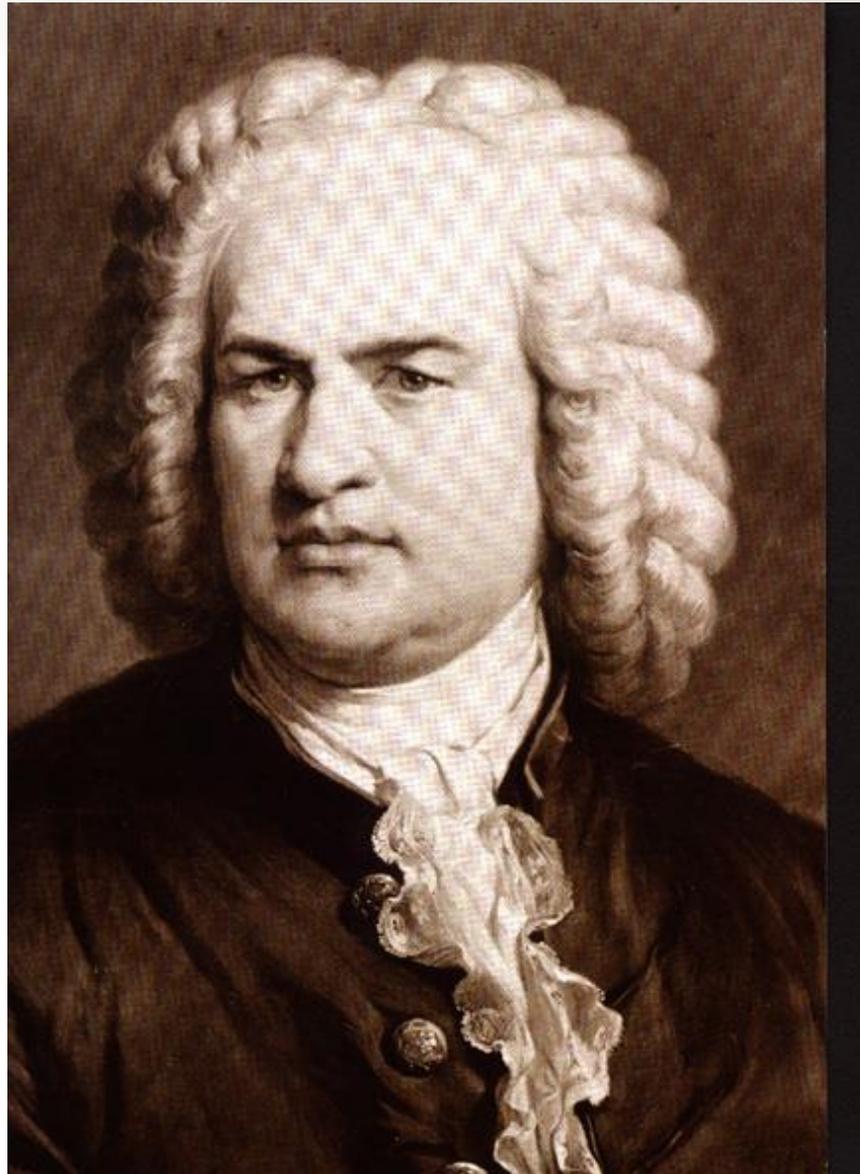


Johann Sebastian Bach

1685-1750



The Last of the
Great Religious
Composers

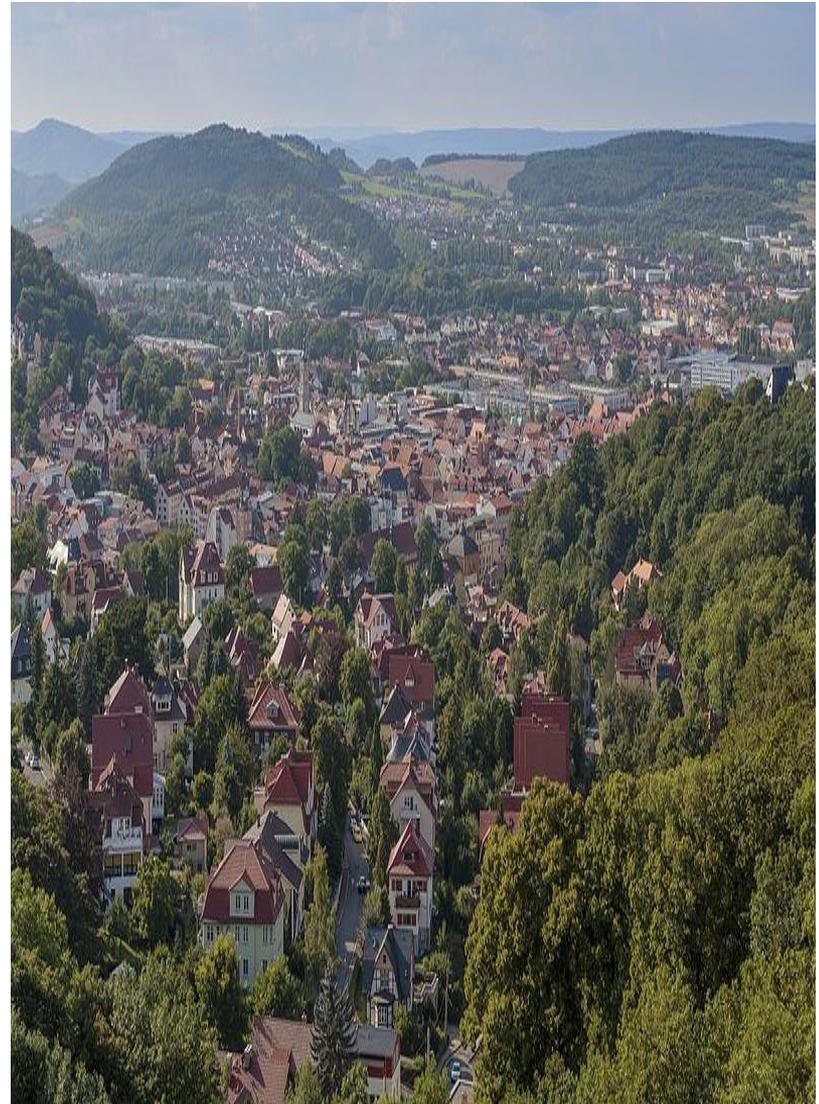


The Bach Family



Bach's Life

- Born on March 21, 1685 in Eisenach, Germany.
- At age 8 he was sent off to school to study music.
- Bach learned how to compose by hand copying the works of previous masters.
- He studied the organ and singing in school.



Musical Family



- Family was full of musicians, including his father Johann Ambrosius Bach
- Both parents died within 8 months of each other.
 - Bach was 10

Johann Christoph

- Took in Bach when their parents died.
- First serious music teacher
- Taught him the organ



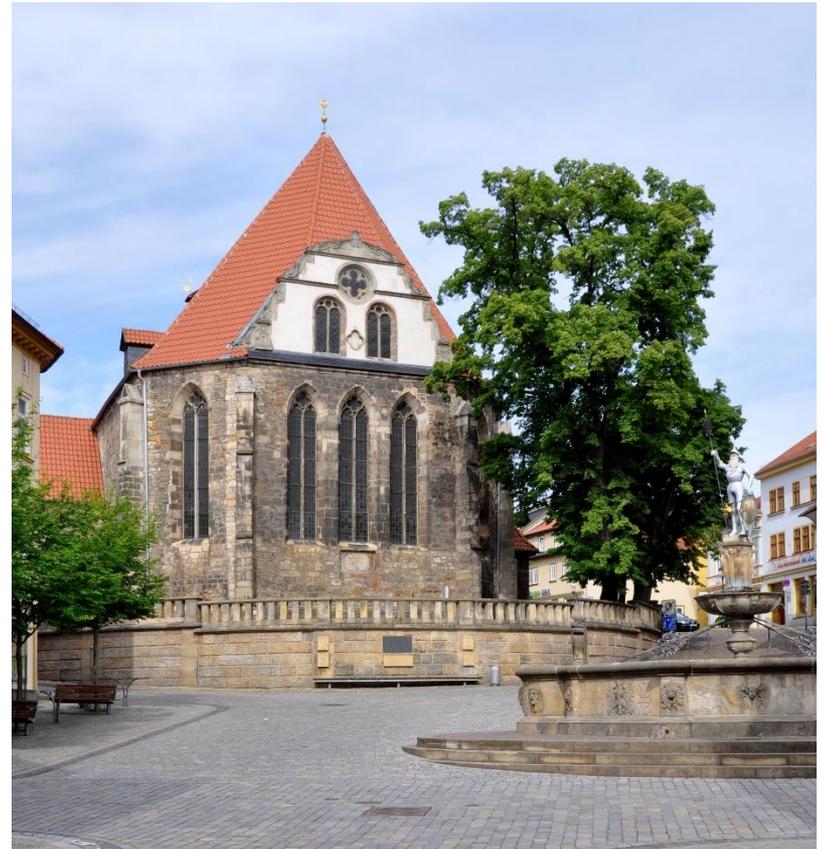
First Job



- St. Michaels Church in Lüneburg
- Started as a singer but lost soprano voice
- Hired as church organist

Arnstadt

- Reputation grew and he got a better job at a church in Arnstadt
- Married his cousin Maria Barbara in 1707



Work Issues

- Bach was a very talented organist and was in high demand - he was also very picky and made a lot of his employers angry - he once wanted to quit working for employer so badly, he went to prison in order to do so.
 - Spent almost a month in prison to get out of a contract



Great Job/Personal Tragedy

- In 1720 started working for the Prince of Kothen Germany
 - Gave Bach room to create
- Maria died July 7, 1720.
 - Composed “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” during this time period.



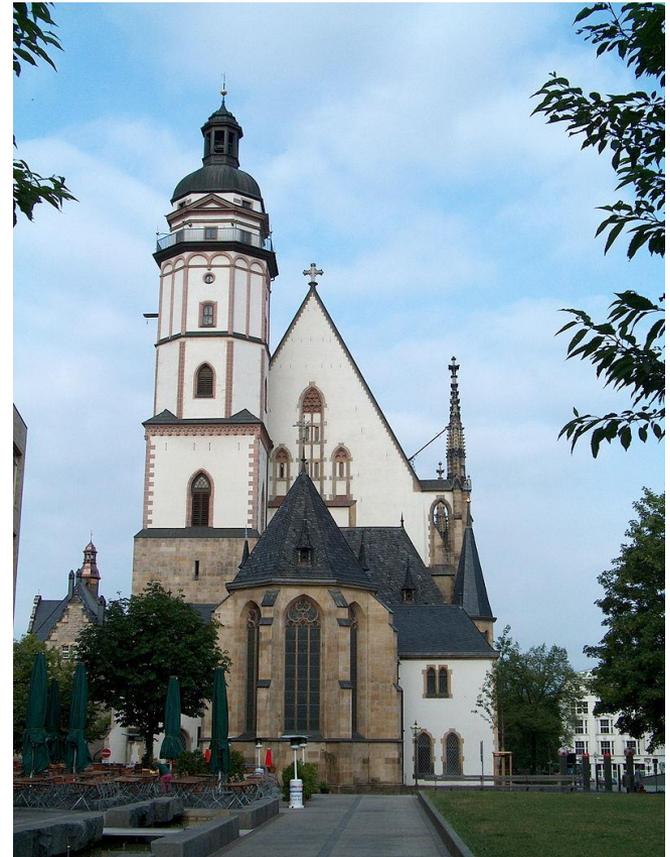
Family Man



- Married his 2nd wife Anna in 1721
 - She was 16 years younger
- Bach had 22 children in all - 12 of whom died at a young age. 10 with Maria, 12 with Anna

Final Destination

- At age 38 he got a job as Cantor of St Thomas in Leipzig Germany.
 - Created music for the four Protestant churches in Leipzig



Death



- Bach worked at St. Thomas for 27 years.
 - Reputation grew
 - Some of his best work
- Died July 28th, 1750



Significance

- Last of the Great Religious Composers
- Popularized Ritornello
- Profound influence on the Romantic Era
- Greatest Baroque Composer, his death marks the end of this period