

**FOURTH SUNDAY of EASTER**  
**MAY 7, 2017**

**Introit**  *Ps. 95:1-3, 6-7a;*  
*antiphon: John 10:14, 15b*

I am the good | shepherd.\*  
I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life | for the sheep.  
Oh come, let us sing | to the LORD;\*  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal- | vation!  
Let us come into his presence with thanks- | giving;\*  
let us make a joyful noise to him with | songs of praise!  
For the LORD is a | great God,\*  
and a great King a- | bove all gods.  
Oh come, let us worship and | bow down;\*  
let us kneel before the LORD, our | Maker!  
For he | is our God,\*  
and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep | of his hand.  
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**  
I am the good | shepherd.\*  
I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life | for the sheep.

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Gradual** *adapt. from Matt. 28:7; Heb. 2:7; Ps. 8:6*

**C Christ has risen from the dead.**  
**[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor,**  
**He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;**  
**he has put all things under his feet.**

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**First Reading***Acts 2:42–47*

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

**Epistle***1 Peter 2:19–25*

For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

**Holy Gospel***John 10:1–10*

[Jesus said:] “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber.

But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.

To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

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