

# Autumnal diary

by [Mark Noll](#) in the [October 18, 2005](#) issue

*Behold, I am sending forth many fishers, says the Lord, and they shall catch them. (Jeremiah 16:16)*

*And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Matthew 4:19)*

At noon the Church of the Epiphany,  
on this the long anticipated Date  
with Destiny on which we're told the Fate  
of Almost All depends, is strangely free  
of angst. The good-sized crowd is here to see  
a choir perform Cantata Eighty Eight  
and hear Johann the angel Bach relate  
a snatch of puzzling Bible history:  
God is at first an angry fisherman  
who hunts in righteous wrath our sinful kind  
but then Christ stoops and speaks, wrath is undone  
by love, reality is redefined,  
Ohio pales, the stained glass glows blood red,  
the hapless fish are named, called, calmed and fed.