

OPENING PRAYER

God, our loving creator,
You call us each by name and know our heart's every desire.
Be with us as we undertake this important work.
Give us ears to hear between the lines,
To hear the pain expressed in the stories of abused children.
And, give us eyes to see the wonders of your hopeful promise.
That all may be healed and thrive in the light of your love.
Help us to be companions on the journey for all who are abused.
And give us the grace we need to bring this ministry to all who need to hear its important message.
We worship you Lord, we venerate your cross, and we praise your resurrection.
Through the cross and resurrection, you brought joy to the world.

Amen

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord, calm us.
Unite us as we work to help end the terrible crime of child abuse.
Help us see more clearly, our children, so we may recognize when their safety is jeopardized.
Guide us when we have to make difficult decisions to act on behalf of children.
Soothe the weariness and frustrations that creep in as we try to understand these troubling concepts and the destructive, cruel behaviors we have heard about today.
Let us not lose sight that you always offer your gift of hope to all who hear about child abuse and join in the efforts to protect all of your children.

Amen