

Now Thank We All Our God *from* Cantata 79

Johann Sebastian Bach Arranged by David Marlatt

BWV 79 (*God is a light and a shield*) is one of two cantatas Bach composed for the Reformation Festival, an important event in the Lutheran calendar celebrated annually on October 31. It dates from 1725 and, although less well-known than its companion, BWV 80, *Ein fest Burg*, it is a work whose splendor befits the ceremonial occasion. It is scored for two horns, timpani, two flutes, two oboes, strings, and continuo in addition to four-part chorus and vocal soloists.

This arrangement is of the third movement and is a chorale setting of the famous hymn *Nun danket alle Gott* (*Now Thank We All Our God*) by Martin Rinkart. It was originally scored for horns playing a duet over the powerful chorale melody. Some of the horn lines have been put in the keyboard part to allow for some rest. This arrangement could be used with an SATB choir singing along with the keyboard to create a terrific sound.

PREVIEW ONLY

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J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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