|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Watts | Lutheran | Psalm 23 (NKJV) | My Thoughts |
| My Shepherd will supply my Need;   Jehovah is his Name;   In Pastures fresh he makes me feed,   Beside the living Stream. | My Shepherd, you supply my need; most holy is your name. In pastures fresh you make me feed, beside the living stream. | “*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.*” (Psalm 23:1–2, NKJV) | Strongly prefer “Jehovah is His name” – to “Most Holy is your name”. The original Hebrew rendered “Lord” is Yahweh – Jehovah. Watts is the better rendition, in my opinion. |
| He brings my wand'ring Spirit back   When I forsake his Ways,   And leads me for his Mercy's Sake   In Paths of Truth and Grace. | You bring my wand’ring spirit back when I forsake your ways, and lead me, for your mercy’s sake, in paths of truth and grace. | “*He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name’s sake.*” (Psalm 23:3, NKJV) | Little difference between the two here. “he, his” vs “you, your”. I prefer he, his; to you, your. |
| When I walk through the Shades of Death,   Thy Presence is my Stay;   A Word of thy supporting Breath   Drives all my Fears away. | When I walk through the shades of death, your presence is my stay; one word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away. | “*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.*” (Psalm 23:4, NKJV) | Prefer “Your” to “Thy”; prefer “one word” to “A Word”. |
| Thy Hand in Spite of all my Foes   Doth still my Table spread;   My Cup with Blessings overflows,   Thine Oil anoints my Head. | Your hand, is sight of all my foes, does still my table spread; my cup with blessings overflows, your oil anoints my head. | “*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.*” (Psalm 23:5, NKJV) | Prefer “Your hand, in sight of all” to “Thy Hand in Spite of all”. Sight is a better rendering than Spite. But prefer to be less direct by using “His” instead of “Your”. He’s talking About his shepherd, not necessarily To his shepherd. |
| The sure Provisions of my God   Attend me all my Days;   O may thy House be mine Abode,   And all my Work be Praise! | The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days; oh, may your house be my abode and all my work be praise. | “*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever.*” (Psalm 23:6, NKJV) | Agree with removing the archaic language. |
| There would I find a settled Rest,   (While others go and come)   No more a Stranger or a Guest,   But like a Child at Home. | Here would I find a settled rest, while others go and come; no more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home. | “*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever.*” (Psalm 23:6, NKJV) | Prefer “There” to “Here”. I think it’s a better rendering. |

Suggested new verses:

1. My Shepherd will supply my need;  
   Jehovah is His name;  
   in pastures fresh He makes me feed,  
   beside the living stream.
2. He brings my wand’ring spirit back  
   when I forsake His ways,  
   and leads me for His mercy’s sake  
   in paths of truth and grace.
3. When I walk through the shades of death,  
   His presence is my stay;  
   one word of His supporting breath  
   drives all my fears away.
4. His hand in sight of all my foes  
   does still my table spread;  
   my cup with blessings overflows,  
   His oil anoints my head.
5. The sure provisions of my God  
   attend me all my days;  
   O may His house be my abode,  
   and all my work be praise!
6. There would I find a settled rest,  
   (while others go and come)  
   no more a stranger or a guest,  
   but like a child at home.