***How is it that some people are able to die with the assurance that death is not the final word?***

**Biblical Death**

* Psalm 23:4
* 2 Corinthians 4:16 – 5:10
* Philippians 1:20-24
* Romans 6:23; 8:38-39; 14:7-9

**Faithful Responses to Death**

* Wisdom and care of our time (Hebrews 12:1)
  + Mystery
  + Legacy
* Lament
  + Job
  + 1/3 Psalms (Matthew 27:46)
  + Lamentations
* Thanksgiving (1 Thessalonians 5:18)
* Hope
  + Christian funerals
    - Expressions of hope for life beyond death
    - Celebrations of both the gift of temporal life and the hope for life with God beyond death
  + The cross; nurturing resistance to the powers of death in this world as we struggle to prevent brutal and unjust deaths in the future
* Awareness of judgment (Romans 5:12-21)
  + In death and in life, we rely on God’s grace, for others and for ourselves
* Mercy (Psalm 103:10-11)
  + Judas

***In the Christian practice of dying well, Christian people do things with and for one another in response to God’s strong love, translating into concrete acts our belief in the resurrection of Christ, and of ourselves.***

**Homework: read and/or listen to Colossians 3:16 considering the practice of singing our lives.**