



December 21, 2008, Fourth Sunday of Advent

Surprising God

Based on Luke 1: 26-38; 46-56

Surprising God,

You shock us when You call us
to serve You in ways we never expected!

We may be amazed when You call us
to be shepherds of your sheep:
to groom them, to guide, to nourish and protect them,
but most importantly to love them.

Some of us may feel as though surely You could have chosen
someone better, someone more worthy, someone else.

But, Mother God, You know better than any of us
that we all have a shepherd within us.
It is one of the characteristics that we share with You,
as You have created us in your own image.

Father God, You have shaped us
and set us in new and surprising directions.

Let our love for You be recognized
in the way we care for one another.

Let our care for your children
be your will and not our own
so that generations to come may be blessed to know You:
led and inspired to praise your name!

Amen.



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Surprising God: Prayer for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, was written by Ms. Carmen Gray, member of Denison UCC of Cleveland, Ohio. Ms. Gray, a community leader, works with at-risk teenagers to help them achieve their high school diplomas and to help them prepare for SAT and further college opportunities.

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