

## **FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Ezekiel 34:11–24

1 Timothy 1:(5–11) 12–17

Luke 15:1–10

### ***Jesus Christ Is the Great Shepherd of His Sheep***

*“The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners”* (1 Tim. 1:15). As He had mercy on Paul, in order to *“display his perfect patience”* (1 Tim. 1:16), so also does He seek out His sheep *“from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness”* (Ezek. 34:12). To deliver His flock, He *“will seek the lost, ... bring back the strayed, ... bind up the injured, and ... strengthen the weak”* (Ezek. 34:16), and *“they shall no longer be a prey”* (Ezek. 34:22). He sets over them one great Good Shepherd, the Son of David, who *“shall feed them and be their shepherd”* (Ezek. 34:23). For Christ Jesus is the one man who, *“having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them,”* would *“leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it”* (Luke 15:4). When He finds the lost one and brings it home rejoicing, *“the angels of God”* and all the company of heaven rejoice with Him, with great joy (Luke 15:7, 10).

### ***Next Week’s Readings from God’s Word:***

September 18 (Proper 20): Pentecost 15 (Series C):

Amos 8:4-7, 1 Timothy 2:1-15, Luke 16:1-15

**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 19 C)**  
**September 11, 2022**

**INTROIT**

*Psalm 30:2-5; Antiphon: Psalm 30:11a, 12b*

*You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;*

O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever!

*O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,  
and you have healed me.*

*O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol;*

you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

*Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints,  
and give thanks to his holy name.*

*For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime.*

Weeping may tarry for the night,  
but joy comes with the morning.

**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.**

*You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;*

O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever!

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P** *Lord Jesus,*

*You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure.*

*Rescue and preserve us*

*that we may not be lost forever but follow You,*

*rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life;*

*for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,*

*one God, now and forever.*

**C** **Amen**

**GRADUAL**

*Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.*

*Fear the LORD, you his saints,*

for those who fear him lack nothing!

*Many are the afflictions of the righteous,*

but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

**RESPONSE FOR PRAYERS**

*After each petition:*

**P** *Let us pray to the Lord.* **C** **Lord, have mercy.**

## **Ezekiel 34:11-24 (ESV)**

<sup>11</sup> “For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup> As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup> And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. <sup>14</sup> I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup> I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup> I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

<sup>17</sup> “As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. <sup>18</sup> Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? <sup>19</sup> And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

<sup>20</sup> “Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup> Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, <sup>22</sup> I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. <sup>23</sup> And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup> And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.

## **1 Timothy 1:5-17 (ESV)**

<sup>5</sup> The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. <sup>6</sup> Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, <sup>7</sup> desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.

<sup>8</sup> Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, <sup>9</sup> understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, <sup>10</sup> the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, <sup>11</sup> in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

<sup>12</sup> I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord,

because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, <sup>13</sup>though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup> and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup> The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup> But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup> To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

### **Luke 15: 1-10 (ESV)**

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>“What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. <sup>6</sup> And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ <sup>7</sup> Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

<sup>8</sup> “Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? <sup>9</sup> And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ <sup>10</sup> Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

**JESUS SAT DOWN AND ATE  
WITH SINNERS, DID HE NOT?  
THAT DOESN'T MEAN HE  
SUPPORTED WHAT THEY DID,  
BUT IT ALSO DIDN'T KEEP HIM  
FROM LOVING THEM.**

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