

# A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

## • A FIRM FOUNDATION • MELITA

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
No merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.  
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

### A Mighty Fortress • Psalm 46

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil.  
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

### Our Firm Foundation • 1 Corinthians 3

His oath, his covenant, his blood sustain me in the raging flood;  
When all supports are washed away, he then is all my hope and stay.  
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

### Built Upon the Word • Matthew 7

When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,  
Clothed in his righteousness alone, redeemed to stand before the throne!  
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

### Our Forever City • Revelation 21

## • CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION • EIN FESTE BURG

**L** *Without your Word, O God, our lives are built upon sand:*

**C** **The sinking sand of selfishness, the foolishness of pride.**

**L** *Forgive the arrogance that places ourselves above your Lordship.*

**C** **Place us upon a firm foundation. Help us to seek, to know, to do your will.**

A mighty Fortress is our God, a trusty Shield and Weapon;  
He helps us free from ev'ry need that hath us now o'ertaken.

The old evil Foe now means deadly woe;  
Deep guile and great might are his dread arms in fight;  
On earth is not his equal.

**L** *Almighty God forgives you through his Son, and grants you the eternal peace of his Holy Spirit.*

**C** **Amen.**

• PRAYER OF THE DAY

- L** *You have crafted a new covenant, O God, written not on tablets of stone,*  
**C** **but upon the chambers of the human heart,**  
**L** *scrawled not in ink,*  
**C** **but in blood—the blood of your Son.**  
**L** *Keep us steadfast in your covenant.*  
**C** **Keep us steadfast in your Word.**  
**L** *Only then will we be defended against every temptation.*  
**C** **Only then will your people be at peace.**  
**L** *Through Jesus Christ, our Rock and Lord. He lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now,*  
**C** **and forever. Amen.**

• HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD • EIN FESTE BURG

• Jeremiah 31:31-34 •

• Romans 3:19-28 •

With might of ours can naught be done, soon were our loss effected;  
But for us fights the Valiant One, whom God himself elected.

Ask ye, who is this? Jesus Christ it is,  
Of Sabaoth Lord, and there's none other God;  
He holds the field forever.

• John 8:31-36 •

• The Children's Sermon •

• The Homily •

• A CREEDAL HYMN • VATER UNSER

In God the Father we believe, who made all things, by whom we live,  
Who for our daily needs provides, from harm and danger safely hides.  
For this, obedient praise is due, for this most certainly is true!

True God, true man, Lord Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God was sacrificed.  
Upon the cross his life he gave and rose triumphant from the grave.  
Because he lives, we shall live too. Oh, this most certainly is true!

The Holy Spirit now is sent, active in Word and sacrament,  
To bind the Church below, above, in cords of sin-forgiving love  
As those who have been born anew. Oh, this most certainly is true!

• THE OFFERING