Psalm 34: Taste and See/
Thánh Vịnh 33:
Các Bạn Hãy Nếm Thử/
Salmo 33: Gusten y Vean

Đồng Dao
and Rufino Zaragoza, OFM

FROM THE COLLECTION
My God and My All
Octavo Packet #30141036
CD #30141037
Composer Notes

The basis of this octavo is “Thánh Vi.nh 33: Các Ba.n Hãy Nê´m Th¯ (Psalm 34: Taste and See)” by Đổng Dao, as found in the Vietnamese hymnal Thánh Ca Dân Chúa (song #36), published by OCP. At the request of music director John Flaherty for more inclusion of Vietnamese in the closing Mass of the 2009 Los Angeles Religious Education Congress, I began developing a bilingual (Vietnamese/English) Communion song based on Mr. Dao’s composition.

I wished to develop the piece so it could be used as either a Communion song or a responsorial psalm. But upon review of Đổng Dao’s verses of his published Psalm 34, I learned that he did not complete the assigned verses found in the Lectionary. So I asked him if he would compose additional verses based on the Lectionary text, which he did, and are used in this octavo (verses 2–3, 4–5, 6–7, 8–9 as found in the readings for the 19th Sunday of Ordinary Time, year B [116]).

After this piece was used at Religious Education Congress in 2009, I asked Steve Grundy to do an arrangement. Then we thought about making the piece trilingual, and he added the Spanish text to the refrain. Much later, Eleazar Cortés adapted verses from the Spanish Lectionary. So truly, the development of this multilingual piece was an intercultural endeavor. Gratitude to Stella García and Craig Kingsbury for their careful editing and getting this piece prepared for publication.

This psalm is intended for use as a responsorial psalm or Communion processional at bilingual (Vietnamese/English) liturgies. With two refrains in different languages and two sets of verses, the music director has many options in alternating between Vietnamese and English. The first step is for the director to assess the “base language” of the assembly. (This term is taken from Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions’ “Liturgy in a Culturally Diverse Community.”) If the majority of the assembly speaks English, then English is the base language; if the majority of the assembly speaks Vietnamese, then Vietnamese is the base language.

**Vietnamese Base Language:** The refrain would always be done in Vietnamese and the verses could alternate between Vietnamese and English.

**English Base Language:** The refrain would be sung first in Vietnamese, by a cantor or Vietnamese section of the combined choir, to exemplify the style and origin of the piece. Then the refrain would be repeated in English and the verses could alternate between English and Vietnamese. The refrain continues in English after the verses. Perhaps the final refrain could overlap the two languages, the Vietnamese serving as a descant to the English refrain.

**Bilingual Assembly:** Perhaps at an ordination or special diocesan celebration, the assembly is equally balanced between Vietnamese and English native speakers. If used during Communion, one approach is to always sing the refrain twice, first in Vietnamese and then in English, while alternating the verses. The final refrain could overlap the two languages, the Vietnamese serving as a descant to the English refrain (as it is presented in the Optional Final Refrain of this octavo). However such a practice would be too long for a responsorial psalm and perhaps the refrains could alternate between the two languages within the Liturgy of the Word.

**Trilingual Assembly:** If a segment of the assembly is Spanish-speaking, perhaps one of the refrains and verses could be sung in Spanish. One approach would be to have the first verse in Vietnamese, the second verse in English, the third in Spanish, and the fourth in Vietnamese; the language of the refrain would follow the language of the verse.

For the non-Vietnamese musician, the wide range of the refrain is unusual, but such extended melodies are common in Vietnamese repertoire. The Vietnamese verses also have an extended range, and would normally be sung by a cantor. Note the optional middle C in measure 7 of the Vietnamese verses for those who do not have the range of a low G.

—Rufino Zaragoza, OFM
Psalm 34: Taste and See/
Thánh Vinh 33: Các Bạn Hãy Nêm Thứ/
Salmo 33: Gusten y Vean

Based on Psalm 34 (33):2–3, 4–5, 6–7, 8–9
Vietnamese, Đông Dao; English, Rufino Zaragoza, OFM;
Spanish verses adapt. by Eleazar Cortés

Dông Dao and
Rufino Zaragoza, OFM

Arr. by Steve Grundy

Preview
REFRAIN: ENGLISH/SPANISH

Taste and see, taste and see that the Lord, our God, is good,
Gusten y ve-an, gusten y ve-an que buen-es el Se-nor.

Cadd9  Em  Am  Fadd9

1… (1st time: D.S.) to Verses  Final  Fine

1… (1st time: D.S.) to Verses  Final  Fine

Cadd9

1… (1st time: D.S.) to Verses  Final  Fine

C

Psalm 34: Taste and See/Thành Vịnh 33: Cái Bạn Hãy Nếm Thử/Salmo 33: Gusten y Vean
VIETNAMESE VERSES: Cantor

1. Tôi luôn chúc tụng Chúa Trời lời hát khen Ngài không
2. Dâng lề Chúa lời ca ngợi nào hỏi các bạn ta
3. Nhìn về Chúa để các bạn lòng trí vui mừng, không
4. Chung quanh vẻ sôi kinh Ngài, này các Sư Thần dòng

Am Dm G C

1. ngılmơn ron trẽm Luigi tôi, Trong Chúa hồn tôi hành
2. cùng hợp tiếng tận đường. Tôi đã cầu khan lên
3. khói họ người be mặt Kể khôn khó kêu khan
4. trái để canh giữ bỗ Thiên Chúa thật bao tốt

Am F G C Am G

Psalm 34: Taste and See/Thánh Viễn 33: Cắc Bàn Hây Nêm Thì/Salmo 33: Gusten y Vean
ENGLISH VERSES: Cantor

1. I will bless the Lord at all times; God’s
2. Come glorify the Lord with me, as
3. Those who look toward God are radiant with joy, their
4. The angel of the Lord encamps with them, de-

1. praises ever on my lips. My soul glories in the
2. one we praise God’s name. I sought the Lord and was
3. faces free of all shame. When the poor cried out the Lord
4. lives all who fear God. Taste and see the Lord is

1. Lord, that the poor and lowly may hear and be glad.
2. heard; from all my fears the Lord has set me free.
3. heard; and God rescued them from all trouble and distress.
4. good; Oh, blest are they who seek refuge in the Lord.

Psalm 34: Taste and See/Thành Vinh 33: Cúc Bạn Hãy Ném Thử/Salmo 33: Gusten y Vean
SPANISH VERSES: Cantor

1. La ba siem pre mi bo ca; te glo ri a mi al ma en
2. en sal cé mos le u ni dos. Le con sal te y él me res pon
3. Gui en za no su fri rán. Si el a fi do in vo ca al Se
4. te ge a los que te men. Gus ten y ve an qué bu e no es

1. él: que lo es cu chen los hu mil des y se a le gren.
2. dió, y de to das mis an sias me fi bro.
3. São, él lo es cu cha y lo sal va de sus an gus tias.
4. él, di cho so a quel que bus ca en él a si lo.

Psalm 34: Taste and See/Thánh Vinh 33: Các Bản Hãy Ném Thủ/Salmo 33: Gusten y Vean
OPTIONAL FINAL REFRAIN

Psalm 34: Taste and See/Thánh Vịnh 33: Càc Ban Hãy Ném Thử và Hãy Nhìn Xem,
cho biết

Các bạn hãy ném thử và hãy nhìn xem, cho biết

Taste and see, taste and see that the
Gusten y vean, gusten y vean que

Chúa thiên hào durong bao.

Lord, our God, is good, that the Lord, our God, is good,
buenos el Señor, que buenos el Señor.

Am Fadd9 Cadd9 C
Psalm 34: Taste and See/
Thánh Vinh 33: Các Bạn Hãy Nêm Thử/
Salmo 33: Gusten y Vean

(Guitar/Vocal)

Based on Psalm 34 (33):2–3, 4–5, 6–7, 8–9
Vietnamese, Đông Dao; English, Rufino Zaragoza, OFM;
Spanish verses adapt. by Eleazar Cortés

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VIETNAMESE VERSES: Cantor

Am7 Dm G C
1. Tôi luôn chúc mừng Chúa Trời lời hát khen Ngài không
2. Đồng lên Chúa lời ca ngợi nào hỏi đau bạn ta
3. Nhìn về Chúa để các bạn lòng trì vui mừng, không
4. Chung quanh kẻ sợ kinh Ngài, này các Sứ Thần dòng

Am F G C Am G D.S.
1. ngửn rôn trên lòng tôi. Trong Chúa hồn tôi hạnh
2. cùng hop tiếng tần dương. Tới đã cầu khan lên
3. khối họ người bẽ mất. Kể kinh khó kéo khan
4. trúi dê cánh giữa hở. Thiên Chúa thật bao tốt

ENGLISH VERSES: Cantor

Am Em G
1. I will bless the Lord at all times; God's
2. Come glory by the Lord with me, as
3. Those who look toward God are radiant with joy, their
4. The angel of the Lord encamps with them, de-

Am G C
1. praises ever on my lips. My soul glories in the
2. one we praise God's name. I sought the Lord and was
3. faces free of all shame. When the poor cried out the Lord
4. live all who fear God. Taste and see the Lord is

Am Dm Am G D.S.
1. Lord, that the poor and lowly may hear and be glad.
2. heard; from all my fears the Lord has set me free.
3. heard; and God rescued them from all trouble and distress.
4. good; Oh, blest are they who seek refuge in the Lord.
SPANISH VERSES: Cantor

1. A cada instante bendigo al Señor, lo agabé.
2. Se glorió mi alma en el temple.
3. El ángel del Señor está con sus fieles, pro-

OPTIONAL FINAL REFRAIN

C:
Cadd9:
Em:

C:
Cadd9:
Em:

Lord, our God, is good, that the Lord, our God, is good.
Psalm 34: Taste and See/
Thánh Vinh 33: Các Bạn Hãy Nê´m Th¯/
Salmo 33: Gusten y Vean

SOLO INSTRUMENT in C

Dòng Dao and Rufino Zaragoza, OFM
Arr. by Steve Grundy

INTRO

REFRAIN: VIETNAMESE

REFRAIN: ENGLISH/SPANISH

VIETNAMESE VERSES

ENGLISH / SPANISH VERSES

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Edition #30133202
**Assembly Editions**

**PSALM 34: TASTE AND SEE/ THÁNH VỊNH 33: CÁC BẠN HÃY NÉM THỬ/ SALMO 33: GUSTEN Y VEAN**

Lord, our God, is good,

_english_ Taste and see, taste and see that the Lord, our God, is good.

_Vietnamese_ Các bạn hãy ném thử và hãy nhìn xem, cho biết

Taste and see the Lord is good;

The angel of the Lord encamps with them,
delivers all who fear God,
Taste and see the Lord is good;
Oh, blest are they who seek refuge in the Lord.

**Vietnamese Verses: Cantor**

1. Tôi luôn chúc tụng Chúa Trời
lời kinh hận Ngài
không ngừng nồn trên lưỡi tôi.
Trong Chúa hồn tôi hành diện,
ban nhờ nào nghèo tiếc
tơi ma hãy vụ len.
2. Dăng lên Chúa lên ca ngợi
hoi các bạn
ta cùng hò tiếng tan đường.
Tơi dâ cau khốn lên Ngài và Ngài cứu chuộc những ai đáp vật tâm can.
3. Nhin về Chúa để các bạn long
tri vinh mừng,
không khó khổ người bể mệt.
Kể khốn khó quốc khẩn Ngài và Ngài đã cứu thoát họ khỏi những tai ương.
4. Chúa quan ânh sao kính Ngài,
ngày các Sự Thánh
đồng trai để canh giữ
Thần Chúa thật bao tôi lành,
thật là hạnh phúc biết bao kề ơ bên Ngài.

**Spanish Verses: Cantor**

1. A cada instante bendigo al Señor,
lo alaba siempre mi boca:
se gloria mi alma en él:
gue los escuchen los humildes y se alegren.
2. Glorífique conmigo al Señor,
ensalémosle unidos.
Le consulté y él me respondió,
y de todas mis ansias me libró.
3. Contémplen y de gozo irádirán,
vergüenza no sufrirán.
Si el afligido invoca al Señor,
el lo escucha y lo salva de sus angustias.
4. El ángel del Señor está con sus fieles,
protégete a los que te temen.
Gusten y vean qué bueno es el,
dichoso aquel que busca en él asilo.

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PSALM 34: TASTE AND SEE/
THÁNH VINH 33: CÁC BẠN HÃY NÉM THÚ/
SALMO 33: GUSTEN Y VEAN

Đồng Dao and Rufino Zaragoza, OFM

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Refrain

Lord, our God, is good, that the Lord, our God, is good.
bue-no es el Señor, que bue-no es el Señor.

Based on “Thánh Vinh 33: Các Bạn Hãy Ném Thú” by Đồng Dao. Text based on Psalm 34 (33).
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