

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 8, 2022



## Gospel

John 10:27-30

Jesus said:

“My sheep hear my voice;

I know them, and they follow me.

I give them eternal life, and they shall  
never perish.

No one can take them out of my hand.

My Father, who has given them to me, is  
greater than all,

and no one can take them out of the

Father’s hand.

The Father and I are one.”

## Readings for the week:

### 4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 13:14, 43-52  
Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5  
Rev 7:9, 14b-17  
John 10:27-30

### Monday

Acts 11:1-18  
Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4  
John 10:1-10

### Tuesday

Acts 11:19-26  
Ps 87:1b-3,  
4-5, 6-7  
John 10:22-30

### Wednesday

Acts 12:24–13:5a  
Ps 67:2-3, 5,  
6 and 8  
John 12:44-50

### Thursday

Acts 13:13-25  
Ps 89:2-3, 21-22,  
25 and 27  
John 13:16-20

### Friday

Acts 13:26-33  
Ps 2:6-7, 8-9,  
10-11ab  
John 14:1-6

### Saturday St. Matthias

Acts 1:15-17,  
20-26  
Ps 113:1-2, 3-4,  
5-6, 7-8  
John 15:9-17

### 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 14:21-27  
Ps 145:8-9, 10-11,  
12-13  
Rev 21:1-5a  
John 13:31-33a,  
34-35



## Opening Prayer

Almighty ever-living God,  
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,  
so that the humble flock may reach  
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## Reflecting on Living the Gospel

In the western Indian state of Gujarat, many of the shepherds gather their various flocks together at night in one place. This lets the shepherds share the night watches and more easily protect the sheep. At daybreak, each shepherd calls his sheep to take them to water and then move on. The call of each shepherd is different, and as the sheep hear it, they disentangle themselves from the large flock and follow their own shepherd—even when as many as five thousand sheep gathered in the one nighttime flock! Each shepherd is so familiar with his own sheep, and they with him, that when the sheep answer his voice, the shepherd recognizes the weak that need extra care and notices when there are strays.

In today's gospel, John describes Jesus as the Shepherd who gathers us into the flock of his community, aware of our weaknesses and strengths and our tendency to wander away from him yet calling us by name and to life. We can say nothing more moving about human beings than that they call each other to life. It is the beautiful reality behind the fidelity of husband and wife or the steadfastness of friends; it is what helps relationships to endure. Yet all this is a faint echo of the creative word that God has whispered over the dust of each human person, a word that in its intimacy is unutterable by anyone except our Creator and the Son who was sent to make it flesh among us.

In the Easter garden, the risen Jesus speaks the one most personal word to Mary Magdalene—her name, “Mary!” Jesus our Shepherd calls each of us by name as well. And she turns to him from whom she will never turn away, responding to the voice of the Shepherd with his name: “‘Rabbouni,’ which means Teacher” (20:16).

## Closing Prayer

Loving God, thank you for the gift of this day and the opportunity to grow in relationship with you. Just as a shepherd knows his or her sheep, you intimately know each of us. May we turn away from self-deceit to follow you as we work to remain faithful to your Gospel and the way of life to which we are called. **Amen.**

## For Reflection:

- Who or what do you follow? Material success? Professional gain? Social acclaim? How can you reorient yourself to Christ, the Good Shepherd?

## Suggestions for group and individual use:

1. Pray aloud the “Opening Prayer” (in *The Roman Missal* called the “collect”).
2. One person read aloud the gospel.
3. Each read prayerfully “Reflecting on Living the Gospel” and spend some time in personal prayer.
4. Share together responses to “For Reflection.”
5. Pray the “Closing Prayer.”

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**Announcements**  
**05/07/22 to 05/08/22**

**Financials: 04/25/22 – 05/01/22**

<b>Weekly Collection Goal \$2400</b>	<b>Total \$2584.00 Over \$184.00</b>		
<b>In Church</b>		<b>\$ 2584.00</b>	
<b>Mail In</b>		<b>\$ 00.00</b>	
<b>On Line Giving</b>		<b>\$ 00.00</b>	

**This weekend, Second Collection for Diocesan Priests Retirement Fund. Our retired priests have dedicated themselves over many years to the service of God's people and we are grateful for the service they have rendered to our community. Your donation will supplement the diocesan pension fund in meeting their needs. Mahalo for your generosity.**

**Message regarding the THRIFT SHOP ~ please do not drop off any rummage until further notice. There are plans to have a Rummage sale later this year so please wait till then.**

**Bread Baking Next Week – Order sheet at the back of church; mahalo for your continued support.**

**MOTHERS, please come forward for your blessing and gift from St. Ann.**

*Happy Mother's Day & Have a Blessed Week!*