

# prayer to the Good Shepherd

Lord of the 23rd Psalm,  
I have known death,  
    and you have refreshed my soul.  
I have known fear,  
    and you have comforted me.  
I have known hunger,  
    and you have set a feast before me.  
In the darkest valley  
    no calamity of humankind or nature has separated us.

Teach me to walk as you walk  
Beside those in mourning  
    so that they will know joy,  
Beside those in fear  
    that they will know comfort,  
Beside those in hunger  
    that they will feast until their cup overflows.

As your goodness and love follow me,  
May mine follow my neighbor  
That the threat of the worst terrors  
May turn to the knowledge of the comforts of  
    the house of the Lord,  
Where you have invited us to dwell forever.

And so let me strive to help build on earth  
What you have promised us in heaven.  
In the face of all calamity, present and yet to come,  
Let me lead my neighbor beside quiet waters,  
The quiet waters of the Good Shepherd.

Amen