



Patron: Professor John Butt OBE

Musical Directors: Frikki Walker and Michael Bawtree

Concert number 23

BWV 147 Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben

BWV 188 Ich habe meine Zuversicht

J.S. Bach

1685 - 1750

Conductor: Frikki Walker

“For the Glory of God alone.”

Saturday 27 June 2026, 7pm

St Mary's Cathedral, Great Western Road, Glasgow G4 9JB



Welcome

At this, the twenty-third 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.

BWV 147 *Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben* was composed in Bach's first year at Leipzig, for the feast of the Visitation on 2 July 1723. The feast commemorates the visit of Elizabeth to her cousin Mary. The cantata is an expanded version of one Bach had written for Advent in Weimar seven years earlier. The well-known chorale tune at the end of Part 1 and Part 2 was written in 1641 by Johann Schop, a composer and virtuoso violinist.

BWV 188 *Ich habe meine Zuversicht* was probably first performed it on 17 October 1728. The original set of parts was lost, and the manuscript score only survives in fragmentary form. A long instrumental sinfonia opens the cantata and is based on the 3rd movement of the keyboard concerto in d minor, featuring a virtuosic part for organ. The central theme of the text is God's consistency despite human failure and movements 2 to 5 were provided by Picander, a poet and librettist for many of Bach's works, including the Matthew Passion.

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

Tonight's concert is being held in aid of *An Organ for Glasgow*, St Mary's Cathedral appeal to restore and install a historic Willis Organ which they have been gifted. This will replace the current worn out organ which is beyond repair, and provide music in the cathedral for many years to come. You can read more about the project at www.anorganforglasgow.org. Donations at the end of the concert can be given by cash or contactless card as you leave. If you can gift aid your donation, please complete one of the forms which you will find in each pew.

Geraldine Mynors – Project Coordinator

Next concert:

Sunday 20th September 2026, 7pm St Margaret's Church, Newlands G43 2DS

Director: Michael Bawtree

Cantatas BWV 47, 148 and 8

For 2026/7 plans, follow us on Facebook or Instagram or visit www.glasgowbach.com

BWV 147 Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben

First Part

Chorus

Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben
Muß von Christo Zeugnis geben
Ohne Furcht und Heuchelei,
Dass er Gott und Heiland sei.

*Heart and mouth and deed and life
must bear witness to Christ
without fear or hypocrisy
that he is God and saviour.*

Recitative (Tenor)

Gebenedeiter Mund!
Maria macht ihr Innerstes der Seelen
Durch Dank und Rühmen kund;
Sie fängt bei sich an,
Des Heilands Wunder zu erzählen,
Was er an ihr als seiner Magd getan.
O menschliches Geschlecht,
Des Satans und der Sünden Knecht,
Du bist befreit
Durch Christi tröstendes Erscheinen
Von dieser Last und Dienstbarkeit!
Jedoch dein Mund und dein verstockt
Gemüte
Verschweigt, verleugnet solche Güte;
Doch wisse, dass dich nach der Schrift
Ein allzuscharfes Urteil trifft!

Magnus Walker

*Blessed mouth!
Mary makes the innermost part of her soul
known through thanks and praise;
with herself she begins
to tell of the wonders of the saviour,
all that he has done for her as his handmaid.
O human race
servant of Satan and sin,
you are set free
through Christ's consoling appearance
from this burden and servitude!
Yet your mouth and your obdurate spirit
keep silent and deny such kindness;
but be aware, that according to scripture
there awaits you a judgement that is all too sharp!*

Aria (Alto)

Schäme dich, o Seele, nicht,
Deinen Heiland zu bekennen,
Soll er dich die seine nennen
Vor des Vaters Angesicht!
Doch wer ihn auf dieser Erden
Zu verleugnen sich nicht scheut,
Soll von ihm verleugnet werden,
Wenn er kommt zur Herrlichkeit.

Geraldine Mynors

*Do not be ashamed, O Soul,
to acknowledge your saviour
if he were to call you his own
before his father's face!
But whoever on this earth
does not shrink from denying him
will himself be denied by him
when he comes in glory.*

Recitative (Bass)

Verstockung kann Gewaltige verblenden,
Bis sie des Höchsten Arm vom Stuhle stößt;
Doch dieser Arm erhebt,
Obschon vor ihm der Erde Kreis erbebt,
Hingegen die Elenden,
So er erlöst.
O hochbeglückte Christen,
Auf, machet euch bereit,
Itzt ist die angenehme Zeit,
Itzt ist der Tag des Heils: der Heiland heißt
Euch Leib und Geist
Mit Glaubensgaben rüsten,

Alex White

*Stubbornness can blind the powerful
until the arm of the highest thrusts them from their
seat;
yet this arm
even though the round earth trembles before it
on the other hand raises the wretched,
Whom he redeems.
O very fortunate Christians
up, make yourself ready,
now is the acceptable time,
now is the day of salvation: the saviour calls
you to arm body and spirit
with the gifts of faith,*

Auf, ruft zu ihm in brünstigem Verlangen,
Um ihn im Glauben zu empfangen!

*up, call to him in ardent longing
to receive him in faith!*

Aria (Soprano)

Bereite dir, Jesu, noch itzo die Bahn,
Mein Heiland, erwähle
Die gläubende Seele
Und siehe mit Augen der Gnade mich an!

Lorna Murray

*Prepare the way to you now, Jesus,
my saviour, choose
the believing soul
and look upon me with eyes of mercy!*

Chorale

Wohl mir, dass ich Jesum habe,
O wie feste halt ich ihn,
Dass er mir mein Herze labe,
Wenn ich krank und traurig bin.
Jesum hab ich, der mich liebet
Und sich mir zu eigen gibet;
Ach drum lass ich Jesum nicht,
Wenn mir gleich mein Herze bricht.

*What joy for me that I have Jesus,
oh how firmly I hold on to him
so that he may make my heart rejoice,
when I am sick and mournful.
I have Jesus, who loves me
and gives himself to me for his own.
Ah, therefore I shall not let go of Jesus,
even if my heart should break.*

Second Part

Aria (Tenor)

Hilf, Jesu, hilf, dass ich auch dich bekenne
In Wohl und Weh, in Freud und Leid,
Dass ich dich meinen Heiland nenne
Im Glauben und Gelassenheit,
Dass stets mein Herz von deiner Liebe
brenne.

Magnus Walker

*Help me, Jesus, so that I may confess you
in good fortune and misfortune, joy and sorrow,
so that I may call you my saviour
in faith and calmness,
so my heart may always burn with your love.*

Recitative (Alto)

Der höchsten Allmacht Wunderhand
Wirkt im Verborgenen der Erden.
Johannes muss mit Geist erfüllet werden,
Ihn zieht der Liebe Band
Bereits in seiner Mutter Leibe,
Dass er den Heiland kennt,
Ob er ihn gleich noch nicht
Mit seinem Munde nennt,
Er wird bewegt, er hüpfet und springet,
Indem Elisabeth das Wunderwerk
ausspricht,
Indem Mariae Mund der Lippen Opfer
bringet.
Wenn ihr, o Gläubige, des Fleisches
Schwachheit merkt
Wenn euer Herz in Liebe brennet,
Und doch der Mund den Heiland nicht
bekennet,
Gott ist es, der euch kräftig stärkt,
Er will in euch des Geistes Kraft erregen,
Ja Dank und Preis auf eure Zunge legen.

Geraldine Mynors

*The miraculous hand of the Almighty
works in the secret places of the earth.
John must be filled with the spirit,
the bond of love draws him
already in his mother's body,
so that he recognises the saviour
even though he could not yet
name him with his mouth,
he is moved, he leaps and jumps
while Elizabeth declares the miracle,
while Mary's mouth brings the offering of lips.
If you, O believer, note the weakness of the flesh,
if your hearts burn with love
and yet your mouth does not confess the saviour
it is God who powerfully strengthens you,
he will stir up in you the power of the spirit,
indeed, he will place thanks and praise on your
tongues.*

Aria (Bass)

Ich will von Jesu Wundern singen
 Und ihm der Lippen Opfer bringen,
 Er wird nach seiner Liebe Bund
 Das schwache Fleisch, den irdischen Mund
 Durch heiliges Feuer kräftig zwingen.

Alex White

*I shall sing of the wonders of Jesus
 and bring to him the offering of my lips,
 according to the covenant of his love
 he will subdue the weak flesh, the earthly mouth
 powerfully through his holy Fire.*

Chorale

Jesus bleibt meine Freude,
 Meines Herzens Trost und Saft,
 Jesus wehret allem Leide,
 Er ist meines Lebens Kraft,
 Meiner Augen Lust und Sonne,
 Meiner Seele Schatz und Wonne;
 Darum lass ich Jesum nicht
 Aus dem Herzen und Gesicht.

*Jesus remains my joy,
 the comfort and life's blood of my heart,
 Jesus defends me against all sorrows,
 he is my life's strength,
 the delight and sun of my eyes
 my soul's treasure and joy;
 therefore I shall not let Jesus go
 from my heart and sight.*

BWV 188 Ich habe meine Zuversicht**Sinfonia****Aria (Tenor)**

Ich habe meine Zuversicht
 Auf den getreuen Gott gericht,
 Da ruhet meine Hoffnung feste.
 Wenn alles bricht, wenn alles fällt,
 Wenn niemand Treu und Glauben hält,
 So ist doch Gott der allerbeste.

Magnus Walker

*I have placed my confidence
 in the faithful God,
 there my hope rests firmly.
 If everything breaks, if everything falls,
 if nobody keeps faithfulness and belief,
 God is still the best of all.*

Recitative (Bass)

Gott meint es gut mit jedermann,
 Auch in den allergrößten Nöten.
 Verbirget er gleich seine Liebe,
 So denkt sein Herz doch heimlich dran,
 Das kann er niemals nicht entziehn;
 Und wollte mich der Herr auch töten,
 So hoff ich doch auf ihn.
 Denn sein erzürntes Angesicht
 Ist anders nicht
 Als eine Wolke trübe,
 Sie hindert nur den Sonnenschein,
 Damit durch einen sanften Regen
 Der Himmelsseggen
 Um so viel reicher möge sein.
 Der Herr verwandelt sich in einen grausamen,
 Um desto tröstlicher zu scheinen;
 Er will, er kann's nicht böse meinen.
 Drum lass ich ihn nicht, er segne mich denn.

John Arthur

*God's intentions are good towards everyone,
 even in the greatest troubles.
 If he hides his love for a time,
 yet his heart still secretly thinks of it,
 he can never take away his love;
 and even if the Lord were to kill me,
 I would still hope in him.
 For his angry face
 is nothing but
 a gloomy cloud,
 it only checks the sunshine
 so that through a gentle rain
 heaven's blessing
 may be all the richer.
 The Lord transforms himself into a cruel God
 so that he may appear more comforting;
 He will not, he cannot have any evil intentions,
 therefore I shall not let him go, until he blesses me.*

Aria (Alto)

Unerforschlich ist die Weise,
 Wie der Herr die Seinen führt.
 Selber unser Kreuz und Pein
 Muß zu unserm Besten sein
 Und zu seines Namens Preise.

Mollie Quinn

*Inscrutable is the way
 in which the Lord leads his people.
 Even our cross and pain
 must be all for the best for us
 and for the glory of his name.*

Recitative (Soprano)

Die Macht der Welt verlieret sich.
 Wer kann auf Stand und Hoheit bauen?
 Gott aber bleibt ewiglich;
 Wohl allen, die auf ihn vertrauen!

Charlotte McKechnie

*The might of the world disappears.
 Who can rely on status and grandeur?
 But God remains forever;
 Happy are those who place their trust in him!*

Chorale

Auf meinen lieben Gott
 Trau ich in Angst und Not;
 Er kann mich allzeit retten
 Aus Trübsal, Angst und Nöten;
 Mein Unglück kann er wenden,
 Steht alls in seinen Händen.

*In my beloved God
 I trust in anxiety and trouble;
 He can always deliver me
 from sorrow, anxiety, and troubles;
 he can change my misfortune,
 everything is in his hands.*

Performers

Sopranos

Charlotte MacKechnie*
 Lorna Murray*
 Bryony Pillath
 Cora Preda
 Cosima Balance
 Gemma Wallbanks
 Jacqueline Mulcair
 Mairi de la Haye
 Ros Sutherland

Altos

Lorna Murray*
 Geraldine Mynors*
 Hilde McKenna
 Iona Jack
 Kate Pickering
 Marion Carson

Tenors

Magnus Walker*
 Mel Cadman
 Peter Cooper
 Peter Wakeford
 Thomas Athorne

Basses

Alex White*
 John Arthur*
 Alan Maxwell
 Clyde Wallbanks
 Joe Gatherer
 Mark Barton
 Sandy Matheson
 Tim Reilly

*soloists

Violin 1

George Weir (guest leader)
Charlotte Perkins
Sharon Doyle

Violin 2

Lee Young
Klara Seifert
Arthur Doyle

Viola

Fiona Robertson
Bert Overduin

Cello

Andrew Rogers
Quintin Doyle

Double bass

Callum Campbell

Oboe

Gavin Pettinger
Gaynor Gowman
Rona Macleod

Bassoon

Jennifer Kelly

Trumpet

James Earl

Organ

Steven McIntyre



Musical Director Frikki Walker is one of Scotland's busiest and most experienced Choral Conductors, with a special interest in training young voices.

Frikki 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. This weekend we celebrate his 30th anniversary in the cathedral.

For many years Frikki conducted the Royal School of Church Music Scottish Voices, which he cofounded, the RSNO Junior Chorus and the National Youth Choir of Scotland. 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. Frikki was also responsible for much of the choral programme at the High School of Glasgow, including their award-winning Chamber Choir. He has worked with most of Scotland's most prestigious choirs, including spells as Acting Chorus Master at the RSNO, and regularly trains choirs in the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, for whom he is 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 parish 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.



Concert no. 24

- BWV 47* *Wer sich selbst erhöht, der soll
erniedriget werden*
BWV 148 *Bringet dem Herrn Ehre seines Namens*
BWV 8 *Liebster Gott, wenn werd ich sterben*

Director: Michael Bawtree
Sunday 20th Sept 2026 7pm (end 8.15pm approx.)

St Margaret's Episcopal Church, Newlands G43 2DS

Admission free. Retiring collection.

www.glasgowbach.com

