*(all stand)*

**Song** The assembly gathers with an appropriate opening song.

**Scripture**

**Leader:**

**Sisters and brothers,  
Jesus commissioned his disciples to preach the Good News  
to the ends of the earth.  
Today we send our friend, *N.*, to announce the Gospel in new ways.**

**With hearts open to the Spirit, let us listen to God’s Word.**

*(all are seated)*

A lector proclaims Romans 10:9-18 or another appropriate reading.

**Thanksgiving**

After the reading, the leader invites members of the assembly to share stories about how the ministry of the pastor, parochial vicar, or staff person has been a proclamation of the Gospel for that community.

*(all stand)*

**Intercessions**

**Leader:**

**God feeds us with the Word of Life.  
Let us pray for our sister/brother, *N.*,  
that God may continue to nourish her/him with this living Word.**

**Reader:**

For ***N.***: for God to fill her/his heart with compassion,  
her/his hands with strength to do the Spirit’s will,  
and her/his mouth to speak Christ’s peace to all.  
We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For all ministers, for the Holy Spirit to bring to completion the good work  
begun in them by Christ. We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For this community, for comfort in the absence of our friend  
and renewed commitment to the vision of God’s reign.  
We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the community that will receive our sister/brother, ***N.***,  
for a gracious welcome, a generosity of spirit, and genuine care for our friend.  
We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For those who long to hear the Word of God, for those who are poor and hungry,  
and those without work or companionship. We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

**Blessing**

**Leader:**

**Let us ask for God’s blessing upon our sister/brother.**

**Lord Jesus, Word Made Flesh,  
from the beginning of creation  
you named and claimed us for yourself.  
Look with kindness upon your servant, *N.*,  
who leaves this community,  
marked by your cross, fed by your word,  
filled with our care, and sent to be your presence  
to all she/he meets.  
Guide her/him on the way,  
and bless her/him with your wisdom,  
that she/he may be a word of hope for a world in need.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.** *Amen.*

**And may the Lord bless us, ✠ protect us from all evil,  
and bring us to everlasting life.** *Amen.*

**Song** Conclude with an appropriate song of praise.