

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Who composed *The Christmas Oratorio*?

Johann Sebastian Bach was born into a family of musicians in Eisenach, Germany. He received his first music lessons from his father, who was also a musician.

Bach sometimes walked up to 80 miles to hear the concerts of famous musicians. At the age of 15, he received a scholarship, thanks to his beautiful soprano voice. He traveled around Europe, working as an organist and composer in the service of the church and royalty.

When playing the organ, he liked to make changes to the musical pieces. He built many of his instruments, repaired his own instruments, and even invented new instruments. Among his contributions to music is the use of the thumbs in fingering.

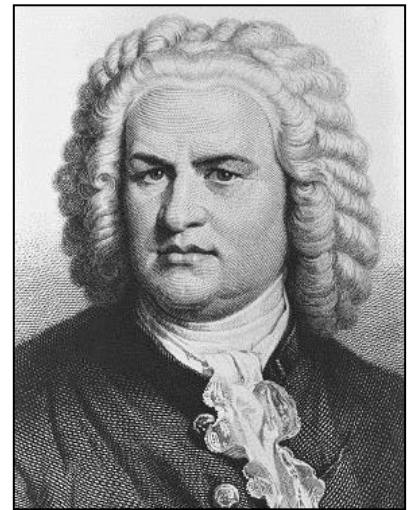
Among his most important works are *Mass in B Minor*, *The Well-Tempered Clavier*, *The Christmas Oratorio*, and *The Brandenburg Concertos*.

Four of his sons were notable musicians.

### ANSWER THE QUESTIONS.

1. Where was Johann Sebastian Bach born?

- a. Spain
- b. Italy
- c. Germany
- d. none of the above



March 1685 – July 1750

2. *The Christmas Oratorio* is a musical composition from \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Mozart
- b. Beethoven
- c. Bach
- d. Vivaldi

3. Among his contributions to music is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. the use of the thumb in fingering
- b. the use of musical notes
- c. the use of the left hand
- d. the use of an electric tachometer

4. Bach received a scholarship because of his \_\_\_\_\_ voice.

- a. tenor
- b. soprano
- c. deep
- d. baritone

