## **Preface**

The collected essays in this volume present the results of the conference titled "Methodius of Olympus' Writing *De lepra* as an Example of the Entire Edition of the Corpus Methodianum –Interdisciplinary Approaches". The conference was held on April 8–9, 2021 at Friedrich Schiller University Jena.

Demonstrating the diverse and interdisciplinary nature of the writings in the *Corpus Methodianum*, this volume serves as a background commentary on the new edition of Methodius' *De lepra*, which is being published alongside it. This new edition was also prepared by the editors and will be published by De Gruyter as volume 31 of the series *Die Griechischen Christlichen Schriftsteller der ersten Jahrhunderte. Neue Folge.* 

Due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions on travel, the conference was held online. However, the participants' cooperation made it a successful experience. We thank everyone for their contribution!

The authors express their gratitude to Maja Menzel, research assistant for the Chair of Church History at Friedrich Schiller University Jena, and Celine Dinda, assistant, for their valuable support in organizing and conducting the conference and in preparing the volume for print. The authors also thank Daniel Thomas and Pia Objartel, assistants for the Chair of Church History, for their support, with special thanks to Pia Objartel for preparing the indices for this volume. We are also grateful to the Computer Center of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena for their technical support in facilitating the online conference proceedings, and to Jacob Cerone for his assistance in translating articles originally written in German and reviewing those written in English.

We would also like to express our gratitude to Christoph Markschies and Annette von Stockhausen, editors of the series *Texte und Untersuchungen zur Geschichte der alt-*christlichen Literatur, for including the conference proceedings in this series. Additionally, we are thankful to the Fritz Thyssen Foundation for sponsoring the conference and the publication of this volume, as well as for their flexibility in accommodating the conversion of the conference to an online format.

Jena, Freiburg, and Augsburg, April 2023 Katharina Bracht, Anna Jouravel, and Janina Sieber