

2025-03-09 Meditation for the First Sunday of 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,*

### ***Herzlich lieb hab' ich dich*** BuxWV 41:3

Lyrics: Martin Schalling (1532-1608; written 1569, based on Psalms 18 and 73)

Trans: <https://www.bach-cantatas.com/Texts/Chorale006-Eng3.htm>

Melody: Zahn 8326; Mathias Gastritz (c. 1535-1596; melody published in 1571)

Music: Dietrich Buxtehude (c. 1637-1707; c. 1706/07)

Artists: Ensemble Pygmalion, Raphaël Pichon (dir.), live concert at Versailles, April 7, 2023

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f4bS-bKzFno>

(3<sup>rd</sup> movement begins at 11:15)

### **III. Ach, Herr, laß dein' lieb' Engelein**

[The first three lines are sung by the Soprano 2 and Alto soloists, with strings.]

#### **Ach, Herr, laß dein' lieb' Engelein**

Ah, Lord, let your dear angels

#### **Am letzten End' die Seele mein**

At my last end carry my soul

#### **In Abrahams Schoß tragen!**

To Abraham's bosom.

[Choir now sings, triple meter, like a lullaby, words are clear.]

#### **Der Leib in sein'm Schlafkämmerlein**

While my body in its narrow chamber of sleep

#### **Gar sanft, ohn' ein'ge Qual und Pein,**

Gently, without pain and torment,

[For the word *Ruh*/"Rests", the choir sings extended 'resting' notes, depicting the long wait until "the last day".]

**Ruh' bis am Jüngsten Tage.**

Rests until the last day.

[More lively since it is about life.]

**Alsdenn vom Tod erwecke mich**

Then awaken me from death,

**Daß meine Augen sehen dich**

So that my eyes may see you

**In aller Freud', o Gottes Sohn,**

In all joy, o God's son,

**Mein Heiland und mein Gnadenthron!**

My saviour and throne of mercy!

**Herr Jesu Christ,**

Lord Jesus Christ,

**Erhöre mich, erhöre mich,**

Hear me, hear me.

**Ich will dich preisen ewiglich!**

I will praise you forever!

**Amen.**

[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

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