Loving and merciful Lord, we ask today to be aware of Your Presence, to feel your touch on our forehead and be comforted for You are always here with us. There is nowhere we can go where you are not.

Sometimes it seems we are all alone, that no one understands how unrelenting this pain, how it penetrates our very spirit. It is easy to lose courage until we remember many people suffer, not just us. Help us then ask for the strength to endure what we are given.

Oh Lord, it is not just the physical pain that makes us afraid and anxious. Please help us with our mental pain as well—the voice that tells us our mistakes cannot be forgiven, that we are beyond hope. Forgive us, Lord, our despair, our rage.

But even our most terrible thoughts are not terrible to you. You made us and you know us. That thought comes from You, Lord. You speak to our hearts, and You bring us peace. We thank you for silencing the voices of discord, and filling our spirits with your loving kindness. We may be broken, Oh Lord, but in Your embrace we are made whole. My Lord and my God.