

Celebrate Easter with
Handel & Bach



(1685 - 1759)



(1685 - 1750)

music performed by
The Cecilian Singers
The Barbados Chamber Orchestra
John Bryan (conductor)
David Parsons (organ)

at
St. Barnabas' Anglican Church
Saturday May 5th, 2001
at
6:00 p.m.

Programme \$20.00

Programme

Bidding Prayer & Welcome

Christ Lay in Death's dark Prison, BWV 4 J.S. Bach

Three Chorales from the Orgelbüchlein J.S. Bach
Jesus Christus, unser Heiland, BWV 626
Christ ist erstanden, BWV 627
Heut' triumphiret Gottes Sohn, BWV 630

Congregational Hymn - Thine Be The Glory

Messiah, Part III G.F. Handel

Closing Prayer & Blessing

Hallelujah G.F. Handel

*The members of
The Cecilian Singers
wish to express their sincere thanks to the
Rev'd Henderson Guy (Priest-In-Charge)
and the Parochial Church Council
of St. Barnabas' Church.*

Christ Lay In Death's Dark Prison

(Christ lag in todesbanden)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750)

Cantata No. 4 for Easter Day

English version by Paul England.

Bach wrote more than 300 cantatas during his life, of which about two-fifths are lost. He wrote quite a few secular cantatas, but most of his cantatas were written for the Lutheran church service and, naturally, involve a lot of texts related to that service. This particular Cantata, for Easter Day, is believed to have been written while Bach was in Mühlhausen, c1707. The text is by Martin Luther, 1524.

SINFONIA

CHORUS

Christ lay in Death's dark prison,
It was our sin that bound Him,
This day hath He arisen,
And sheds new life around Him.
Therefore let us joyful be.
And praise our God with solemn glee.
Hallelujah!

DUET: SOPRANO & ALTO

O'er Death no man could prevail,
If mortal e'er came near him,
Thro' guilt all our strength would fail,
Our sinful hearts did fear him.
Therefore Death did gain the day,
And lead in triumph us away,
Henceforth to dwell with him
emprison'd.
Hallelujah!

ARIA: TENOR

Now Jesus Christ, the Son of God,
For our defence hath risen,
Our grievous guilt He hath removed,
And Death hath bound in prison.
All his might Death must forego,
For now he's nought but idle show,
His sting is lost for ever.
Hallelujah!

CHORUS

How fierce and dreadful was the strife
When Life with Death contended;

For Death was swallow'd up by Life,
And all his pow'r was ended.
God of old, the Scriptures do show,
Did promise that it should be so.
O Death, where is now thy victory?
Hallelujah!

ARIA: BASS

The Paschal Victim here we see,
Whereof God's word hath spoken.
He hangs upon the cruel tree,
Of saying love the token.
His blood ransoms us from sin,
And Death no more can enter in.
Now Satan cannot harm us.
Hallelujah!

DUET: SOPRANO & TENOR

So keep we all this holy feast,
Where ev'ry joy invites us;
Our Sun is rising in the East,
It is our Lord Who lights us.
Through the glory of His grace
Our darkness will today give place,
The night of sin now is over.
Hallelujah!

CHORALE

With grateful hearts we all are met
To eat the bread of gladness.
The ancient leaven now forget,
And ev'ry thought of sadness.
Christ Himself the feast hath spread,
By Him the hungry soul is fed,
And He alone can feed us.
Hallelujah!

Three (3) Chorales from the Orgelbüchlein

(Little Organ Book)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750)

“Little Organ Book in which guidance is given to an inquiring organist in how to accomplish a chorale in all kinds of ways, and at the same time to become practised in the study of pedaling, since in the chorales found therein the pedal is treated completely obligato.”

Jesus Christus, unser Heiland, BWV 626

Jesus Christ our great redeemer,
Who hath subdued death,
From death awaketh:
The power of sin He breaketh.
Have mercy upon us.

Christ ist erstanden, BWV 627

Christ is now risen agayne
From his death and all his payne;
Therefore wyll we mery be
And rejoyse with hymn gladly.
Kirieleyson.

Had he not risen agayne,
We had ben lost, this is playne:
But sen he is risen in dede
Let us love hym all with spede.
Kirieleyson.

Now is tyme of gladnesse,
To synge of the Lorde's goodnesse;
Therefore glad now wyll we be
And rejoyse in hym onely.
Kirieleyson.

Heut' triumphiret Gottes Sohn, BWV 630

Today God's only-gotten Son
Arose from death, and triumph won,
Alleluya, Alleluya,
In mighty pomp and rich array;
His therefore be the praise always.
Alleluya, Alleluya,

Congregational Hymn

Thine Be The Glory, Risen, Conquering Son

Words tr. by R. Hoyle from the French of E. Budry

Tune - *MACCABAEUS* by G.F. Handel

**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory, Thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where Thy body lay.**

*Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son,
Endless is the victory, Thou o'er death hast won.*

**Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing;
For her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting.**

**No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life;
Life is nought without Thee; aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conquerors, through Thy deathless love:
Bring us safe through Jordan to Thy home above.**

The popularity of this hymn doubtless owes a good deal to its splendid tune, an arrangement of the celebrated chorus from Handel's Judas Maccabaeus, 1746. The original words were written by Edmund Budry (1854-1932,) who for thirty-five years was pastor at Verney, Switzerland. He composed the hymn in 1896, following the death of his first wife. It was published in the YMCA Hymn Book, Lausanne, 1904, in its French form. The English translation was made by Richard Hoyle (1875-1937,) a Baptist minister. The hymn has close links with the resurrection narratives in the Gospels: Verse 1 with the angels and the rolling away of the stone (Matthew 28: 2;) verse 2 with the Lord's greeting to the women he met as they hurried from the tomb (Matthew 28: 8 & 9;) and verse 3 with the dispelling of Thomas' doubts (John 20: 24.)

From *A Hymn Companion* by Frank Colquhoun

Messiah

Part III

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Handel's most successful oratorio, Messiah, was first performed in Dublin in 1742 - the only one of his English oratorios not premiered in England. Although Messiah takes about four hours to perform in its entirety, it took Handel 3½ weeks to write. The text, compiled by Charles Jennings, from the Bible, presents the life of Christ in three parts. The Christmas story in part one, the betrayal in part two, and the resurrection and after life in part three. Handel set to work on the 22nd August 1741. With hardly any sleep and very little food he worked under, what he himself called: 'divine inspiration' and added that he seemed to feel the divine presence while writing the Hallelujah chorus. On the 14th September he threw down his quilt having finished what has become the most famous of all oratorios.

Air (Soprano) - I know that my redeemer liveth

Soloist – Alison Norville

I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God. For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that sleep.

(Job xix, 25-26; Cor. xv,20)

Chorus - Since by man came death

Since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. *(I Cor. xv, 21-22)*

Recitative (Bass) - Behold, I tell you a mystery

Soloist – Ronald Bruce

Behold, I tell you a mystery, we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be chang'd, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet: *(I Cor. xv, 51-52)*

Air (Bass) - The trumpet shall sound

Soloist – Ronald Bruce

The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. *(I Cor. xv, 52-54)*

Recitative (Alto) - Then shall be brought to pass

Soloist – Edith Moise

Then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, death is swallow'd up in victory. *(I Cor. xv, 54)*

Duet (Alto & Tenor) - O death, where is thy sting?

Chorus - But thanks be to God

Soloists – Edith Moise & Stanton Jordan

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law, but thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (*1 Cor. xv, 55-57*)

Air (Soprano) - If God be for us

Soloist – Amanda Fields

If God be for us, who can be against us? Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is at the right hand of God, who makes intercession for us. (*Romans viii, 31, 33-34*)

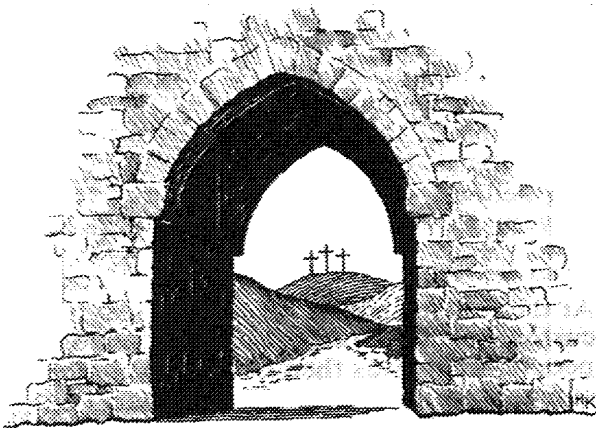
Chorus - Worthy is the Lamb that was slain

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by his blood, to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. Blessing, and honour, glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. Amen. (*Rev. v, 12-13*)

Part II

Chorus – Hallelujah!

Hallelujah: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever. King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Hallelujah! (*Rev. xix, 6, 16; xi, 15*)





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