First Baptist Church of Dayton

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
COMMUNION SUNDAY

JANUARY 4, 2026

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The First Baptist Church at Worship

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
COMMUNION SUNDAY

January 4, 2026 ~ 10:00 AM

THE PRELUDE — Gregory Land, Organist

In Dulci Jubilo ..... J. S. Bach

We Three Kings ..... U.S. Carol
By John H. Hopkins, Jr; setting by Diane Bish

Greensleeves ..... English Carol
Setting by Richard Purvis

March of the Magi ..... F. Flaxington Harker
(from "The Star of Bethlehem")

In Praise to the Lord

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

A three-fold ringing of three signifies the presence of the triune God:
Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.

CHORAL INTROIT — Chancel Choir
Dr. William Henry Caldwell, Director

Oh, the Glory of Your Presence ..... Steve Fry

Oh, the glory of Your presence; we, Your temple give You reverence.
Come and rise to Your rest, and be blest
by our praise as we glory in Your embrace,
as Your presence now fills this place.

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP — Rev. David Coggins

*OPENING HYMN — **#307** *All Creatures of Our God and King*
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

In the year 1225, completely blind and nearing death, St. Francis of Assisi arrived at the Convent of St. Damian to bid goodbye to his dear friend, Sister Clara, the first woman to follow the call of St. Francis and take vows of the Order. Clara built him a small reed hut in the garden of her little monastery. It's said that at times St. Francis could be heard singing faint melodies from within the hut. It was at a meal with the sisters after having stayed for some time at the monastery that he wrote his famous text, "Canticle of the Sun," later paraphrased into the beloved hymn we sing today. As we sing this hymn, we join with Christians throughout the ages and with all of Creation to sing our praises to God the Creator. Psalm 145 says, "My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever." This is our call and our invitation, and now, using the words God has given us through the voice of a Saint, we answer that invitation with a joyful "Alleluia!"

PASSING THE PEACE *(A time to greet one another)*

Listening for the Word of God

NEW TESTAMENT EPISTLE LESSON: Ephesians 1:3-14 Rev. Mark Craig

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
People: Thanks be to God!

*GOSPEL LESSON: John 1:14-16 Rev. Craig

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord according to John.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ!

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

Leader: For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us.
People: Thanks be to God!

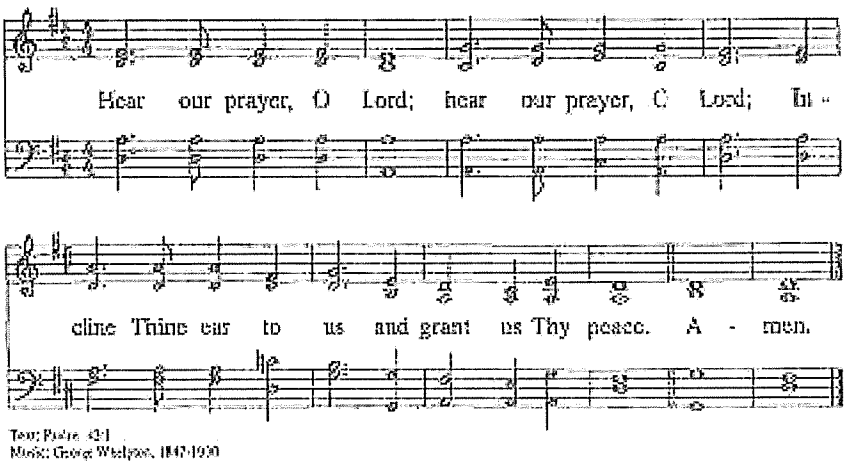
*FELLOWSHIP HYMN **#127** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*
MENDELSSOHN

This hymn by Charles Wesley was written within a year of Wesley's conversion. Thus, as Albert Bailey writes, "the inspiration of his newly-made contact with God was still fresh" (*The Gospel in Hymns*, 100). Rather than simply tell the nativity story, Wesley pours theological truths into this text. The first verse tells the story of the angels proclaiming Christ's birth, and the second and third verse go on to make it very clear why the angels sang. Simply by describing Christ, Wesley tells us the entire Gospel story. We are told of Christ's nature, his birth and incarnation, his ministry, and his salvific purpose. The *Psalter Hymnal Handbook* describes the hymn like this: "A curious mixture of exclamation, exhortation, and theological reflection. The focus shifts rapidly from angels, to us, to nations. The text's strength may not lie so much in any orderly sequence of thought but in its use of Scripture to teach its theology. That teaching surely produces in us a childlike response of faith; we too can sing 'Glory to the newborn King!'"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE — Rev. Jason Alspaugh

(Children are invited to come forward for the Children's Message during the last stanza of the fellowship hymn. All kids 3 years and older are invited to go downstairs (Room 4) after the Children's Message for a "One Room Sunday School" class. Parents are asked to pick up their children after service.)

CALL TO PRAYER — *Hear Our Prayer*
George Whelpton

Hear our prayer, O Lord; hear our prayer, O Lord;
Incline Thine ear to us and grant us Thy peace. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE — Rev. Dr. Kent Berghuis

ANTHEM — Chancel Choir
Dr. William Henry Caldwell, Director

Come, All Ye Shepherds ..... Jay Rouse

Come, all ye shepherds, ye children of earth. Come ye. bring greetings to yon heav'nly birth.
For Christ the Lord to all now is given, to be our Savior sent down from heaven. Come welcome him!
Hasten then, hasten to Bethlehem's stall, there to see Heaven descend to us all.
With holy feeling, there humbly kneeling, we will adore Him, bow down before Him, worship the King.
Come and worship Christ, the new born King! Angels and shepherds together we go;
seeking the Savior from all earthly woe. While angels, winging, His praise are singing;
heaven's echoes ringing, peace on earth bringing, goodwill to all!
We will adore Him, bow down before Him, worship Christ the king!

SERMON — Rev. Coggins

"To the Glory of God"

Holy Communion

INVITATION TO THE TABLE — Rev. Dr. Berghuis
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING OF THE BREAD (see **pgs. 8-10**) — **v. 1** *Taste and See* James E. Moore, Jr.

SHARING OF THE CUP (see **pgs. 8-10**) — **vs. 2-3** *Taste and See* James E. Moore, Jr.

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING &
THE LORD'S PRAYER (Debts & Debtors)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Response of God's People

*HYMN OF RESPONSE — **#349** *To God Be the Glory* TO GOD BE THE GLORY

This text is unique from Crosby's other hymns because, rather than focus on our experience of God, the words are wholly about God and His perfect glory. In a sense, the hymn perfectly displaces us, removing us from the pedestal on which we so often place ourselves. This displacement is one of the great paradoxes of the Christian faith. It feels very natural for us to seek attention, approval, and our own glory. We like to be in control and present our own image to the world, an image we seek to improve through any means possible. On the other hand, there is great comfort in knowing that the image we try to make for ourselves doesn't matter. We are made in the image of God, which means that whatever we do has to bring Him and Him alone glory. Our lives are wrapped up in God, and so too are the mistakes we make, the wounds we inflict, and all of our shortcomings. These are the things we try to avoid while we maintain control of our lives. But what a joy and a comfort to know that though these things may happen, because God is ultimately in control, and because our own image does not matter, God is still glorified. While we should still try to live a holy and upright life, we should do so to bring God glory, not ourselves. What a beautiful freedom that is.

*BLESSING WITH DISMISSAL — Rev. Coggins

*SUNG BENEDICTION — Chancel Choir

Center of My Joy ..... Richard Smallwood

Jesus, You're the center of my joy. All that's good and perfect comes from You.
You're the heart of my contentment, hope for all I do.
Jesus, You're the center of my joy.

POSTLUDE — Gregory Land

The March of the Wise Men ..... Harvey B. Gaul
(from "The Babe of Bethlehem")

(*) You're invited to rise in body or in spirit!

Please drop off your offering and yellow card in the basket as you leave.
Thank you for supporting the ministry of the church!

(Music and words are used with permission of CCLI License #1826847.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to our worship service! If you are visiting, we would love to get to know you. Please fill out a yellow card with your contact information and a pastor will be happy to get in touch with you. Anyone is welcome to use these cards to communicate with our office and share prayer requests or other information, too. We have baskets for our offering and communication cards at our entrances/exits.

We continue to **livestream and video record** our Sunday worship service through our YouTube channel. This can be found at https://www.youtube.com/ and look for First Baptist Church Dayton Ohio, or check our website (http://www.fbcdayton.org/).

Prayer for the Armed Forces

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace, strengthen them in their trials and temptations, give them courage to face the perils which beset them, and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People

(If you have someone you'd like to add or remove, please let us know.)

Laura Bayless
Jessica Blair
Gail Bowman
Dana Brewer
Linda Ginter-Brown
Gerald Busch
Merriann Craig
Bill Cress
Pamela Cress
Brett Domescik
Lavanda Ferguson
Bill Harrell
Debbie Harshman
Ralph Hopper
Barbara Jett
Nancy Kerr
Gene Lee
Vincent Liss
Patti Loxley
Tom McKenzie
Lisa McMullen
Melissa Mikesell
Shirley Nash
Mary Ann Paloncy
Susan Parent
Petry Family
Judy See
Judy Smith
Stephens Family
Kaye Suryk
Brenda Taylor
Anne Veghte
Cynthia Whittaker
Sharon Wingham
Military Duty:
Sebastian Ewald
Sunny Ewald
Brittany Kalbfleisch
Kyle Kline

Iglesia Bautista Dios Compasivo (El Salvador)

Offering Envelopes

If you would like a box of offering envelopes for your 2026 giving, please contact Nancy Kerr by email to nkerr@fbcdayton.org or by phone at 937-222-4691 x. 402.

Adult Education Class

THE ITALIAN RENAISSANCE

Led by Dr. Roy Vice

Sundays @ 11:30am-12:15pm

January 4, 11 & 18 in the 1st Floor Chapel

The Renaissance was both an intellectual movement and an era in European History. It marks the end of the Middle Ages. The word Renaissance means rebirth. Petrarch (1304-1374) and other Humanists rediscovered lost works of Cicero and other Roman writers. Humanists wanted to read Greek philosophers in their original language. This helped to prepare the way for the Reformation.

Annual Reports are Due by Jan. 5, 2026

Annual reports for 2025 are due by Monday, January 5, 2026 from all Board Chairs, Committee Chairs, and pastoral staff. Please email reports to Linda Blair at fbc@fbcdayton.org. Thank you!

Take Down Christmas Decorations

Saturday, Jan. 10 starting at 9am

Your help will be greatly appreciated!

January Church Meetings

Boards: Wednesday, Jan. 14 @ 6:30pm
Executive Council: Wednesday, Jan. 21 @ 6:30pm

Thursday Evening BYF Gatherings @ 6-8pm

We resume on January 8th!!

Our Baptist Youth Fellowship is on a winter break, but we will resume our Thursday Gatherings on January 8th. Each week gatherings will include a fun theme/activity (sundaes, art, service, karaoke, improv, etc.), fellowship, food, and a spirituality/spiritual practice component. We will still have other occasional activities/outings at other times, including Sundays, but this would be our most regular gathering time. Special thanks to Camilla Albritton and Michelle Smith for helping to make this new endeavor possible.

BUILDING BRIDGES BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays @ 7:30-8:30am

Wholly Grounds Coffee Shop (825 Wayne Ave)

Note: We resume Bible study on January 8th!! Each week Pastor Jason convenes a group for spirited discussion and reflection on one of the Scripture passages from the Lectionary for the upcoming Sunday, making connections and applications to current events. Many of us have been doing this for years, but it's an open gathering and anyone can join us anytime. If you have questions, please connect with Pastor Jason (jalspaugh@fbcdayton.org).

Cancellations Due to Inclement Weather

When the decision is made to cancel church services/activities, we will have the notice posted on:

WHIO-TV • Facebook page or group • Website (fbcdayton.org)

And we'll do our best to send out a church-wide email as well.

Stewardship 2026 ~ "Gracious Giving"

Don't you just love being around gracious people? We feel their kindness and hospitality and our hearts are softened. At the heart of being gracious is the willingness to give—to share of ourselves generously. When we do, others respond positively as well. The word "grace" itself is related to giving. God's grace is the gift of love bestowed on us without regard to our merit. Grace is the joy of God in action, blessing a world in redemptive ways.

In Acts 20:35 we hear that Jesus himself said that "it is more blessed to give than to receive." We all love to receive gifts from others, and we are grateful for the gifts God gives us. But this verse reminds us that the one who gives is even more blessed. This beatitude of giving expresses the nature of God and those who seek to become like Christ.

We enter another stewardship season aware of the many gracious givers who have helped make our church what it is. **We thank you** for all the ways your generosity has made our work possible. You've helped many mission causes in our community and around the world. You've supported a committed staff of pastors, musicians, office workers and custodians who keep the ministry active and vibrant. You've helped sustain our presence in downtown Dayton in a beautiful landmark building. What a gift this is to our congregation, community and world! Together we ourselves are a work of grace that gives back over and over again.

There's still time for your pledge to count toward this coming year's budget, and your pledge or gift is always meaningful any time of year. As you consider what you might give, I encourage you to pray about it. Some of you give regularly—can you increase your gift to help us achieve more? Some of you may give occasionally, or have not given previously. Would you consider making a regular, planned gift on a weekly or monthly basis? Even if you can't give much or increase your giving this year, please know that we appreciate every gift no matter what.

Use the cut-off card below or a card available at church and turn it in during worship in our collection baskets, by mail, or return it any way you wish to the church office. Or you can email our financial secretary, nkerr@fbcdayton.org. You can use e-giving at www.fbcdayton.org if that is most helpful for you.

Let's be the gracious givers who reflect the grace of Jesus in this world. Let's give to God through the work of this church that means so much to us. We trust that God's grace will bless us far beyond anything we could ever give ourselves. Let this be a year of "Gracious Giving!"

~Pastor Kent

(PLEASE TEAR HERE AND RETURN TO THE CHURCH OFFICE)

With a grateful heart for God's boundless generosity and as an expression of myChristian stewardship, I make this commitment to Christ's church and the ministryof this congregation.

STEWARDSHIP 2026

My/Our commitment is: $_____ per week, or
$_____ per month, or
$_____ per year

I understand that I may adjust this estimate of giving at any time by contacting the finance secretary.

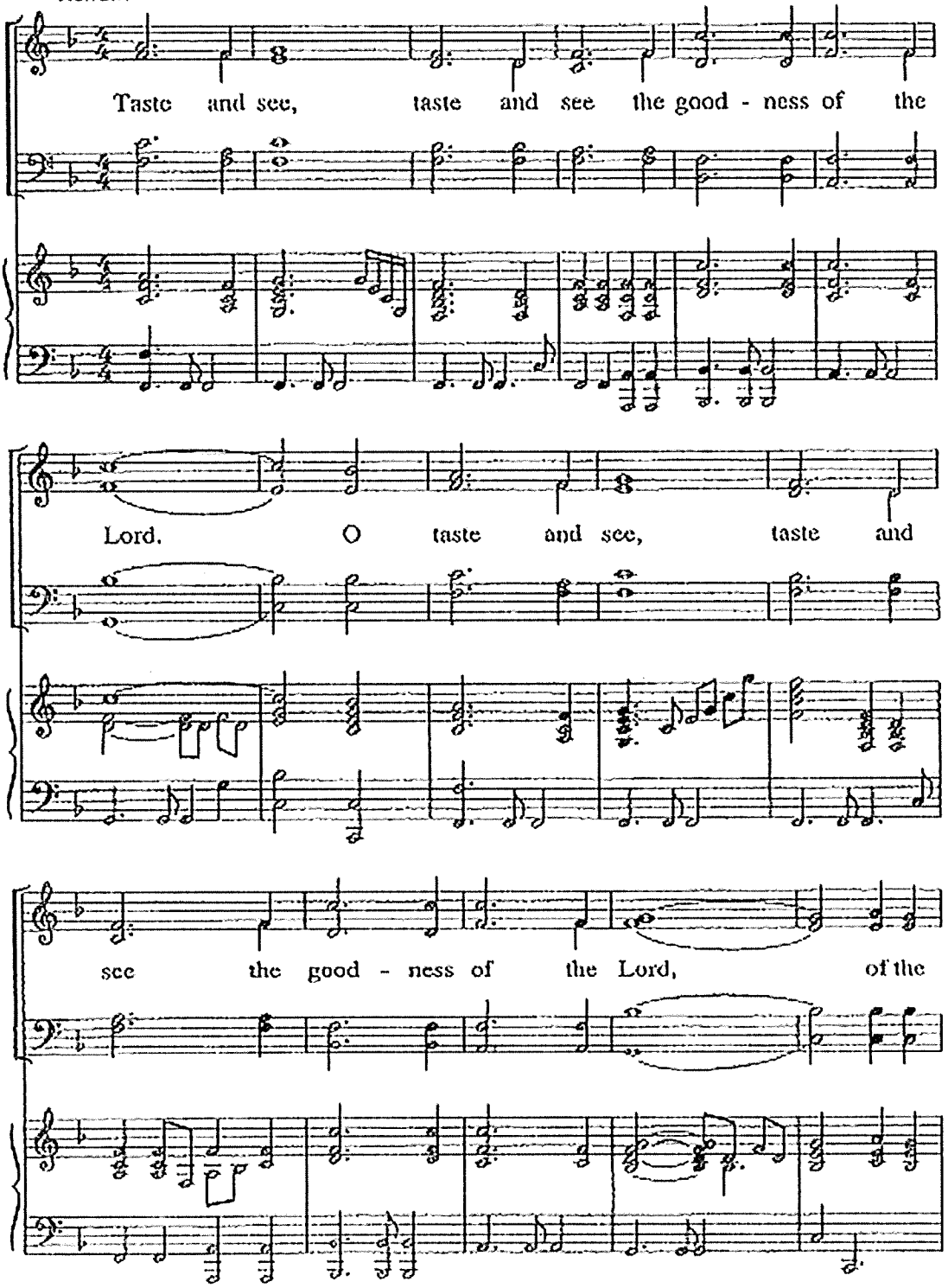
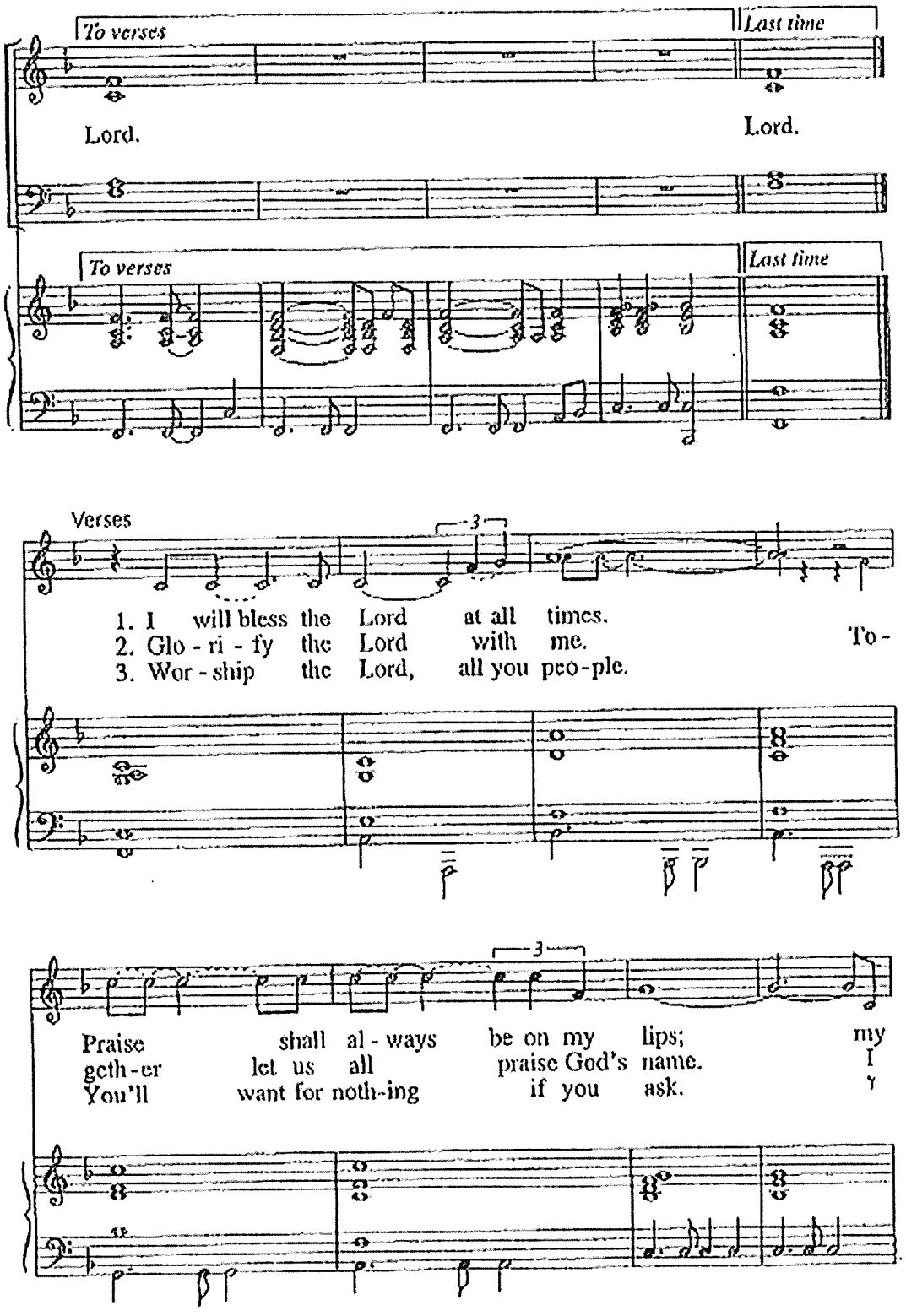
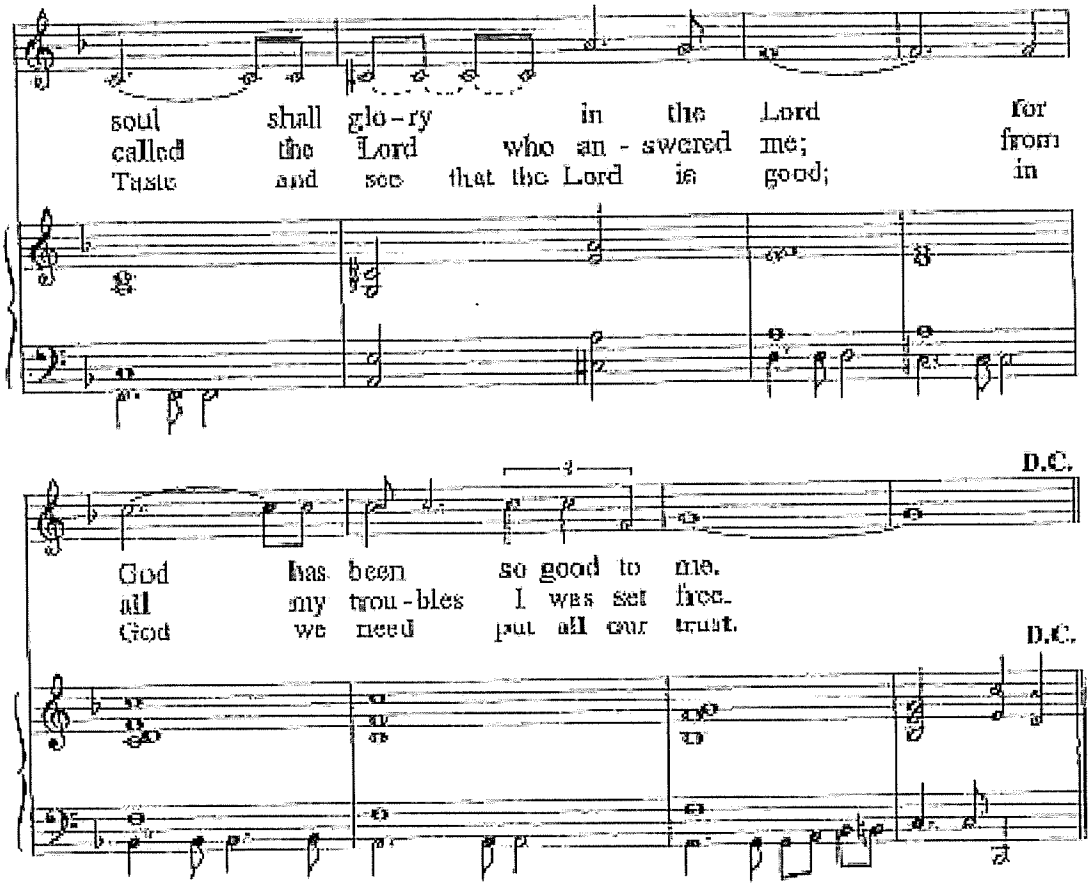
Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

680 TASTE AND SEE

O taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are those who take refuge in Him.
Psalm 34:8

Refrain


To verses
Last time
Lord.
Lord.
To verses
Last time
Verses
1. I will bless the Lord at all times.
2. Glo - ri - fy the Lord with me.
3. Wor - ship the Lord, all you peo-ple.
To -
Praise shall al - ways be on my lips;
geth-er let us all praise God's name.
You'll want for noth-ing if you ask.
my
I
y

Text: Psalm 34; James E. Moore, Jr., b.1951
Music: James E. Moore, Jr., b.1951
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