



ON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH

Matthew 16:18

**BOARD DEVOTIONS AND THEME FOR 2021
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH, NORMAL, IL**

Theme for the Year:

“On this rock I will build my church”

Matthew 16:18

The Third Article (Part 2), pg. 205

What does this mean?

In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers...

This is most certainly true.

(Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation 2017)

COMMUNITY - Opening Devotion led by Pastor Huehn at the Officers Workshop

January

Read: *The Central Thought* on The Third Article (Part 2) in *Explanation* pg. 205

(Additional Reading for Elders: *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions - Apology VII* 1-5)

Discuss

Sing: *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*, vs. 1 (LSB 655)

Pray: pg. 221

THE BODY OF CHRIST

February

Read: Q&A 202. *What is the Church?*, pg. 206

(Additional Reading for Elders: *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions - Apology VII* 6-10)

Discuss

Sing: *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*, vs. 2 (LSB 655)

Pray: pg. 221

CHRIST IS THE HEAD

March

Read: Q&A 203 A & B. *How is the Church different from all other communities?*, pg. 207

(Additional Reading for Elders: *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions -*

Apology VII 11-15)

Discuss

Sing: *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*, vs. 3 (LSB 655)

Pray: pg. 221

LSB 655 - "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and



by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal



Son And bring to naught all He has done.
we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
strife And lead us out of death to life.

Text and tune: Public domain

APOSTOLIC & ONE

April

Read: Q&A 203 C & D. *How is the Church different from all other communities?*,
pg. 207-208

(Additional Reading for Elders: *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions -
Apology VII* 16-20)

Discuss

Sing: *Built on the Rock*, vs. 1 (LSB 645)

Pray: pg. 221

MARKS

May

Read: Q&A 211. *Where can I find the Church within the world? How do I recognize the
Church?*, pg. 214

Q&A 212. *What are the identifying characteristics of the Church?*

Q&A 213. *What are some other outward indications that the Church is present?*

(Additional Reading for Elders: *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions -
Apology VII* 21-25)

Discuss

Sing: *Built on the Rock*, vs. 2 (LSB 645)

Pray: pg. 221

MISSION

June

Read: Q&A 214. *What is the mission of the Church on earth?*, pg. 215
(Additional Reading for Elders: *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions - Apology VII* 26-30)

Discuss

Sing: *Built on the Rock*, vs. 3 (LSB 645)

Pray: pg. 221

PRIVILEGES

August

Read: Q&A 215 A-D. *What are some of the privileges and responsibilities of members of the Church?*, pg. 217-218

(Additional Reading for Elders: *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions - Apology VII* 31-35)

Discuss

Sing: *Built on the Rock*, vs. 4 (LSB 645)

Pray: pg. 221

RESPONSIBILITIES

September

Read: Q&A 216 A-G. *What are some of our responsibilities toward other Christians and church bodies?*, pg. 218-219

(Additional Reading for Elders: *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions - Apology VII* 36-40)

Discuss

Sing: *Built on the Rock*, vs. 5 (LSB 645)

Pray: pg. 221

LSB 645 - "Built on the Rock"



1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand E - ven when
 2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most
 3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for His
 4 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes, Tell - ing how
 5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done, That, when the



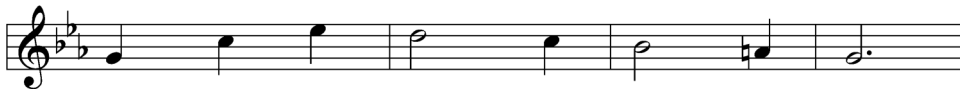
stee - ples are fall - ing, Crum - bled have spires in
 High, is not dwell - ing; High a - bove earth His
 own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal
 God has re - ceived us. The al - tar re - calls Christ's
 church bells are ring - ing, Man - y in sav - ing



ev - 'ry land; Bells still are chim - ing and call -
 tem - ple stands, All earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -
 grace us owns Heirs of His won - drous sal - va -
 sac - ri - fice And what His Sup - per here gives
 faith may come Where Christ His mes - sage is bring -



ing, Call - ing the young and old to rest,
 ling. Yet He who dwells in heav'n a - bove
 tion. Were we but two His name to tell,
 us. Here sound the Scrip - tures that pro - claim
 ing: "I know My own; My own know Me.



But a - bove all the souls dis - tressed,
 Choos - es to live with us in love,
 Yet He would deign with us to dwell
 Christ yes - ter - day, to - day, the same,
 You, not the world, My face shall see.



Long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
 Mak - ing our bod - ies His tem - ple.
 With all His grace and His fa - vor.
 And ev - er - more, our Re - deem - er.
 My peace I leave with you. A - men."

THE CHURCH NEVER DIES

October

Read: Q&A 217. *Will the Church always exist?*, pg. 219

(Additional Reading for Elders: *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions - Apology VII* 41-45)

Discuss

Sing: *The Church's One Foundation*, vs. 1-2 (LSB 644)

Pray: pg. 221

MILITANT & TRIUMPHANT

November

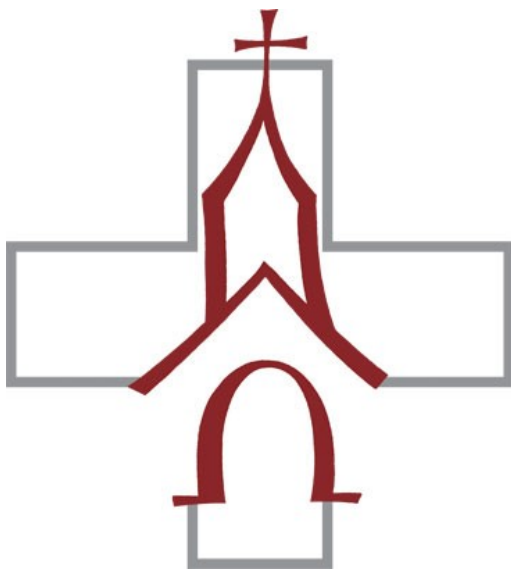
Read: Q&A 218 A & B. *Should I expect the Church's life to be one of continual peace and harmony?*, pg. 219

(Additional Reading for Elders: *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions - Apology VII* 46-50)

Discuss

Sing: *The Church's One Foundation*, vs. 3-5 (LSB 644)

Pray: pg. 221



LSB 644 - "The Church's One Foundation"



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der The world sees her op - pressed,
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war
5 Yet she on earth has u - nion With God, the Three in One,



She is His new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word.
Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
By schisms rent a - sun - der, By her - e - sies dis - tressed,
She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more
And mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion With those whose rest is won.



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho - ly bride;
One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
Yet saints their watch are keep - ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"
Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,
O bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by Your grace



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
And soon the night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song.
And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.
That we, like saints be - fore us, May see You face to face.



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