

Johann Sebastian

BACH

Barmherziges Herze der ewigen Liebe

Most merciful Lord that eternally loves us

BWV 185

Weimarer Fassung / Weimar version

Kantate zum 4. Sonntag nach Trinitatis

für Soli (SATB), Chor (SATB)

Oboe (Oboe d'amore), Fagott

2 Violinen, Viola und Basso continuo

herausgegeben von Reinhold Kubik

Cantata for the 4th Sunday after Trinity

for soli (SATB), choir (SATB)

oboe (oboe d'amore), Bassoon

2 violins, viola and basso continuo

edited by Reinhold Kubik

English version by Vernon and Jutta Wicker

Stuttgarter Bach-Ausgaben · Urtext
In Zusammenarbeit mit dem Bach-Archiv Leipzig

Klavierauszug / Vocal score
Reinhold Kubik



Carus 31.185/03

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Zu diesem Werk liegt folgendes Aufführungsmaterial vor:
Partitur (Carus 31.185), Studienpartitur (Carus 31.185/07),
Klavierauszug (Carus 31.185/03), Chorpartitur (Carus 31.185/05),
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Barmherziges Herze der ewigen Liebe

Most merciful Lord that eternally loves us

BWV 185

Weimarer Fassung / Weimar version

Johann Sebastian Bach

1685–1750

Klavierauszug: Reinhold Kubik

1. Aria (Duetto)

Soprano

Tenore

Oboe
Continuo
Organo

Bassoon (Ob)

Organ (Organ)

1

Barm - her - zi - ges Her - ze der
Most mer - ci - ful Lord that e -

2

e - wi - gen Lie - be, er - re - ge,
ter - nal - ly loves us, draw clos - tr

3

Barm - her
Most - mer

4

Her - ze dr - re - ge, be - we - ge mein
you, O raw clos - er my heart now to

5

be, er - re - ge, be - we - ge mein
us, draw clos - er my heart now to

6

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Aufführungsdauer / Duration: ca. 16 min.

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English version by
Vernon and Jutta Wicker

8

Her - ze durch dich, mein Her - ze durch dich, O my God,
you, O my God, to you, O my God,

Her - ze durch dich, mein Her - ze durch dich, O my God, barm - most
you, O my God, to you, O my God,

Bc

10

her - zi - ges Her - ze der e - ter
mer - ci - ful Lord that e - ter

be, er - draw

12

her - mer - nat - e - wi - gen Lie - be, er - draw
mer - ci - ful Lord that e - ter - nal - ly loves us, draw

we heart - ge mein Her you
heart now to you

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14

re - ge, be - we - ge mein Her - ze durch dich, er -
clos - er my heart now to you, O my God, draw
Ob.

16

re - ge, be - we - ge mein Her - ze durch
clos - er my heart now to you, O my
re - ge, be - we - ge mein Her - ze durch
clos - er my heart now to you, C.
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18

re - ge, mein Her - ze durch dich;
clos - er to you, O my God,
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20

da - mit ich Er - bar - men und
that I can show mer - cy and

p

23

da - mit ich Er
that I can sk

Gü - tig - keit ü - be, o Flam
prac - tice all good - ness. O flam

be, zer -
do re -

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25

Gü - tig - keit ü - be, o Flam - me der Lie - be, zer -
prac - tice all good - ness. O flame of God's love, do re -

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*zer -
re -*

ob

27

schmel - ze du mich, zer - schmel - ze du mich, da -
fine me as gold, fine me as gold, that

schmel - ze du mich, zer - schmel - ze du mich,
fine me as gold, fine me as gold,

Bc

29

mit I ich Er - bar - men und Gü - tig - keit
can show mer - cy and prac - tice all

da -
that

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31

Flam - me o, re - schmel - ze du mich, o

flame o, re - schmel - ze du mich, o

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33

Flam - me der Lie - be, zer - schmel - ze du mich, o
 flame of God's love, do refine me as gold, o

Flam - me der Lie - be, zer - schmel - ze du mich, o
 flame of God's love, do refine me as gold, o

Ob

35

Flam - me der Lie - be, zer - schmel - ze d
 flame of God's love, do re - fine me

Flam - me der Lie - be, zer - schr
 flame of God's love, do re - f

37

zer - schmel - ze du mich! Barm -
 re - fine me as gold! Most

Lie - be, zer - schmel!
 love, do re - fine

39

her - zi - ges Her - ze
mer - ci - ful Lord that der
e -

Barm - her - zi - ges Her - ze der
Most mer - ci - ful Lord that e -

41

e - wi - gen Lie - be, er - re - ge, be
ter - nal - ly loves us, draw clos - er rr
e - wi - gen Lie - be, er - re -
ter - nal - ly loves us, draw clos

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Ob

43

Her you, da - that

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ich; God, da - mit I

Bc

45

mit ich Er - bar - men und Gü - tig - keit ü - be, und
 I can show mer - cy and prac - tice all good - ness, and

Gü - tig - keit ü - be, da - mit ich Er - bar - men und
 prac - tice all good - ness, that I can show mer - cy and

47

Gü - tig - keit ü - be, o Flam - me
 prac - tice all good - ness. O flame o'

Gü - tig - keit ü - be, und Gü
 prac - tice all good - ness, and be,
 ness.

Ob

49

schmel - fine Flam - me der Lie - be, o
 fine Original evtl. gemindert flame of God's love, do re -

Flam - me der Lie
 flame of God's love

Bc

51

Flam - me der Lie - be, zer - schmel - ze, zer -
fine me, God's love, do re - fine me, re -

Lie - be, zer - schmel - ze, zer - schmel -
love, do re - fine me, re - fine

53

schmel - ze du mich,
fine me as gold,

- ze du mich, o Flam -
me as gold, o flame

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55

schmel - z
fine

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dich!
gold!

Barm - her
Most mer

Bc

57

Barm - her - zi - ges Her - ze der
Most mer - ci - ful Lord
e - wi - gen Lie - be, er - re - ge, be - we - ge
ter - nal - ly loves us, draw clos - er my heart now mein to

59

e - wi - gen Lie - be, barm - her - zi -
ter - nal - ly loves us, most mer -
Her - ze durch dich, you, O my God, er - re draw
mein to

61

e - wi - gen Lie - be, barm - her - zi -
ter - nal - ly loves us, most mer -
dich, God, er - re - ge, be - we - ge
my heart now mein to

63

tr

Her - ze durch dich, er - re - ge mein
you, O my God, draw clos - er to

e - wi - gen Lie - be, be - we - ge ...
ter - nal - ly loves us, my heart now...

65

tr *tr*

Her - ze durch dich, barm - her - zi - ges
you, O my God, most mer ci - ful

durch dich, barm - most

67

barm - her - zi - ges Her - - ze der
most mer ci - ful Lord - that e -

er Lord - ze, that...

69

e - wi-gen Lie - be, er - re - ge, be - we - ge mein Her -
ter - nal - ly loves us, draw clos - er my heart now to you,

her - zi - ges Her - ze der e - wi-gen Lie - be, er -
mer - ci - ful Lord that e - ter nal - ly loves us, draw

71

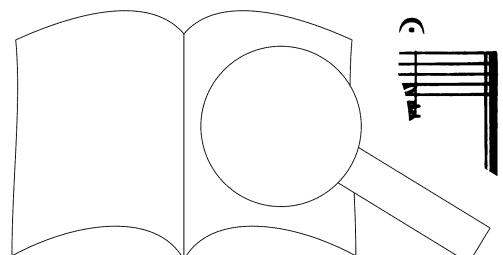
ze, er - re - ge, be - we - ge mein
God, draw clos - er my heart now tr

re - ge, be - we - ge
clos - er my heart now

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73

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2. Recitativo

Alto

Ihr Her - zen, die ihr euch in Stein und Fels ver -
You hearts that have be - come so hard - ened, marked with

Fagotto
Archi
Continuo
Organo

Str *pp*

3

keh - ret, zer - fließt und wer - det weich
proud-ness, re - lent, be o - ver - cr

5

wägt, was euch der Hei - land übt Barm-her - zig -
hear what Christ your Sav - i deeds of char - i -

7

e noch auf der Er - den tr

while yet on earth here

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9

den.
y!

Ach,
O,

grei - fet nicht,
nev - er judge!

durch das ver - bot - ne
God's judg - ment is for -

11

Rich - ten, dem Al - ler-höch-sten ins Ge - richt, sonst wird sein Ei
ev - er and in his word he says to us: Who judg - es ,

13

nich - ten. Ver Fc wird euch auch ver -
judg - ment.

15

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gebt in die - sem L - pi - your
what you have with

17

19

21

23

PROB

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25

- sen, wird man euch wie - der mes - sen.
- ers, as you do meas - ure oth - ers.

27

tr

3. Aria

Adagio

Alto

Oboe
Fagotto
Archi
Continuo
Organo

tr

Tutti

tr

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7

9

Sei _____ bemüht in _____ die - ser Zeit;
Be _____ concerned now in _____ this life,

Bc

Tutti

11

sei _____ bemüht in _____ die - ser Zeit;
be _____ concerned now in _____ this life;

tr

p

13

streu.
p'

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15

- en, reich - lich aus - zu - streu - en,
- ty, you will sow in plen - ty.

tr

f Tutti

17

soll die Ern - te
Then your hands will

tr Bc

19

freu - emp -

Ob., VI I

p Bc

... in der rei - chen E - wig -
ty, you will see the fruit a -

21

kei a

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tr Tutti

<img alt="Large watermark reading 'CARUS' diagonally across

23

wig-keit.
a - rise.

25

f Tutti

Wo, wer Gu - tes aus - ge - sä - et, fröh
When you share e - ter - nal glo - ry, t'

Bc

nach den Gar - ben ge - het, wo, v -
har - vest is in plen - ty, when

ge - sä - et, fröh -
- nal glo - ry, then

27

Oh -

PROBE

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lic

fröh - lich
vour

Tutti

31

nach den Gar - ben, nach den Gar - ben ge - het.
har - vest is in plen - ty, is in plen-ty.

Bc

Tutti

f

33

tr

f

Bc

35

tr

f

Bc

37

tr

f

Bc



4. Recitativo

Basso

Die
All Ei - gen - lie - be schmei - chelt
self - love finds it - self most

Fagotto
Continuo
Organo

Bc

2

sich.
fair. Be - stre - be dich, erst dei - nen Bal - ken aus - zu -
but do take care to first re - move your beam thc

4

magst du dich um Split - ter
be con-cerned a - bout the die in des Näch-sten
the speck that's in your

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6

Ist He gleich dein
gleich is not

Ausgabequalität gegenüber Original evtl. gemindert

8

rein, so wis - se, daß auch du kein En - gel. Ver -
try, re - mem - ber that you too are fail - ing! Cor -

10

bess - re dei - ne Män - gel! Wie kann ein Blin - de
rect your ways of liv - ing! How should one blind

12

an - dern doch recht und ric ern? Wie, fal - len
oth - er, and yet wo' er? How, both are

14

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Lei - de nicht in die Gi and fall with - in

5. Aria

Vivace

Basso

Fagotto
Continuo
Organo

Bc

4

Das ist der Chri - sten Kunst,
This is Chris-tian - i - ty,

7

das ist der Chri - sten
this is Chris-tian -

10

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13

Das ist der Chri - sten Kunst:
This is Chris-tian - i - ty:

nicht un - zu - läs - sig
o - bey his word, do

15

rich - ten, noch frem - des Tun ver - nich - ten: das ist
not judge; your neigh-bour's goods, do not touch! This

17

ist der Chri - sten Kunst.
is Chris-tian - i - ty.

20

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23

Näch - sten nicht ver - ges - sen,____ mit rei - chem Ma - ße mes - sen:____ das
mem - ber oth - ers kind - ly____ and meas - ure gen - er - ous - ly.____ This

25

ist, das ist der Chri-sten Kunst.
is, this is Christian - i - ty.

Das ist der C
This is Chr'

28

Kunst: nur Gott und sich er
ty: ac - know-ledge God

on wah - rer Lie - be
in fer - vent love, his

30

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an - zu - läs - sig rich - tei
bey his word, do not ju

er - o

32

nich - ten, des Näch - sten nicht ver - ges - sen, mit rei - chem Ma - ße
not touch! Re - mem - ber oth - ers kind - ly and meas - ure gen - er -

34

mes - sen: das ist der Chri - sten Kunst, der Chri - sten
ous - ly. This is Chris - tian - i - ty, Chris - tian - i

36

das macht bei Gott
This pleas - es God

38

as ist, das ist der Chri -
This is, this is Chris - tian -
sten - i -

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40

Kunst, das macht bei Gott und Menschen Gunst, das macht bei Gott und
ty. This pleas - es God and peo - ple too, this pleas - es God and

42

Menschen Gunst, das ist der Christen Kunst.
peo - ple too. This is Chris - tian - i - ty.

44



6. Choral

Soprano

Alto

Tenore

Basso

Oboe
Fagotto
Archi
Continuo
Organo

12

ge - ben, dir zu le - ben, mein'm Näch - sten nütz zu
spair - ing. Help me care for my neigh - bour ev - ery

ge - ben, dir zu le - ben, mein'm Näch - sten nütz zu
spair - ing. Help me care for my neigh - bour ev - ery

8 ge - ben, dir zu le - ben, mein'm Näch - sten nütz zu
spair - ing. Help me care for my neigh - bour ev - ery

ge - ben, dir zu le - ben, mein'm Näch - sten nütz zu
spair - ing. Help me care for my neigh - bour ev - ery

15

sein, dein Wort e - ben.
day, your word, e - ing.

sein, dein Wort zu ten e - ben.
day, your wr zu o - bey - ing.

sein, dein Wort zu hal - ten e - ben.
day, your wr zu o - bey - ing.

sei zu hal - ten ben.
day, zu o - bey - ing.

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Nachwort

Die Kantate *Barmherziges Herz der ewigen Liebe* BWV 185 entstand in Johann Sebastian Bachs Weimarer Zeit und wurde dort am 14. Juli 1715, dem 4. Sonntag nach Trinitatis, erstmals aufgeführt. Die Kantatendichtung entstammt dem *Evangelischen Andachts=Opffer* des dortigen Hofpredigers Salomo Franck. Als Schlusschoral dient die vierte Strophe des Liedes „Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ“ von Johann Agricola aus der Zeit um 1529. Bach hat die Kantate auch in Leipzig wieder aufgeführt. Sie wurde in den ersten Jahrgang von Kirchenkantaten eingegliedert und kam am 20. Juni 1723 mit veränderter Besetzung (zusammen mit Kantate 24) zur Aufführung; eine weitere Revision, die sich am Quellenbefund festmachen lässt, dürfte in das Jahr 1746 oder 1747 fallen.

Der Lesungstext, an dem sich Salomo Franck orientiert hat, steht in der Bergpredigt. Der Gläubige wird aufgerufen, Barmherzigkeit zu üben, und zugleich davor gewarnt, an Gottes Stelle zu richten. Im Eingangssatz, einem Soprano-Tenor-Duett, hat Bach die Melodie des Schlusschorals bereits vorweggenommen. Die folgenden Sätze sind zu Paaren zusammengefasst. Sie bestehen jeweils aus einem am Bibelwort orientierten Rezitativ und einer Arie, die den Lesungstext allgemein interpretiert. Bach hat sich bei der Vertonung der beherzten Warnungen des Evangelientextes, die Franck in Satz 2 paraphrasiert, für ein von Streichern begleitetes Accompagnato für Alt entschieden, auf das dann eine Arie mit Solo-Oboe folgt. Entsprechend ist das Verhältnis der Sätze 3 und 4, bei denen der Bass als Gesangssolist herangezogen wird: Durch zwei bekannte Gleichenisse werden die Mahnungen aus Satz 2 belebt, ehe diese Gedanken unter dem Motto „Das ist der Christen Kunst“ in einem Lehrvers zusammengefasst werden. Durch einen obligaten Violinpart wird der Schlusschoral nach französischem Vorbild zur Fünfstimmigkeit erweitert.

Die aus Bachs Besitz stammende Partitur¹ besteht aus 3 Bogen mit dem Blattformat 33 x 19,5 cm; darüber befinden sich, zwei monogrammatisch ineinander verschlungene Buchstaben A ohne Gegenmarke (= NBA IX/1, 1), die sonst nur in der Originalpartitur der Kantate *Himmelskönig sei willkommen* aus dem Jahr 1714. Das Titelblatt der Handhandschrift *Dominica 4 post Trinit: / Barmherzige Liebe etc. / à 5 Strom. 4 Voc. / Violoncello / è Fagotto. / JS Bach. / 1715.*

Der größte Teil von Bachs Schriften ist in Reinschrift geschrieben, einzelne T. 27' H2' H3' H4' H5' H6' H7' H8' H9' H10' H11' H12' H13' H14' H15' H16' H17' H18' H19' H20' H21' H22' H23' H24' H25' H26' H27' H28' H29' H30' H31' H32' H33' H34' H35' H36' H37' H38' H39' H40' H41' H42' H43' H44' H45' H46' H47' H48' H49' H50' H51' H52' H53' H54' H55' H56' H57' H58' H59' H60' H61' H62' H63' H64' H65' H66' H67' H68' H69' H70' H71' H72' H73' H74' H75' H76' H77' H78' H79' H80' H81' H82' H83' H84' H85' H86' H87' H88' H89' H90' H91' H92' H93' H94' H95' H96' H97' H98' H99' H100' H101' H102' H103' H104' H105' H106' H107' H108' H109' H110' H111' H112' H113' H114' H115' H116' H117' H118' H119' H120' H121' H122' H123' H124' H125' H126' H127' H128' H129' H130' H131' H132' H133' H134' H135' H136' H137' H138' H139' H140' H141' H142' H143' H144' H145' H146' H147' H148' H149' H150' H151' H152' H153' H154' H155' H156' H157' H158' H159' H160' H161' H162' H163' H164' H165' H166' H167' H168' H169' H170' H171' H172' H173' H174' H175' H176' H177' H178' H179' H180' H181' H182' H183' H184' H185' H186' H187' H188' H189' H190' H191' H192' H193' H194' H195' H196' H197' H198' H199' H200' H201' H202' H203' H204' H205' H206' H207' H208' H209' H210' H211' H212' H213' H214' H215' H216' H217' H218' H219' H220' H221' H222' H223' H224' H225' H226' H227' H228' H229' H2210' H2211' H2212' H2213' H2214' H2215' H2216' H2217' H2218' H2219' H2220' H2221' H2222' H2223' H2224' H2225' H2226' H2227' H2228' H2229' H2230' H2231' H2232' H2233' H2234' H2235' H2236' H2237' H2238' H2239' H22310' H22311' H22312' H22313' H22314' H22315' H22316' H22317' H22318' H22319' H22320' H22321' H22322' H22323' H22324' H22325' H22326' H22327' H22328' H22329' H22330' H22331' H22332' H22333' H22334' H22335' H22336' H22337' H22338' H22339' H22340' H22341' H22342' H22343' H22344' H22345' H22346' H22347' H22348' H22349' H22350' H22351' H22352' H22353' H22354' H22355' H22356' H22357' H22358' H22359' H22360' H22361' H22362' H22363' H22364' H22365' H22366' H22367' H22368' H22369' H22370' H22371' H22372' H22373' H22374' H22375' H22376' H22377' H22378' H22379' H22380' H22381' H22382' H22383' H22384' H22385' H22386' H22387' H22388' H22389' H22390' H22391' H22392' H22393' H22394' H22395' H22396' H22397' H22398' H22399' H223100' H223101' H223102' H223103' H223104' H223105' H223106' H223107' H223108' H223109' H223110' H223111' H223112' H223113' H223114' H223115' H223116' H223117' H223118' H223119' H223120' H223121' H223122' H223123' H223124' H223125' H223126' H223127' H223128' H223129' H223130' H223131' H223132' H223133' H223134' H223135' H223136' H223137' H223138' H223139' H223140' H223141' H223142' H223143' H223144' H223145' H223146' H223147' H223148' H223149' H223150' H223151' H223152' H223153' H223154' H223155' H223156' H223157' H223158' H223159' H223160' H223161' H223162' H223163' H223164' H223165' H223166' H223167' H223168' H223169' H223170' H223171' H223172' H223173' H223174' H223175' H223176' H223177' H223178' H223179' 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Postscript

The cantata *Barmherziges Herze der ewigen Liebe* BWV 185 was composed during Johann Sebastian Bach's employment at Weimar, where it was first performed on the Fourth Sunday after Trinity, 14 July 1715. The text for the cantata was taken from the "Evangelisches Andachts=Opffer" by the Weimar court preacher Salomo Franck. The final chorale is the fourth verse of the hymn "Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ" by Johann Agricola, dating from 1529. Bach performed the cantata again in Leipzig. There it was included in the first annual cycle of church cantatas, where it was performed with altered scoring on 20 June 1723, together with cantata no. 24. A later revision, which is documented by the sources seems to have been performed in 1746 or 1747. The gospel reading upon which Salomo Franck based his text is taken from the Sermon on the Mount. The believer is called upon to exercise mercy and, at the same time, warned against judging in God's stead. In the introductory movement, a duet between soprano and tenor, Bach already anticipates the melody of the final chorale. The movements which follow are linked in pairs. They consist, respectively, of a recitative referring to the Bible reading and an aria which generally interprets the Gospel text. In setting the spirited warnings contained in the Gospel text which Franck paraphrased in movement 2, Bach decided on an accompagnato for alto accompanied by strings, followed by an aria with solo oboe. Correspondingly, this paired format is maintained in movements 3 and 4, in which the bass is the vocal soloist: the warnings from movement 2 are enlivened by two well-known parables after which these thoughts are summarized in a didactic verse under the motto "Das ist der Christen Kunst" (This is Christianity). The final chorale is expanded to five-part writing after the French model by means of an obbligato violin part.

The score,¹ from Bach's estate, consists of 3 sheets measuring 33 x 19,5 cm; the watermark, wh- two letters "A2 entwined monogram-stv" countermark (= NBA IX/1, no. 120) is other in the cantata "Himmelskönig sei willkomme, from 1714. The title page of the a' -raph certo / Dominica 4 post Trinit: / ewigen Liebe etc. / à 5 Strom. Viola. Violoncello / è Fagotto JS Bach. / 1715."

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... part with the later Leipzig performances under

Bach's direction, for which the cantata was transposed to G minor.² Only the 13 older parts are of relevance for the present edition; with the exception of one oboe part (in A) and duplicates of the violoncello and double bass part (both in G), they are all notated in F-sharp minor.³ The paper of the Weimar parts, marginally larger than that of the original score and displaying the watermark of a green crancelin shield flanked by the letter A and above it, a band with the sequence of letters WEHZICVBEW (= NBA IX/1, no. 36), can be identified as stemming from the paper mill of Oberweimar.

valuation Copy - Qu uel Schmidt already published this cantata in Berlin in 1844; the edition is based on the score from Bach's estate and allocates the vocal parts in movement 1 to the soprano. Alfred Dörrffel published the first critical edition within the framework of the Bachgesellschaft edition in 1891.⁴ The cantata was published in the Neue Bachausgabe in 1993, edited by Hiroshikazu Kobayashi.⁵

Leipzig, March 2003/2015
Translation: David Kosviner

Ulrich Leisinger

¹ Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin – Preußischer Kulturbesitz, Musikabteilung mit Mendelssohn-Archiv, shelf mark *Mus. ms. Bach P 59*. Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach added the word *Tromba* to the instrumentation list on the title page, referring to a corresponding Leipzig part. Bach's second-oldest son also ¹ which contained, in addition ² ³ ⁴ her.

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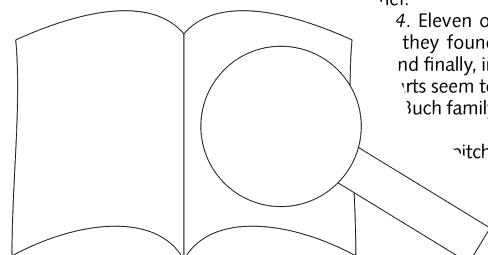
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Bach vocal

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