

UMCOR SUNDAY CHILDREN'S MESSAGE





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Please repeat today's memory verse:

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life."

—Psalm 23:6, NRSVUE

David, who wrote the psalms, was a shepherd who later became a king. But in this poem, he thinks of himself as a sheep and of God as his shepherd. This is a poem about how God provides protection even during scary times. Listen for what part you like the best.

Using a shepherd and a sheep from a nativity set, "show and tell" the Twenty-Third Psalm

The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
(lay the sheep down on a green piece of cloth)

he leads me beside still waters; (walk the sheep along a blue strip of cloth)

he restores my soul. (the sheep jumps with joy)

He leads me in right paths (walk the sheep on a strip of brown cloth)

for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through

the darkest valley,

(cover the sheep with a cloth but keep walking it)

I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. (the shepherd pets the sheep)

You prepare a table before me (put a small bowl or hay in front of the sheep)

in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; (pour a bottle of olive oil, with the cap on, over the sheep)

my cup overflows. (put a small cup of water in front of the sheep)

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD (place the sheep and shepherd in a creche or other structure if you have one)

my whole life long. (NRSVUE)





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Let's say today's memory verse again:

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life."

—Psalm 23:6, NRSVUE

Say:

UMCOR Sunday is a day when we help the church reach out to people who are frightened, who don't have enough food or clean water, or who have had other hard things happen to them. Today we act with goodness and mercy to create moments of calm and provide for needs like water and housing. We work with God, the Shepherd, to help take care of one another.

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CHILDREN'S MESSAGE SUMMARIZED FOR MISSION MOMENT

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—Psalm 23:6, NRSVUE

"Show and tell" the Twenty-Third Psalm to illustrate how UMCOR Sunday is a day when we help the church reach out to people who are frightened, who don't have enough food or clean water, or who have had other hard things happen to them. Today we act with goodness and mercy to create moments of calm and provide for needs like water and housing. We work with God, the Shepherd, to help take care of one another.

