

BACH together

BACH at NOON
Bethlehem 2020-2021

A Gift of Music &
Spiritual Refreshment



Soloists

Rosa Lamoreaux, soprano
Charles Holdeman, bassoon

Greg Funfgeld,
Artistic Director & Conductor



January 19, 2021 – PROGRAM

– Interview with Charles Holdeman –
Antonio Vivaldi (1678–1741)
Concerto in F Major, RV 488
Allegro non molto – Largo – (Allegro)
– Charles Holdeman, bassoon

– Interview with Rosa Lamoreaux –
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)
Four Arias
– Rosa Lamoreaux, soprano

- from Cantata 199, No. 4 – “Tief gebückt und voller Reue”
- from Cantata 187, No. 5 – “Gott versorget alles Leben”
– Mary Watt, oboe
- from Cantata 49, No. 4 – “Ich bin herrlich, ich bin schön”
– Mary Watt, oboe d’amore
- from the *Mass in B Minor* – Laudamus te
– Elizabeth Field, violin

Second Tuesdays

Next Bach Together
Tuesday, February 9, 2021

Recorded LIVE!

Watch the concerts on our
YouTube channel or facebook page



The January *Bach at Noon* concert is named in honor of J. Fred Wolle, founder and first conductor of The Bach Choir of Bethlehem, and supported in part by generous endowment gifts from the Wolle family.



Johann Sebastian Bach | Four Arias

German translations by H. Ellis Finger

Latin translation by the Rt. Rev. Paul V. Marshall, Th.D., retired Bishop of the Diocese of Bethlehem

from Cantata 199, No. 4 “Tief gebückt und voller Reue”

Tief gebückt und voller Reue
lieg ich, liebster Gott, vor dir.
Ich bekenne meine Schuld,
aber habe doch Geduld,
habe doch Geduld mit mir!

*Deeply bowed down and filled with regret
I lie prostrate before you, dearest God.
I confess my guilt;
but do have patience,
have patience still with me!*

from Cantata 187, No. 5 – “Gott versorget alles Leben”

Gott versorget alles Leben,
was hienieden Odem hegt.
Sollt er mir allein nicht geben,
was er allen zugesagt?
Weicht, ihr Sorgen, seine Treue
ist auch meiner Eingedenk
und wird ob mir täglich neue
durch manch Vaterliebs Geschenk.

*God cares for everything
that lives and breathes.
Should he not give me the share
that he has promised to all?
Vanish all cares! His faithfulness
is my constant thought,
and is made new each day
through the Father's loving gifts.*

from Cantata 49, No. 4 – “Ich bin herrlich, ich bin schön”

Ich bin herrlich, ich bin schön,
meinen Heilands zu entzünden.
Seines Heils Gerechtigkeit
ist mein Schmuck und Ehrenkleid;
und damit will ich bestehn,
wenn ich werd im Himmel gehn.

*I am resplendent, I am beautiful,
filling my Savior with ardor.
The righteousness of his salvation
is my adornment and cloak of honor;
and this will sustain me
when I enter into heaven.*

from the Mass in B Minor – Laudamus te

Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te,
glorificamus te.

*We praise you, we bless you, we worship you,
we glorify you.*

SOLOISTS

Rosa Lamoreaux, Soprano, has been acclaimed for her “scrupulous musicianship...gorgeous sound and stylistic acuity” (*Washington Post*), and is known for her incandescent presence. She is engaged in an international career of broad scope including performances at Carnegie Hall, Royal Albert Hall, Gewandhaus, La Fenice, the Kennedy Center, and Strathmore. Highlights include performances of Handel’s *Messiah* with the Rogue Symphony Orchestra; Rameau opera with Opera Lafayette in Washington D.C. and Met Museum New York City; Bach’s *Saint John Passion* at Strathmore; French baroque cantatas in Philadelphia with Tempesta di Mare; live film scores for Hollywood’s silent movies for Early Music Columbus; and with her newest venture, OpenPage Ensemble, commissioning and performing works of 20th- and 21st-century composers. Her orchestral credits include the Atlanta, Dallas, and Cincinnati Symphony Orchestras, the Smithsonian Chamber Orchestra, and the National Philharmonic. Ms. Lamoreaux also has had leading roles in early and contemporary opera from Venus in Cavalli’s *Didone* to the Mother in the premiere of *Lost Childhood* by Janice Hamer. As a solo recitalist and chamber music performer, she has performed with musicians from Marlboro, the Folger Consort, Chatham Baroque, the Four Nations Ensemble, ArcoVoce, Hesperus, and Musica Aperta, in repertoire spanning early chant to the present day. Recital venues include the Terrace Theatre, the Louvre, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Cloisters, the Smithsonian, and the Library of Congress. She is the recipient of numerous WAMMIE awards. Ms. Lamoreaux’s many recordings include The Bach Choir of Bethlehem’s *Magnificat* and *Songs of Hope*. Her most recent CDs are *Bach, Among Friends*, and solo albums *Oh So Nice*, and *Evening Serenade*.

Charles (Chuck) Holdeman, Bassoon is principal bassoon for the Bach Festival Orchestra, which he joined in 1969 as second bassoon for the *Mass in B Minor*. The first bassoon at that time was Sol Schoenbach who had been Chuck’s teacher at the Curtis Institute of Music. In addition to the bassoon’s prominent role in the Quoniam of the *Mass*, audiences will remember Chuck in Cantata 149 with its rollicking bassoon obbligato in a duet aria, exhorting the faithful to stay awake for the night watch of the soul. Today’s Vivaldi *Concerto in F Major* is Chuck’s second for The Bach Choir – he performed an A minor Vivaldi concerto in 2006. Also a composer, Chuck’s second opera, *Young Meister Bach*, with libretto by Bill Bly, was commissioned and performed by The Bach Choir in 2014, receiving three performances in Bethlehem and one in Philadelphia for the 250th anniversary of the German Society of Pennsylvania. Since 1976, Chuck has used the French system bassoon for his performances with The Bach Choir, an instrument he studied in France under Maurice Allard. With a range identical to the bassoon commonly used in America, the German or Heckel system, the French instrument is more slender, and with a lighter timbre which Chuck finds extremely compatible with his fellow members of the continuo section, the ‘cello and bass. As bassoonist, Mr. Holdeman is a member of Philadelphia’s new music ensemble Relâche, and for many years he was principal bassoon for the Delaware Symphony Orchestra. Chuck’s latest composition, a duo for oboe and bassoon, will be published by the online store of Bach Festival Orchestra oboist Nobuo Kitagawa.



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All our virtual concerts are posted on our YouTube channel and Facebook page. Watch and enjoy them anytime!



THE BACH CHOIR OF BETHLEHEM



THE OLDEST AMERICAN BACH CHOIR, The Bach Choir of Bethlehem gave the first complete American performances of Bach's *Mass in B Minor* in 1900 and *Christmas Oratorio* in 1901. Since its founding in 1898, the now-famous Choir has been attracting thousands of visitors from across the United States and beyond to the annual Bethlehem Bach Festival in Pennsylvania. Since 1983, under Greg Funfgeld's direction, the 85 dedicated volunteer singers of The Bach Choir of Bethlehem, performing with the Bach Festival Orchestra and distinguished soloists, have received international acclaim. Programming has expanded to 40 concerts and educational programs per year for an audience of more than 22,000. Venues have included the Herkulesaal at Munich's Royal Residence and the Thomaskirche, Bach's church in Leipzig, as part of the 1995 Germany tour; The Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall as part of The Choir's Centennial Celebration in 1998-2000; the BBC Proms in London's Royal Albert Hall as part of an eight-concert tour of the United Kingdom in 2003; and Severance Hall, Cleveland, for the 75th anniversary of the Baldwin-Wallace Bach Festival in 2007. In September 2011, The Bach Choir represented the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in a 10th anniversary musical observance of 9/11 in New York City, giving concerts in Saint Paul's Chapel and Trinity Church, Wall Street. In 2013, The Choir performed Mendelssohn's *Elijah* at Strathmore in the Washington D.C. area, and in 2014, the new opera *Young Meister Bach* for the 250th anniversary of the German Society of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

The Choir has released 11 recordings on the Dorian and Analekta labels including most recently *Bach's Cantata 21* (2018), *Handel's Ode for Saint Cecilia's Day* (2018), *A Child's Christmas in Bethlehem* (2013), and *Saint John Passion* (2012). The Choir has been featured on National Public Radio's Performance Today and Prairie Home Companion, Deutsche Radio, the BBC World Service, CBS Sunday Morning, and the Emmy award-winning PBS documentary on The Choir, *Make a Joyful Noise*. It has been recognized for its outstanding educational outreach programs (*Bach at Noon*, *Bach to School*, and interdisciplinary Family Concerts) by annual awards from the National Endowment for the Arts (2011-2019). The J.S. Bach Foundation in Switzerland named The Bach Choir of Bethlehem as the first American recipient of its annual award to a single Bach organization, recognizing The Bach Choir's outstanding work in Bach performance and education for young people (2012). *Mr. Bach Comes to Call*, a film based on the acclaimed Classical Kids CD, was co-produced by The Bach Choir of Bethlehem and is distributed internationally by the Children's Group. In July 2018, our affiliated Bel Canto Youth Chorus, currently celebrating its 27th year under the direction of founder Joy Hirokawa, officially merged with The Bach Choir of Bethlehem. Both organizations are looking to increase their impact in training the next generation of choral singers and cultivating a life-long passion for the choral arts. **For more information visit The Bach Choir's website - BACH.org.**

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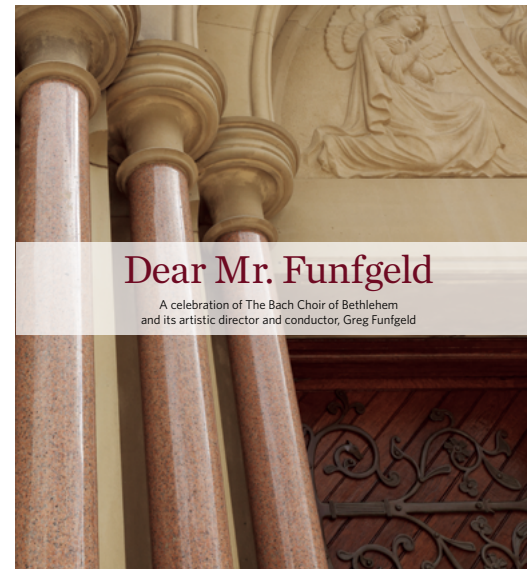
BACH at NOON

Tuesday, February 9

All new concerts, presented virtually - recorded live at Central Moravian Church.

Join us on YouTube and Facebook!

SALE @ The Bach Choir Store



To celebrate Greg Funfgeld and our 2020-21 Season of Grace, the first 100 people to order *Dear Mr. Funfgeld* will receive a copy autographed by Greg for only \$20 (50% discount). This beautiful book was produced in 2013 as a celebration of The Bach Choir of Bethlehem and Greg Funfgeld's 30th anniversary as Artistic Director.

You'd think someone would say "thank you, dear Mr. Funfgeld" for touching so many lives with the joy of Bach's music. Well someone has, in the form of the collective voices of appreciative audiences, music critics, young students and choir members, in the emotionally compelling and graphically beautiful book, "Dear Mr. Funfgeld."

- Steve Siegel, *The Morning Call*

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For a complete list of merchandise, or to order individual items, please visit BACH.org or call the Bach Office at 610.866.4382 ext. 110.

The Bach Choir of Bethlehem gratefully acknowledges our *Bach at Noon* corporate & foundation sponsors.



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THE CENTURY FUND







The Bach Choir is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts and The Pennsylvania Council on the Arts



THE CENTRAL MORAVIAN CHURCH

The Moravian Church had its origin in the pre-Reformation awakening under John Hus. The Unitas Fratrum (Unity of the Brethren) was organized in 1457. Because much of its early history is centered in Moravia, the Unity is known formally as the Moravian Church, and recognized as the oldest organized Protestant denomination in the world. The Moravian Church places much emphasis on mission, music, and education. It was J. Fred Wolle, organist of Central Moravian Church in Bethlehem, who founded The Bach Choir of Bethlehem in 1898 and conducted The Choir in the first performance of Bach's *Mass in B Minor* in America here at Central Church in 1900. Central Moravian Church continues to have a flourishing music program presented by its resident music ensembles and visiting artists, under the leadership of Director of Music and Organist, Rebecca Lepore. In addition to five Central Moravian Church music CDs including *An Old Fashioned Moravian Music Christmas* – an organ recording featuring Rebecca Lepore, and *Christmas Eve at Central Moravian Church*, a recently published 256-page book entitled *Praise and Thanksgiving: 275 Years of Music at Central Moravian Church* is available at the Moravian Book Shop.

For further information about The Bach Choir of Bethlehem:

- Visit Bach.org for upcoming concert and ticket information, to join our mailing list or to order CDs and other Bach Choir merchandise.
- Consider becoming a Guarantor with The Choir: learn more at the website or by calling 610-866-4382 extension 113
- Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.    Watch us on YouTube. 

Free-will offerings help support *Bach at Noon*.

Thank you to Bonnie Gardner and Roberta Kaesemeyer Brown for this month's challenge gift. Please donate online at BACH.org or send your contribution to:

- The Bach Choir of Bethlehem • 440 Heckewelder Place, Bethlehem, PA 18018
- To donate by phone, text BNOON to 44-321.

Bach at Noon Broadcast

Bach at Noon concerts are broadcast on WWFM, a long-time media sponsor. This year's broadcasts are made possible by the generous support of John L. and Carol Daniel and Arthur Mead Martin.

Broadcast dates are on our website.

Bach at Noon 2020-2021 Bethlehem Schedule

2020	2021
September 15	January 19
October 13	February 9
November 10	March 9
	April 13



Special thanks to:

Central Moravian Church, especially Rt. Rev. Hopeton Clennon, Rev. Dr. Lynnette Delbridge, and Rebecca Lepore, Director of Music

John C. Baker, audio engineer
Bill George, videographer

The Guarantors of The Bach Choir for their continuing support.

Bach at Noon Together Allentown 2021:

June 8 July 13 August 10

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