

## Music Selections

- *Hymn of Joy*, HYMN TO JOY, WLP
- *Lord, You Give the Great Commission*, ABBOT'S LEIGH, WLP, GIA, OCP
- *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*, African–American tune, WLP, GIA
- *The Living God My Shepherd Is*, BROTHER JAMES' AIR, OCP

## Psalmody

Select a sung or spoken version of one or two psalms.  
(Suggestions: Psalms 16, 23, 100, 139)

## Reading (Choose one)

Select an appropriate reading from Fourth Sunday of Easter,  
Acts 4:8-12, 1 John 3:1-2, John 10:11-18, Mark 8:34-35,  
Philippians 3:7-11, 2 Timothy 1:6-11

## Reflection

Invite a married couple, a single person, or a priest, brother, sister, or deacon to share how their Christian vocation both blesses and challenges them.

## Commitment Blessing

Offer individual blessing—bless each person with sign of the cross on forehead and/or hands, with or without oil or water. Individual crosses or ribbons may be given to each person. (*Crosses/Good Shepherd ribbons available through NCCV.*)

Instrumental/meditative music may enhance time of blessing.

## General Intercessions

See *General Intercessions*

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**World Day of Prayer  
for Vocations**  
**May 3, 2009**

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**Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
✙ Cycle B

# Prayer Service



## Call to Prayer

**Leader:** We gather “In the name of the Father + . . .”  
Love and peace in Jesus Christ, our Shepherd!  
**All:** Thanks be to God!

## Song

## Opening Prayer

**Leader:** Gracious God,  
**All:** With grateful hearts we welcome the presence  
of Jesus, our Good Shepherd.  
We accept the mission of Jesus  
to bring good news to the world  
by our baptismal commitment to gospel living.  
  
Bless us with discerning hearts.  
May we have the courage to give our lives  
in loving service through married life, the single life,  
the consecrated life, and ordained life.  
  
Inspire men and women to respond generously  
and embrace the gift of a religious vocation.  
  
We unite our prayers with the whole Church,  
with the communion of saints, with Jesus and the Spirit  
in praise and thanksgiving now and forever. Amen.

## Psalmody

## Reading

## Reflection

## Commitment Blessing

**Leader:** By our baptism, we are called to give our lives to the  
mission of Jesus. As you are blessed with the sign of the  
cross may you deepen your Christian commitment.  
*(Individual blessings)*

## General Intercessions

## The Lord’s Prayer

## Sign of Peace

## Sending Forth

**Leader:** May God, the Source of Life,  
stir within you a deep passion for the gospel.  
**All:** **Amen!**

**Leader:** May Jesus, the Good Shepherd,  
guide and protect you  
as you give yourselves to following him.  
**All:** **Amen!**

**Leader:** May the Holy Spirit, the Advocate,  
strengthen you in your Christian vocation.  
**All:** **Amen!**

**Leader:** May God bless you,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
**All:** **Amen!**

**Leader:** Go now in peace and love.  
**All:** **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

## Concluding Song

