## John Chapter 10 v 7 - 31

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Preacher: Peter Robinson

[0:00] Performing a Thank you.

Thank you.

Thank you.

Thank you.

Thank you.

[2:50] Thank you.

Thank you.

Thank you.

Because God is so great through the Lord Jesus, we can come to him in prayer together. So let's do that now. Let us pray. You truly are great, O Lord, and you are the one whose name is full of greatness.

For your name is God, O Lord, the Lord, O Lord, the only king, the only sovereign, the only one who has all might and power, all love and all justice, all faithfulness and all grace.

[4:54] And as we come to the Lord, O Lord, O Lord, the only Lord, the only one whose who has been says, Lord, O Lord, O Lord, O Lord, we thank you that you are the God who remains eternally, faithfully the same, the unchanging God.

and oh Lord we thank you for that for we live in a changing world we ourselves are people who are given to change one minute we're up and then we're down one minute we're seeking to fulfill your will and purposes the next we are turning away from you in unbelief and in sin oh Lord we thank you that you do not treat us as our sins deserve we thank you that you do not treat us Lord like we treat you but we thank you that you are constantly everlastingly the same in your love and justice to us we thank you again for the cross we thank you again that Jesus the son of God, God made manifest amongst us, came from heaven to earth thank you that you the living God took on our humanity and you became one of us and one with us and Lord we thank you that you live that perfect righteous life and you fulfilled the law and kept God's will in every word and thought and action and deed we thank you that you went to the cross though innocent of any sin though perfectly and pure and holy the only person who has never sinned yet you suffered as a sinner and you were crucified and you died

Lord not a wasted life not a miscarriage of justice but perfect justice and judgment because there on the cross you took my sin the sin of everyone who puts their trust in you you took our sin and you took it away and you dealt with it once and for all and forever and we thank you that in the place of guilt and shame and condemnation and judgment you have given us forgiveness and peace and pardon and life and hope and oh Lord we thank you that you rose again from the dead and that you are the living saviour and the living Lord and that you are the one oh Lord in whom we come in whose name we come to bring our worship and praise to God draw near to us we pray forgive us our sins give us that heart that desire to meet with you and to hear your word and to respond with faith and obedience and love come oh Lord upon us we ask by your Holy Spirit and minister to us and work in us and through us receive our thanks receive our praise and hear us as we ask these things in the name and for the praise of Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen Well we're going to read together now in our Bible and if you've got one to hand that would be helpful to read with me from John and chapter 10 the gospel of John and chapter 10 and we're going to read from verse 11 so the gospel of John and chapter 10 beginning at verse 11 and reading through to verse 31 here's Jesus talking to not just his disciples but to all who are willing to listen to him I am the good shepherd the good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep the hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep so when he sees the wolf coming he abandons the sheep and runs away then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it the man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep

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 the sheep I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen I must bring them also they too will listen to my voice and there will be one flock and one shepherd the reason my father loves me is that I lay down my life only to take it up again no one takes it from me but I lay it down of my own accord I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again this command I received from my father at these words the Jews were again divided many of them said he's demon possessed and raving mad why listen to him but others said these are not the sayings of a man possessed by a demon can a demon open the eyes of the blind then came the feast of dedication at Jerusalem it was winter and Jesus was in the temple area walking in Solomon's colonnade the Jews gathered round him saying how long will you keep us in suspense if you are the Christ tell us plainly

[10:04] Jesus answered I did tell you but you do not believe the miracles I do in my father's name speak for me but you do not believe because you are not my sheep my sheep listen to my voice I know them and they follow me I give them eternal life and they shall never perish no one can snatch them out of my hand my father who has given them to me is greater than all no one can snatch them out of my father's hand I and the father are one again the Jews picked up stones to stone him and we'll stop there so please turn if you would to John and chapter 10 over the past few weeks as we've had opportunity we've been looking at the I am sayings of Jesus the seven I am sayings that John records in his gospel times when Jesus declares and proclaims himself and reveals himself to us and we come to the third of those in one sense it's the fourth but I'm doing it slightly different and that will become clear next week and so we come to the fourth and that's I am the good shepherd I'm sure you've all heard of the tales of Aesop the Greek slave who told moral stories and helpful stories nearly 1500 years or so ago one of those stories well several of them concern sheep and animals and so on one of them concerns a shepherd and a wolf a very cunning and a very clever wolf who was hunting the flock of this particular shepherd and to begin with of course the shepherd seeing the wolf from time to time was on his guard and was very careful about his movements with the sheep and watched and looked out for the wolf expecting an attack at any time but day after day the wolf simply just sort of appeared but didn't make any effort to attack the sheep or the lambs it didn't seem to have any interest in them in that sense and so after several days and weeks the shepherd began to look on the wolf as almost a guardian of the flock as if rather than an enemy he was looking after them as well as himself eventually after several weeks the shepherd needed to leave his flock and to visit the city for some business and he left the sheep entirely in the wolf's charge that was the opportunity the wolf had been waiting for of course and so he attacked the sheep destroyed nearly the entire flock so when the shepherd returned to see that sight of destruction he said to himself serves me right why did I trust my sheep to a wolf the Lord Jesus

Christ looks upon his church and counts his church as sheep and speaks of us in that way on several occasions and he is a good shepherd the aesop's tale of the bad shepherd the poor shepherd that goes to highlight the good shepherd of Jesus because he knows how what care we need he knows what dangers we will face he knows exactly how to protect us and he will not entrust our care into the hands of anybody else but himself this is because he loves and cares for the sheep as he says there later on in verse 13 the man that's the hired man the person who's just doing his job doesn't care for the sheep he runs away for he is a hired man and cares nothing for the sheep but I am the good shepherd now in Jesus' day and throughout the time that God brought together the people of Israel he counted and looked to the leaders the religious leaders to be shepherds of his people he gave them this duty of care to care for their spiritual responsibilities their spiritual health as well as their relationships with God and one another but those religious leaders throughout the history of

God's people had always failed more often than not and got it wrong and so God got to the point ultimately where he warned them and spoke to them in Ezekiel that's one of the prophets in the Old Testament and their God with great anger condemned those who were the shepherds of Israel condemned them as being bad because they did not care for the sheep did not look after them did not feed them and ultimately God made this promise this is what the sovereign Lord says I myself will search for my sheep and look after them as a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them so I will look after my sheep God promised to send them a better shepherd the best shepherd of all who would be himself to care for his people to protect his flock and that new shepherd would be the Lord God so as Jesus declares himself here in verse 11 I am the good shepherd he is declaring that he is the living embodiment of God's promise he is the fulfillment of what God said he would do not just here but again and again through the Old

Testament Jesus was the culmination of all of history all of God's prophets all of God's promises his coming into the world was to bring the fulfillment of God's plan and purpose for people and so when Jesus is speaking as I said of these seven of these seven I am sayings each one unveils just a little bit more of who he is shows us a little bit more of his care of his personality of his character of his ministry when Jesus says here I am the good shepherd he's announcing to begin with to all who would listen I am the Lord God's they all knew the promises of Ezekiel they all knew how again and again in the Old Testament God had likened himself to a shepherd and God's people to sheep in David's day of course we have Psalm 23 we sang that modern version of it the Lord is my shepherd Jesus is saying I am that very one who is the Lord your shepherd elsewhere in Psalm 80 in verse 1 there's a prayer that is brought and as David prays he prays oh shepherd of Israel hear us in

[16:38] Isaiah in chapter 40 as well God declares that as a shepherd he will come and care for his people Isaiah 40 and verses 11 God tends his flock like a shepherd he gathers the lambs in his arms carries them close to his heart he gently leads those that have young so Jesus is the good shepherd all of these sayings these I am sayings of course speak of Jesus as being God made manifest the very phrase I am was what got him into a lot of trouble with the Jews more than once as we read at the end of our passage did they seek to kill him were they angry with him and annoved with him because he he declared himself to be one with God the Father and they did not like that at all so we have to start when we think of Jesus as the good shepherd we have to start with this truth that God the Lord is our shepherd and that Jesus Christ is God one of the great tragedies as we know is that many people think of Jesus in every other way apart from being the living God yes he's a he's a great man and a moral teacher yes he's a wonderful religious person who who started this movement which has done good for the world yes he's the head of the church yes he's all these things but he is God the Lord unless we start there we'll get everything else wrong with Jesus we'll get every understanding of what he says wrong unless we begin with this truth that he made very plain to them and it's so plain that in fact they saw it clearly picked up stones to kill him don't let anybody say to you that

> Christians thought that Jesus was God three or four centuries after the church was established that's what they're saying around about us today oh well it was something invented at the council of Nicaea or invented by the bishops or invented by the church later on no from the very start Jesus declared himself God and there's no way you can get out of that either he is God or he's not and if he's not then you might as well just discount the whole thing because unless this is God speaking to us then really there is no point listening but Jesus says I'm the good shepherd so how does he as God the good shepherd the Lord the good shepherd care for his sheep well how does he manifest and show himself to be a better shepherd than that shepherd in Aesop's tales a better shepherd than the religious leaders of his day the best shepherd of all well first of all he speaks about knowing his sheep I am the good shepherd I know my sheep verse 14 now if you've driven to Whitby then you will certainly have seen sheep because any way that you come to Whitby there's sheep on the road isn't there sheep in the fields and to me all sheep look alike don't know to you but they all look pretty much alike what you've seen one sheep you've seen them all I know there's different breeds of sheep in different times but really that you know they all look the same but if you're a shepherd I don't think anybody is a shepherd because they're probably going to come and tell me off later about all the things I've got wrong about shepherding but if you are a shepherd then you know your sheep the shepherd knows each one he knows that they're distinctive marks he knows that the way that they particularly walk with a limp he knows what particular habits they have their characters he knows his sheep in fact earlier on if we had read there Jesus speaks about the shepherd who calls his sheep by name this is intimate knowledge when Jesus says he knows his sheep and it's also important as well that we understand when Jesus says he knows his sheep he also speaks about those who are not yet his sheep if I put it that way verse 16 I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen I must bring them also and when Jesus says he knows his sheep there's some wonderful truths there isn't it first of all that he knows us and all about us there's nothing that you and I can hide from Jesus the good shepherd he knows our characteristics he knows our mannerisms he knows our likes and dislikes yes he knows our sins and our failings he knows our weaknesses he knows all about us so when Jesus says I know my sheep he doesn't just mean well I can recognize them or I know that they're there but I know them but he says something much more than that as well something even more comforting something even more wonderful than Jesus knowing our worries our fears our concerns that's wonderful in itself but when Jesus begins to speak about knowing his sheep and knowing those who are not yet his sheep then we begin to see the reality of who he is as

God a knowledge that stretches not just from the present into the future but a knowledge that stretches all the way into eternity past a knowledge of his sheep even before the world was made I know my sheep I have other sheep who are not of this fold them I must bring who are these other sheep who's he talking about well surely he's talking about us he's talking about us who are non-jews there is the sheep pen of Israel there's a sheep pen of those who are the descendants of Abraham the descendants of Jacob there were those who Jesus came to minister to the the the Jewish people but Jesus says there are those who are not of this sheep pen they're the Gentiles they're you and me they're those who will come to faith in Christ at a later stage throughout church history so Jesus saying I know them and they will come to me and trust in me how does he know that because he knows all things he knows you he knew you and I before we were born he knew you and I before the world was made that's the way that the

Bible declares and speaks about this wonderful knowledge of God but God says he knows something it isn't simply as we know something just with some small intellectual grasp of a concept but rather he knows in a very intimate personal and deep and everlasting way and that knowledge of God of us is that which leads to his seeking to save us in Romans 8 and chapter sorry Romans chapter 8 those God foreknew knew beforehand he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his son that he might be the firstborn among many brothers 1 Peter in chapter 1 God's elect scattered throughout the world who've been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the father in both senses there and in other places as well God knowing you and I before the world was made was that which moved him to save us to choose us to bring us into his family to set his son to be our savior so Jesus when he says I know my sheep says yes I know all about you I know all about your needs I know all about your concerns and I know all about your fears but I've always known about you and I've always known you and I've in one sense in my knowledge of you set my love upon you to choose you and to make you my sheep and to bring you into my fold and to bring you under my care it's an incredible thing isn't it only

God could do that only God can know before the world was made only God can know us and know all about us no one else can it's again declaration that Jesus is God he knows you you can't hide from him he knew you before you were born no matter who you are where you've come from no matter what your parentage or whether you were planned or whether you were in their words an accident God knew you he brought you into this world and he's given you life so that you might know him the good shepherd the good shepherd we're told not only knows his sheep but the good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep and I lay down my life for the sheep he says it on more than one occasion he says it first of all in verse 11 the good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep verse 15 the good I lay down my life for the sheep later on he says the reason the father loves me I lay down my life no one takes it from me I lay it down of my own accord I have authority to lay it down authority to take it up again who can do that but God you see all of us will die all of us there's not one of us here unless the

[25:20] Lord Jesus Christ comes before we die but we will die but we haven't got a choice in the matter have we we can't say well look I'm just not going to die I decided that's it I'm not going to die I'm going to be the person who's always going to live I'm never going to die we can't choose the time we can't determine the time Jesus says here I lay down of my own free will I give my life as I when I want to give my life he's talking about his death on the cross but notice how very important that is how he speaks about laying down his life for the sheep that's essential he's not just talking about his death he's not just saying I'm going to die and I'm going to control the time of my death and I'm going to know when it is and I'm going to know how it happens yes we know that but he says I lay down my life for the sheep twice he says that how can we understand his meaning we can understand it probably better by understanding one of the other parables that Jesus spoke in

Matthew 25 where he talks about the end of the world he says all the nations of the world will be gathered before me and I will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats he will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left Jesus explaining that this day of judgment that is coming which must come and before whom we must stand before Jesus as the judge there will be a division made within all humanity between those who are the sheep and those who are the goats he says and describes the sheep as those who are the righteous and for the righteous we're told that they shall enter into the father's kingdom into the inheritance prepared for you since the foundation of the world but on the left are those that he Jesus calls the cursed those who have not put their faith in Christ those who have rejected him and Jesus says they will go away to eternal punishment but the righteous to eternal life you see all of humanity is divided not just on the day of judgment but now divided between those who are the sheep and those who are the goats of judgment but now divided between those who are the sheep and those who are the goats we're not divided over race we're not divided over class not divided over age or over intellect the one true division is not between male and female but between the sheep and the goats

Jesus says here that I lay down my life for the sheep talking about the cross he's talking about the fact that his sacrifice for sin the giving of himself as an atonement for sin was for his people for those who would put their faith and trust in him he paid the price for them and for them alone Jesus does not say I lay down my life for the sheep and the goats but for the sheep his life is the certainty of our salvation his his death is a certainty of our salvation again that's in keeping with God's promise back in Isaiah in chapter 53 God promised that his servant his Messiah his Savior would come and what would he come to do he was pierced for our transgressions he was crushed for our iniquities the punishment that brought us peace was upon him and by his wounds we are healed we all like sheep have gone astray each of us has turned to his own way the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all the Lord Jesus Christ the

Son of God when he went to the cross he went for those that he knew he died for those that he had known before the creation of the world he died in the place of his sheep he was aware of those that he was dying for it was particular it was special so dear friends you and I who are Christians this morning those who put our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ we can be certain and know that when Jesus went to the cross for us and died for us it was with the knowledge he was dying in your place and mine for your sins and mine apostle Paul says something very similar later on in Acts chapter 20 speaks of the church of God which he bought with his own blood how can anybody do that how can anybody die in the place of a multitude of people except God only he has the value that is worthy and worth so many souls I'm the good shepherd I lay down my life he freely willingly died for you and me knowing us and that was makes it so amazing to me so wonderful to me Jesus knew how many times I'd fail him Jesus knew any times I'd let him down Jesus knew how at times

I would not trust him Jesus knew how many times I was going to be unworthy of him and yet he still went to the cross for me and he still died in my place and he still lay down his life so Jesus the good shepherd who knows his sheep and lays down his life for his sheep but he's the good shepherd who calls his sheep there in verse 16 he says this I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen I must bring them also they too will listen to my voice and later on he says my sheep verse 27 listen to my voice he's calling whenever I've seen a shepherd calling his sheep and I haven't seen it all that often if I'm honest but most of the time if I've seen it on telly or something they've usually got a bucket of feed in their hands which they rattle or they've got something to eat for the sheep and that and they call the sheep whatever they call them not by name what they call them but they rattle their bucket with the food in and that is the sign for the sheep to come they're given that incentive to come to the shepherd but the call of Jesus is a call that he makes with no material incentive I'm going to that way when Jesus calls his sheep he calls them and they come not because they think there's food not because they think there's some ulterior motive but because they obey and hear his voice my sheep listen to my voice I know them and they follow me the calling of the good shepherd to his sheep is so powerful that every single one of his sheep not only hears his voice but will respond to his voice by coming to him and following him that's how powerful the voices of the Lord Jesus Christ when he speaks because it's the voice of God do remember in Genesis in chapter 1 and 2 we're told how this world this universe came into being how did it come into being it came into being because God said let there be light God said let there be and the very voice of God is so mighty and powerful that it creates something from nothing remember Jesus just the next chapter chapter 11 standing outside the grave of Lazarus a man who'd been dead for four days stone cold stinking dead and what does Jesus do he stands outside and he says Lazarus come out he doesn't go in and do CPR he doesn't go in and try to revive him in some way or create some

Frankenstein monster he just speaks and the voice of Jesus is so powerful that the body [32:53] and the life of Lazarus are awakened and he comes out that's exactly what happens to a person when they become a Christian when you and I became a Christian in some way loud or quietly the voice of Jesus called us and said come on follow me and we couldn't help but come and follow him over and over again in the New Testament the Apostle Paul and the others speak about a Christian being somebody who is one of the calls or receiving a calling even use that phrase even now perhaps for somebody who has a vocation or a skill or it becomes a Christian called I've got a calling the question is this why was it so many people who lived in Jesus's day who heard his voice why was it that they did not come to him and follow him why was it we have in verse 19 they were divided some saying he's demon possessed some saying how can he be demon possessed at the end of the verse verse 31 some picking up stones to stone him but other disciples following how can it be that the words of the very living God that spoke with such power did not bring all people to faith in him simply because not all those people were his shape his Jesus there's that there's the

> Jews again the religious leaders again they're saying to Jesus how long will you keep us in suspense verse 24 it tell us if you're the Christ he said I've told you but you didn't believe I've shown you signs from God but you didn't believe why didn't they believe because Jesus says you are not my shape you're not my shape that's why as Christians dear friends we have been called by Jesus he knew us before the world was made he died for us on the cross and at the right time by his spirit he called us and we heard and we came and we trusted in him we put our faith in him and we followed him that's the work of God isn't it why is it dear friends even now we live in a world where so many have reject Christ so many harden their hearts to many hear the gospel and yet will not come can it not be that one of the reasons surely is that they are not the sheep for whom Jesus died there's one last thing here dear friends that reveals the very deity of the Lord

Jesus Christ and reveals the power of his keeping over those who are his sheep and that's simply that he keeps his sheep the good kept shepherd keeps his sheep good verse 28 I give them eternal life and they shall never perish no one can snatch them out of my hand there's a lovely parallel parable isn't there to this parable to this to the words of Jesus here in Luke 15 it's the parable of the lost sheep every Sunday school child has learned the parable of the lost sheep in it simply the shepherd has a hundred sheep when he brings them all into the pen at the end of the day one is missing leaving those sheep in the pen he goes out looking for the lost sheep we read there from Isaiah 53 in verse 6 we all like sheep have gone astray within our natural sinful hearts there is that tendency there is that in there is that inclination to go our own sinful way to live our lives the way we want to to wander away from God that's what every single person has done in their lives no matter who we are but here's the wonder of our

Lord Jesus Christ as the good shepherd he not only calls us to himself but he goes out of his way to come and save us he commits himself to keep us and to rescue us and to protect us so that we should never be lost again once we have been as it were embraced in the in the loving and strong arms of the Lord Jesus Christ and nothing can take us out of his arms again though we wander and get it wrong he continues to keep us I give them eternal life and they shall never perish listen no one can snatch them out of my hand and again in that declaration of his deity of him being God he says my father is greater than who has given them to me is greater than all no one can snatch them out of my father's hand I and the father are one that two-handed divine clasp is over you and I dear friends as Christians as those who are his sheep and nothing can pluck us out his hands and neither can we wriggle out of his hands or jump out of his hands or fall out of his hands because once we are in Christ and we are in Christ forever once we are his his sheep and are brought into his fold we're in his fold forever though we still sin and we still fail and we still doubt we still tempted our place in the flock is secure and certain nothing and no one can snatch us away from his saving love that's the whole conclusion isn't it of Romans and chapter 8 Paul asks this rhetorical question who shall separate us from the love of Christ shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword all the problems of life can they remove us from the love of Christ no he says for I'm convinced that neither death nor life angels nor demons neither the present nor the future nor any powers neither height nor depth or anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in

Christ Jesus our Lord where as certain and secure as we possibly can be there's a wonderful hymn which we aren't singing today but but speaks about the saints in heaven being more happy but not more secure than the Christian who lives in this world just like that wandering sheep in the parable on the moment that Christ comes and saves us we are carried by him all the way to heaven in the parable Jesus speaks of the shepherd when he finds his sheep he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home you and I dear friends dear Christians dear sheep of the flock we shall be in heaven one day nothing in heaven or earth or hell can prevent that for the Lord Jesus Christ the good shepherd who knew us before the world was made for the good shepherd who died for us and bore our sins and our judgment upon the cross the one who called us out of darkness into light and brought us to life when we were dead is the one who will finish the work that he began from start to finish our salvation is of the Lord from start to finish it's the work of Christ we can't add to it or contribute to it we can't take anything away from it it is all of the Lord and all for his glory and all for his praise and all for his honor in Revelation the saints in heaven sing the song that has the word salvation belongs to God and so surely dear friends if you're a Christian this morning then you can have that confidence and certainty and hope and that great joy that the good shepherd is your shepherd but let me ask you let me ask you are you one of

[40:36] Jesus's sheep have you heard his voice calling you calling you through your Christian friends or family calling you through the the witness of others around about you calling you through the preaching Sunday by Sunday that you listen to you calling you through just things that have leapt out the page to you as you looked at the Bible or if you experiences in life called you through the sorrows and the trials let me say to you that the Lord Jesus Christ in his mercy and grace still calls lost sheep to himself that's why we preach the gospel that's why we do the open air that's why the beach mission here there are sheep there who are still wandering far from their shepherd and perhaps that's you will you come to him will you put your faith in him will you stop resisting him will you stop rejecting him the good shepherd whose arms are open wide to receive you will you come under his shepherdly care will you receive the forgiveness he brings will you receive the love that he gives will you receive the life that he promises why continue to wander in the darkness in the danger why continue to reject him why continue to in your heart pick up stones and say get away from me God one thing you can be certain of that though you reject him a million times the moment that you come to him he will not reject you he will not reject you he is the good shepherd the best shepherd the great shepherd whose love for his sheep is unending let us follow him with obedient faith and joy until that day he brings us into that fold that one flock in heaven when we shall sing his praises forevermore well let's sing together our final hymn it's a hymn that speaks of the loveliness of the lord jesus it's number 152 how sweet the name of jesus sounds in a believer's ear how sweet he is our good shepherd we're going to sing it to the more modern verse more modern tune which means we sing two verses together and then we repeat the last line of the second verse we sing verses one and two and repeat the last line if you don't know it you'll pick it up easily but otherwise i'm sure you'll know it jesus my shepherd brother friend my prophet priest and king my lord my life my way my end accept the praise i bring 152 run in a believer in Digital treacherous **EXEM** and andy jesus on you can share the quality we know it o'er jesus..

> still exists and Steve cee-est but he even sang to my bery **H**aret k and xylôs come to me chers VPNs come to me kylôs uh beryurer's ear for our **H** tleri-**H**ie a jesus h lss fillet would not need aNice tlots be a Pietvver's ear Oh dear gosh, our most of us very d'ooh aha tai ehavva THUR amazing the times our hall will turn our churches and soul to the church for the church and the stars it will not be introduced to him but our church is nicko-os In a permanent family constrained place to the flakes the Oregon ground It makes the wounded spirit whole And comes a troubled rest Tis heaven to the hungry soul And to the weary rest And to the weary rest May the God of peace who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep equip you with everything good for doing his will

> And may he work in us what is pleasing to him through Jesus Christ to whom be the glory forever and ever Amen Amen