Jesus had compassion for them, because they were

like sheep without a shepherd

MARK 6:34

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 2340 State Street, East Petersburg, PA 17520 717-569-1632 Website: www.trinityeastpete.org E-Mail:secretary@trinityeastpete.org The Rev. Dr. Christopher M. Rankin, Pastor The Rev. Dr. Christopher M. Rankin, Pastor The Rev. Dr. Carolyne Call, Covenanted Minister of Mission Mr. Michael Slechta, Director of Music/ Sounds of Trinity Choir Director Dr. Robert T. Adams, Interim Organist Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant Mr. Michael Querry, Sexton Mrs. Beth Ressler, Summer Interim Preschool Director

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 7:45 A.M. SERVICE

Today's Theme: Mark's gospel makes clear how great is the press of the crowd, with its countless needs to be met, on Jesus and his disciples. Yet in today's gospel Jesus advises his disciples to get away and rest, to take care of themselves. Sometimes we think that when others are in great need we shouldn't think of ourselves at all; but Jesus also honors the caregivers' need. We are sent from Christ's table to care for others and for ourselves.

Welcome all visitors! We welcome all who worship with us. May the joy of Christ's presence and the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with peace and hope! We are honored by your presence and trust that you will join us in the praise and worship of God. Please sign our guest book in the narthex. If you are interested in church membership, please give your name and telephone number to Pastor Rankin.

Welcome to the Eucharist! All who seek to follow Jesus and who seek the gifts Jesus offers us are invited to share in this sacrament of Holy Communion. *Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.*

Prayer As You Enter: O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY

TRINITY U.C.C. VISION STATEMENT:

All will know the love of God through the teachings of Jesus!!

Trinity U.C.C. is called by God to:

--Share God's love with our community

--Serve God's children

--Bring healing and wholeness to those in need

--Share the Gospel in liturgy, music and study

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

CALL TO WORSHIP

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM AND INVITATION TO THE TABLE

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Come away and rest for a while. Leave behind your busyness to be fully present with God.

We have come for relief from life's turmoil. God gathers us as a shepherd gathers their sheep.

God's steadfast love surrounds us here. We are reminded of God's enduring faithfulness.

This is God's house, and we are God's children. God invites us to feel at home in this place.

In the Acts of the Apostles we read that as the church was gathered, often in the homes of believers, Christians devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and community, to the breaking of bread, and to prayers.

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, we gather at your table to know you in the breaking of the bread.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus said: You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, but we fear the Spirit's power.

Let us confess our slowness to embrace the new life of the Spirit.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another. Almighty God, who sent the promised power of the Holy Spirit to fill disciples with willing faith: We confess that we resist the force of your Spirit among us; that we are slow to serve you, and reluctant to spread the good news of your love. God, have mercy on us. Forgive our divisions, and by your Spirit draw us together. Enflame us with a desire to do your will and be your faithful people; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.	Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear now the comforting assurance of the grace of God, promised in the Gospel to all that repent and believe. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, I declare to you that our sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

ADORATION AND PRAISE

ACT OF PRAISE

O God, open my lips.

And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Let us pray the collect together.

Healing God, whose touch we have sought and known and whose compassion has surrounded us like a good shepherd's care for wandering sheep, show us more the dimensions of wholeness that can restore us to faithful living and fruitful service. May we become reconcilers within and beyond the church. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE WORD OF GOD

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Jeremiah prophesied before the exile in 587 BC. In this passage, he uses the metaphor of a shepherd to describe the bad kings who have scattered the "flock" of Israel. God promises to gather the flock and to raise up a new king from David's line to save Israel and Judah.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

THE PSALTER

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;

He restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I 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 mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

THE SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 2:11-22

The author of this letter reminds his audience that originally they were not part of God's chosen people. Through Jesus' death, however, they are included in God's household of faith. whose cornerstone is Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

When Jesus sends his disciples out to teach and heal, they minister among large numbers of people. Their work is motivated by Christ's desire to be among those in need. Glory be to You. O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD Praise be to You. O Christ.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

"Finding Our Place in the 23rd Psalm" Rev. Dr. James Haun SERMON

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE FIRST LESSON

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, and has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PEOPLE'S OFFERING

OFFERING DEDICATION

Receive our best, gracious God, as we offer ourselves along with these tokens of thanks. Establish your rule in our midst so we may proclaim your reign in the world. Send us where you need us most. Use our gifts to reduce alienation and to build community. Be with us, O God, and teach us to live as sisters and brothers who find you in one another and respond in love to each other's ways; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord! Let us give thanks to God Most High. It is right to give God thanks and praise. It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. From everlasting to everlasting, you have revealed your mighty presence to us. Have we not heard? Have we not known? In the beginning, you swept across the earth with your Spirit of life and renewal. When we forgot or neglected your truth, you redeemed us and renewed us. From the earth's first gardens to the mountaintop storms, you have spoken to us, and entrusted us to be your people. From laws on tablets to warnings from prophets, you have spoken your truth and renewed your covenant with us, reviving us and reclaiming us through your grace and love. And so, with your people on earth, with all of creation, and with all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn of praise, saying:

Holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God, Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Holy are you and blessed is your holy name. In the fullness of time, you sent your son, Jesus Christ, to reveal your powerful love for the world. Healing and teaching, proclaiming and prophesying, welcoming any and all, Christ continues to reveal your presence, renewing our souls even now. Through Christ's powerful love and endless grace, we are invited into your presence, rescued from our sins, and led onto your path of justice and righteousness. In Christ's grace, you renew and reclaim us as your holy people, children of mercy and truth. As children of your covenant of love, sealed by water and the Spirit, welcome now with joy and gratitude, remembering how Jesus shared bread and wine, renewing and reviving the lives of his closest friends, his most faithful disciples, even as they faced their deepest fears and their greatest sins.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD

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, for ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE HOST & POURING OF THE CUP

As this grain was once scattered in the fields, and has come together in one bread, so we, with different needs and hopes, come together as one, for we share one bread.

The Bread of Life, broken for us.

The cup which we share is the cup of the New Covenant written in our hearts and witnessed by Jesus.

The Cup of Blessing, poured out for us and for the many.

RESURRECTION ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is offered for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

(Those who wish to come forward will be invited by the pastor. The pastor will serve you the host, saying, "The Body of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" The assistant will present you with the cup, saying, "The Blood of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" Grape juice is in the chalice with the cross and wine is in the other chalice. If you need the pastor and assistant to come to you, please indicate that to someone near you or the pastor. If you do not wish to come forward, you are invited to use the packaged elements in the narthex and commune in your pew. The pastor will offer a blessing everyone has communed. Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.)

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

The Lord be with you. And also with you. In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

For the church of Jesus Christ in this and every land. Through the One who is the cornerstone of a firm foundation, join us together and build us up as a temple of mercy and peace. In your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

For the creation: Cause new trees to be planted. Restrain the melting of polar ice caps. Save land from destruction. Like a shepherd tends her sheep, raise up from among us caretakers of all you have made. In your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

For the leaders of nations and heads of tribes: Where peace seems far off, bring it near. Where justice seems fleeting, bring it to light. Where discord seems relentless, bring harmony. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the well-being of family, friends, and neighbors: Heal those who are sick. Give courage to all who struggle with addiction. Touch with your tender care all who reach out to you in pain. In your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

For this congregation and for the faith communities represented at summer church camp: Nurture the faith of young people as they encounter new experiences and people. Break down dividing walls and inspire collaboration among people of every age. In your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Jesus, Bread of Life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers are given by **Rhonda Hartenstine** in remembrance of Gene's Birthday (July 18th).

The Worship Aids are given by John and Sarah Paulukow in honor of our daughters, Andrea Paulukow West and Jackalyn Paulukow.

Ministering Today

Pastor/Celebrant	Rev. Dr. James R. Haun		
Lector	Rev. Sandy Morris		
Money Counters	Bud & Kathy McCarty, Jeff Hackenberger, John Shelsky		
Altar Guild	Karen Olley, Beth Bossert, Nancy Enders		
Building Trustee	Pat Sensenig		
Ministries	Card Deacons Called to Care Nancy Enders		
	Visitation Janice Jenkins		

Today we welcome the Rev. Dr. James R. Haun as our guest preacher. A Lancaster native, Dr. Haun, graduated from Manheim Township High School, Millersville University (B.A. in History), and Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (M.Div. & D. Min.). He has been involved in the Lancaster Association as Vice President and Chair of the Committee on Ministry. Besides his experience as a parish pastor, Dr. Haun has worked part-time in area nursing homes as a licensed barber. He has served the following pastorates:

2012-23 Pastor, St. Luke's U.C.C., Lititz

1989-12 Pastor, Zion U.C.C., New Providence

1982-89 Pastor, Paradise U.C.C., Canfield, OH

Happy Birthday!

Today – Jill Owens, Rev. Ken Trauger Thursday – Jenna Leinbach, Stefan Woerner Friday – Nick Fischer Saturday – Meighan Gegg Livingston, Marianne Gibble

Worship Attendance, July 14 7:45-19 9:30–66

TOTAL - 85

This Week at Trinity Church

(Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-2 p.m.)

Wednesday
Saturday
Sunday
-

7:00 PM – Christian Ed. 8:00 PM – Alanon/AA 7:45 AM – Eucharist 9:30 AM – Eucharist **Rev. Charlie Gross, Supply Pastor**

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S HEALING PRESENCE

MEMBERS

Ken & Janice Jenkins	Rick Mowrer	Nancy Patton
Betsy Bailey	Betty Fogle	Jack Olley
Kelsey Minnich Burgo	Bob & Marlyn Wible	Don & Pat Miller
Harry Himelwright	Dr. Janet Harriger	Joann Peck
Scott & Jane Owens	The Lehman family	Mary Lou Shaab
Carmen & Jerry Richards	Donna Wolf & Family	George & Ellie Latsha
Lainie Christensen	Stan & Pat Seachrist	Sam Minder III
Pastor Harry Royer	Rev. Dave & Mid Gockley	Hank Fox
Rev. Ken Trauger	Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser	Donna Zirkel
Kathleen Sensenig Adams	Betty Tyndall and family	Michael McDonough
Danielle Huggins Holbein	Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline	Ron Becker

Joann & Dawn GarvinHedwig HunsickerKen & Phyllis ZimmermanErika Otthofer

Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman Denise Huggins

FAMILY & FRIENDS

The family of John Feyock, Jr. (friend of Carmen & Jerry Richards) The family of Pastor David Ulm (former colleague of Pastor Rankin) **Chad Zirkel** (son of Donna Zirkel) Kaitlyn, Ben, and Lucy Miller (family of Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen) **Rev. Pam Illick** (pastor of Zion Lutheran, East Petersburg) Brian Latsha (son of George & Ellie Latsha) Barbie, Jon, and Will Bundy (family of Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen) **Rev. Jim Martin** (Rev. Dr. Rich & Lanie Christensen's former pastor) Quinn McCarty (grandson of Bud & Kathy McCarty) Ken Hoshauer (husband of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer) Kurt Kalbach (brother of Dr. Cathy Houshauer) Tuyet Nguyen (husband of Pat & Stan Seachrist's granddaughter) Mary Call (mother of Rev. Dr. Carrie Call) Art Cobb (nephew of John & Dolly Barr) The Herr Family (A Trinity Preschool Family) **Sharon Brown** (sister of Sandy DeLong) **Chris Rice** (nephew of Diane Rice & Karen Olley) Sally & Joe Carrol (friend of Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman) Kurt McEllhemmey (relative of Betty Tyndall) **David Brown** (nephew of Shelley & Mike Wagner) Annette Stork (niece of Pat Sensenig) Logan Davis (husband of Hillary Bossert-Davis) Brian & Liz Culp (son and daughter-in-law of Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman) Jean Weglarz (neighbor of Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline) Melby Bush (friend of Joan Sensenig) Harvev & Dianne Sick (friends of Judy Chapman) **Rev. Lov Garber** (former seminarian) Roland Anderson and family (friends of John & Kayla Brennan) John Martin (brother-in-law of Dolly & John Barr) James Malone & family Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner) Jordan Sensenig (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig) The Martin family Robert Richards (brother of Jerry Richards) Ronald Himelwright (grandson of Brenda & Harry Himelwright) Barry Richards (son of Jerry & Carmen Richards) Tyler Miller (grandson of Iris DeMaio) Joan Kalbach (mother of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer)

Jim & Kathy Long (friends of Jerry & Carmen Richards) John Siebern (Bob Siever's brother-in-law) Jo Jo Richards & family (Carmen & Jerry's granddaughter-in-law)

Thank you

A huge thank you to everyone who helped with, donated to, or attended VBS. You can still support the VBS mission offering (Habitat for Humanity) by marking your offering envelope with "VBS Mission Offering".

THE JULY/AUGUST PARISH POST is available in the information racks on both floors of the church building.

DEVOTIONALS: The April-June edition of These Days are available on the table across from the church office or on the lower level by the portico entrance.

PASTOR ON VACATION: Pastor Rankin will be away from July 20-August 3. **The Rev. Bob Bistline**, a member of our congregation, will be covering pastoral emergencies from July 20-27. You can reach Rev. Bistline at 717-917-9716. **The Rev. Sandy Morris**, a member of our congregation, will be covering pastoral emergencies from July 28-August 3. You can reach Rev. Morris at 717-385-1588. **The Rev. Charlie Gross**, a retired Presbyterian pastor and son of Trinity Church, will be our supply preacher next Sunday.

THE 2024 CONCERT SPONSOR FORMS are available on the table across from the church office.

THE NEW CHURCH DIRECTORIES are available in the information racks on both floors of the church building!

SERVERS NEEDED: We are in need of greeters, ushers, and nursery care volunteers for the 9:30 worship service. Please contact the church office if you are interested in serving as an usher or greeter. Please contact Betty Fogle if you are interested in serving as a nursery attendant (717-471-1026 or <u>bettsfog@comcast.net</u>).

TRIP TO WASHINGTON D.C.: The Christian Education Committee is planning to sponsor a trip to Washington D.C. on October 26. We are hoping to visit the National Cathedral and the other museums. We don't have any details yet on the cost, but we are asking you to sign-up if you are interested at this point. The sign-up sheet is on the table across from the church office. For more information, speak to Sue Bowman or Pastor Rankin.

TRINITY PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER: We have 14 coupons left! The cost is \$8 per coupon. Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office. Make checks payable to Trinity Preschool and put in the white box outside the church office.

FRIENDSHIP FEST REPORT: Thank you to everyone who helped with our Friendship Fest in the heat last Sunday. We raised \$334 for the Trinity Preschool. All who attended enjoyed the food trucks (except the ice cream that broke down), face painting, magic tricks, and a concert.

2024 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS: Upcoming dates for worship aids are: **July 28, August 11 & 25**. Upcoming dates for Chancel Flowers are **August 11**. The price for flowers is \$60. The price for worship aids is \$26. Look for the charts on the bulletin board in the narthex or call Carol in the church office.



Mt. Gretna Bible Festival 2024 Season ALL PROGRAMS ARE IN THE HISTORIC TABERNACLE, THIRD ST & GLOSSBRENNER AVE Parking at Mt. Gretna Fire Co.

Handicapped Parking at Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church Parking Lot PARKING AT THE MT. GRETNA ROLLER RINK - in DEFINED AREAS ONLY!!!! Roller Rink Parking on the following dates: July 21, 28; August 3, 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024

Sunday, July 21, 2024 - Knotwork Band - 7 p.m. The Knotwork Band is a trio that performs Celtic folk music from Ireland, Scotland, England, and Brittany, as well as American and World music with ties to Celtic folk music, either musically or historically. Freewill Offering will be received.

Sunday, July 28, 2024 - Choir Festival - 7 p.m. Composer Craig Courtney will direct 100

voices in a joyous Sunday Concert. Accompanist Dan Dorty will be joined by flute and brass. Freewill Offering will be received. Sponsored by Loser's Music. Concert made possible by the Estate of Douglas Troutman. Singers can register online this year by clicking on this link: <u>Zeffy</u> To request a printable file contact: <u>office@mtgretnatabernacle.org</u>

Wednesday, July 31, 2024 - Hymn Sing - 7 p.m. Congregational favorites from the Celebration Hymnal led by Bob Kettering and Dr. Rod Shearer. Freewill Offering will be received.

Saturday, August 3, 2024 - Handbell Festival - 7 p.m. Under the direction of Dr. Shawn Gingrich, Hershey, Pa., ringers from the area will ring the praise and glory of God. Freewill Offering will be received. Sponsored by Home Instead.

Sunday, August 4, 2024 - Daniel Dorty - 7 p.m. Pianist and Organist for the acclaimed Susquehanna Chorale, and Director of Music and Organist for the Derry Presbyterian Church, Dan Dorty joined by musicians from Derry Church, their Sanctuary Choir and Derry Ringers for an evening of sacred music celebrating the Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs of our Faith. Freewill Offering will be received.

Wednesday, August 7, 2024 - Summit Hill Bluegrass Band - 7 p.m. From southeastern Pa., Summit Hill Bluegrass Band plays bluegrass, gospel and a wide variety of other music. Freewill Offering will be received. Sponsored by JoAnn Thomas Show.

Sunday, August 11, 2024 - Dr. Peter W. Teague, Pres. Emeritus & Ambassador, Lancaster Bible College - 7 p.m. Dr. Teague and his wife Paulette are founders of Jessica and Friends Community, a non-profit organization offering residential services, training in daily living skills, and social services to adults with developmental disabilities. Freewill Offering will be received.

SUMMER PROGRAMS AT MT. GRETNA CHAUTAQUA

For more information go to: www.pachautauqua.info



The Religion of Race *Tue Jul 23rd 7:00pm*

Explore the true history of race in America and how the promotion of race differs from its biblical account. With the Rev. Dr. Joseph Green. **Hall of Philosophy**



Where's the Ark of the Covenant?

Thu Aug 1st 10:00am

Dr. Herb Smith explores the tradition of the affair of Solomon & Sheba and this holy object in the Ethiopian Orthodox Church. **Hall of Philosophy**



The annual East Petersburg Day Parade will follow the 5K at 10AM and lead families, friends and neighbors to East Petersburg Community Park for an amazing day filled with live music, jugglers, rides, games, and food!

The Parish Life Committee will be organizing a float for this year's parade. We will need people to ride on the float, so watch for more information in the worship bulletins and the September Parish Post!!!

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. 6In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Psalm 23

SECOND READING: Ephesians 2:11-22

Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision"-a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—¹²remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵He has abolished the law with its

commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; 22 in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

GOSPEL: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³²And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

⁵³When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. ⁵⁴When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, 55 and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

Cover: Sheep in Toledo, Spain by Chema Mancebo. Copyright © 2022 Getty Images Plus via Getty Images. Used by permission.

Next Sunday's Readings: 2 Kings 4:42-44; Psalm 145:10-18; Ephesians 3:14-21; John 6:1-21.

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