Contents

Preface viii
Acknowledgments xi

EDITOR’S INTRODUCTION

Historical Context: Preaching in the Third Reich 3
Why Read Sermons from Nazi Germany? 3
Evil Calling upon God 4
Hitler’s Positive Christianity 6
Belief in Hitler 9
How Nazis Saw the World 13
Was Jesus Really a Jew? 17
A Faith for Weaklings 18
T4 19
The German Christian Movement 21
Martin Luther Day 1933 23
Confessing Christ 25
The Pastors’ Emergency League 29
Enter Karl Barth 30
“Lord, Where Shall We Go?” 33
### CONTENTS

*Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the “Jewish Question”* 36  
*The Nazi Persecution of the Jewish People* 38  
*Bonhoeffer’s Preaching* 39  
*The Barmen Declaration* 40  
*Barmen as Rhetorical Guide* 41  
*Hearing the Sermons* 42  
*Nazi Speech* 43  
*Christian Rhetoric of Silence* 45  
*Preaching as Provocation* 47

### SELECTED SERMONS OF RESISTANCE IN THE THIRD REICH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dietrich Bonhoeffer</td>
<td>Gideon</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karl Barth</td>
<td>A Sermon about Jesus as a Jew</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Schneider</td>
<td>Christ Crossing the Stormy Lake and Jesus’ Glory</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Niemöller</td>
<td>A Sermon about the Relevance of Christianity in Nazi Germany</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Schneider</td>
<td>A Sermon about Giving Thanks in the Third Reich</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julius von Jan</td>
<td>O Land, Land, Land: Hear the Word of the Lord!</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helmut Gollwitzer</td>
<td>A Sermon about <em>Kristallnacht</em></td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helmut Gollwitzer</td>
<td>A Sermon about Faith as War Begins</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerhard Ebeling</td>
<td>A Sermon for a Victim of <em>Aktion T4</em></td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Contents

RUDOLF BULTMANN
A Sermon about the Parable of the Great Banquet 142

CLEMENS AUGUST
von Galen
A Sermon about Aktion T4 156

WILHELM BUSCH
The Way of True Faith 170

APPENDIX

A Sermon about the Loyalty Oath to Adolf Hitler 177

Notes 187

Bibliography 198

Permissions 202