

Feed My Sheep

by
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Summary: A worship service including a liturgy describing our hunger for God and his promise to be faithful, feeding us and supplying our needs for ministry. Specific application and references are to the Coffee Break, Story Hour and Little Lambs ministries. Scripture passages are taken from the NIV and songs from the CRC Psalter Hymnal.

Opening Song: *Our God Reigns* (P.H. #195)

Prayer of Preparation: Dear Lord, we have gathered together to hear about your love for us, to acknowledge our own sin and unworthiness, and to claim the forgiveness that you freely and abundantly offer to us through Jesus Christ when we repent of our sins. Empower us through your Holy Spirit to become bold witnesses of your saving grace to women, children, and men in our community who are hungry for Jesus, the bread of life. Through your Holy Spirit work in us, go before us, and prepare hearts to receive you. Amen.

Song: *For Your Gift of God the Spirit* (P.H. #416)

Confession

Reader 1: People of God, are you hungry?

People: Yes! We are hungry. But we confess that too often we satisfy our hunger with food that doesn't nourish or strengthen us.

Reader 2: Jesus said, "Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you." (John 6:27a)

Song of Assurance: *For the Glories of God's Grace* (P.H. #223)

Celebration of God's Blessing on Coffee Break, Story Hour and Little Lambs

Reader 1: People of God, do you believe Jesus' words that whoever comes to him will never go hungry, and that whoever believes in him will never be thirsty? Do you hear the promise in those words?

People: Yes! We believe and we hear the promise. We know that God feeds his sheep today – as he did in the past – and still helps his church to grow.

Reader 2: "So the churches were strengthened in the faith and grew daily in numbers." (Acts 16:5)

Reader 1: People of God, are your eyes open to the vision of God's growing church in our community through the work of Coffee Break, Story Hour and Little Lambs?

People: Yes! We see God at work!

Reader 2: People of God, are your ears tuned to God's victory claims over our neighborhoods, cities, and country?

People: Yes! We know God is victorious!

Reader 1: "After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne and to the Lamb." (Rev. 7:9-10)

Reader 2: People of God, will you pray for God's continued blessing on women and children who are led to Coffee Break, Story Hour and Little Lambs?

People: Yes! We will pray, for we know that only through God's grace will lives be changed.

Reader 1: Jesus, bread of life, thank you for feeding us! Father God, thank you for helping us to grow in you! Holy Spirit, empower us to feed those who are hungry for the living God!

Song of victory: *Here From All Nations* (P.H. #235)

Prayers of the People

Scripture Reading: John 21:1-19

Message: Feed My Sheep

Testimonies from Coffee Break Women

Story Hour and Little Lambs Children sing P.H. #571, *Jesus Loves Me* (congregation joins in after the 1st stanza).

Offering

God's Parting Blessing

Parting Song of Commitment: *For the Glories of God's Grace* (P.H. #223, stanza 5)

<p>If you are interested in obtaining other resources for Coffee Break use, please contact Sonya VanderVeen Feddema at 905-937-6203 or sonyavf55@hotmail.com. If you e-mail her, please type Coffee Break in the subject line. Cost per item:\$15.00 US.</p>

Another litany/drama available from Sonya: ***This Way to the Great Banquet.***

Based on the parable of the great banquet. As the narration begins, two clowns notice a sign which reads: "This Way to the Great Banquet." They are obviously looking for a party, and wander into the parable. They listen to each person who speaks, and are intrigued by all the preparations. Throughout the drama, the audience will sing designated songs.