

CHURCH COVENANT IN RESPONSIVE READING

“AND THEY ENTERED INTO A COVENANT TO SEEK THE LORD, GOD OF THEIR FATHER WITH ALL THEIR HEARTS AND THEIR SOUL.”

MINISTER: *What common experience leads us to spiritual fellowship and covenant relations with God and one another?*

CONGREGATION: Having been led, as we believe by The Spirit of God, to receive The Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, and, on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in The Name of The Father, and of The Son, and of The Holy Ghost, we do now, in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

MINISTER: What are some of our privileges and duties in this, our own Church?

CONGREGATION: We engage, therefore, by the aid of The Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines.

MINISTER: What vows do we gladly make as stewards of that which God has entrusted to us?

CONGREGATION: To contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

MINISTER: For the sake of our homes, loved ones, what task do we humbly assume?

CONGREGATION: We engage to maintain family and secret devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances.

MINISTER: For the sake of the unsaved for whom Christ died, to what manner of life and conversations are solemnly pledges?

CONGREGATION: To walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from sale and use of, intoxicating liquors as a beverage; and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior.

MINISTER: Since on is our master, even Christ and all we are brethren, by what fraternal ministries are we to strengthen each other and adorn the teachings of our Savior?

CONGREGATION: We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember one another in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offence, but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the rules of our Savior to secure it without delay.

MINISTER: For the good of our spiritual development, AND FOR THE BEST INTEREST OF THE Masters kingdom what do we promise to do if we move beyond the reach of this church?

CONGREGATION: We moreover engage that, when we remove from this place, we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church of this faith, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and principles of God's Word.

ALL: Humbly confessing our past sins, we pray for grace and strength to keep these our holy vows, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN.*