



## Cantatas in Context

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Association of Lutheran Church Musicians

July 22, 2024, 11:00–11:45 a.m. [Brown and Gold]

July 23, 2024, 9:00–9:45 a.m. [Suite 200]

The cantatas of Johann Sebastian Bach are an incredible witness to the Christian faith and a valuable contribution to the proclamation of the Word. Yet, with limited time and financial resources these tremendous works are often left behind. During this workshop we will consider how Bach's sacred cantatas can be used in Christian worship in the 21st century. We will explore methods for **finding, rehearsing, and performing** selections from cantatas (or even entire cantatas) in worship.

### The Cantatas and Their Function

- Brief History and Purpose
- Original Context
- Current Practice

### The Cantatas in Worship

- Seasonal
- Occasional Services
- Lectionary-based
- Chorale-based
- Other

### Services

- Holy Communion
- Matins or Vespers
- Other

### FINDING

- Bach's Arias Sorted by Voice [webdocs.cs.ualberta.ca/~wfb/cantatas/voices.html](http://webdocs.cs.ualberta.ca/~wfb/cantatas/voices.html)
- Bach Cantata Texts [www.bachcantatatexts.org](http://www.bachcantatatexts.org)
- Bach Cantatas Website [www.bach-cantatas.com](http://www.bach-cantatas.com)
- Vocal Music Instrumentation Index [www.vmii.org/](http://www.vmii.org/)
- Emmanuel Music Boston [www.emmanuelmusic.org](http://www.emmanuelmusic.org)

OVER

## Instrumental Forces

- Full Instrumentation
- Partial/Adaptation
- Organ and Obligato Instrument
- Organ or Piano Only

## REHEARSING

- Budgeting and Planning
- Choral Rehearsals
- Coaching Soloists
- Planning and Distributing Music
- Rehearsing with Instruments

## PERFORMING

- Extended Prelude
- Entire Cantata in Service
- Split 50/50 (Before or After Homily *and* Communion Distribution)
- Partial
- Spread Throughout Service
- Hymn Stanzas

## Depending on Context: Where to Begin

- Chorales
- *Jesu bleibet meine Freude* (from *Herz und Mut und Tat und Leben*, BWV 147)
- *Zion hört die Wächter singen* (from *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*, BWV 140)
- *Und wenn die Welt voll Teufel wär* (from *Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott*, BWV 80)