

2025-12-15 Meditation for Monday in the third Week of Advent is now available at: <https://pgimf.org/meditations/>

Theme song (7th-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

Nachthelle, D. 892 (1826)

Lyrics: Johann Gabriel Seidl (1804-1875; written 1823/1824, pub. 1825)

Trans: <https://www.schubertsong.uk/text/nachthelle/>

Music: Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Artists: RIAS Kammerchor Berlin

Daniel Behle, tenor

Sveinung Bjelland, piano

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9P5VyliMCPU>

Die Nacht ist heiter und ist rein,

The night is serene and pure

Im allerhellsten Glanz.

In the brightest possible glow;

Die Häuser schaun verwundert drein,

The houses are looking in with amazement,

Stehn übersilbert ganz.

They are completely covered in silver.

In mir ist's hell so wunderbar,

Inside me it is so wonderfully bright,

So voll und übertoll,

So full and overflowing,

Und waltet drinnen frei und klar,

And everything within in free and clear,

Ganz ohne Leid und Groll.

Totally without pain or resentment.

Ich fass in meinem Herzenshaus

Within the house of my heart I cannot grasp

Nicht all das reiche Licht,

All of that rich light;

Es will hinaus, es muss hinaus,

It wants to get out, it has to get out,

Der letzte Schranke bricht.

The last barrier has broken.

[Now Schubert returns to the poem's first stanza.]

Evan

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