A prayer for those affected by the Black Forest, Royal Gorge and Aurora Fence fires

Creator God, our shelter and safety -
Once again,
we are reminded that the ways of nature are mysterious and awe-some.
Fire is ravaging parts of our state in these dry, hot early days of summer.
Once again,
we realize how at the mercy of elements we live and how fragile
our security and safety can be.
Things can change in an instant.
Once again,
we realize how very much we are connected to
brothers and sisters whom we so often do not know.
We are creatures born in and sustained by community.
So we reach out in prayer, once again,
for brothers and sisters who are in the path of nature's power unleashed,
whose homes have been lost,
whose security has been shaken,
whose ways of living have been disrupted.
We ask that
Your strength infuse those who fight the fires.
Your compassion uphold those who bring relief and counsel.
Your courage well up in those who must contend with fire long after
the flames have been vanquished.
And, in those of us who watch from a safe distance,
stir up Your mercy swiftly so we can help in whatever ways possible.
May Your power, which is greater than any disaster,
restore the earth scorched by flame,
and renew in due season
Your children in need of Your care and healing. AMEN.

Prayer written by Ken Phillips, Regis University Ministry, Ecumenical and Interfaith Programs (2013)