Last changed: 24 December 2025. Cantatas BWV 195 Form: Chorus - Recit (B) - Aria (B) - Recit (S) - Chorus - Chorale.

Introduction and updates at melvinunger.com.

A grand wedding cantata in two parts, which evolved through various stages, the final version being very different from the earlier (lost) ones.

Cantatas with surviving ripieno parts include BWV 21, 63, 71, 76, 110, 195, 201, and 245. See Andrew See Andrew Parrott, The Essential Bach Choir (Rochester, NY: Boydell & Brewer, 2000), p. 61, Table 3a.

D major

NBA I/33; BC B14a-c Marriage Ceremony* (BWV 196, 195, 197)

Oxford University Press, 2005), p. 756.

J. S. Bach," rev. and trans. by Richard Jones (Oxford:

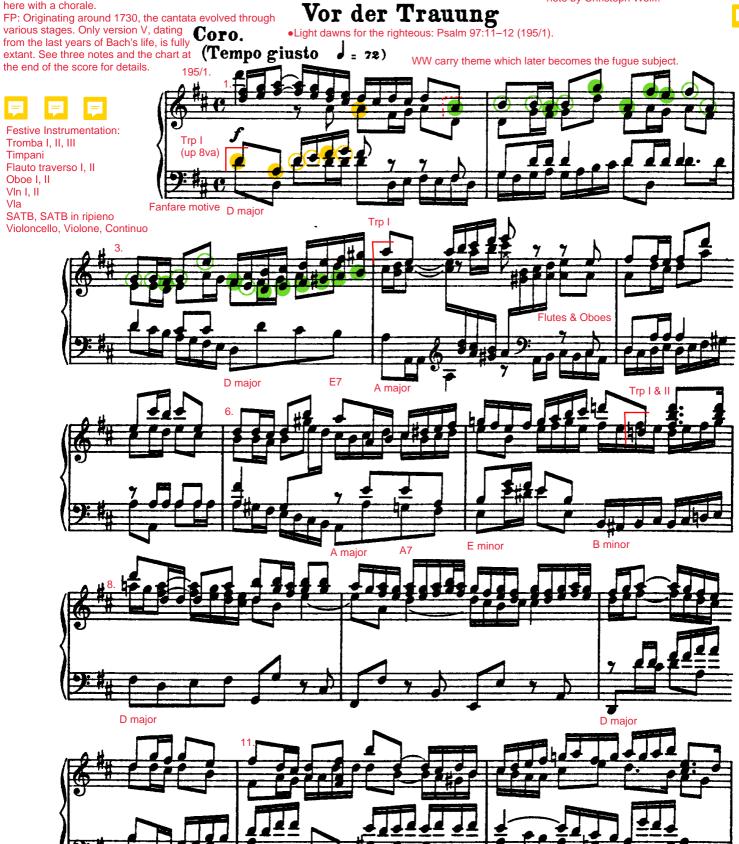
Librettist: Unknown. An earlier version of this cantata

*The bridegroom was likely a lawyer; hence the numerous *The bridegroom was likely a lawyer; hence the numerous references to righteousness. See Alfred Dürr, "The Cantatas of Cantata No. 195

Dem Gerechten muß das Licht music for weddings and an evaluation of the

Concerning Bach's responsibility for providing stylistic change represented by Cantata 195, see note by Christoph Wolff.

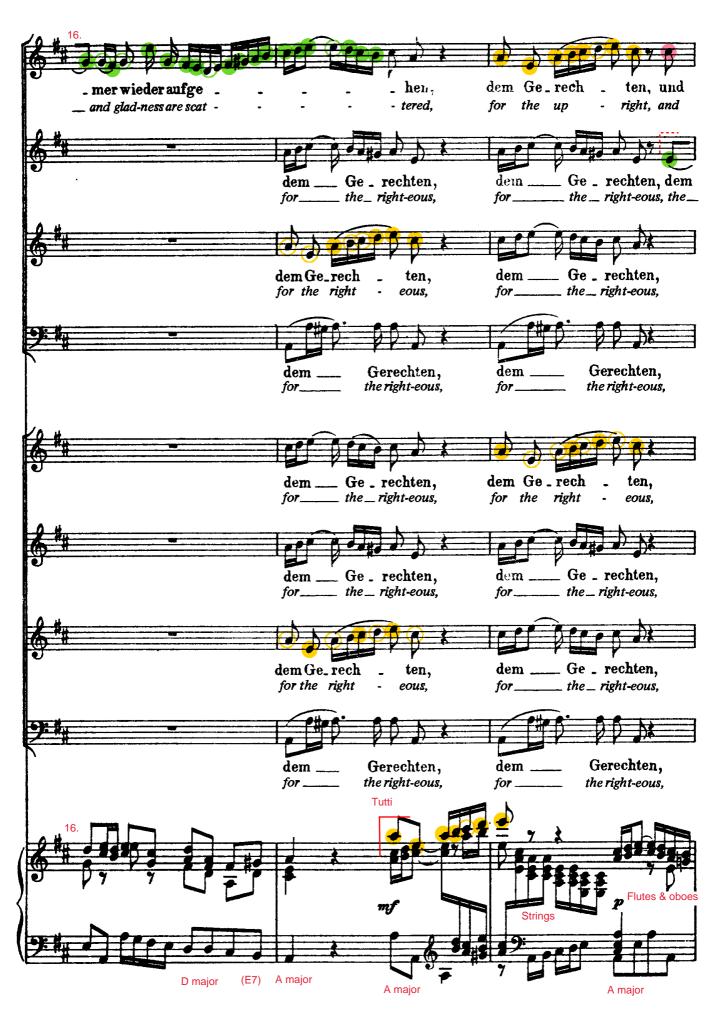
apparently included a Part II that has been replaced here with a chorale. FP: Originating around 1730, the cantata evolved through

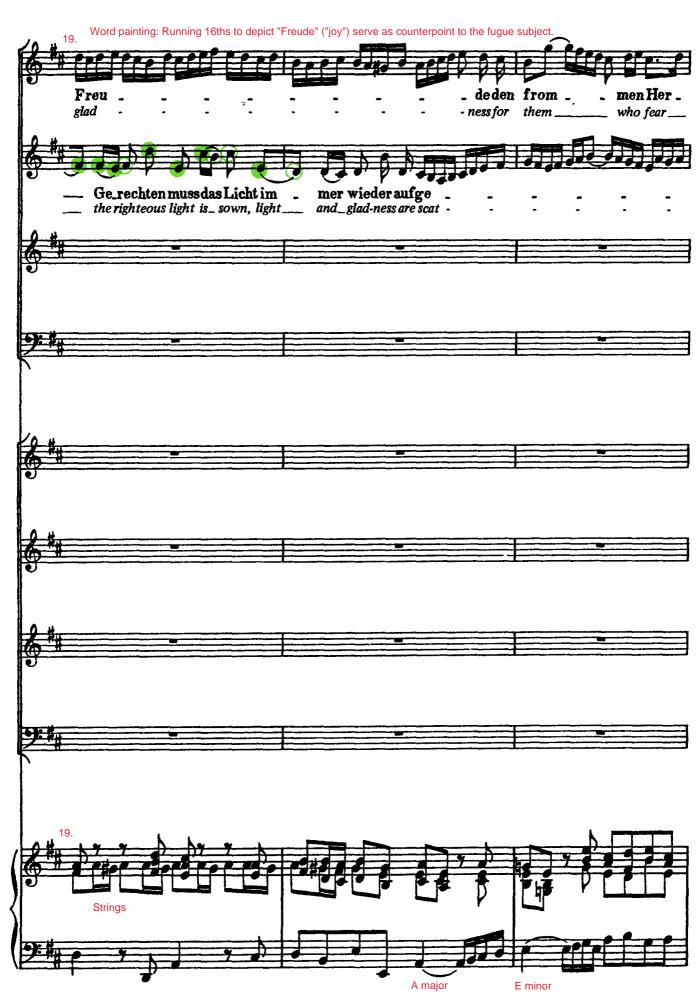


D major

A major

J.S. Bach - Church Cantatas BWV 195 The fanfare motive (tutti) introduces the fugue subject each time, as if announcing the next "righteous one" as referenced in the text. The movement is characterized by highly diffentiated concertante layering. Fugue No. 1: Soprano Solo. Psalm 97:11. Dem Ge_rech ten, dem_ Ge rechten. Gerechten muss das Lichtim_ For the right eous. _ the__ right-eous, _ the right-eous light is_sown, light Alto Solo. For word-for-word English translations, see Unger, Handbook to Bach's Sacred Cantata Texts. Dem_ _ Ge _ rechten, dem . Ge_rechten, _ the _ right-eous, for__ _ the _ right-eous, Tenore Solo. Dem _ _ Ge _ rechten, dem Ge_rech ten, The cumulative effect of the layered voices For ____ the_ right-eous, for the right eous, suggests the increasing brightness of the Basso Solo. righteous as they gather. Dem Gerechten, dem . Gerechten. For biblical For. the right-eous, the right-eous, background, for. see note. Soprano in Ripieno. Dem Ge_rech dem ___ Ge _ rechten, For the right _ the _ right-eous, eous, Alto in Ripieno. Dem __ Ge_rechten, _ Ge _ rechten, the__right-eous, _ the_ right-eous, Tenore in Ripieno. Dem_ dem Ge_rech _ Ge _ rechten, ten, For____ the_right-eous, for the right eous, Basso in Ripieno. Dem. Gerechten, dem . Gerechten, the right-eous, For_ the right-eous, for_- Trp I & I Tutti Trp I Strings (up 8va) D major

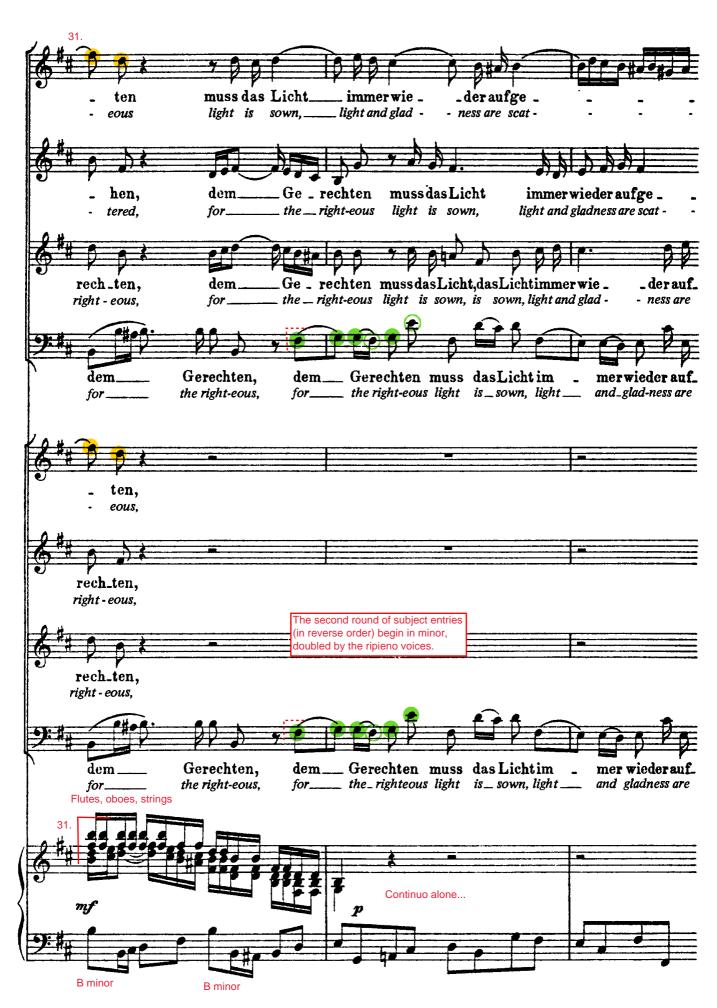










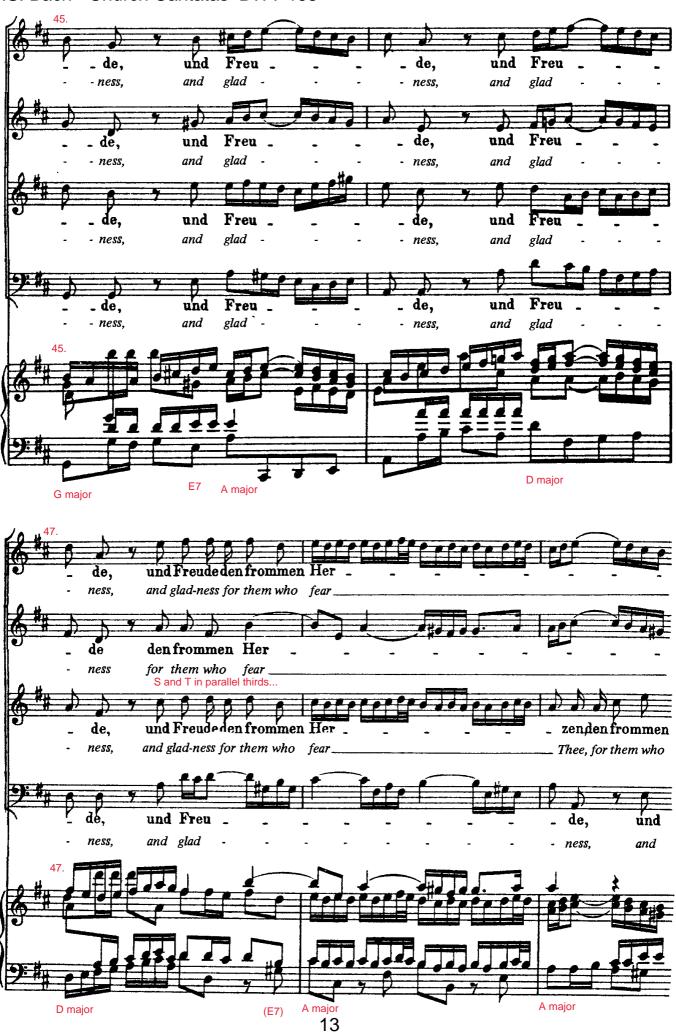










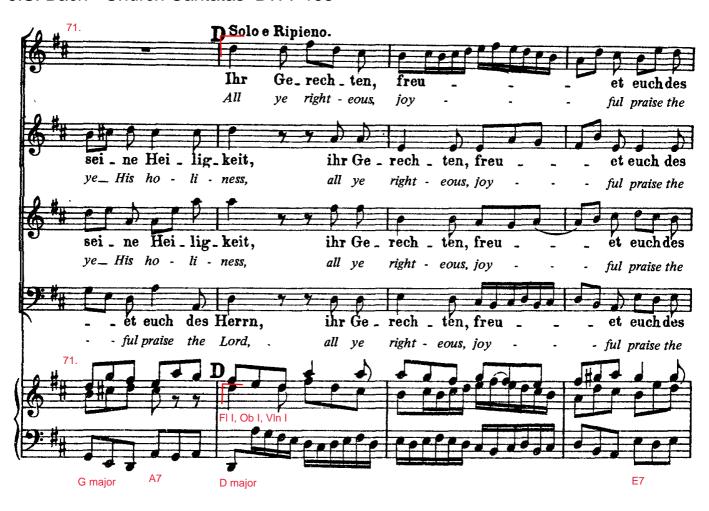




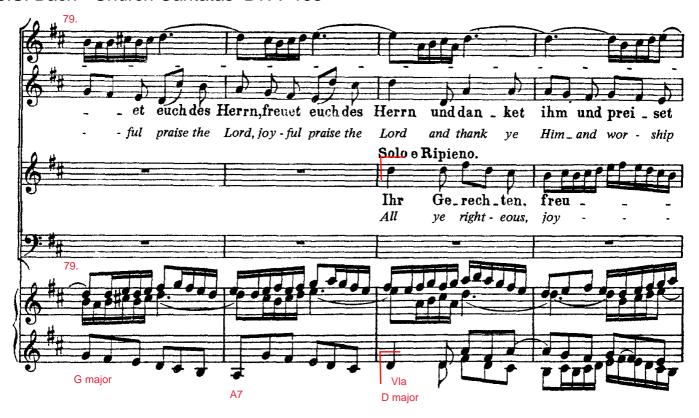






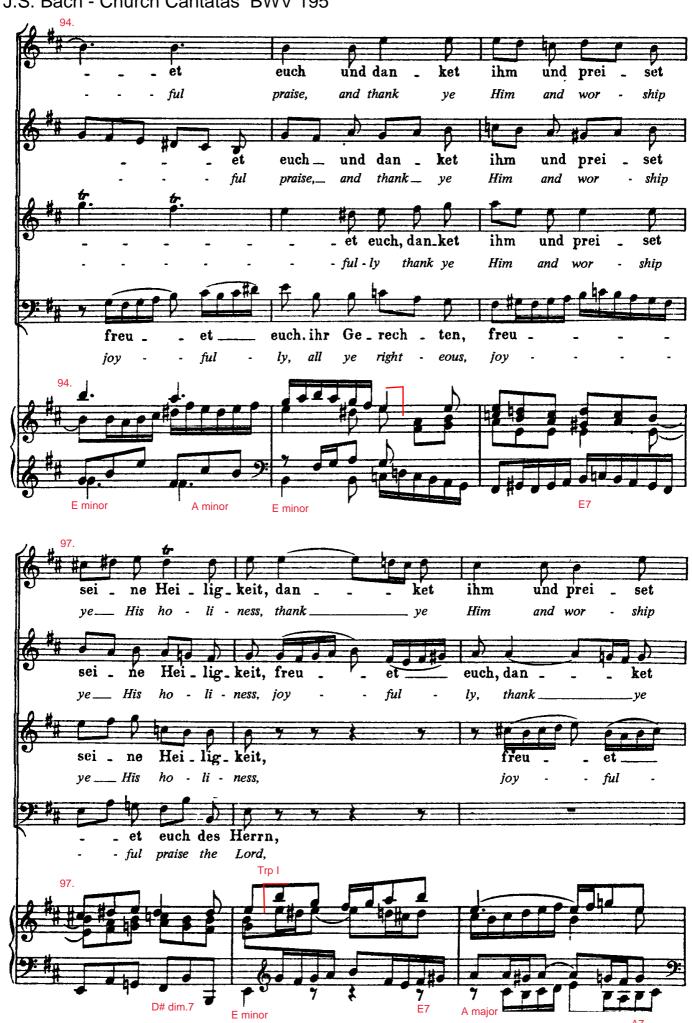




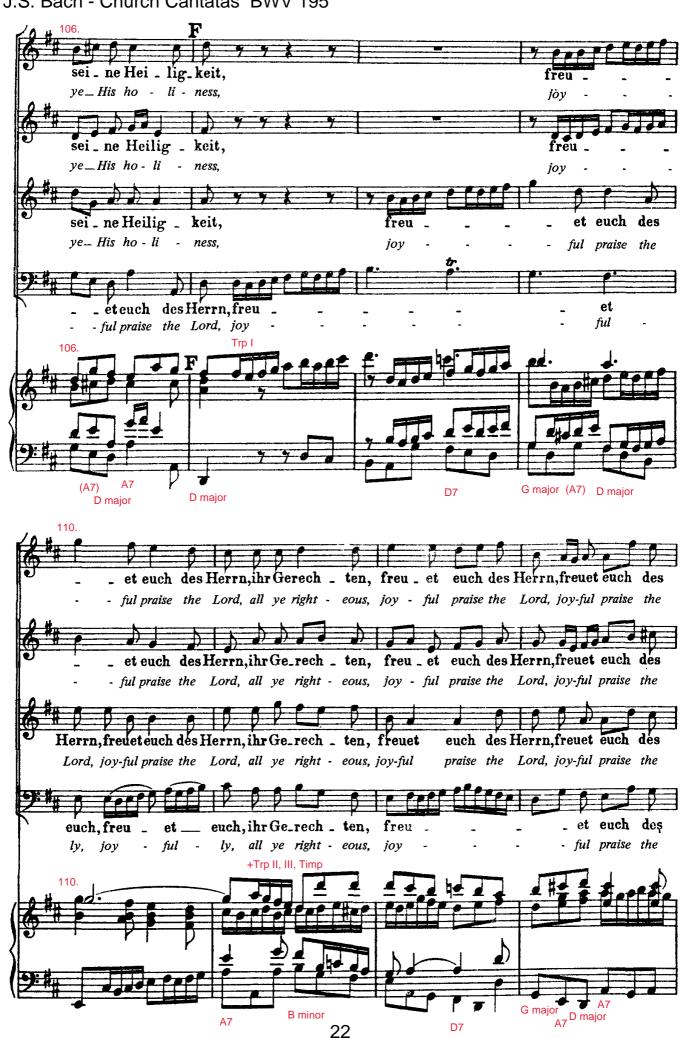


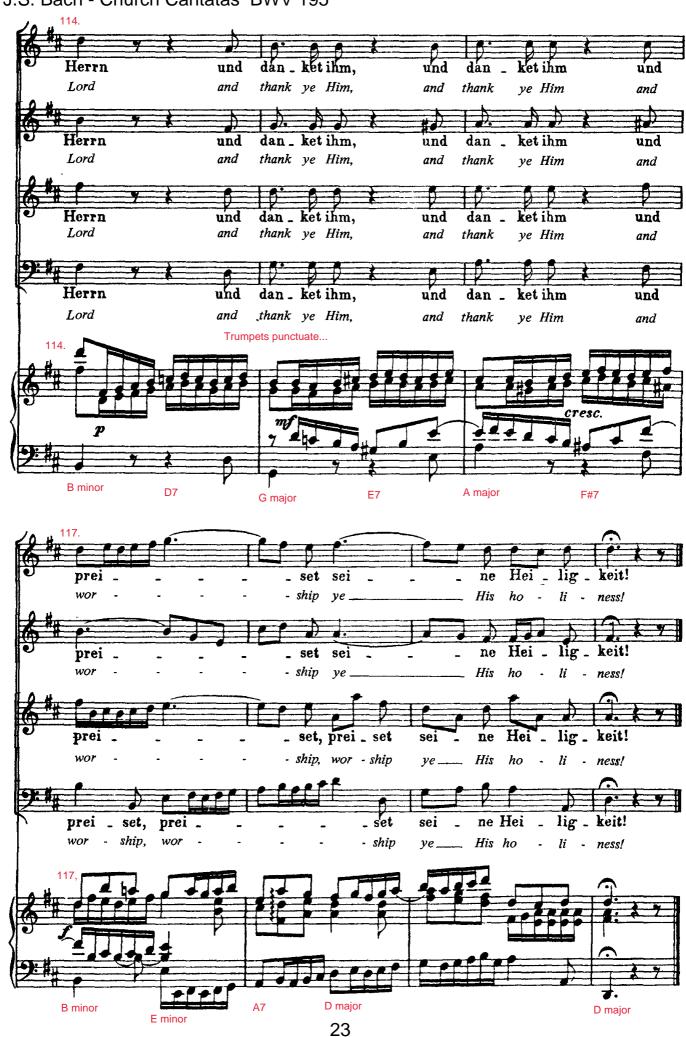






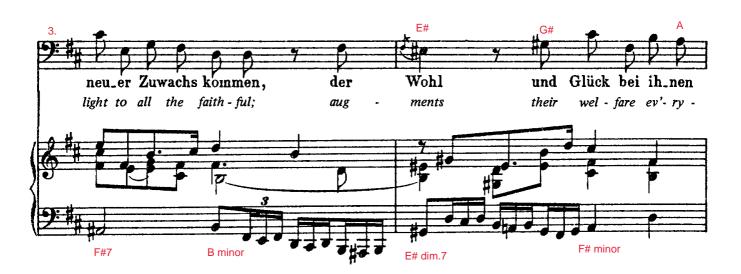


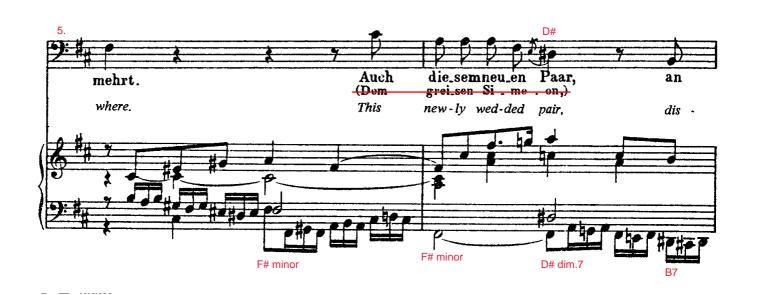


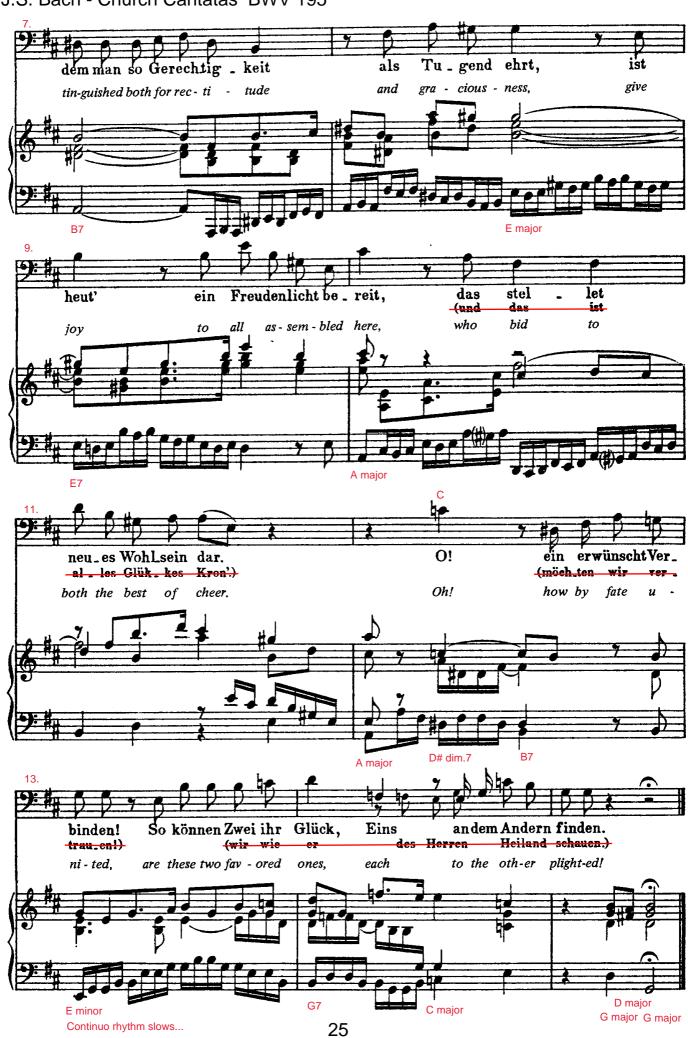


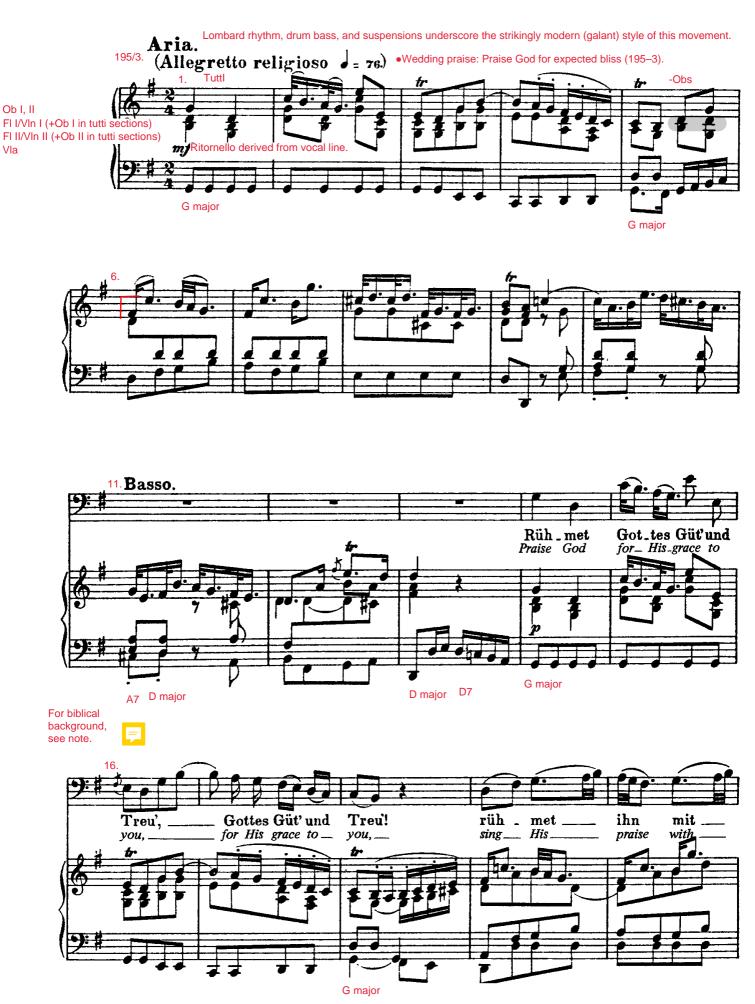
The arioso-like recitative expands on the psalm verse of the opening section of the first movement (i.e., Psalm 97:11). Alfred Dürr suggests the pervading triplets were probably inspired by the word "Freudenlicht" ("joyful light"). See Alfred Dürr, *The Cantatas of J. S. Bach*, revised and translated by Richard Jones (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005), p. 756.

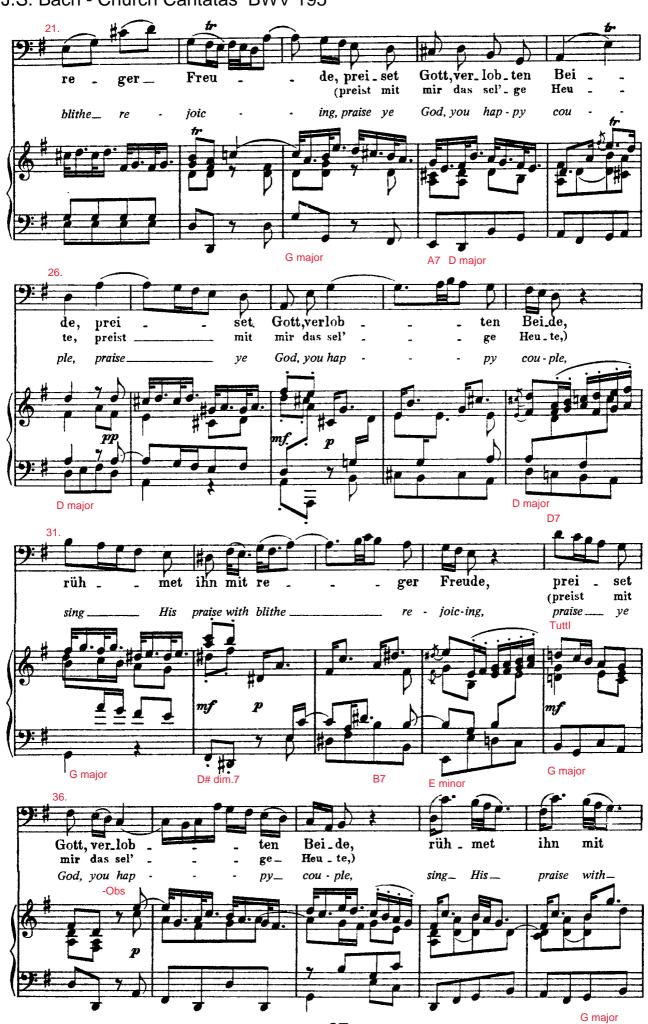




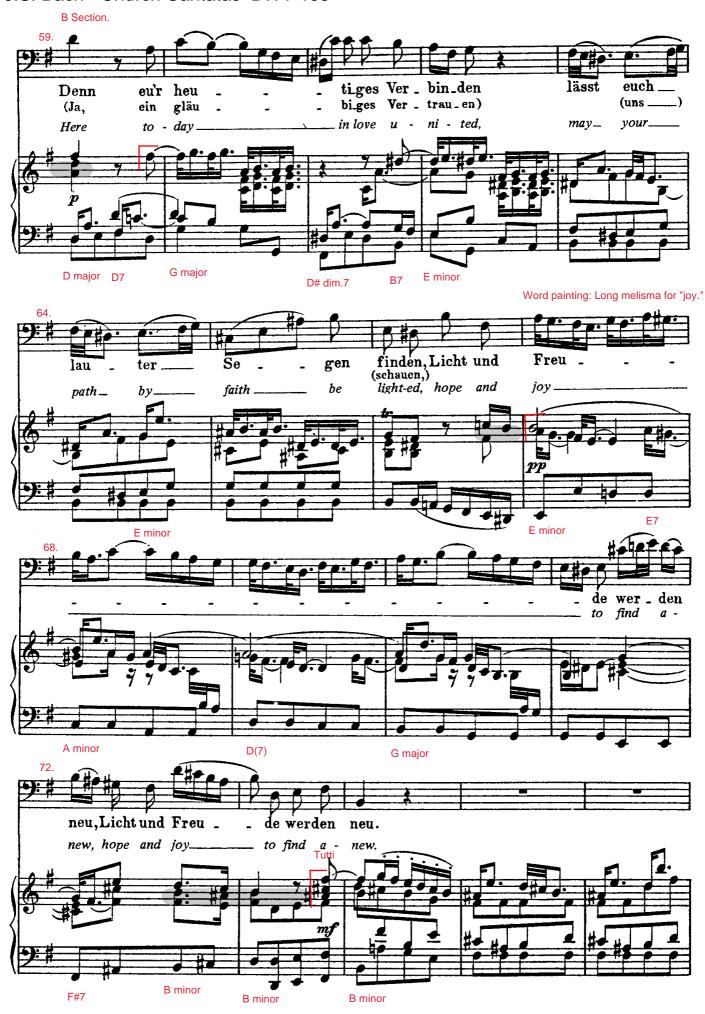


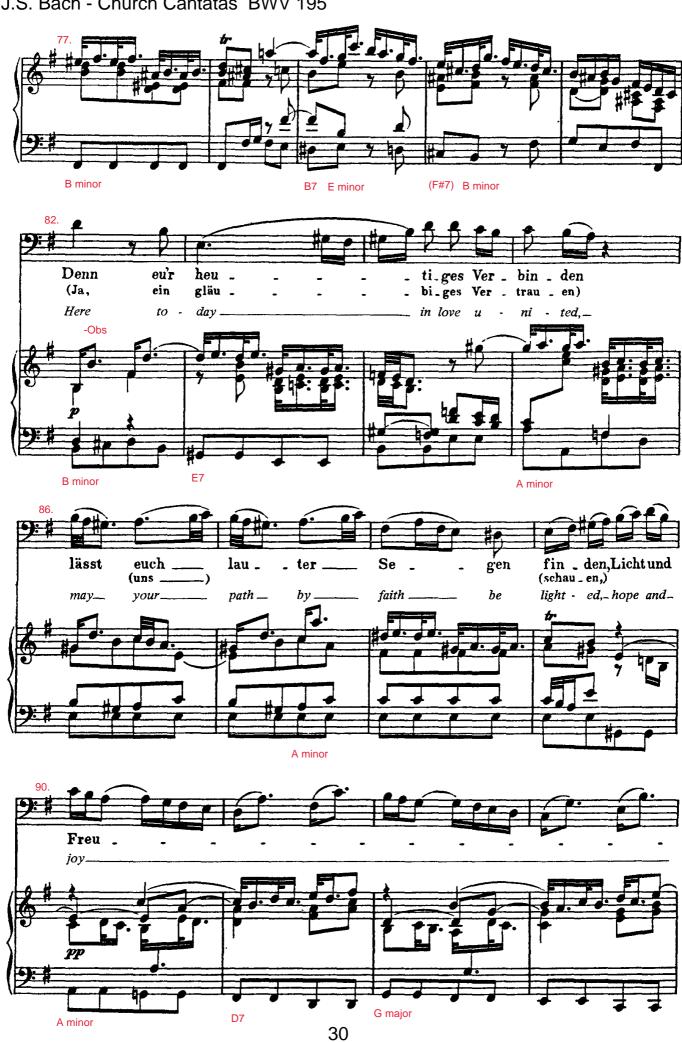


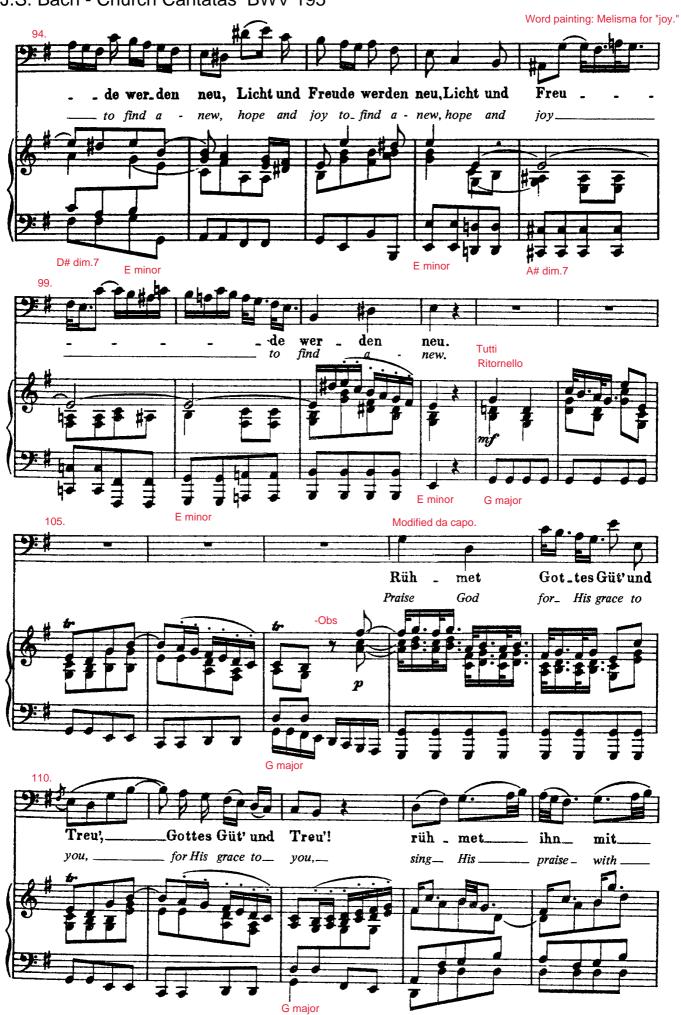






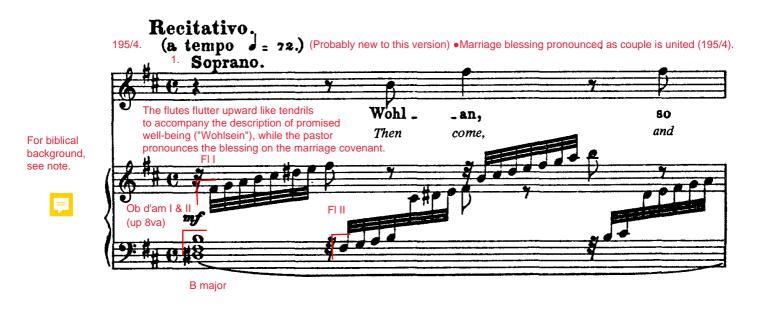


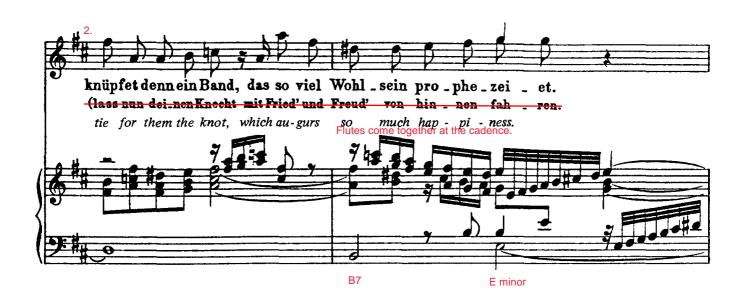




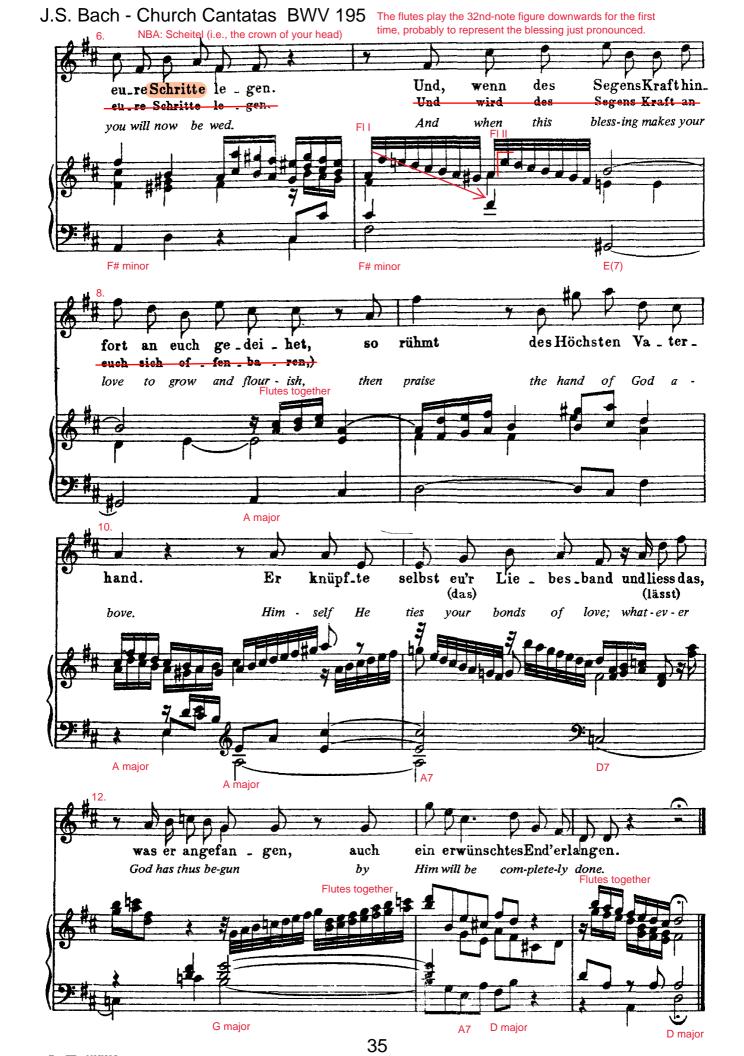




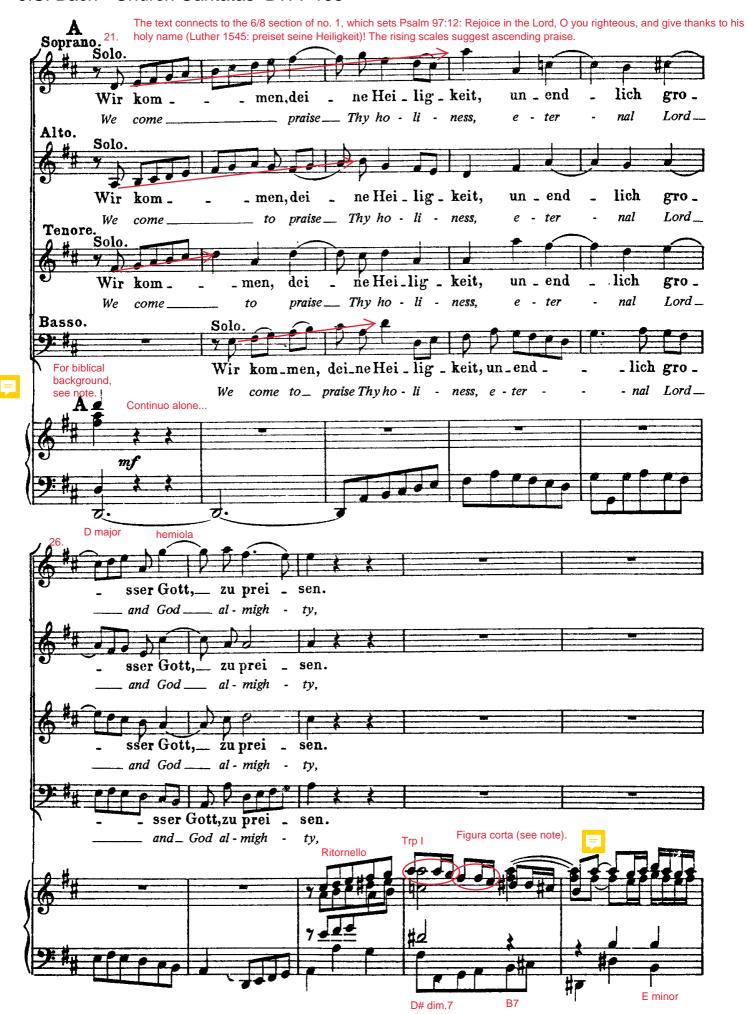












The adding of ripieno voices may represent the implied response by the gathered congregation at the wedding ceremony.











J.S. Bach - Church Cantatas BWV 195





















This is the first stanza of ten in the 1653 chorale "Nun danket all und bringet Ehr" by Paul Gerhardt (1607–1676). The soprano leads in the first line like a precentor leading the congregation. The other lines catch up with the text individually (see text underlay). With horns replacing the trumpets and no specific naming of God (unusual in light of the foregoing texts), it is likely that this movement "developed in a differentiated manner." See Petzoldt, *Bach-Kommentar* 3:509.





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See Johann Sebastian Bach. *The Sacred Vocal Music Complete Edition. Cantatas* (Stuttgart: Carus Verlag, 2017), vol. 16, p. 349 (Uwe Wolf, with translation by David Kosviner).

The ascertainable work stages I-V

(for details of the dating, see Crit. Report)

- 15 1727/32, title page, dated according to watermark. Instrumentation manifestly with recorders and not transverse flutes.
- II: 1736, text printing, dated 3 January 1736
- III: 1740/42, ripieno parts, dated according to the watermark and the copyists involved
- IV: 1747/48, text copy, dated according to J. C. F. Bach's handwriting
- V: 1748/49, dated according to J. S. Bach's handwriting, the copyists involved and the watermarks. Here, at the latest, transverse flutes were used.

Fassung	1	11	101	IV	V
erhalten	nur Titelblatt	nur Textdruck	nur Ripieno-Stim- men	nur Textblatt	Partitur und Stimmen
[1. Teil]					
Satz 1	Chor (?): Dem Gerechten muss das Licht	Chor: Text wie I	Chor: Text wie I	Chor: Text wie I	Chor: Text wie I, Musik wie III
Satz 2	?	Rezitativ: Des höch- sten unerforschtes Führen	Rezitativ (Bass): Text ?	Rezitativ: Dem Freudenlicht gerechter Frommen	Rezitativ (Bass): Text wie IV
Satz 3	2	Arie: Habe deine Lust am Herrn	Arie (Tenor): Text?	Arie: Rühmet Got- tes Güt und Treu	Arie (Bass): Text wie IV
Satz 4	?	Rezitativ: So tretet nun	Rezitativ (Alt): Text?	Rezitativ: Wohlan, so knüpfet denn ein Band	Rezitativ (Sopran): Text wie IV
Satz 5	?	Chor: Wir kommen, deine Heiligkeit	Chor: Text wie II	Chor: Text wie II	Chor: Text wie II, Musik wie III
Nach der Copulation			(2. Teil abgetrennt)		
Satz 6	?	Arie: Heilige Stätte, o Pforte des Himmels	?	Arie: Auf, und rühmt des Höchsten Güte	Choral: Nun dan- ket all und bringet Ehr
Satz 7	?	Rezitativ: Wohlan, es sei dies ausgesproch- ne Wort	7	Rezitativ: Hoch- edles Paar, du bist nunmehr verbunden	-
Satz 8	?	Duett mit Chor: Gesegnet Paar, dein Herrscher zeiget sich	?	Chor: Höchster, schenke diesem Paar	_