

## Fourth Sunday of Easter

H A N D N X R I R E  
U N S L F E V V R D  
L J I O T O C X I S  
I F Q A O Y L F J P  
L K E V Y X P L E R  
J R F A T H E R O U  
G S U S E J I L L W  
L W G C P S A P I Q  
Z L I L H V Y L F K  
F O A Y C U L M E Z  
V J G H T Z Z L N E  
E Y O G S P P C U F  
R L S H M E B I Z H  
P L P J N E L Q O L  
J A E K O H W Z O V  
Z N L N T S K F L A  
V R E J W Z E W E F  
N E Y R N F F C C P  
D T C R B F T J H Z  
R E H R N V R J H I

ETERNAL  
FATHER  
FOLLOW  
GOSPEL  
GREATER  
HAND

JESUS  
JOHN  
LIFE  
ONE  
PERISH  
SHALL

SHEEP  
VOICE

### *Catechizing Corner!*

This periscope also serves as a commentary to explain the figure of the Good Shepherd in the parable. The sheep respond to the Shepherd at God's initiative. All who accept the invitation and align themselves with Jesus will be protected and preserved by God. God and Jesus are one. Thus, all sheep who listen to the voice of the Shepherd also listen to the voice of God. The sheep will not be forsaken, but will be protected by the divine power of God. The Good Shepherd knows his sheep and is willing to lay down his life for them. The sheep will not be forsaken or left unattended. There will always be providential care.

This image is intimately connected to Jesus' sacrifice of the cross. Jesus, who was in intimate relationship with his Father, was willing to share that intimacy with his disciples. He willingly laid down his life for his disciples like the shepherd.

The early Christian image of shepherd developed to such a point that a specific interpretation of Christ's death emerged. Jesus was no common martyr. Somehow, over time, Christians came to understand Jesus' death as being more than the result of a faith-filled prophetic life. They came to understand Jesus' death in relation to salvation. "It was a death freely accepted for the many—for all, a sacrificial death so complete in its power and efficacy that it brought the long history of alienation between God and humans to a close. Thus, Jesus not only was the Shepherd who was willing to lay down his life for his sheep, but he was the Lamb of God who actually took away their very sins.

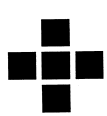
Mary Birmingham, *Word and Worship Workbook, Cycle C*  
Paulist Press, 1998



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# Disciple's Reflection for the Question of the Week

## Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 11,  
2025 

## A Call to

## Call to Prayer

*Begin by calling upon God:* In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Let us pause for a moment, and listen attentively to this week's passage.

## The Word of God John 10:27-30

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

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,

### Gospel Glossary

To **perish** is to die.

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."

## The Gospel of the Lord



## Faith Sharing

Questions of the Week:

*Choose one*

Jesus calls each one of us to be a disciple today through our Baptism. Name one way that Jesus is calling you to be a disciple this week.

Jesus said "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me." How does Jesus speak to you? What new path is he asking of you?

Jesus called the sheep by name just as we are called by name. Find out what your name means and why you were given that name. Write or draw what name God uses to call you.

## Closing Prayer

Almighty and ever-living God, give us new strength from the courage of Christ our shepherd, and lead us to join the saints in heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

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