

## CHESTER ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

*Words to be said at the Annual Covenant Service on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2011-01-09*

### *We Gather*

Minister: God has made us a people:

**Members: we have been shaped by God's will**

Jesus calls us together:

**we meet in Jesus' name**

The Spirit binds us together:

**and leads us into truth.**

### *We Believe*

Together with all God's people,  
we proclaim our faith  
and celebrate your salvation.

Creator God, we praise you  
**that you made the whole earth  
to shine with your glory.**

Lord Jesus Christ, we praise you  
**that you lived among us,  
and we have seen your glory;  
that you were lifted up on the Cross for us,  
raised from death, and exalted to heaven.**

Holy Spirit, we praise you  
**that on the day of Pentecost you gave birth  
to the Church of Jesus Christ,  
and still you gather God's people  
for worship, fellowship, prayer and mission.**

### *We Serve*

We pray for ourselves as a community of God's people,  
that, rooted in the gospel of Jesus Christ, we may be:

a *worshipping* community  
**living in your love  
always seeking your will,  
and offering all to God in prayer;**

a missionary community  
**where Jesus Christ is proclaimed  
as Saviour and Lord;**

an *inclusive* community  
**where all are welcome  
and the peace of Christ is shared;**

*a sacrificial community*

**generously giving from all that God has given us;  
where the servant way is honoured,  
and self is left behind,**

*a prophetic community*

**witnessing to God's just kingdom,  
challenging powers that oppress and corrupt  
and seeking the Spirit's work in the world.**

*We Covenant*

As a Gospel people,

let us covenant together  
before God and each other:

**Creating and redeeming God,  
we give you thanks and praise.**

**Your covenant of grace  
was made for our salvation  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**We come this day**

**to covenant with you  
and with one another in discipleship:**

**To watch over each other  
and to walk together before you  
in ways known and still to be made known.**

**Pour out your Spirit upon us.**

**Help us so to walk in your ways**

**that the promises we make this day,  
and the life that we live together,  
may become an offering of love,  
our duty and delight,  
truly glorifying to you,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

This day

**we give ourselves again  
to the Lord  
and to each other,  
to be bound together in fellowship,  
to pray and work together  
in the unity of the Spirit  
for the sake of God's mission.**

A Prayer

As we dedicate ourselves afresh to live and work  
to the praise and glory of God,  
we pray for the grace to support and encourage one another,  
that we may grow together in the unity of the Spirit

for the sake of God's mission in the world,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.