



Members of The Bach Choir of Bethlehem
& Bach Festival Orchestra
Dr. Christopher Jackson, Artistic Director & Conductor
present *Bach at Noon in Allentown*



BACH at NOON

A Gift of Music & Spiritual Refreshment



Soloists

Katelyn Grace Jackson, Soprano
Loretta O'Sullivan, Cello
Robert Skoniczin, Trumpet

Dr. Christopher Jackson
Artistic Director & Conductor



July 12, 2022

Welcome Dr. Christopher Jackson,
Our New Artistic Director & Conductor!

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)
Unaccompanied Cello Suites, No. 1 in G Major,
BWV 1007
Prélude – Allemande – Courante – Sarabande –
Menuett I; Menuett II – Gigue

Johann Sebastian Bach
Cantata BWV 51, *Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen!*
– with members of the Bach Festival Orchestra:

- Elizabeth Field & Rebecca Brown, violins
- Nina Falk, viola
- Loretta O'Sullivan, cello
- Brent Edmundson, string bass
- Robert Skoniczin, trumpet
- Thomas Goeman, continuo organ

Second Tuesdays

* 12:10–1:00pm

Next Bach at Noon
concert in Allentown:

Tuesday, August 9, 2022



The July *Bach at Noon* is named in honor and loving memory of Alice Anne Miller. The concert is made possible in part by a generous legacy gift from the Century Fund and from Alice's sister, Joan Miller Moran.



Cantata BWV 51 | *Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen!*

Translation by H. Ellis Finger

1. Aria (Soprano)

Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen!
Was der Himmel und die Welt
an Geschöpfen in sich hält,
müssen dessen Ruhm erhöhen,
und wir wollen unserm Gott
gleichfalls jetzt ein Opfer bringen,
dass er uns in Kreuz und Not
allezeit hat beigestanden.

*Rejoice in God throughout the lands!
All creatures that fill
heaven and earth
must raise high his fame,
and we likewise shall delight
in bringing offerings to our God,
for he has constantly stood by us
in times of suffering and need.*

2. Recitative (Soprano)

Wir beten zu dem Tempel an,
da Gottes Ehre wohnt,
da dessen Treu,
so täglich neu,
mit lauter Segen lohnet.
Wir preisen, was er an uns hat getan.
Muss gleich der schwache Mund von seinen Wundern lallen,
so kann ein schlechtes Lob ihm dennoch wohlgefallen.

*We raise our prayers to the temple
where God's honor resides,
where his faithfulness,
made new each day,
rewards with pure blessings.
We praise those things he has done for us.
Though our feeble tongue must stammer at his wonders,
even meager praise can be pleasing to him.*

3. Aria (Soprano)

Höchster, mache deine Güte
ferner alle Morgen neu.
So soll für die Vätertreu
auch ein dankbares Gemüte
durch ein frommes Leben weisen,
dass wir deine Kinder heissen.

*Most High, make new your goodness
in all our coming days.
Thus unto our Father's faithfulness
our grateful conscience also shall show,
through our virtuous lives,
that we are called your children.*

4. Chorale (Soprano)

Sei Lob und Preis mit Ehren
Gott Vater, Sohn, heiligem Geist!
Der woll in uns vermehren,
was er uns aus Gnaden verheisst,
dass wir ihm fest vertrauen,
gänzlich uns lass'n auf ihn,
von Herzen auf ihn bauen,
dass uns'r Herz, Mut und Sinn
ihm festiglich anhangen;
drauf singen wir zur Stund:
Amen, wir werd'n's erlangen,
glaub'n wir aus Herzensgrund.

*May glory and praise with honor
be unto God the Father, Son, Holy Spirit!
May he gladly magnify in us
what he has promised through grace,
so that we trust firmly in him,
wholly giving ourselves over to him,
and relying on him from within our hearts,
so that our heart, will, and mind
cling to him with all their might;
therefore we now sing:
Amen, we shall prevail,
through faith from the depths of our hearts.*

• Elizabeth Field & Rebecca Brown, violins •

5. Aria (Soprano)

Alleluja!

Alleluia!

SOLOISTS

Katelyn Grace Jackson, Soprano: Hailed by the *Washington Post* for her “supple, haunting soprano,” Katelyn Grace Jackson performs as a featured soloist and chorister with intelligence and “particular purity of tone” (*San Francisco Classical Voice*). Her choral and chamber experiences boast recording Dame Ethel Smyth’s *The Prison* with the Experiential Orchestra & Chorus (2021 GRAMMY Award for Best Classical Solo Vocal Album), and performances with The Thirteen, Clarion Music Society, Oregon Bach Festival, Third Practice, the U.S. Air Force Singing Sergeants, Ensemble Altera, and Three Notch’d Road. She has soloed with the American Bach Soloists (*Saint Matthew Passion*), Washington Bach Consort (*Saint John Passion*), the Nashville Symphony Orchestra (*Messiah*), the City Choir of Washington (Solomon, *Dona Nobis Pacem*, *Lord Nelson Mass*), the Washington Master Chorale (*Out of the Ashes of Holocaust* – premiere), and the Peabody Symphony Orchestra (*Harmoniemesse*, *Great Mass in C Minor*). Theatrical highlights include the titular role in Purcell’s *Fairy Queen* and Norina in *Don Pasquale*. Ms. Jackson spent six years teaching in the Montgomery County Public Schools and served as the Assistant Artistic Director of the Six Degree Singers, a community choir based in Silver Spring, MD, from 2013–2019. She currently serves on the artistic committee for Third Practice.

Loretta O’Sullivan, Cello, 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.

Robert Skoniczin, Trumpet, has combined a love for teaching music at all levels and performing in a variety of settings, including classical, commercial, jazz, and touring Broadway shows. Robert has backed various star attractions such as Aretha Franklin, Martina McBride, Anne Murray, Pete Fountain, Marvin Hamlisch, Mannheim Steamroller, and The Who. He can be heard on several recordings including Manhattan Transfer’s DVD *The Christmas Concert*, *Reanimations and Shadowcatcher* with the West Chester University Wind Ensemble, *The Quest for Adventure* with Tromba Mundi, *American Anthems* with the Gramercy Brass Orchestra, and numerous spots for NFL Films. Maintaining a busy playing schedule, he often performs with the Delaware, Allentown, and Reading Symphonies; Opera Philadelphia and OperaDelaware; Pennsylvania Ballet; Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia; Ocean City Pops; and Liberty Wind Symphony. In December 2019, Robert made his debut as principal trumpet with the Bach Festival Orchestra, showcasing his piccolo trumpet virtuosity on arguably some of the most famous and challenging trumpet works in the repertoire. Robert is on staff at the Wells School of Music at West Chester University (WCU) and performs with Kryos Brass, the WCU faculty brass quintet. He is Associate Conductor with Bravo Brass, the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra’s Brass Ensemble program, designed to further the musicianship of advanced middle and high school brass players in the region. In 2015, Robert made his Carnegie Hall debut performing with Tromba Mundi, unveiling three new works for trumpet ensemble: *Birds of Paradise* by Erik Morales, *Swashbuckler* by Andrés Soto and *The Quest for Adventure* by Bertrand Moren. He has worked closely with the International Trumpet Guild since co-hosting the Conference in 2014 and now serves as the Conference Volunteer Coordinator. His principal teachers have included Vince Penzarella of the New York Philharmonic and Christopher Tranchitella of the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra. Robert is a member of the National Band Association, the International Trumpet Guild, Phi Beta Kappa and is a performing artist for S.E. Shires trumpets.

Join us for Our Anniversary Seasons!

Information about auditions for The Bach Choir is on the website: [BACH.org/auditions](https://www.bach.org/auditions).
For Bel Canto, please see [BACH.org/belcanto/2022-2023-auditions-for-bel-canto](https://www.bach.org/belcanto/2022-2023-auditions-for-bel-canto).

MEET DR. CHRISTOPHER JACKSON, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

Dr. Christopher Jackson is entering his first season as the Artistic Director and Conductor of The Bach Choir of Bethlehem. He begins his tenure having worked for 15 years as a conductor, educator, professional singer, and scholar. Throughout his career he has led numerous collegiate, professional, and amateur ensembles across the United States and works frequently as a guest conductor for orchestras, choirs, and festivals. His ensembles have toured China, Canada, and the continental United States and have been selected to perform at multiple Pennsylvania ACDA (American Choral Directors Association) conferences. During his tenure at Lycoming College in Williamsport, PA, he co-founded the Lycoming Baroque Choir and Orchestra and designed academic courses that allowed students to travel to Germany and explore links between Baroque music, art and architecture. He has taught courses and masterclasses in conducting, music theory, music history, vocal methods and pedagogy, and Baroque performance practice and has been a guest artist and lecturer at the San Juan Conservatory, the Coro de Niños de San Juan, and the Baldwin Wallace Bach Festival. He was recently nominated as a finalist for the American Prize in Virtual Performance for his work with the Muhlenberg College choral ensembles during the pandemic.

Dr. Jackson remains an active professional choral singer and soloist, with focuses in Baroque, Renaissance, and Modern eras. As a core

member of the Boston-based chamber choir, Skylark, he has appeared on three GRAMMY nominated albums (Best Choral Performance), and also serves as the ensemble's Director of Education. In that position, he helped design free materials for music educators across the country to use for virtual music-making. He has performed with GRAMMY Award-Winning ensemble, Roomful of Teeth, the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, Artefact Ensemble, Les Canards Chantants, and Bach Vespers at Holy Trinity Lutheran, in New York City.

Dr. Jackson received his Bachelor of Arts in Vocal Performance from Oklahoma State University, studying conducting under Dr. Dirk Garner (Baldwin Wallace Bach Festival). He received his Master of Music in Choral Conducting from Westminster Choir College, and was the graduate assistant conductor of the Westminster Symphonic Choir under Dr. Joe Miller and Dr. Amanda Quist, as well as studying with Dr. Andrew Megill (Carmel Bach, Illinois Bach Academy). He earned his Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting from the University of North Texas, studying with Dr. Gerry McCoy and Dr. Richard Sparks. His areas of research include the programming and performance of Baroque and Renaissance Music for choirs of all ages and levels of experience, as well as the choral music of Benjamin Britten.

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. 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 Herkulessaal 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 (2011-2020). 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. Our affiliated Bel Canto Youth Chorus is currently celebrating its 30th year under the direction of founder Dr. Joy Hirokawa. 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**.

BACH at NOON Tuesday, AUGUST 9

save the date!

WELCOME to St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church.
We are glad that you are here today and invite you to return again for any of the worship or arts offerings that are held in this great space.

- **WORSHIP** every Sunday at 10:30am



Upcoming ARTS AT ST. JOHN'S Events:

All of these events are free and open to the public.

- **Sunday, August 28, 4PM** | *Organized Rhythm* (Clive Driskill-Smith, organ & Joseph Gramley, percussion)
- **Sunday, September 18, 3PM** | Matthew Graybil, piano recital

Visit our website sjat.org for more information including links for livestreams.

2022-2023 SEASON

The 125th Anniversary Season of The Bach Choir of Bethlehem finds us entering a new era in our history:

- *We welcome* Christopher Jackson, our new Artistic Director & Conductor
- *We complete* Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* and Handel's *Messiah* this season
- *We are inspired* by the young voices in our Family Concert
- *We celebrate* The Bel Canto Youth Chorus' 30th anniversary

We invite you to join us and to honor our history, and celebrate musical milestones in this very special season.

BACH.org



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



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Allentown was founded in 1855 as the first English-speaking Lutheran church in the predominantly immigrant German city. This forward-looking spirit has marked the history of the congregation. The current eighty-foot high cathedral was constructed amid the Great Depression in the 1930s following a unanimous decision by the congregation "to perpetuate its mission in the present location, believing that the voice of the Gospel is needed in the heart of every great city." With the conviction that beauty inspires meaningful worship, the architecture and the entire undertaking blended the religious and the aesthetic. The stained-glass windows, for example, are the creation of Nichola D'Ascenzo whose work is also displayed at the National Cathedral in Washington DC and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in NYC. Matching the visual splendor of the church has been its long tradition of excellent music. The 5000-pipe Ernest M. Skinner organ with 4 manuals and more than 80 stops is one of the most outstanding instruments in the region. The Arts at St. John's, in its 31st year, is pleased to host as part of its series The Bach Choir of Bethlehem.

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 ext. 113.
- Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn.     Watch us on YouTube. 

Free will offerings to help support Bach at Noon will be accepted at all four doors or you may 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 the late Carol H. Daniel and Arthur Mead Martin. **Broadcast dates are on our website.**

Bach at Noon 2022 Allentown Schedule

June 14 

July 12

August 9

 LIVE-STREAMED option



Special thanks to:

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Bradley T. Carroll, Pastor
Eric G. Gombert, Cantor
David Umla, Chairperson,
Arts at St. John's

The Guarantors of The Bach Choir for their continuing support.

Bach at Noon returns to Bethlehem in September for our 2022-23 series at Central Moravian Church

610-866-4382 | BACH.org