

2024-03-28 Meditation for Thursday in the Sixth Week in Lent is now available at: <https://pgimf.org/meditations/>

[The opening theme song with a poetic paraphrase begins:]

*Ich bete an die Macht der Liebe,
O Pow'r of love, all else transcending,
Die sich in Jesu offenbart;
In Jesus present evermore,
Ich geb' mich hin dem freien Triebe,
I worship thee, in homage bending,*

St Matthew Passion, Part II: Nos 63c-65 BWV 244 (Good Friday 1727)

Lyrics: Matthew 26 & 27; aria poetry by Christian Friedrich Henrici (pen name = Picander, 1700-1764)

Trans: <https://www.bach-cantatas.com/Texts/BWV244-Eng3.htm>

Music: Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Artists: Netherlands Bach Society, Jos von Veldhoven (dir.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZwVW1ttVhuQ> (the entire Passion)

Recorded April 17 and 19, 2014 at the Grote Kerk, Naarden, Netherlands

The website offers six interviews explaining the Passion, the tradition, use of rhetoric, etc.

No. 63c. Recitative

Evangelist:

Und es waren viel Weiber da, die von ferne zusahen,
And there were many women who looked on from a distance,
die da waren nachgefolget aus Galiläa
who had followed him from Galilee
und hatten ihm gedienet,
and had served him,
unter welchen war Maria Magdalena und Maria,
among whom were Mary Magdalene and Mary,
die Mutter Jacobi und Joses,
the mother of James and Joses,
und die Mutter der Kinder Zebedäi.
and the mother of the children of Zebedee
Am Abend aber kam ein reicher Mann von Arimathia,
But in the evening came a rich man from Arimathea,
der hieß Joseph, welcher auch ein Jünger Jesu war,
who was called Joseph and who also was a disciple of Jesus.

der ging zu Pilato und bat ihn um den Leichnam Jesu.

He went to Pilate and asked him for Jesus's corpse.

Da befahl Pilatus, man sollte ihm ihn geben.

Then Pilate gave orders that it should be given to him.

No. 64. Bass Recitative

Am Abend, da es kühle war,

In the evening, when it was cool,

Ward Adams Fallen offenbar;

The fall of Adam was manifest;

Am Abend drücket ihn der Heiland nieder.;

In the evening the saviour presses down on him;

Am Abend kam die Taube wieder

In the evening the dove returned

Und trug ein Ölblatt in dem Munde.

And carried an olive branch in its mouth.

O schöne Zeit! O Abendstunde!

O beautiful time! O evening hour!

Der Friedensschluss ist nun mit Gott gemacht,

The peace treaty with God is now made

Denn Jesus hat sein Kreuz vollbracht.

For Jesus has brought to fulfilment his cross.

Sein Leichnam kömmt zur Ruh,

His corpse comes to rest,

Ach! liebe Seele, bitte du,

Ah! Dear soul, pray,

Geh, lasse dir den toten Jesum schenken,

Go, let them give you the dead Jesus,

O heilsames, o köstlichs Angedenken!

O salutary, o precious remembrance!

No. 65. Bass Aria

Ritornello (2 Oboes da caccia and strings)

Mache dich, mein Herze, rein,

Make yourself pure, my heart

Ich will Jesum selbst begraben,

I want to bury Jesus himself within me,

Ritornello

Denn er soll nunmehr in mir

For he now within me

Für und für

Forever

Seine süße Ruhe haben.

Shall have his sweet rest.

Partial Ritornello

Welt, geh aus, lass Jesum ein!

World, depart from my heart, let Jesus enter!

Mache dich, mein Herze, rein,

Make yourself pure, my heart

Ich will Jesum selbst begraben,

I want to bury Jesus himself within me,

Closing Ritornello

[Closing words to our theme song:]

O! dass diess jeder Sünder wüsste,

O! that every sinner would know this,

Sein Herz wohl bald dich lieben müsste.

His heart must soon surely love You.

Evan

j.evan.kreider@ubc.ca