

2022-01-06 Meditation for Epiphany is now available  
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Theme song (7<sup>th</sup>-century hymn for Advent):  
Creator of the stars of night  
Your people's everlasting light,  
O Christ, Redeemer of us all,  
We pray you hear us when we call

In sorrow that the ancient curse  
Should doom to death a universe . . . .

### Christmas Oratorio, BWV 248, Part 6, Nos 7-11

Lyrics: Christian Friedrich Henrici (Picander, movement 8)  
Georg Werner (movement 11)

Music: J. S. Bach (1685-1750; composed 1734-5)

Artists: Norwegian Chamber Orchestra, Norwegian Soloist's Choir, Peter Dijkstra (dir.)  
Ilse Eerens (Soprano)  
Ivonne Fuchs (Alto)  
Fabio Trümpy (Tenor)  
Halvor Festervoll Melien (Bass)

### 7. Tenor Evangelist (Matthew 2:12)

*Und Gott befahl ihnen im Traum,  
And God ordered them in a dream  
dass sie sich nicht sollten wieder zu Herodes lenken,  
that they should not return to Herod,  
und zogen durch einen andern Weg wieder in ihr Land.  
And so they departed by another way back to their own country.*

### 8. Tenor Accompanied Recitative (2 Oboes d'amore and continuo)

*So geht! Genug, mein Schatz geht nicht von hier,  
Go then! It is enough that my treasure does not depart from here,  
Er bleibt da bei mir,  
He stays here by me,  
Ich will ihn auch nicht von mir lassen.  
I will not let him leave me*

*Sein Arm wird mich aus Lieb*  
 His arm out of love  
*Mit sanftmutsvollem Trieb*  
 With desire full of gentleness  
*Und größter Zärtlichkeit umfassen;*  
 And with great tenderness will embrace me;  
*Er soll mein Bräutigam verbleiben,*  
 He will remain my bridegroom,  
*Ich will ihm Brust und Herz verschreiben.*  
 I will dedicate my heart and prayers to him  
*Ich weiß gewiss, er liebet mich,*  
 I know for certain that he loves me  
*Mein Herz liebt ihn auch inniglich*  
 My heart also loves him ardently  
*Und wird ihn ewig ehren.*  
 And will always honour him.  
*Was könnte mich nun für ein Feind*  
 What sort of enemy could now  
*Bei solchem Glück versehren!*  
 Do me harm when I am so fortunate!  
*Du, Jesu, bist und bleibst mein Freund;*  
 You, Jesus, are and remain my friend  
*Und werd ich ängstlich zu dir flehn:*  
 And if I beg you anxiously  
*Herr, hilf!, so lass mich Hülfe sehn!*  
 "Lord, help!", then let me see your help.

## 9. Tenor Aria

### A Section:

[Ritornello: 2 oboes d'amore and continuo]

*Nun mögt ihr stolzen Feinde schrecken;*  
 Now, you arrogant enemies, may try to scare me  
*Was könnt ihr mir für Furcht erwecken?*  
 What sort of fear can you arouse in me

*Mein Schatz, mein Hort ist hier bei mir.*  
My treasure, my refuge, is here with me.

[Ritornello]

**B Section:**

*Ihr mögt euch noch so grimmig stellen,*  
Though you may appear ever so fierce  
*Droht nur, mich ganz und gar zu fällen,*  
And threatened to cast me down once and for all  
*Doch seht! mein Heiland wohnt hier.*  
Yet see! My saviour lives here.

[After a brief pause, we return, *da capo*, to the top, the **A Section**, above]

**10. Recitative for four soloists**

*Was will der Höllen Schrecken nun,*  
What will the terror of hell do now,  
*Was will uns Welt und Sünde tun,*  
What will the world and sin do to us  
*Da wir in Jesu Händen ruhn?*  
Since we rest in the hands of Jesus?

**11. Chorale**

[Ritornello: 3 brilliant trumpets, timpani, 2 oboes, strings and continuo.  
Each chorale phrase is introduced by the orchestra.

*Nun seid ihr wohl gerochen*  
Now you are well avenged  
*An eurer Feinde Schar,*  
On the host of your enemies;  
*Denn Christus hat zerbrochen,*

Christ has broken in pieces  
*Was euch zuwider war.*  
What was against you.  
*Tod, Teufel, Sünd und Hölle*  
Death, Devil, sin and hell  
*Sind ganz und gar geschwächt;*  
are weakened once and for all;  
*Bei Gott hat seine Stelle*  
With God is the place  
*Das menschliche Geschlecht.*  
For the human race.

[Concluding glorious Ritornello]

Evan

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