

First Letter of Peter are encouraged to accept suffering for Jesus Christ's sake without looking for retaliation With a quotation from Isaiah 53 – Move up the letters into the right position and you'll find what's in it for youl that is the fourth song about the Suffering Servant – the readers of the

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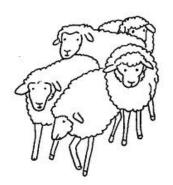
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Fourth Sunday of Easter April 30, 2023



Today's lessons:

Acts 2:42-47 After a great start on Pentecost Day, the life of the Church develops around the teachings of the apostles and the

breaking of the bread, meaning the Gospel and Holy Communion or, as we now often say, Word and Sacrament.

Psalm 23 The relationship between God and his people is like that

between a shepherd and his sheep.

1 Peter 2:19-25 Following in Jesus' footsteps does not mean that life will be easy and successful. On the contrary: just as Jesus

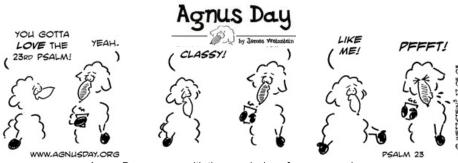
suffered for what he taught and did, those who follow him must be ready to suffer injustice, while themselves striving

for righteousness.

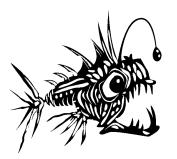
John 10:1-10 Jesus makes it clear that there is no way around him: he is

the gate to the sheepfold. So whoever wants to be a leader in the Church, has to come through that gate, and accept that only Jesus Christ is the Good Shepherd. If they don't,

they are nothing but thieves!



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OVERALL ALIEN FISH!

Scary?! – And yet:

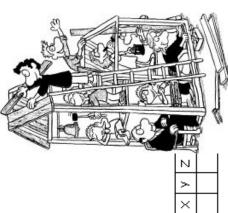
if you rearrange the letters, you'll find

that knowing from Psalm 23 that God is my shepherd,

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The 4th Sunday of Easter
is sometimes called the
"Sunday of the Good Shepherd":
no matter what year it is,
the Gospel lesson always is from John 10,
where Jesus talks about himself
as the Good Shepherd,
and the psalm we use, is #23.



In our lessons from Acts today, we see how the first Christians did it:

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