

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 6, 2008*

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

PRELUDE

INVOCATION

“The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? The Lord is my stronghold, of whom shall I be afraid?”

Psalm 27:1

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 “Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine”

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of
Glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, wash'd in His blood.

This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

READING OF THE PSALMS

PSALM 130

**“When I have been very sad, I prayed to God, ‘O God, listen when I ask You for help.
You are wonderfully forgiving, so we obey You.
I wait for the Lord with the same feelings as waiting for the sun to rise
because He always loves us.”**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Dear God,

You know everything that we need. You are greater than anything else we know. You are much greater than our little bit of understanding. You are so great that all we can do is marvel at how wonderful You are.

In Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

HYMN “I am Thine, O Lord”

I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice, And it told Thy
Love to me; but I long to rise in the arms of faith, And be
Closer drawn to Thee. Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer blessed
Lord, To the cross where Thou has died; Draw me nearer, nearer,
Nearer, blessed Lord, To Thy precious bleeding side.

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 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love.
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5: 41-44

“If someone makes you carry their load, go twice as far with it. Love your enemies and pray for those who use you.”

MESSAGE

“Don’t Forget to Forgive”

(For this sermon, I have borrowed a student’s back pack.)

Look at what I have brought with me today. I bet you know what it is. I also bet that many of you have gone hiking at one time or another. Maybe on a field trip or some other opportunity. Often times when you go on field trips, you may take a back pack like this along with you. In it you can carry things like snacks, water, and extra socks. After a while though it gets heavy. You get tired of toting it.

How would you feel if another person made you carry their back pack for them?

You would not like that at all.

However, Jesus said that if that were to happen, carry it even further than they said.

Let me tell you a story right out of the Bible. One time there was a man named Joseph. His brothers sold him as a slave. That was a terrible thing for them to do. Many years passed and things changed. Joseph worked his way out of slavery and became very powerful. His brothers needed food badly. Joseph could have been mean to them. But he gave them food and forgave them.

That was the kindness that Jesus was speaking about.

End with a prayer: “We thank You, Loving God, that You forgive us. Help us to forgive others.” 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 silver gleam!
O praise ye! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

(Everyone greet one another)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

God of All,

Today, loving God, Your love for this world and Your mercy and compassion are greater than we can understand. We know that You love all people. Help us also to love others just like You love us. Help us to treat others more kindly and be more patient and more thoughtful. Forgive us when we fail.

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:

O God, bless us and keep us safe and help us to be a blessing to others. 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