

# Space for God Shepherd of the Sheep

## PREPARATION

*In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*

Acknowledge that the Lord is God! He made us, and we are his. We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Psalm 100:3

## WORSHIP

Acknowledge that the Lord is God! He made us, and we are his.

**We are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and praise his name.**

Psalm 100:3-4

## CONFESSION

O Lord, I have longed for your rescue, and your instructions are my delight.

**I have wandered away like a lost sheep; come and find me, for I have not forgotten your commands.**

Psalm 119:174, 176

## MEDITATION John 10:1-10\*

I tell you the truth, anyone who sneaks over the wall of a sheepfold, rather than going through the gate, must surely be a thief and a robber! But the one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep recognize his voice and come to him. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. After he has gathered his own flock, he walks ahead of them, and they follow him because they know his voice. They won't follow a stranger; they will run from him because they don't know his voice."

Those who heard Jesus use this illustration didn't understand what he meant, so he explained it to them: "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me were thieves and robbers. But the true sheep did not listen to them. Yes, I am the gate. Those who come in through me will be saved. They will come and go freely and will find good pastures. The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

### IN SOLITUDE AND/OR COMMUNITY

Read Slowly, several times.

Reflect What does the text say?

Respond How does it relate to my life?

Rest I welcome God's healing and renewal.

## ANCHORING PRAYER

*You have called me by name.*

## REVIEW OF THE HEART

*In what way did I experience a rich and "abundant life"?*

*What has the "thief" tried to steal from me?*

## WISDOM

You are my flock, the sheep of my pasture. You are my people, and I am your God. I, the Sovereign Lord, have spoken!"

Ezekiel 34:31

Come, let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the Lord our maker, for he is our God. We are the people he watches over, the flock under his care. If only you would listen to his voice today!

Psalm 95:6-7

## TESTIMONY *What is God saying to me?*

## INTERCESSION *Prayers for the Church, for others, and for me.*

## BENEDICTION

Now may the God of peace— who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, and ratified an eternal covenant with his blood— may he equip you with all you need for doing his will.

**May he produce in [us], through the power of Jesus Christ, every good thing that is pleasing to him.**

**All glory to him forever and ever! Amen.**

**Hebrews 13:20-21**

### SPACE FOR GOD DAILY

Be still and quiet before God.

Seek the Holy Spirit's filling and guidance.

Speak and act from a listening heart.

Actively serve in community with others.