

Taste and See

Text from Psalm 34 | Composer: James E. Moore, Jr. (1951-2022)

Refrain: Taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
O taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord, of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times. Praise shall always be on my lips;
my soul shall glory in the Lord, for God has been so good to me.

Refrain

Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us all praise God's name.
I called the Lord who answered me; from all my troubles I was set free.

Refrain

Worship the Lord, all you people. You'll want for nothing if you ask.
Taste and see that the Lord is good; in God we need put all our trust.

Refrain

About the Anthem:

Dr. James Edward Moore, Jr. was an American Black Catholic composer, singer, liturgist, conductor, pianist, and master teacher. James was born in 1951 in La Crosse, Virginia in Mecklenburg County (about 80 miles east down Route 58 from Danville). He gained fame as a church musician and composer during the Black Catholic Movement (1968 through the 1990s). Dr. Moore served as a Professor of Liturgy and Music at the Athenaeum of Ohio from 1977 to 1982 (Mount St. Mary's Seminary & School of Theology). "Moore also directed music at the former St. Agnes Catholic Church in Cincinnati's Bond Hill neighborhood" (Nate Tinner-Williams of the Black Catholic Messenger). During the 1980s, Moore toured Catholic parishes and worked with many choirs, including in Türkiye, Germany, Italy, and Austria. He settled permanently in Vienna, Austria in 1984; while there he directed the Chor der Alten Burse ("Choir of the Old Boys") and recorded an album in 1987, *That We May Be One*. Dr. Moore resided in Vienna for the remainder of his career teaching voice and conducting.

Today's anthem, "Taste and See," was composed in 1983 and is Dr. Moore's most famous composition. It is sung in churches around the world as both a Communion hymn and a responsorial setting of Psalm 34. I love Dr. Moore's creative use of syncopation and hemeolic rhythms. He creates a perfect atmosphere of joyful anticipation and overarching peace. Some other notable songs written by Dr. Moore include "Touch Somebody's Life," "An Irish Blessing," and "Come to the Feast."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today Please greet your neighbors and pass the Fellowship Pad
Tuesday February 3 Handbells 5pm
Property 5:30pm
Ladies Dinner 6pm
Wednesday February 4 Wednesday Night Dinner 6pm
Thursday February 5 Thursday Bible Study 10:30am
Choir 4:30pm
Saturday February 7 Officer Training
Sat. Lunch Ministry 11:30am

We will have soup, a salad, a tasty dessert, and tea/coffee for our Wednesday night dinner. Team 1 is in charge. Please use the reservation form in the bulletin or call the office by noon Wednesday if you plan to attend.

February 8th we will take up our "Souper Bowl" offering. This offering is taken each year and given to help our Saturday Lunch Ministry.

If you are applying or reapplying to college-it's time to get your scholarship application from FPC. Call the church office for more info. We will email or mail you an application today! Deadline is April 30th!

SERVING TODAY

Minister of Discipleship	Jackson Weller
Music Director	Ashley Stanley-Robey
Video/Sound	Alex Walthall
Liturgist	Jackie Rochford
Greeter	David Swann
Side door/Offering	Barry Cutright

List of Session members

Class of 2026: Ava Barrett, Barry Cutright, Gail Jones, Kim Wimer
Class of 2027: Harriet Beale, Pat Pinckney, Joan Reynolds, Kent Shelton
Class of 2028: Eddie Blount, Jr., Sam Meadema, Jackie Rockford, Alex Walthall
Trustees: Bob Newnam, Ray Beale, Gary Wimer

BUDGET UPDATE

November	1-31	FY 2025
Contributions	\$24,218.23	\$385,178.72
Expenditures	\$24,272.72	\$382,959.03
Difference	(-\$54.49)	\$ 2,219.69

If you enter the hospital, your church will have no way of knowing unless you notify us. Please let us know of your hospital stay so that we may respond with pastoral care.

A Warm Welcome

We would love to have you join our church family. If you are moved to do so by the Lord, please talk to one of the elders or our pastor.

THE COLUMNS
OF THE

First Presbyterian Church

Danville, Virginia

February 1, 2026

4th Sunday after Epiphany



Welcome

This church opens wide its doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Celebrating 199 Years of Knowing Christ
and Making Him Known*

First Presbyterian Church

937 Main Street, Danville, VA 24541-1809—434-792-7822

E-Mail: admin@fpcdanville.com

Website: <http://www.fpcdanville.com>

A Service for the Worship of God

GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD

Please greet your neighbors and pass the Fellowship Pad to them.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

"Blest Are They"

David Haas, arr. Haas and Michael Joncas

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 15)

Leader: Lord, we come into your sanctuary with eagerness.

People: May we hear your call and speak your truth.

Leader: Lord, we come to abide with you in love.

People: Gather us in honest and faithful community.

Leader: Lord, prepare us to be people of hope and grace.

People: Kindle in us courage to live as brave and faithful disciples.

Leader: Let us worship our God together in this holy place.

All: Alleluia. Amen.

*HYMN#223

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

INVOCATION

Lord, we come before You today asking for Your forgiveness. We confess our sins and ask for Your cleansing power to wash us clean. May Your mercy and grace cover us as we seek to live by Your will. Thank you for the sacrifice of Jesus that allows us to be forgiven and restored. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (based on Micah 6:1-8)

Merciful God, we come before you in confession. You have showered us with blessings, but we hoard those gifts, refusing to share with our neighbors in need. You have given us freedom to live justly, but we choose to oppress and judge others. You have called us to live in peaceful community, but we sow discord and breed fear among ourselves. Forgive us. Soften our hearts and open our minds to hear your call. Inspire us to act justly, love fiercely, and walk in your way each and every day.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The mercy of the Lord is deeper than the depths of the sea and wider than the whole of the earth. Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, healed and made whole. **Alleluia. Amen.**

SIGNS OF RECONCILIATION

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us the children of God, having confessed our sins and been reconciled to God, having been assured of God's graciousness and mercy, stand and offer that same peace and reconciliation to our brothers and sisters in Christ, forgiving each other and offering grace and peace.

Please remain standing for the "Gloria Patri."

*RESPONSE

"Gloria Patri"

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Recognizing God's gracious blessings poured upon us, we respond with gratitude, giving of our time, talents and treasure for the building up of the kingdom here and now. Let us consider our gifts given in grateful praise.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, thank you for the many blessings of our lives. Bless these gifts we give today. May they be used to bring about joy for those who need them most. Amen.

OFFERTORY

"Come! Live in the Light" (We Are Called)
by David Haas

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ANTHEM

"Taste and See"

by James E. Moore, Jr.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of wonder, awaken us! As we hear your Word read and proclaimed, open us to be surprised! Enliven us with the power of the Word and presence of your Spirit. Transform us for our walk with you. Amen.

LECTIONARY SCRIPTURES:

(659/694)

Micah 6:1-8

(807/848)

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

(683/719)

Matthew 5:1-12

SERMON

"What the LORD Requires"

Jackson Weller

*HYMN#213

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF GOD'S CHILDREN

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

POSTLUDE

"Lift High the Cross"

Sydney H. Nicholson, arr. C. Berry

*BENEDICTION

***Please stand if able.**

**Hymn lyrics projected on the screen can be found in the "Glory to God" hymnal in the pew.*

Music during Communion -

"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" African American spiritual,

arr. Cindy Berry and

"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies" Johann G. Werner, arr. C. Berry