

2025 The Shepherd Cares for his sheep Sept 14

Theme; The shepherd cares for his sheep.

Scripture; Jesus said "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for my sheep." John 10:14-15 (NIV)

Object; A shepherd's crook, sheep stuffies



Do you know what a shepherd is? Of course, you do. A shepherd is one who takes care of sheep. **Who can tell me what this is?** (hold up the shepherd's crook) This is called a shepherd's crook. The crook is very useful to the shepherd in taking care of the sheep. If the sheep tries to go in the wrong direction, the shepherd can reach out with the crook and gently pull it back onto the right path. **The shepherd also uses the crook to help protect the sheep from a wolf or some other wild animal that might try to harm them. You see, it is the shepherd's responsibility to care for and protect the sheep.**

How many of you know what a pastor/priest is? Did you know that the word pastor, we use for the one who leads our church means the same thing as the word that is used for someone who takes care of sheep? So, if the pastor/priest is the one who takes care of the sheep, what do you think that makes us? Right! We are the sheep! **It is our pastor's/priest's job to take care of us, just as it is the job of a shepherd, to care for the sheep. That is their job all around the world. They work for Jesus.**

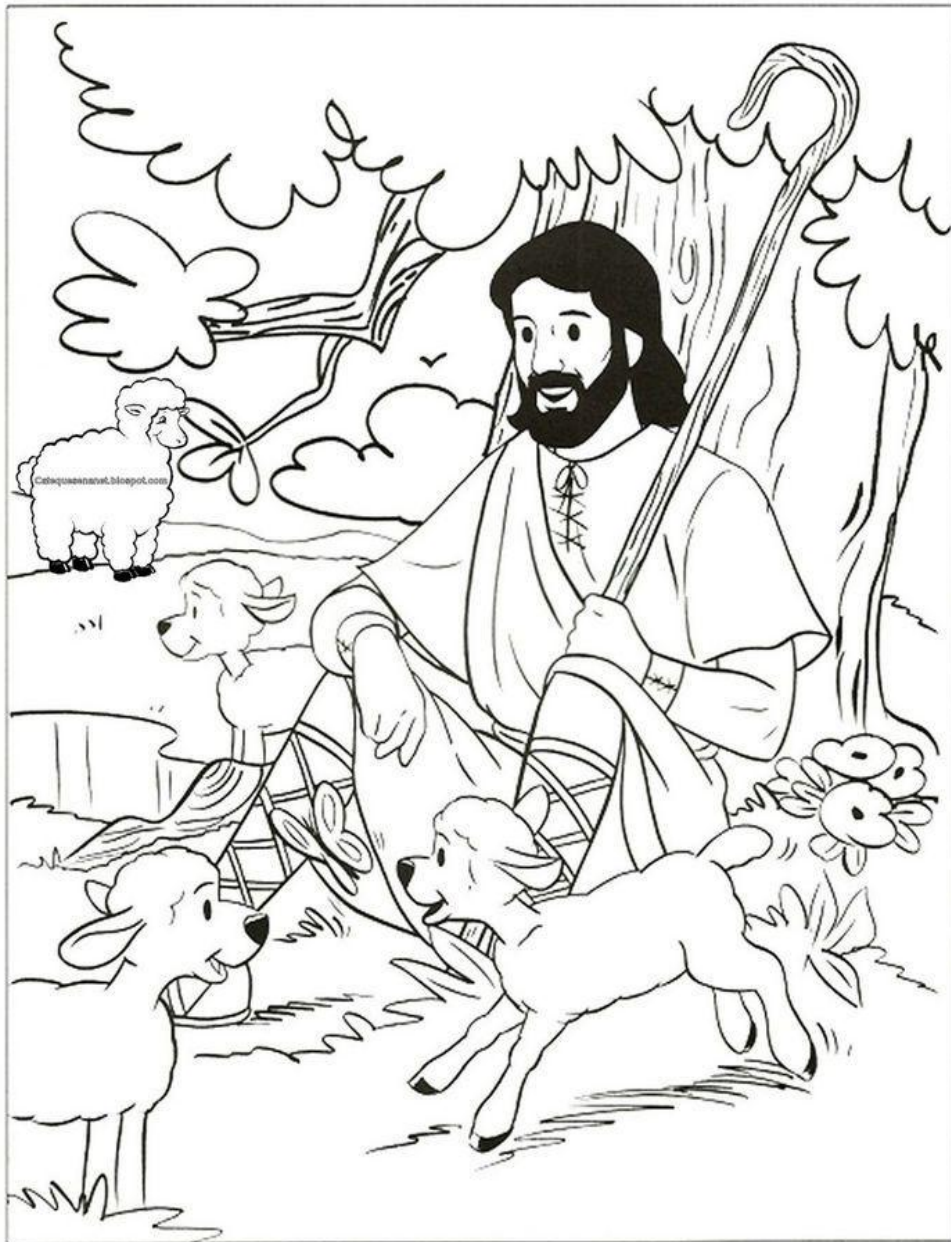
When we make a wrong choice, our leader/pastor is here to help us. When we stray away and go off on the wrong path, **our pastor uses the teaching of God's Word to reach out and gently pull us back and get us going in the right direction.** Our pastor also uses the Bible to protect us from wrong choices (ours or even a friend's wrong choice.) **Our pastor uses the Bible to teach us what God wants us to do.**

Our pastor has a good guide to follow in knowing how to take care of the sheep. That guide is Jesus. Listen to what Jesus said about himself, ***"I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me -- just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. I lay down my life for my sheep. For you!"***

The Bible also says, "The LORD is my shepherd," but God has also called all of us to help him in caring for his sheep. We are thankful for Jesus, "the Good Shepherd," and we are thankful for our pastor/priest and all the people who help our shepherd too!

Dear Father, we are thankful for Jesus. We know him and he knows us. He laid down his life for us. We also thank you for (our priest) that you have called to be the shepherd for our church. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

St. Thomas Stittsville 1619 Stittsville Main St. Come and join us 9:30 Sunday mornings!!!



**The Lord is MY shepherd, I shall want nothing else.
He makes me to lie down in green pastures. He leads me to drink in cool, clean waters.
He calms my soul and walks with me in the ways of pure love.
The Lord is MY shepherd and I am a sheep in His flock.
I will follow His always.**

Let's do a craft!

	<p>1. Paper Bag Puppet lamb</p> <p>You will need; a white or brown paper lunch bag, scissors and glue. Two wiggly eyes, two white or black ears and four legs.</p> <p>LOTS of cotton balls stretched out to look fluffier.</p>
	<p>2. Finger Lamb puppets</p> <p>Cut out a cloud shape from white cardboard (about the size of your hand.) Have someone help you to cut out the finger holes. Add cotton balls (stretched out) to cover the body. Cut out an oval shaped head with ears and googly eyes. Use a white pencil to add the mouth and nose.</p> <p>Make one for each hand. Or make several to give to your friends.</p>
<p>Craft 3; Cut out and glue onto cardboard. Cut out again. Fold in half and fold the two tummys inwards. Glue the tummys together. Add cotton and wiggly eyes as desired.</p> <p>See page 4</p>	

Let's Sing a song!

I am a lamb. You are a lamb. We are lambs together.
Jesus is our shepherd, He looks after us.
Now I know who I can trust.

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Jesus, friend of little children, be a friend to me.
Take my hand and ever keep me close to thee.
Teach me how to grow in goodness, daily as I grow,
You have been a child, so surely you must know.
Never leave me, or forget me. Ever be my friend.
For I need you from life's dawning to its end. Amen



CRAFT # 3



www.StThomasStittsville.ca

godsgardenstt@gmail.com

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