

2025-01-01 Meditation for New Years Day, Wednesday of Christmastide is now available at: <https://pgimf.org/meditations/>

Theme song (7<sup>th</sup>-century hymn):

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 . . . .

***Das neugeborne Kindelein***, BuxWV 13 (before c. 1680)

Lyrics: Cyriacus Schneegass (1546-1597)

Music: Dieterich Buxtehude (c. 1637-1707)

Artists: La Petite Bande, Sigiswald Kuijken (dir.)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dRi8c1FO\\_PI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dRi8c1FO_PI)

### Verse 1:

[Instrumental ritornello: Violins 1, 2, 3 and continuo]

*Das neugeborne Kindelein,*  
The newborn little child,  
*das Hertze Liebe Jesulein,*  
the dearly beloved little Jesus  
*bringt abermal ein neues Jahr*  
brings again a new year  
*der außserwehlten Christen Schar*  
to his chosen Christian flock.

### Verse 2:

*Des freuen sich die Engelein,*  
Therefore the little angels rejoice  
*die gerne umb uns seyn,*  
who are glad, around us and with us,

[*Allegro*, faster, to portray joyful angelic singing]  
*und singen in den Lüften frey,*  
and singing freely in the heavens  
*daß Gott mit uns versönet sey.*  
that God, with us, may be reconciled.

### Verse 3:

[Instrumental interlude, including theme from the ritornello]

[*Adagio*, slower]  
*Ist Gott versönt und unser Freund,*  
Since God is reconciled and our friend,

[Bustehude felt these words to be so important that he stopped the text  
And inserted a brief instrumental ritornello marked *Vivace*, lively/faster.]

*was kan uns thun der arge Feind.*  
What can the evil foe do to us?  
*Trotz Teuffel, Welt und Höllenpfort,*  
Despite the Devil, the world, and hell's portals,  
*das Jesulein ist unser Hort.*  
little Jesus is our refuge.

### Verse 4:

[Longer instrumental interlude, celebrating the New Year.]

*Es bringt das rechte Jubel Jahr*  
You bring us a true Jubilee Year  
*was trauern wir dann immerdar,*  
Why should we be downcast?  
*frisch auff, es ist ietz Singes Zeit,*  
Look alive! It's time now for singing:  
*das Jesulein wendt alles Leid.*  
Little Jesus turns away all harm.

Evan  
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