

Luther Memorial Church



BUILDING CENTENNIAL
1923-2023

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2023

Reformation Vespers

BWV 80 - Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)



Luther Memorial Church

Reformation Vespers

Friday, Oct. 27, 2023

PRELUDE *Bruce Bengtson, Organist*

Lord Jesus Christ, be present now (Toccatina) | Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877–1933)

Nun danket alle Gott (BWV 657) | J.S. Bach (1685–1750)

Es ist das Heil | Matthias Weckmann (1616–1674)

Primus Versus

Quintus Versus

Es ist das Heil (BWV 638) | J.S. Bach

Es ist das Heil | Theo Wegmann (b. 1951)

Variations on “Kirken den er et gammelt hus” | Finn Viderø (1904–1987)

Corale - Duo - Trio - Falsobordone - Per Diminuzione - Ricercare

After the prelude there will be a period of silence. When the bell begins to ring, please stand and face the rear of the nave.

SERVICE OF LIGHT

☐ Jesus Christ is the Light of the world, ☑ **the light no darkness can over- come.**

☐ Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve-ning, ☑ **and the day is almost o- ver.**

☐ Let your light scat- ter the dark-ness, ☑ **and illumine your Church.**

Leader

Joy-ous light of glo - ry:

All

of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,

bles - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the

set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.

We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:
 You are wor - thy of be - ing praised with pure voic - es for -
 ev - er. O Son of God, O giv - er of life:
 The u - ni - verse pro - claims your glo - ry.

Text: Greek hymn, 3rd cent.; tr. Roger T. Petrich, b. 1938
 Music: Roger T. Petrich
 Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
 We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light in - to being,
 and you set lights in the sky to govern night and day.
 In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night
 you led your peo - ple in - to freedom.

Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may your Word be
a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are mer-ci - ful,
and you love your whole cre-a-tion, and with all your crea-tures we give you glory,
through your Son Je - sus Christ, in the unity of the Ho - ly Spirit,
now and for - ev - er. **A - men.**

Please sit.

THE PSALMODY Psalm 141

Group one: pulpit (west) side; Group two: lectern (east) side

^{All}
Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;
the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac - ri - fice.
^{Group One or All}
O Lord, I call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when
^{All}
I cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;
the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac - ri - fice.

Group Two or All

Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.

Group One or All

Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;

let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil -

Group Two or All

do - ers. But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God;

in you I take ref - uge. Strip me not of my life.

All

Glo-ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it;

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;

the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

PSALM PRAYER

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before you, O Lord, and let your lovingkindness descend upon us, that with purified hearts we may sing your praises with the church on earth and the whole heavenly host, and may glorify you forever and ever.

Amen.

ANTHEM O How Amiable | Ralph Vaughan Williams

Please stand.

HYMN How Blessed Is This Place

1 How bless - ed is this place, O Lord, Where
2 Here let your sa - cred fire of old De -
3 Here let the wea - ry one find rest, The
4 Here your an - gel - ic spir - its send Their

you are wor - shipped and a - dored; In faith we here an
scend to kin - dle spir - its cold; And may our prayers, when
trou - bled heart, your com - fort blest, The guilt - y one, a
sol - emn praise with ours to blend, And grant the vi - sion,

al - tar raise To your great glo - ry, God of praise.
here we bend, Like in - cense sweet to you as - cend.
sure re - treat, The sin - ner, par - don at your feet.
in - ly giv'n, Of this your house, the gate of heav'n.

Please sit.

FIRST LESSON *Romans 3:19–28*

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON *Revelation 12:10–12a*

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming,
“Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God
and the authority of his Messiah,
for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down,
who accuses them day and night before our God.
But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb
and by the word of their testimony,
for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.
Rejoice then, you heavens
and those who dwell in them!
But woe to the earth and the sea,
for the devil has come down to you
with great wrath,
because he knows that his time is short!”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HOMILY

BWV 80 - EIN FESTE BURG IST UNSER GOTT Johann Sebastian Bach

1. Chor

*Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott,
Ein gute Wehr und Waffen;
Er hilft uns frei aus aller Not,
Die uns itzt hat betroffen.
Der alte böse Feind,
Mit Ernst er's jetzt meint,
Groß Macht und viel List
Sein grausam Rüstung ist,
Auf Erd ist nicht seingleichen.
("Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott," stanza 1)*

2. Arie (Bass) und Choral (Soprano)

*Alles, was von Gott geboren,
Ist zum Siegen auserkoren.
Mit unsrer Macht ist nichts getan,
Wir sind gar bald verloren.
Es streit' vor uns der rechte Mann,
Den Gott selbst hat erkoren.
Wer bei Christi Blutpanier
In der Taufe Treu geschworen,
Siegt im Geiste für und für.
Fragst du, wer er ist?
Er heißt Jesus Christ,
Der Herre Zebaoth,
Und ist kein andrer Gott,*

1. Chorus

Our God is a secure fortress,
a good shield and weapon;
He helps us willingly out of all troubles,
that now have stricken us.
The old, evil enemy
is earnestly bent on it,
great strength and much deceit
are his horrid armaments,
there is nothing like him on earth.

2. Aria (Bass) and Chorale (Soprano)

Everything that is born of God
is destined for victory.
Nothing can be done through our strength,
we are soon already lost.
The right man battles for us,
whom God himself has elected.
Whoever is, with the bloody banner of Christ,
sworn into the fealty of baptism,
conquers in the spirit again and again.
You ask, who is he?
He is called Jesus Christ,
the Lord of Sabaoth,
and there is no other God,

*Das Feld muß er behalten.
Alles, was von Gott geboren,
Ist zum Siegen auserkoren.
("Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott," stanza 2)*

3. Rezitativ (Bass)

*Erwäge doch, Kind Gottes, die so große Liebe,
Da Jesus sich
Mit seinem Blute dir verschriebe,
Wormit er dich
Zum Kriege wider Satans Heer und wider Welt,
und Sünde
Geworben hat!
Gib nicht in deiner Seele
Dem Satan und den Lastern statt!
Laß nicht dein Herz,
Den Himmel Gottes auf der Erden,
Zur Wüste werden!
Bereue deine Schuld mit Schmerz,
Daß Christi Geist mit dir sich fest verbinde!*

4. Arie (Soprano)

*Komm in mein Herzenshaus,
Herr Jesu, mein Verlangen!
Treib Welt und Satan aus
Und laß dein Bild in mir erneuert prangen!
Weg, schnöder Sündengraus!*

5. Choral

*Und wenn die Welt voll Teufel wär
Und wollten uns verschlingen,
So fürchten wir uns nicht so sehr,
Es soll uns doch gelingen.
Der Fürst dieser Welt,
Wie saur er sich stellt,
Tut er uns doch nicht,
Das macht, er ist gericht',
Ein Wörtlein kann ihn fällen.
("Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott," stanza 3)*

6. Rezitativ (Tenor)

*So stehe dann bei Christi blutgefärbten Fahne,
O Seele, fest
Und glaube, daß dein Haupt dich nicht verläßt,
Ja, daß sein Sieg
Auch dir den Weg zu deiner Krone bahne!
Tritt freudig an den Krieg!
Wirst du nur Gottes Wort
So hören als bewahren,
So wird der Feind gezwungen auszufahren,
Dein Heiland bleibt dein Hort!*

he must control the battlefield.
Everything that is born of God
is destined for victory.

3. Recitative (Bass)

Only consider, child of God, the greatness of that love,
which Jesus himself
with his blood signed over to you,
through which he,
in the war against Satan's host and against the
world and sin,
has won you!
Do not make a place in your soul
for Satan and depravity!
Do not let your heart,
God's heaven on earth,
become a wasteland!
Repent your guilt with pain,
so that Christ's spirit may firmly bind itself to you!

4. Aria (Soprano)

Come into my heart's house,
Lord Jesus, my desire!
Drive the world and Satan out
and let your image, shine forth renewed in me!
Away, contemptible horror of sin!

5. Chorale

And if the world were full of the devil
and would devour us,
even then we would not be so fearful,
we should even then succeed.
The prince of this world,
however harsh he might be,
yet can do nothing to us,
since he is already judged,
a little word can topple him.

6. Recitative (Tenor)

Then stand with Christ's bloodstained flag,
O soul, firmly
and believe that you will not lose your Leader,
indeed, that his victory
will also pave the way to your crown!
March joyfully to war!
If you only keep God's word
as you hear it,
then the enemy will be driven out forcibly,
your Savior remains your treasure!

7. Arie (Duett - Alto, Tenor)

*Wie selig sind doch die, die Gott im Munde tragen,
Doch selger ist das Herz, das ihn im Glauben trägt!
Es bleibt unbesiegt und kann die Feinde schlagen
Und wird zuletzt gekrönt, wenn es den Tod erlegt.*

7. Aria (Duet - Alto, Tenor)

How happy are they, who bear God in their mouths,
yet happier is the heart that bears him in faith!
It remains unconquered and can strike at the enemy
and will be crowned at last, when it conquers death.

8. Choral

*Das Wort sie sollen lassen stahn
Und kein' Dank dazu haben.
Er ist bei uns wohl auf dem Plan
Mit seinem Geist und Gaben.
Nehmen sie uns den Leib,
Gut, Ehr, Kind und Weib,
Laß fahren dahin,
Sie habens kein' Gewinn;
Das Reich muß uns doch bleiben.
("Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott," stanza 4)*

8. Chorale

They shall put his word aside
and have no consideration for it.
He is indeed beside us in the field
with his spirit and his gifts.
If they take our bodies from us,
possessions, honor, child, wife,
let them take them away,
they have no spoils;
The realm must still remain ours.

Please stand.

RESPONSE

In many and various ways, God spoke to his people of old by the prophets.
But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

MAGNIFICAT

My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord; my spir- it re-joic- es in

God my Sav-ior, for he has looked with fa-vor on his low-ly ser- vant.

From this day all gen-er-a-tions will call me bless-ed.

The Al-might-y has done great things for me, and ho-ly is his name.

He has mer-cy on those who fear him in ev-'ry gen-er-a-tion.

He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat-tered the

proud in their con-ceil. He has cast down the might-y from their thrones,

and has lift - ed up the low - ly. He has filled the
 hun - gry with good things, and the rich he has sent a - way emp - ty.
 He has come to the help of his ser - vant Is - ra - el,
 for he has re - mem - bered his prom - ise of mer - cy, the prom - ise he
 made to our fa - thers, to A - bra - ham and his chil - dren for - ev - er.
 Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men

THE LITANY

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
 Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all,
 let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the health of the creation, for abundant harvests that all may share, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For public servants, the government, and those who protect us; for those who work to bring peace, justice, healing, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who travel, for those who are sick and suffering, and for those who are in captivity, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our bishops, Elizabeth and Joy and our pastors, Brad, John, Rebecca and Juan Carlos, and all servants of the church, for this assembly, and for all people who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

Silence for meditation.

Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to you,

through Christ our Lord. To you, O Lord.

The image shows a musical score for two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat. The music consists of two measures. The first measure has a melody in the treble staff and a whole rest in the bass staff. The second measure has a melody in the treble staff and a bass line in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Fa-ther, who art in heav-en, hal-low-ed be
thy name, thy king-dom come, thy will be done,

The image shows two staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of one flat. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the prayer, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.



on earth as it is in heav- en. Give us this day our



dai- ly bread; and for- give us our tres- pass- es,



as we for- give those who tres- pass a- gainst us; and lead us



not in- to temp- ta- tion, but de- liv- er us from e- vil.



For thine is the king- dom, and the pow- er, and the

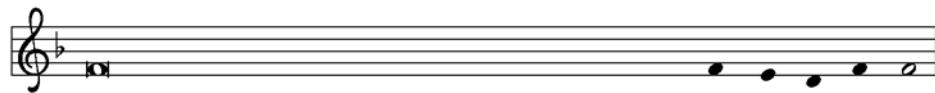


glo- ry, for- ev- er and ev- er. A- men.

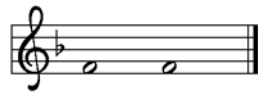
BENEDICAMUS DOMINO & BENEDICTION



Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.



Almighty God, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre-serve us.



A - men.

#645 CLOSING HYMN Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,
you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and



help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: WESTMINSTER ABBEY, Henry Purcell, 1659–1695; arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1802–1868

All are invited to a festive reception immediately following the liturgy in the Great Room.

NOTES ON THE CANTATA

Can· ta· ta /kən'tädə/ noun

A medium-length narrative piece of music for voices with instrumental accompaniment, typically with solos, chorus, and orchestra.
(Oxford Dictionary)

Though Johann Sebastian Bach's name is perhaps most closely associated with cantatas, it is worth noting that he did not invent the genre; the form was already well established—both in secular and sacred forms—prior to his time. Interestingly, Bach's output of approximately 300 cantatas pales in comparison to that of his contemporary, Christoph Graupner, who penned over 1,400 cantatas while working as the Hofkapellmeister at the court of Hesse-Darmstadt! Nevertheless, like so many other genres with which Bach worked, he arguably took the cantata concept to new heights, both theologically and musically, and thus rightly deserves the strong association with the genre.

Bach wrote his first cantata in 1707, the year he moved to Mühlhausen, though the majority of his church cantatas were written during his first years as the Thomaskantor in Leipzig, a position he assumed in 1723. For three years, he composed and performed a new cantata nearly every week, alternating between the Thomaskirche and Nikolaikirche, and performing in both locations on the same day for festivals such as Christmas. These cantatas were always presented in the context of the liturgy, and placed after the sermon in order to reinforce the proclaimed Word.

The cantata we will hear this evening was originally titled “Alles, was von Gott geboren” (BWV 80a) and written for the Third Sunday of Lent in 1715, while Bach was working in Weimar. The libretto is by Salomon Franck, a lawyer and scientist in Weimar who was a frequent contributor to Bach's various secular and sacred cantatas. When Bach took his post in Leipzig he was unable to use “Alles, was von Gott geboren,” since cantatas were not utilized during Lent. This prompted Bach to rework it several times between 1728 and 1731 into its present form suitable for Reformation Day, though it is not known when he wrote the splendid opening chorus—among the most extensive and demanding choral movements found throughout his cantatas.

While Bach's music is frequently performed here in the Madison area, it is rare to be able to hear his sacred music in its proper liturgical context as we will this evening. Here at Luther Memorial, our strong musical tradition, appreciation for historical liturgy, and acoustically magnificent building make this parish community a unique conduit for the presentation of this breathtaking music. I can think of no better gift to give to the wider Madison community than the offering of this cantata that has been so lovingly prepared and financially supported by many. It my hope that the presentation of these cantatas becomes a more regular occurrence here in the years to come. Soli Deo Gloria.

Notes by Andrew Schaeffer

ORCHESTRA

Violin I

Rolf Wulfsberg
Nathan Giglierano

Violin II

Amber Dolphin
Benjamin Lenzmeier

Viola

Lynn Washington

Cello

Charlie Rasmussen

Oboe

Marc Fink
Margret Bradley
Amanda Givens

Organ

Bruce Bengtson

Soloists

Erin Bryan, soprano
Britt Brown, alto
Ryan Nash, tenor
Ryne Cherry, bass

A special thanks to Gary Lewis for his assistance in the preparation of this cantata.

MUSIC AT LUTHER MEMORIAL

“Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to us that we should proclaim the Word of God through Music.”
Martin Luther

Integral to the worship and mission of the congregation, Luther Memorial's music program is rooted in the rich Lutheran musical tradition and ancient liturgy of the church. Chant, cantatas, chorales, anthems, motets, and hymns of various times and places are sung by the the congregation with the leadership of several outstanding choral groups. We believe that music exists to aid God's people in worship and thus the music at Luther Memorial is offered at the highest standard, ennobling the liturgy through sacred song.

THANK YOU

The presentation of Reformation Vespers is made possible by the contributions of many Luther Memorial members and community friends. Thank you for your continued support of the music ministry at Luther Memorial Church.

DONATE NOW

We are so grateful you are here with us this evening. To support this musical offering, future music ministry and the centennial anniversary, you can give online at www.luthermem.org/give.

SERVING TODAY

OFFICIANT	Pastor Brad Pohlman
PREACHER	The Rev. Franklin Wilson
ORGANIST & CONDUCTOR	Andrew Schaeffer
CANTOR	Laura Conger
LECTOR	Michael Bradley
CANDLE BEARER	Alex Linn
AUDIO & VIDEO	Lee Powell
USHERS	Jeff Van Fleet, Sue Bangert



You're invited!

REFORMATION HOLY COMMUNION & CENTENNIAL BRUNCH
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 | 9:30 AM

*We hope you will join us to celebrate our building centennial
and to rededicate ourselves for another century of service in this place!*

9:30 am Service of Holy Communion

All are welcome for this festival service featuring the LM choirs and brass ensemble. Clergy and deacons are invited to process. This service will be livestreamed and a recording will be available after the event.

10:45 am Festive Brunch

A catered brunch will follow the service in the Great Room. Come and gather together to celebrate and reconnect with former LM pastors, staff and friends.

