

The Music and Faith of J.S. Bach

Daniel Overly, pianist and lecturer

Grace Immanuel Bible Church, Jupiter, Florida

Friday, November 9th, 7:00 pm

I

Komm, Heiliger Geist, Herre Gott
[BWV 651]

Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord!
Be all Thy graces now out poured
On each believer's mind and heart;
Thy fervent love to them impart.
Lord, by the brightness of Thy light,
Thou in the faith dost men unite
Of every land and every tongue;
This to Thy praise,
O Lord, our God, be sung.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

*Anonymous (15th century),
tr. Catherine Winkworth*

Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier
[BWV 731]

Blessed Jesus, at thy word
we are gathered all to hear thee.
Let our hearts and souls be stirred
now to seek and love and fear thee.
By thy gospel pure and holy,
teach us, Lord, to love thee solely.

*Tobias Clausnitzer (1668),
tr. Catherine Winkworth*

II

Durch Adams Fall ist ganz verderbt
[BWV 637]

In Adam's fall are all depraved:
Man's nature and his wisdom.
When we are born, within our veins
is flowing deadly venom,
and it is sure there is no cure
but Christ, who brought salvation.
For Satan's lie led Eve to die—
all men received damnation.

Lazarus Spengler (1524), tr. G. Zeisler

Nun komm' der Heiden Heiland
[BWV 659]

Come now, Saviour of the heathen,
He who is known as the Child of the
Virgin!
All the world wonders that
God should ordain such a birth.

Martin Luther (1524), tr. Composite

Es ist das Heil uns kommen her
[BWV 638]

Salvation hath come down to us
Of freest grace and love,
Works cannot stand before God's law,
A broken reed they prove;

Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone,
He must for all our sins atone,
He is our one Redeemer.

*Paul Speratus (1523),
tr. Catherine Winkworth*

In dulci jubilo [BWV 751, 729]

In sweet rejoicing
now sing and be glad!
Our hearts' joy
lies in the manger;
And it shines like the sun in the
mother's lap.
You are the alpha and omega!

Heinrich Seuse, 1328

Christ lag in Todesbanden

[BWV 4: IV]

But Jesus, God's eternal Son,
The Source of our salvation,
For us the mighty battle won
And saved us from damnation.
Now death on us has lost his claim,
Christ Jesus bore our sin and blame,
The sting of death removing.
Hallelujah!

*Martin Luther (1524),
tr. Composite (ALH 1930)*

III

Was Gott tut, das ist wohlgetan

[BWV 75: VII]

What God ordains is always good:
though I the cup am drinking

which savors now of bitterness,
I take it without shrinking.
For after grief God gives relief,
my heart with comfort filling
and all my sorrow stilling.

*Samuel Rodigast (1675),
tr. The Lutheran Hymnal 1941*

Ich ruf' zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ

[BWV 639]

Lord, hear the voice of my complaint,
To Thee I now commend me,
Let not my heart and hope grow faint,
But deign Thy grace to send me.
True faith from Thee, my God, I seek,
The faith that loves Thee solely,
Keeps me lowly,
And prompt to aid the weak,
And mark each word that Thou dost
speak.

*Johann Agricola (before 1530),
tr. Catherine Winkworth*

Die Seele ruht in Jesu Händen BWV

127:III

The soul rests in Jesus' hands
When earth covers this body.
Oh, call me soon, you death knell.
I am unafraid to die,
Because my Jesus will awaken me again.

Anonymous, tr. Daniel Overly

Vor deinen Thron tret ich hiermit

[BWV 668]

Before your throne I hereby enter,
O God, and humbly plead:

Turn not your gracious face away
From me, an afflicted sinner.

*Bodo von Herdenberger (1646),
tr. Daniel Overly*

IV

Jesus bleibet meine Freude

[BWV 147: X]

Jesus shall remain my joy,
my heart's comfort and sap,
Jesus fights against all pain,
He is the power of my life,
The delight and sun of my eyes,
my soul's treasure and bliss;
Therefore I will not let Jesus go
From my heart and countenance.

Martin Jahn (1661), tr. Daniel Overly

About the artist

Dr. Overly currently serves as Collaborative Piano Fellow at the Yale School of Music. As rehearsal pianist and musical assistant for the Cleveland Orchestra and Chorus, he has participated in the preparation of Bach St. John Passion, Brahms Requiem, Duruflé Requiem, Dvořák Stabat Mater, Poulenc Gloria, and Stravinsky Threni, as well as the January 2018 performances of Haydn Die Jahreszeiten in Severance Hall and Carnegie Hall. The recipient of a Fulbright grant to Austria, he studied song interpretation with Carolyn Hague, Angelika Kirchschrager, and Birgid Steinberger at the Vienna Conservatory, and opera coaching with David Aronson and Kristin Okerlund of the Wiener Staatsoper. Also an avid chamber musician, he studied instrumental collaboration at the Cleveland Institute of Music. In addition, Dr. Overly has participated in masterclasses and festivals, such as the Fall Island Vocal Arts Seminar, the Franz-Schubert-Institut, the Oxford Lieder Festival, and the Tanglewood Music Center as the Leonard Bernstein Fellow.