

Church Alive
Sunday 25th April 2021

REFLECTION prepared by Brenda
EASTER 4 Good Shepherd Sunday



The cost of care
John 10:11-18

- Look very carefully at the image...How do we know that these two hands belong to different people?
- What does this image suggest to you? What do you feel when you see it?
- What does the term 'caring community' mean to you? How do you feel integrated into a caring community?
- What are the personal costs of being part of a caring community?
- How does Jesus as the Good Shepherd resonate with our lives in the 21st century?
- Spend a few minutes reflecting on your relationships with God and your neighbours...what is God saying to you?

A prayer...

Thank you, Lord, for watching over us and loving us as a Good Shepherd during the covid pandemic. We thank you, Lord, for those in our community who have previously been taken for granted...overlooked....not considered of any importance, but on whom we came to rely on to save lives...may they continue to be acknowledged and respectedwe ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen

Church Alive
Sunday 25th April 2021

BIBLE STUDY prepared by Carol
EASTER 4 Good Shepherd Sunday

John 10:11-18 Good News Translation

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd, who is willing to die for the sheep. ¹² When the hired man, who is not a shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees a wolf coming, he leaves the sheep and runs away; so the wolf snatches the sheep and scatters them. ¹³ The hired man runs away because he is only a hired man and does not care about the sheep. ¹⁴⁻¹⁵ I am the good shepherd. As the Father knows me and I know the Father, in the same way I know my sheep and they know me. And I am willing to die for them. ¹⁶ There are other sheep which belong to me that are not in this sheep pen. I must bring them, too; they will listen to my voice, and they will become^[a] one flock with one shepherd.

¹⁷ "The Father loves me because I am willing to give up my life, in order that I may receive it back again. ¹⁸ No one takes my life away from me. I give it up of my own free will. I have the right to give it up, and I have the right to take it back. This is what my Father has commanded me to do."

"What did Jesus mean when He said, 'I am the good Shepherd'?"

"What are the differences in the characteristics of a true shepherd compared with those of a hired man?"

"Who might Jesus be referring to as the other sheep who are not in the pen?"

"Belonging to Christ's flock, how good are we at listening to his voice?"

"How does it make you feel when you read v17-18?"

What is your response to knowing Jesus gave up his life by his own free will?"