

Church Covenant

And they entered into a covenant to seek the Lord God, their Father, with all their heart and with all their soul (2 chron. 15:12)

Minister: What common experiences lead us into spiritual fellowship and covenant relations with God and one another?

Congrega: Having been led, as we believe by the Spirit of God (Rom 8:14-15) to receive the Lord Jesus as our Saviour (John 12:13), and on the profession of our faith (Heb. 4:14), having been baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost (Matt. 28:19), we do now, in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully (Acts 2:41) enter into covenant with one another (Heb: 8:10-12) as one body in Christ (Col. 1:18).

Minister: By what pledge do we turn from the ways of the world?

Congrega: We promise by the aid of the Holy Spirit to forsake the paths of sin, and walk in the ways of holiness all the days of our lives (John 16:13, Rom. 8:14).

Minister: What are some of our privileges and duties in this our own church?

Congrega: With this in view, we engage to strive for the advancement of this church (Heb. 10:25) in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality (Rom. 12:6-11); to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrines (2 Tim. 3:16-17, Jude 1:3)

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

Congrega: To contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expense of the church, the relief of the poor and spreading of the gospel, to foster Christian education and mission throughout all nations (Mal. 3:8-11, Matt. 23:32, Cor. 8:5-21, 9:68, John 3:17)

Minister: For the sake of our home and loved ones, what task do we humbly assume?

Congrega: We engage to maintain family and secret devotion: to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances (Deut. 6:6-9, Prov. 22:6, Gen 10:17-18)

Minister: **For the sake of the unsaved for whom Christ died, what manner of life and conversation are solemnly pledged?**

Congrega: To walk circumspectly in the world (Eph. 5:15); to be just in our dealings; faithful in our engagements (Rom. 13:8); and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling (1 Tim. 5:13) backbiting (Rom. 1:28-30), excessive anger (2 Cor. 12:20); to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating liquor as a beverage and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the Kingdom Our Saviour (Eph. 5:16-18).

Minister: **Since one is our Master, even Christ and all we are brethren, by what fraternal ministries do we strengthen each other and adorn the teaching of our Lord and Saviour.**

Congrega: We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love (Heb. 13:1), and watchfulness; giving and receiving admonition with meekness and affection (Gal. 6:1); to remember each other in prayer (1 Thess.5:25), to aide each other in sickness and distress (John 3:17, Jess. 1:27); to cultivate Christian sympathy in feelings, and courtesy in speech (Prov. 15:1); to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation (Rom. 12:21); and be mindful of the rules of our Saviour, to secure it without delay (Matt. 18:15-17).

Minister: **For the good of our spiritual development, and for the best interest of the Master's Kingdom, what do we promise to do if we move beyond the reach of this church?**

Congrega: 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 (Ecc. 5:4-5), and the principles of God's Word (Matt. 28:20, Rom. 1:31).

**Minister &
Congrega:**

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. (Ps. 116:14-18, Heb. 10:19-29).