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.