

# National Anthems Online

## SWITZERLAND: Schweizer Psalm

National Day: 1 August (Anniversary of the Foundation of Confederation, 1291)

The music of the *Swiss Psalm* was composed by Father Alberik Zwissig who, in 1841 adapted it to words by the Swiss poet, writer and publisher Leonhard Widmer. The setting became popular in local cantons and there were evidently several attempts to have the psalm declared the Swiss national anthem. However, Switzerland already had a national anthem which shared the tune with that of Great Britain and it was not until 1961 that the Swiss government declared *Schweizer Psalm* the provisional anthem. The piece had to wait another twenty years - until 1981- for it to become the official national anthem.

♩ = 56

Father A. Zwysig (1808 - 1854)  
Arranged by Colin Kirkpatrick

7

*mf*

12

*mf* *p*

18

*cresc.* *mf* *f*

22

*rit.* *mf*

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