

⇒ *Here let the people bow, and the pastor say in the name of all,*

O Lord God, holy Father, who hast called us through Christ to be partakers of this gracious covenant: We take upon ourselves with joy the yoke of obedience, and engage ourselves, for love of thee, to seek and do thy perfect will. We are no longer our own, but thine.

⇒ *Then all shall say,*

I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt; put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee; let me be full, let me be empty; let me have all things, let me have nothing; I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. Amen.

⇒ *Let your sharing in the Sacrament of Communion be a continuation of the renewal of your covenant with God.*

The Prayer of Consecration: Pastor

The Sharing of the Elements

⇒ *Then all shall say,*

And now O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine! So be it! And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven! Amen.

***Closing Hymn #513**

"Soldiers of Christ, Arise"

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

January 5, 2025

11:15 Worship



YORKSHIRE  CHURCH

Contemporary Worship - 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School - 10:15 a.m. For all ages
Traditional Worship - 11:15 a.m.
CLIMB (VBS Style Sunday School) for children in grades K-2
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

JOHN WESLEY'S COVENANT SERVICE

11:15 Worship

*An Order of Worship for Such as would enter into
or renew their Covenant with God*

Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship - Al Mink

L: Send the waters of your grace upon us.

P: We are your people.

L: Let the waters of your love wash us.

P: We are your forgiven people.

L: Let the waters of your blessing pour over us.

P: We are your beloved people. Thanks be to God.

Explanation of Covenant Service

*Hymn: (Tune of Amazing Grace)

Come, let us use the grace divine

And all, with one accord,

In a perpetual covenant join

Ourselves to Christ the Lord.

Give up ourselves, through Jesus' power,

Its name to glorify;

And promise, in this sacred hour,

For God to live and die.

The covenant we this moment make

Be ever kept in mind;

We will no more our God forsake,

Or cast his words behind.

We never will throw off his fear

Who hears our solemn vow;

And if thou art well pleased to hear,

Come down, and meet us now.

To each the covenant blood apply,

Which takes our sins away;

And registers our names on high,

And keep us to that day.

thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Amen.

⇒ *Then the pastor shall say,*

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

THE WORD

Scripture:

John 1: 1-5; 14

***Hymn #540**

"I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"

The Anthem

Meditation

"You've Never Been There Before"

THE COVENANT

⇒ *Then the pastor shall say,*

And now, beloved, let us bind ourselves with willing bonds to our covenant God, and take the yoke of Christ upon us. This taking of his yoke upon us means that we are heartily content that he appoint us our place and work, and that he alone be our reward.

Christ has many services to be done; some are easy, others are difficult; some bring honor, others bring reproach; some are suitable to our natural inclinations, and temporal interests, others are contrary to both. In some we may please Christ and please ourselves; in others we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves. Yet the power to do all these things is assuredly given us in Christ, who strengthens us.

Therefore, let us make the covenant of God our own. Let us engage our heart to the Lord, and resolve in his strength never to go back. Being thus prepared, let us now, in sincere dependence on his grace and trusting in his promises, yield ourselves to him.

stretched out thy hands to us through our fellows, and we have passed by. We have taken great benefits with little thanks; we have been unworthy of thy changeless love.

Have mercy upon us and forgive us, O Lord.

Forgive us, we beseech thee, the poverty of our worship, the formality and selfishness of our prayers, our inconstancy and unbelief, our neglect of fellowship and of the means of grace, our hesitating witness for Christ, our false pretenses, and our willful ignorance of thy ways.

Have mercy upon us and forgive us, O Lord.

Forgive us wherein we have wasted our time or misused our gifts. Forgive wherein we have excused our own wrongdoing or evaded our responsibilities. Forgive us that we have been unwilling to overcome evil with good, that we have drawn back from the cross.

Have mercy upon us and forgive us, O Lord.

Forgive us that so little of thy love hath reach others through us, and that we have borne so lightly wrongs and sufferings that were not our own. Forgive us wherein we have cherished the things that divide us from others, and wherein we have made it hard for them to live with us, and wherein we have been thoughtless in our judgments, hasty in condemnation, grudging in forgiveness.

Have mercy upon us and forgive us, O Lord.

If we have made no ventures in fellowship, if we have kept in our heart a grievance against another, if we have not sought reconciliation, if we have been eager for the punishment of wrongdoers and slow to seek their redemption.

Have mercy upon us and forgive us, O Lord.

⇒ *Then, with the people bowed the pastor shall say,*

Let each of us in silence make confession to God.

⇒ *After a period of silent prayer the pastor and people shall say,*

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy loving kindness; according to the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me

⇒ *After this the pastor shall say,*

Let us pray.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

⇒ *Then all shall say,*

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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Scripture:

John 15: 1-8

⇒ *The people shall be seated*

⇒ *Then the pastor shall say,*

Dearly beloved, the Christian life, to which we are called, is a life in Christ, redeemed from sin by him, and through him consecrated to God. Upon this life we have entered, having been admitted into that new covenant of which our Lord Jesus Christ is mediator, and which he sealed with his own blood, that it might stand forever.

On one side the covenant is God's promise that he will fulfill in and through us all that he declared in Jesus Christ, who is the author and perfecter of our faith. That his promise still stand we are sure, for we have known his goodness and proved his grace in our lives day by day. On the other side we stand pledged to live no more unto ourselves, but to him who loved us and gave himself for us and called us to serve him that the purposes of his coming be fulfilled.

From time to time we renew our vows of consecration, especially when we gather for worship. On this day we

meet expressly, as generations of our fathers have met, that we may joyfully and solemnly renew the covenant which bound them and binds us to God. Let us then, remembering the mercies of God and the hope of his calling, examine ourselves by the light of his Spirit, that we may see wherein we have failed or fallen short in faith and practice and, considering all that this covenant means may give ourselves anew to God.

ADORATION

⇒ Then the pastor shall say, and the people responding, Let us adore the Father, the God of love who created us; who every moment sustains and preserves us; who has loved us with an everlasting love, and given us the light of the knowledge of his glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

We praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.

Let us glory in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, though he was rich, yet for our sakes became poor; who went about doing good and preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom; who was tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin; who became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross; who was dead, and liveth for evermore; who opened the Kingdom of heaven to all believers; who sitteth at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.

Thou art the King of glory, O Christ.

Let us rejoice in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, by whom we are born into the family of God, and made members of the body of Christ; whose witness confirms us, whose wisdom teaches us; whose power enables us, who waits to do for us exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think.

All praise to thee, O Holy Spirit. Amen.

⇒ Here shall follow a brief period of silent prayer.

THANKSGIVING

⇒ Then the pastor shall say, and the people responding,

Let us rise and give thanks to God for his manifold mercies.

⇒ Here let the people stand.

O God our Father, the fountain of all goodness, who hast been gracious to us through all the years of our life; we give thee thanks for thy loving kindness which hath filled our days and brought us to this time and place.

We praise thy holy name, O Lord.

Thou hast given us life and reason, and set us in a world which is full of thy glory. Thou hast comforted us with kindred and friends, and ministered to us through the hands and minds of our fellows.

We praise thy holy name, O Lord.

Thou hast set in our hearts a hunger for thee, and given us thy peace. Thou hast redeemed us and called us to a high calling in Christ Jesus. Thou hast given us a place in the fellowship of thy Spirit and the witness of thy Church.

We praise thy holy name, O Lord.

In darkness thou hast been our light, in adversity and temptation a rock of strength, in our joys the very spirit of joy, in our labors the all-sufficient reward.

We praise thy holy name, O Lord.

Thou hast remembered us when we have forgotten thee, followed us even when we fled from thee, met us with forgiveness when we turned back to thee. For all thy long-suffering and the abundance of thy grace.

We praise thy holy name, O Lord. Amen.

⇒ Here shall follow a period of silent prayer, the people seated.

CONFESSION

⇒ Then the pastor shall say, the people responding, Let us now examine ourselves before God, humbly confessing our sins and watching our hearts, lest by self-deceit we shut ourselves out from his presence. Let us pray.

O God our Father, who hast set forth thy way of life for us in thy beloved Son: We confess with shame our slowness to learn of him, our reluctance to follow him. Thou hast spoken and called, and we have not given heed; thy beauty hath shone forth, and we have been blind; thou hast