

*(Selection from Healing Words: Spiritual Resources for Your Hospital Stay
which our pastoral care workers distribute at no charge.)*

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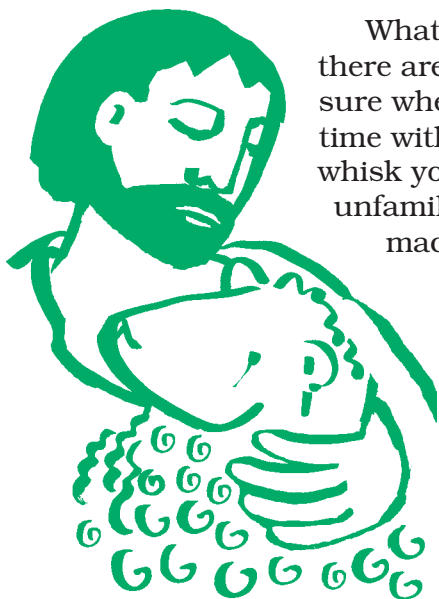
Healing Words®

Spiritual Resources for Your Hospital Stay

The Lord Is My Shepherd

The words of Psalm 23, the “Good Shepherd” psalm, are some of the most familiar and beloved in all of Scripture. They have offered comfort and assurance to thousands of people in all kinds of circumstances, especially to those in the hospital.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. Psalm 23:3



What a comfort to know that “He leads me,” because there are so many times in the hospital when you are not sure where you are going. Someone may come at any time with a wheelchair or even a wheeled stretcher and whisk you off to places you have never seen before, down unfamiliar corridors...strange lights, awesome machines, unaccustomed instruments.

As confused as you may be at times, you are assured that they know where they are leading you. And as sheep in my Good Shepherd’s care, you may be just as sure that your loving Lord is leading them as they lead you. It was your Lord, after all, who gave them their knowledge and their skill; through years of study and training, your God led them...so that they might now lead you...

...into “paths of righteousness.” God, after all, delights in doing right and more than that—in making right what needs to be repaired and redirected. Once, long ago, your Savior gave his very life to make it so! God calls you “righteous”... “for his name’s sake.”

So call upon the Lord’s name again, right now; and trust him, even in this maze of unknown corridors, to lead you with the sure and steady hand that once endured the pain of cruel nails for you. Yes, your Lord will make it right for you—even here!

A Prayer About My Medicine

It comes to me in pills and shots, Lord, sometimes rubbed on and sometimes dripping into my arm...so slowly, almost imperceptibly, that I may not realize the great power and blessing you have placed into these tiny vessels of your healing love.

I pray your blessing on all who prepare and administer them, that they may do so as your servants, guided and motivated by your redeeming care.

As these good gifts now work within my body, Lord, send the strong medicine of your forgiving grace to heal my soul and strengthen it as well. For Jesus’ sake I pray. Amen.



You Visited Me
Matthew 25:36

Lutheran Ministry Services ***Northwest***

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Providing Chaplaincy Service since 1938

Lutheran Ministry Services Northwest (LMS) has faithfully provided spiritual care to individuals and their families in Northwest-area hospitals, nursing homes, care centers, veteran homes, jails, and prisons since 1938. LMS serves as an extension of pastoral care on behalf of all Lutheran congregations in the Northwest, visiting Lutherans and any others who are without regular spiritual support.

LMS is a partnership of chaplains, volunteers and professional staff.

LMS is an enlightened and caring community.

LMS addresses issues raised by those in need of pastoral and spiritual care.

LMS brings compassion and understanding to those facing catastrophic situations.

*LMS is guided by Matthew 25:36: **I was sick...a stranger...in prison...and you visited me. Whatever you did for the least of these, you have done for me.***

LMS Pastoral Care Programs Include:

- Hospital Ministry: Pastoral and spiritual care with support and compassion.
- Nursing Home and Care Center Ministry: Being present and reflecting God's love to those who are away from pastoral and spiritual care and support.
- Jail and Prison Ministry: *LMS* provides chaplaincy services, Bible study and a reflection of God's love by shedding light where there is darkness.
- Veteran's Ministry: *LMS* serves those who have served us so well.
- *LMS* provides Stephen Ministry Training, as well as other educational programs and workshops.
- *LMS* provides this publication (*Healing Words*) for use in visiting congregational members who are in care facilities. Several copies of *Healing Words* are sent to all northwest congregations.
- *LMS* offers counseling services: For those who want guidance but may not have the means to pay for services themselves.
- *LMS* provides chaplaincy services to corporations, businesses, and to other non-profit groups.

Blessings,
Peter D. Wick III
Executive Director



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