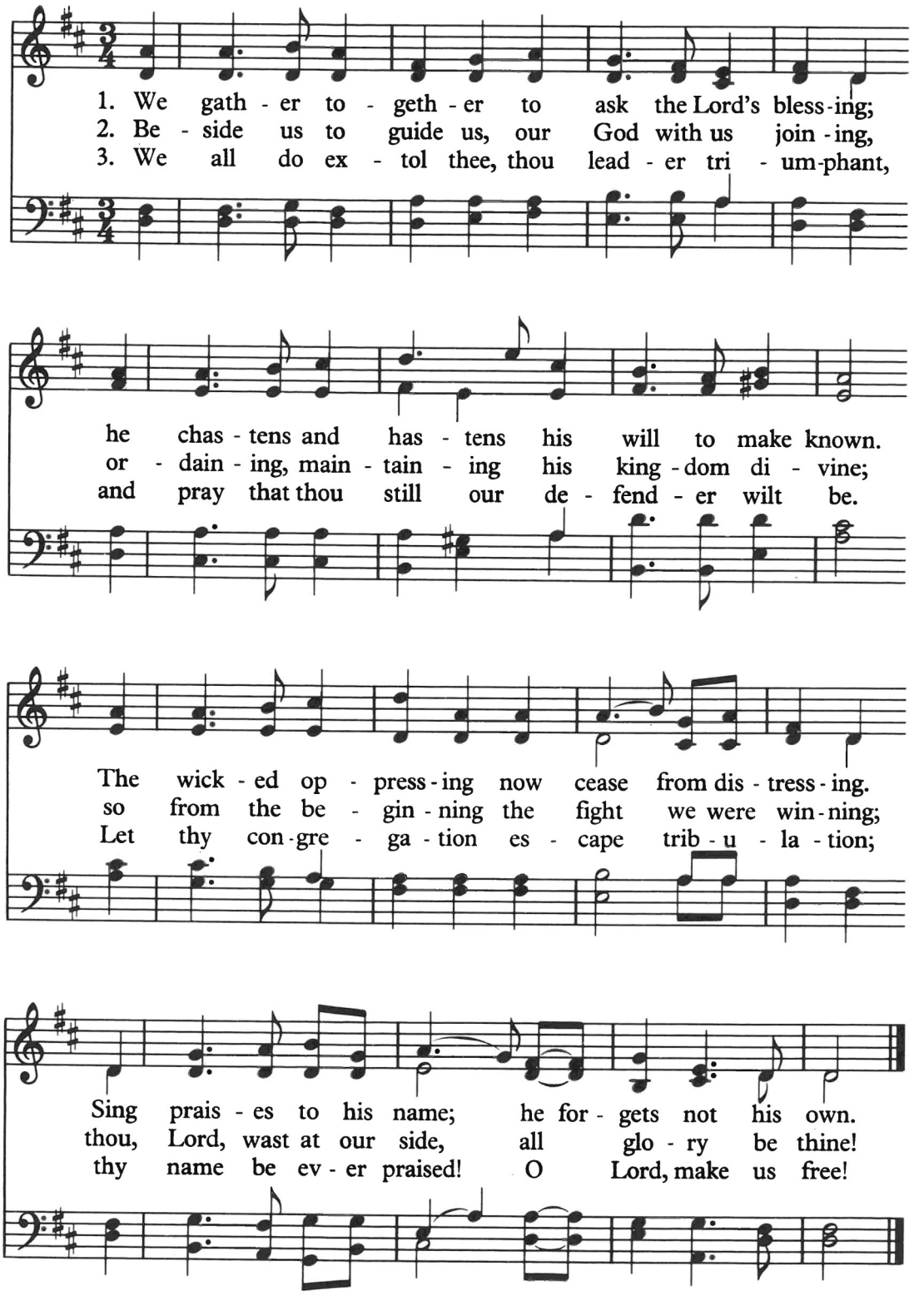
Thursday, November 16
9:30 a.m. First Stitchers - Fellowship Room
9:30 a.m. Trustees - Zoom
1:30 p.m. Spring Valley Meal Assembly - Wesley Hall
6:00 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal - Wesley Hall
7:15 p.m. Chancel Singers - Choir Room

Friday, November 17

Saturday, November 18

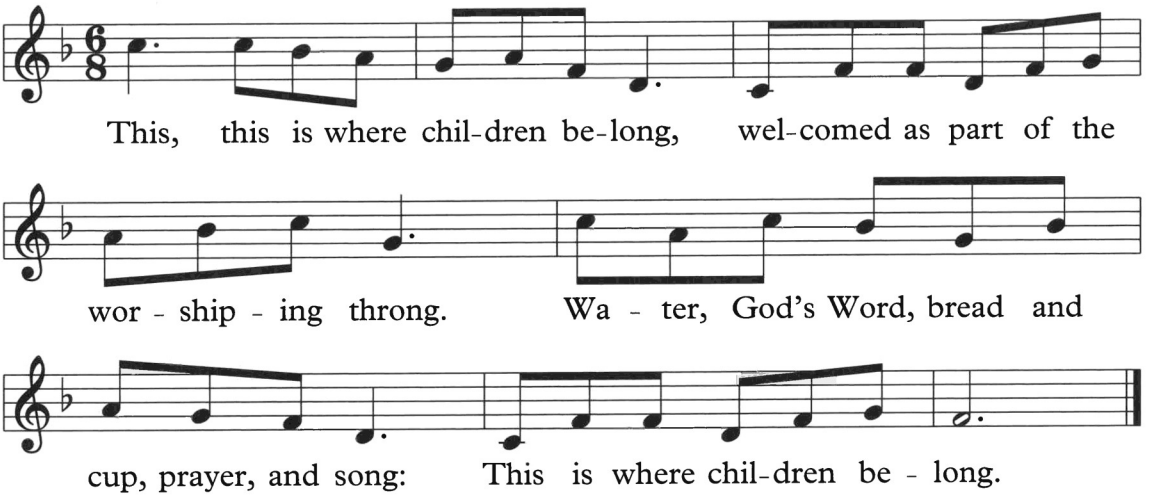
Sunday, November 19
9:00 a.m. The New Storyteller - 304
10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship - Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Friendship Village Satellite Worship
11:15 a.m. Confirmation Class - 305
11:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
6:00 p.m. Retired Clergy - Chapel
6:00 p.m. Small Groups - Perks/Chapel/Parlor
6:00 p.m. Youth Group - Youth Center

Monday, November 20
12:45 p.m. Prayer Group - Chapel
5:00 p.m. Finance Team - Zoom

We Gather Together 131

WORDS: *Nederlandtsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626; trans. by Theodore Baker, 1894
MUSIC: 16th cent. Dutch melody; arr. by Edward Kremser, 1877

KREMSER
Irr.

2233 Where Children Belong



WORDS: James Ritchie
MUSIC: James Ritchie

RITCHIE
Irregular

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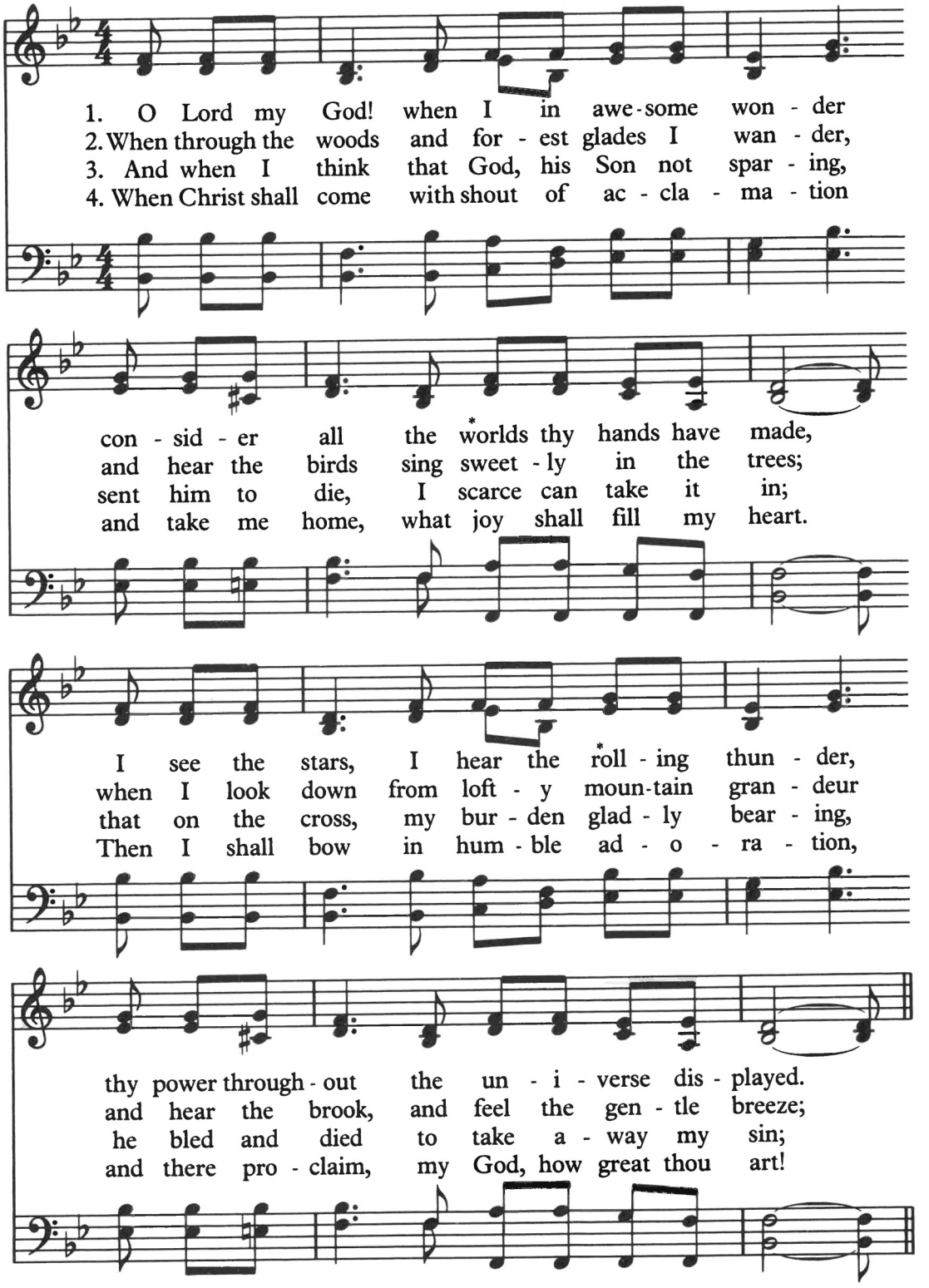
77 How Great Thou Art

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

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

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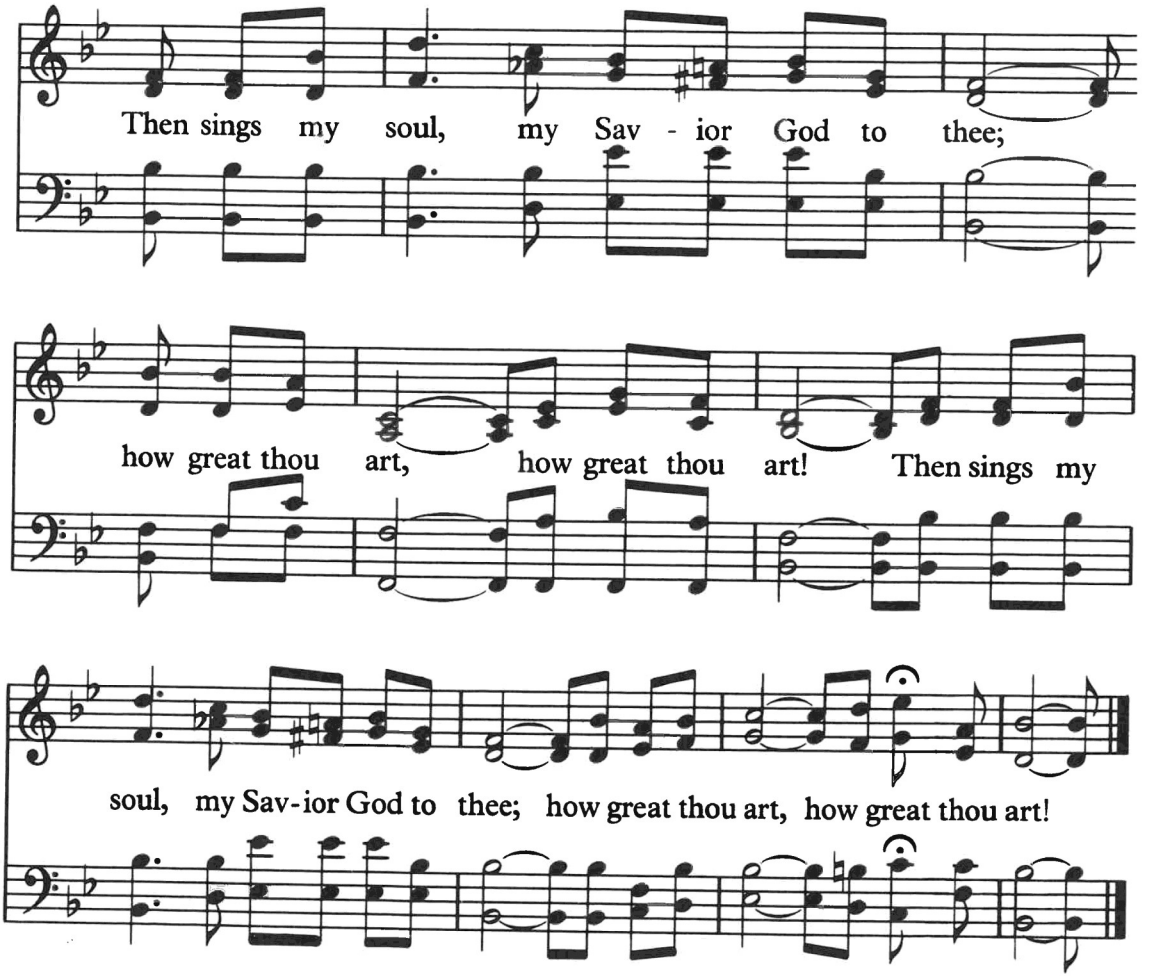
HOW GREAT THOU ART
Irr. with Refrain

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!