

4th Sunday of Easter Time - Year B

1. Let's talk about today's Gospel - the Good Shepherd
 - What does it mean to be "good"
 - In Greek there are 2 words for good
 - a. AGATHOS – good quality of a thing
 - b. KALOS – quality of the goodness
 - i. **Noble Precious Wonderful**
 - ii. **THAT is our Good Shepherd**
 - What does it mean to be a shepherd
 - Well there are two kinds of shepherds
 - a. Good Shepherd – where the sheep are priority
 - b. Hireling – where his pay is the priority
 - i. I want an AGATHOS Shepherd
 - What does JC mean by saying there are other sheep not of this fold?
 - Aren't we all of His fold?
 - Well there is a difference between a flock and a fold
 - a. Flock – is one shepherd's group of sheep
 - b. Fold – is when all the flocks come together
 - i. At night multiple shepherds bring flocks together
 - ii. They'd be in one common corral – a fold of sheep
 - iii. In morning each shepherd calls his sheep & they follow his voice
 - iv. Jesus is saying NO MORE DIVISION
 - v. The goal is One fold and one shepherd – Jesus

Story of missionary to US Indians – love of God was revelation to them
'When you spoke of Great Spirit you said Our Father
That is new and sweet to me. We never thought of Great Spirit as Father. We heard
Great Spirit in thunder, lightning, in the storm & blizzard & were afraid
When you tell us Great Spirit is Father that is beautiful
Did you say Great Spirit is your Father too? YES
Eyes wide – then you and I are brothers! HE GOT IT!
All God's flocks will come together as in one fold – with one Good Shepherd leading us

In the world today we have nation vs nation
In the nation we have class vs class
Party vs Party (Democrats Republicans PLP FNM DNA)
Even Christianity is divided

Jesus says NO MORE - There is only one nation
There is only one class
There is only one party
Because there is only one Good Shepherd
Jesus crosses all barriers – Jesus unites all people
God's love - the Good News – the Gospel of JC unites us

Wherever you are in relationship with Jesus – if you don't think He's shepherding you – you're wrong.
WE are God's beloved – WE are the sheep of His flock – WE are fed by His living Word
HE leads us to green pastures, to restful waters, and refreshes our soul.
He guides us by right paths for His name sake
AND even though WE walk in a dark valley WE will fear no evil, for HE is at our side
With His rod and staff to protect us and give us courage