

## **Faith Practice: Bible Study Dwelling in God's Word**

The Psalmist declares to God: *Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.* (Psalm 119:105, NRSV)

Tips for Dwelling in God's Word

1. **Begin.** Read the 23rd Psalm.
2. **Repeat.** Repeat it every day and night.
3. **Reflect.** What is it saying to you for your day to day life?
4. **Listen.** Hear what the Preachers will say about Psalm 23 at our Lenten Midweek services.
5. **Repeat Step 1.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## **Sending Song *Abide with Me* ELW #629:1, 3, 4**

**Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.**

**The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.**

**When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.**

**I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour;  
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?  
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide with me.**

**I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.**

## **Blessing**

May the goodness and mercy of the Lord, our Good shepherd, follow you all the days of your life, and may you dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

**Amen.**

## **Dismissal**

Go in Grace, Grow in Faith, Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

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FAITH-LILAC WAY  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Shepherd Me O God

## March 9, 2022



God is with us.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,

I fear no evil;

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff—

they comfort me.

**Psalm 23:4**

### **Gathering Song**

O servants of God, let us sing our praise.

**We bless your holy name, O God.**

From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**We bless your holy name, O God.**

And your glory shines above the heavens.

**We bless your holy name, O God.**

### **Candle Lighting Litany**

Jesus, you are the light of the world. Shine your light so we may see:  
In the midst of suffering, pain and sorrow and in all of our joys and in gladness,

**God is with us.**

Despite our insatiable desires and our fear of scarcity,

**God is a shepherd who provides.**

When we feel lost, lonely or have lost our way,

**God leads and guides us.**

Even when we feel ashamed or unworthy or somehow “less than,”

God not only makes room for us, but

**God gives us a place of honor.**

We seek God only to discover that we can trust God’s promises because

**God pursues us with grace.**

God provides for us, leads us, and honors us because

**God loves us.**

We respond with faith. As we light a candle this night we bring to you all of our cares and concerns for ourselves, our community and the world.

**Prayer Refrain** O Lord, Hear My Prayer ELW #751

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, answer me.**

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and listen to me.**

*You are invited to light a candle in the window as you sing and pray. Please maintain space between each other - there is plenty of time for candle lighting.*

### **Prayer**

Let us pray together: Loving God,

**we need your presence in our lives, in our pain, and in our suffering.**

**Nestle near us, comfort all who grieve, and show us a way through the**

**valleys in our lives and in your world, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

### **Scripture**

***Isaiah 41:8-10 (NRSV)***

But you, Israel, my servant,

Jacob, whom I have chosen,

the offspring of Abraham, my friend;

you whom I took from the ends of the earth,

and called from its farthest corners,

saying to you, “You are my servant,

I have chosen you and not cast you off”;

do not fear, for I am with you,

do not be afraid, for I am your God;

I will strengthen you, I will help you,

I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

***Psalms 23 (NRSV)***

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;

he leads me beside still waters;

he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths

for his name’s sake.

*Even though I walk through the darkest valley*

*I fear no evil;*

*for you are with me;*

*your rod and your staff—*

*they comfort me.*

You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

my whole life long.

**Homily** “The Lord Is With Us” **Pastor Paul Burow, Family of God**

**The 23rd Psalm in Song** Shepherd Me, O God ELW #780

**Refrain**

**Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears,  
from death into life.**

**God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,**

**I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,**

**I walk by the quiet waters of peace. Refrain**

**Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,**

**you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,**

**my spirit shall sing the music of your name. Refrain**

**Though I should wander the valley of death,**

**I fear no evil, for you are at my side,**

**your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. Refrain**

**You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,**

**crowning me with love beyond my pow’r to hold. Refrain**

**Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life;**

**I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore. Refrain**