

A Word of Prayer from **Vilmarie Cintrón-Olivieri and Cindy Kohlman**, co-moderators of the
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Eternal God, sustainer, provider, God of all wisdom and knowledge,

Our spirits are weary, our faith quivers, our minds get clouded by news of sickness and death.
You know our thoughts before we express them, even the fears we dismiss, you know them.

We cannot hide our feelings and worries from you.

So, as we are, we come to You, Oh God, asking for wisdom, for clear minds and open hearts, for
calm and assurance that, through the crisis, You are present. Knowing that “the Spirit helps us
in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes
with sighs too deep for words,”

We ask for wisdom and protection...

For medical personnel, scientists, doctors, nurses, and laboratory technicians.
For those around the world considering current and other health crises.
For health care personnel and caregivers.

We lift them up to You. Bless them with wisdom; protect them from evil.
We ask for clear minds and open hearts as people navigate daily lives...

As closures, cancellations, and quarantines are enacted.
As families gather in their homes, some caring for those who are sick.
As we encounter neighbors in our neighborhoods, stores, and pharmacies.

Bless us with patience and creativity, love and understanding.

We pray for the sick, those who have lost or are at risk of losing jobs in the midst of this crisis,
for those whose health or social services will be or have been affected, for those suffering the
direct effects of this virus, locally and around the world.

Illumine us, Holy Spirit. Show us in what ways we can be of help as we care for self and
others. Enlighten us to know how to help.

We ask for calm, assurance, and strength.

May we all remember that, in the midst of any crisis,

Your grace reaches us,

Your hope enlightens us,

And Your love surrounds us all.

In the midst of the crisis,

Your grace reaches us,

Your hope illuminates us,

And your love surrounds us.

Amen