

BLOOMINGTON BACH CANTATA PROJECT

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We appreciate your support!

Thank you to: Scott Witzke, Dana Marsh, Sarah Slover, Kirby Haugland, Sam Motter, Suzanne Ryan Melamed, Erica Whichello, St. Thomas Lutheran Church

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UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

November 6
Johnathan Oddie, director
BWV 156

January 29
Dana Marsh, director
BWV 101

February 26
James Walton, director
BWV 61

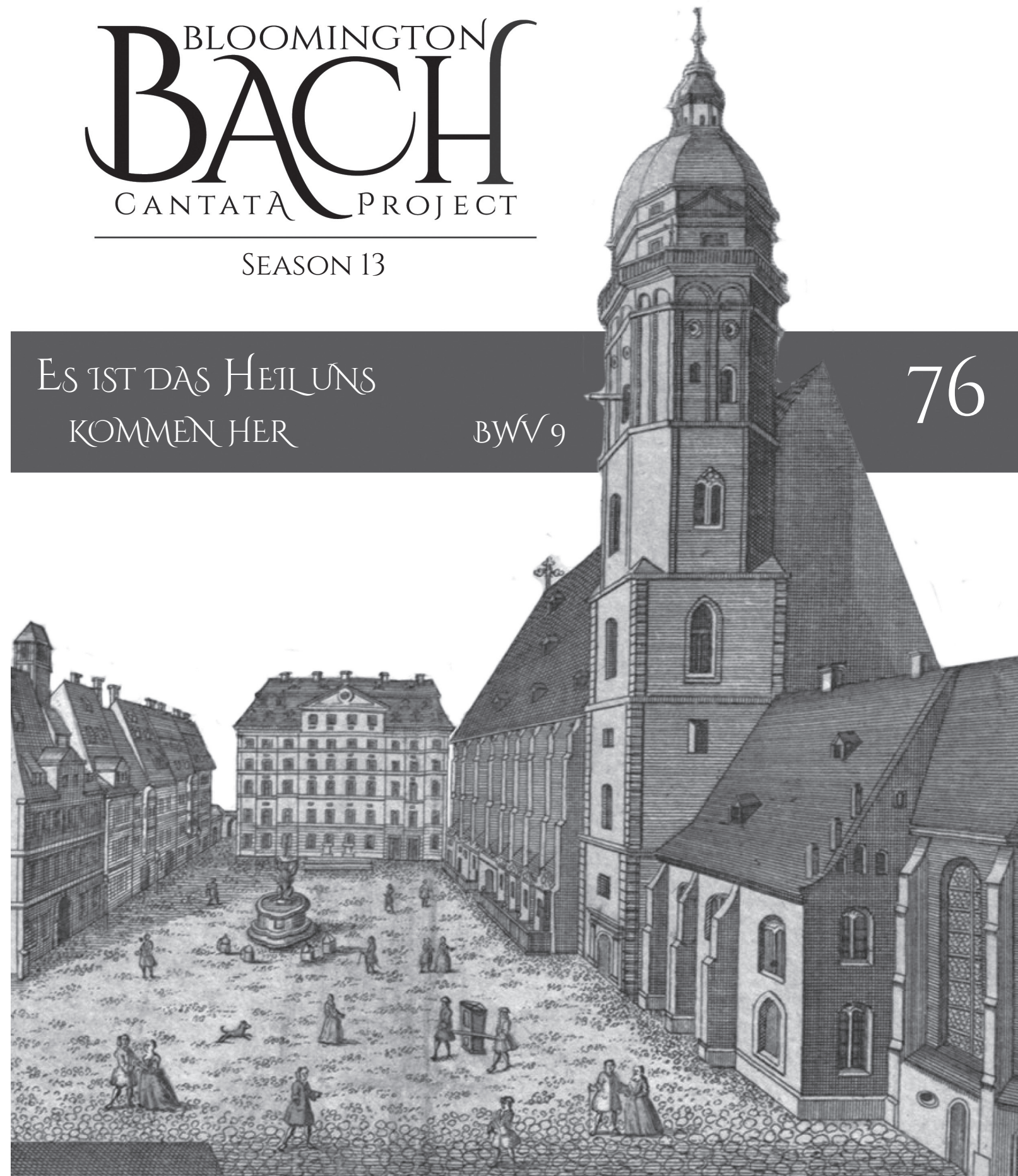
BLOOMINGTON BACH CANTATA PROJECT

SEASON 13

ES IST DAS HEILUNS
KOMMEN HER

BWV 9

76



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2022 | BLOOMINGTON, IN

"ES IST DAS HEIL UNS KOMMEN HER" BWV 9

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750)

1. Chorale
2. Recitative
3. Aria
4. Recitative
5. Aria
6. Recitative
7. Chorale

Howell Petty, soprano
James Walton, alto
Benjamin Bird, tenor
Daniel Lentz, bass
Martie Perry, Miranda Zirnbauer, Sarah
Cranor, Jimena Burga Lopera violin

Esteban Hernández Parra, viola
Erica Rubis, cello
Phillip Spray, violone
Thomas Gerber, organ
Kathie Stewart, traverso
Jennifer Kirby, oboe d'amore

Martie Perry, music director
Daniel R. Melamed, lecturer

TEXT AND TRANSLATION

**1. Es ist das Heil uns kommen her
Von Gnad und lauter Güte.
Die Werk, die helfen nimmermehr,
Sie mögen nicht behüten.
Der Glaub sieht Jesum Christum an,
Der hat gnug für uns all getan,
Er ist der Mittler worden.**

2. Gott gab uns ein Gesetz, doch waren wir zu schwach,
Dass wir es hätten halten können.
Wir gingen nur den Sünden nach,
Kein Mensch war fromm zu nennen;
Der Geist blieb an dem Fleische kleben
Und wagte nicht zu widerstreben.
Wir sollten im Gesetze gehn
Und dort als wie in einem Spiegel sehn,
Wie unsere Natur unartig sei;
Und dennoch blieben wir dabei.
Aus eigner Kraft war niemand fähig,
Der Sünden Unart zu verlassen,
Er mocht auch alle Kraft zusammenfassen.

**1. Salvation has come here, to us,
By [God's] grace and pure goodness.
[Good] works—they never help/save [us]—
They are not able to protect [us from God's wrath].
Faith looks to Jesus Christ,
Who has made atonement for all of us;
He has become the mediator [between God and humankind].**

2. God [via Moses] gave us a [code of] law, yet we were too weak
To have been able to abide by it.
We walked only in pursuit of sins;
No person could be called pious;
The spirit stayed clinging to the flesh
And did not venture to resist [the flesh].
We were supposed to walk in the law [of Moses]
And, just as in a mirror, were supposed to see there
How depraved our nature is;
And, nonetheless, we stayed at it [our depravity].
Nobody, by his own might, was capable
Of breaking off from sin's depravity,
Even if he was able to concentrate all his might.

3. Wir waren schon zu tief gesunken,
Der Abgrund schluckt uns völlig ein,
Die Tiefe drohte schon den Tod,
Und dennoch konnt in solcher Not
Uns keine Hand behülflich sein.

4. Doch musste das Gesetz erfüllet werden;
Deswegen kam das Heil der Erden,
Des Höchsten Sohn, der hat es selbst erfüllt
Und seines Vaters Zorn gestillt.
Durch sein unschuldig Sterben
Liess er uns Hülff erwerben.
Wer nun demselben traut,
Wer auf sein Leiden baut,
Der gehet nicht verloren.
Der Himmel ist vor den erkoren,
Der wahren Glauben mit sich bringt
Und fest um Jesu Arme schlingt.

5. Herr, du siehst statt guter Werke
Auf des Herzens Glaubensstärke,
Nur den Glauben nimmst du an.
Nur der Glaube macht gerecht,
Alles andre scheint zu schlecht,
Als dass es uns helfen kann.

6. Wenn wir die Sünd aus dem Gesetz erkennen,
So schlägt es das Gewissen nieder;
Doch ist das unser Trost zu nennen,
Dass wir im Evangelio
Gleich wieder froh
Und freudig werden:
Dies stärket unsern Glauben wieder.
Drauf hoffen wir der Zeit,
Die Gottes Gütigkeit
Uns zugesaget hat,
Doch aber auch aus weisem Rat
Die Stunden uns verschwiegen.
Jedoch, wir lassen uns begnügen,
Er weiss es, wenn es nötig ist,
Und brauchet keine List
An uns; wir dürfen auf ihn bauen
Und ihm allein vertrauen.

**7. Ob sichts anliess, als wollt er nicht,
Lass dich es nicht erschrecken;
Denn wo er ist am besten mit,
Da will ers nicht entdecken.
Sein Wort lass dir gewisser sein,
Und ob dein Herz spräch lauter Nein,
So lass doch dir nicht grauen.**

3. We had indeed sunk too deep;
The bottomless pit swallowed us up entirely;
The abyss [of Satan] indeed threatened [us with] death
And, nonetheless, in such need
No [merely human] hand was able to be helpful to us.

4. Yet the law [of Moses] had to be fulfilled;
Therefore the salvation of the earth came,
The Most High's son, who has fulfilled it himself
And appeased his father's wrath.
Through his dying, innocent,
He has purchased salvation for us.
Now whoever trusts that same man [Jesus],
Whoever relies on his [Jesus's] suffering [on the cross],
He [the believer] walks [through life] not lost [from salvation].
Heaven is chosen for him
Who has and holds within himself true faith [in Jesus]
And tightly clasps Jesus's arms.

5. Lord, instead of good works,
You look upon the heart's strength of faith;
Only faith do you accept.
Only faith justifies [for salvation];
Everything else shines too weakly
To be able to help/save us.

6. When, from the law [of Moses], we know sin,
Then our conscience is cast down;
Yet this is to be called our consolation:
That in the gospel [of Jesus]
We immediately become glad
And joyful again;
This strengthens our faith again.
[And] so we await the [end] time
That God's goodness
Has promised to us,
But yet whose hours, also out of wise counsel,
[God's goodness] has kept quiet from us.
We are, however, content;
When there is need, he knows it,
And does not use any cunning
On us; we may rely on him
And trust in him alone.

**7. If it seemed as though he [God] was not willing,
Do not let it alarm you;
For where he is most present,
There he will not reveal it.
Let his word be more certain to you,
And although your heart might say nothing but "No,"
Do not, nonetheless, let yourself be afraid.**

(transl. Michael Marissen and Daniel R. Melamed)



Scan or go to <http://www.bachcantatatexts.org/BWV9> for an annotated translation