

# Lectio Divina for the Fourth Week of Easter

We begin our prayer: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, life of the faithful, glory of the humble, blessedness of the just, listen kindly to the prayers of those who call on you, that they who thirst for what you generously promise

may always have their fill of your plenty.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of
the Holy Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever.

(Collect, Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Easter)

#### Reading (*Lectio*)

Read the following Scripture two or three times.

John 10: 27-30

Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. No one can take them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one can take them out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

# **Meditation** (*Meditatio*)

After the reading, take some time to reflect in silence on one or more of the following questions:

- What word or words in this passage caught your attention?
- What in this passage comforted you?
- What in this passage challenged you?

If practicing <u>lectio divina</u> as a family or in a group, after the reflection time, invite the participants to share their responses.

#### Prayer (Oratio)

Read the Scripture passage one more time. Bring to the Lord the praise, petition, or thanksgiving that the Word inspires in you.





# **Contemplation** (Contemplatio)

Read the Scripture again, followed by this reflection:

What conversion of mind, heart, and life is the Lord asking of me?

My sheep hear my voice. Where do I go to hear the voice of God? How can I be more attentive to God's voice?

I know them, and they follow me. How have I encountered Jesus? How has this encounter changed the way I live?

The Father and I are one. What can do to grow close to God? How can I be a force for unity rather than division?

After a period of silent reflection and/or discussion, all recite the Lord's Prayer and the following:

# **Closing Prayer:**

Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands; serve the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful song.

Know that the LORD is God; he made us, his we are; his people, the flock he tends.

The LORD is good: his kindness endures forever, and his faithfulness, to all generations.

(From Psalm 100)

# Living the Word This Week

How can I make my life a gift for others in charity?

Pray for young people who are discerning a vocation to the priesthood, diaconate. or consecrated life, especially those who will be ordained or make final profession this year.

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