

The Collegium Vocale of St. Louis, in collaboration with Intersect Arts Center, is proud to present “*Praise the Lord in all Nations: Sacred Cantatas of J. S. Bach and Christoph Graupner*,” a program of four sacred cantatas composed in 1723. The program will be offered on Sunday, February 2, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 2650 Miami Street, St. Louis, MO 63118. Introductory remarks by Dr. Bruce Carvell, Artistic Director of CVS will precede the concert at 2:30 p.m.

The program features two cantatas by J. S. Bach: BWV 22, *Jesus nahm zu sich die Zwölfe*, and BWV 23, *Du wahrer Gott und Davids Sohn*, and two cantatas by Christoph Graupner: *Aus der Tiefe*, and *Lobet den Herrn alle Heiden*, all of which were composed as part of their respective applications for the position of Cantor in Leipzig in 1723. Initially offered the position, Graupner was unable to accept it and so Bach’s application went forward and he was offered the position, which he accepted. Since this position was highly sought after, each composer took special pains to present examples of his very best work as his audition pieces. This concert brings two rarely heard Bach cantatas and two St. Louis premieres of the Graupner cantatas to area audiences. The singers of Collegium Vocale of St. Louis will be supported by an ensemble of talented musicians playing period instruments, including trumpets, timpani, oboes, bassoon, strings and organ, in the manner of the original performances. This is a rare and exciting opportunity to experience thrilling music in an awe-inspiring space.

This is the first opportunity for Collegium Vocale of St. Louis to perform in the historic Holy Cross Lutheran Church, the oldest Lutheran Church building in St. Louis. Construction of the nave and spire was begun in 1867, and the apse and transepts were completed in 1889. This magnificent landmark features a splendid acoustic along with its architectural delights. We are especially pleased to be presenting this magnificent Lutheran music in such an historic location.

*The COLLEGIUM VOCALE OF ST. LOUIS is an ensemble devoted to presenting historically informed performances of a diverse and wide-ranging repertory of seventeenth and eighteenth century music.*