How Great Thou Art

Arguably, the two most well-known hymns in the world are "Amazing Grace" and "How Great Thou Art."

"Amazing Grace" came to America soon after it was penned in the 1770s. "How Great Thou Art" took a more circuitous route.

In 1885, Carl Boberg, a Swedish editor and future politician, was walking home on the coast of Sweden. Thunder. Lightening. Run for shelter.

The calm after the storm revealed peace, beauty, a stirring in Boberg's soul. He sat down and wrote "O Store Gud"—"O Mighty God." It was published in a local newspaper, set to a Swedish folk tune.

Translated into German, then Russian in the early 1900s, by 1930 English missionary Stuart K. Hine heard the Russian version in Ukraine and translated it into English, renaming it "How Great Thou Art."

The English and Russian versions were published in a magazine circulated to missionaries in over 15 countries. J. Edwin Orr, a British-American evangelist traveling in India, heard the English version and brought it to America, to a conference where he was speaking.

Tim Spencer, a singing cowboy, one of the Sons of the Pioneers (along with Bob Nolan and Roy Rogers) was in attendance. Spencer, owner of publisher Manna Music, purchased the rights to this hymn.

As late as 1954 "How Great Thou Art" was still relatively unknown in this country. Soon it fell into the hands of George Beverly Shea, who performed it at Billy Graham crusades in stadiums filled with thousands, and a televised 1957 Madison Square Garden Crusade which ran for 16 weeks and was viewed by an estimated 96 million people.

How grateful we should be that this hymn finally got to America, after its trip around the world.

Dr. Terry C. Terry and his wife live in the Nashville area. Though retired, he never tires of researching and sharing hymns and hymn stories.

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For you are great and perform wonders; you alone are God.

SAPPONY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Michael Dickey

March 10, 2024

www.sappony1773.org

Invocation and welcome

Hymn No. 140

"Down at the Cross"

Hymn No. 290

"I Am Thine"

Missionary Prayer Calendar

Nancy Lacerte

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory Hymn No. 193

"One Day"

Doxology

Scripture

Mark 14:66-72

Sermon

Rev. Mike Dickey

"I Don't Know This Man"

Hymn No. 315

"Room at the Cross"

Benediction

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Be in prayer for our sick and shut-ins as they are unable to be here with us.

The children will be collecting toothbrushes/combs/hair brushes for the month of March for The Shoe Box Ministry.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE: On Sunday, March 31st at 8:00am Concord UMC will host the Community Easter Service. Pastor Mike will be preaching.

Today, after the service is our quarterly business meeting Followed by a covered dish luncheon.

OYSTER/FISH DINNER: On Sat. April 6 from 4:30 to 6:30pm Newville Baptist Church will host a dinner fundraiser at Camp Kehukee. Proceeds will go to needed repairs at Camp Kehukee. Tickets are \$20.00 for adults, \$10.00 for children and must be purchased in advance. Call 804-731-2812 or 804-733-2010 for tickets of information.

To subscribe to our text alerts, text "JOIN" to 804-430-6282. We send out prayer requests and reminders.

Be sure to check out our Daily Devotional on our website: sapponybaptist1773.org

Missed a sermon? Or just want to hear it again? Our past sermons are available on our website, Facebook, Youtube, and your favorite podcast app.