

COMMON SERVICE

Part I. (1748-1795)

Organizational Meeting of **the Pennsylvania Ministerium**, August 1748

--p.7 Originally called “the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of North America”

--**Henry Melchoir Muhlenberg** (1711-1787)

--p.7 quote from a 1783 letter

1748 Church Order

p.8 (German) church order of 1748 is said to be from the Kirche-Agenda of German Evangelical Congregation in the Savoy at London

--written down by six pastors

--p.9 The reasons “to introduce no other ceremonies...”

--p.10 Congregations and pastors together

p.10 Beale Schmucker(in 1882) said that **the church order of 1748** is the noblest and purest until the publication of the Church Book of 1868.

-- p.11 It was not based on the London Agende. It was based on the Lüneburg Agenda[1648], Calenberg Agenda[1569], Bradenburg-Magdeburg Agenda[1739], and Saxon Agenda[1731]

--p.11 Confession of sins before the Opening Hymn.

As found in Dober’s Vollsprechts Evangel. Messe [1525], etc.

--The confession prayer was taken from the Calenberg rite

p.12-13 **The 1748 Order of Service, and Order for Lord’s Supper**
{SEE BACK OF PAGE}

p. 13 Expectation of Liturgical uniformity (rubrics)

p.14 Beale Schmucker – These agenda (Lüneburg , Calenberg, Bradenburg-Magdeburg, and Saxon Agenda) are among the most eminent and important which have been used by the Lutheran Church ... They were not compromised by the Southern Reformed Services.

The (German) Agenda and Hymn Book of 1786

p.15 In 1782 was the decision to publish an edition (of the 1748). It wasn’t published until 1786.

p.15 Until 1786, they had used the **Marburger Gesangbuch [Germantown, PN 1759]**

p.15-16 The 1748 Agenda included lections and collects(from the Marburger Gesangbuch) etc.

p.16 Pastor H.M. Muhlenberg primarily provided the hymnody,

--Rev. J.H.C. Helmuth (who took over in 1785) messed up **the (German) Agenda and Hymn Book of 1786** p.16

--p.16 Between 1782-1786 deterioration: in good taste, doctrine and emotional subjectivism

--p.19-20 H.M. Muhlenberg, spoke of hymnody... *Kernlieder* (Core hymns)

- p.20-21 The 1786 rite was not like the Common Service.

-p. 22 spirit of individualism, General Prayer, Distribution words: “Jesus said...”

p.23-24 **The 1795 (English) Hymn and Prayer Book**

-used the 1786 (German) hymnal.(an thus inherited its “sorry mess”

-Nevertheless, it was the most faithful English liturgy until about 1860

The 1748 order of service was as follows:

- A. Hymn of Invocation to the Holy Spirit.
- B. Confession of Sins. (Exhortation, Confession, *Kyrie*)
- C. *Gloria in Excelsis* (metrical form)
- D. Collect for the Day ('Marburg Book') with Salutation and Response
- E. Epistle
- F. Hymn (Hymn of the Day)
- G. Gospel
- H. Nicene Creed (Luther's metrical version, "*Wir glauben all an einen Gott*")
- I. Hymn.
- K. Sermon (Prayer or *Exordium*, Sermon 'on the Gospel').
- L. (1) General Prayer or the Litany, and then (2) the Lord's Prayer.
- M. Proclamation and Announcements
- N. Votum ("The Peace of God, which passeth, etc.")
- O. Hymn, with Collection of Alms.
- P. Salutation and Response, then Closing Collect.
- Q. (1) Benediction-Amen. (2) In the Name of the Father, etc. Amen.
- R. A closing verse.

The Order for the Administration of the Lord's Supper continued as follows:

- S. Preface. (1) Salutation and Response. (2) *Sursum Corda*: (3) *Sanctus*
- T. Exhortation. Luther's Exhortation and Paraphrase of the Lord's Prayer.
- U. Consecration. (1) Lord's Prayer. (2) Words of Institution.
- V. Invitation to Communion.
- W. Distribution, Take and eat, this is the true body of our Lord Jesus Christ, given unto death for you, (drink-true Blood-of the new testament, shed for you) may this strengthen you in truth faith unto everlasting life. Amen.
- X. Conclusion. (1) *Benedicamus*. (2) Collect of Thanksgiving. (3) Benediction. Amen. (4) In the Name of the Father, etc. Amen.
- Y. A Closing Verse.