

JESUS LOVES HIS SHEEP

VISUAL AIDS

- > Pictures of sheep, shepherds.
- > Sheep shape cut-outs.

WELCOME AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

Say/sing together:

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the good shepherd, says Jesus.
I know my sheep and
they know me.
Alleluia!

A reading from the Good News
given to us by John.
Glory to you, Lord.

Jesus says,
I am the good shepherd.
I know my sheep and they know me.
They follow me
because they know my voice.
The shepherd comes in to the
sheepfold by the gate,
but the thief who comes to kill and

DISCUSSION

Encourage the children to describe in
their own words what Jesus says
about caring for sheep.

Jesus wants us to follow him, like
sheep follow the shepherd. Have the
children give examples of following
Jesus.

Some people follow Jesus by
becoming priests, sisters,
missionaries.

SHARING

Encourage the children to share
what they know about sheep and
shepherds.
A good shepherd knows each of his
sheep by name.

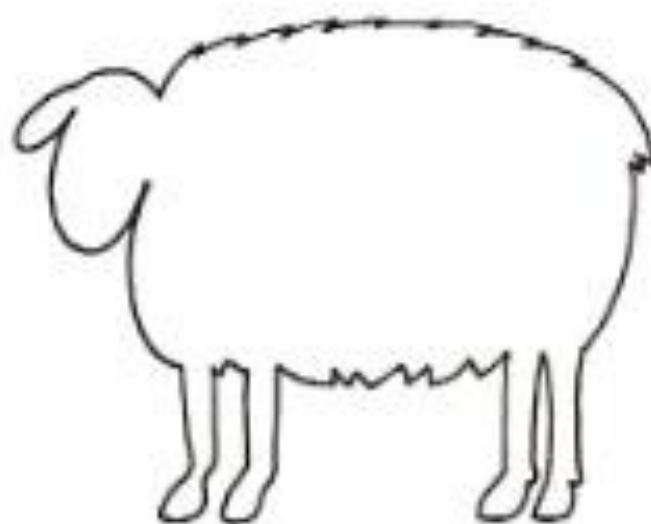
Have the children talk about how
they got their names: who chose
them?

Have the children say who has called
them by name in the past week, and
why.

Today's Gospel story is about a
special shepherd and special sheep.

destroy
sneaks in through a hole in the wall.
If a wolf attacks my sheep,
I will not run away and leave them.
I love my sheep,
and I will protect them with my life.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



ACTIVITIES

- > Give out the cut-out shapes and
have the children write or draw
how they will respond when their
name is called in the week ahead,
e.g. at bed-time, at meals, etc.
- > Game:
 - form a circle;
 - choose one child to be Jesus;
 - three or four to be thieves outside
the circle; two to be the gateway;
 - some children to be sheep within

the circle; the rest form the circle;
- Jesus and the 'thieves' take turns
to call 'sheep' from the circle by
name. The 'sheep' have to listen
carefully and only leave when
'Jesus' calls.

- > Recite this prayer together:
**Lord Jesus, our loving shepherd,
help us to hear you always
and to say 'yes'
when you call our names.**