

COMMISSIONING SERVICE

“I have called you by name: Alicia, Amanda, Becky, and Teresa – you are mine.”

“I have called you by name: Kim, Kelly, and Paul – you are mine.”

Leader: We now join together to ask God to bless these seven young adults as they respond to God’s call to work for justice and peace in our world, to be bearers of **LIGHT** – so we pray together:

All:

God of the Journey, God of Justice and Peace we invoke Your holy name as we commission these young adults as they begin their year of service. Send your spirit upon them as they take up their task of Christian service.

Song: **We Are Called**

A Psalm of Commissioning for Mission

Reader 1: The harvest is ready. Whom shall I send?

Volunteers: Send us, we are ready to serve You, all the days of our lives.

All: Go into the workplace and into the streets and reveal God’s saving Spirit through the quality of your lives.

Reader 2: The world is waiting. Whom shall I send?

Volunteers: Send us, we are ready to speak of You, all the days of our lives.

All: Preach the Good News by your actions: heal, help, teach, touch, be of good spirit, and live the glory of God.

Reader 3: The world is hungry. Whom shall I send?

Volunteers: Send us, we are ready to nourish, all the days of our lives.

All: Feed the hungry of body and spirit, break the bread of compassion, distribute the fragments of hope, and be fed by the Word within you.

Reader: The vineyard is ready. Whom shall I send?

Volunteers: Send us, we are ready to work for You, all the days of our lives.

All: Enter into and love the mission and your ministries, labor for justice, lobby for peace, and may you find contentment in the wages of commitment when the long hard day is done.

(adapted from *Woman Word* by Miriam Therese Winter)

Anointing for Mission

Leader: Spirit of power, time and again throughout history You have anointed your servants and sent them on mission: to speak Your word to the poor, to heal the sick, to free captives always renewing the face of the earth in such a variety of ways. Come Spirit of the Living One; bless this oil of anointing. Make it an oil of gladness, a lotion of strength and tenderness. We pray that by this anointing the hands and hearts of **Alicia, Amanda, Becky, Kim, Kelly, Paul and Teresa** might be strengthened for the work that lies ahead, that they might be compassionate to human need, tender and strong in their care of each community member, and faithful to the commitment they have made.

*Sister Lorraine will anoint the Millvale Franciscan Volunteers.
Tom and Jodi will anoint The Neighborhood Academy volunteers.*

Response by Volunteers:

Send us forth now as You sent Mary Magdalen, to announce the good news, the only news, the news forever new, Your resurrection.

Send us forth as You sent the twelve to confront murderous power, to walk peaceably amid the fires of violence.

Send us forth as you sent the first Christians, to act as fools for Your Christ's sake.

Send us forth as you sent Francis and Clare, to be instruments of your peace, love, and joy.

Send us forth, to places likely and unlikely; to the seats of power and strife that we may deny their ascendancy with a fearless word; to the dwellings of the powerless, that we may bring hope, and win hope.

Send us to those who love, to those who fear, to those who are different, that we may sow love where there is no love and so bring forth love.

Send us forth, as Your word goes forth, and return heavy with a harvest of peace.

Send us forth, bid us return. Knowing that far or near, our names are written in Your heart.
Amen.

All: May the God of Justice and Peace be with you as you spread the good news of the Gospel.

Song: **Circle the City with Love**