

## WESLEY'S COVENANT SERVICE

### ABOUT THIS WORSHIP SERVICE

**Altar Flowers** today are Dedicated to the Glory of God In Loving Memory of Joseph Bracegirdle, by Eleanor and Family; and also In Loving Memory of Barry Arner, Husband and Father, by Karen, Rob & David Arner.

**The Sanctuary Flowers** are Dedicated to the Glory of God In Loving Memory of Jake Stockert, by Babs Wiley and Family; and also In Loving Memory of Husband and Father, Harold Foster, by Bettie Foster and Family.

**Morning Greeters** this morning are Jim & Cindy Dransfield at 8:00; and Karen Arner & Nadine Applegate at the 9:30 service.

**Ushers** this morning at the 8:00 service are Bob Slotterback, George Jenca and Tom Romsper; and The Hansen Family at the 9:30 service.

**Acolyte** this morning at the 9:30 service is Allison Kephart.

**Prayer Chain No. 1 is in effect this week.** Please call Cynthia Schick, 215-968-2072, for prayer requests and praise for answered prayers.

**Children's Activities...** The following activities are available during the 9:30 worship service. Infant up to nursery school age: Nursery care is available during the service in the Nursery in the main hallway, next to the Ladies Room; and Junior Church in Sunday School Room # 3 for Kindergarten through 5th grade. Children will be dismissed from the worship service before the sermon.

### INVITATION

**Pastor:** Commit yourselves to Christ as his servants. Give yourselves to Him, that you may belong to Him. Christ has many services to be done. Some are more easy and honorable, others are more difficult and disgraceful. Some are suitable to our inclinations and interests, others are contrary to both. In some we may please Christ and please ourselves. But then there are other works where we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves. It is necessary, therefore, that we consider what it means to be a servant of Christ. Let us, therefore, go to Christ, and pray:

*Let me be your servant, under your command. I will no longer be my own. I will give up myself to your will in all things.*

**Pastor:** Be satisfied that Christ shall give you your place and work.

*Lord, make me what you will. I put myself fully into your hands: put me to doing, put me to suffering, let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you, let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and with a willing heart give it all to your pleasure and disposal.*

**Pastor:** Christ will be the Savior of none but those who are His servants. He is the source of all salvation to those who strive to obey. Christ will have no servants except by consent to be such, and He will not accept anything less than full consent to all that He requires. Christ will be all in all, or He will be nothing. Confirm this by a holy covenant.

To make this covenant a reality in your life, listen to these words of advice:

First, set apart some time, more than once, to be spent alone before the Lord to earnestly seek God's special assistance and gracious acceptance of you; to carefully think through all the conditions of the covenant relationship; and in searching your hearts as to whether you have already freely given your life to Christ. Consider what sin is in your life. Consider the commands of Christ, how holy, strict, and spiritual they are, and whether you are willing to choose and follow them all. Be sure you are clear in these matters, see that you do not lie to God.

Second, be serious and in a spirit of holy awe and reverence.

Third, claim God's covenant, rely upon His promises of giving you grace and strength, so that you can keep your promises. Trust not your own strength and power.

Fourth, resolve/determine to be faithful. You have given to the Lord your hearts, you have opened your mouths to the Lord, and you have dedicated yourself to God. With God's power, never go back to the old ways.

And last, be prepared to renew your covenant with the Lord. Humble yourself before God, lift your hands toward heaven, open your hearts to Him.

COVENANT PRAYER [Congregation in BOLD]

*Righteous God, for the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, see me as I bow before You. Forgive my unfaithfulness in not having done Your will, for You have promised mercy to me if I turn to You with my whole heart.*

**Pastor:** God requires that you shall put away all your idols.

*I here and now, from the bottom of my heart, renounce all my idols, covenanting with You that no known sin shall be allowed in my life. Against Your will, I have turned my love toward the world. In Your power I will watch out for all temptations that will lead me away from You. For my own righteousness is riddled with sin, unable to stand before You.*

**Pastor:** Through Christ, God has offered to be your God again if you would let him.

*Before all heaven and earth, I here acknowledge You as my Lord and God. I take You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for my portion, and vow to give up myself, body and soul, as Your servant, to serve You in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.*

**Pastor:** God has given the Lord Jesus Christ as the only way and means of coming to God.

*Jesus, I do here and now bowed before You, accept Jesus as the only new and living Way, and sincerely join myself in a covenant with Him. O blessed Jesus, I come to You, hungry, sinful, miserable, blind, and naked, unworthy even to wash the feet of other servants. With all my power, accept you as my Lord. I renounce my own worthiness, and vow that You are the Lord, my righteousness. I renounce my own wisdom, and take You for my only guide. I renounce my own will, and take Your will as my law.*

**Pastor:** Christ has told you that you must suffer with Him.

*I do covenant with You, O Christ, to take my lot with You as it may fall. Through Your grace I promise that neither life nor death shall separate me from You.*

**Pastor:** God has given holy laws as the rules for your life.

*I do here willingly put my neck under Your yoke, to carry Your burden. All Your laws are holy, just, and good. I therefore take them as the rules for my words, thoughts, and actions, promising that I will strive to order my whole life according to Your direction, and not allow myself to neglect anything I know to be my duty.*

**Pastor:** The almighty God searches and knows your heart.

*Father God, You know that I make this covenant with You today without any resentment or reservation. If any falsehood should be in it, guide me and help me to set it right. And now, glory be to You, Heavenly Father, whom I from this day forward shall look upon as my God. Glory be to You and to Your Son, who have loved me and washed me from my sins in Your own blood, and now is my Savior and Redeemer. Glory be to You, Holy Spirit, who by Your almighty power have turned my heart from sin to God. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, You have now become my Covenant Friend. Through Your infinite grace, I am now Your covenant servant. So be it! And let the covenant I make on earth here today be noted and sealed in heaven. Amen.*

*(You are advised to make this covenant not only in your heart, but in word; not only in word, but in writing. With all reverence, lay the service before the Lord as your act and deed. And when you have done this, sign it. Keep it as a reminder of the holy agreement between God and you that you may remember it during doubts and temptations.)*

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_