

## “The Good Shepherd”

### **John 10:7-18**

Therefore Jesus said again, “Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. 8 All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. 9 I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. 13 The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

14 “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. 17 The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

L: The Word of God for the People of God.

### **P: Thanks be to God.**

- The Fourth Sunday of Easter is also known as Good Shepherd Sunday.
- Jesus is the Good Shepherd.
- Jesus feeds his sheep.
- Jesus protects his sheep.
- Jesus lays down his life for his sheep.
- The sheep know the Shepherd's voice and they follow him.
- The only way into the sheep pen is through the Shepherd.
- We are all assistant shepherds, not hired hands.
- As a mother cares for her children, as a shepherd cares for his sheep, Jesus cares for us. Jesus is the Good Shepherd.