



Gathered together
to
worship God

August 27, 2017


ON THIS ROCK



A mighty fortress
is our God


Hymnal #165
text and music by Martin Luther
based on Psalm 46

ON THIS ROCK




A mighty fortress¹ is our God,
a bulwark never failing.
Our helper he amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing,

ON THIS ROCK




for still our ancient foe²
doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

ON THIS ROCK




Did we in our own strength confide,³
our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing.

ON THIS ROCK




Dost ask who that may be?⁴
Christ Jesus, it is he!
Lord Sabaoth, his name,
from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

ON THIS ROCK




And though this world, with devils filled,⁵
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed
his truth to triumph through us.

ON THIS ROCK




The prince of darkness grim,⁶
we tremble not for him.
His rage we can endure,
for lo, his doom is sure.
One little word shall fell him.

ON THIS ROCK



That word above all earthly powers,⁷
no thanks to them, abideth.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours,
through him who with us sideth.

ON THIS ROCK




Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also.
The body they may kill,
God's truth abideth still.
His kingdom is forever.

ON THIS ROCK



Announcements

ON THIS ROCK



Prelude

"Reflection"
by F.W. Asper

ON THIS ROCK



Call to Worship

Psalm 138
from the *Laughing Bird* version
©2001 Nathan Nettleton, LaughingBird.net

ON THIS ROCK



Come, we that
love the Lord


Hymnal #14
by Isaac Watts (1707)
refrain added by Robert Lowry

ON THIS ROCK




Come, we that love the Lord,
and let our joys be known.
Join in a song with sweet accord,
join in a song with sweet accord
and thus surround the throne,
and thus surround the throne.

ON THIS ROCK




Refrain:
We're marching to Zion,
beautiful, beautiful Zion.
We're marching upward to Zion,
the beautiful city of God.

ON THIS ROCK




2.
Let those refuse to sing
who never knew our God,
but children of the heavenly king,
but children of the heavenly king
may speak their joys abroad,
may speak their joys abroad.

ON THIS ROCK




Refrain:
We're marching to Zion,
beautiful, beautiful Zion.
We're marching upward to Zion,
the beautiful city of God.

ON THIS ROCK




3.
The hill of Zion yields
a thousand sacred sweets,
before we reach the heavenly fields,
before we reach the heavenly fields,
or walk the golden streets,
or walk the golden streets.

ON THIS ROCK




Refrain:
We're marching to Zion,
beautiful, beautiful Zion.
We're marching upward to Zion,
the beautiful city of God.

ON THIS ROCK



4.
Then let our songs abound,
and every tear be dry.
we're marching thru Immanuel's ground
to fairer worlds on high,
to fairer worlds on high.

ON THIS ROCK



Refrain:
We're marching to Zion,
beautiful, beautiful Zion.
We're marching upward to Zion,
the beautiful city of God.


ON THIS ROCK



Opening Prayer

adapted from a prayer by Roy Peterson,
in *Hear Our Prayer*, ©1961 McGraw-Hill, Inc. New York, NY,
taken from *For all who Minister*, ©1993, Brethren Press, Elgin, IL, p.85


ON THIS ROCK



Today's Gospel
Story
Matthew 16:13-20

From *The Message*
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ON THIS ROCK




Disciple #1:
"Some think he is John the Baptizer."

Disciple #2:
"Some say Elijah."


Disciple #3:
"Some say Jeremiah or
one of the other prophets."

ON THIS ROCK




Peter:
"You're the Christ, the Messiah,
the Son of the living God."

ON THIS ROCK




Jesus:
"God bless you, Simon, son of Jonah!
You didn't get that answer out of books
or from teachers. My Father in heaven,
God himself, let you in on this secret
of who I really am. And now I'm going
to tell you who you are, really are.
You are Peter, a rock."

ON THIS ROCK



Jesus:
*"This is the rock on which
 I will put together my church,
 a church so expansive with energy
 that not even the gates of hell
 will be able to keep it out."*

ON THIS ROCK



Jesus:
*"And that's not all. You will have
 complete & free access to God's kingdom,
 keys to open any and every door:
 no more barriers between
 heaven and earth, earth and heaven.
 A 'yes' on earth is 'yes' in heaven.
 A 'no' on earth is 'no' in heaven."*


ON THIS ROCK



Affirming our faith


Hymnal #716
©1992 The Hymnal Project,
 based on 1 Corinthians 3:11, 1 Peter 2:4-5,
 and Ephesians 2:19-22, New Revised Standard Version

ON THIS ROCK




One:
 No one can lay any foundation
 other than the one already laid,
 which is Jesus Christ.

ON THIS ROCK




All:
 In Christ the whole building
 is joined together and rises to become
 a holy temple in the Lord.
 And in Christ we too
 are being built together to become
 a dwelling in which God lives
 by the Spirit.

ON THIS ROCK




One:
 As we come to Christ, the living Stone -
 rejected by builders but chosen by God -
 we also, like living stones,
 are being built into a spiritual house
 to be a holy priesthood,
 offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable
 to God through Jesus Christ.

ON THIS ROCK




All:
 So then we are no longer foreigners
 and aliens, but citizens with God's
 people and members of God's
 household, built on the foundation of
 the apostles and prophets, with Christ
 Jesus as the chief cornerstone.

ON THIS ROCK



Sharing a joy,
 a concern, a word
 of testimony
 or praise


ON THIS ROCK



Take my life


Hymnal #389
words by Francis R. Havergal, 1874
 music by Henri A.C. Malan, 1841

ON THIS ROCK




1.
Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

ON THIS ROCK




2.
Take my hands, & let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.

ON THIS ROCK




3.
Take my voice, and let me sing,
always, only for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

ON THIS ROCK




4.
Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use
every power as thou shalt choose,
every power as thou shalt choose.

ON THIS ROCK




5.
Take my will, and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own,
it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.

ON THIS ROCK



6.
Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.

ON THIS ROCK



Pastoral Prayer

by Nancy C. Townley
an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church
from ministrymatters.com

ON THIS ROCK




Returning our
Tithes and Offerings

Isaiah 51:1-6

from the New Revised Standard Version Bible,
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Offertory

"A Chorale Melody"
by William Christopher

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Paul's Gospel
Romans 12:1-8

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ON THIS ROCK



today's message:

"Out of the cocoon"


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Commissioning
our Church Board

heavily adapted from *For All Who Minister*
(a manual for ministry in the Church of the Brethren)
© 1993 Brethren Press

ON THIS ROCK



Comprehension:

We, as brothers & sisters in Christ, affirm you as leaders called to serve in this congregation. We offer to you our cooperation & confidence, our prayers & support, so that both the knowledge & love of God revealed in Jesus Christ may increase among us and in all of God's creation.


ON THIS ROCK



Blessed be the
tie that binds

Hymnal #421
words by John Fawcett, 1782
music from Johann G. Nægeli,
adapted by Lowell Mason, 1845

ON THIS ROCK




¹
Blessed be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love.
The fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.

ON THIS ROCK




²
Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.

ON THIS ROCK




³
We share each other's woes,
each other's burdens bear,
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.

ON THIS ROCK



⁴
When we asunder part,
it gives us inward pain,
but we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again.


ON THIS ROCK



Responsive
Benediction

©2000 Bruce D. Prewer
Minister of the Uniting Church in Australia


ON THIS ROCK



One:
I appeal to you, sisters and brothers,
by the mercies of God to present
your lives as a living sacrifice,
set aside and acceptable to God.

All:
The love of Christ inspires us.


ON THIS ROCK



One:
Do not conform to the thinking of this
age but be transformed by the renewal
of your mind, that you may test and
prove the will of God.

All:
The love of Christ empowers us.


ON THIS ROCK



One:
The love of Christ Jesus will enable you,
the love of God will underpin you,
the friendship of the Spirit will fulfil you,
today and for ever.

All:
Amen!


ON THIS ROCK



Postlude

“Heart with Loving Heart United”
a popular secular tune adopted by the Moravian Brethren
for this hymn by Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf
from their 1735 *Manuscript Chorale Book*

ON THIS ROCK



ON THIS ROCK