

# ALL-BACH CONCERT

at Central Reformed Church



Central Reformed Church  
10 College Ave. NE  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

## Director's Note

As a follow-up to last year's All-Beethoven Concert, The Central Reformed Church Choir along with The Choral Scholars happily present this All-Bach Concert. Also featured are local keyboardists Dr. Julia Brown and Dr. Gregory Crowell. Dr. Brown is the Director of Music at Mayflower Congregational Church. In addition to his position on the Music Faculty at GVSU, Dr. Crowell is Director of Music at St. Mark's Episcopal Church. We thank Drs. Crowell and Brown for providing their own harpsichords for today's performance.

There is very strong agreement that J. S. Bach is one of the most influential musicians in history. He was born into a musical family. His early training was overseen by his father and his eldest brother. Two years of study in his teens completed his formal education. A few years into his career as an organist and cantor, he met one of his noted influences, Dieterich Buxtehude, while on an extended study leave. Antonio Vivaldi was another inspiration in Bach's development as a musician and composer.

Musicians influenced and inspired by Bach are numerous. Special mention must be made of Felix Mendelssohn, who, 140 years after Bach's passing, found original Bach manuscripts among scores owned by his family. The teenaged Mendelssohn arranged and conducted a performance of Bach's St. Matthew Passion. This event is credited for reintroducing Bach to the world after he had all but been forgotten.

J. S. Bach's Concerto for Two Harpsichords and Strings, BWV 1060, has also been orchestrated using oboe and violin soloists. I have performed this composition multiple times with two pianos, piano and organ, and oboe and violin soloists. And I am thrilled to perform this piece with two harpsichords this time, as in Bach's originally composition.

The Cantata BWV 166, "Wo gehest du hin?," was composed for the fourth Sunday of Eastertide and was first presented on May 7, 1726. This cantata demands a high level of musicianship from all vocal soloists and instrumentalists, with two very approachable chorales for choir singers.

"Sing Praise to Christ" and "Choral: Alleluia" are both from Christmas Cantata, BWV 142. The text of "Sing Praise to Christ" has altered text for an Easter theme. While this work matches Bach's style, there are music historians and scholars who have asserted that it was composed by another musician in Bach's time. Composer Johann Kuhnau is one suggested possibility.

Motet 230, "Lobet den Herrn, alle Heiden", (Psalm 117: 1-2) was scored for four voices. While generally considered a surviving work of Bach, there has also been some question as to its composition.

We hope you enjoy today's program!

Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God alone)



Taemin Han,  
Director of Music Ministries  
Central Reformed Church

# ALL-BACH CONCERT PROGRAM

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2024

5:00 P.M.

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Sinfonia from Cantata BWV 156

*Adagio*

“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” from Cantata BWV 147

Combined Choirs

“Sing Praise to Christ” and “Alleluia” from Cantata BWV 142

Chancel Choir

Motet BWV 230 - "*Lobet den Herrn, alle Heiden*" (Praise the Lord, All Ye Nations)

The Choral Scholars

Concerto for Two Harpsichords, BWV 1060 in C minor

Julia Brown, Gregory Crowell - harpsichordists

*Allegro*

*Adagio*

*Allegro*

Cantata, BWV 166 - “*Wo gehest du hin?*” (Where Are You Going?)

Combined Choirs

Karen Albert, alto Emanuel-Cristian Caraman, tenor Scott Bosscher, baritone

*Aria: Wo gehest du hin? – Bass*

*Aria: Ich will an den Himmel denken – Tenor*

*Chorale: Ich bitte dich, Herr Jesu Christ – Soprano*

*Recitative: Gleichwie die Regenwasser bald verfließen – Bass*

*Aria: Man nehme sich in acht – alto*

*Chorale: Wer Weiß, wie nahe mir mein Ende*

~ Thank you for joining us this afternoon.

We hope to see you soon for other events at Central. ~

## Concert Musicians

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Taemin Han, director

Julia Brown, Greg Crowell - harpsichordists

Karen Albert - mezzo soprano, Emanuel-Cristian Caraman - tenor, Scott Bosscher - baritone

Norma de Waal Malefyt, organist and choir accompanist

Violin 1

Letitia Jap

Cello

Alicia Eppinga

Violin 2

Kimia Ghaderi

Contrabass

Robert Johnson

Viola

Leslie Van Becker

Oboe

Marlen Vavrikova

### The Choral Scholars

Soprano

Kathryn Becksvoort Carmen Kruyf Stephanie Parrott

Tenor

Henry Kingma Stephen Mulder Chris Snyder

Alto

Tabitha Blanski Rebecca Jordan Heys Melissa Stek

Bass

Karel de Waal Malefyt Matt Fleming Peter Redder

### The Central Reformed Chancel Choir

Soprano

Kathryn Becksvoort Sarah Elzinga

Helen Phillips Comfort Jigo

Tenor

William Baron Steve Cornelius Carlos Lemagne

Alto

Marjorie Brink Ruth Brouwer Patricia Duthler

Bea Nagel Pauline Marmion Kathy VanderLaan

Bass

Tim Elzinga Lee Marmion

Fred Overeem Burt VandeLaan

Organist, pianist and harpsichordist **Julia Brown** is in demand both as a solo performer and as a collaborative artist. Brown has appeared in concert in North and South America and in Europe, having performed at the Oregon Bach Festival, Astoria Music Festival, Chico Bach Festival, American Guild of Organists Regional and National Conventions, Organ Historical Society Conventions, Latin American Organist Conventions, and National Public Radio. Her many recordings with Naxos, including works of W. F. Bach, J. S. Bach, Buxtehude and Scheidemann, have gained high critical acclaim. Reviews hail her as an “unquestionably first-class artist and superb technician... exceptionally sensitive.”

Born in Rio de Janeiro, Dr. Brown studied piano, harpsichord and organ in her native Brazil before receiving her MM and DMA from Northwestern University as a student of Wolfgang Rübsam. In addition to her position as Director of Music and Organist at Mayflower Congregational Church, Julia is accompanist for Calvin Alumni Choir and organist for the Grand Rapids Choir of Men and Boys. Julia performs under the auspices of Independent Concert Artists.

**Gregory Crowell** is Senior Affiliate Professor of Music at Grand Valley State University and the Director of Music at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Dr. Crowell has taught at the New England Conservatory, the University of Cincinnati, and Hope College. Crowell has performed widely in Europe, Japan, Canada, and the United States as organist, harpsichordist, clavichordist, and conductor. In 2000, he accepted an invitation to serve as visiting scholar at Rikkyo University in Tokyo. He has been heard in live performance on WCRB in Boston, WGUC in Cincinnati, WFMT Chicago, Northwest German Radio, Belgian Public Radio, and NPM's *Pipedreams*, and has recorded for the OHS and OgeeOgress labels. Crowell has lectured and published extensively on matters concerning organology and performance practice, and has served as editor for a number of national and international music journals.

Dr. Crowell performs under the aegis of Independent Concert Artists.

**Taemin Han** started serving Central Reformed Church in January 2019 as Director of Music Ministries. Previously, he served various denominations of churches (Catholic, Episcopal and Presbyterian) through his music ministries in Michigan and Iowa.

Taemin has directed numerous concerts for churches, performing many major works of sacred music including Ralph Vaughan Williams' "O Clap Your Hands", Mozart's Regina Coeli, K. 276, J. Haydn's "Missa brevis St. Joannis de Deo (Little Organ Mass)", G. F. Handel's Coronation Anthem No. 4, "Let Thy Hand Be Strengthened", and oratorio, "Messiah", Vivaldi's "Gloria." The program of All-Beethoven Concert at Central Reformed Church in 2023 directed by him included Beethoven's "Choral Fantasy" and Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor.

Taemin received master's degrees in music from Michigan State University (choral conducting and piano pedagogy) and Eastern Michigan University (piano performance). While at Eastern Michigan University, he performed Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 1, and J. S. Bach's Concerto for Two Keyboards, BWV 1060 (along with his wife Miah) with the university orchestras.

Taemin Han is a dedicated church musician who advocates education in music through fine singing and emphasizes understanding of the history and culture of all music.

**Norma de Waal Malefyt** has served as Principal Organist at Central Reformed since 2019, following a career in parish church music ministry. She also served as a Resource Development Specialist for the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship from 2002 - 2019 and as an adjunct organ instructor at Calvin University during that time. She has a B.A. degree in both organ performance and education.

Based in Grand Rapids, MI, mezzo-soprano **Karen Albert** frequently performs with orchestras and choral ensembles throughout the region. Recent soloist highlights include BWV 147, Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben with Vox GR, Libby Larsen's Raspberry Island Dreaming with the Alpena Symphony, Handel's Messiah and Oratorio de Noël with the Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra, Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 with the Holland Symphony Orchestra, Elgar's Sea Pictures with the Gaylord Community Orchestra, and Bach's Magnificat with Park Church.

Karen is the Director of Music at Parkwood Presbyterian Church in Jenison, MI. She has taught music courses in voice, music history, and choir at Alma College and Cornerstone University and has presented numerous recitals and programs in concert and lecture series throughout the city of Grand Rapids. To learn more about Karen's career and upcoming performances, visit [www.karenalbertmezzo.com](http://www.karenalbertmezzo.com).

Throughout his career Romanian tenor and recording artist, **Emanuel-Cristian Caraman** has appeared with opera companies, and symphony orchestras in Europe, South America and North America, performing at many prestigious concert halls such as Carnegie Hall in New York, Ateneul Roman in Bucharest, and Wiener Konzerthaus in Vienna. Mr. Caraman has performed with Los Angeles Opera, George Enescu International Music Festival in Bucharest, Miami Lyric Opera, Die Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie in Bremen, South Bend Lyric Opera, South Bend Symphony Orchestra and New Philharmonic Orchestra.

Operatic and oratorio highlights include Il Duca di Mantova in Rigoletto, Edgardo in Lucia di Lammermoor, Pinkerton in Madama Butterfly, Nemorino in L'elisir d'amore, Rodolfo in La Boheme, and Alfredo in La Traviata, as well Rossini's Stabat Mater, Mozart's Great Mass in C Minor, Mozart's Requiem, Beethoven's 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony, Bach's B Minor Mass, and Bach's Magnificat.

Dr. Caraman is the general and artistic director of South Bend Lyric Opera in South Bend, Indiana, and assistant professor of voice and Director of Opera Studies at Western Michigan University. In 2008, Mr. Caraman received his Doctor of Music degree from Bucharest Conservatory of Music within The National Music University in Bucharest.

A Grand Rapids native, **Scott Bosscher** received a Master of Music in vocal performance from the Bass Opera School at Oklahoma City University, studying with Dr. Inez Silberg followed by post graduate studies with Diane Forlano in Chicago followed by three more years with Diane in London, UK.

In 1991, Scott took up a dual post at the Wells Cathedral Music School in Somerset, England, where he taught academic music and trained the boy and girl choristers of Wells Cathedral in weekly voice lessons. He also sang as a soloist and regular member of the famed Wells Cathedral Choir until his return to the States in 1995.

Since 2001 Mr. Bosscher has served as director of music of the Grand Rapids Choir of Men and Boys, and since 2019 led the Chancel Choir of Mayflower Congregational Church.

As of the end of this spring academic semester (April 2024), Scott has now retired from several decades of teaching singing at Calvin University and Grand Rapids Community College.

## TEXT TRANSLATION

### Cantata 166

Aria [Bass]

*Wo gehst du hin?* (John 16 : 5)  
Where are you going?

Aria [Tenor]

*Ich will an den Himmel denken*  
I shall not think of heaven  
*Und der Welt mein Herz nicht schenken.*  
and not give away my heart to the world.  
*Denn ich gehe oder stehe,*  
For whether I go or stand still  
*So liegt mir die Frag im Sinn:*  
I have this question in my mind:  
*Mensch, ach Mensch, wo gehst du hin?*  
Man, ah man, where are you going?

Chorale [Soprano]

*Ich bitte dich, Herr Jesu Christ,*  
I ask you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
*Halt mich bei den Gedanken*  
keep me in your thoughts  
*Und lass mich ja zu keiner*  
Frist and do not let me at any time  
*Von dieser Meinung wanken,*  
falter in this purpose,  
*Sondern dabei verharren fest,*  
but instead let me firmly persevere  
*Bis dass die Seel aus ihrem Nest*  
until my soul from its nest  
*Wird in den Himmel kommen.*  
shall go to heaven.

Recitative [Bass]

*Gleichwie die Regenwasser bald verfließen*  
Just as rainwater soon flows away  
*Und manche Farben leicht verschießen,*  
and many colours easily fade,  
*So geht es auch der Freude in der Welt,*  
so is it also with joy in this world,

### Motet 230

*Lobet den Herrn, alle Heiden,*  
*und preiset ihn, alle Völker!*  
*Denn seine Gnade und Wahrheit*  
*waltet über uns in Ewigkeit. Alleluja!*

*Auf welche mancher Mensch so viele Stücken hält;*  
which many people value so highly;  
*Denn ob man gleich zuweilen sieht,*  
even though sometimes people are seen  
*Dass sein gewünschtes Glücke blüht,*  
to be flourishing with the good fortune for which they  
longed  
*So kann doch wohl in besten Tagen,*  
still even in the best days  
*Ganz unvermut' die letzte Stunde schlagen.*  
quite unexpectedly the last hour may strike.

Aria [Alto]

*Man nehme sich in acht,*  
You should take care  
*Wenn das Glücke lacht.*  
when good fortune smiles.  
*Denn es kann leicht auf Erden*  
For easily in this earthly life  
*Vor abends anders werden,*  
before evening things can turn out differently  
*Als man am Morgen nicht gedacht.*  
from what you thought in the morning.

Chorale [S, A, T, B]

*Wer weiß, wie nahe mir mein Ende!*  
Who knows how near me is my end!  
*Hin geht die Zeit, her kommt der Tod;*  
Time goes away, death comes  
*Ach wie geschwinde und behende*  
Ah how quickly and swiftly  
*Kann kommen meine Todesnot.*  
can my death agony come.  
*Mein Gott, ich bitt durch Christi Blut:*  
My God, I entreat you through the blood of Christ:  
*Mach's nur mit meinem Ende gut!*  
just let me make a good end!

Praise the Lord, all ye nations  
And celebrate him, all the peoples!  
For his grace and truth  
Reign over us for ever. Alleluia!



## UP-COMING CONCERTS AT CENTRAL IN 2024



The Choral Scholars  
Present

*Alleluia!*

Featuring the works of Bach, Gibbons, Hagenberg & Gjeilo  
May 18, 2024 at 7:00 PM  
Central Reformed Church

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### ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE CONCERT | TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2024 at 7:30 P.M.

The Central Reformed Church would like to invite you to the upcoming Annual New Year's Eve Concert featuring concert organist Christopher Houlihan on the last day of this year!



“As for Houlihan himself, he just keeps getting better. I would have to call this my favorite, indeed my go-to, recording of this work [César Franck, Grande Pièce Symphonique]. The psychological drama is handled wonderfully; the pacing is faultless...” (Jonathan B. Hall, *The American Organist*, September 2023)

“Christopher Houlihan delivered an epic, literally breathtaking performance of reinvented standard repertoire and unexpected treats. There were several instances where Houlihan literally pulled out all the stops, which was nothing short of exhilarating, but the ride getting there was just as entertaining, and revelatory.” (delarue, *New York Music Daily* blog, September 2018)

Christopher Houlihan is represented in North America exclusively by Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists, LLC. For more information about him, visit [www.concertartists.com](http://www.concertartists.com).



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**Connecting all people to God and to one another through scripture, sacrament, song, and service.**