

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 *March 16, 2008*

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

PRELUDE

INVOCATION

“The way that we know what love is is this: Jesus gave His life for us. Let us also show our love by what we do and not just say the words.”

I John 3:16, 18

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: “Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

Christ the Lord is risen today Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

READING OF THE PSALMS

PSALM 126

“The Lord delivers us and makes us happy. Others see what wonderful things God is doing. He brings us home and gives us water and food. Those who were sad are now happy. Those who cried are now singing with joy.”

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord our God,

Thank You for loving us so much that You give us blessings each day. Help us also to be blessings to other people.

In Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

HYMN: “Crown Him With Many Crowns”

Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!
Awake my soul and sing Of Him Who died for thee;
And hail Him as the matchless King Thro’ all eternity.

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: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

When I survey the wondrous cross,
On which the Prince of Glory died,

My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

SCRIPTURE READING

Philippeans 3: 14

“I am running toward the goal so that I can win the prize which is what God wants us all to have.”

MESSAGE

“RUNNING TO WIN”

(For the sermonette today, I have brought with me a large number of ribbons and medals which my wife and I have been making all week long. I want to be certain to have at least one for each of my parishioners. I have purposely made them all out of gold or yellow ribbon and paper.)

Later on in the service I am going to give each one of you something to hang around your neck. No it is not a necklace, but it goes around your neck like a necklace.

When Paul was talking to the Christians of his day about living the Christian life, he knew that many times people get tired. Don't all of us get tired of loving people who do not love us back? Of course. But Paul was saying 'Don't give up! Keep on being good!'

To encourage them, he wanted them to think about living a Christian life similar to a runner running a race.

What does a runner run toward? A finish line of course!

Does the runner get tired? Of course runners get tired. Sometimes they want to give up and quit.

But what happens when he gets to the finish line?

The runner gets a medal.

Paul was saying tht God wants each of us to have the prize of living in heaven. To remind you all of that, when we pass the peace of Christ, I am going to give everybody a medal.

End with prayer: Lord our God, when we get discouraged, encourage our hearts to keep on trying.

In Christ Jesus we pray, Amen

HYMN: “Fairest Lord Jesus”

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God and man the Son;
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
Thou my soul's glory, joy and crown.

(Everyone greet one another)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Caring Lord,

Help us to be strong in our faith. Do not let us grow tired of trying to do good for other people. When we do get tired, help us to remember that You give us that extra strength when we need it.

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 the Lord watch over you this day and always. 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