The ode for this Singstunde is designed as a celebration of the essentials of Moravian belief. As expressed by Luke of Prague, the essentials are twofold: divine and human. Each of these has three aspects.

On the part of God, they are:

(1) the grace of God (the Father), who wills our salvation;
(2) the saving work of God the Son in Christ; and
(3) the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

On the part of humanity, the essentials are:

(1) faith,
(2) love, and
(3) hope.

These essentials are not a list of specific doctrines to which the Christian is expected to swear allegiance. Rather, they are objective attitudes and actions on the part of God to which humans by grace respond in a living relationship.

C. Daniel Crews and Nola Reed Knouse