## April 21, 2024 <u>"The Shepherd Knows"</u> (John 10:11-18)

In this season, the scripture texts take us back to the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus.

Here Jesus speaks about himself as the \_\_\_\_\_, the guide and \_\_\_\_\_\_ of those who love him.

All over the Bible, the people of God are compared to

The shepherd's \_\_\_\_\_ mentioned in Psalm 23 is a \_\_\_\_\_ for battles against wolves and bears.

The rod used in Psalm 23 is the shepherd's \_\_\_\_\_, used to rescue lost lambs.

Sparing the rod isn't about punishment – it's about \_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, like the shepherd does with his crook!

In the verses before this, Jesus proclaimed that he was the \_\_\_\_\_!

Jesus called himself not just a shepherd, but the "\_\_\_\_\_" shepherd!

In all of the "I am" sayings of Jesus, he compared himself to the most \_\_\_\_\_\_ things – light, bread, water...shepherd.

It's true that at that time, the term "shepherd" was a frequent metaphor for the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of a country.

The shepherd only gets anything done by being \_\_\_\_\_\_ the sheep – in the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of the flock!

God \_\_\_\_\_\_ on being in the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of us, mixed into our lives!

Our preoccupations with work, screens, shopping, or easy anger lead us \_\_\_\_\_\_ from Jesus.

Jesus is confident we will be able to \_\_\_\_\_ him from all other \_\_\_\_\_!

As sheep we are ALL \_\_\_\_\_\_ to him!

Because of that, we can have \_\_\_\_\_!

As we \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus, we are invited to live lives of \_\_\_\_\_ like the exemplary shepherd!

The place where we communicate the grace of God is right in the \_\_\_\_\_ of other sheep!

No matter how far we've \_\_\_\_\_\_ away, the good shepherd is there to bring us back to the \_\_\_\_\_!

The shepherd \_\_\_\_\_ the sheep...and our God \_\_\_\_\_ us!!

We are sheep, but we are also \_\_\_\_\_\_ of the great shepherd!

The \_\_\_\_\_\_ for following comes from the shepherd himself, right in the midst of us, the flock!

We, the sheep, may be stupid – but we are smart enough to know our shepherd, and to know where we belong!