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# *Eighth Note Publications*

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## Wachet Auf Cantata 140

Johann Sebastian Bach  
*Arranged by David Marlatt*

**THE WORK:** Wachet Auf, ruft uns die Stimme is a section from J.S. Bach's (1685-1750) Cantata No. 140. Heralded as one of Bach's finest cantatas, it was written for the 27th Sunday after Trinity. What is interesting about this time is that this Sunday does not exist unless Easter is very early. Therefore, this happened only twice during Bach's years in Leipzig. The libretto is based of a hymn by Philipp Nicolai (1599) and due to the nature of the writing, this work is considered a chorale cantata.

Bach wrote many cantatas but none have maintained the popularity of this excerpt from No. 140. This is most likely due to the elegant, flowing nature of the writing that is so distinctly Bach.

**THE ARRANGEMENT:** The ideal instrumentation for this arrangement is 4 b-flat trumpets and 2 b-flat flugelhorns. The colour difference between the trumpets and flugelhorns will make this piece more pleasing to the ear and more varied in colour and timbre. If flugelhorns are not available, perhaps cornets could be used.

The dynamic is marked fairly soft until near the end so players should strive for playing the uppermost lines effortlessly without increasing dynamic. Also the matching of articulations, trills and other musical nuances is crucial since there is quite a bit of unison and octave writing.

# PREVIEW ONLY

ISBN: 9781554731459  
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DURATION: 3:35

DIFFICULTY RATING: Medium-Difficult  
6 Trumpets

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# Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme

from Cantata 140

J.S. Bach  
(1685-1750)  
Arranged by D. Marlatt

Moderato

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trumpet 5 (opt Flugelhorn) *mp*

Trumpet 6 (opt Flugelhorn) *mp*

Detailed description: This system contains the first five measures of the score. It features six trumpet staves. Trumets 1-4 are silent. Trumpet 5 plays a melodic line starting with a half note G4, followed by eighth notes. Trumpet 6 plays a rhythmic accompaniment of quarter notes. The tempo is marked 'Moderato' and dynamics are 'mp'.

5

1

2

3

4

5 *mf*

6 *mf*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 6-10. Trumets 1-4 remain silent. Trumpet 5 continues its melodic line with eighth-note patterns. Trumpet 6 continues its accompaniment. Dynamics are 'mf'. A large 'PREVIEW ONLY' watermark is overlaid across the staves.

10

1

2 *mp* cup mute

3 *mp* cup mute

4 *mp*

5 *mp* *tr*

6

Detailed description: This system contains measures 11-15. Trumets 1-4 are silent. Trumpet 5 plays a melodic line with trills (tr) and rests. Trumpets 2, 3, and 4 play a rhythmic accompaniment of quarter notes, with trumpets 2 and 3 using cup mutes. Dynamics are 'mp'. The score ends with a double bar line.

15

Musical score for measures 15-19. The score is written for six staves (1-6) in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The music features a complex rhythmic pattern with eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. The first staff (1) has the most active melody, while the other staves provide harmonic support with various rhythmic patterns and rests.

20

Musical score for measures 20-24. The score continues with the same six-staff arrangement. A large, semi-transparent watermark "PREVIEW ONLY" is overlaid across the middle of the page. Dynamic markings include *p* (piano) in measure 21 and *mp* (mezzo-piano) in measure 22. The music maintains the intricate rhythmic texture established in the previous system.

25

Musical score for measures 25-29. The score concludes with the same six-staff arrangement. Dynamic markings include *mp* (mezzo-piano) in measure 25 and *mp* (mezzo-piano) in measure 26. The music continues with the same complex rhythmic patterns and melodic lines across all staves.

30

1 *tr*

2 *open*

3 *open*

4 *tr*

5 *tr*

6 *mp*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 30 through 34. It features six staves. Staves 1, 4, and 5 have trills (*tr*) in measures 30, 31, and 32. Staves 2 and 3 have 'open' markings in measure 33. Staves 2, 3, and 4 have a piano (*p*) dynamic in measure 33. Staff 6 has a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic in measure 34. The music is in a key with two flats and a common time signature.

35

1 *mp*

2 *mp*

3 *mp*

4 *mp*

5 *mp*

6 *mp*

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Detailed description: This system contains measures 35 through 39. It features six staves. Measures 35 and 36 have a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. Measures 37, 38, and 39 have a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. A large 'PREVIEW ONLY' watermark is overlaid across the middle of the system. The music continues in the same key and time signature.

40

1 *mf*

2 *mf*

3 *mf*

4 *mf*

5 *mf*

6 *mf*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 40 through 44. It features six staves. Measures 40, 41, 42, 43, and 44 have a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The music continues in the same key and time signature.

45

Musical score for measures 45-49, featuring six staves. The music is in a key with two flats and a common time signature. Measures 45-46 are mostly rests. From measure 47, the music begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Trills (*tr*) are present in measures 48 and 49. The score includes various rhythmic patterns such as eighth and sixteenth notes.

50

Musical score for measures 50-53, featuring six staves. The music continues with a *cresc. poco a poco* (crescendo poco a poco) instruction across all staves. The texture is dense with sixteenth-note patterns. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading "PREVIEW ONLY" is overlaid across the center of the page.

54

Musical score for measures 54-56, featuring six staves. The music is marked *molto rit.* (molto ritardando) and *ff* (fortissimo). Trills (*tr.*) are present in measure 55. The score concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs at the end of each staff.

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