

Heinrich Schütz | *Selig sind die Toten*, SWV 391

Selig sind die Toten,
die in dem Herren sterben,
von nun an.
Ja, der Geist spricht:
Sie ruhen von ihrer Arbeit,
und ihre Werke folgen ihnen nach.

*Blessed are the dead
who die in the Lord,
from henceforth.
Indeed, the Spirit makes known;
they shall rest from their labors
and their deeds shall follow after them.*
(Revelations 14:13)

Special Guests: Triad

Triad: Emerging Artist Residency is a collaboration between Music in the Somerset Hills, the Bach Choir of Bethlehem, and Tenet Vocal Artists, united by a shared belief that investing in emerging singers is essential to the future of vocal music. A carefully selected cohort of post-collegiate artists gathered this week for four days of intensive rehearsal, coaching, and professional development, beginning at Trinity Church in New York City and culminating in today’s performance. We are proud to introduce these extraordinary young voices to you and grateful to the Bach Choir of Bethlehem for welcoming them to this historic stage.

Use the QR code to read the soloists’ biographies.



Soloists

Soprano Gabrielle Besse | Abby Brodnick
Marisa Curcio | Jasmine Galante
Alto Scarlett Horvath | Leah Rosenman
Tenor Kev Schneider | Art Williams
Bass Rozime Lindsey | Blake Wayment

Joined by members of the Bach Choir of Bethlehem

– Stephen Sands, Artistic Director of Music in the Somerset Hills
– Jolle Greenleaf, Artistic Director of Tenet Vocal Artists

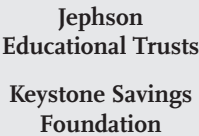
Members of the Bach Festival Orchestra
Loretta O’Sullivan – cello | Morgann Davis – flute
Kerry Heimann – keyboards



Bach at Noon returns to Bethlehem in September for our 150th concert! Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Central Moravian Church, Historic Downtown Bethlehem

The Bach Choir of Bethlehem gratefully acknowledges our Bach at Noon corporate and foundation sponsors. Thank you to our Bach Choir Guarantors for their ongoing support.



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



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

35th BACH at NOON

A Gift of Music & Spiritual Refreshment



AUGUST 11, 2026 – PROGRAM | 12:10–1:00pm | St. John Lutheran Church, Downtown Allentown
Translations by H. Ellis Finger

The August Bach at Noon is supported in part by a generous endowment gift from Ronald R. Miller in memory and celebration of the life and work of Maestro James A. Simms.

Heinrich Schütz (1585–1672) | “Herr, wenn ich nur dich habe,” SWV 280 (from the *Musikalische Exequien*, Part 2)

Herr, wenn ich nur dich habe, so frage ich nichts nach Himmel und Erden.
Wenn mir gleich Leib und Seele verschmacht,
so bist du doch, Gott, allezeit meines Herzens Trost und mein Teil.

*Lord, if I have only you, I seek nothing from heaven or Earth.
If my body and soul should fail,
you, o God, shall remain my heart’s consolation and my gift of life.*
(Psalm 73:25-6)

Johann Michael Bach (1648–1694) | *Halt, was du hast*

Halt, was du hast, dass niemand deine Krone nehme,
halt, was du hast, und sei getreu bis in den Tod,
so wirst du empfaen ein herrliches Reich
und eine schöne Krone von der Hand des Herren.
Drum sei getreu bis in den Tod.

*Hold fast to what you have so that no one will take your crown,
hold fast to what you have and stay faithful until your death,
Then you will gain a glorious Kingdom
and a beautiful crown from the Lord’s hand.
Therefore stay faithful until your death.*
(Revelations 3:11)

Jesu, meine Freude,
meines Herzens Weide,
Jesu, meine Zier!
Ach wie lang, ach lange,
ist dem Herzen bange
und verlangt nach dir!
Gottes Lamm, mein Bräutigam,
ausser dir soll mir auf Erden
nichts sonst Liebers werden.

*Jesus, my joy,
nourishment for my heart,
Jesus, my delight!
Ah, how long, how very long
my heart has been anxious
in longing for you!
Lamb of God, my bridegroom,
except for you in this world
there is nothing more dear to me.*

Weg mit allen Schätzen,
du bist mein Ergötzen,
Jesu, meine Lust!
Weg, ihr eitlen Ehren,
ich mag euch nicht hören,
bleibt mir unbewusst!
Elend, Not, Kreuz, Schmach und Tod
soll mich, ob ich viel muss leiden,
nicht von Jesu scheiden.

*Dispense with all treasures,
you shall be my pleasure,
Jesus, my joy!
Be gone, you vain honors,
my ears are deaf to you,
stay out of my mind!
Suffering, need, anguish, shame and death
shall, despite much suffering,
sever me not from Jesus.*

Halt, was du hast | continued

Gute Nacht, o Wesen,
das die Welt erlesen!
Mir gefällt du nicht.
Gute Nacht, ihr Sünden,
bleibet weit dahinten,
kommt nicht mehr ans Licht!
Gute Nacht, du Stolz und Pracht!
Dir sei ganz, du Lasterleben,
gute Nacht gegeben!

Good night, o life
that has embraced the world!
Your pleasures are not for me.
Good night, realm of sin,
stay far away,
never enter the world of light!
Good night, pride and splendor!
Your domain, you life of corruption,
be now put to bed!
– Johann Frank (1650)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750) | Jesu, meine Freude, BWV 227

1. Chorale

Jesu, meine Freude,
meines Herzens Weide,
Jesu, meine Zier!
Ach wie lang, ach lange,
ist dem Herzen bange
und verlangt nach dir!
Gottes Lamm, mein Bräutigam,
ausser dir soll mir auf Erden
nichts sonst Liebers werden.

2. Chorus

Es ist nun nichts Verdammliches an denen,
die in Christo Jesu sind, die nicht nach dem Fleische wandeln,
sondern nach dem Geist.

3. Chorale

Unter deinen Schirmen
bin ich für den Stürmen
aller Feinde frei.
Lass den Satan wittern,
lass den Feind erbittern,
mir steht Jesus bei.
Ob es itzt gleich kracht und blitzt,
ob gleich Sünd und Hölle schrecken,
Jesus will mich decken.

4. Chorus

Denn das Gesetz des Geistes, der da lebendig machet
in Christo Jesu, hat mich frei gemacht von dem Gesetz
der Sünde und des Todes.

5. Chorale

Trotz dem alten Drachen,
trotz des Todes Rachen,
trotz der Furcht dazu!
Tobe, Welt, und springe;
ich steh hier und singe
in gar sichrer Ruh!
Gottes Macht hält mich in acht;
Erd und Abgrund muss verstummen,
ob sie noch so brummen.

Jesus, my joy,
nourishment for my heart,
Jesus, my delight!
Ah, how long, how very long
my heart has been anxious
in longing for you!
Lamb of God, my bridegroom,
except for you in this world
there is nothing more dear to me.

There is nothing damnable for those
who are in Christ Jesus, who do not pursue the realm of the flesh,
but rather the realm of the Spirit.
(Romans 8:1)

Under your sheltering hand
I am safe from the tumult
of all enemies.
Let Satan rage,
let the enemy growl,
Jesus stands by my side.
No matter if thunder and lightning strike,
no matter how terrifying sin and hell may be,
Jesus will shelter me.

For the law of the Spirit, which gives life,
in Christ Jesus has set me free
from the law of sin and death.
(Romans 8:2)

Spite to the ancient dragon,
spite to death's revenge,
spite to fear as well!
Rage, world, and shatter;
I'll stand here and sing
in peace that is utterly secure!
God's strength keeps watch over me;
earth and chasm shall be silenced,
no matter how much they may rumble.

6. Chorus

Ihr aber seid nicht fleischlich, sondern geistlich,
so anders Gottes Geist in euch wohnt. Wer aber Christi
Geist nicht hat, der ist nicht sein.

7. Chorale

Weg mit allen Schätzen,
du bist mein Ergötzen,
Jesu, meine Lust!
Weg, ihr eitlen Ehren,
ich mag euch nicht hören,
bleibt mir unbewusst!
Elend, Not, Kreuz, Schmach und Tod
soll mich, ob ich viel muss leiden,
nicht von Jesu scheiden.

8. Chorus

So aber Christus in euch ist, so ist der Leib zwar tot um
der Sünde willen; der Geist aber ist das Leben um der
Gerechtigkeit willen.

9. Chorale

Gute Nacht, o Wesen,
das die Welt erlesen!
Mir gefällt du nicht.
Gute Nacht, ihr Sünden,
bleibet weit dahinten,
kommt nicht mehr ans Licht!
Gute Nacht, du Stolz und Pracht!
Dir sei ganz, du Lasterleben,
gute Nacht gegeben!

10. Chorus

So nun der Geist des, der Jesum von den Toten auferwecket hat,
in euch wohnt, so wird auch derselbig, der Christum von den
Toten auferwecket hat, eure sterbliche Leiber lebendig machen,
um des willen, dass sein Geist in euch wohnt.

11. Chorale

Weicht, ihr Trauergeister,
denn mein Freudenmeister,
Jesus, tritt herein.
Denen, die Gott lieben,
muss auch ihr Betrüben
lauter Zucker sein.
Duld’ ich schon hier Spott und Hohn,
dennoch bleibst du auch im Leide,
Jesu, meine Freude.

But you are not in the flesh, but rather in the Spirit,
if the Spirit of God lives in you. Anyone, however,
who does not have Christ's Spirit, is not his.
(Romans 8:9)

Dispense with all treasures,
you shall be my pleasure,
Jesus, my joy!
Be gone, you vain honors,
my ears are deaf to you,
stay out of my mind!
Suffering, need, anguish, shame and death
shall, despite much suffering,
sever me not from Jesus.

But if Christ is in you, then the body is indeed dead
because of sin; but the Spirit is life
for the sake of righteousness.
(Romans 8:10)

Good night, o life
that has embraced the world!
Your pleasures are not for me.
Good night, realm of sin,
stay far away,
never enter the world of light!
Good night, pride and splendor!
Your domain, you life of corruption,
be now put to bed!

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you,
that same one who raised Christ from the dead
will give life to your mortal bodies,
through his Spirit that dwells in you.
(Romans 8:11)

Vanish, you spirits of sadness,
for the Master of my joy,
Jesus, steps forth.
For those who love God,
even their anguish
must become pure sweetness.
Though I suffer mockery and shame here,
you remain at my side, even in sorrow,
Jesus, my joy.
– “Jesu, meine Freude,” Johann Frank (1650)

O divine master grant that I may
not so much seek to be consoled as to console
to be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love
For it is in giving that we receive
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned
And it's in dying that we are born to eternal life.
– Attributed to Saint Francis of Assisi (c. 1182–1226)

Larry Lipkis (b. 1951) | Prayer of Saint Francis

Lord make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred let me sow love
Where there is injury, pardon
Where there is doubt, faith
Where there is despair, hope
Where there is darkness, light
And where there is sadness, joy.