

Note: Some editions number the alto movements 2a and 2b. BWV 72 exhibits similarities to BWV 73, written 2 years earlier (see below).

Form: Chorus - Recit/arioso (A) - Aria (A) - Recit (B) - Aria (S) - Chorale.

Introduction & updates at [melvinunger.com](http://melvinunger.com).

NBA I/6; BC A37)

3. S. after Epiphany (BWV 73, 111, 72, 156)

\*Romans 12:16-21 (Overcoming evil with good)

\*Matthew 8:1-13 (Jesus heals a leper; the centurion from Capernaum comes to Jesus)

Librettist: Salomon Franck (BWV 72 is the last extant cantata to use a libretto by Franck, taken from his "Evangelisches Andachts-Opfer" of 1715).  
FP: 27 January 1726 (St. Nicholas). (After this, Bach performed 18 cantatas by Johann Ludwig Bach.)

Instrumentation:

Ob I, II  
Vln I, II  
Vla  
SATB  
Continuo

The librettist designated the first movement as an aria.

Form (Rhyme: ABBACAD)

Ritornello (mm. 1-16) Am

A. Line 1 (17-28) Am

Lines 1-3 (29-38) Am-Dm

Lines 1-3 (39-54: Rit.+Choreinbau) Dm

Rit. (55-60) Dm

B. Line 4 (61-75) Dm-Em

Line 5 (76-81) Em

A'. Line 6(=1) (80-90) Em-DM

Line 1; Line 5 in Alto (91-98) DM-Am

Lines 1, 7 (98-114: Rit.+Choreinbau) Am

The angry tone of this movement may reflect Bach's initial reaction in his dispute concerning the authority over the "New Service" at the University, about which he had complained to the king (see above note). The king's rejection of his appeal, dated January 21, 1726, ends with "This is Our Will."

# J.S. Bach

## Cantata No. 72

### Alles nur nach Gottes Willen

(Coro.) • God's sovereign will trusted in good & bad times.

72/1. (Allegro moderato ♩ = 80.)

In the later 1730s, Bach transposed this movement to G minor and adapted it for the second movement (the "Gloria") of his Kyrie-Gloria mass, BWV 235.

The cantata's point of departure derives from the day's Gospel reading, in which Jesus agrees to heal a leper. The focus is not on the miracle itself, however, but on whether it aligns with God's will: "A leper came to him and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, if you will, you can make me clean.' And he stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, 'I will....'" (Matthew 8:2-3). Submitting to God's will appears to have been an important life principle for Bach. See 2 side notes.

For Alfred Dürr's observations on the first movement, see side note.

A minor

A pedal...

In the first movement, each of the framing sections ends with Vokaleinbau (choral insertion), the vocal parts yielding to the orchestral ritornello. The violins attempt to start the ritornello at the return of the A section (m. 80), but do not succeed until m. 98. This relationship between chorus and orchestra may reflect the text's emphasis on submission to the sovereign will of God in all things. The use of canon (one voice "giving the rule" to another) may be similarly symbolic.

A minor

A7

D minor

A minor

G# dim. against A pedal...

A minor

C major

G(7)

C major

C7

F major #7

Harmonic ambiguity...

cresc.  
Continuo adopts the 16th-note figuration.

F major

D minor 6

G# dim.7

A minor

The text "all things only according to God's will" is symbolically represented by having all four voices sing the beginning of a "circulatio theme" (= "alles") in canon at the unison at 1-measure intervals, beginning with the highest voice and progressing downward to the lowest voice (from God down to earth). For more, see note.

Section A.

Canon (one voice "giving the rule" to another) suggests a kind of submission.

Circular motion with line spanning 1 8va represents the universality of "alles," which is reinforced with chordal interjections of the same word. See note about *circulatio*.

Passages of repeated notes suggest a doctrinaire inflexibility or a hectoring admonition; they are especially prevalent in sections with *Vokaleinbau*.

17. **Soprano.**  
**Alto.** Text line 1.  
**Tenore.**  
**Basso.**  
*mf*

A minor; A pedal...

20.  
 Wil - len, - - - Al - les, Al -  
 les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al -  
 - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len,  
 Al - - - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len,

A minor

G# dim. E7 against A pedal

23.  
 - les nur nach Got.tes Wil - len, Al - les nur nach Got - tes  
 - les nur nach Got.tes Wil - len, Al - les nur nach Got - tes  
 Al - les, Al - les nur nach Got.tes Wil - len,  
 Al - les. Al - - - les,

Repeated notes suggest inflexibility.

Frequent passages in which chords clash against a bass pedal suggest a wrestling with God's inflexible will, as referenced in the text.

L. H.

A minor

E minor D# dim.7 E pedal...

26.

Wil - len. Al - les, Al - les,  
 Wil - len, Al - les, Al - les,  
 Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al - les.  
 Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al - les.

A 29. Text lines 1-3.

B7 against E pedal E minor

Al - les. Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len. so - bei -  
 Al - les. Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len,  
 Al - les. Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len,  
 Al - les, Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len.

A L.H. R.H. L.H. L.H.

32.

A minor D7 G major Chromatic inflection for "Traurigkeit" (sadness)

Lust als Trau - rig - keit,  
 Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al - les nur nach Got - tes  
 Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al - les nur nach Got - tes  
 Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al - les nur nach Got - tes

L.H. Repeated notes suggest inflexibility.

G major E-flat major A7



J.S. Bach - Church Cantatas BWV 72

45.

Trau - - - rig - keit, so bei gut

Trau - - - rig - keit, so bei

Trau - - - rig - keit, so bei

Lust als Trau - rig - keit, so bei

L.H. R.H. L.H.

mf L.H.

G minor

48.

als bö - - ser Zeit; Al - les nur nach Got - tes

gut als bö - ser Zeit; Repeated notes suggest inflexibility.

gut als bö - ser Zeit;

gut als bö - ser Zeit;

R.H. L.H. R.H. L.H.

cresc.

C7

F major

F7

B-flat major

51.

Wil - - - len, so bei gut, bei gut

Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, so bei gut

Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, so bei gut

Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, so bei gut

C# dim.7 hemiola

C# dim.7

J.S. Bach - Church Cantatas BWV 72

54.

als bö-ser Zeit.

als bö-ser Zeit.

als bö-ser Zeit.

als bö-ser Zeit.

*mf* Ritornello

D minor

D minor

D minor

58.

Got-tes Wil-le soll mich

Section B. Orchestra accompanies canonic voices. Canon (one voice "giving the rule" to another) suggests a kind of submission. The staccato quarter notes by the instruments (related to the previous "Alles" chords) have the rhetorical effect of a sharp command. Given Bach's unhappy state at the time (see note above), they may also represent the unfair jabs of his opponents. The shifting harmonies perhaps suggest ambivalence.

hemiola

*p staccato*

D minor

D minor

62. Text painting: Sustained notes for "quieten."

stil - - - - - len, soll mich stil - - - - -

Got-tes Wil-le soll mich stil - - - - -

Got-tes Wil-le soll mich stil - - - - -

Got-tes Wil-le soll mich stil - - - - - len, soll mich

Possible allusion to Psalm 131:2: I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a child quieted at its mother's breast; like a child that is quieted is my soul.

Parallel octaves, eliminated when Bach reused the movement in the B minor mass, BWV 235.

C major 7 F major

D minor 6

E7



Section A'

Text line 6(=1) overlaps with end of Text line 5.

78.

bei Ge - wölk und Son - nen - schein. Al - les,

L.H. L.H.

Vln I & II attempt to start the ritornello but do not succeed fully until m. 98.

E minor

E minor A minor 6  
E pedal continues...

81.

schein. Al - les, Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al - les, Al - les,

schein. Duet in parallel thirds. Al - les, Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al - les, Al - les,

Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al - les, Al - les,

Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al - les, Al - les,

R.H. L.H. Ob I Ob II

Vln I & II attempt to start the ritornello.

84. D# dim.7

B7  
Duet in parallel 6ths.

E minor

- les, Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al - les, Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al - les,

- les, Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al - les, Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al - les,

B minor

A# dim.7  
against B pedal

F#7  
against B pedal



J.S. Bach - Church Cantatas BWV 72

87.

Wil - len, Al - les, Al - les, Al - les nur nach Got - tes

Wil - len, Al - les, Al - les, Al - les nur nach Got - tes

Al - les, Al - les, Al - les nur nach Got - tes

Al - les, Al - les, Al - les nur nach Got - tes

L.H. L.H. L.H.

B minor

E minor

A7

90.

Wil - len, Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Wil - len, nur nach Got - tes Wil - len. bei - Ge - Wil - len, Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Wil - len, Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len,

Wil - len, Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len,

L.H.

D major

D major

D major

D7

93.

Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al - les nur nach Got - tes wölk und Son - nen - schein, Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al - les nur nach Got - tes Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al - les nur nach Got - tes

Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, Al - les nur nach Got - tes

Repeated notes suggest inflexibility.

E7

A minor

F major

(E7) clashing

Rhetorical repetition of "Alles."

Bass, usually the voice of authority, intones the line pedantically.

Text line 1 (Line 5 in Alto after sustained note on "Willen"). Alto is the voice of the believing soul/church. See Petzoldt 1:541, 2:917, 488. Here the alto appears to ponder the weightiness of submitting to God amidst clouds and sunshine, while the intones the line pedantically.



J.S. Bach - Church Cantatas BWV 72

105.

sein, dies soll mei - ne Lo - sung, mei - ne Lo - sung

sein, dies soll mei - ne Lo - sung, mei - ne Lo - sung

sein, dies soll mei - ne Lo - sung, mei - ne

L.H. R.H. L.H.

*mf*

A minor

G7

108.

ne Lo - sung sein; Repeated notes suggest inflexibility.

sein; Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, dies soll mei - ne Lo - sung sein;

ne Lo - sung sein; Al - les nur nach Got - tes

Lo - sung sein;

L.H. R.H. L.H.

*cresc.*

C major

C7

F major 7

A minor

Harmonic ambiguity: fighting against A...

111.

Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, dies soll mei - ne Lo - sung sein.

len, dies soll mei - ne Lo - sung, mei - ne Lo - sung sein.

Wil - len, dies soll mei - ne Lo - sung sein.

Al - les nur nach Got - tes Wil - len, dies soll mei - ne Lo - sung sein.

G# dim.7 A minor F major A minor

Alto is often the voice of the believing soul. See Petzoldt, *Bach Kommentar* 1:541, 2:917. The text of Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane: "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt" (Matthew 26:39).

Secco  
7/2 (72a). **Recitativo, Arioso ed Aria.**

**Recitativo.** • God's sovereign will: Submission brings blessings.

Text painting: Descending line for "sinking one's will into God's will."

Form (Rhyme Scheme: ABB-CCDDEED-FAGFG)  
Lines 1-3. Secco recit., 3rd person (mm 1-6) CM-Gm  
Lines 4-10. Arioso, 1st person prayer (7-41) GM-FM  
Lines 11-15 (Arioso/Recit): prayer of application (42-59) F# dim.7/Gm-Dm

1. **Alto.**

O sel' - ger - Christ, der all - zeit sei - nen Wil - len in Got - tes Wil - len

Continuo alone.

Word painting: Melisma for "blessed."

Constant harmonic modulation suggests the changing circumstances referenced in the text.

C major C7 F major B dim.

4. For the significance of C and F major, see side note.

Word painting: Major chord for "weal"; diminished chord with melisma for "woe."

,senkt, es ge - he, wie es ge - he bei Wohl und We - - - he.

C major A minor D7 G major C# dim.7 A7 G minor

Employing anaphora, the alto sings "Lord, if thou wilt" 9 times, with the continuo imitating, perhaps to symbolize the earth-heaven duality expressed in the prayer Jesus prescribed for his disciples: "Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10). Compare BWV 73, written 2 years earlier for the same Sunday. In 73/4, the text phrase is repeated 3 times.

The text changes to the first person singular, (becoming more subjective).

**Arioso (Tranquillo) ♩ = 112.**

7. God's will in heaven?

Employing anaphora, the alto sings "Lord, if thou wilt" 9 times, with the continuo imitating, perhaps to symbolize the earth-heaven duality expressed in the prayer Jesus prescribed for his disciples: "Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10). Compare BWV 73, written 2 years earlier for the same Sunday. In 73/4, the text phrase is repeated 3 times.

Herr, so - du - willst, so muss sich Al - les fü - gen! Herr, so - du -

God's will on earth?

G major C major C7 F major F major

13.

willt, so kannst du mich ver - gnü - gen! Herr, so - du - willst, verschwindet

G7 C major E7 A minor

20. hemiola

mei-ne Pein! Herr, so du willst, werd' ich ge-sund und rein!

F major E minor B(7) B7 E minor E minor

27.

Herr, so du willst, wird Trau-ri-g-keit zur Freu-de, Herr, so du...

Chromatic inflection for "sadness"; melsima for "joy."

A7 D minor D7 E7 A minor

33. Chromaticism for "Dornen" (thorns).

willt, find' ich auf Dor-nen Wei-de, Herr, so du willst, werd' ich...

A minor A minor A minor C7 F major

39.

...einst se-lig sein! Herr, so du willst, (lass mich dies Wort im...

F major F# dim.7 G minor F(7)

# J.S. Bach - Church Cantatas BWV 72

45. hemiola

— Glaub-fas-sen und mei-ne See-le stil-

B-flat major F# dim.7 D7 G minor

51. Word painting: Dissonance for "sterb" (die).

len) Herr, so du wilt, so sterb' ich nicht,

G minor C# dim.7 A7 D minor G# dim.7 A major D minor N6 D minor A(7)

**Secco** The 2 closing text lines, set as recitative, act as an introduction to the aria, which begins immediately, without ritornello. This joining of recitative and aria was probably modeled after BWV 73 (written 2 years earlier for the same Sunday), in which the bass recitative, no. 3, flows directly into an aria.

57. **Recit.**

ob Leib und Leben mich ver-lassen, wenn mir dein Geist dies Wort ins Herze spricht! Mit

Continuo alone

D major D7 G7 A7 D minor Dominant chord requires continuation without pause.

72/3 (2b). A. Text lines 1-2: Motto / Ritornello / Main Section with vocal insertion (Vokaleinbau).

1/60. **Aria. Vivace.** (♩ = 88.) • God's sovereign will: I shall trust it always.

For comments about the aria by Alfred Dürr and Ulrich Leisinger, see side note.

Al-lem, was ich hab' und bin, mit Al-lem, was ich hab' und bin, will ich mich

mf Continuo alone... Imitation

D minor (For the significance of D minor, see side note.)

- Form (Rhyme): ABABAB  
 A. Lines 1-2  
 Motto (1-4) Dm  
 Ritornello (5-16) Dm  
 Main Section (w/motto), vocal insertion (17-27) Dm  
 A. Lines 3-4  
 Motto tune (27-31) Dm  
 Ritornello (31-42) Dm  
 Main Section (w/motto tune), vocal insertion (43-53) Dm  
 B. Lines 5-6 (53-68) DM-G-C-F-B -E -D-G-CM  
 A'. Lines 1-2 (da capo)  
 Motto (68-73) Dm  
 Main Section, vocal insertion (74-77) Dm  
 Ritornello (78-92) E-A-D-G-C-F-B -Dm

# J.S. Bach - Church Cantatas BWV 72

4/63.

Je - su - las - sen!

Bach sets the aria text (in which the alto commits to accepting God's providential leadership in paths of thorns or roses) in an imitative texture (fugato) of 2 violins (which frequently cross) and continuo. The violin figure appears to represent the convoluted paths that life may take, as referenced in the text. As in movement no. 1, the voice yields to the instruments via vocal insertion.

D minor

7/66.

E7

A minor

A major

10/69.

A7

D minor

D minor

N6 A7

12/71.

A7

C# dim.7

C# dim.7

D minor

D minor

Ascending continuo scale later associated with "führe" (lead).

15/74.

Mit

D minor

# J.S. Bach - Church Cantatas BWV 72

17/76. Alto repeats the motto with subsequent vocal insertion ("Vokaleinbau").

Al. lem, was ich hab' und bin, mit Al. lem, was ich hab' und bin, will ich mich

D minor Continuo in parallel motion. D minor

20/79.

Je - su, will ich mich Je - su las - - - sen, will ich mich

D minor A minor A minor

23/82.

Je - - - su las - - - sen,

A7 D minor *cresc.*

25/84.

D minor N6 A7 C# dim.7

27/86.

A. Text lines 3-4: Motto / Ritornello / Main Section with vocal insertion (Vokaleinbau).

kann gleich mein schwacher Geist und Sinn, kann gleich mein schwacher Geist und

Continuo alone... C# dim.7 D minor D minor

Ascending continuo scale later associated with "führe" (lead).16



J.S. Bach - Church Cantatas BWV 72

30/89.

Sinn des Höch.sten Rath nicht fas . sen,

Vln I

D minor

33/92.

Vln II

D minor E7 A minor

35/94.

A(7) D minor

38/97.

Vln I

D minor N6 A7 C# dim.7 C# dim.7 D minor

Ascending continuo scale later associated with "führe" (lead).

40/99.

kann

Vln II

J.S. Bach - Church Cantatas BWV 72

43/102.

gleich mein schwacher Geist und Sinn, kann gleich mein schwacher Geist und Sinn des Höchsten

D minor Continuo in parallel motion.

D minor

46/105.

Rath, des Höchsten Rath nicht fas - sen, des Höchsten

D minor

E7

A minor

49/108.

Rath nicht fas - sen.

A7

D minor

B. Middle Section. Text lines 5-6.

51/110.

Er füh\_re mich nur

D minor

N6

A7

C# dim.7

C# dim.7

D7

Text painting: "Leading on thorny paths" is foreshadowed with a diminished chord followed by ascending scale, followed by tonal progression flatward around the circle of fifths before reaching upward to C major. Eric Chafe associates the flat region in this cantata with human weakness. See *Tonal Allegory*, 203.

54/113. Word painting: Sustained notes function rhetorically as "mementos," a pondering of the possible "thorny paths" (see Petzoldt 2:489).

im . mer . hin auf **Dorn=** und Ro . sen . stra . ssen, auf

G7 C7

57/116.

**Dorn=** und Ro . sen . stra . ssen, er

F7 B-flat 7

E-flat major

59/118.

füh . re . mich nur im . mer . hin, er füh . re mich nur

D7 G7

Clash suggests the path will sometimes be difficult, as referenced in the text.

C major  
Text painting: Continuo has 16th-note passage for "führe" (lead), which continues...

62/121.

im . mer . hin auf **Dorn=** und Ro . sen . stra . ssen.

G minor G minor G minor

J.S. Bach - Church Cantatas BWV 72

64/123.

G minor A7 D minor

66/125.

D minor N6 A7 C# dim.7

68/127. [A'. Text lines 1-2 (quasi da capo).] (tr)

Mit Al-lem, was ich hab' und bin, mit Al-lem, was ich hab' und

C# dim.7 D minor D minor

Text painting: Sustained tone in voice for "lassen" (relinquish) ending with fermata, against the convoluted violin figure.

71/130.

bin, will ich mich Je - su, will ich mich Je - su las -

cresc. f dim.

D7 G minor E-flat major C# dim.7

74/133. Word painting: Extended note for "Allem" (all) against convoluted violin figures.

74/133.

- sen; mit Al - lem, was ich hab' und bin,

Vln I Vln II

C# dim.7 A7 D minor

# J.S. Bach - Church Cantatas BWV 72

76/135.

will ich mich Je - su las - sen.

*dim.*

D minor

Vln I

Sustained note in one violin part against convoluted figure in the other.

78/137.

Ritornello

Vln II

Vln I

E7

A7

D7

Tonal progression flatward around the circle of fifths, ending in D minor.

81/140.

Vln II

Vln I

G7

C7

83/142.

Vln I

Vln II

F7

B-flat major

D minor

A7

D minor

*p*

(see full score)

86/145.

*cresc.*

*f*

D minor

N6

A7

88/147.

Vln I

Vln II

C# dim.7

C# dim.7

C# dim.7

D minor

*p*

This type of aria is called a "Devisenarie" (a term coined by Hugo Riemann) or "motto aria." After the ritornello, the singer presents the first phrase of the aria as a kind of motto. This is followed by an instrumental bridge before the aria proper begins. The motto sets the tone (and the literary perspective) for the movement.

90/149

Secco

D minor

D (minor)

72/4 (72/3). **Recitativo.** Basso. ● God's sovereign will is that he should bless you! Allusion to the Gospel reading, in which Jesus agrees to heal the leper, saying, "I will; be clean"; then reaches out to touch him.

The bass voice is often the voice of authority.

1.

So glaube nun! Dein Heiland sa - get: ich will's thun! Er pflegt die Gnaden -

E major

A minor

A minor

4.

hand noch willigst aus - zu - strecken, wenn Kreuz und Leiden dich erschrecken. Er ken - net dei - ne

D7

D# dim.7

B7

E minor

8.

Noth und löst dein Kreuzesband! Er stärkt, was schwach! und will das niedre Dach der armen

Chromatic inflection for "weak."

Dim. 7th for "cross"

A7

C# dim.7

D minor

F7

F# dim.7

"Lowly roof" is an allusion to the Gospel reading, in which a centurion says to Jesus, "I am not worthy to have you come under my roof."

11.

Her - zen nicht verschmä - hen, dar - un - ter gnä - dig ein - zu - ge - hen.

D major

G minor

C# dim.7

C minor 6

G major

This type of aria is called a "Devisenarie" (a term coined by Hugo Riemann) or "motto aria." After the ritornello, the singer presents the first phrase of the aria as a kind of motto. This is followed by a short instrumental bridge before the aria proper begins. The motto sets the tone (and the literary perspective) for the movement.

**Aria.** •God's sovereign will is to sweeten thy cross!

72/5 (72/4). (Allegro moderato ♩ = 92.)

A dance-like (polonaise) triple meter underscores the idea of "sweetening the cross."

Form (Rhyme: AABB)  
Ritornello (mm. 1-16) CM  
Line 1 inserted into rit.  
(17-32) CM  
Line 1 inserted into rit. material  
(33-48) CM-GM  
Rit. (48-56) GM  
Lines 2-3 inserted into  
rit. material (56-73) GM-Am  
Line 4 inserted into rit. material  
(73-83) Am-CM  
Rit. with motto inserted at end  
(83-98) CM

1. Oboe  
Strings Ritornello

C major (for the significance of C, see side note). C major

5. (C7) A7 D minor G7

9. *cresc.* C major D7 G major G major

13. *tr* The continuo foreshadows the opening vocal motto. R.H. G major G7 C major C major

17. **Soprano.** Continued allusion to the Gospel reading, in which Jesus agrees to heal the leper, saying, "I will..."

Mein Je - sus will es thun. er will dein Kreuz ver - sü - ssen.

Ritornello repeats with vocal insertion ("Vokaleinbau") of Text line 1. *mf* C major C major C major

The reference to "sweetening your cross" relates to the text of the previous movement. The phrase is reminiscent of the aria "Komm, süßes Kreuz" in the St. Matthew Passion (BWV 244/57).

21. E7 A minor D7

25. *cresc.*

G(7) C major

29. *hemiola* *mf* Mein

C major C major

33. Text line 1 inserted into ritornello material.

Je - - - sus will es thun, er will dein Kreuz ver - sü - ssen, er will dein

C major C major (D7) G major

37. The dance-like quality is enhanced with syncopations for the words "he will sweeten your cross."

Kreuz ver - sü - - - -

(G major) E7 A minor D7

41. *mf* *cresc.*

- ssen; mein Je - sus will es thun, mein Je - - - sus will es thun, -

G major G major



J.S. Bach - Church Cantatas BWV 72

45.

will es thun, er will dein Kreuz ver-sü-ssen.

*dim.*

*p* Ritornello

G major G major G7

49.

R.H. L.H.

C major C major D7 G major

52.

*dim.*

G major G major

Text lines 2-3 inserted into ritornello material.

56.

Ob-gleich dein Her-ze **liegt** in viel Be-küm-mer-nis-sen,

Long notes for [your heart] "lies."

*p* *mf*

G major G7 E7 A minor

Text painting: Sequentially descending lines from held Vln I note (like sighs) in mostly the minor mode to depict "the heart lying in many afflictions" (see full score).

60.

obgleich dein Herze **liegt** in viel Bekümmer-

Vln I Vln I

*p*

A minor D7 G major

# J.S. Bach - Church Cantatas BWV 72

64.

Sighing/drooping line.

nis - sen, in viel Be - kümmer - nis - sen, soll es doch

E minor B7

67.

Sighing/drooping line.

sanft und still in sei - nen Ar - men

Text painting: Vocal line comes to rest on a single, repeated note for "sanft und still" (gently and quietly), set to a simple I-V-I harmonic progression.

E minor B(7) E minor

70.

ruhn, wenn es der

Word painting: Long note that comes to rest at a fermata for "ruhn" (to rest), set to simple I-V-I-V7 harmonic progression..

a tempo

A minor E major A minor E7

74. Text line 4 inserted into ritornello material.

Glaub - be - fasst,

Text painting: "[when your heart is] held by faith" is set with a held note that ends with shaking 8th notes to depict tenacity of faith (like a clenched fist). Compare BWV 70/1 for the word "betet" (pray).

A minor D7 G minor C7

The text "when it [your heart] is held by faith" is set to the motto "mein Jesus will es thun" (my Jesus is willing to do it), thereby showing the interrelationship between faith and Jesus' promise to act.

78.

wenn es\_ der Glaube fasst, wenn es\_ der Glaube fasst, mein Je \_ sus

Vln I doubles the voice. Vln I repeats the motto. Vln I doubles

F major G(7) A minor A7 D minor G7

82. Martin Petzoldt argues that by repeating "Jesus will es thun," the poet is establishing Luther's insistence that faith is not a human work. (See Petzoldt, "Bach Kommentar" 2:491.

82.

will es thun. Ritornello with vocal motto inserted at end.

C major C major C major

86.

C major (C7) A7 D minor

90.

G7 C major C major

To emphasize the centrality of the previous half line, the singer sings it twice at the end of the movement (a procedure reminiscent of 73/1, composed 2 years earlier for the same Sunday) in a kind of written-out cadence. The text leads seamlessly to the words of the closing chorale. See Petzoldt 2:491.

94.

hemiola Mein Je\_ sus will es thun, mein Je\_ sus will es thun!

C major C major

The chorale's opening reminds the listener of the leper's statement to Jesus in the day's Gospel reading: "If you will...")

72/6 (72/5).

### Choral. (Eigene Melodie.)

(See also 111/1, 144/6.) This is the first stanza of a hymn by Margrave Albrecht von Brandenburg (1490–1568): first three stanzas published 1547, fourth stanza added by an unknown author in 1554. • God's sovereign will desired at all times (72/5).

Soprano. 1/6.

+Ob I, II  
+Vln I

+Vln II

+Vla

Basso.

A minor 11. C major

C major G major

A minor

Bach used the same chorale as the basis for a chorale cantata on the same Sunday a year earlier (BWV 111).

The 2 Stollen of the chorale's bar form are set identically. They connect cyclically to the opening movement.

Abgesang of chorale's bar form.

Martin Petzoldt notes that (in contrast to Bach's setting in BWV 111/1 & 6) the descending lines in this harmonization connect the chorale's Abgesang to the ideas of movements 2 to 4 in a catechismal fashion, while the Stollen create a bridge to the opening movement. See "Bach Kommentar" 2: 492.

The last 2 melodic phrases of the Abgesang are the same as the Stollen.

15.

D(7)

G major

C major

F# dim. E7

A minor

E major

A minor

C major A minor

(E7)

E7 D# dim.7

A major