

Victoria Baroque

Bach Motets with Octet Victoria

October 10, 2026

Concert No. 1

Title: Bach Motets with Octet Victoria

Date and Time: Saturday, October 10 at 7:30pm

Location: St. John the Divine

Run time: 70 mins plus 20-minute intermission

Short Description:

A heart-lifting program of beloved compositions for voices and instruments by the Bach family, centered around J.S. Bach's *Jesu meine Freude*. This is music to treasure with gratitude – a perfect addition to Thanksgiving celebrations.

Longer Description/Programme Notes: will come later

Programme:

Nun danket alle Gott	Johann Christoph Altnikol (1720-1759)
Sonata in C Major	Heinrich Bach (1615-1692)
Herr, ich warte auf dein Heil	Johann Michael Bach (1648-1694)
Chorale Prelude on Warum betrübst du dich, mein Herz	Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)
Ich lasse dich nicht	Johann Christoph Bach
Es ist nun aus mit meinem Leben	Johann Christoph Bach
Komm, Jesu, komm	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Sinfonia in Bb, BWV 800	Johann Sebastian Bach
Unser Wandel ist im Himmel	Johann Ernst Bach (1722-1777)

Intermission

Das ist meine Freude	Johann Ludwig Bach (1677-1731)
Sonata in G Minor	Johann Michael Bach
Jesu meine Freude	Johann Sebastian Bach

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Bios:

Octet Victoria

Char Hodgkins, artistic director

Octet Victoria is a fully professional group of eight singers (expanded to ten for this programme) who are committed to creating excellent choral music here in Victoria. Founded in 2022 by Char Hodgkins, Octet Victoria's members are highly skilled musicians with varied backgrounds; some of our members have a lifetime of choral experience, while others are soloists or dedicated teachers. Having a mixed choir of eight different voices allows a large amount of flexibility for repertoire, and Octet Victoria has explored choral music from all time periods spanning Renaissance to modern day. Octet Victoria has performed some of the richest music from the choral tradition such as motets by J.S. Bach and J. Brahms, as well as a variety of new music including selections by Canadian composers such as Ruth Watson Henderson, Stephanie Martin, and Nathaniel Dett.

Victoria Baroque

Christina Hutten, artistic director

Now in its sixteenth season, Victoria Baroque presents dynamic, personal, and engaging performances of music from the Baroque and Classical periods. The ensemble brings together early music specialists from Vancouver Island and beyond for explorations of chamber, orchestral, vocal, and choral works. Playing on instruments of the eighteenth century, Victoria Baroque brings audiences closer to the sound world of the period, embracing the dance-driven rhythmic vitality, as well as the lyrical and conversational aspects of baroque music.

Besides self-presented concerts, Victoria Baroque has performed as guest artists for Early Music Vancouver, Early Music Society of the Islands, Artspring, and the Cowichan Symphony Society. Outreach and education are integral to Victoria Baroque's mission, and its educational initiatives have included community workshops and collaborations with the Victoria Conservatory of Music, University of Victoria School of Music, and the Greater Victoria Youth Orchestra.