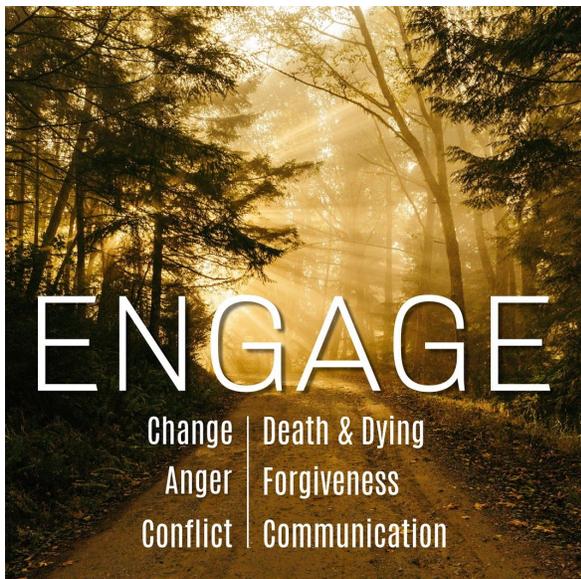


## ENGAGE: DEATH & DYING

September 15, 2019

Michael Swartzentruber, Senior Minister

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### Psalms 55:4-7

My heart is in anguish within me,  
the terrors of death have fallen upon me.  
Fear and trembling come upon me,  
and horror overwhelms me.

And I say, 'O that I had wings like a dove!

I would fly away and be at rest;  
truly, I would flee far away;

I would lodge in the wilderness;

*Selah*

### CONTEXT

The psalmist is wrestling with the betrayal of a companion and the threat of enemies. Before returning to a deep trust in God as protector and provider, this poetic moment draws us into the fear of death common to so many, and the abiding desire to escape it.

### QUOTES

"...what most of us fear isn't death but the process leading up to it."

- Lori Erikson

"...*the* life that Reality offers us is not death avoided, but death transformed."

- Richard Rohr

"Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me"

- Psalm 23

### GO DEEPER

#### ***Three Words & A Funeral***

5:00 PM, Room 108

September 22

Email [michael@southelkhorncc.org](mailto:michael@southelkhorncc.org)

Or [southelkhorncc.org/engage](http://southelkhorncc.org/engage)

#### **Estate Basics**

5:00 PM, Room 108

September 29

Email [endowment@southelkhorncc.org](mailto:endowment@southelkhorncc.org)

Or [southelkhorncc.org/engage](http://southelkhorncc.org/engage)

### PODCAST

*Ologies with Allie Ward*

Episode 7

A conversation on death and dying with thanatologist Cole Imperi (note: adult language)

**South Elkhorn Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**

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## TALKING WITH KIDS

*How Children Understand Death & What You Should Say*

From [Healthychildren.org](https://www.healthychildren.org)

Article link: <https://tinyurl.com/ofaogma>

## REFLECT & DISCUSS

1. Read the passage slowly. Then take a deep breath and read it again. What word, phrase or image stands out to you?
2. Read Psalm 23 and/or Romans 8:38. What does it mean to you that God is with you, even in death (and in dying)? How might that change how you live now?
3. Have you had a conversation about death or dying that made a big impact on you? What did you experience or learn?
4. Was death or dying something you talked about in your family? How about now?
5. In what ways have you prepared for your death? What is one thing you can do today or this week to prepare?

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**Listen Online**

Sermon audio available at [southelkhorncc.org/sermons](https://southelkhorncc.org/sermons)