

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 October 21, 2007

(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 rejoice and be glad in it.”

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: “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer’s praise
The glories of my God and King, The triumphs of His grace.
Jesus the name that charms our fears, That bids our sorrows cease;
‘Tis music in the sinner’s ears, ‘Tis life and health and peace.

**“If it were not for the Lord, when things have gone bad, I would not be here.
That is worth repeating.
If it were not for the Lord, when things have gone bad, I would not be here.
Things could have been worse. People could have been angry with me;
But we are safe, so we will praise the Lord.”**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Heavenly Father,

Touch our lives and stir our spirits so that others may see You living in us. Let our lights of love and care show so strongly that others may be drawn to You.

In Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

HYMN: “Holy, Holy, Holy”

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty,
Early in the morning I songs shall rise to Thee.
Holy, Holy, Holy, Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons blessed Trinity.

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: “Onward Christian Soldiers”

Onward Christian soldiers, Marching as to war
With the cross of Jesus Going on before!
Christ the Royal Master, Leads against the foe;
Forward into battle, See His banner go!
Onward, Christian soldiers Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus going on before

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 12

“God said to Abram, ‘Leave your country and go where I tell you. You will have many children and grandchildren. They will become a country if you trust me.’”

MESSAGE

“BELIEVING”

(Object Lesson: A helium-filled balloon.)

All of you can easily see what I have brought with me today to chapel. It is a balloon ---- but not just any balloon. For one thing it has a string tied to it so that I can hold it securely. It would not be easy for this balloon to get away from me. And there is another way in which it is different that causes it to be easy to escape from me. This balloon is filled with a gas called helium. The gas inside this balloon causes it to float in the air.

Now, our story from the Bible today is about a man named Abram. God gave him instructions to leave the place where he lived and to go to a new land. God did not tell Abram where this land was, but to trust Him and God would show him where to go.

That would be difficult for anyone to do. If a person were to leave their home with no where to go, they would be in a lot of trouble. They would not have a place to sleep or any food to eat. They would have no friends and no job. There would not even be anyone for them to depend upon.

The only thing that they would have is their faith.

That is why I brought this balloon with me today. You cannot see the gas in this balloon, but you know that it is there. You also know that the gas in this balloon is lighter than air. You know that the balloon must have something lighter than air like helium. But you cannot see it.

But while you cannot see it, you can believe it!

When you cannot see something but you believe it, that is called faith.

Abram had faith and that was why he followed God.

End with a prayer: Dear God, we cannot see You, but we believe in You. Help us to have a strong faith as Abram did..

In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

HYMN: “In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

In the cross of Christ I glory
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.

(Everyone greet one another)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

God of All,

We know that You are the Great Creator, Maker of everything. We also know that You love each one of us to make us special. We pray for You to heal those who are sick and hurt. And we also ask that You be with those who are alone or sad or scared.

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