

Bach CANTATA SERIES

UMD CHORAL ACTIVITIES

Ich hatte viel Bekümmernis

BWV 21(Part 1)

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Jonathan King, *conductor*
Abigail Beerwart, *soprano*
Michael Butler, *tenor*

Choir

Amy Broadbent, *soprano*
Mihika Kulkarni, *alto*
Reagan Arnold, *tenor*
Matthew Payne, *bass*

Orchestra

Madeleine Jansen, *violin*
Abby Wuehler, *violin*
Katherine Murdock, *viola*
Katie McCarthy, *cello*
Patrick Grimone, *oboe*
Daphne Henderson, *bass*
David Young, *bassoon*
Collin Power, *organ*

Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 1:30pm
Watch the livestream on vimeo.com/theclarice

Join us for our next Bach Cantata on Thursday, November 19 at 1:30pm on vimeo.com/theclarice .

BWV 21: “*Ich hatte viel Bekümmernis*” (Part 1)

Ich hatte viel Bekümmernis, BWV 21, was originally written during Bach’s time in Weimar (Schlosskirche), and serves as one of his first sacred compositions to leave the motet style and utilize operatic compositional idioms and poetic texts. The work, dealing with the subject of grief and lament, was used by Bach on several occasions and subtitled “for all times” on the manuscript in his own hand. The work is separated into two parts to be performed before and after the sermon, and is eleven movements in length after Bach revised the work for a performance in Leipzig. Our performance will include the first portion of this cantata.

1. Symphony

2. Choir

Ich hatte viel Bekümmernis in meinem
Herzen;
aber deine Tröstungen erquicken meine
Seele.

I had great distress in my heart;
but your comforting refreshes my soul.

3. Soprano Aria

Seufzer, Tränen, Kummer, Not,
ängstlichs Sehnen, Furcht und Tod
nagen mein beklemmtes Herz.
Ich empfinde Jammer, Schmerz.

Sighs, tears, worries, distress,
anxious longing, fear and death
gnaw at my oppressed heart.
I undergo misery, pain.

4. Tenor Recitative

Wie hast du dich, mein Gott,
in meiner Not,
in meiner Furcht und Zagen
denn ganz von mir gewandt?
Ach! kennst du nicht dein Kind?
Ach! hörst du nicht das Klagen
von denen, die dir sind

How is it, my God, that you
in my distress,
in my fear and trepidation
have completely turned from me?
Oh! do you not recognize your child?
Oh! do you not hear the lament
of those, who are akin to you



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mit Bund und Treu verwandt?
Du warest meine Lust
und bist mir grausam worden;
ich suche dich an allen Orten,
ich ruf und schrei dir nach.
Allein mein Weh und Ach!
scheint jetzt, als sei es dir ganz unbewußt.

5. Tenor Aria

Bäche von gesalzenen Zähren,
Fluten rauschen stets einher.
Sturm und Wellen mich versehren,
und dies trübsalsvolle Meer
will mir Geist und Leben schwächen,
Mast und Anker wollen brechen,
hier versink ich in den Grund,
dort seh in der Hölle Schlund.

6. Choir

Was betrübst du dich, meine Seele.
und bist so unruhig in mir?
Harre auf Gott;
denn ich werde ihm noch danken,
daß er meines Angesichtes Hilfe
und mein Gott ist.

by covenant and allegiance?
You were my desire
but have become cruel to me;
I search for you in all places,
I call out and cry for you.
Yet my woe and alas!
now appear completely unnoticed by you.

Streams of salty tears
accompany the floods, ever rushing by.
Storm and waves batter against me,
and this sea full of tribulation
will weaken me of spirit and life,
mast and anchor will break,
here I will sink to the bottom,
there I peer into the throat of hell.

Why are you troubled, my soul,
and so restless within me?
Wait upon God;
for I will yet thank him,
as he is help unto my countenance
and is my God.

TRANSLATION: 2017 © Tobin Schmuck



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