

For his merciful love lasts for ever

Psalm 135 (136)

Martin Foster

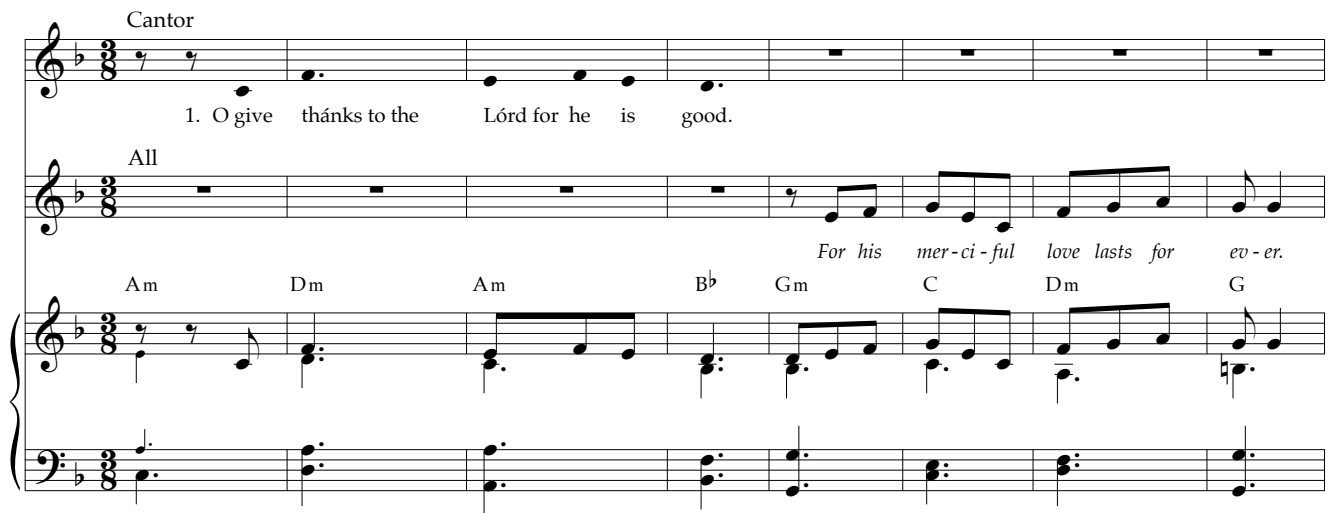
Cantor

1. O give thanks to the Lórd for he is good.

All

For his mer-ci-ful love lasts for ev-er.

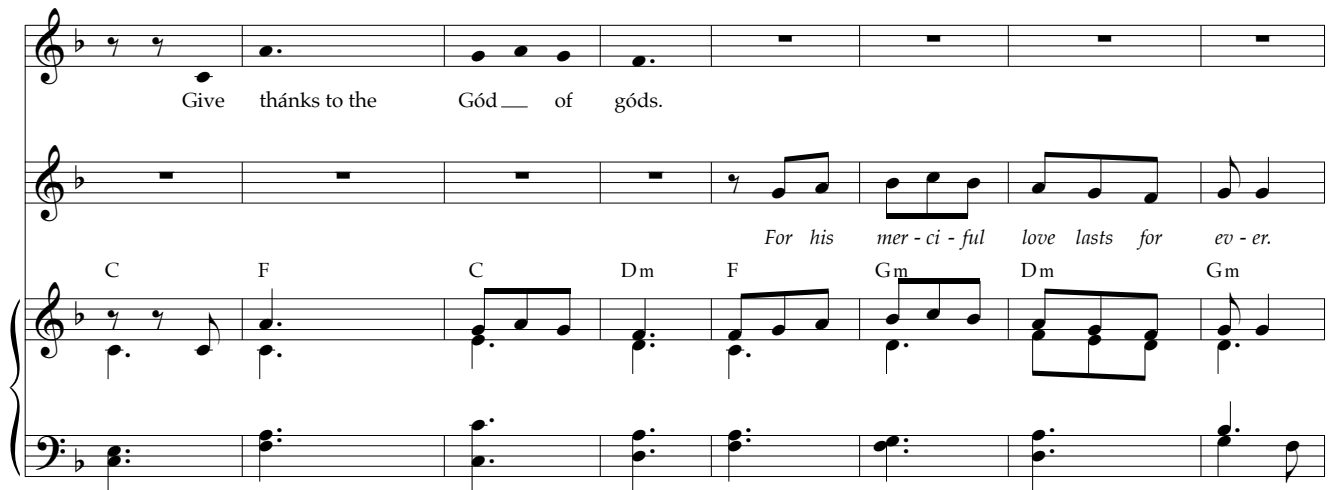
Am Dm Am B $\flat$  Gm C Dm G



Give thanks to the Gód of góds.

For his mer-ci-ful love lasts for ev-er.

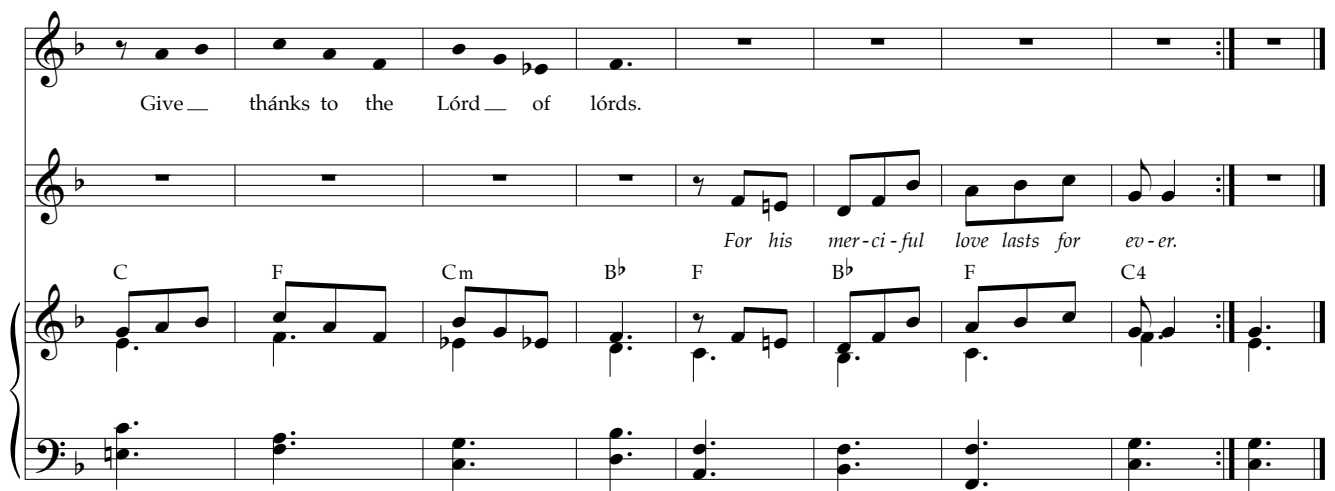
C F C Dm F Gm Dm Gm



Give thanks to the Lórd of lórd.

For his mer-ci-ful love lasts for ev-er.

C F Cm B $\flat$  F B $\flat$  F C4



Text from The Psalms, a new translation © 1963 The Grail (England) administered by HarperCollins.  
Psalms & Songs of Mercy Music © 2015 Martin Foster. [www.bearmusic.info](http://www.bearmusic.info)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1. O give <u>thanks</u> to the <u>Lord</u> for he is <u>good</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> Give <u>thanks</u> to the <u>God</u> of <u>gods</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> Give <u>thanks</u> to the <u>Lord</u> of <u>lords</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i></p> <p>2. Who <u>alone</u> has wrought <u>marvellous works</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> Whose <u>wisdom</u> it <u>was</u> made the <u>skies</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> Who <u>fixed</u> the earth <u>firmly</u> on the <u>seas</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i></p> <p>3. It was <u>he</u> who <u>made</u> the great <u>lights</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> The <u>sun</u> to <u>rule</u> in the <u>day</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> The <u>moon</u> and the <u>stars</u> in the <u>night</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i></p> <p>4. The first-<u>born</u> of the <u>Egyptians</u> he <u>smote</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> He brought <u>Israel</u> <u>out</u> from their <u>midst</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> Arm <u>outstretched</u>, with <u>power</u> in his <u>hand</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i></p> <p>5. He <u>divided</u> the <u>Red Sea</u> in <u>two</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> He made <u>Israel</u> <u>pass</u> through the <u>midst</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> He flung <u>Pharaoh</u> and his <u>force</u> in the <u>sea</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i></p> | <p>6. Through the <u>desert</u> his <u>people</u> he <u>led</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> <u>Nations</u> in their <u>greatness</u> he <u>struck</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> <u>Kings</u> in their <u>splendour</u> he <u>slew</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i></p> <p>7. <u>Sihon</u>, <u>king</u> of the <u>Amorites</u>, [B]<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> And <u>Og</u>, the <u>king</u> of <u>Bashan</u>, [C]<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i></p> <p>8. He let <u>Israel</u> <u>inherit</u> their <u>land</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> On his <u>servant</u> their <u>land</u> he <u>bestowed</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> He <u>remembered</u> <u>us</u> in our <u>distress</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i></p> <p>9. And he <u>snatched</u> us <u>away</u> from our <u>foes</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> He gives <u>food</u> to <u>all</u> living <u>things</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> To the <u>God</u> of <u>heaven</u> give <u>thanks</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i></p> <p>10. Give <u>praise</u> to the <u>Father</u> <u>almighty</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> To his <u>Son</u> <u>Jesus Christ</u> the <u>Lord</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i><br/> To the <u>Spirit</u> who <u>dwells</u> in our <u>hearts</u>,<br/> <i>For his merciful love lasts for ever.</i></p> |
|--|--|

---

“For his mercy endures forever.” This is the refrain repeated after each verse in Psalm 136 as it narrates the history of God’s revelation. By virtue of mercy, all the events of the Old Testament are replete with profound salvific import. Mercy renders God’s history with Israel a history of salvation. To repeat continually “for his mercy endures forever,” as the psalm does, seems to break through the dimensions of space and time, inserting everything into the eternal mystery of love. It is as if to say that not only in history, but for all eternity man will always be under the merciful gaze of the Father. It is no accident that the people of Israel wanted to include this psalm – the “Great Hallel,” as it is called – in its most important liturgical feast days. [MV7]

---

When verse 7 is included it starts on the second line of the music.

Text from The Psalms, a new translation © 1963 The Grail (England) administered by HarperCollins.  
Psalms & Songs of Mercy Music © 2015 Martin Foster. www.bearmusic.info