

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

### September 30, 2007

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

#### PRELUDE

#### INVOCATION

“Look inside me, God, and see my heart; test me and know what I am thinking; and see if there is anything bad about me. Then lead me in the way that is good.”

Psalm 139:23

#### 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:** “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

All hail the power of Jesus’ name!

Let angels prostrate fall;

Bring forth the royal diadem

And crown Him Lord of all;

Bring forth the royal diadem,

And crown Him Lord of all.

#### READING OF THE PSALMS

PSALM 14

“Only a foolish person would say that there is no God. God looks down from heaven to see if there are any wise people who worship Him. Instead, He sees many bad people. They do what is bad, and they never pray. But the Lord will protect the good people, and they will be very happy.”

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Blessed God,

Thank You for creating this world that is so wonderful. But we also ask You to heal those who are sick and help those who have troubles. There is nothing which You can not do. Thank You for taking care of us.

In Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

## **HYMN: "He Leadeth Me"**

He leadeth me! O blessed tho't!  
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!  
What-e'er I do, where-e'er I be,  
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.  
He leadeth me, He leadeth me,  
By His own hand, He leadeth me.  
His faithful follower I would be,  
For by His hand He leadeth me.

## **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: "I Love to Tell the Story"**

I love to tell the story, Of unseen things above.  
Of Jesus and His glory, Of Jesus and His love.  
I love to tell the story, Because I know 'tis true.  
It satisfies my longing as nothing else can do.  
I love to tell the story! T'will be my theme in glory,  
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

## SCRIPTURE READING

I Peter 145:10

“Each person should use whatever gift he or she has to help other people.”

## MESSAGE

“God Gives Us Talents to Use”

(For this sermon, the props that are needed can be found in any kitchen. Just take a selection of kitchen utensils --- spoons, ladles, egg beaters, whatever --- five or six (I would avoid any with sharp edges such as a knife for obvious reasons.).

I have a sack of things here that I bet many of you can tell me what they are. Let me give you a clue before I start to show them to you.

(Take out one from the container of utensils.) How many of you can tell me what this is. (Allow them to answer “spoon” or “spatula” or whatever it might be.)

Now tell me what you do with this. (Allow time for them to answer.)

(Do the same with the next few items, but do not go on so long that you lose your audience.)

Now, I want you to put on your thinking cap for a moment. I am going to ask you a hard question. What if you could only use one of these utensils to cook a meal. Which one would you use.

(After allowing them time to be puzzled and eventually to make an effort at answering, say) “Isn’t it ridiculous to try and cook a meal without all the other tools that you need.”

Well, being a church is the same way. One person cannot do all the work. God needs all of us to show His love and to tell others that He cares.

End with a prayer: “We thank You, Loving God, that You look out for us and take care of us. Help us also to be blessings to others.” 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 lights of sacred story  
Gathers round its head sublime.

(Everyone greet one another)

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

God of All,

We thank You for supplying our lives with all of our needs. When we look around with grateful hearts we see a beautiful world filled with blessings. We have enough to eat and we have shelter where to live.

But we also know, Lord our God, that there are others who are Your children as well who do not have a place to sleep or food to eat. We ask that you bless them as You have us.

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:**

O God, bless us on this day of rest.  
Help us that our spirits will be refreshed and  
That we can be an inspiration to others. 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**