

ELW 652: Built on a Rock

1. Built on a rock the church shall stand, even when steeples are falling; crumbled have spires in ev'ry land, bells still are chiming and calling--calling the young and old to rest, calling the souls of those distressed, longing for life everlasting.
2. Surely, in temples made with hands God the Most High is not dwelling--high in the heav'ns his temple stands, all earthly temples excelling. Yet he who dwells in heav'n above deigns to abide with us in love, making our bodies his temple.
3. Christ builds a house of living stones: we are his own habitation; he fills our hearts, his humble thrones, granting us life and salvation. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their midst will show his grace, blessings upon them bestowing.
4. Yet in this house, an earthly frame, Jesus the children is blessing; hither we come to praise his name, faith in our Savior confessing. Jesus to us his Spirit sent, making with us his covenant, granting his children the kingdom.
5. Through all the passing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are ringing, many may come to hear your Word, who here this promise is bringing: "I know my own, my own know me; you, not the world, my face shall see; my peace I leave with you. Amen."