**Solidarity with Sisters’ Contemplative Prayer for**

**the Leadership Conference of Women Religious**

**and the LCWR Assembly, Scottsdale, AZ, August 13-16, 2019**

**Presider:** (*All stand and make the sign of the cross.*) O God, make your presence known among us.

Let’s begin by taking three deep breaths –

One breath to be here, now. (*Pause.*)

One breath to be here, together. (*Pause.*)

One breath for openness to the Holy Spirit moving among us. (*Pause.*)

**Presider:** (Bow.) Glory be to the Creator and to the Beloved and to the Holy Spirit,

**All:** As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

(*Remain standing for hymn.*) (Choose a hymn most people will know.) (*Be seated.*)

**Presider:** In solidarity with the sisters we know and with the whole Leadership Conference of Women Religious, we pray for the 2019 Assembly where they will be "Imagining Leadership in a Global Community."  Take a moment to let that sink in: imagining – leadership – in the actual global community. (*Pause*.) Take another moment to let the word Assembly sink in – not a meeting, not a convention – an assembly, like assembling the pieces of a puzzle, a coming together as a whole that gives greater meaning to every part and that creates new beauty in the world. (*Pause*.) For all of this, for everyone who prepares for and who will come to the Assembly, and also for ourselves, let us pray.

**Prayer:**  O God who creates and who gives breath,

who awakens, who enlivens, who strengthens, and who gives sleep,

be with us this afternoon as we pray to you

in solidarity with the women religious of LCWR

for peace and justice in our global community

and in our church.

We come together in prayer,

trusting that your Spirit will be at work in us.

Help us to let go and to let come.

Help us to be content to live the questions

until you lead us into knowing what you want us to do.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**SILENT REFLECTION FOR ABOUT 40 MINUTES.**

**Presider**: We ask God’s protection, God’s peace, and God’s wisdom for LCWR and for ourselves,

and pray for the needs of the church and of the global community.

* For lasting peace in the global community, we pray. Loving God, hear our prayer.
* For each of us, and our friends at LCWR, that God may bless us with renewal of body, mind, and spirit, we pray.
* For the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, that they will know God’s Spirit in their midst and that they will move in the Spirit with freedom, with peace, and with joy, we pray.
* For Sister Rhonda Miska, who began her Pentecost journey in 2014 when we gathered to explore Spiritual Leadership, and who made her first vows as a Dominican Sister of Sinsinawa, Wisconsin, this past Sunday, we pray.

For what else shall we pray? …

**Presider**: Formed by the Word of God, we now pray as Jesus taught us:

**All**: Our Father………. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory is yours, now and forever. Amen.

**Concluding Prayer**

**Presider:** Blessed are you, Source of light.

All day and all night, we turn to you.

Scatter the darkness that surrounds us

with the light of your presence.

Abide in us and in all who seek you

so that we may carry your light wherever we are.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. **All:** Amen.

**Blessing**

**Presider:** (*All make the sign of the cross.)* May God bless us with abundant peace and wisdom,

protect us from all evil,

and bring us to everlasting life.

**All:** Amen.

**Sign of Peace**

**Presider:** As we go forth in the name of Christ, let us offer each other a sign of peace.