

# BACH AND THE CREATION OF MODERN EUROPE – THE NORTH, 9/05/2021

## TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

### Matthias Weckmann

(c 1616-1674)

DER TOD IST VERSCHLUNGEN IN DEN SIEG

Der Tod ist verschlungen in den Sieg.

Tod, wo ist dein Stachel, Hölle, wo ist dein Sieg?

Gott aber sei Dank, der uns den Sieg gegeben hat

Durch unsern Herren Jesum Christum.

Alleluja.

Death is swallowed up in victory.

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory

Through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia.

### Franz Tunder (1614-1667)

O JESU DULCISIME

O Jesu dulcissime, creator generis humani.

Quod per sacramentum tuum voluisti habitare in nobis.

Conserva cor meum et corpus meum et non confundar in aeternum.

Alleluia

O sweetest Jesus, creator of the human race. Which through your sacrament you wish to dwell in us.

Protect my heart and body, let me never be confounded.

Alleluia

### Dieterich Buxtehude

(c 1637-1707)

EXTRACTS FROM MEMBRA JESU NOSTRI,

BuxWV 75

1. AD PEDES

Ecce super montes

Pedes evangelizantis

Et annunciantis pacem

Salve mundi salutare,

Salve, salve Jesu care!

Cruci tuae me aptare

Vellem vere, tu scis quare,

Da mihi tui copiam.

1. TO THE FEET

Behold upon the mountains

The feet of him that bringeth good tidings,

That publisheth peace!

Hail, saviour of the world,

Hail, hail dear Jesus!

Would that I could fit on

Your cross, you know why,

Grant me your strength.

Clavos pedum, plagas duras,

Et tam graves impressuras

Circumplector cum affectu,

Tuo pavens in aspectu,

Tuorum memor vulnerum

The nails in your feet, the cruel stripes,

And such grievous marks

I embrace with love,

Terrified at your sight,

Mindful of your wounds.

# TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

Dulcis Jesu, pie Deus,  
Ad te clamo licet reus,  
Praebe mihi te benignum,  
Ne repellas me indignum  
De tuis sanctis pedibus.

Ecce super montes  
Pedes evangelizantis  
Et annunciantis pacem

Salve mundi salutare,  
Salve, salve Jesu care!  
Cruci tuae me aptare  
Vellem vere, tu scis quare,  
Da mihi tui copiam.

### III. AD MANUS

Quid sunt plagae istae  
In medio manuum tuarum?

Salve Jesu, pastor bone,  
Fatigatus in agone,  
Qui per lignum es distractus  
Et ad lignum es compactus  
Expansis sanctis manibus.

Manus sanctae, vos amplector,  
Et gemendo condelector,  
Grates ago plagis tantis,  
Clavis duris guttis sanctis  
Dans lacrymas cum osculis.

In cruore tuo lotum  
Me commendo tibi totum,  
Tuae sanctae manus istae  
Me defendant, Jesu Christe,  
Extremis in periculis.

Quid sunt plagae istae  
in medio manuum tuarum?

Sweet Jesus, merciful God,  
I cry to you, despite my sin,  
Show me your mercy,  
Turn me not away, unworthy,  
From your holy feet.

Behold upon the mountains  
The feet of him that bringeth good tidings,  
That publisheth peace!

Hail, saviour of the world,  
Hail, hail dear Jesus!  
Would that I could fit on  
Your cross, you know why,  
Grant me your strength.

### III. TO THE HANDS

What are these wounds  
In thine hands?

Hail Jesus, good shepherd,  
Weary in pain,  
Tormented on the cross,  
Nailed to the cross,  
Your sacred hands outstretched.

Holy hands, I embrace you,  
And, lamenting, I delight in you,  
I give thanks for the grave wounds,  
the harsh nails, the holy drops,  
Shedding tears with kisses.

Washed in your blood,  
I commend my whole self to you,  
May these, your holy hands,  
Defend me, Jesus Christ,  
In my last hour.

What are these wounds  
In thine hands?

# TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

## VII. AD FACIEM

Illustra faciem tuam super servum tuum,  
Salvum me fac in misericordia tua.

Salve, caput cruentatum,  
Totum spinis coronatum,  
Conquassatum, vulneratum,  
Arundine verberatum  
Facie sputis illita.

Dum me mori est necesse,  
Noli mihi tunc deesse,  
In tremenda mortis hora  
Veni, Jesu, absque mora,  
Tuere me et libera.

Cum me jubes emigrare,  
Jesu care, tunc appare,  
O amator amplectende,  
Temet ipsum tunc ostende  
In cruce salutifera.  
Amen

## **Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)**

CHRIST LAG IN TODESBANDEN, BWV 4

### 1. SINFONIA

#### 2. CORO

Christ lag in Todesbanden  
Für unsre Sünd gegeben,  
Er ist wieder erstanden  
Und hat uns bracht das Leben;  
Des wir sollen fröhlich sein,  
Gott loben und ihm dankbar sein  
Und singen halleluja,  
Halleluja!

## VII. TO THE FACE

Make thy face to shine upon thy servant:  
Save me for thy mercies' sake.

Hail, bloodied head,  
All crowned with thorns,  
Broken, wounded  
Struck with a cane,  
The face smeared with spit.

While I must die,  
Do not turn away from me then,  
In the terrible hour of my death.  
Come, Jesus, without delay,  
Protect me and set me free.

When you bid me depart,  
Dear Jesus, then appear,  
O lover, fit to be embraced,  
Show yourself then  
On the cross which brings salvation.  
Amen

### 1. SINFONIA

#### 2. CHORUS

Christ lay in the bonds of death,  
Sacrificed for our sins,  
He has risen again  
And brought us life;  
For this we should rejoice,  
Praise the Lord and give thanks  
And sing alleluia,  
Alleluia!

# TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

## 3. DUETTO (SOPRANO, ALTO)

Den Tod niemand zwingen kunnt  
Bei allen Menschenkindern,  
Das macht' alles unsre Sünd,  
Kein Unschuld war zu finden.  
Davon kam der Tod so bald  
Und nahm über uns Gewalt,  
Hielt uns in seinem Reich gefangen.  
Halleluja!

## 4. ARIA (TENOR)

Jesus Christus, Gottes Sohn,  
An unser Statt ist kommen  
Und hat die Sünde weggetan,  
Damit dem Tod genommen  
All sein Recht und sein Gewalt,  
Da bleibt nichts denn Tods Gestalt,  
Den Stach'l hat er verloren.  
Halleluja!

## 5. CORO

Es war ein wunderlicher Krieg,  
Da Tod und Leben rungen,  
Das Leben behielt den Sieg,  
Es hat den Tod verschlungen.  
Die Schrift hat verkündigt das,  
Wie ein Tod den andern fraß,  
Ein Spott aus dem Tod ist worden.  
Halleluja!

## 6. ARIA (BASS)

Hier ist das rechte Osterlamm,  
Davon Gott hat geboten,  
Das ist hoch an des Kreuzes Stamm  
In heißer Lieb gebraten,  
Das Blut zeichnet unsre Tür,  
Das hält der Glaub dem Tode für,  
Der Würger kann uns nicht mehr schaden.  
Halleluja!

## 3. DUET (SOPRANO, ALTO)

No one could overcome Death  
Amongst all mankind,  
This was all caused by our sins,  
No innocence could be found.  
Thus it was that Death came so soon  
And seized power over us,  
Held us captive in His kingdom.  
Alleluia!

## 4. ARIA (TENOR)

Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  
Has come to our abode  
And cast all sin aside,  
Thereby depriving Death  
Of all his rights and strength,  
Naught but Death's mere form remained,  
He had lost his sting.  
Alleluia!

## 5. CHORUS

It was a strange war;  
When Death and Life did fight,  
Life won the victory  
And devoured Death.  
The scriptures foretold it so,  
How one death consumed the other  
And made a mockery of Death.  
Alleluia!

## 6. ARIA (BASS)

Here is the true Easter Lamb,  
That God has offered,  
High on the tree of the cross  
It was burned in ardent love,  
His blood marks our door,  
Faith holds it up in the face of death,  
The strangler can no longer harm us.  
Alleluia!

# TEXT AND TRANSLATIONS

## 7. ARIA (DUETTO) (SOPRANO, TENOR)

So feiern wir das hohe  
Fest  
Mit Herzensfreud und Wonne,  
Das uns der Herre scheinen läßt,  
Er ist selber die Sonne,  
Der durch seiner Gnade Glanz  
Erleuchtet unsre Herzen ganz,  
Der Sünden Nacht ist verschwunden.  
Halleluja!

## 8. CHORAL

Wir essen und leben wohl  
In rechten Osterfladen.  
Der alte Sauerteig nicht soll  
Sein bei dem Wort der Gnaden,  
Christus will die Koste sein  
Und speisen die Seel allein,  
Der Glaub will keins andern leben.  
Halleluja!

## 7. ARIA (DUET) (SOPRANO, TENOR)

So we celebrate with heartfelt joy and  
pleasure  
The High Feast  
That the Lord for us makes manifest;  
He is Himself the sun,  
Who through the splendour of His grace  
Fills our hearts with light,  
The night of sin has disappeared.  
Alleluia!

## 8. CHORALE

We eat and fare well  
On the true unleavened easter bread,  
The ancient leaven shall not  
Be with us at this time of Mercy,  
Christ shall our food now be,  
He alone shall feed the soul,  
Faith would live on nothing else.  
Alleluia!

Bach translation © Richard Stokes from  
*JS Bach: The Complete Cantatas* (Scarecrow Press, 2004)