

PROCLAMATION

BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST, THE CHRISTIAN LIFE IS REDEEMED FROM SIN AND CONSECRATED TO GOD. THROUGH BAPTISM, WE HAVE ENTERED THIS LIKE AND HAVE BEEN ADMITTED INTO THE NEW COVENANT OF WHICH JESUS CHRIST IS THE MEDIATOR. HE SEALS IT WITH HIS OWN BLOOD, THAT IT MIGHT LAST FOR EVER. ON THE ONE SIDE, GOD PROMISES TO GIVE US NEW LIFE IN CHRIST, THE SOURCE AND PERFECTER OF OUR FAITH. ON THE OTHER SIDE, WE ARE PLEDGED TO LIVE NO MORE FOR OURSELVES BUT ONLY FOR JESUS CHRIST, WHO LOVED US AND GAVE HIMSELF FOR US. FROM TIME TO TIME WE RENEW OUR COVENANT WITH GOD, ESPECIALLY WHEN WE REAFFIRM THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT AND GATHER AT THE LORD'S TABLE. TODAY, HOWEVER, WE MEET, AS THE GENERATIONS BEFORE US HAVE MET, TO RENEW THE COVENANT THAT BINDS US TO GOD. LET US MAKE THIS COVENANT OF GOD OUR OWN.

INVITATION:

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.

COVENANT PRAYER IN THE WESLEYAN TRADITION

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 BY THEE OR LAID ASIDE FOR THEE, EXALTED FOR THEE OR BROUGHT LOW BY 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. 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.

Sign _____ Date _____