

## WESLEYAN COVENANT RENEWAL SERVICE

Adapted by D. Dirksen in 2004

### Summary:

This is an adaptation of a historic Wesleyan Covenant renewal service. Please use songs according to CCLI and other copyright guidelines.

Length: 6 pages

## **Wesleyan Covenant Renewal Service**

(bold print is read by all)

### GREETING

Grace and peace from God our Father  
And the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

Come let us worship the Lord who established a new covenant through his Son Jesus  
Christ.

**We come in spirit and in truth.**

**Hymn – choose appropriate hymn or song**

### PRAYER OF ADORATION

Let us pray:

Let us worship our Creator, the God of love;  
God continually preserves and sustains us;  
We have been loved with an everlasting love; through Jesus Christ we have been given  
complete knowledge of God's glory.

**You are God; we praise you; we acknowledge you to be the Lord.**

**Let us glory in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Though he was rich, for our sakes he became poor;  
He was tempted in all points as we are,  
But he was without sin;  
He went about doing good  
And preaching the gospel of the kingdom;

He accepted death, death on the cross;  
He was dead and is alive forever;  
He has opened the kingdom of heaven to all who trust in him;  
He sits in glory at the right hand of God;  
He will come again to be our Judge.

**You, Christ, are the King of Glory.**

Let us rejoice in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life.

Through the Spirit we are born into the family of God, and made members of the body of  
Christ;

The witness of the Spirit confirms us;  
The wisdom teaches us;  
The power enables us;  
The Spirit will do far more for us than we ask or think.

**All praise to you, Holy Spirit.**

*SILENT PRAYER*

**Hymn: Come Let Us Use the Grace Divine** (the tune of Amazing Grace)

Come, let us use the grace divine,  
And all, with one accord  
In a perpetual cov'nant join  
Ourselves to Christ the Lord

Give up ourselves, through Jesus' pow'r,  
His name to glorify;  
And promise, in this sacred hour,  
For God to live and die.

The cov'nant we this moment make  
Be ever kept in mind:  
We will no more our God forsake,  
Or cast his words behind.

Forever we will rev'rence here  
The One who hears our vow:  
And if You are well-pleased to hear,  
Come down, and meet us now!

To each the cov'nant blood apply,  
Which takes our sins away;  
And register our names on high,  
And keep us to that day!

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us humbly confess our sins to God.  
O God, you have shown us the way of life through your Son, Jesus Christ.  
We confess with shame our slowness to learn of him,  
Our failure to follow him, and our reluctance to bear the cross.  
**Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us.**

We confess the poverty of our worship,  
Our neglect of fellowship and of the means of grace,  
Our hesitating witness for Christ,  
Our evasion of responsibilities in our service,  
Our imperfect stewardship of your gifts.  
**Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us.**

Let each of us in silence make confession to God.

*SILENCE*

**Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us.**

**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;**

**In your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**

**Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.**

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.**

Now the message that we have heard from God's Son and announce is this: God is light, and there is no darkness at all in him.

If we live in the light—just as he is in the light—then we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from every sin.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and there is no truth in us.

But if we confess our sins to God, he will keep his promise and do what is right; he will forgive us all our wrongdoing.

**Amen. Thanks be to God.**

#### COLLECT

Let us pray:

**Father, you have appointed our Lord Jesus Christ as Mediator of a new covenant; Give us grace to draw near with fullness of faith and join ourselves in a perpetual covenant with you,**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen**

#### THE COVENANT

In the old covenant, God chose Israel to be a special people and to obey the law.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, by his death and resurrection, has made a new covenant with all who trust in him.

We stand within this covenant and we bear his name.

On the one side, God promises in this covenant to give us new life in Christ.

On the other side, we are pledged to live not for ourselves but for God.

Today, therefore, we meet to renew the covenant which binds us to God.

#### ***THE PEOPLE STAND***

Friends, let us claim the covenant God has made with his people, and accept the yoke of Christ.

To accept the yoke of Christ means that we allow Christ to guide all that we do and are, and that Christ himself is our only reward.

Christ has many services to be done; some are easy, others are difficult; some make others applaud, others bring only reproach; some we desire to do because of our own interests; others seem unnatural.

Sometimes we please Christ and meet our own needs, at other times we cannot please Christ unless we deny ourselves.

Yet Christ strengthens us and gives us the power to do all these things.

Therefore let us make this covenant of God on our own.  
Let us give ourselves completely to God, trusting in his promises and relying on his grace.

**I give myself completely to you, O God.  
Assign me to my place in your creation.  
Let me suffer for you.  
Give me the work you would have me do.**

**Give me many tasks or have me step aside while you call others.  
Put me forward or humble me.  
Give me riches or let me live in poverty.  
I freely give all that I am and have to you.  
And now, holy God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours. So be it.  
May this covenant made on earth continue for all eternity.  
Amen**

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

May the God who established a covenant with those who seek to enter the kingdom be always present with you.

**Amen.**

May Jesus Christ who sealed the new covenant with his sacrifice on the cross bring you peace.

**Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit of God guide your life, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Go in peace to serve God and your neighbour in all that you do.

**Amen. Thanks be to God!**

Wesleyan Renewal Prayer

I give myself completely to you, O God.

Assign me to my place in your creation.

Let me suffer for you.

Give me the work you would have me do.

Give me many tasks or have me step aside while you call others.

Put me forward or humble me.

Give me riches or let me live in poverty.

I freely give all that I am and have to you.

And now, holy God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

You are mine and I am yours. So be it.

May this covenant made on earth continue for all eternity.

Amen