

## Prayers for All Women

As God's beloved people, let us pray for the church, the whole human family, and God's good Creation.

Leader: We pray for women who are pregnant; those who are waiting with joyful expectation, and those who are filled with uncertainty and fear. Your mercy is great.

**People: We pray for women and men who long to be parents, but who struggle with infertility. Join their cries with those of Sarah and Abraham, Elizabeth and Zecharias, that your will may be done in their lives. Hear us, God of Life.**

Leader: We pray for women who are mothers by birth, by adoption, or through foster care. We pray that they may be supported in their mothering task by the men and women in their lives. Your mercy is great.

**People: We pray for women who have lost children, either in utero, through sickness, through war and violence, or through tragic accident. Comfort them, Holy Spirit.**

Leader: We pray for women who give themselves not just through childbearing, but with their intellect, their skills, their gifts, and their physical abilities. Bless all women, that they may be protected from abuse and harassment, and may be valued as unique individuals. Hear us, Holy God.

**People: We pray for women who strive to protect and advocate for those most vulnerable – children, the poor, God's Creation, the disenfranchised, and those men and women whose voices go unheard. Hear us, Holy Jesus.**

Leader: We pray for those for whom this is a day of mourning and sadness. For those who have lost mothers and other important women in their lives.

Comfort them, O Lord.

**ALL: We give thanks for women who have been our mothers, grandmothers, aunts, sisters, daughters, life-partners, and friends. We give thanks for men who have mothered us with their own caring, affection, nurturing, and friendship. Give all your grace and bless them in their lives. We thank you, Mothering God.**

**May we value all the children that you shepherd, Lord Jesus Christ, as we pray the prayer you taught us...**

**Our Father, Who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil; For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory forever. Amen.**