**A Responsive Prayer for Mothers Day**

Leader:

Father God, we come before you on this day where our culture remembers to be thankful for mothers.

We recognize that mothering takes many forms and has many seasons. You are not a God of cookie-cutter conformity but a God who meets each of us right where we are. In joy and pain, age and youth, life and death.

We thank you Jesus that you also experienced a human mother and honoured her just as your word commanded.

Holy Spirit we invite you to express our hopes and our longings and our triumphs as women as we pour out our hearts to you.

This morning our thoughts and our hearts go to women:

Who gave birth this year to their first child or are expecting a new birth.

Congregation:

God we thank you for healthy pregnancies and deliveries!

Leader:

Who went through the death of a child or who experienced loss through miscarriage, failed adoptions, or a runaway.

Congregation:

Holy Spirit bring comfort where there is emptiness.

Leader:

Who spend their hours with young children, nurturing their early years.

Congregation:

Lord grant them patience and joy.

Leader:

Who walk the hard path of infertility, fraught with pokes, prods, tears, and disappointment.

Congregation:

Forgive us for our insensitivity as well-meaning friends. Creator, hear our cries for wholeness!

Leader:

Who have warm and close relationships with their children.

Congregation:

Jesus, be present around our family tables.

Leader:

Who have disappointment, heart ache, or distance from their children.

Congregation:

Father, heal the wounds and call our children home.

Leader:

Whose own mothers have recently left this life.

Congregation:

Lord, may your people support them in love.

Leader:

Who experienced abuse at the hands of their own mother.

Congregation:

Let your healing power flow over them Jesus.

Leader:

Who are raising teens and shaping leaders of the future.

Congregation:

God we thank you for mothers who speak your truth.

Leader:

Who have aborted children.

Congregation:

Jesus we claim the freedom of forgiveness in you. These women and children are in your loving hands.

Leader:

Who are single and long for their own children or who are content in singleness.

Congregation:

Father, perfect their love for you as they wait on you in every situation.

Leader:

For spiritual mothers and grandmothers who continue to nurture spiritual children.

Congregation:

Holy Spirit, fill us with the faith to follow their example.

Leader:

For every woman, young woman, and girl who seeks their identity and wholeness: may they find it in serving you, Jesus, with all of the gifts, talents and energies you have placed in them. May they never believe they are second-place citizens in your kingdom. Fill each one with your Spirit that they might grow in holiness, beauty and love. Amen.