

THE
SHEPHERD'S
COTE

A NON-DENOMINATIONAL, WEEKLY
DEVOTION, WORSHIP AND SPIRITUAL
RESOURCE FOR CHURCHES MINISTERING
TO THE DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED.
THIS IS A FREE SERVICE OF THE
COVENANT CHAPEL AT THE J. IVERSON
RIDDLE DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER
300 ENOLA ROAD, MORGANTON, NC 28655

ORDER OF SERVICE

COVENANT CENTER CHAPEL SERVICES FOR THE WEEK OF *January 27, 2008*

(The congregation is asked to participate in all underlined responses and all hymns.)

PRELUDE

INVOCATION

“Look into your hearts and not at what you wear, then worship God for He is giving and forgiving. God is slow to get angry but quick to bless.” (Joel 2:13)

SILENT PRAYER

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Chaplain: Did you come to worship God?

Congregation: Yes, we did!

Chaplain: Did you come to sing unto the Lord?

Congregation: Yes, we did!

Chaplain: Did you come to pray?

Congregation: Yes, we did!

Chaplain: Let us begin our service in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen!

HYMN: “All Creatures of Our God and King”

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
O praise ye! Alleluia!

O brother sun with golden beam,
O sister moon with softer gleam!
O praise ye! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

READING OF THE PSALMS

PSALM 22

**“Sometimes I pray to God, but I do not feel that He listens to me.
I pray during the day, and I pray at night time.
But the Lord is the one that everyone praises.
Our parents and grandparents trusted in Him and He answered their prayers.
I will tell all the people what wonderful things God has done.
In the middle of worship I will praise Him.
He will answer the prayers of the poor; He will feed the hungry.
All people, now and forever, will praise the Lord. Amen”**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God of All,

During these moments of worship, we ask that You help us to remember the love that Your Son Jesus Christ showed for us. Help us to commit ourselves to loving others also. Help us not to be selfish but giving; not to be rude but forgiving. Speak to our hearts during this time.

In Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

HYMN: “For the Beauty of the Earth”

For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth,
Over and around us lies,
Christ our God to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

LITANY OF THANKS AND PRAISE

For the beauty of the earth -
Thank you, God
For the glory of the skies -
Thank you, God
For the love which all around us lies -
Thank you, God
For the wonder of each hour, the day, the night -
Thank you, God
For hills, trees, flowers -
Thank you, God

For sun, moon and stars of light -

Thank you, God

For the joy of human love -

Thank you, God

For friends on earth and friends above

Thank you, God

HYMN: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not.
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.
Great is Thy Faithfulness; Great is Thy faithfulness.
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided.
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 10:29-37

"One time some bad men robbed and hurt another man. People walked right by him. Another man from another country stopped and helped the man that was hurt."

"Which of them was good?"

MESSAGE

"God's Love"

Object of Lesson: Three objects, two of which have apparent value (e.g., jewelry) and a simple graphite pencil.

I have brought three things with me today. Here is a necklace. Isn't it pretty? And here is a bracelet. Is it pretty also? And here is a common pencil.

Now I want to ask you this: which one of these three things could possibly be worth the most? Maybe not now but at some time in the future.

Well, it might surprise you but it is not the bracelet nor the necklace. It is the pencil. This pencil has a substance called graphite in it. That is what makes a mark when we write with it.

Graphite is nothing but carbon. Now you would not know it just to look at it, but carbon is the substance of what diamonds are made. Given enough time and pressure and heat, the carbon in this pencil would become a diamond. And it would be worth a lot more than the bracelet or the necklace.

That was not what you would expect is it?

Sometimes people are that way also.

Jesus one time told a story about a man who was traveling. When he was going from

one town to another, he was robbed and beaten by some bad people. They beat him so badly, he might have died. Anyway, he was hurt so that he could not care for himself.

Along came a very religious person. But he did not help the hurt man. He just kept going.

The another person came by, but he did not help the hurt man either.

But a third man passed by. But he was a foreigner. Nobody expected him to help a wounded man. But he did.

Now which one of these people would make a good neighbor?

It was the foreigner. It was the one we least expected.

Jesus was telling us that the person who is kindest is the best neighbor, no matter from where he comes.

HYMN: "I Am Thine, O Lord"

I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice,
And it told Thy love for me; but I long to rise
In the arms of faith and be closer drawn to Thee.
Draw me nearer, nearer blessed Lord
To the Cross where Thou hast died.
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer blessed Lord, to Thy precious bleeding side."

(Everyone greet one another)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Creator God,

We thank You that You cared so much for us to make us after Yourself. We see everyday how very good You are because You take care of us. We ask in this prayer that You would also care for the hungry and the sick. Be with those who are lonely and those who are in need.

We pray this prayer in the name of Him Who taught us this prayer that we pray together saying :

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Spoken by everyone)

Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom,
The power, and glory, for ever and ever. AMEN.

HYMN: Jesus Loves Me

Jesus Loves me this I know
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong
They are weak, but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

THE BENEDICTION:

“May the very Lord of peace give you peace at all times and in all ways. The Lord be with you all. Amen.” (II Thes. 3:16)

Congregation: Amen

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye Heavenly Host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

CHAPLAIN: Go in peace; Serve the Lord

CONGREGATION: Thanks be to God

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

MUSICIANS: