"Baa, Baa Black Sheep (A Sheep in God's Flock)"

Sunday, January 23, 2022, 10:30 a.m. Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI Pastor Jonathan DeCou John 10:1-18

BIG IDEA: God's sheep know Him and follow Him.

"My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me." John 10:27 (CSB)

- ISRAEL, God's Flock.
 - God faithfully <u>PROVIDED</u> for Israel.
 - God faithfully <u>PRESERVED</u> Israel.
 - God faithfully <u>PROTECTED</u> Israel.
- THE CHURCH, God's Flock.
 - Sheep are "<u>CLEAN</u>" animals.
 - Sheep <u>KNOW</u> their <u>SHEPHERD</u>.
 - Sheep <u>DESPERATELY</u> need a <u>SHEPHERD</u>.
 - Sheep are <u>USEFUL</u> and <u>VALUABLE</u>.
 - Sheep <u>FLOCK</u> together.

JESUS CHRIST, the Shepherd.

- The <u>GOOD</u> Shepherd.
- The <u>GREAT</u> Shepherd.
- \circ The <u>CHIEF</u> Shepherd.

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READ: John 10:1-18

THINK: As you reflect on the imagery of being a sheep in God's Flock, ask yourself these questions: Does the idea of God as a Shepherd intimidate you or does He cause you to be inquisitive? Why did Jesus and the other NT writers describe His followers as sheep? Do you see yourself as a lost sheep? How does the Shepherd see you? Have you allowed Christ to make you "clean", i.e. an acceptable sheep? How desperately do you rely on Jesus Christ as your Shepherd? How well do you know your Shepherd? Do you recognize His voice? How useful are you to the Shepherd? How well are you flocking together with the rest of His true sheep? DO: What turning point was significant for you in terms of "hearing" the Shepherd's voice and responding? Identify your strategy for discerning His voice from those of so many others that vie for your attention.