



Patron: Professor John Butt OBE

Musical Directors: Frikki Walker and Michael Bawtree

Concert number 14

BWV 114 Ach, lieben Christen, seid getrost
BWV 30 Freue dich, erlöste Schar

J.S. Bach

1685 - 1750

Conductor: Frikki Walker

“For the Glory of God alone.”

Saturday 21 September 2024, 7pm

St Bride’s Church, Hyndland Road, Glasgow G12 9UX

Welcome

At this, the fourteenth concert of the Glasgow Bach Cantata project, we continue our celebration of the incredible power of J.S. Bach's 200+ church cantatas. "For the glory of God alone" is how he signed off each one.

Bach composed cantatas throughout much of his creative life. The earliest may date from the period of Bach's first major appointment as organist in Arnstadt from 1703 until 1707, while the latest surviving works take us up to the end of the 1730s. Bach and his contemporaries rarely used the term 'cantata' themselves, preferring 'Konzert' (concerto), 'Stück' (piece) or even simply 'Musik'. This underlines the flexible nature of the genre, which underwent considerable transformation during the period when Bach was composing.

BWV 114, *Ach, lieben Christen, seid getrost*, was first performed almost exactly three hundred years ago, on 1 October 1724. The text comes from a hymn of penitence by Johannes Gigas (written in 1561). Three stanzas of the hymn are unaltered (in the opening movement, the central fourth and the final movement). The text of the other movements is adapted to incorporate references to the gospel of the day, which told of Jesus' healing of a man with dropsy. The chorale is heard in the opening movement (where the sopranos, singing this tune, are doubled on horn), the fourth movement and the final movement. It is one commentator's view that the "starkness of the unembellished chorale" of the soprano aria, accompanied only on continuo, makes this the centerpiece of the cantata.

BWV 30, *Freue dich, erlöste Schar*, was composed for the Feast of John the Baptist (24 June), probably in 1738. This is a parody cantata, in that the music is largely based on a secular cantata composed a year earlier in honour of a local landowner. The earlier text is transformed for liturgical use, probably by Picander who worked extensively with Bach from 1725. The cantata is in two parts – one to be sung before and one after the sermon. Unusually, the lively introductory chorus is repeated in the last movement, substituting a chorale setting.

The concert this evening will proceed without interval. Please feel free to applaud at the end of each cantata.

There will be a retiring collection to cover project costs (all of the musicians are giving their time for free) and for the Glasgow City Mission. You can also donate by text: **Text GCMBACH followed by your donation amount to 70085** to give that amount, or online at www.glasgowcitymission.com



Geraldine Mynors – Project Coordinator

Next concert:

Sunday 17th November, 7pm at St Margaret's Church, 353 Kilmarnock Road, Shawlands, Glasgow G43 2DS

Director: Michael Bawtree

Cantatas to be confirmed

For 2024-5 plans, follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter or visit www.glasgowbach.com

BWV 114 Ach, lieben Christen, seid getrost

Chorus

Ach, lieben Christen, seid getrost,
Wie tut ihr so verzagen!
Weil uns der Herr heimsuchen tut,
Laßt uns von Herzen sagen:
Die Straf wir wohl verdienet han,
Solchs muss bekennen jedermann,
Niemand darf sich ausschließen.

*Ah, dear Christians, be consoled,
how you continue to be so disheartened!
Since the Lord afflicts us,
let us say from our hearts:
we have well deserved the punishment,
this must be confessed by everyone,
no one may excude himself.*

Aria (Tenor)

Wo wird in diesem Jammertale
Vor meinen Geist die Zuflucht sein?
Allein zu Jesu Vaterhänden
Will ich mich in der Schwachheit wenden;
Sonst weiß ich weder aus noch ein.

David Walsh

*Where will there be in this valley of misery
a refuge for my spirit?
Only to Jesus' fatherly hands
do I want to entrust myself in my weakness;
otherwise I do not know where to turn.*

Recitative (Bass)

O Sünder, trage mit Geduld,
Was du durch deine Schuld
Dir selber zugezogen!
Das Unrecht säufst du ja
Wie Wasser in dich ein,
Und diese Sündenwassersucht
Ist zum Verderben da
Und wird dir tödlich sein.
Der Hochmut aß vordem von der verbotnen
Frucht,
Gott gleich zu werden;
Wie oft erhebst du dich mit schwülstigen
Gebärden,
Dass du erniedrigt werden musst.
Wohlan, bereite deine Brust,
Dass sie den Tod und Grab nicht scheut,
So kämmst du durch ein selig Sterben
Aus diesem sündlichen Verderben
Zur Unschuld und zur Herrlichkeit.

Ross Cumming

*O sinner, bear with patience
what you through your own guilt
have brought upon yourself!
Indeed you drink up injustice
just like water
and this overpowering thirst for sin
is there for your destruction
and will be fatal for you
Arrogance in days of old ate of the forbidden fruit
to become like God.
How often you rise up in revolt with pompous
gestures,
so that you must be cast down.
Come, prepare your heart
so that it does not shun in fear death and the grave,
in this way through dying in blessedness you may
come
from this sinful corruption
to innocence and glory.*

Chorale (sopranos)

Kein Frucht das Weizenkörnlein bringt,
Es fall denn in die Erden;
So muss auch unser irdscher Leib
Zu Staub und Aschen werden,
Eh er kömmt zu der Herrlichkeit,
Die du, Herr Christ, uns hast bereit'
Durch deinen Gang zum Vater.

*The tiny grain of wheat bears no fruit
unless it falls into the ground;
in this way also must our earthly body
become dust and ashes
before it comes to the glory
that you, Lord Christ, have prepared for us
through your journey to the Father.*

Aria (Alto)

Du machst, o Tod, mir nun nicht ferner
 bange,
 Wenn ich durch dich die Freiheit nur erlange,
 Es muss ja so einmal gestorben sein.
 Mit Simeon will ich in Friede fahren,
 Mein Heiland will mich in der Gruft
 bewahren
 Und ruft mich einst zu sich verklärt und rein.

Recitative (Tenor)

Indes bedenke deine Seele
 Und stelle sie dem Heiland dar;
 Gib deinen Leib und deine Glieder
 Gott, der sie dir gegeben, wieder.
 Er sorgt und wacht,
 Und so wird seiner Liebe Macht
 Im Tod und Leben offenbar.

Chorale

Wir wachen oder schlafen ein,
 So sind wir doch des Herren;
 Auf Christum wir getauft sein,
 Der kann dem Satan wehren.
 Durch Adam auf uns kömmt der Tod,
 Christus hilft uns aus aller Not.
 Drum loben wir den Herren.

BWV 30 Freue dich, erlöste Schar**Chorus**

Freue dich, erlöste Schar,
 Freue dich in Sions Hütten.
 Dein Gedeihen hat itzund
 Einen rechten festen Grund,
 Dich mit Wohl zu überschütten.

Recitative (Bass)

Wir haben Rast,
 Und des Gesetzes Last
 Ist abgetan.
 Nichts soll uns diese Ruhe stören,
 Die unsre liebe' Väter oft
 Gewünscht, verlangt und gehofft.
 Wohlan,
 Es freue sich, wer immer kann,
 Und stimme seinem Gott zu Ehren
 Ein Loblied an,

Parker Millspaugh

*You make me, O death, no longer afraid,
 if it is through you that I achieve freedom,
 for this reason once and for all I must die.
 With Simeon I want to travel in peace,
 my saviour will protect me in the grave
 and one day call me to himself [when I am]
 transfigured and pure.*

David Walsh

*Meanwhile take thought for your soul
 and present it to your saviour;
 give back your body and limbs
 to God, who gave them to you.
 He cares and watches,
 and so the power of his love will be
 made clear in life and death.*

*Whether we wake or sleep
 we belong to the Lord;
 we have been baptised in Christ
 who can protect us from Satan.
 Through Adam death comes to us,
 Christ helps us in all our troubles,
 therefore we praise the Lord.*

*Rejoice, redeemed host,
 rejoice in the dwellings of Zion.
 Your prosperity has now
 a true and firm foundation
 to cover you with blessings.*

Michael Cameron-Longden

*We have rest
 and the law's burden
 is put aside.
 Nothing should disturb this peace,
 for which our dear fathers often
 wished, longed and hoped.
 Come then,
 let whoever can rejoice
 and honour God by beginning to sing
 a song of praise*

Und das im höhern Chor,
Ja, singt einander vor!

*and do this in the heavenly choir
yes, sing this to each other!*

Aria (Bass)

Gelobet sei Gott, gelobet sein Name,
Der treulich gehalten Versprechen und Eid!
Sein treuer Diener ist geboren,
Der längstens darzu auserkoren,
Dass er den Weg dem Herrn bereit'.

Michael Cameron-Longden

*Praised be God, praised his name,
who has faithfully kept his promise and oath!
His faithful servant has been born
who long since was chosen for this purpose,
to prepare the way for the Lord.*

Recitative (Alto)

Der Herold kömmt und meldt den König an,
Er ruft; drum säumet nicht
Und macht euch auf
Mit einem schnellen Lauf,
Eilt dieser Stimme nach!
Sie zeigt den Weg, sie zeigt das Licht,
Wodurch wir jene selge Auen
Dereinst gewisslich können schauen.

Hanna de Bruin

*The herald comes and announces the king's arrival,
He calls; therefore do not tarry,
and get up
and swiftly run,
hurry after this voice!
It shows the way, it shows the light,
by which on those blessed fields
we can some day surely look.*

Aria (Alto)

Kommt, ihr angefochtenen Sünder,
Eilt und lauft, ihr Adamskinder,
Euer Heiland ruft und schreit!
Kommet, ihr verirrtten Schafe,
Stehet auf vom Sündenschlafe,
Denn itzt ist die Gnadenzeit!

Hanna de Bruin

*Come, you troubled sinners,
hurry and run, you children of Adam,
your saviour calls and cries out to you!
Come, you sheep who have gone astray,
arise from the sleep of your sins,
for now is the time of grace!*

Chorale

Eine Stimme lässt sich hören
In der Wüste weit und breit,
Alle Menschen zu bekehren:
Macht dem Herrn den Weg bereit,
Machet Gott ein ebne Bahn,
Alle Welt soll heben an,
Alle Täler zu erhöhen,
Dass die Berge niedrig stehen.

*A voice is heard
far and wide in the desert
to convert all mankind:
prepare the way for the Lord,
make a level path for God,
all the world should be lifted up,
all the valleys should be raised
so that the mountains may be brought low.*

Part Two

Recitative (Bass)

So bist du denn, mein Heil, bedacht,
Den Bund, den du gemacht
Mit unsern Vätern, treu zu halten
Und in Genaden über uns zu walten;
Drum will ich mich mit allem Fleiß
Dahin bestreben,
Dir, treuer Gott, auf dein Geheiß
In Heiligkeit und Gottesfurcht zu leben.

Ross Cumming

*Since it is your intention, my saviour,
that the covenant that you made
with our fathers should be faithfully kept
and that you should rule over us in grace,
I want therefore with all diligence
from now on to strive to live
for you, faithful God, at your command
in holiness and fear of God.*

Aria (Bass)

Ich will nun hassen
 Und alles lassen,
 Was dir, mein Gott, zuwider ist.
 Ich will dich nicht betrüben,
 Hingegen herzlich lieben,
 Weil du mir so genädig bist.

Recitative (Soprano)

Und obwohl sonst der Unbestand
 Den schwachen Menschen ist verwandt,
 So sei hiermit doch zugesagt:
 Sooft die Morgenröte tagt,
 Solang ein Tag den andern folgen lässt,
 So lange will ich steif und fest,
 Mein Gott, durch deinen Geist
 Dir ganz und gar zu Ehren leben.
 Dich soll sowohl mein Herz als Mund
 Nach dem mit dir gemachten Bund
 Mit wohlverdientem Lob erheben.

Aria (Soprano)

Eilt, ihr Stunden, kommt herbei,
 Bringt mich bald in jene Auen!
 Ich will mit der heiligen Schar
 Meinem Gott ein' Dankaltar
 In den Hütten Kedar bauen,
 Bis ich ewig dankbar sei.

Recitative (Tenor)

Geduld, der angenehme Tag
 Kann nicht mehr weit und lange sein,
 Da du von aller Plag
 Der Unvollkommenheit der Erden,
 Die dich, mein Herz, gefangen hält,
 Vollkommen wirst befreit werden.
 Der Wunsch trifft endlich ein,
 Da du mit den erlösten Seelen
 In der Vollkommenheit
 Von diesem Tod des Leibes bist befreit,
 Da wird dich keine Not mehr quälen.

Chorus

Freude dich, geheiligte Schar,
 Freue dich in Sions Auen!
 Deiner Freude Herrlichkeit,
 Deiner Selbstzufriedenheit
 Wird die Zeit kein Ende schauen.

Ross Cumming

*I want now to hate
 and leave everything
 that is contrary to you, my God.
 I do not want to grieve you
 but instead to love you from my heart
 since you are so merciful to me.*

Ellie Donald

*And although in other ways inconstancy
 comes naturally to humanity in its weakness,
 let a promise be now made:
 whenever dawn brings round the day,
 so long as one day follows another
 for so long I want to live resolute and firm,
 my God, through your Spirit,
 completely for you and your honour.
 It is you that both my heart and mouth
 according to the covenant that has been made with
 you
 should extol with the praise you have well deserved.*

Ellie Donald

*Hurry, you hours, come on,
 bring me soon to those fields!
 With the holy host I want
 to build an altar of thanks for my God
 in the dwellings of Kedar
 so that I may always be thankful.*

Philip Scott

*Be patient, the delightful day
 can no more be far and distant
 when from all the troubles
 of the earth's imperfection
 that, my heart, holds you captive,
 you will be completely freed.
 The wish finally comes true
 that with the redeemed souls
 in perfection
 you are freed from this death of the body,
 that no misery may torment you any longer.*

*Rejoice, sacred host,
 rejoice in Sion's fields!
 The glory of your joy,
 your perfect contentment
 no time will ever see end.*

Performers

Sopranos

Ellie Donald*
Bryony Pillath
Cathy McCallum
Frances Cooper
Gemma Wallbanks
Jacqueline Mulcair
Lynn Strang
Rebecca Tavener

Altos

Hanna de Bruin*
Parker Millspaugh*
Geraldine Mynors
Heather Devine
Marion Carson
Morag Campbell
Morag Grant
Nina Russell
Sonja Crossan

Tenors

David Walsh*
Philip Scott*
Luca Stoto
Peter Wakeford
Raymond Armstrong

Basses

Michael Cameron-Longden*
Ross Cumming*
Alan Tavener
Joe Gatherer
Mark Barton
Martin Tolley
Noel Mann
Alex White

**soloists*

Violin 1

Nikodem Rodzeń (leader)
Lee Young
Masha Zhuravlova

Violin 2

Bill Kean
Bert Overduin
Carole Howat

Viola

Eldon Bradfield
Sharon Doyle

Cello

Andrew Rogers
Clyde Wallbanks

Double bass

Callum Campbell

Flute

Lynne Bulmer

Oboe

Gavin Pettinger
Gaynor Gowman
Rona Macleod

Bassoon

Freya Edington

Horn

Lik Ng

Harpsichord

Leslie Macleod



Frikki Walker is one of Scotland's busiest and most experienced Choral Conductors.

He has been Director of Music at St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow, since 1996, and under his leadership the choir has developed into a choir of professional standing, with an international reputation for excellence through its regular broadcasts on Radio and TV, live-streams and recordings.

Frikki currently conducts the Royal School of Church Music Scottish Voices, which he co-founded, and is on the staff of the RSNO Youth Chorus, where he conducts and trains their Changed Voices section. Frikki has recently retired from the staff at the High School of Glasgow, where he conducted many of the school's choirs, including their multi-award-winning Chamber Choir. In 2016 he founded Glasgow Cambiata bringing together the changed voices choirs of several local schools, and this choir has performed with the RSNO to great acclaim.

He has worked with many of Scotland's prestigious choirs, including the RSNO Chorus, the Edinburgh Festival Chorus, the National Youth Choir of Scotland, and choirs in the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, for whom he has also acted as a visiting examiner.

A keen choral animateur, Frikki has run choral workshops for Festivals and choirs throughout Scotland, and is in increasing demand as an adjudicator at Music Festivals.

An accomplished Organist, he has given recitals in churches, concert halls and Cathedrals all over Britain, in Europe, and his home country, Iceland.

As a composer and arranger, he has written a huge range of choral music much of which has been broadcast on Radio and TV, and sung and played in schools, churches and cathedrals all over the world. His "Camerata Carols" have twice featured in the RSNO Christmas Concerts.

Please give generously on your way out this evening.

NO CASH? NO PROBLEM

*To donate to cover the costs of tonight's concert and give to Glasgow City Mission, simply text **GCMBACH***

followed by your donation amount to

*70085 to give that amount, e.g. **GCMBACH10** to give £10.*