A Gentle Shepherd
Assembly, Cantor, SATB Choir, Descant, Keyboard and Guitar

Based on Jeremiah 23:3–6
Gerard Chiusano

INTRO (q = 88–92)

Keyboard

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Please visit www.ocp.org or call 1-800-LITURGY for available instrument parts.
REFRAIN

(a tempo)

Descant

A gentle shepherd

is the Lord our God,

Soprano

A gentle shepherd

is the Lord our God,

Alto

the one who gathers,

the one who loves.

Tenor

the one who gathers,

the one who loves.

Bass

Ever

Am7   Dsus4   D9   G

Gmaj7
Ev-er faith-ful is the Lord our God. Hold us safe, gen-tle

faith-ful is the Lord our God. Hold us safe, gen-tle

C Am7/F# B7b9 Em7 A9 Am7

Am/D D7

A Gentle Shepherd

* * *
A Gentle Shepherd

VERSES 1-3

Cantor or S/A

1. Be-hold the days are com-ing,____ says the Lord our

Cantor or T/B (Melody)

2. He shall reign as king and shall gov-ern

Cantor or S/A

3. In__ his__ days Judah will

C Major

1. God, when I shall raise an up-right branch for Da-vid.

D

2. wise-ly, doing right, doing just in the land.

D/C

3. tri-umph and Is-ra-el shall dwell in safe-ty.

Bm7

rit. D.S.

Emadd9

rit. D.S.

C

rit.

C/D

D

Bsus4

rit.

Bm

D.S.
VERSE 4

4. This is the name all nations shall call him: “The Lord our Saving Justice”.

D.S. al fine
rit.
VERSE 1
Cmaj7  D  D/C  Bm7  Emadd9
1. Behold the days are coming, says the Lord our God,

C  C/D  D  Bsus4  Bm
1. when I shall raise an upright branch for David,

VERSE 2
Cmaj7  D  D/C  Bm7  Emadd9
2. He shall reign as king and shall govern wisely,

C  C/D  D  Bsus4  Bm
2. doing right, doing just in the land.

VERSE 3
Cmaj7  D  D/C  Bm7  Emadd9
3. In his days Judah will triumph

C  C/D  D  Bsus4  Bm
3. and Israel shall dwell in safety.

VERSE 4
Cmaj7  D  D/C  Bm7  Emadd9
4. This is the name all nations shall call him:

C  C/D  D  Bsus4  Bm
4. “The Lord our Saving Justice”: 
Assembly Edition

A GENTLE SHEPHERD

Gerard Chiusano

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Refrain

A gentle shepherd is the Lord our God,
the one who gathers, the one who loves.

Ev'ry faithful is the Lord our God.

Hold us safe, gentle shepherd, gentle Lord.

Verses

1. Behold the days are coming, says the Lord our God,
2. He shall reign as king and shall govern,
3. In his days Judah will prosper and flourish,
4. This is the name all nations shall

1. God, when I shall raise an upright branch for David.
2. wisely, doing right, doing just in the land.
3. triumph and Israel shall dwell in safety.
4. call him: "The Lord our Saving Justice".

Performance Notes

The refrain of A Gentle Shepherd is inspired by the images contained in Jeremiah 23:3–6 and alludes to the “Good Shepherd” passage of John 10. In the Jeremiah passage, God promises to rescue Israel from the “bad” shepherds—the kings who had brought harm and division—and to anoint good shepherds, under whom Israel will prosper and flourish. The promise of a new king for Israel foreshadows the coming of the Messiah, who will make Israel whole again.

This scripture is proclaimed on the Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time of Year B. A Gentle Shepherd is suitable for that and for other liturgies with the scriptural theme of shepherd, as well as for funerals and celebrations of anointing. The messianic imagery also makes it appropriate for use during Advent.

—Gerard Chiusano