

ANDREA FIAMMA

O quam bona est solitaria vita!

Marcellus Geist's Preaching between Petrarch and
Nicholas of Cusa

Abstract

Marcellus Geist († 1469), a former student of the University of Heidelberg and a Carthusian monk in Thorberg and Mainz, was a prolific copyist and preacher. Despite Marcellus' importance for the German Carthusians of his period, his sermons have never been studied before. In this paper, a list of Marcellus Geist's sermons is collected, and importance is especially paid to his Sermo de laude solitudinis, in which he quoted Petrarch's De vita solitaria and used the typical lexicon and concepts from Nicholas of Cusa's Opuscula theologica. Finally, there are some considerations on the reception of Nicholas of Cusa's works together with Petrarch's, for which the historiography has not yet been sufficiently investigated.