

**"EASTER HEARTS, ALIVE, ANEW, LED, IN THE RISEN SHEPHERD!"  
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – MAY 12, 2019  
ACTS 9:36-43; REVELATION 7:9-17; JOHN 10:22-30**

**Promises for your pocket or purse - Take notes and carry them with you.**

**Are you looking for a leader? Do you need a leader? Do you think those who claim to be leaders or are leaders around you, are in fact, good leaders? Once you find a good leader, at work, in the community, in government, in world politics, do you listen, follow? What helps you be a faithful follower others see and follow, as you follow the leader? We are invited to follow The Good Shepherd, the best Leader of all. Jesus is raised from the dead, giving us Easter hearts, to hear his voice again and again as he leads us; to see Jesus shepherds and leads us; to believe Christ is counting on us to lead others. As disciples, as believers, as people of God, as a ministry, as “Lord of Life,” let us hear, see, believe, follow, for our Good Shepherd protects and leads like no other, laying aside his life for his sheep! Celebrate, give thanks, spring forth; for Christ is risen, risen indeed to go *no where*, to be *now here*, giving us Easter hearts, alive and anew, in The Risen Shepherd, Alleluia!**

1. You are alive, anew, with an Easter heart, led by The Leader! John 10:24-27
  - A. We look for The Leader; sheep do not know their way on their own.
  - B. We look for The Leader; many voices try to lead us. The Risen Christ will lead us in knowing and following his voice.
2. People long for good leaders. Trust the leader you are looking for, first finds you, gives you an Easter heart. You are alive, anew, to be led, to follow, to lead others! Acts 9:36, 40-43; Revelation 9:11; John 10:27
  - A. You are alive, anew, with an Easter heart, to be a faithful follower!
    - i. Just a few of Jesus’ faithful, who followed The Leader, include: Tabitha/Dorcas, Peter, You
    - ii. God is very trusting, trusting we will follow and believe!
  - B. Trust you have an Easter heart, raising you up, to follow, to lead!
    - i. Tabitha/Dorcas, led others through acts of kindness.
    - ii. Peter led others through his faithful witness, putting everything else aside, he began with prayer, trusting he, himself, was led by The Holy Spirit.

- iii. With an Easter heart, spring forth with new life! The Lord of life is raising you up to hear his voice, to know him, to believe and to follow and to lead!
3. God leads the way by sending Christ to die and to rise. The Lamb leads the rest of the sheep! Revelation 7:10,14-17; John 10:28-30
- A. We are led by the best Leader, The One who knows the way, The One who is one with The Father.
  - B. What good is it to follow a good person who has never led before? A leader who has never been a leader, who has no desire, no passion, no compassion, no grace, is hard to follow!
  - C. Jesus leads us like no other - he lays down his life for us.
  - D. In The Risen Christ, we are led with Easter hearts, for all eternity.
    - i. We are led by Christ who is going nowhere - *no where!*
    - ii. We are led by Christ who is now here - *now here!*
    - iii. We are led by Christ to know a new kind of day, indeed for now, and in one day, like no other, still to come!
  - E. Thanks be to God we are blessed with Easter hearts, alive, anew and led, in The Risen Savior, by the grace of The Good Shepherd, for Christ is risen, Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!