

## Mid-Week Devotional

### Finding Your Way Back From the Liminal



**Read Psalm 23**

**The Lord is my shepherd...**

In the wake of this week's tragedy, many of us are left with more questions than answers. The loss of any life is enough to break our hearts; however, when the loss involves our youth, it just seems to push us into the liminal. That is we are faced with that which we cannot perceive or even believe. We speak of loss, but it seems that doesn't begin to describe what we are feeling; we struggle to better define it, but we can't, so we tell ourselves this simply cannot be happening. It is then we find ourselves in a place beyond what we can comprehend. Our country experienced this during 9/11; our community is experiencing this today.

It is at times like these, perhaps more than any other, that we need worship. Why worship? Because it is through worship that we find our anchor, an anchor that will not leave us to the abandonment that we find in the abyss. It is an anchor that says, I am still God! And so we worship and through worship we declare, confirm, and reaffirm that God is still in control. It is through worship that we not only encounter God, but also find a faith that is over two thousand years old. It is a faith that for at least right now is stronger than our own. So we reach back to what we know, and realize that God is in control both here and even beyond the limits of our understanding, or even our consciousness.

It is easy to feel all alone in the midst of tragedy, however, as David found throughout his entire life; a life mind you filled with great triumphs, but also horrific tragedy, God is ever-present. He is more than the liminal; He extends beyond it, and He cannot be constrained by it. It is through this understanding that we find our hope to survive the moment. We find hope in the knowledge that God is bigger than our tragedies and that He is still in control.

And so David, perhaps while suffering one of many tragic moments in his life, falls to his knees and pens these words, "The Lord is my shepherd." They are words of great hope. Why, because they remind us that even in the midst of tragedy, the Lord is still in control; God has not abandoned us, He is still leading, still caring, and still loving.

So if you find yourself on your knees crying out for help, suffering tragedy in your life, as is our community this day, remember the words of David, "The Lord is my shepherd," then go and worship Him. For it is in falling to your knees and worshipping the God that was, and is, and is to come that you will find hope to survive the moment, as well as your way back from the liminal.

**Blessings,**

**Pastor Ed**