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God, from the words of a psalm, we listen to the heart of one who cries out for your help. David said, “My God, My God, why have you forsaken me. Why are you so far from the words of my groaning?” David seems to be feeling all alone ... without comfort or help. Sometimes those same words come from us.

Today, God, there are patients and families calling out your name. There are those who are afraid, of both the present and future. There are others who are confused and uncertain because of the changes and challenges that have entered their lives. There are times when we may feel abandoned and afraid and your presence seems so far away. It seems as if the answers to our prayers are not as we wish, not what we have hoped for.

Perhaps it is for these difficult times that David reminds us in Psalm 23 that “even in the darkest and deepest valley, you are walking alongside of us. Helping, listening, understanding, comforting; leading the way.”

Come closer today, God, remind us you are here. Amen.