



*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



**JULY 14, 2026 – PROGRAM | 12:10–1:00pm | St. John Lutheran Church, Downtown Allentown**

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.

## **Aaron Copland (1900–1990) | “At the River” from *Old American Songs*, Set 2**

Text by Robert Lowry

Shall we gather by the river,  
Where bright angel's feet have trod,  
With its crystal tide forever  
Flowing by the throne of God?

Yes, we'll gather by the river,  
The beautiful, the beautiful river,  
Gather with the saints by the river  
That flows by the throne of God.

Ere we reach the shining river  
Lay we every burden down,  
Praise our spirits will deliver  
And provide our robe and crown.

Yes, we'll gather at the river.  
The beautiful, the beautiful, river.  
Gather with the saints at the river,  
That flows by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river,  
Soon our pilgrimage will cease,  
Soon our happy hearts will quiver  
With the melody of peace.

Yes, we'll gather by the river,  
The beautiful, the beautiful river,  
Gather with the saints by the river  
That flows by the throne of God.

## **Johann Friedrich Peter (1746–1813) | *Freudenpsalm***

### **1. Chorale, Es ist Friede (Peace Is With Us)**

Es ist Friede!  
Freu dich, Volk des Herrn!  
Es ist Friede!  
Es ist Friede!  
Freu dich, Volk des Herrn!  
Ey das hört man gern!  
Friede! Welch ein edler Wort!  
Friede schall' nun immer fort!  
Friede, Friede, Friede, Friede kommt vom Herrn!

*Peace is with us!  
Be joyful, People of the Lord!  
Peace is with us!  
Peace is with us!  
Be joyful, People of the Lord!  
Hear the joyful word!  
Let it sound from shore to shore!  
Let it echo evermore!  
Peace, peace, peace, the gift of God!*

### **2. Anthem, Das ist ein Tag (Soprano 1 & 2, Alto, Bass Quartet)**

Das ist ein Tag, den der Herr gemacht hat;  
lasset uns freuen, und fröhlich darinnen sein.  
– Composed by Christian Gregor (1723–1801)

*This is the day, which the Lord our God made;  
let us be joyful, rejoice and be glad in it.*

3. Anthem, Jauchzet dem Herrn

Jauchzet dem Herrn,  
der Kinder Zion.  
Danket und rühmet,  
rühmet und lobet,  
jauchzet alle vor dem Herren, dem König;  
denn es hat uns besucht,  
der Aufgang aus der Höh,  
preiset und rühmet den Herrn,  
im immer und ewiglich!  
Selah!

4. Chorale, Freudenvoll

Freudenvoll lasst uns nun singen,  
und uns ermuntert Gott Dankopfer bringen  
für Seine grosse Wundertat!  
Schreckenvoll auf allen Seiten  
sah man die Kriegswut sich ausbreiten,  
die unser Land erschüttert hat.  
Es ward, fast nichts gehört,  
als Feind und Feur und Schwerdt,  
Not und Jammer.  
Wie oft rief ich ganz ängstlich:  
“Sieh drein, O Gott! erbarme Dich!”

5. Recitative, Der Herr ist der rechte Kriegermann (Bass)

Der Herr ist der rechte Kriegermann,  
Jehova ist Sein Name.  
Der den Kriegen steuert in aller Welt,  
den Bogen, Schwerdt und Schild zerbricht,  
Spiese zerschlägt,  
und Wagen mit Feuer verbrennet.  
Das Land ist allenthalben,  
jämmerlich verwüstet,  
und die Häuser sind zerrissen;  
weil nun die Elenden verstört werden,  
und die Armen seufzen,  
will ich auf, spricht der Herr.  
Allen Krieger müssen die Hände sinken,  
denn ich will auf, spricht der Herr,  
sie Krieger müssen die Hände sinken.

7. Duetto, Das Land wird ruhig (Soprano and Alto duet)

Das Land wird ruhig;  
denn der Herr schafft unsern Grenzen Frieden.  
Friede, Friede,  
denn der Herr schafft unsern Grenzen Frieden.

8. Chorale, Singe, meine Seele, singe

Singe, meine Seele, singe!  
Sing dem Friedefürsten Dank!  
Furchtbar war der Gang der Dinge,  
doch mein Glaube ward nicht krank!  
Trübsal zeigte sich in Menge,  
und es kam auch mancher Schlag,  
den man schrecklich nennen mag.  
Aber mitten im Gedränge  
sprach ich: “Der mich trägt und hebt,  
Jesus, mein Erlöser, lebt!”

*Make a joyful noise,  
children of Zion.  
Thank him and praise him,  
praise him and laud him,  
make a joyful noise before him, the Lord and King;  
for he comes to be with us,  
the Day spring from on high,  
praise him and glorify him,  
both now and evermore!  
Selah!*

*Full of joy our hearts are singing,  
and to our God thank-offerings bringing  
for his great miracle of peace!  
Far and wide the war was spreading,  
terror and its side was treading,  
daunt us and our woe increase.  
And little else was heard  
than foe and fire and sword,  
need and sorrow.  
How oft I cried anxiously:  
“Look down, O God! and pity me!”*

*The Lord, the Lord is a mighty warrior,  
Jehovah, Jehovah is his name.  
He makes wars to cease throughout all the Earth,  
the arrow, sword and shield he breaks,  
splitting the spear;  
and burning with fire the chariot.  
The land now lies in waste,  
pillaged and ravaged,  
and the dwellings torn asunder.  
For now the needy who endure oppression,  
and the poor who sorrow,  
shall I rise, says the Lord.  
On the battle fields let all soldiers drop their weapons,  
for I shall rise, says the Lord,  
all soldiers now must drop their weapons.*

*This land is calm;  
for the Lord sends peace to our borders.  
Peace, peace,  
for the Lord sends peace to our borders.*

*I will raise my voice in singing!  
Praises to the Prince of Peace!  
Though the course of war was fearful,  
still my trust would never cease!  
Trouble and affliction pressed me;  
many blows upon me fell,  
terrors more than one can tell.  
But, though mis’ry here distressed me,  
came the words that courage gives:  
“Jesus, my Redeemer, lives!”*

10. Chorale-Anthem, Arietta, Ach wie die Ruh so götlich (Soprano & Alto)

Ach wie die Ruh so götlich,  
so wohl so sanfte tut!  
Wie hat man’s so gemütlich,  
wenn man im Friede ruht!  
Da können die Erlösten  
sie mit den Worten trösten:  
Wir, deine Schäflein,  
gehn friedsam aus und ein.

13. Chorale, Gruss Deinen Segen reichlich aus

Griess Deinen Segen reichlich aus,  
so weit die Wolken gehen:  
lass Kirche, Regiment und Haus  
in gutem Stande stehen!  
Gib Frieden in der Christenheit,  
lass Gottesfurcht und Einigkeit  
in allen Ländern grünen,  
und alle Welt Dir dienen.

14. Chorale, Gott gib Fried in diesem Lande

Gott gib Fried in diesem Lande;  
Glück und Heil zu allem Stande!

15. Anthem, Dass in unser Lande (Soprano 1 & 2, Alto, Bass Quartet)

Dass in unser Lande Ehre wohne,  
dass Güte und Treue einander begegnen,  
Gerechtigkeit und Friede sich küssen,  
dass Treue auf der Erde wachse,  
und Gerechtigkeit vom Himmel schaue;  
dass unser Land sein Gewächs gebe,  
und Er sättige alles, was da lebt,  
mit Wohlgefallen,  
und dass alles Ihn suchen und finden möge,  
und Seine Gemeinen gehen und sich bauen.  
Das walt, der es heisst,  
der Vater; der Sohn und der heilige Geist.  
– Composed by Christian Gregor

16. Anthem, Preise, Jerusalem, den Herrn

Preise, Jerusalem, den Herrn;  
lobe, Zion, deinen Gott;  
Jünglinge und Jungfrauen,  
Alte mit den Jungen sollen loben,  
sollen loben den Namen des Herrn.  
Die Gemeinde meiner Heiligen  
soll Ihn loben, soll Ihn loben.  
Sie sollen loben Seinen Namen im Reigen;  
mit Pauken und Harfen sollen sie Ihm spielen.  
– Composed by J.C. Geisler

17. Chorale, Hallelujah, ohn’ Aufhören

Hallelujah, ohn’ Aufhören!  
Aus allen Kräften lasst uns ehren  
den Vater, Sohn, und Heil’gen Geist!  
Solches Lob klingt hier schon lieblich;  
wie aber wird’s erst sein, wie herrlich,  
wenn man Ihn dort vollkommen preist!  
Dort, dort im Friedenssaal  
beim grossen Abendmahl.  
Hallelujah! Heilig ist Gott!  
Heilig, heilig, heilig ist Gott!

*O rest so softly coming,  
so gracious and so blest!  
We hail it with rejoicing,  
for we in peace may rest!  
Redeemed from present sorrow,  
and trusting for tomorrow,  
secure from ev’ry foe,  
your flock may come and go.*

*Pour out your richest blessing now,  
wide as the clouds of heaven:  
from churches, homes, and governments  
be ev’ry evil driven!  
Give blessed peace in Christendom,  
let Godly fear and concord come  
to reign in ev’ry nation,  
O God of all creation.*

*God gives peace in this our nation;  
peace and joy to all creation!*

*That in this our land may dwell glory,  
that goodness and truth may be joined together,  
righteousness and peace be united,  
that truth from the Earth may spring up,  
and righteousness look down from heaven;  
that our land may be bountiful,  
and God satisfy all the living and bless them  
with good things,  
and that all may seek and surely find him,  
And may his flock follow and build themselves upon him.  
The one who reigns:  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.*

*Praise, O Jerusalem, the Lord;  
Zion, sing unto your God;  
Young men and young women,  
old and young together, all shall praise him,  
all shall praise the name of the Lord.  
The congregation of holy ones  
shall praise him, shall praise him.  
They shall bring praises to his name with dancing;  
with timbrel and harps they shall all play before him.*

*Hallelujah, without ceasing!  
We sing our praise with strength increasing  
to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!  
Praises now resound so clearly;  
as here we celebrate most dearly,  
and welcome now the heavenly host!  
Here, in this hall of peace  
we hold a joyous feast.  
Hallelujah! Holy is God!  
Holy, holy, holy is God!*

# Julia Ward Howe (1819–1910) | *Battle Hymn of the Republic*

Arranged by Peter Wilhousky

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord:  
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword:  
His truth is marching on.

## Chorus:

Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps,  
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damp;  
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps:  
His day is marching on.

## Chorus

Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
His truth is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,  
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me:  
As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,  
While God is marching on.

## Chorus

Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
His truth is marching on.

## Special Guests

Unitas Chorale

Kyle Johnston, Unitas Chorale interim conductor

## Soloists

Sophia Santiago – soprano

Olivia Prendergast – soprano

Robin Bier – contralto

Sam Denler – tenor

Graham Bier – baritone



Use the QR  
code to read  
the soloists'  
biographies.

## Members of the Bach Festival Orchestra

Linda Kistler, concertmaster,

Inna Eyzerovich, Julie Bougher, Mary Ogletree

& Rebecca Brown – violin

Agnés Maurer & Christopher Souza – viola

Loretta O'Sullivan – cello

Daniel McDougall – bass

Robert Skoniczin & Andrew Moreschi – trumpet

Jason Stein & J.J. Cooper – trombone

Eric Plutz – keyboards

## Next Bach at Noon – Our 35th Concert in Allentown! Tuesday, August 11, 2026

St. John Lutheran Church  
Downtown Allentown

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

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for the Arts and The Pennsylvania Council on the Arts