

Dear to the Heart of the Shepherd

Mary B. Rich Wingate, 1899

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♩=155

1. Dear to the heart of the Shep - herd, Dear are the sheep of His fold;
 2. Dear to the heart of the Shep - herd, Dear are the lambs of His fold;
 3. Dear to the heart of the Shep - herd, Dear are the "nine - ty and nine";
 4. Green are the pas - tures in - vit - ing, Sweet are the wa - ters and "still";

Dear is the love that He gives them, Dear - er than sil - ver or gold.
 Some from the pas - tures are stray - ing, Hun - gry and help - less and cold.
 Dear are the sheep that have wan - dered, Out in the des - ert to pine.
 Lord, we will an - swer Thee glad - ly, "Yes, bless - èd Mas - ter, we will!

Dear to the heart of the Shep - herd, Dear are His "o - ther" lost sheep; O - ver the mount - ains He
 See, the good Shep - herd is seek - ing, Seek - ing the lambs that are lost; Bring - ing them in with re -
 Hark! He is ear - nest - ly call - ing, Ten - der - ly plead - ing to - day; "Will you not seek for My
 Make us Thy true un - der - shep - herds, Give us a love that is deep; Send us out in - to the

Refrain *poco rit.*

fol - lows, O - ver the wa - ters so deep.
 - joic - ing, Saved at such in - fi - nite cost. Out in the de - sert they wan - der, Hun - gry and help - less and
 lost ones, Off from My shel - ter a - stray?"
 des - ert, Seek - ing Thy wan - der - ing sheep."

f a tempo

cold; Off to the res - cue He hast - ens, Bring - ing them back to the fold.
 (4th verse) we'll hast - en,