

BLOOMINGTON BACH CANTATA PROJECT

SEASON 17

“ICH LIEBE DEN HÖCHSTEN
VON GANZEM GEMÜTE” BWV 174

100



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026 | BLOOMINGTON, IN

“ICH LIEBE DEN HÖCHSTEN VON GANZEM GEMÜTE” BWV 174

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750)

1. Sinfonia
2. Aria
3. Recitative
4. Aria
5. Chorale

Marlena Wagschal, soprano

Bryce Zimmerman, alto

Benjamin Wegner, tenor

Cole Hoeness, bass

Katy Ambrose, Julia McConnachie, horn

Jonathan Goya, Jenni Kirby, oboe

Luke Conklin, taille

Keith Collins, bassoon

Ingrid Matthews, Radman Rasti, Zachary Catalan, violin concertato

Jacob Burk, Mark Kliesen, Joshua Forbes, viola concertata

Macarena Sanchez, Thomas Shaw, Jose Campos, cello concertato

Phillip Hammond, Daniel Torres, violin ripieno

Angela Kapikian, viola ripiena

Gabriel Harris, violone

Hengyuan Zhang, organ

Ingrid Matthews, music director

Daniel R. Melamed, lecturer

UPCOMING PERFORMANCE

November 8: BWV 81

Joanna Blendulf, director

TEXT & TRANSLATION

1. Sinfonia

2. Ich liebe den Höchsten von ganzem Gemüte,
Er hat mich auch am höchsten lieb.

Gott allein

Soll der Schatz der Seelen sein,

Da hab ich die ewige Quelle der Güte.

3. O Liebe, welcher keine gleich!

O unschätzbare Lösegeld!

Der Vater hat des Kindes Leben

Vor Sünder in den Tod gegeben,

Und alle, die das Himmelreich

Verschert und verloren,

Zur Seligkeit erkoren.

Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt!

Mein Herz, das merke dir

Und stärke dich mit diesen Worten;

Vor diesem mächtigen Panier

Erzittern selbst die Höllenpforten.

4. Greifet zu,

Fasst das Heil, ihr Glaubenshände!

Jesus gibt sein Himmelreich

Und verlangt nur das von euch:

Gläubt getreu bis an das Ende!

5. Herzlich lieb hab ich dich, o Herr.

Ich bitt, wollst sein von mir nicht fern

Mit deiner Hülff und Gnaden.

Die ganze Welt erfreut mich nicht,

Nach Himml und Erden frag ich nicht,

Wenn ich dich nur kann haben.

Und wenn mir gleich mein Herz zerbricht,

So bist du doch mein Zuversicht,

Mein Heil und meines Herzens Trost,

Der mich durch sein Blut hat erlöst.

Herr Jesu Christ,

Mein Gott und Herr, mein Gott und Herr,

In Schanden lass mich nimmermehr!

1. Sinfonia

2. I love [God] the Most High with all my [heart, soul, and] mind;
He also loves me most highly.

God alone

Is to be my soul's treasure

Whereby I have the eternal source of goodness.

3. Oh [God's] love [for us], to which no [love is] equal!

Oh inestimable ransom!

[God] the father has given the life of his [holy] child [Jesus]

Unto death [as a guilt offering] for sinners,

And has chosen for [salvational] blessing

All who [innately, by original sin,] have squandered and lost

The kingdom of heaven [but, like me, do accept God's gift of faith].

[The gospel proclaims,] "*In such manner has God loved the world*"!

My heart, bear that in mind

And strengthen yourself with these [gospel-proclaimed] words;

Before this mighty banner [of protection and of love]

Even the gates of hell tremble.

4. Grab hold of [God's offer];

Seize salvation, you hands of faith.

Jesus gives his kingdom of heaven

And demands only this from you [in return]:

Believe devotedly, up to the end [of this life].

5. I sincerely love you, O Lord.

May [you], I implore, be not far from me

With your salvation and grace.

The whole world pleases me not;

I would not ask [anything] of heaven and earth,

If only I can have you.

And even when my heart breaks [from remorse for sin],

Then you [Jesus] are yet my hope,

My salvation, and the consolation of my heart,

Who has redeemed me through his blood.

Lord Jesus Christ,

My God and Lord, my God and Lord,

Into shame let me [fall] nevermore.

Christian Friedrich Henrici (Picander)

(transl. Michael Marissen and Daniel R. Melamed)



BLOOMINGTON BACH CANTATA PROJECT

Daniel R. Melamed, director

Anastasia Chin, concert manager Elizabeth Hile, operations manager

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