



# The Shepherd's Voice

April 16, 2013

By Fr. Joe Rees

## “Sabbath Rest for the Shepherd”

27 My sheep listen to my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish; no one will snatch them from my hand. John 10: 27-28.

There's no other greater act of life we can do than to carefully listen to the Great Shepherd's Voice!

Jesus knows us as His own and we know Him.

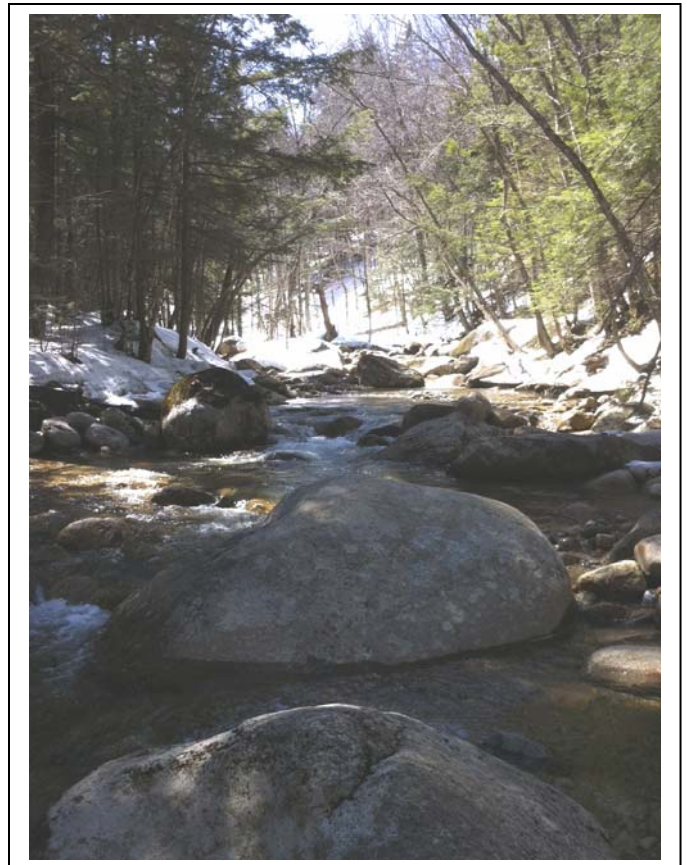
When we listen carefully we are close enough to hear His voice. We must follow closely to hear His voice. It's crucial that we take time to listen. It's part of following Jesus to be disciplined in managing time to offer Him quality time. Carve out 15-20 minutes daily to listen to His voice. Practice His presence all through the day to have moments of reflection to hear His voice. Ask Him questions during the day to expect responses that will guide you through your challenges. Enjoy talking with Him in casual conversation. Expect to have His companionship and blessing upon your life as you offer Him more of your daily experiences. This is Christian maturity. It's our calling to primarily be in this relationship with Jesus. If we are going to be known by Jesus as His followers, then we need to listen to Jesus!

People ask "how do we listen to Jesus"? I find the best way to actually hear Him is to listen as we read the Scriptures. We hear His voice through our minds that have been activated by His Spirit. The Word was inspired in the disciples' minds and as they wrote under the Spirit's guidance, they knew in all confidence they were listening to Jesus' voice. I love to re-read passages of Jesus' teaching because the voice gives me new understandings each time of what I need for life. There is always something new and appropriate when I do. Try it. Spend some time in quiet and rest before The Lord. Take your time. Don't rush it and trust He'll be there, and

know He's listening to you. You'll enjoy this time you spend with Jesus, I assure you!

Then, knowing Jesus' close and loving Presence, you'll hear His voice and follow wherever He leads you. Again, trust Him. He won't let the evil one snatch you out of His hands. Never! Trust Him.

And make time in your busy scheduled to spend it with Him. Real sheep know their shepherd's voice and come to that shepherd when he calls. You and I need to always seek His voice and not any other competing voices. We need to ask if the other voices competing for our time and attention, are really worth chasing after. Which voice do you hear? The voice of Jesus or of something else in this world? Make it Jesus' voice you get to know, and He will bless you richly!



As I take time away and spent some time with Jesus in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, I realized once again the sweetness of His blessings.

It's uncanny you know, give it a try and I know you will be blessed!

I sat on a rock in the middle of the flowing Sabbaday Brook, named after taking a Sabbath's rest. I sang 'Alleluia's' to The Lord for His mighty blessings! Thanks for giving me the rest. I'm really hearing the Lord's voice here in the mountains.

God be with you all.

Saying prayers for all those in Boston who are in shock over seeing the evil one's work again.

Praying for healing of shattered lives. Praying they may hear the great Shepherd's Voice!

May the Lord bless you and keep you in His love and care.

Blessings,  
Fr Joe

### Sunday Servers this week...

April 21, 2013	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
First Reader	Acts 13:15-39	Pam Theobald	Stephen Painter
Psalm Reader	Psalm 100	Choir	Petey Seibold
Second Reader	Revelation 7:9-17	Dick Phelps	Pat Richardson
Intercessor		Josian Gilman	Mitch Dubski
Lay Euch. Ministers		Joan Jacobs, Doug Hall	KC Winward, Frances Slaughter
Acolytes		Josiah Gilman	Mitch Dubski, Kalani Clifford, Zachary Jensen
Welcomers		Maureen Green, Paula Sholly	Paula Sholly, Margaret Olsen
Ushers		Chris Corey, Jackie Lansing	Dink Nash, Ted Vallas, JR Fox, Ray Seibolds
Vestry Person of Day			Dick Sholly
Healing Ministers		Jan Simon, Rudy Theobald	Petey Seibold, Donna Sandner
Announcer		Myrna Lipnicket	Jani Dubski
Counters			Michael Murphv & Cline Handv

### *New Christian Formation Evening Series starting Tuesday, April 23*

#### **The Seven I AM Statements of Jesus**

Are you drawn by the Holy Spirit to know, love, and serve God even more deeply with all your mind, heart, and soul? This study is for you.

Larry Warner, author of *Journey with Jesus*, will be teaching a special Christian Formation series on the Seven I AM statements of Jesus on **Tuesday evenings** at the church, between **April 23 and June 4**.

See the flyers on the Welcome Table for more info.

Join us on Tuesdays starting April 23: Fellowship dinner @ **6:30 PM with teaching @7PM**.

**Contact churchoffice@graceanglicanchurch.com or Deacon Sue Bentley SusanBentley@roadrunner.com to Register for this Christian Formation Series today!**

### **New Small Group Orientation Session**

#### *Journey with Jesus*

*Led by Author and Spiritual Director Larry Warner*

**Saturday, April 27, 2013, 9:30 AM**

**Grace Anglican Church**

In *Journey with Jesus*, author and spiritual director, Larry Warner guides us through the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius in a "doable" format, to appropriately accommodate participants as they actively engage in the prayers and Scripture readings focused on the life of Christ.

We invite those longing to know Jesus more deeply, to love Jesus more fully, and to follow Jesus more wholeheartedly in community with others to our orientation session on April 27 for new small groups forming in May 2013. Larry Warner will lead the orientation.

See the flyers on the Welcome Table for more information.

Contact Deacon Sue Bentley at SusanBentley@roadrunner.com for more information or to register for the orientation session.

## Sunday at Grace

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Choir  
9:30 a.m. Fellowship & Coffee  
10:00 a.m. Nursery opens  
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist with  
Worship Team  
10:15 a.m. Children's Church

A Time of Liturgical  
Contemplation  
Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at  
7:00 p.m. at Grace.

## Readings for Sunday

Acts 13:15-39

Psalms 100

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

We are using the English Standard  
Version of the Bible and the Lectionary  
from the Book of Common Prayer  
(Year C)

### This Week at Grace –Apr. 16 – April 23, 2013

#### Tues. April 16

11:30 a.m. Rector's Bible Study  
4:30 p.m. Healing Prayer & Eucharist at CHC  
Tuesday evening classes resume on April 23rd

#### Wed. April 17

6:10 a.m. Br. Benno's Team meets  
8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer  
9:30 a.m. No Staff Meeting  
3:30 p.m. Alpha Club for Kids  
6:30 p.m. Youth Group

#### Thurs. April 18

7:00 a.m. Bible Study  
10:00 a.m. Sr. Women's Fellowship  
11:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist at the Oasis  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

#### Fri. April 19

Women's Cursillo in Yuma  
6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer & Healing  
7:00 p.m. A Time of Liturgical Contemplation

#### Sat. April 20

8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship  
10:00 a.m. Worship Team rehearsal  
6:00 p.m. Youth Service - Pizza and Praise at  
Anglican Church of the Resurrection in San Marcos

#### Sun. April 21 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with choir  
9:30 a.m. Fellowship & coffee  
10:00 a.m. Nursery opens  
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Worship Team  
10:15 a.m. Children's Church  
Noon to 2 Family Friendly Leaders Meeting  
2:00 p.m. Bridge Group – Off site.

#### Mon. April 22

6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer

#### Tues. April 23

11:30 a.m. Rector's Bible Study  
4:30 p.m. Healing Prayer & Eucharist at CHC  
6:30 p.m. Fellowship potluck dinner  
7:00 p.m. The Seven "I Am" Statements of Jesus

### Rector's Bible Study

Tuesdays

11:30 a.m.

Fr. Joe is leading the group through a study of  
the Book of Isaiah. Everyone is welcome.  
B.Y.O.L. (Bring your own lunch)

**Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.**  
**Morning Prayer At Grace Anglican**  
**All are welcome to attend.**

**Weekly** – There are over 25 small groups meeting  
during the week. Check our newsletter for a list of  
all the groups or you can find the list on our website:  
[www.graceanglicanchurch.com](http://www.graceanglicanchurch.com).

Apr. 19 **A Time of Liturgical Contemplation**  
Apr. 20 Men's Fellowship  
Apr. 20 Saturday Pizza & Praise – San Marcos  
Apr. 21 Family Friendly Leaders Meet – Noon – 2  
Apr. 23 The "I Am" Statements class – 7:00 p.m.  
Apr. 24 Alpha Club for Kids  
Apr. 27 Men's Bible Study  
Apr. 27 Orientation for Journey With Jesus 9:30am  
Apr. 28 Lay Readers, Lay Eucharistic Ministers,  
Chalice bearers meet at 9:30 a.m.  
May 3 Anglican Men's Retreat at Forest Home

### **Note:**

**The regular Vestry meeting  
scheduled for April 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00  
p.m. has been postponed until  
April 24, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.**