

## First Reading: Acts 4:1–12

<sup>1</sup>As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, <sup>2</sup>greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. <sup>3</sup>And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. <sup>4</sup>But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

<sup>5</sup>On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. <sup>12</sup>And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

## Epistle: 1 John 3:16–24

<sup>16</sup>By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. <sup>17</sup>But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide

in him? <sup>18</sup>Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

<sup>19</sup>By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; <sup>20</sup>for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; <sup>22</sup>and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup>And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup>Whoever keeps his commandments abides in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

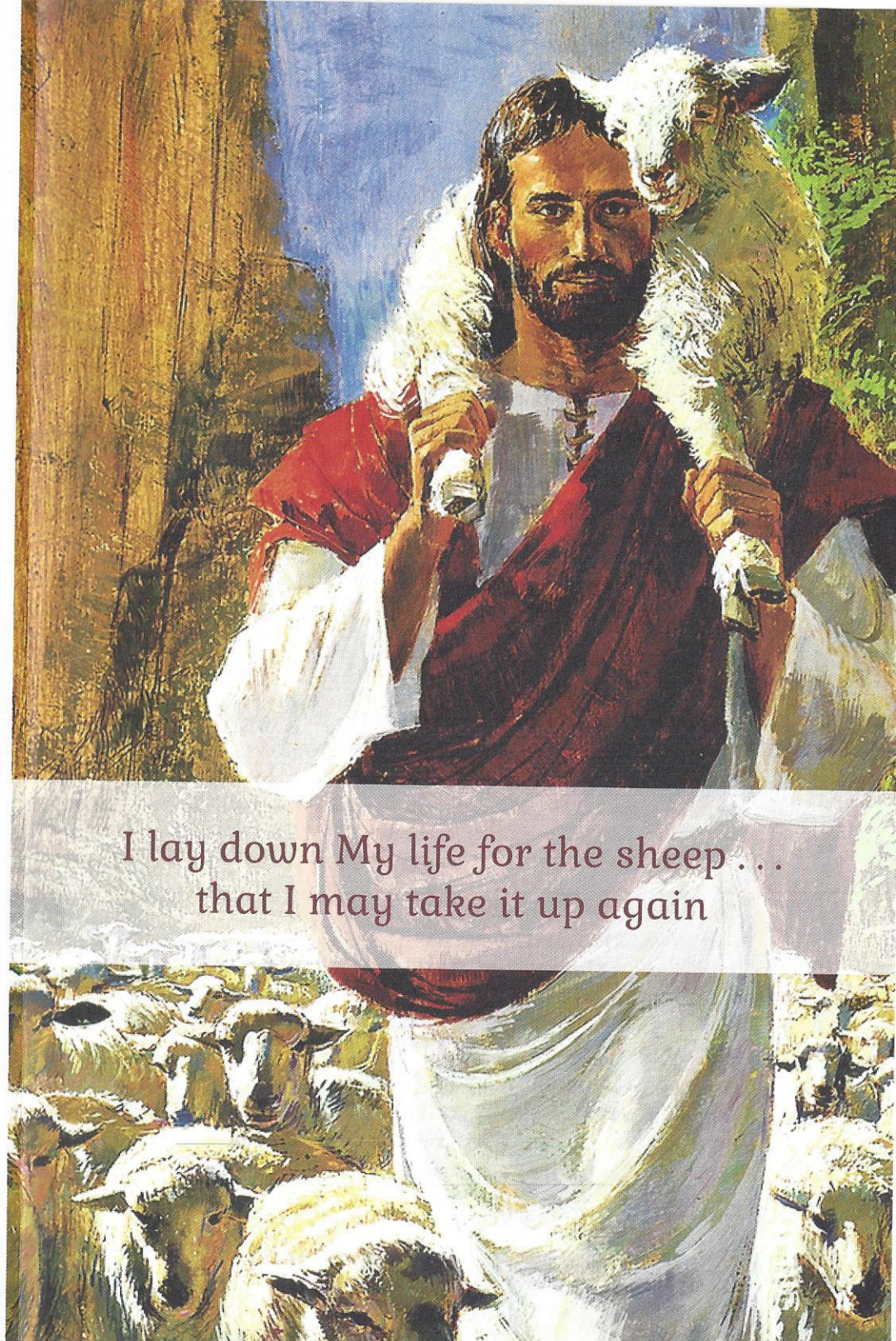
## Holy Gospel: John 10:11–18

<sup>11</sup>[Jesus said:] “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”



Easter

**About the Cover:** The Good Shepherd does not withhold His own life for His sheep. He laid down His life on Good Friday as a sacrifice for our sins in order to take it up again on Easter Sunday. He did it all of His own authority for us. Therefore, we know that when He takes our lives up like the Good Shepherd that He is, we are in good hands that will carry us safely to eternal life.



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Mrs. Karen Smith, Choir Director**

**DIVINE WORSHIP - 10AM**

**4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER  
April 21, 2024**

**Hymn . . . . “I Know That My Redeemer Lives” #461 (odd)  
Invocation & Divine Service Three . . . . .p. 184**

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.  
**Who made heaven and earth.**  
I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

**(PAUSE FOR SELF EXAMINATION)**  
O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**I a poor miserable sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your punishment now and forever. But I am**

**heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you of your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.**

Upon this your confession, I as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**Introit**

“I am the good shepherd;  
**I know my sheep and my sheep know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.”**

The Lord is my shepherd,  
**I shall lack nothing.**  
He makes me to lie down in green pastures,  
**He leads me beside quiet waters,**

He restores my soul.  
**He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.**  
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,

**For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.  
**You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**  
Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,  
**And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Kyrie; Gloria In Excelsis; Salutation & Collect . . p. 186-189**

**Lessons**

**Gospel**

Nicene Creed ..... p. 191  
Hymn ... "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" #465

Sermon

Offering & Offertory (p.192-193)

Prayers of the Church

Service of the Sacrament .... (SUNG) ... p. 194+

Agnus Dei ..... p. 198

Continuous Line distribution

Communion Dismissal

Nunc Dimittis ..... p. 199

The Thanksgiving ..... p. 200

Post Communion Prayer

Salutation & Benedicamus ..... p. 201

Benediction

Hymn ... "The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done" #464

Announcements

\* If you are visiting with us today please fill our visitor card so that we can inform you of upcoming events or respond to a request.

**SERMON NOTES**

**Sermon Title** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Texts** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Main Ideas / Thoughts** \_\_\_\_\_

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**I Want to Remember** \_\_\_\_\_

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**What Response Does God Want?** \_\_\_\_\_

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