

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 *November 11, 2007*

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

### PRELUDE

### INVOCATION

“After you have the Holy Spirit, you will also have power. Then you will tell people of me beginning here in Jerusalem, then in Judea, and Samaria, then to the rest of the world.”

Acts 1:8

### 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!

**READING OF THE PSALMS**

PSALM 104

**“Praise the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, how great You are!  
The heavens are like a tent to You.  
You put the earth in its place,  
and then You made rain and plants and animals.  
You made the earth a wonderful place for all living things.  
So we will sing praises to You.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of Power and Might,

Come upon our lives with Your strength so that we also will be able to live in love and compassion and forgiveness. Thank You for this power.

In Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

**HYMN:** “Praise Him, Praise Him, All Ye Little Children”

Praise Him, Praise Him, all ye little children,  
God is love, God is love;  
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye little children,  
God is love, God is love.

**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:** “Spirit of the Living God”

Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.  
Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.  
Break me, melt me, mold me, fill me.  
Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Genesis 24

**“It was time for Isaac to get married. His father Abraham sent a servant to find Isaac a wife. He found Rebekah. She was a hard working good, young lady.**

**When Isaac saw her, he fell in love with her.**

**MESSAGE**

“God Keeps His Promise”

(The object lesson for this sermon would be the family pictures that most people have sitting about their living rooms. These are large enough to be seen for what they are but small enough to be easily handled.)

Have I ever showed to you the pictures of my family? Probably not, but let me show them to you now. Sue and I have two daughters. Their names are Donna and Leigh. ( Hold up one at a time and show them. Both of them live in a city down at the beach. The name of the city is Wilmington.

Donna is married. Her husband’s Name is Deak. Leigh is single like you are. She does not have a husband.

But Donna and Deak also have children. In fact, they have three children: Dan, Andrew and Sarah.

One of the most wonderful blessings that we have from God are the families that are ours. They are very special to us. We love our families, don’t we?

And over the years we see our families grow and change. One of the big changes that Sue and I have seen lately is that our two grandsons , Dan and Andrew, got married. Now we have two more grand daughters.

Our story today is about how God blessed Abraham’s family. He gave them Rebekah to be Isaac’s wife. It was a change in their family, but it was a good change. A good change is a blessing.

I bet all of us can think of blessings that have happened to us. And we know Who it is that has blessed us --- God.

End with a prayer: “Thank You dear God for blessing us. Amen.”

**HYMN:** “The Nail-scarred Hand”

Have you failed in your plan of your storm-tossed life?  
Place your hand in the nail-scarred hand;  
Are you weary and worn from its toil and strife?  
Place your hand in the nail-scarred hand.  
Place your hand in the nail-scarred hand,  
Place your hand in the nail-scarred hand;  
Place your hand in the nail-scarred hand;  
He will keep to the end, He's your dearest friend,  
Place your hand in the nail-scarred hand.

( Everyone greet one another)

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

God of Love,

Help us to feel that You are close to us each day, so close that we could almost reach out and touch You. Help us to live our lives so that we can stay close to You, and that the way we treat others and the way we behave will show to the world how close we live to You. Thank You for Your blessings. We also ask that You take care of others who need Your help.

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 of Love make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope and untiring in love this day and all the days of your lives.

**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**