

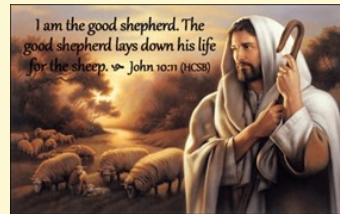
I Am The Door Of The Sheepfold'

Not one that's gently hinged or deftly hung,
Not like the ones you planed at Joseph's place,
Not like the well-oiled openings that swung
So easily for Pilate's practiced pace,



Not like the ones that closed in Mary's face
From house to house in brimming Bethlehem,
Not like the one that no man may assail,
The dreadful curtain, The forbidding veil
That waits your breaking in Jerusalem.

Not one you made but one you have become:
Load-bearing, balancing, a weighted beam
To bridge the gap, to bring us within reach
Of your high pasture. Calling us by name,
You lay your body down across the breach,
Yourself the door that opens into home.



*John 10:11 I am the good shepherd:
the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.*

When so much shepherding has gone so wrong,
So many pastors hopelessly astray,
The weak so often preyed on by the strong,
So many bruised and broken on the way,

The very name of shepherd seems besmeared,
The fold and flock themselves are torn in half,
The lambs we left to face all we have feared
Are caught between the wasters and the wolf.

Good Shepherd now your flock has need of you,
One finds the fold and ninety-nine are lost
Out in the darkness and the icy dew,
And no one knows how long this night will last.
Restore us; call us back to you by name
,And by your life laid down, redeem our shame.



19th February 2025

From next Sunday's reading: John 10

I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me^[a] were thieves and robbers. But the true sheep did not listen to them. ⁹Yes, I am the gate. Those who come in through me will be saved.^[a] They will come and go freely and will find good pastures. ¹⁰The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep.

Let us approach God in prayer:

Good Shepherd, teach us to follow you

to care for all that are close to us,

to protect those who are threatened,

to welcome those who are rejected,

to forgive those who are burdened by guilt,

to heal those who are broken and sick,

to share with those who have little or nothing,

to take the time to really know one another

and love as you have loved us. Amen.

We pray for people, places & concerns

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our prayer.**

My Notes

Leader: Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night

All: **Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.**

Pray for Julie, Laurence, Josiah & Esther,
Tom & Phyllis.

Remember the bereaved families, including the families of Susan Harvey, Margaret Anderson, Margaret Morton, Eileen Smith, Anne Ness, Archie Campbell, Jean, Wullie & Fiona Wilson, Don Ross & Pauline Wilshin.

Girvan Valley Church & family of Anne Johnston

The Fellowship & The Guild

Teams, AV Team & Praise Band

This month's charity – Interserve

Café Connect & Baby & Toddlers.

Our youth groups & BB

School & SU Group

Campsie & MoCPC Kirk Sessions

Foodbank: give thanks

Kilombero Rice sales & Howard (rice farmer)

The Messenger.

Care Homes

GoMAD Xtra

Give thanks for SU Camp & GoMAD;

WORLD CONCERNS

Ukraine/Russia

The Middle East

Spain

Los Angeles

Plane crashes

Munich tragedy

World Day of Prayer

Christian Unity Services

