O God, where are hearts are fearful and constricted, grant courage and hope. Where anxiety is infectious and widening, grant peace and reassurance. Amid all the turmoil and changes of the world your love is steadfast and your strength never fails. In this time of uncertainty, be to us a sure guardian and rock of defense. Guide the leaders of our communities, state, and nation with your wisdom. Comfort those ill and in distress and grant us courage and hope to face the future. Through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, Amen.

Prayer adapted from prayers in times of "National distress" and "Time of Conflict, crisis, disaster" within the *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymnal (p.76) Copyright © 2006 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Published by Augsburg Fortress, Publishers. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license # SB135727.