

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

July 1, 2007

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

PRELUDE

INVOCATION

“In God is my salvation and my glory; He is the rock of my strength, and He is my refuge.”

Psalm 62:7

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: “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.
Before the hills in order stood, Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.

READING OF THE PSALMS

Psalm 125

“Those who trust in God are like a mountain --- they cannot be moved. God surrounds the people who love Him like a circle of mountains. Lord, we ask you to do good to those who are good ---- those who obey you. Peace be to those who love the Lord.”

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Heavenly Father,

We continue coming to worship You, because we truly believe in You. Sometimes we come but our faith is not very strong. Today we pray that You will make our faith stronger than before.

In Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

HYMN: "Count Your Blessings"

When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed,
When you are discouraged thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord has done

Count your blessings name them one by one;
Count your blessings see what God hath done;
Count your blessings, Name them one by one;
Count your many blessings, see what God hath done.

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: "Standing On the Promises"

Standing on the promises of Christ my King,
Through eternal ages let His praises ring;
Glory in the highest I will shout and sing,
Standing on the promises of God.

Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
Standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

SCRIPTURE READING

Ruth 2

“Ruth had no family. She did not understand what people were saying. She was hungry and had no money. Boaz saw that she had nothing to eat, so he helped her get some food. He was a man that God liked.”

MESSAGE

“God Welcomes Everyone”

Object: You probably could get by in this sermon without any object. But since it is my opinion that people’s attention (and that of the developmentally disabled as well) is better maintained with some type of object lesson, I am using a few sheets of poster board and some brightly colored markers.

Hold up one of the posters for all to see that it is blank.

I want all of you to help me make up a word that you have never heard before. (Ask the group for a sound or a letter. When you get one, try and write it phonetically on the poster board),

What do you think it means. Well, I do not know either, but let’s make up a meaning. Take whatever seems to be the consensus of the group, then do the same with about two more ‘words.’

Now, if I were to use these words when I talk to you, would you think that I was crazy, or did not know how to talk, or maybe from another country.

Well, that is the way the lady in our story must have felt. She was from another country. She had no money. He could not understand the language. She had no food.

A nice man by the name of Boaz found her and helped to take care of her. He gave her food.

He could have been mean to her. He could have made fun of her because she was different. He could have said something nasty like, “She sure does talk funny!” But he did not. He was kind and helpful. He was the kind of person that God enjoys.

God wants us to be kind to other people. Even strangers.

When new people come to live with us, we need to be kind to them just as Boaz was to Ruth ---- just like God wants us to be.

End with a prayer: “Dear God, we are thankful that You know everything about us and that You love us so much. Help us also to love one another, even strangers we pray, Amen.”

HYMN: “He Leadeth Me”

He leadeth me! O blessed thought! O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whatever I do, wherever I be, Still ‘tis God’s hand that leadeth me.
He leadeth me, He leadeth me, By His own hand He leadeth me;
His faithful follower I would be, For by His hand He leadeth me.

(Everyone greet one another)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

God of All,

Thank You for this time that we come together and worship You. Thank You for

all of these people. But we also want to pray for many who would like to be here, but can not. So we pray that You would bless those who are sick or hurt. Help them to get well. Help us who are worshipping that we will want to help those who are sick.

We pray this prayer in the name of Jesus 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 God supply You with every blessing in abundance,
So that by having enough of everything,
You may share abundantly in every good work, Amen.

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