

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 15, 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 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 4

“Boaz grew to love Ruth. They got married and had a baby. Years later, that baby had children and grandchildren. Many years passed and King David was born.”

MESSAGE

“God Keeps His Promises”

Object: An operable, large clock

Hold the clock up for everyone to see.

The story of Ruth and Boaz is a love story. But it is more than a love story, it is also a story of how God keeps His promises.

A very long time ago, long before even Ruth and Boaz were lived, God had promised that He would send a Savior. He did not tell people WHEN the Savior would come, only that He would.

A lot of time passed by. During that time, Ruth and Boaz met and married. They had a child. Later that child had a child. And that child had a child. Eventually in that family line a child was born who became King David.

A lot more time went by and eventually Jesus was born into the world. He was the Savior that God had promised.

That is what I want to talk to you about today. Often, God takes His time about keeping His promises. And that time seems very long to you and me.

You see the clock I am holding? It takes one full minute for the second hand --- that is the long skinny one --- to go all the way around. Without looking at it, I want you to tell me how long it takes for the second hand to go all around.

(The leader may even wish to have someone volunteer to be blind folded for this experience. Having done this a number of times, I know that most people will think that a minute has passed only after about thirty seconds.)

The Bible tells us that God’s time is not ours. Sometimes we begin to think that God has forgotten us. But actually, He is just not on our time.

End with a prayer: “Dear God, we are thankful that You keep Your promises. Help us to learn to be patient and wait for You. In Jesus’ name 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