



**Leader:** In the Name of our Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen We thank You, Lord, for the ministry of Shepherd's Canyon Retreat, whose mission is "To provide hope and healing to men and women in full-time ministry who are in the midst of burnout, depression, and conflicts of all types."

Let us read together a poem written by an LCMS pastor a few months before he attended Shepherd's Canyon Retreat:

**Response:** **Camouflage fills my life**  
**I am not what I appear to be**  
**Most see me as "spiritual" and "in Christ"**  
**But I know I am "carnal" and "out of the Light"**  
**Oh, can I fool 'em or what.**  
**My heart is empty, drained and void**  
**Chaos, before creation, darkness and dry**  
**I am angry, hateful and seeking revenge**  
**But people see me as loving, patient, and kind...**  
**Oh, can I fool 'em or what.**  
**I am in a pit, a hole, a canyon, I am lost.**  
**I am worth nothing and good for nothing.**  
**I want out so badly**  
**Lord, have mercy on this sinner!**

**Leader:** Lord, we thank You for the shepherds You have given us, and we pray that You would guide all those who come to Shepherd's Canyon Retreat, and lighten their burdens.

**Response:** *Come to me, all who labor and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light (Matthew 11: 28-30).*

**Leader:** Lord, we lift up the workers You have placed at Shepherd's Canyon Retreat. They have help over 200 church workers who've attended the retreats over the years, and we pray that You would continue to guide them. Please grant this \$3,500 scholarship to a couple in need of your peace and comfort, Lord.

**Response:** **In your Holy Name we pray. Amen.**