

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, Year C

# Season of Easter

*First Reading † Acts 13:14.43-52*

*We are now turning to the gentiles.*

### **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to the synagogue on the Sabbath and took their seats.

When the meeting broke up, many of the Jews and the God-fearers followed Paul and Barnabas, who spoke to them, urging them to await the grace of God.

The next Sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews were filled with zeal and abusively spoke against everything Paul said. However, Paul and Barnabas spoke out fearlessly.

‘It was necessary that the word of God should be proclaimed first to you, but since you reject it, and do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, look, we are turning to the gentiles. For so the Lord commanded us, saying:

*I have made you a light to the nations  
that you should bring my salvation to the ends of the earth.’*

It made the gentiles very happy to hear this and they praised the word of the Lord. As many as were destined for eternal life became believers, and the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside. But the Jews worked on the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city; they stirred up a persecution against Paul and Barnabas and expelled them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet against them and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

*Responsorial † Psalm 99:1-3.5*

### ***We are his people, the sheep of his flock.***

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.  
Come before him, singing for joy.

### ***We are his people, the sheep of his flock.***

Know that he, the Lord, is God.  
He made us; we belong to him.  
We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

### ***We are his people, the sheep of his flock.***

Indeed, how good is the Lord,  
eternal his merciful love.  
He is faithful from age to age.

### ***We are his people, the sheep of his flock.***

## **Second Reading † Revelation 7:9.14-17**

*The Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water.*

### **A reading from the book of the Apocalypse**

After that I, John, looked and saw a huge crowd, which no one could count, from every nation, race, tribe and language, standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands.

One of the elders said to me,

‘These are they who have come through the great trial; they have washed their robes and whitened them in the blood of the Lamb. That is why they are standing in front of God’s throne and serving him day and night in his sanctuary, and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; sun will not strike them nor any scorching wind, because the Lamb in the middle of the throne will be their shepherd and will guide them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.’

The word of the Lord.

## **Gospel Acclamation † John 10:14**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
I know my sheep, and mine know me.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## **Gospel † John 10:27-30**

*I give my sheep eternal life.*

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

Jesus said:

‘My sheep listen to my voice;  
I know them and they follow me.

I give them eternal life;  
they will never be lost  
and no one will ever snatch them from my hand.

What my Father has given me is greater than anything  
and no one can snatch it from the Father’s hand.

The Father and I are one.’

The Gospel of the Lord.