

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 2, 2008*

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

PRELUDE

INVOCATION

“This is the day that the Lord has made; let us be happy and let us be glad. Amen”

Psalm 118: 24

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: “Holy, Holy, Holy”

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the
Morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

**“God, be merciful to us and bless us.
In this way the whole world will know You.
May everyone be happy as they sing to You.
Let everyone worship God because He blesses us. Amen.”**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Heavenly Father,

Help us as we worship You today that we speak from deep within our hearts. Help us to put away bad feelings and bad thoughts. Instead, give to us in this time of worship good feelings for other people and nice thoughts about them.

In Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

HYMN: “All Glory, Laud and Honor”

All glory, laud and honor To Thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David’s royal Son,
Who in the Lord’s name cometh, Our King and Blessed One.

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: “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood, From Thy wounded side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, Save from wrath and make me pure.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 20:29-34

“Two blind men asked Jesus to heal them. The people told the blind men to be quiet. But Jesus wanted to talk to them. Jesus touched their eyes, and they were able to see.”

MESSAGE

“CAN YOU SEE JESUS?”

Objects: A mask or blind fold and any familiar object. I am using for this familiar object a light weight chair.

I am going to need a volunteer for my sermon today. (Select one volunteer and place the blind fold on that person.)

Now, _____, I want you with the blind fold on, to touch the chair. (When the blindfolded person reaches for the chair, move it. (Each time the person reaches out for the chair, move it somewhere else, but be very careful that he or she does not hurt themselves. And after they have done this a couple of times, have them remove the blind fold and explain what you have done; that it was not their fault that they could not touch the chair.)

_____, was it frustrating trying to find the chair but not being able to see?

Of course it was. I would imagine that a blind person has many frustrations. That is why the blind men in our Bible story today wanted to be healed.

Think of all the things a blind person misses. They never see a beautiful sunset or a bouquet of flowers. They are not able to see a friend's face or a picture.

But Jesus had compassion on them, and they had faith in Jesus.

God takes care of each of us. That is because God is love.

End with a prayer: Thank You, dear God, for loving us. Help us to love others also. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

HYMN: “Blessed Assurance , Jesus is Mine”

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste 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.

(Everyone greet one another)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

God of Love,

We know that You love us because You gave everything. Help us to be willing to give to others our time and patience, our listening ears and compassion. In those ways help us to show that we are Your children

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:

Glory be to God Who has all grace,
Who has called us into His eternal glory in Christ,
To Him belongs all glory and power forever and ever, 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