

THE GOOD SHEPHERD
John 10:11-18

THE SIGN

"I am the door; if any one enters by me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture" (John 10:9).

Do we believe that "Jesus Saves"?
Do we believe that he is the door?
Who needs it anyway?

"Are you the Christ? Then save yourself and us!" (Luke 23:39)

THE GREATEST GIFT

"I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10).

A piece of the puzzle is missing!
You are not happy.
You are not whole.
And there is nothing you can do about it!

Our deepest desire.
We keep waiting for what only he can give.
He gives life.
He makes us whole.
He does save!

TRUE OR FALSE

"He who is a hireling and not a shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, sees the wolf coming and flees..." (John 10:12)

He calls us by name.
Who does Jesus save?
He saves Larry, Judy, Matt, Annetta, Cindy ...

What is an oxymoron?
Jumbo-shrimp.
Authentic-reproduction.
Good shepherd.

He lays down his life.
He will never leave you – no matter what happens.
"Today you will be with me in Paradise" (Luke 23:43).

Prayer Concerns: Burney Biesel, Melvin Dowling, Kay Fowlkes, Gordon Freeman, Mac Kerr, Joe McDowell, Anne Miller, Mildred Sentell, Joe Tidwell, Jr., **Rodger Beasley**, Ray Billings, Kenneth Blackburn, **Gerald Borden**, Sarah Clark, Richard Cole, Cledus Creel, Jimmy Eubanks, Angela Fisher, Nancy Godsey, Fern Haslop, Dorothy Huffstutter, Kristi Jackson, Jeff Joyner, Mary Lou Lepping, Van Lynch, Judy Malaquias, Catherine Mattheus, Macy Morgan, Taylor Murray, Judy Owen, Teresa Patrick, David Petrie, **Steve Raines**, Patrick Ramage, Joe Rueff ...

PASTORAL PRAYER

(Frederick Buechner)

How can we pray to you, Holy God, whose ways are not our ways, who reigns in mystery beyond the realm of space and time? Yet how can we not pray to you, Heavenly Father, who knows what it is to be a man because you have walked among us as a man, breaking with us the bread of our affliction and drinking deep the cup of our despair?

How can we not pray to you when it is your very Spirit alive within us that moves our lips in prayer?

Hear, O God, the prayers of all your children everywhere: for forgiveness and healing, for courage, for faith; prayers for the needs of others; prayers for peace among the desperate nations. Whether you give or withhold what we ask, whether you answer us in words that burn life fire or in silence that burns like fire, increase in us the knowledge that you are always more near to us than breathing, that your will for us is love.

And deep beneath all our asking, so deep beneath that we are all but deaf to it ourselves, hear, O God, the secret song of every human heart praising you for being what you are, rejoicing with the morning stars that you are our God and we are your children. Make strong and wild this secret song within until it bursts forth at last to your glory and our saving. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray ...

THE LORD'S PRAYER: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

JOHN 10:11-18

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hireling and not a shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hireling and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep, that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice. So there shall be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life, that I may take it again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again; this charge I have received from my Father.”

SERMON SCHEDULE

In the Sanctuary:

May 14	<i>A Life Giving Connection</i> Mother's Day	John 15:1-8
May 21	<i>Keep Them from the Evil One</i> Graduating Senior Sunday	John 17:6-19
May 28	<i>The Heart of the Matter</i>	John 15:9-17
June 4	<i>Communion and Communication</i> Pentecost Sunday	Acts 2:1-21

On the Radio (1450 AM):

May 14	<i>Singing in Jail</i>	Acts 16:16-34
May 21	<i>The Drum-Major Instinct</i>	Mark 10:32-39
May 28	<i>Encounters</i>	Luke 10:25-37
June 4	<i>Chancel Choir Concert</i>	