

## **PSALMS**The Shepherd and the Lamb

## Read/Reflect

- 1. Psalm 23 is such a well-loved psalm, so before you read it see how much of it you can recite by memory.
- 2. Read Psalm 23. What kinds of images come to mind as you read the psalm? Which is your favourite image?
- 3. How do you react to the image of Jesus preparing a table for you in the presence of your enemies? Why does the psalmist say that?

## **Explore**

- 4. How do you go searching for other "greener pastures" which may well lead you away from Jesus, your shepherd?
- 5. In what areas of your life is it hard to follow after Jesus Christ? Think about the ways that Jesus describes living in God's kingdom in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7).
- 6. How, during these next six weeks of Lent, might you be able to give thanks to God for the blessings you have received? Or how might you learn to recognize those blessings so that you are more thankful?
- 7. How would you rate your dependence on God's goodness and mercy (or love) compared to your dependence on your own resources and circumstances? How is that reflected in your ability to give God constant praise, even in the darkest valleys?

## **Pray**

- If you don't have a regular habit of personal prayer, make one in this six-week season of Lent (now until April 19).
- Pray a prayer of confession and pray that the Holy Spirit would mold you after the image of Christ (see Psalm 51).