

ENCOURAGING WORDS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."
John 14:27

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to his purpose.
Romans 8:28

I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress; my God, in him I will trust."
Psalms 91:2

Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of my hand."
John 10:27-28

You will show me the path of life; in your presence is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.
Psalms 16:11

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from destruction, who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
Psalms 103:1-5

For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 8:38-39

The Lord's My Shepherd, Leading Me

The Lord's my shepherd, leading me
To pastures newly green;
Deep flow the waters of his care,
His mercies unforeseen.
He loves me so, he leads me to
His pastures gently green.



My hungry soul he fills again
With manna from above;
He sets my footsteps right again
In pathways of his love.
For his name's sake he nurtures me
With manna from above.

Even within the vale of death
I feel no threat'ning chill,
His rod and staff protecting me,
His love beside me still.
His guardian love protecting me,
I fear no threat of ill.



How he confounds my enemies
By richly blessing me;
His cup of promise overflows
With generosity.
Anointing me his chosen one,
He richly blesses me.

I take my stand forevermore
Within my shepherd's fold,
Secure in his forgiving love.
How gently strong his hold!
He loves me so, he leads me to
His blessings rich and bold.



*Paraphrase of Psalm 23
by Henry L. Lettermann.*

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Morning

"When I awake, I am still with you." How true the psalmist's words, O Lord, and sure the promise of Your presence! You stayed awake and watchful while I slept, and You draw near to go with me as I begin another day. Abide with me today, O God; bless my waking hours with Your presence, that I may know Your goodness and peace. In Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Meal Time

This tray, O Lord, is one of many being passed out in haste—a seeming duplicate of hundreds like it. Let me see in it Your individual concern for my nourishment. Make me thankful for each bite and for Your love which makes my eating—and my healing—possible: through Jesus Christ, the Bread of life. **Amen.**

Before Surgery or Testing

You know, O Lord, the mysteries within me. You know, as well, the needs that have brought me here and the techniques that will help me recover. Stretch forth Your own hand to guide those who serve you here, and in their skillful ministry let me experience your saving help. Give me calm faith in You, and strength to live in your hope; through Jesus Christ my Lord. **Amen.**

After Surgery or Testing

With heartfelt thanks, O Lord, I now begin to walk anew the road that You have set before me. Stay with me each step of the way, I pray; comfort and strengthen me with Your own healing words. For I journey on, as I have all my life, in Your good name. **Amen.**

Evening

Abide with me, O Lord, for the day is far spent. Forgive, I pray for Jesus' sake, whatever has been misspent of this day. According to Your promise, take all my sins away. And in the quiet of this night keep me assured that You are here, my ever-near Companion who neither slumbers nor sleeps. Let Your good presence grant my loved ones rest as well this night, and waken us all refreshed to journey on with You. In your blest name I close my eyes in peace. **Amen.**