

Re: JOIN US – RSVP NEEDED – Choral Festival/Workshop with Tom Trenney – Saturday Rehearsal/Lunch, Sunday Concert, September 26/27, First Presbyterian Church Spartanburg

Fellow AGO Members, Choir Directors, and Singers,

Welcome **all area singers and choirs** to this exciting choral rehearsal and performance with one of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) and American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) celebrated great composer, conductor, organist, preacher and teacher, **Tom Trenney**. Tom is Minister of Music at First-Plymouth Church in Lincoln, Nebraska and the Susan Sehnert Stuart Professor of Choral Music at Nebraska Wesleyan University. His choirs have performed at state, regional, and national ACDA conferences, and he is the winner of the 2023 Raabe Prize for Choral Composition from the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians and the 2024 Music Educator of the Year from the Nebraska Music Educators Association. He has performed nationally at distinguished venues across the country including Philadelphia's Kimmel Center, Seattle's Benaroya Hall, Philadelphia's Kauffman Center, Kennedy Center, and Carnegie Hall.

Our massed choir rehearsal will be held on **Saturday, September 26, 2026, at First Presbyterian Church Spartanburg from 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM** followed by a catered lunch and chance to meet Tom personally. Printed music will be available ahead of time. **RSVP required – see below.**

Join us for this unique opportunity to perform the compositions of our distinguished guest conductor. The day will include rehearsing four of Tom's choral compositions, a catered lunch, time to network with other directors and singers, and inspiration for our work as choral musicians. On **Sunday, September 27, at 3:00 PM** the Chancel Choir from First Presbyterian will perform Tom Trenney's latest composition, Love's Lantern. with orchestra, premiered recently in both the USA and Europe. The Chancel Choir, the Festival Choir (the Chancel Choir along with our massed choir), and the congregation, led by Tom, will perform the hymns rehearsed Saturday.

How to Join Us:

An RSVP to John Polo (john.polo@charter.net or 203-895-3465) is required to help us get music ordered (deadline September 17). The fee for all music and catered lunch is \$20/per person and can be paid the day of the event. Choir directors can supply singer names, email addresses and choir section too. Music can be picked up at the church. **Dress for the day is all black to make it easy. We will keep all participants notified of event details. Space is limited so reserve early.**

Additional Meet & Greet Tom Trenney Event at Sigal Museum, Greenville, Saturday, September 26, 5:00 PM

For those interested, we will welcome Tom a bit more informally at the wonderful **Sigal Music Museum in downtown Greenville**. This is a free event. Tom will present the topic *"Preaching from the Choir"*. Light refreshments will be served. You can RSVP for this event with John Polo too. Participants can view the whole museum while there. <https://sigalmusicmuseum.org/>

MASSED CHOIR MUSIC – publications and rehearsal aids:

It is Well With My Soul

Preview & Listen - https://beckenhorstpress.com/it-is-well-with-my-soul-trenney-digital-download?searchid=0&search_query=tom+trenney

Listen - https://youtu.be/nv-xm1heew4?si=jaiNHfL6NL3KX_8X

I Will Sing with All My Soul

Preview - https://beckenhorstpress.com/i-will-sing-with-all-my-soul-digital-download?searchid=0&search_query=i+will+sing+with+all+my+soul

Listen - https://youtu.be/zk_3OAzu0Io?si=LXvZ9dL62onU8N_3

How Firm a Foundation*

Preview - <https://www.ecspublishing.com/catalog/product/view/id/74859/s/how-firm-a-foundation-tom-trenney/category/2117/>

Listen - <https://youtu.be/ppc3O8itS3Y?si=ULo9YSaYb2h2CsbH>

God Wouldn't Bring You This Far

Preview & Listen – [J.W. Pepper Product Preview](#)

Listen - [God Wouldn't Bring You This Far to Leave You - Tom Trenney](#)

Other Notes:

*The congregation will join us for these anthems plus the following public domain melodies – parts to printed in the concert program:

Amazing Grace

Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child

When the Saints

Tom Trenney will also perform at the organ, **Variations on THAXTED.**

Help Us Share This Event with Others:

Nothing is more exciting than singing in a large ensemble and being able to control the dynamics of many wonderful voices. Spread this opportunity to sing with neighboring choirs, singers, AGO chapters. We are hopeful of filling the church with singers and creating a glorious sound. First Presbyterian Church Spartanburg is a warm and inviting facility. Free parking. Handicapped accessible.

If there are any questions, please contact us.

John Polo; Holt Andrew

john.polo@charter.net; rhandrew@fpcspartanburg.org

Spartanburg Chapter American Guild of Organists & Chamber Singers, First Presbyterian Church
Spartanburg

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