

**Living with Loss**  
 The Dark Night of the Soul  
 August 8, 2021

**Verse of the Month**

*“But (Jesus) said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”*  
 (2 Corinthians 12:9–10, ESV)

**Embracing Grief**

*Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.*  
 (Psalm 30:5, ESV)

*In an obscure night  
 Fevered with love's anxiety  
 (O hapless, happy plight!)  
 I went, none seeing me  
 Forth from my house, where all things quiet be  
 (St. John of the Cross)*

*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? (Psalm 22:1, ESV)*

*My soul also is greatly troubled. But you, O LORD—how long?  
 (Psalm 6:3, ESV)*

*How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me? (Psalm 13:1–2, ESV)*

*O Lord, all my longing is before you; my sighing is not hidden from you. My heart throbs; my strength fails me, and the light of my eyes—it also has gone from me. My friends and companions stand aloof from my plague, and my nearest kin stand far off. (Psalm 38:9–11)*

*“When I first entered the monastery it came to pass that I was sad and downcast, nor could I lay aside my melancholy. On this account I made confession to and took counsel with Dr. Staupitz (a man I gladly remember) and opened to him what horrible and terrible thoughts I had. Then said he: 'Don't you know, Martin, that this temptation is useful and necessary to you? God does not exercise you thus without reason. You will see that he intends to use you as his servant to accomplish great things.’”  
 (Luther’s Letters of Spiritual Counsel, Tappert, 85–86)*

1. **Loss and grief is an invitation to enter into \_\_\_\_\_ with God.**
2. **You don’t need to worry about saying the \_\_\_\_\_.**
3. **You don’t need to worry about \_\_\_\_\_ God.**
4. **Sometimes there are no \_\_\_\_\_.**

You are ....	I am ....	I trust ....
I need ....	I thank ....	

