

BLOOMINGTON
BACH
CANTATA PROJECT

SEASON 15

“ICH RUF ZU DIR,
HERR JESU CHRIST” BWV 177

90



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2025 | BLOOMINGTON, IN

“ICH RUF ZU DIR, HERR JESU CHRIST” BWV 177

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750)

1. Chorale (Chorus)
2. Versus 2
3. Versus 3
4. Versus 4
5. Versus 5

Haley Guerra, soprano
James Walton, alto
Joseph Ittoop, tenor
Sam Wetzel, bass
Jennifer Kirby, Luke Conklin, oboe
Keith Collins, bassoon
Martie Perry, Daniella Lombardi,
Victoria Wernicke, Grace McKenzie, violin
Rachel Gries, viola
Joanna Blendulf, cello
Edmund Song, violone
Anastasia Chin, organ and harpsichord

Jennifer Kirby, music director
Daniel R. Melamed, lecturer

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

March 2
Curtis Foster, director
BWV 197

March 30
Steven M. Warnock, director
BWV 94

TEXT & TRANSLATIONS

1. Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ,
Ich bitt, erhöhr mein Klagen,
Verleih mir Gnad zu dieser Frist,
Lass mich doch nicht verzagen;
Den rechten Glauben, Herr, ich mein,
Den wollest du mir geben,
Dir zu leben,
Meinm Nächsten nützlich zu sein,
Dein Wort zu halten eben.

2. Ich bitt noch mehr, o Herre Gott,
Du kannst es mir wohl geben:
Dass ich werd nimmermehr zu Spott,
Die Hoffnung gib darneben,
Voraus, wenn ich muss hier davon,
Dass ich dir mög vertrauen
Und nicht bauen
Auf alles mein Tun,
Sonst wird michs ewig reuen.

3. Verleih, dass ich aus Herzensgrund
Mein Feinden mög vergeben,
Verzeih mir auch zu dieser Stund,
Gib mir ein neues Leben;
Dein Wort mein Speis lass allweg sein,
Damit mein Seel zu nähren,
Mich zu wehren,
Wenn Unglück geht daher,
Das mich bald möcht abkehren.

4. Lass mich kein Lust noch Furcht von dir
In dieser Welt abtreiben.
Beständigsein ans End gib mir,
Du hast allein in Händen;
Und wem du gibst, der hats umsonst:
Es kann niemand ererben
Noch erwerben
Durch Werke deine Gnad,
Die uns errett vom Sterben.

5. Ich lieg im Streit und widerstreb,
Hilf, o Herr Christ, dem Schwachen!
An deiner Gnad allein ich kleb,
Du kannst mich stärker machen.
Kömmt nun Anfechtung, Herr, so wehr,
Dass sie mich nicht umstossen.
Du kannst massen,
Dass mirs nicht bring Gefahr;
Ich weiss, du wirst nicht lassen.

1. I call to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
I beseech [you]: Give heed to my lamenting.
Vouchsafe me grace in this [my allotted life] span;
Do not let me yet despair.
May you, Lord, I might hope,
Grant me the proper faith:
To live unto you,
To be of benefit to my neighbor,
To keep your word rightly.

2. I beseech [you] furthermore, O Lord God,
[For] what you can well grant me:
That I may nevermore come to be in derision;
In addition, grant [me] hope
For the future, when I must [depart] from [earthly life] here,
That I might trust in you
And not rely [for my salvation]
On all my doings;
Otherwise I will rue it eternally.

3. Vouchsafe that from the bottom of my heart
I might forgive my enemies.
Absolve me as well at this hour;
Grant me a new life [of eternal blessing].
Let your word always be my food,
Thereby to nourish my soul,
[And] to hold me back
When calamity appears
That might immediately turn me away [from you].

4. Let no lust [of the flesh and the eyes] or fear drive me away
From you in this world.
To the end [of this life] grant me adherence [to you];
You alone have it [all] in [your] hands.
And whomever you grant it [adherence to you], he has it gratis:
No one can inherit,
Nor purchase
Through [good] works, your grace
That rescues us from dying [unto eternity].

5. I am in [internal] strife, and resist [the dictates of my
conscience];
Help, O Lord Christ, the one who is weak.
To your grace alone I cling;
You can make me stronger.
If temptation now comes, Lord, then bar [it],
So that it does not overthrow me.
You can mitigate [all things],
So that danger might not come to me;
I know you will not allow this.



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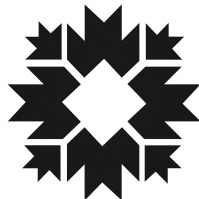
Daniel R. Melamed, director
Anastasia Chin, concert manager
Steven M. Warnock, operations manager

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