

## JUSTUS HENRY CHRISTIAN HELMUTH--HYMNODIST

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Probably no German-American pastor had more influence on the development of music and hymnody in German Lutheran congregations in America from the Revolution until the mid-nineteenth century than the Rev. Justus Henry Christian Helmuth. During his long tenure (1769-1825) as a pastor with the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of Pennsylvania, including over forty years with St. Michael's and Zion Congregation in Philadelphia, Helmuth wrote hundreds of hymn, anthem, and cantata texts for use both in his own congregation as well as for other churches associated with the ministerium. He was also a prolific anonymous contributor of poetry to the German language newspapers in the Philadelphia area and authored several books of a devotional character.

Born in Helmstedt, Germany, May 15, 1745, Helmuth was educated at the Halle Waisenhaus following the death of his father. He studied theology at the University of Halle and came to America in 1769, serving first as pastor in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, before he accepted a call to St. Michael's and Zion,<sup>1</sup> Philadelphia. Helmuth had an active interest in church music and both sang and played the piano. He began writing hymn texts shortly after his arrival in America, and as early as 1782 Henry Melchior Mühlenberg, senior

pastor of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, referred to Helmuth as "the second Gellert."<sup>2</sup> Thus it was only natural that in 1782 the ministerium appointed Helmuth to a committee (which also included H. M. Mühlenberg, G. H. E. Mühlenberg, and J. C. Kunze) charged with preparing and publishing America's first Lutheran hymnal. The committee's efforts reached fruition in 1786 with the publication of the *Erbauliche Lieder-Sammlung zum gottesdienstlichen Gebrauch in den vereinigten Evangelisch Lutherischen Gemeinen in Nord-America* (Germantown: Leibert und Billmeyer, 1786). H. M. Mühlenberg signed the preface, and for this reason the 1786 hymnal is often called the "Mühlenberg hymnal." However, Helmuth was the dominant influence on all the numerous subsequent editions of the *Erbauliche Lieder-Sammlung* which appeared until 1950. The *Erbauliche Lieder-Sammlung* remained the official German hymnal of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania until it was gradually replaced by the *Deutsches Gesangbuch für die Evangelisch-Lutherischen Kirche in den Vereinigten Staaten* (Philadelphia: Wollenweber, 1849).

Helmuth recognized that not only did the German Lutheran congregations need a good hymnbook, but the organists and schoolmasters needed a tunebook which fitted the hymnal and could provide all the necessary music from one source. Today we are accustomed to having musical notation printed in hymnals, but the expense and typographical problems of doing this before the mid-nineteenth century

made this the exception rather than the rule. Therefore, in 1813 Helmuth was the guiding force behind the publication of the Choral-Buch für die Erbauliche Lieder-Sammlung der deutschen Evangelisch-Lutherischen Gemeinen in Nord-Amerika (Philadelphia: Zentler und Balke, 1813). The 1813 Choral-Buch contained 266 melodies for 188 different meters, and provided tunes for all the texts in the Erbauliche Lieder-Sammlung as well as for all except three texts in the later Deutsches Gesangbuch.

Most of Helmuth's papers, diaries, and imprints are in the archives of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod in the Krauth Memorial Library of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Mt. Airy (Philadelphia). Helmuth was an extremely prolific writer, and verses flowed from his pen almost daily. In his diary for February 8, 1792, Helmuth himself divides his verses into three types: (1) poems which flow from his heart, primarily during his daily morning meditations; they have an inner value and are songs for souls for whom blessedness is the main thing; (2) songs for the choir, singing school, or youth in his congregation; these are written for special occasions, but still with the feeling of his heart; (3) verses that are more refined and have artistic pretensions; these are intended primarily for those who are lovers of poetry. Helmuth placed great emphasis upon the didactic value of sacred vocal music, and for this reason he wrote many verses to be sung by the schoolchildren in his church. Helmuth's texts for musical

settings are basically either hymn texts or cantata-anthem texts which included arias, recitatives, and choruses. Helmuth intended most of his hymns to be sung to existing melodies, but a few have their own tunes, probably written by either himself or one of the church's schoolmasters. In some cases the schoolmasters and organists at St. Michael's and Zion provided original music for Helmuth's anthem and cantata texts, thus emulating the practices of church musicians in large parishes back in Germany.

The best way to gauge the extent of Helmuth's contribution to German-American hymnody is to examine a bibliography of the hymn, anthem, and cantata texts which he wrote and published. In addition, Helmuth's diaries and papers refer to numerous imprints which are not extant, so his output of published texts was even greater than the extensive bibliography below indicates. This bibliography is in two parts. The first part lists all hymn texts in the *Erbauliche Lieder-Sammlung* which can be attributed to Helmuth. Undoubtedly, there are a few more Helmuth hymns in this large collection which it has not been possible to trace because they are not mentioned in his diaries or included among his extant publications. Helmuth published most of his hymns anonymously, and this obviously complicates the establishment of authorship. The second part of this bibliography lists all known Helmuth hymn and cantata texts which he published as either broadsides or pamphlets, primarily for distribution to members of his large congregation. This list gives complete

titles and details of publication (when known) since most of these imprints are not included in the standard bibliographies of American printing. The large number of these musical texts indicates that St. Michael's and Zion maintained an extensive and highly developed program of church music. This bibliography includes only texts which can reasonably be assumed to have been set to music, and totally ignores the numerous poems of a non-musical nature which Helmuth wrote for the German newspapers and almanacs.

#### Bibliography--Part I

##### HYMN TEXTS BY HELMUTH IN THE ERBAULICHE LIEDER-SAMMLUNG

(Melodies are indicated in parentheses)

Texts in the original 1786 edition:

No. 547 "Am Grabe bebt, gehüllt in Dunkelheiten"

("Mein Freund zerschmelzt")

Helmuth included this text as No. 21 in the 1781  
Empfindungen.<sup>3</sup>

No. 111 "Der Heiland lebt, er drang hervor"

("Heut' triumphiret Gottes Sohn")

Originally published in the 1781 Empfindungen, No. 32, this hymn is also included as No. 196 in the Deutsches Gesangbuch.

No. 76 "Dort auf jenem Todtenhügel"

This was one of the most popular of Helmuth's hymn texts. It was first published in an undated pamphlet probably printed in 1785 or 1786 entitled Charfreytags-Gesänge

und Osterlieder (see Bibliography, Part II). Schoolmaster David Ott supervised an ambitious program of choral music in the congregation, and Helmuth wrote the text for Ott's singing school. This hymn was included in a little booklet, *Die ersten Früchte der Singeschule*, published by the church in 1786. It is in all editions of the *Erbauliche Lieder-Sammlung* as well as the *Gemeinschaftliche Gesangbuch*,<sup>4</sup> No. 86; the *Deutsches Gesangbuch*, No. 165; *Das neue Gesangbuch*,<sup>5</sup> No. 29; and Schmauk's *Sammlung religiöser deutscher Gesaenge*,<sup>6</sup> as well as his *Deutsche Harmonie*. "Dort auf jenem Todtenhügel" has its own tune, and circumstantial evidence indicates the composer may have been Ott or possibly Helmuth himself.

No. 602 " Du eitle Jugend wimmre heut"

("Mein junges Leben hat ein End'")

This text is almost identical with that published by Helmuth in a pamphlet in 1811, *Auf den Tod einer liebenswürdigen jungen Freundin*. He also published the pamphlet version in the *Evangelisches Magazin*,<sup>7</sup> I, 59. However, Helmuth's authorship of the original hymnal version may be doubtful.

No. 252 "Hier stehe ich und weine"

("Wenn meine Sünd mich kranken")

Helmuth first published this as No. 13 in the 1781 *Empfindungen*.

No. 190 "Jehovah! Hirte bist du mir"

("Mein Gott! das Herz ich bringe dir")

This was first published in the 1781 *Empfindungen*,

No. 7, and was included in the Deutsches Gesangbuch as No. 79.

No. 672 "Laut und majestätisch rollet"

This hymn first appeared as No. 18 in the 1781 Empfindungen and was included in the Gemeinschaftliche Gesangbuch, No. 422. In the 1781 publication it was sung to the tune of "Prächtig kommt der Herr, mein König," but later it had its own melody, perhaps written by David Ott or Helmuth.

No. 694 "Lobe, Zion, lobe deines Herren Thaten"

("Wunderbarer König")

Helmuth wrote this hymn and "Wir fühlen heute Liebesdrang" for the re-dedication of Zion Church on September 22, 1782, when the damage caused by British troops during the Revolution had been repaired. The hymns were published in a 4-page pamphlet entitled Lobet den Herrn, der zu Zion wohnt! Charles Evans, American Bibliography, lists this pamphlet as item 17569 and assigns its authorship to John Christopher Kunze, Helmuth's co-pastor. However, the initials "H.H." on the title page plus a reference to this pamphlet in H. M. Mühlenberg's diary makes Helmuth's authorship indisputable.

No. 705 "Mein Heiland! eine Wolke zieht"

("Mein Herzens Jesu, meine Lust")

This was first published in the 1781 Empfindungen, No. 22.

No. 619 "Prächtig kommt der Herr, mein König"

One of Helmuth's most popular texts, this hymn has its own tune and first appeared in the 1781 *Empfindungen*, No. 27. It is also in the *Gemeinschaftliche Gesangbuch*, No. 117, and the *Deutsches Gesangbuch*, No. 690. Schmauk's 1824 *Sammlung* gives it a harmonized setting, and it is also included in Schmauk's later tunebooks published in 1833, 1841, and 1847.

No. 701 "Steh armes Kind! wo eilst du hin"

("Auf, Christen Mensch, auf, auf")

Originally this children's hymn was the first text in the 1781 *Empfindungen*. It was also included in the *Deutsches Gesangbuch*, No. 559.

No. 103 "Von Sinai erthönte"

("O Haupt voll Blut")

Sometimes this hymn is printed as "Vom Sinai erthönte." It was first published in the 1781 *Empfindungen*, No. 30, and was also included in the *Deutsches Gesangbuch*, No. 169.

No. 695 "Wir fühlen heute Liebesdrang"

("Ich weiss mein Gott" or "In dich hab' ich gehoffet, Herr")

See the comments above for "Lobe, Zion, lobe deines Herren Thaten ."

The *Erbauliche Lieder-Sammlung* had several editions during the more than sixty years it served as the official hymnal for German Lutheran churches. The hymn numbers given above are those found in the 1786 edition. Beginning with the 1795 edition the total number of texts increased

from 706 to 718, and the numbering was changed slightly so that in later editions hymn 694 became 693, etc. The edition of 1818 enlarged the Zugabe so that the total number of texts increased even more to 746. Most of these additional hymns were by Helmuth, and it seems probable that he wrote several others which cannot be traced. The following 23 hymns can definitely be assigned to Helmuth. Many were first published in the 1781 *Empfindungen*, and these are indicated by the year and number of the hymn in parentheses.

No. 729 "Ach! er ist todt, mein Herr und Gott"

("O Traurigkeit, o Herzeleid")

An entry in Helmuth's diary states that he finished this hymn on April 12, 1802, and took it to the printers Becker and Geyer to have 2,500 copies printed for distribution to the congregation on Good Friday and Easter.

No. 730 "Auf, trage nur die Bürde weiter"

("Wer nur den lieben Gott")

This was first published in a pamphlet for Good Friday, 1805.

No. 723 "Der Heiland weint! es fliessen heisse Thränen" (1781, No. 12)

("Am Grabe bebt, gehüllt in Dunkelheiten")

No. 722 "Der Seelenfeind erregt neue Stürme" (1781, No. 10)

("Am Grabe bebt, gehüllt in Dunkelheiten")

No. 740 "Dort bebt in dunkler Nacht zum Oehlbergs Grunde" (1781, No. 29)

("Am Grabe bebt, gehüllt in Dunkelheiten")

No. 733 "Freude, Freude über Freude"

("Alle Menschen müssen sterben")

Helmuth's diary for December 4, 1805, says that he wrote hymn 733 on this date for the schoolchildren to sing in Zion on Christmas. Two days later he finished a second hymn, "Welch ein Wechsel unsrer Tage" for the children to sing on New Year's Day. Both were first published in a 4-page pamphlet with the title, Auf das Heil: Weynachtsfest, 1805. "Welch ein Wechsel unsrer Tage" also is hymn 583 in the Deutsches Gesangbuch.

No. 721 "Heilig und heiter, du schönster der Tage"

(1781, No. 11)

("Jesus, hilf siegen, Du")

No. 732 "Herr ein Häuflein Deiner Kleinen"

This hymn follows the model of several other hymns which Helmuth wrote for children in that it is designed for a type of antiphonal performance, with the verses designated alternately "choir" and "answer," while everyone joined in singing the final verse. It was first published in a broadside entitled, Auf das heilige Pfingstfest, 1807. There is no tune indicated.

No. 724 "Ich drence mich an diesem frohen Tage"

(1781, No. 14)

("Der Tag ist hin, mein Jesu")

No. 451 "Ich ging bisher auf einem Pfade"

("Wer nur den lieben Gott")

The Deutsches Gesangbuch included this text as No. 470. It was first published in the 1795 edition of the Erbauliche Lieder-Sammlung.

No. 743 "Ich walle noch im Thränenthal" (1781, No. 33)  
("Heut' triumphiret Gottes Sohn")

No. 725 "Jesu! siehe mein Verderben (1781, No. 3)  
(Own melody or "Werde munter mein Gemüthe")

No. 726 "Jesu! siehe mein Verderben (1781, No. 3)  
("O ihr auserwählten Kinder")

No. 735 "Jesu wir betreten heut"  
("Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier")

Helmuth wrote this hymn for the dedication of Zion Lutheran Church, Baltimore, October 9, 1808, and it was first printed in a 12-page pamphlet published for this occasion.

No. 738 "In Traurigkeit zerflossen" (1781, No. 19)  
("O Haupt voll Blut")

No. 731 "Kommt Kinder, kommt betend"

Helmuth first published this hymn in the pamphlet, Auf das heil. Pfingstfest, 1805. No melody is indicated.

No. 737 "Lobet ihn alle den gütigen König der Ehren"  
("Lobe den Herren, den Mächtigen")

Helmuth used hymns 735, 736 and 737 for the texts which he wrote for the dedication of Zion in Baltimore in 1808.

No. 742 "Mein Gott! tief ins Verderben" (1781, No. 26)  
("O Haupt voll Blut")

No. 741 "Seht! wie majestätisch, mächtig" (1781, No. 28)  
 ("Prächtig kommt der Herr, mein König")

No. 728 "Verfluchtes Gift der Wollust Triebe" (1781, No. 6)  
 ("Hier legt mein Sinn sich vor Dir nieder")

No. 734 "Welch ein Wechsel unsrer Tage!"  
 ("Dort auf jenem Todtenhügel")

This was first published with hymn 733, "Freude, Freude,  
 über Freude."

No. 736 "Wir singen heute Deinen Ruhm"  
 ("Sey Lob und Ehr")

Helmuth originally wrote this text for the festivities connected with the dedication of the large Tannenberg organ in Zion Church, Philadelphia, October 10, 1790. It was printed in the pamphlet which the Philadelphia printer Michael Billmeyer published in honor of this event. These same verses appear in Helmuth's diary on August 2, 1790, while he was writing the cantata text for the organ dedication. He also used a portion of his hymn for the dedication of Zion in Baltimore in 1808.

No. 739 "Wo reisst mich die Betrachtung hin?" (1781,  
 No. 25)

("Mein Herzens Jesu")

This was also published as hymn 698 in the Deutsches Gesangbuch.

Bibliography--Part II  
 CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF HELMUTH IMPRINTS CONTAINING  
 HYMN, ANTHEM, AND CANTATA TEXTS

Items listed in Evans, American Bibliography, or the Shaw-Shoemaker continuation of Evans are designated with their appropriate number. Items without a number are not included in these bibliographies, and in these cases the library where each is located is indicated. If Helmuth's name does not appear on the title page no author attribution is given; absence of a publisher likewise indicates that none is listed. The great majority of these imprints are in the Krauth Memorial Library of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Mt. Airy (Philadelphia), and this library is identified by its standard abbreviation, PPLT.

Helmuth, Just. Heinrich Christian. *Empfindungen des Herzens in einigen Liedern*. Philadelphia: Melchior Steiner, 1781. (Evans 17186). The main body of this book contains 33 hymn texts on 81 pages, plus a fairly extended preface. Nine of these hymns were published in the 1786 *Erbauliche Lieder-Sammlung*, and from 1811 to 1817 Helmuth reprinted 20 of the other texts in the *Evangelisches Magazin*. When the *Erbauliche Lieder-Sammlung* was enlarged in 1818 Helmuth included 12 more texts from this collection in the enlarged hymnal.

H.[elmuth,] H.[enry]. *Lobet den Herrn, der zu Zion wohnet*. Philadelphia: Melchior Steiner, [1782]. (Evans 17569).

Helmuth wrote the three texts in this 4-page pamphlet for the re-opening of Zion, September 22, 1782. The first hymn is "Erhebe, Volk! mit Freudenthränen." The other two texts are numbers 694 and 695 in the 1786 hymnal and are discussed in Part I of this bibliography.

Auf das Oster-Fest, 1783, (PPLT). This little broadside contains a single Easter text of four verses, "Bringt Macht und Ruhm und Stärke dar." Probably the printer was Melchior Steiner.

Die Frohe Weihnachts-Freude, 1784. und Neujahrs-Andacht, 1785. Der Evangelischen Lutherischen Singeschule der Gemeinde in Zion. Philadelphia : Melchior Steiner, [1784]. (PPLT). This broadside contains three hymns: "Heil uns an diesem Tage," "Halleluja, Lob Preis und Ruhm," and "Gott, du bist unsre Zuversicht.;" All three texts were reprinted in Die ersten Früchte (1786) and in the Evangelisches Magazin, II, 123-124.

Die Frohe Pfingst-Freude und Andacht der Evangelischen Lutherischen Singeschule der Gemeinde in Zion, abgesungen unter der Anführung des Herrn David Otts. 1785. (PPLT). Helmuth included two anthems for Pentecost in this broadside. Both were later published in the Evangelisches Magazin, IV, 86. Each anthem has five verses, of which the first, third, and fifth verses are in the same meter and designated "chorus." The alternate verses have a different meter and are called "duetto." The two anthems are "Der Geist ist da! Es rauscht der Wind" and "Wie lieblich bist du Tag der Freude."

Auf den Tag der Unabhängigkeit der Dreyzehn Staaten von Nord-America, den 4ten Julii, 1785. Abgesungen von der Singeschule der Evangelischen Lutherischen Deutschen Gemeine in Philadelphia, unter Anführung Herrn David Otts, Schullehrer. (PPLT). This broadside includes a complete cantata text of three choruses, two duets, and two solos or arias, plus three hymn verses not designated. The aria, "Vergebung, Herr, ich nur begehre," is reprinted in Die ersten Früchte of 1786.

Charfreytags-Gesänge, und Osterlieder, welche in der Zions Kirche, unter der Anführung des Herrn David Ott, Schulmeisters der Evangelischen Lutherischen Gemeine, in Philadelphia, mit der Singeschule abgesungen werden. [Philadelphia]: Melchior Steiner, [1785 or 1786]. (PPLT). This 4-page pamphlet dates from 1785 or 1786 and contains the earliest printed version of one of Helmuth's most popular hymns, "Dort auf jenem Todtenhügel." In the pamphlet the verses of this hymn are called "chorus" and alternate with a second hymn, "Schau auf, ich büsse deine Sünden" designated as "duetto." The second Good Friday hymn is "Stirbst Du, mein Heiland, ein Fluch dort am Kreuze," while the two Easter texts are "Triumph! des Grabes Siegel bricht" and "Wohl mir, Jesus ist erstanden." All the texts except for the last were reprinted in Die ersten Früchte of 1786.

Die ersten Früchte der Singeschule der Evangelisch-Lutherischen Gemeine in Philadelphia. Philadelphia: Melchior

Steiner, [1786]. (Evans 19630). St. Michael's and Zion Congregation gave this booklet to the schoolchildren at the time of their fall examinations in 1786. It contains 21 texts which Helmuth wrote for David Ott's singing classes during 1785 and 1786. Several of these texts are mentioned in the imprints discussed above. Hymn No. 6, "Sieh! in Demuth fall ich nieder" was reprinted in the *Evangelisches Magazin*, III, 247.

Folgende Ordnung wird heute, als am 12ten October, 1786, bey der Vocal Musik unserer Singeschule und Rede-Uebung verschiedener Studenten und Schüler der hiesigen Deutschen Academie, in Zion gehalten werden. (PPLT). This broadside is actually a program for the public exercises of the schoolchildren. It does not contain any complete texts, but lists the first lines of eight selections presented by David Ott's singing school during the program. This appears to be the examination at which the children received their copies of *Die ersten Früchte*.

Auf den Tod des entschlafenen Vater Mühlenbergs. (PPLT). Two hymns, "Stimmt heute dumpfe Trauerlieder" and "Zion singet Trauerthöne" comprise this broadside printed in memory of H. M. Mühlenberg. They were also included in the memorial booklet printed in Mühlenberg's honor in 1788.

Ordnung der Rede-Uebungen in der Zions-Kirche, den 29sten November, 1787, von Deutschen und Englischen Kindern. (PPLT). Six musical selections (mostly with texts by Helmuth) are listed by their first lines in this program of the fall examinations for 1787.

Denkmal der Liebe und Achtung welches seiner Hochwürden dem Herrn D. Heinrich Melchior Mühlenberg, verdienstvollsten Senior des Evangelisch-Lutherischen Ministeriums in Nord-America und treueifrigsten ersten Lehrers an der St. Michaelis und Zions-Gemeinde in Philadelphia ist gesetzt worden. Philadelphia: Melchior Steiner, 1788. (Evans 21139). Authorship of this memorial booklet cannot be assigned solely to Helmuth although he was involved in its publication and the two texts in the broadside immediately above were reprinted here.

Zum neuen Jahr 1789 wünschet ein aufrichtiger Verehrer seines Erlösers allen wahren evangelischen Christen unbewegliche Standhaftigkeit in der Lehre und im Gehorsam des Evangeliums. (PPLT). There is no definite evidence that this New Year's poem of 16 verses is actually by Helmuth, although it is with other Helmuth imprints and manuscripts in the seminary library at Mt. Airy. It begins, "Zu herrlich waren unsre Fluren mit Gottes Seegen ausgeschmückt."

Lieder. Philadelphia: 1790. (PPLT). According to the brief foreword, this 7-page pamphlet was a gift to the children of St. Michael's and Zion. It contains four hymn texts: "Das Herze klopft, wir freuen uns," "Komm hernieder Geist von oben" (which was reprinted in the Zion re-dedication pamphlet dated November 27, 1796), "Seele falle staunend nieder," and "Getrost! auf deiner Pilgrims-Bahn."

Lob und Anbetung des Gottmenschen am Tage der Einweihung der neuen Orgel in der Deutschen Evangelisch Lutherischen

Zions Kirche in Philadelphia, den 10 October, 1790.

(Evans 22797: the imprint with the same title which contains the music is not in Evans. Michael Billmeyer of Germantown published the imprint listed by Evans; the music was printed by Johannes McCulloch of Philadelphia). St. Michael's and Zion published two different pamphlets with identical titles for the dedication of their grand, three-manual Tannenberg organ. The 16-page pamphlet listed by Evans contains the texts for the cantata sung during the morning service, a different and shorter cantata sung in the afternoon and repeated in the evening, plus the hymn texts Helmuth wrote for all three services. Hymns include: "Schaue, treuer Heiland, heut," "Wir singen heute Deinen Ruhm," "O! dass mit unsrer Orgelthönen," and "Thönet mit Cimbeln, Posaunen und lauten Trumpeten." The second pamphlet, not listed by Evans, contains the music (9 pages plus foreword and title page) which David Ott wrote for Helmuth's cantata texts; this music is in the Library of Congress.

Auf den ersten Advents Sonntag. Den 28 November, 1790. (PPLT). John Christopher Moller, prominent early American composer and organist, wrote the music (now lost) for this cantata text by Helmuth. The texts were reprinted in the *Evangelisches Magazin*, IV, 81. Probably Billmeyer was the printer.

Zum 24sten December, 1790. (PPLT). This 4-page pamphlet contains texts for a special Christmas Eve service

for choir, schoolchildren, and congregation. The hymns sung by the children were in English, while the remainder of the service was in German. Billmeyer probably was the printer.

Auf das Fest der Menschwerdung Jesu 1790. (PPLT). While this appears to have been issued as a separate broadside, it was also published as the third and fourth pages of the pamphlet mentioned above for the first Sunday in Advent, 1790. It contains texts for a Christmas cantata and an anthem for New Year's Day, 1791. Billmeyer was probably the printer. Helmuth reprinted the Christmas verses in the *Evangelisches Magazin*, IV, 82.

Die Spuren der Güte Gottes in der Deutschen Evangelisch Lutherischen Gemeinde in Philadelphia. Germantown: Michael Billmeyer, 1791. (Evans 23697). St. Michael's and Zion published this 36-page booklet to celebrate the remodeling of St. Michael's Church. It is one of the few imprints intended for a service in St. Michael's rather than the newer and larger Zion Church. In addition to a short history of the congregation it includes the texts sung by the singing school and congregation at a special service April 3, 1791. Helmuth wrote three hymns for antiphonal singing; they are: "Dich, Gott! zu loben, O wie schön," "Ja, treuer Hirte, weide Du ," and "Gedenket, O, Deutsche! der Wunder des Herrn."

Ueber die Geburt Jesu auf Weynachten 1791, und auf das Neue Jahr 1792. (PPLT). Helmuth's diary indicates that his

cantata text in this 4-page pamphlet was set to music by J. C. Moller. The cantata is for two choirs, soloists, and congregation.

Ein Geschenk für die Kinder, von den Gliedern des Kirchenraths der St. Michaelis- und Zions-Gemeinde in Philadelphia. Philadelphia: Steiner und Kämmerer, 1793. (PPLT). This 8-page pamphlet includes anthem-cantata texts for Good Friday, Easter, Pentecost, and Trinity of 1793. Helmuth reprinted the entire pamphlet in the Evangelisches Magazin, III, 241-245.

Auf das Heil. Pfingstfest 1793. (PPLT). The two choruses and aria from this broadside are included in Ein Geschenk above.

Am Sonntage Trinitatis 1793. (PPLT). The chorus and aria in this broadside are also in Ein Geschenk above. Probably the texts for Good Friday and Easter were also printed as separate broadsides, but are no longer extant. Steiner and Kämmerer were probably the printers.

Bey dem Grabe der würdigen Gattin Seiner Wohlehrwürden des Herrn Pastor Friederich Schmidts, welche den 6ten Julii, 1793, beerdigt wurde. (PPLT). One hymn of three verses, "Von Deiner Höh! Gott! schau herab!" is in this broadside. Schmidt was Helmuth's associate at St. Michael's and Zion.

Helmuth, J. Heinrich C. Kurze Nachricht von dem sogenannten gelben Fieber in Philadelphia für den nachdenkenden Christen. Philadelphia: Steiner und Kämmerer, 1793. (Evans 25595). Helmuth included a nine-verse hymn, "Nun

fliesse, heiss Thräne" at the conclusion of this little book. He wrote this text for Johann Hermann Winkhaus, German Reformed pastor in Philadelphia, who was buried October 7, 1793. It is reprinted in Rev. H. Harbaugh, *The Fathers of the German Reformed Church in Europe and America* (Lancaster: Westhaeffer, 1872), II, 322.

Helmuth, J. H. Chr. and Moller, J. C. *Dank und Gebet am Tage der Einweihung der Deutsch Evangel: Lutherischen Kirche in Reading den 15 Juny 1794.* (PPLT). This 8-page cantata is the only known surviving example of a Helmuth-Moller cantata that includes the musical notation. During Moller's four years as head organist at Zion his duties required that he compose music for all major festivals and three other occasions each year as directed by the church council.

*Lieder abgesungen in der Zions-Kirche den 27sten November, 1796.* Philadelphia: Steiner und Kämmerer, 1796. (PPLT). The congregation published this 13-page pamphlet to celebrate the re-opening of Zion after the church interior was rebuilt following a disastrous fire December 26, 1794. It contains texts for the cantata, anthems, and hymns for the morning, afternoon, and evening services on November 27. Helmuth borrowed at least three of the texts from earlier sources. They are: "Komm hernieder Geist von oben," from the 1790 *Lieder*; the area "Sey lebendig hier zugegen," from the 1794 cantata for Reading; and "Lobe, Zion, lobe deines Herren Thaten" from the first re-dedication of Zion in 1782.

Other hymns in this pamphlet include: "Die Pracht von Zions Herrlichkeit," "Erschrecklich war'st Du im Gericht," and "Herr, unser Gott, wir preisen heut."

Trauer-Music, auf den Abschied des seel. Herrn Doct. Hendels, den 9ten December 1798. (PPLT). This 3-page imprint contains a hymn, "Herr, welch' ein Schlag! die Heerde weint," and a chorus text. Hendel was a Reformed pastor and close friend of Helmuth.

Gesang am Schlusse des achtzehnten Jahrhunderts. (PPLT). "Auf, versammelt euch in Tempeln," a hymn of 12 verses sung to "Wachet auf," is printed in this 6-page pamphlet. Authorship is assigned to Helmuth only because it is included with his papers in the library of the Mt. Airy seminary.

Klagen über den Tod des General Waschingtons am 22sten Februar 1800, in dem Deutsch Evangelisch Lutherischen Zion, zu Philadelphia. (Evans 37603). Helmuth wrote part of these texts in his diary for January 10 and 13, 1800, and they undoubtedly provided the words for the "stirring music" which his diary says was performed in Zion on February 22. The verses begin "Mitten unter Freud und Leiden" and "Bange, dunkle Tage senken." The United States Congress held funeral services for Washington in Zion on December 26, 1799. This was the occasion on which General Lee delivered his famous oration.

Am Feste der Heil. Dreyeinigkeit 1801 in der Deutsch. Evangel. Lutherischen Zions Kirche. [Philadelphia]:

G. Helmbold und J. Geyer, 1801 . (Library of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg). This pamphlet contains hymn, anthem, and cantata texts for Easter, Pentecost, and Trinity. One of the verses, "Sanft schallt die Stimme Gottes, hört!" is in Helmuth's diary for May 12, 1801, and was reprinted in the *Evangelisches Magazin*, IV, 87. "Komm, heil'ger Geist, erfüll die Herzen" was originally written for Pentecost, 1785 (see above), where it was a "duetto" alternating with the verses of "Wie lieblich bist du Tag der Freude."

*Charfreitags-und Oster Lieder, Für die eingesegneten Erstlinge und die Schul-Kinder der Evangel. Lutherischen Gemeinde.* Philadelphia: Johann Geyer, 1802. (PPLT). According to his diary Helmuth wrote the Good Friday hymn, "Ach, er ist todt, mein Herr und Gott," on April 12, and the Easter hymn, "Jesus Christus ist erstanden" on April 10, 1802. He sent the texts to Becker and Geyer, who printed 2,500 copies of this 4-page pamphlet for distribution to the congregation in Zion on Good Friday and Easter.

*Empfindungen am Heil. Todes- und Auferstehung-Tage des Herrn Jesu.* Philadelphia: Johann Geyer, 1805. (PPLT). This 4-page pamphlet contains three hymns: "Auf trage nur die Bürde weiter," "Der Heiland lebt, Er ist erstanden," and "Er lebt--seyd froh! der Heiland lebt " Helmuth's diary indicates that he wrote the first hymn January 15, while he completed the Easter verses March 18, 1805. "Auf trage nur die Burde weiter" was included as No. 730 in later editions of the *Erbauliche Lieder-Sammlung*.

Auf das heil. Pfingstfest, 1805. [Philadelphia]: J. Geyer, [1805]. (PPLT). The three printed pages of this pamphlet contains a hymn of seven verses, "Kommt, Kinder! kommt betend, kommt zum Thron der Gnade."

Auf das Heil: Weyhnachtsfest, 1805, in der Deutsch Evangel: Lutherischen Kirche von den Kindern abgesungen. [Philadelphia]: Johann Geyer, [1805]. (PPLT). A Christmas hymn, "Freude, Freude über Freude!" and a New Year's hymn, "Welch ein Wechsel uns'rer Tage!" are in this 4-page pamphlet. These two texts were included as hymns 733 and 734 in later editions of the Erbauliche Lieder-Sammlung.

Am Charfreytage--1806 and Auf Ostern--1806. (PPLT). Helmuth printed two hymns in this 4-page pamphlet: "Ach, sehet! welch' ein Mensch ist das" (Good Friday) and "Jesus lebt, Er ist erstanden" (Easter). His diary indicates that he wrote these two texts on February 27 and 28, 1806.

Auf das heilige Pfingstfest, 1806. (PPLT). This broadside contains a single hymn, "Nun walle fort, belad'nes Herze?" According to his diary Helmuth wrote it May 9, 1806. Helmuth reprinted it in the Evangelisches Magazin, I, 243.

Auf Charfreytag und Ostern, 1807. [Philadelphia]: Conrad Zentler, [1807]. (PPLT). Two hymns are on this broadside: "Erwürgtes Lamm am Creutz erhöht" and "Willkommen verklärter Besieger der Feinde."

Auf das heilige Pfingstfest. 1807. [Philadelphia]: C. Zentler, [1807]. (PPLT). Helmuth's diary indicates that he wrote this antiphonal hymn (verses are designated "Chor,

Antwort," etc.) April 29, 1807. It later became hymn 732, "Herr, ein Häuflein deiner Kleinen," in later editions of the Erbauliche Lieder-Sammlung.

H., J. H. Ch. Auf das heilige Christfest, 1807. [Philadelphia]: Conrad Zentler, [1807]. A single Christmas hymn, "Jauchzt Ihm alle heut, ihr Sünder," is printed on this broadside. (PPLT).

Auf das heilige Pfingstfest. 1808. [Philadelphia]: C. Zentler, [1808]. (PPLT). "Herr, wir sind heut' auch beysammen" is the text on this broadside.

Bey Einweihung der Deutsch Evangelisch-Lutherischen Zions-Kirche in Baltimore auf den 9ten October, 1808. Baltimore: Warner und Hanna, 1808. (PPLT). Helmuth's original manuscript of this 11-page pamphlet is in PPLT. The pamphlet contains the complete order of the dedication services including the hymn and anthem texts. Hymn texts include: "Dir Ewiger sey dieses Haus geweiht," which later became No. 401 in the Gemeinschaftliche Gesangbuch: "Jesu, wir betreten heut," "Wir singen heute Deinem Ruhm," and "Lobet Ihn alle den gütigen König der Ehren," which later respectively became hymns 735, 736, and 737 in the enlarged Erbauliche Lieder-Sammlung.

Helmuth. Etliche Kirchenlieder. Philadelphia: Conrad Zentler, 1809. (Shaw-Shoemaker 17734). It has not been possible to locate a copy of this imprint, which is listed by Oswald Seidensticker, *The First Century of German Printing in America, 1728-1830*.

Auf das Fest der Geburt und Menschwerdung Jesu Christi, 1808, und auf das Neue Jahr, 1809. Philadelphia: Conrad Zentler, [1808]. (PPLT). The three pages in this pamphlet include two hymns: "Bringet Dank; tönet lauten Lobgesang" and "Schnell entfliehen uns're Tage."

Auf den Charfreytag und das heilige Osterfest, 1809. Philadelphia: Conrad Zentler, [1809]. (PPLT). Helmuth's diary indicates that he wrote the hymns in this 3-page pamphlet on February 24, 1809, (for the Good Friday hymn, "Tag der Schmerzen, du bist heilig, hehr") and March 6 (for the Easter hymn, "Wischt alle, wischt die Thränen ab").

Auf das heilige Pfingstfest. 1809. [Philadelphia]: C. Zentler, [1809]. (PPLT). This broadside contains a single hymn, "Heiland, schenke aus Erbarmen." The text is in Helmuth's diary for April 18, 1809.

Helffenstein, Samuel. Lieder zur Erbauung. Philadelphia: Conrad Zentler, 1810. (Shaw-Shoemaker 20316). This 39-page collection of hymns by the Reformed pastor in Philadelphia also includes an Anhang with two hymns by "J.H.C.H." They are, "Mit hohem, warmen Lobgesang," which Helmuth wrote January 7, 1801, according to his diary, and "Jesu, meiner Jugend Lust."

Auf den Tod einer liebenswürdigen jungen Freundin. [Philadelphia]: Zentler, [1811]. (PPLT). Helmuth's church council printed this 4-page pamphlet in memory of a member of Zion's choir. It contains a single hymn text, "Du eitle Jugend wimmre heut." This is a slightly altered version of

hymn 602 in the Erbauliche Lieder-Sammlung; it was also reprinted in the Evangelisches Magazin, I, 59.

Auf den Tod ihres unvergesslich theuren Lehrers, Johann Friedrich Schmidt. Abgesungen in der Zions-Kirche, am 31sten May, 1812, von dem Singe-Chor der Deutsch Evangel. Lutherischen Gemeine. Philadelphia: Conrad Zentler, [1812]. (Shaw-Shoemaker 24656; is this the same as 25516?). This 4-page imprint contains the anthems and arias sung by the choir on this occasion. The first chorus is a text by Klopstock, "Auferstehn, ja auferstehn wirst Du."

Bey der Antritts-Predigt des Wohl-ehrwürdigen Predigers, Herrn Friedrich D. Schäfer. Abgesungen von dem Singe-Chor der St. Michaelis- und Zions-Gemeinde dahier, den 30sten August 1812. (Shaw-Shoemaker, 25863; is this the same as 26450?). This pamphlet has two texts: "Herr, wir dringen uns zu Dir" and "O Jesu, Herr der Herrlichkeit." The latter is an older hymn, not by Helmuth.

Helmuth. Freude, Dank und Anbetung; abgesungen im Singe-Chor am Tage der Einweihung der Deutsch-Evangelisch-Lutherischen Christ-Kirche in der Stadt York, den 1sten May, 1814; verfasset durch den Ehrw. Pfr. Helmuth, D. D. aus Liebe und Hochachtung gegen die Gemeine. York: D. Billmeyer, [1814]. (PPLT and the seminary library at Gettysburg). Here is another of Helmuth's musical services for a church dedication. This 12-page pamphlet contains the hymn, anthem, and aria texts which he wrote. Hymn texts include: "Dem Vater und dem Sohne," "Mit starkgerührten

Herzen eil," "Gott Vater, Sohn und Heil'ger Geist," and "Kommt alle, ruft Er, kommt heran." Helmuth used the first three texts again for the dedication of Zion Church in Hummelstown, Pennsylvania, in 1816, and he reprinted these hymns in the *Evangelisches Magazin*, IV, 85.

Auf Charfreytag und Ostern. 1815. [Philadelphia]: Conrad Zentler, [1815]. (PPLT). The two hymns in this pamphlet, "Er kämpft, Er zittert" and "Sie, die bangen finstern Nächte," were reprinted in the *Evangelisches Magazin*, IV, 83-84.

Auf die Einweihung der Zions-Kirche in Hummelstown, Dauphin County, Den 28sten July, 1816. Libanon: J. Stöver, 1816. (Seminary library at Gettysburg). This was a simpler service than the texts which Helmuth wrote for the York dedication. Three hymns are from the York services (see above), and one additional text is "Liebster Vater! kehre heut."

Der 31ste October, 1817, zum feyerlichen Andenken an den 31sten October, 1517, mit Rührung begangen in der St. Michaelis und Zions Gemeinde in Philadelphia. Philadelphia: Zentler, 1817. (Shaw-Shoemaker 41029). Pages 2-18 of this 80-page book contain the hymn and anthem texts for this festival, part of which were written by Helmuth. Hymns include: "Tag der reinsten Wonn' und Freud," "Heil uns! die Sonne bricht hervor," "Laut jauchze heut das Luthertum," "Kommt, ihr lieben kleinen Brüder," "Wir, wir kleinen Adams-Kinder," "Ich bin so froh, ich freue mich," "Ich trage eine

schwere Bürde," "Habe Dank, o mein Erbarmer," "Wie bin ich, armes Kind, so froh," "Dies ist der Tag, den Gott uns schuf," "Jauchzet laut, dem Herrn zu Ehren," and "Lobet den Höchsten, den Gott aller Götter."

Gesänge bey der Antrittspredigt unsers vielgeliebten Lehrers, des Ehrwürdigen Herrn, C. Demme. Philadelphia: Conrad Zentler, 1822. (Shoemaker 8534). Although Helmuth was pastor emeritus at this date, the two hymns in this 7-page pamphlet are probably his work. They are: "Beherrscher deiner Christenheit," and "Nun ist Er unser, der uns liebt."

Gesänge bey der Confirmation am Palmsonntage, 1824, in der Deutschen Lutherischen Zions-Kirche in Philadelphia. [Philadelphia]: Conrad Zentler, [1824]. (PPLT). This 4-page pamphlet is the earliest of several such orders of service which the congregation printed each Palm Sunday for confirmation.

Gesänge bey der Beerdigung des Hochwürdigen J. H. C. Helmuth. (PPLT). While Helmuth was not responsible for printing his own funeral pamphlet, it seems appropriate to conclude this bibliography with this item. It contains the verses sung both at the actual funeral services on February 8, 1825, as well as the more elaborate anthems which the choir presented at the memorial service February 12.

#### UNDATED IMPRINTS

Eine Buss- und Gnaden-Stimme an allerley Menschen Seelen. (PPLT). This broadside may be by Helmuth since it

is among his papers at the Mt. Airy seminary. It contains a single hymn of nine verses, "Kehre wieder, kehre wieder."

Ermunterungs-Lied für christliche Knechte und Mägde. (PPLT). One suspects that the 40 verses of the hymn in this 4-page imprint, "O wie gut ists, Jesu dienen" would not be very "rousing" for modern boys and girls. This pamphlet is among Helmuth's papers and he might have written it.

Auf Pfingsten. [Philadelphia]: C. Zentler, [after 1805]. (PPLT). Zentler did not begin printing for St. Michael's and Zion until about 1805, so the single hymn in this broadside, "Komm, du reiner heil'ger Geist," probably dates from later in Helmuth's life.

Auf das heilige Osterfest. [Philadelphia]: Conrad Zentler, [after 1805]. (PPLT). Two texts, "Heil mir! des Heilands Grab ist leer" and "Er lebt, der Erreter, und wir sind nun frey," are in this Easter broadside. Helmuth reprinted the second text in the Evangelisches Magazin, IV, 83.

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## FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>The congregation had two church buildings, the older and smaller St. Michael's and the newer, larger (seated 2,500) Zion; hence the double name.

<sup>2</sup>Theodore G. Tappert and John W. Doberstein (eds.), *The Journals of Henry Melchior Muhlenberg* (Philadelphia: Muhlenberg Press, 1942-1958), III, 507.

<sup>3</sup>Just. Heinrich Christian Helmuth, *Empfindungen des Herzens in einigen Liedern* (Philadelphia: Melchior Steiner, 1781).

<sup>4</sup>*Das gemeinschaftliche Gesangbuch zum gottesdienstlichen Gebrauch der Lutherischen und Reformirten Gemeinden in Nord-America* (Baltimore: Schäffer und Maund, 1817). Though not an "official" hymnal, this collection enjoyed wide use in Lutheran and Reformed congregations until mid-century.

<sup>5</sup>*Das neue Gesangbuch zum öffentlichen Gottesdienst und zur häuslichen Andacht* (Pittsburgh: Jacob Schnee, [1815]). This was a smaller, cheaper hymnal intended to be more practical along the frontier.

<sup>6</sup>J. G. Schmauk was a talented schoolmaster-organist for St. Michael's and Zion in the 1820's and 1830's. He wrote a popular German reader that had at least forty printings plus two major collections of chorales and anthems. These were the *Sammlung religiöser deutscher Gesaenge, nebst einem kurzen fasslichen Unterricht zum Singen, eingerichtet für oeffentlichen Gottesdienst und Singeschulen* [Philadelphia: 1824] and *Deutsche Harmonie oder mehrstimmige Gesänge für Deutsche Singeschulen und Kirchen* [Philadelphia: 1833]. The *Deutsche Harmonie* was reprinted in 1841 and had a second, greatly enlarged edition in 1847.

<sup>7</sup>The *Evangelisches Magazin* was America's first Lutheran periodical. Helmuth was editor, and it was published in four volumes from 1811 to 1817.

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