

Sunday 25th April 2021

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

On this "Good Shepherd Sunday", we hear Jesus give himself this title, as he explains just how much he cares for us, his flock.

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St John (John 10: 11-18)

Glory to you, O Lord

'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

🤔 As we grow up and prepare for our adult lives, there are many "voices" clamouring for our attention. Can you think of some of them? How can we identify which is the voice to follow?

Shepherds in the land and time of Jesus used to lead their sheep to green grass, which wasn't easy to find in that dry and barren landscape. The sheep came to trust their shepherd and got to know the sound of their shepherd's voice. The shepherd, likewise, really knew the sheep individually and was able to care for them and prevent them from straying into danger. What a lovely analogy for the way Christ cares for us!

Jesus's voice is one among many voices, but, as his disciples, we are like his sheep and must follow him closely. How do you think we can do this?

Reading about Jesus's life in the Gospels, listening to his words and acting upon them, are all ways in which we can follow him, making sure that being a disciple of Jesus is the most important thing in our lives.

🙏 A prayer for this week:

Loving God, thank you for sending your Son to be our Good Shepherd. He gave his life for us. Help us to follow him and trust him all the days of our lives.
In Jesus's name. Amen.

Please scroll down for some more Eastertide activities and colouring pages:

color &
copy

The good shepherd



Color the picture above and copy the verse below.

I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.
John 10:14 (NIV)

The Good Shepherd



- Sheepfold
- Gate
- Robber
- Sheep
- Shepherd
- Voice
- Stranger
- Life
- Wolf
- Father
- Flock
- Hired

Crossword puzzle grid with the following letters pre-filled:

- Row 2, Column 3: O
- Row 4, Column 4: E
- Row 4, Column 7: O
- Row 5, Column 2: I
- Row 6, Column 5: E
- Row 8, Column 3: R

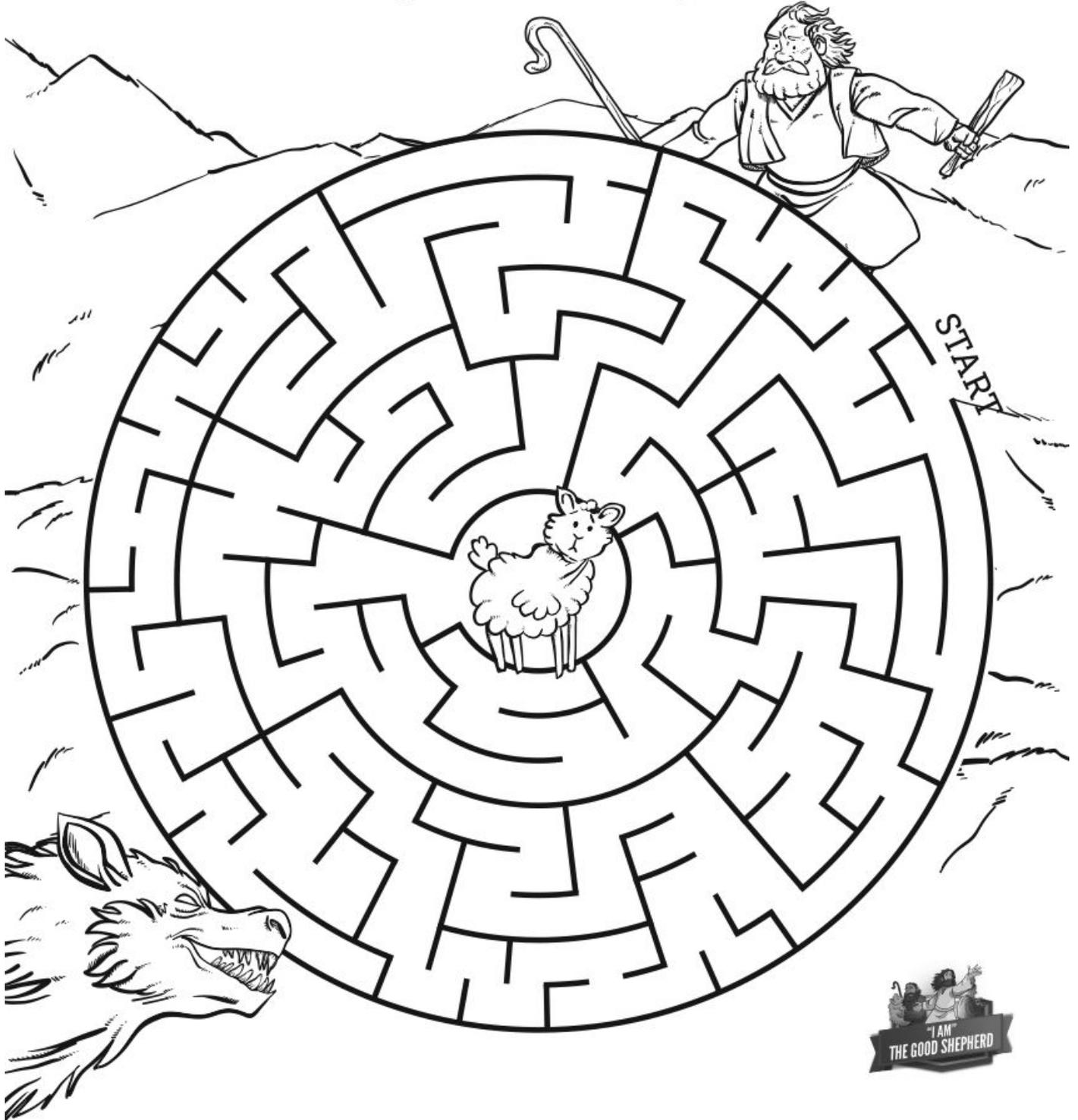


Make all words fit into this crossword



"I AM" THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Protect the sheep before the enemy reaches them.





"I am the good shepherd." *John 10:11*