

Sermon Title: **“THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH”**

Psalm 23:1-6

- Why does God allow _____ to happen?
- Every moment of _____ is a forever reminder of the ominous shadow dangling over us (death – the _____ – is perpetually present)
- Whatever happens (both _____ and _____) are allowed by God for a _____ – sometimes unknown to us
 - In Christ, death has been forever defeated and now only a _____ remains
- Psalm 23 is a Psalm for people who are _____ and facing turmoil
- Facing unexplainable tragedy and _____ starts by rooting himself to the _____ and intimate nature of God
- This Psalm is written from the perspective of the _____
- In the Lord, we _____, we’re fully satisfied
 - Like sheep, human beings tend to have a _____, we’re fearful and timid, we’re stubborn and stupid
 - However, in that state, God _____, calls us by name, engrafts us into His family, and _____ for us!
- The picture being painted is a _____ - _____ spot of rest
 - “Paths” = are _____ (and sheep still need a shepherd to _____ no matter how obvious the path appears)
- _____ speaks to the feelings of being secure in the middle of incredibly difficult situations (_____ moving through what is temporary)
- Both the rod and the staff are _____ used by the shepherd
 - “The Rod” is used for _____ (to stop wandering sheep from going astray)
 - “The Staff” is used to _____ and sometimes _____ the sheep
- In the middle of the _____, which an enemy can dish out, and King David found _____ in God (reason to celebrate)
 - “My Cup Overflows” = this is a state of _____