



## Lord Jesus, Who art Come

**Text: Eberhard Ludwig Fischer (1695-1773)**

**Tune: Johann Georg Christian Störl (1675-1719)**

The hymn, “Lord Jesus, Who art Come,” was written by Eberhard Ludwig Fischer in 1741. It was first included in the hymnal *Württembergischer Landes-Gesangbuch* (Country of Württemberg Hymnal), which was compiled by Dr. Wilhelm Gottlieb Tafinger, with help from Fischer. When Fischer wrote this hymn, he was professor at the Gymnasium (comparable to a U.S. honors high school) in Stuttgart. He also served two pastorates, one in Zavelstein (1727-1732) and St. Leonard Church of Stuttgart (1742-?). He also served as court preacher in Adelberg and Hohenasperg.

The tune was one already in use and well-known by the time Fischer wrote his text. The tune was composed by Johann Georg Christian Störl. It was first used in the *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch* (literally “newly increased hymnal”) in Meiningen, Germany in 1693. Störl began his musical career as a chorister in the Stuttgart *Hofkapelle* (Court Chapel). He was privileged to study under Johann Pachelbel in 1697. He served in Venice, Florence, and Rome, but returned to Stuttgart in 1704 to take up the post as *Hofkapellmeister* (Court Chapel Director) and later as *Stiftsorganist* (chief organist) in 1707. His tune, O GOTT DU FROMMER GOTT, is used four times in *e Lutheran Hymnal*.



“To obtain such faith, God instituted the Office of the Ministry, that is, provided the Gospel and the Sacraments.” (AC V)

The tune, O GOTT DU FROMMER GOTT, was also used by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750). He used the tune first in BWV 767, a Partita in nine movements. He wrote this in 1700, when he was only 15 years old. He later used the tune in two cantatas. The first, BWV 24, *Ein ungefübt Gemüte* (literally “an unstained mind,” was written for the Fourth

Sunday after Trinity, 20 June 1723 (just three weeks after Bach’s arrival in Leipzig). The second, BWV 71, *Gott ist mein König* (God is My King) was written for the Town Council Inauguration in Mühlhausen, 4 February 1708.

This hymn, “Lord Jesus, Who art Come,” was written to teach the function, necessity, and blessings of the Office of the Holy Ministry. The first stanza proclaims that the Office of the Holy Ministry is God’s fulfillment of His promise to Jeremiah to “place shepherds over [His people] who will tend them” (Jer. 23:4). The second stanza recalls Christ’s promise to be with us always (Matt. 28:20), which He fulfills through the Office of the Holy Ministry, through whose preaching and administration of the Sacraments Christ is truly present. Stanza four is the plea of the Faithful that men would be raised up to continue this Ministry, “that not a soul be lost,” a further fulfillment of God’s promise to Jeremiah (Jer. 23:4).

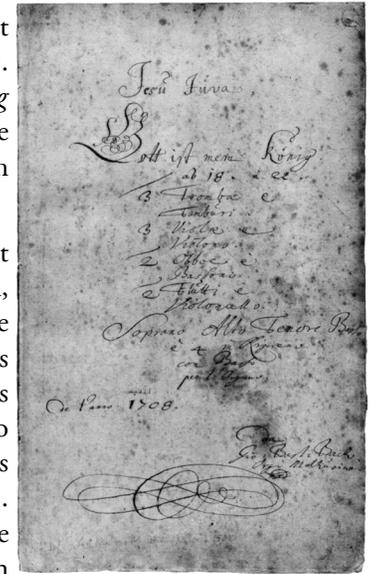
However, this hymn was originally written as an eight stanza hymn. The missing stanza comes between what we have as stanzas six and seven and reads:

*Bewahr vor Ketzerei,  
Vor Menschenlehr’ und Dünkell!  
Lehr uns nach deiner Art  
Im Tempel, nicht im Winkel!  
Behüt vor Ärgernis,  
Vor Spaltung, die uns trennt;  
Erhalte rein und ganz  
Dein Wort und Sakrament!*

Keep us from heresy,  
From human teaching and arrogance!  
Teach us according to Your way,  
In the temple, not the recesses of the heart!  
Protect us from trouble,  
From divisions that separate us;  
Preserve pure and whole  
Your Word and Sacrament!

Tr. Gayle Godek

The hymn concludes with a prayer of faith, that all may hear the saving Gospel and be brought into the Church to be preserved from harm and danger, and that all the Faithful will soon behold Christ face-to-face. Grant this Lord, unto us all!



The cover page of BWV 71, *Gott ist mein König*. At the top of the page are the words *Jesu Juva*, meaning “Jesus, help!” which Bach wrote at the top of each composition.