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## Scripture Reflection

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As we continue our Easter journey, today's readings invite us to listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd and to follow Him.

In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Peter's words cut to the hearts of his listeners. Moved by gratitude for the gift of salvation, they ask, "What are we to do?" (Acts 2:37). Peter calls them to repentance, baptism, and a new life in Christ. Their response, with about 3,000 baptized that day, reminds us that true gratitude leads to action.

In his letter, St. Peter encourages us to follow the example of Christ. Though He committed no sin, He bore our sins upon the cross and brought us healing. A grateful heart remembers this mercy, and, in turn, shows compassion to others.

In the Gospel, Jesus calls Himself the Good Shepherd, the one who knows His sheep by name and leads them to abundant life. He invites us to hear His voice and to follow Him. When we live in Him, our hearts are filled with gratitude. This gratitude naturally overflows in our service of others.

Each year, the *Annual Catholic Appeal* gives us a way to follow the Good Shepherd together by supporting vital ministries that share Christ's love and accompany those most in need.

May our hearts be filled with thanksgiving for the Lord's goodness, and may that gratitude move us to serve generously in Christ's name. Please give to the *Appeal* <><date and place>> or visit [aca.archstl.org](http://aca.archstl.org) to learn more about the impact of your generosity.

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## Bulletin/Pulpit Announcement

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The Gospel invites to open our eyes and our hearts to recognize the Risen Lord among us and to respond with grateful hearts. With *Grateful Hearts Serving Others*, through our gifts to the *Annual Catholic Appeal*, we sustain life-giving ministries and services that lead others to Christ and help countless people of all faiths in situations of need and suffering.

If you have not yet made a gift to the *Annual Catholic Appeal* this year, please consider doing so today. You can pick up your pledge card after Mass or make a gift online at [aca.archstl.org](http://aca.archstl.org).