

Responsorial Psalm † Ps 117: 1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28-29.**R. The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.
It is better to take refuge in the Lord
than to trust in men:
it is better to take refuge in the Lord
than to trust in princes. **R.**

I will thank you for you have given answer
and you are my saviour.
The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes. **R.**

Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.
We bless you from the house of the Lord;
I will thank you for you have given answer
and you are my saviour.
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;
for his love has no end. **R.**

Second Reading † John 3: 1-2

We shall see God as he is.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us.
My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation † John 10: 14

Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Gospel † John 10: 11-18

The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep.

Jesus said:

'I am the good shepherd:
the good shepherd is one
who lays down his life for his sheep.
The hired man, since he is not the shepherd
and the sheep do not belong to him,
abandons the sheep and runs away
as soon as he sees a wolf coming,
and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep;
this is because he is only a hired man
and has no concern for the sheep.
I am the good shepherd;
I know my own and my own know me,
just as the Father knows me and I know the Father;
and I lay down my life for my sheep.
And there are other sheep I have
that are not of this fold,
and these I have to lead as well.
They too will listen to my voice,
and there will be only one flock and one shepherd.
The Father loves me,
because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.
No one takes it from me;
I lay it down of my own free will,
and as it is in my power to lay it down,
so it is in my power to take it up again;
and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Commentary by Dr John Bergsma from The Sacred Page:

<http://www.thesacredpage.com/2012/04/scandalous-jesus-readings-for-fourth.html>

Our English word "scandal" comes ultimately from the Greek *skandalon*, "a stumbling block." A "scandal" is something that causes people to "stumble," i.e. that offends or injures them in some way. As we will see, the exclusive claims made for and by Jesus in the readings for this Sunday are scandalous to the pluralistic and relativistic culture we live in today.

Peter and John have been taken before the Sanhedrin (the Jewish combination Congress