



*A special invitation to families and those who
support young developing voices
and a lifelong love of singing...*

April 26, 2026 – 4:00 pm

West Michigan Children's Choir – featuring
singers in 3rd-8th grade presenting a variety of
musical genres, directed by Rachel Xydis.

May 17, 2026 – 4:00 pm

Dr. Arunesh Nadgir, piano (<https://w1.mtsu.edu/faculty/arunesh-nadgir>)

Please refer to www.secondreformedchurch.org/the-arts/ for the latest
information and other programs happening at Second.

*Donations towards the "Second Series: Sublime Art in a Sacred Space"
can be given by scanning this QR code for online giving.
Thank you for your support!*



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HOLLAND BACH SOCIETY

SCOTT VANDEN BERG, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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March 8, 2026 - 4:00 pm
Second Reformed Church
Zeeland, Michigan

About this cantata...

In the *St. John Passion*, Bach sets the Passion of Christ to music as the story is told in the Gospel of John. He first performed the piece at Vespers on Good Friday (the Friday before Easter), in Leipzig. It was the first Passion music he had written as cantor in Leipzig.

The thread running through the St. John Passion is the biblical passage traditionally read on Good Friday, John 18 and 19. Jesus was captured, led before Caiaphas and Pontius Pilate, judged, crucified and put to death. The biblical passage is presented by the solo tenor (the Evangelist), and the various roles (Jesus, Pilate, the disciples and the people) are taken by the other singers. At key moments, Bach added well-known hymns, which are sung and played by the whole ensemble. For the solo arias, he used poetry from popular Passion anthologies by Barthold Heinrich Brockes, Christian Weise and Christian Heinrich Postel.

Learn more here: <https://www.bachvereniging.nl/en/bwv/bwv-245>

Approach to God

Prelude *O Lamm Gottes* (BWV 656)

- Rhonda Edgington, organ

Opening Welcome

Call to Worship

O come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.

The hour is coming and is now here.
In spirit and truth, let us worship God.

*Gathering Hymn 172 “Ah, Holy Jesus, How Have You Offended”
(vs1/2 - all, vs3 - choir only; vs4 - all)

*Prayer of Adoration

*God’s Greeting and the Peoples’ Amen

Word of God in Proclamation

Gospel Reading John 18:28 - 19:30
This is the Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Cantata *St. John Passion* (BWV 245) – Part II
(see translation insert and Chorale music packet)

Prayer

Our Grateful Response to God

*Sending Chorale No. 40 from *St. John Passion* (found in your music packet)

*Benediction

*Postlude

*Rise in body or spirit

Bold – said in unison