

# SERMON NOTES Sunday 13 October sunnysidechurch

## Bible passages Psalm 23 and Romans 8.31-39

### Introduction

- Psalm 23: King David's psalm about the care, provision and protection of God
- Motivated by the inseparable love of God in Christ Jesus (Romans 8)

### The Good Shepherd

- Leads us to places of true rest and refreshment which is how we will find restoration for our souls
- Protects us with his rod from external dangers
- Uses staff to help us follow his paths where we can flourish by being with him

### The Good Host

- Provides abundant hospitality which even the enemies of God cannot prevent his guests from enjoying
- What enjoy today of God is a mere foretaste of the feast to come in the heavenly banquet

### Conclusion

- Jesus is the Good Shepherd and the host of the heavenly banquet
- 'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.' (John 3.16)

Some questions for discussion

1. Which is your favourite psalm and why?
2. Read Psalm 23. What strikes you about this psalm today?
3. Where do you see the care, provision and protection God offers his people in the psalm? What might that look like for you at present?
4. Read Romans 8.31-39. How do these verses deepen our understanding of God as the Good Host?
5. Both these readings have an eternal perspective. How might it affect the way we live and love to know that this life is not the end of our stories?
6. What is God asking you to do as a result of what he has said to you through these passages? It might be something to pray about, something to think more about, something he wants you to talk to someone about or something he wants you to do. Make a note of it so you don't forget!

Surely your goodness and love will follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord  
for ever. (Psalm 23.6)

Why not spend some time thanking God for his goodness and love and praying for those who need his care, provision and protection today?

Revd Rebecca Fardell