

COMMENT: HYMN of THANKSGIVING and COMMITMENT

(Written on the occasion of the Pope's death, April 2005)

Suggested tune: **Crimond**.

NOTE: Verse four has three alternatives for the end of the third line:

So we commit our dear John Paul...
or *So we commit all those who've died...*
or *So we commit ourselves afresh...*

Most leaders using the hymn will probably wish to decide in advance which of the three options to use.

(Personally, I would keep all the three options available and allow worshippers to sing whichever is closest to their hearts.)

HYMN of THANKSGIVING and COMMITMENT

1.

**Dear Lord, our shepherd, guide and light,
our way, our truth, our rock.
We give you thanks for those you've called
to help you lead your flock.**

2.

**To die is gain for such as these
who've lived close to your Cross,
yet their departure and reward
for us is such great loss.**

3.

**But Eastertide brings us fresh hope,
for through the Saviour's pains
came death's defeat! New life is ours;
Jesus, the Saviour, reigns!**

4.

**To Him be glory in the Church
as in the realm above.
So we commit / *our dear John Paul*
/ *all those who've died*
/ *ourselves afresh*
to God's eternal love.**