The Good Shepherd
Light a candle and remember the presence of God is with you.
Lay out the green felt underlay.

Jesus told us sacred stories called parables.
Sacred means that something is extra special.
Jesus was extra special.

The stories Jesus told were messages about how to love God and love each other.
Let us wonder how this parable helps us love. (pause)

Place the pieces to match the diagram. (see insert)

Diagram

Light Blue Felt

Dark Blue Felt

Green Felt Underlay

Brown Strips—Sheepfold

Those who love Jesus are like sheep who follow a Good Shepherd.

The Good Shepherd makes sure the sheep have enough to eat.

Use the Good Shepherd as a line leader.
The sheep follow the Good Shepherd slowly to the blue pond.

The Good Shepherd makes sure the sheep have enough to drink.

The sheep follow the Good Shepherd through the dark blue rocks.

The sheep follow the Good Shepherd through the dark blue rocks.

The Good Shepherd makes sure to watch out for the sheep when they are scared.

Tenderly move each sheep back into the sheepfold.

The Good Shepherd loves all the sheep, even though they are all different. He smiles when he says each sheep’s name.

Take a moment to place your finger on each sheep.

The Good Shepherd can lead the sheep safely home.

The Good Shepherd takes care of the sheep.

Take a moment to place your finger on each sheep.
Wondering with God’s Story

I wonder...
... how this parable helps us love?
... if the sheep have names?
... what the voice of The Good Shepherd sounds like?
... what the sheep are scared of?
... how long it takes to come back home?
... how the sheep are different?

Working with God’s Story
1. Have each person retell the story without reading the words. Just use items.
2. Find the story in your Bible and highlight it. You can also look in a Storybook Bible or online.
3. Ask the wondering questions more than once. Dinner? Car? Bedtime?

Check the “Weekly Faith FITness Plan” card.

Illustrator: Nicole Lapointe
Pictures: Worship Woodworks, worship-woodworks.org

The Good Shepherd

Come close to this story/parable of Jesus.

John 10:14-16
(Common English Version)

I (Jesus) am the good shepherd.
I know my sheep, and they know me.
Just as the God knows me, I know the God, and
I give up my life for my sheep.
I have other sheep that are not in this sheep pen.
I must bring them together too, when they hear my voice. Then there will be one flock of sheep and one shepherd.

Ministries Across Generations
docfamiliesandchildren.org
Disciples Home Missions
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Working with the Story (Parable)

1. Lay out the figures and felt pieces as shown in the picture.
2. Lay the light blue pond, and dark navy spaces down on the green felt.
3. To build the sheepfold you need to layer the brown strips. Take turns with each strip until you have built a strong square sheepfold.
4. Place the sheep in the sheepfold.
5. The sheep need a way to get in and out of the sheepfold. Can you make a gate?

Now you are ready to share this parable.
When telling the parable, move the shepherd clockwise on the green felt with the sheep following him slowly.
- **1st** go to the green grass
- **2nd** the blue water,
- **3rd** through the dark blue spaces
- **4th** back home to the sheepfold.

The Sheep knowing the sound of his voice so they follow
The Good Shepherd to every place.

I wonder if the story has all it needs?
Can you tell the story differently?

I wonder if the story has all it needs?
Can you tell the story differently?
Family Prayer

There are so many ways to pray. This week’s prayer challenge is to write a family prayer that shares with God about things you like about where you live.

I/We are thankful for where we live...

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Amen.

Family Prayer

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Amen.