# Prayer of a Person in Constant Pain 2 (who knows they will die)

*By David Sparks, United Church of Canada minister, and Sheila Noyes, former co-president of Dying with Dignity Canada*

Loving God,you know the pain I am experiencing. It is overwhelming. The pain has dulled my thinking*.* It is constant. It fills every spot in my mind. The drugs help, but they leave me sleepy and struggling to talk to family and friends.

As I need greater pain control, I am frightened. I do not want to die, but *this sickness* has taken that choice from me. My dignity has been taken from me.

As my pain medication is increased, I fear I will lose competency. I will lose the ability to think straight. And I know I need the ability to think straight to qualify for medical aid in dying.

Be my companion*,* Loving God, and accompany my physicians as we apply for the procedure that will end my suffering.

I am grateful for the family that supports me, and I am aware of their anguish, as I see it on their faces daily.

I am grateful for the medical staff who assist me. I am grateful for the drugs that ease the pain.

Sometimes you seem so far away, God. And then I see your love in the kindness of a nurse. I see your love when a neighbour or friend delivers a meal for us to share. I see your love in every card received and every act of caring. I see your love in the compassion of a physician.

I know there is no cure for me, and only death will end the pain I feel. I am grateful for the choice to determine when I die.

Journey with me, God. Continue on this path with me until my very end.

I pray in the name of friend-Jesus, who suffered and died on a cross. Amen