Notes:

Sermon Text

Subject

Spiritual “To Do List”
(things God has shown me today)

"The Lord is my shepherd." In these words, the believer is taught to express his satisfaction in the care of the great Pastor of the universe, the Redeemer and Preserver of men. With joy he reflects that he has a shepherd, and that shepherd is Jehovah.

A flock of sheep, gentle and harmless, feeding in verdant pastures, under the care of a skilful, watchful, and tender shepherd, forms an emblem of believers brought back to the Shepherd of their souls. The greatest abundance is but a dry pasture to a wicked man, who relishes in it only what pleases the senses; but to a godly man, who by faith tastes the goodness of God in all his enjoyments, though he has but little of the world, it is a green pasture. The Lord gives quiet and contentment in the mind, whatever the lot is.

Are we blessed with the green pastures of the ordinances, let us not think it enough to pass through them, but let us abide in them. The consolations of the Holy Spirit are the still waters by which the saints are led; the streams which flow from the Fountain of living waters. Those only are led by the still waters of comfort, who walk in the paths of righteousness. The way of duty is the truly pleasant way. The work of righteousness in peace.

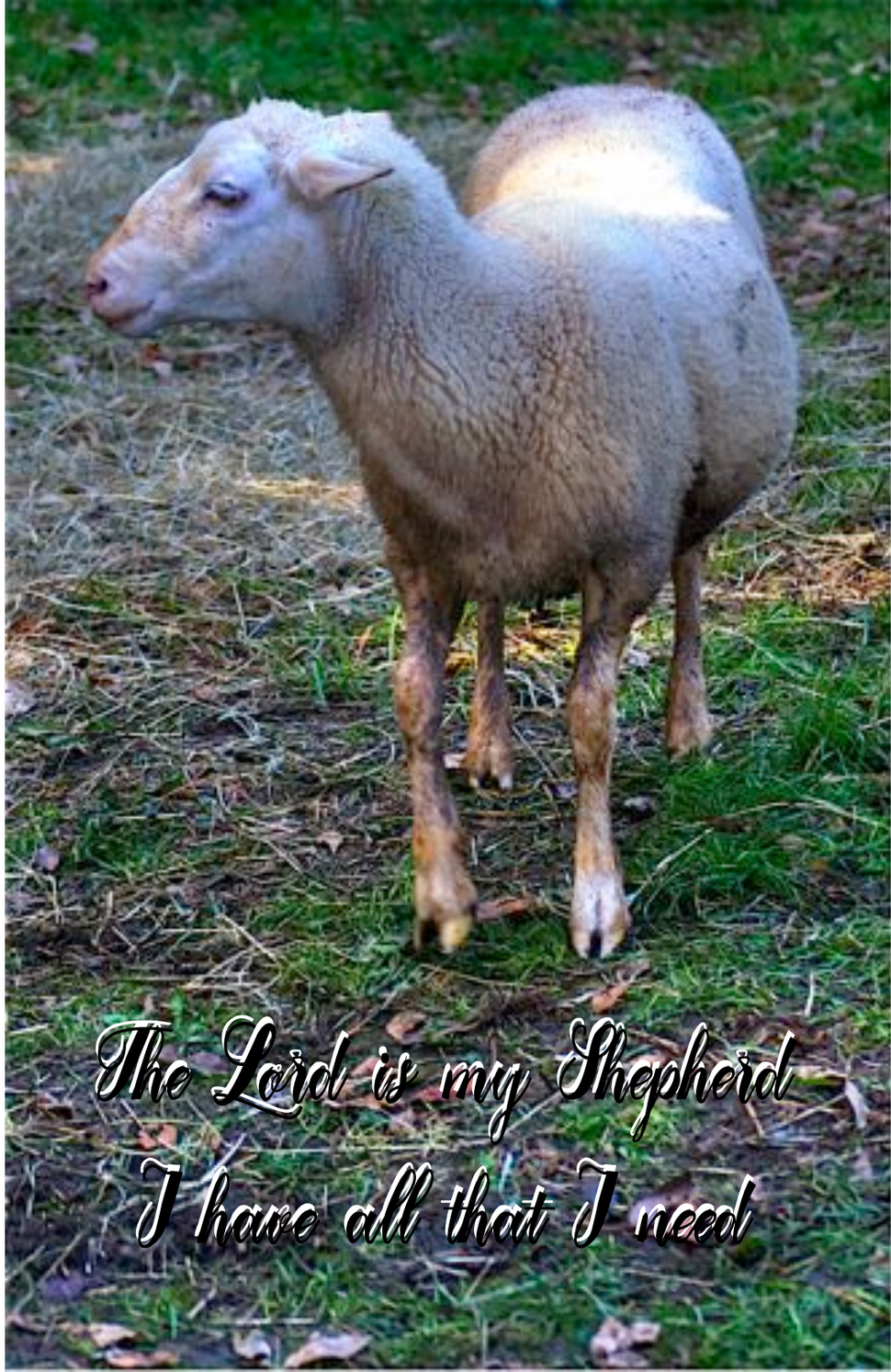
In these paths we cannot walk, unless God lead us into them, and lead us on in them. Discontent and distrust proceed from unbelief; an unsteady walk is the consequence: let us then simply trust our Shepherd's care, and hearken to his voice.

The valley of the shadow of death may denote the most severe and terrible affliction, or dark dispensation of providence, that the psalmist ever could come under. Between the part of the flock on earth and that which is gone to heaven, death lies like a dark valley that must be passed in going from one to the other. But even in this there are words which lessen the terror. It is but the shadow of death: the shadow of a serpent will not sting, nor the shadow of a sword kill. It is a valley, deep indeed, and dark, and miry; but valleys are often fruitful, and so is death itself fruitful of comforts to God's people. It is a walk through it: they shall not be lost in this valley, but get safe to the mountain on the other side. Death is a king of terrors, but not to the sheep of Christ. When they come to die, God will rebuke the enemy; he will guide them with his rod, and sustain them with his staff. There is enough in the gospel to comfort the saints when dying, and underneath them are the everlasting arms.

The Lord's people feast at his table, upon the provisions of his love. Satan and wicked men are not able to destroy their comforts, while they are anointed with the Holy Spirit, and drink of the cup of salvation which is ever full. Past experience teaches believers to trust that the goodness and mercy of God will follow them all the days of their lives, and it is their desire and determination, to seek their happiness in the service of God here, and they hope to enjoy his love for ever in heaven. While here, the Lord can make any situation pleasant, by the anointing of his Spirit and the joys of his salvation. But those that would be satisfied with the blessings of his house, must keep close to the duties of it.

—Matthew Henry

PHOTO: RDO 10-11-2011



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April 26, 2015

May the joy which comes from worshiping God inspire us to love God and love one another. Be assured that all present are welcomed gladly.

Call to Worship

We rejoice in the One who leads us beside still waters,
and gives us refreshment of soul.
Christ our Shepherd shows us the way we should go,
so that the name of God will be glorified.
Though all manner of evil befall us, we will not be afraid,
for the Great Shepherd of our souls is with us.
We are never away from the love and mercy of the Lord,
and we shall be with him for ever and ever.
Come, let us worship our Shepherd and King!

Announcements

- **May 7** - National Day of Prayer
- **May 10** - Mothers Day
- **May 14** - 7:00 p.m. - Annual Business Meeting
- **May 11-15** - Work Week at Victory Grove
- **May 16** - noon - Zone Rally at Haverhill, Massachusetts
- **May 24** - Pentecost
- *Be sure to check out our church web site for updates, bulletins, and photos.*

Suggested Daily Scripture Reading

	Sunday	*Monday*	*Tuesday*	*Wednesday*
OT	Judges 6:1-40	Judges 7:1-8:17	Judges 8:18-9:21	Judges 9:22-10:18
NT	Luke 22:54-23:12	Luke 23:13-43	Luke 23:44-24:12	Luke 24:13-53
PSA	Psalm 95:1-96:13	Psalm 97:1-98:9	Psalm 99:1-9	Psalm 100:1-5
PROV	Proverbs 26	Proverbs 27	Proverbs 28	Proverbs 29

Thursday	*Friday*	*Saturday*	*Sunday*
Judges 11:1-12:15	Judges 13:1-14:20	Judges 15:1-16:31	Judges 17:1-18:31
John 1:1-28	John 1:29-51	John 2:1-25	John 3:1-21
Psalm 101:1-8	Psalm 102:1-28	Psalm 103:1-22	Psalm 104:1-23
Proverbs 30	Proverbs 1	Proverbs 2	Proverbs 3

Prayer Requests

- **This** week we are praying especially for our sister church at **Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania.** Pastor Joel Byer and his wife Jennifer (Bubb) have four children.
- **Continue** to pray for:
  - **S**pecial requests for those on our hearts, especially the Mincer family, B. Schenck, and Ethel.
- **Christians** in danger all over the world. **Pray for the families of those who have been martyred recently.**
- The village of **Middleburgh,** that we will reach people with hungry hearts and have fruitful results in our ministry.
- **Missionaries**: the Blackcalfs, B. Fay, the Flings, the Kisers, the Kurtenses, the Mayles, the Millses, R. Moulton, the D. Shermans, J. Sherman; and the Himelicks and others at VICM.
- Our **young people** - schoolwork, jobs, and life decisions
- **B**ible Colleges - GBS, PVBI, AWC, UBC, HSBC
- **S**afety and protection for our Armed Forces, especially for those deployed.
- **O**ur President, Congress, and Supreme Court, that they may make righteous choices.
- **Pray** for these physical need requests:
  - Jen, Levi R., Don Decker, J. Morford, Warren Babcock, Wesley Hallenbeck, Tim Elmore, Cathy P., Regina Ford, Robert Ford, Richard R., Mark V., Kathy M., Doug Canfield, G. Bartholomew, Jim Marquit, Charles & Thelma Heckman, Robert Owens, Mike F., Duane and Dorothea Maxey.
- **From** Early Woodland:
  - Joyce, Ruth, Harry C.
- *Please let us know of anyone who is ill, facing a time of hospitalization, or would like a home visit.*

SERVICES — SUNDAY: Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. Cobleskill 4:00 p.m. Evening 7:00 p.m. — WEDNESDAY: Midweek Service 7:00 p.m. — FRIDAY: Women's Fellowship 10:30 a.m.

Notes:

Other announcements
& prayer requests