

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

OCTOBER 14, 2007
COVENANT CENTER CHAPEL
SERVICES FOR THE WEEK OF

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

PRELUDE

INVOCATION

“Lord our God, we have a need to be near You and to feel You near us. Let us feel that You are close to us while we worship. As we sing, as we pray, as we listen, be close by us. Amen”

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: “Amazing Grace”

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound.
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.”

READING OF THE PSALMS

Psalm 41

“When you care for the poor, it makes you happy. God helps us when we have troubles. He protects them and keeps us safe. That makes us happy. When we are sick, He heals us. Let us praise Him because He is good.”

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God,

We thank You for life and health and for the privilege of worshipping You during these moments. Sometimes, God, we are selfish and do not think about other people. Please take care of them just as You have been good to us.

We pray also that as we hear Your word today, we might understand it a little more. More than that, help us as we try to live it each day this week.

In Jesus Christ we pray, Amen

HYMN: "Morning Has Broken"

Morning has broken like the first morning.
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird
Praise for the singing. Praise for the morning.
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word.

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: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not.
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.
Great is Thy Faithfulness; Great is Thy faithfulness.
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided.
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 4: 9

“God asked Cain, ‘Where is your brother?’

Cain answered, ‘I do not know. Am I supposed to take care of him?’”

MESSAGE

“You Cannot Take Some things Back”

(The object lesson for today is a can of almost any aerosol product. Although a large variety of products from cleaning solutions to cosmetics come in this form, I think it would be wise to use something like a room deodorizer. It would not offend many people’s sense of smell and would be safer.)

You can see right here that I have brought a can with me today. Now it happens to be a can of a room deodorizer. In other words, if there is a bad smell in the room, you can spray this and it will make the odor disappear. That is particularly important if you have animals in your house.

Here let me spray a little bit for you. (Do so.) Doesn’t that make the air smell fresher?

But now I have an important question for you. Can you take the mist that I just sprayed in the air and put it back in the can?

Of course not. None of us can do that. It is impossible.

Well, there are other things in life that once they are out you cannot take back. The words we say are like that.

This is what happened between the two brothers in our story today. They were named Cain and Abel. Cain got very upset with his brother Abel. He said some things that he should not have said. And the trouble with saying bad things is that once they are out of your mouth, they are out forever.

Cain made this all the worse because when God asked him where his brother was, he did not tell the truth. These were more bad words that should not have been said.

What should Cain have done?

Cain should have apologized to Abel. He should have made things right between them. We cannot put the mist back in the can, and we cannot take back bad words that we have said. But we can say that we are sorry.

HYMN: “I Am Thine, O Lord”

I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice,
And it told Thy love for me; but I long to rise
In the arms of faith and be closer drawn to Thee.
Draw me nearer, nearer blessed Lord
To the Cross where Thou hast died.
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer blessed Lord, to Thy precious bleeding side.”

(Everyone greet one another)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

God of All,

We are Your, O God. You have made us and You have kept us. We come thanking you for the blessings that You have given us over and over again. Help us also

to be giving. Help us to see that every day there are people around us that need our love and understanding.

We pray this prayer in the name of Him 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 bless you and keep you, the Lord cause His face to shine upon you and give you peace this day and forevermore. 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

MUSICIANS: