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Foreword

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Foreword

The mainstay of a theological journal like *Consensus* is the contribution of scholars who devote themselves to research, reflection, and imagination for the sake of the articulation and the practice of the faith. Thus, the pages of our journal typically feature the work of accomplished professors of theology – people who write not only because it is their life-calling but also because it is their livelihood. *Consensus* is indebted to such as these.

Our journal also intends to serve pastors, students, and others who are informed and curious. The writer of the lead article for this issue is such a person. *Katherine Goheen* is an ordained pastor and an elder of her church, a student of theology, and a professional singer (she currently is a member of a very fine Vancouver-based professional chamber choir, *musica intima*). As she herself explains, she writes from a position that might be adjudged marginal with respect to the mainstream of our journal. And yet, when one keeps in view the social position of many of the Biblical prophets, one might then consider her contribution with new appreciation. We have divided her essay on Bach's *Jesu Meine Freude* into two parts, the first of which appears in this volume. Watch for the second installment in a subsequent issue.

This issue contains other very fine essays addressing a wide range of topics, as well as the usual complement of sermons and book reviews. Some of the material is intellectually bracing, while other parts are profoundly heart-felt. I trust that the reader will find it all informative and stimulating.

Clifford Reinhardt
Managing Editor