## Prayer Points - Updated October 2024

You are encouraged to commit to a special time of prayer.

## **Pray**

- Lord we praise you for opening the door to the ordination of women and for hearing our long lasting cries and prayers.
- We thank you for the women of our church who are now able to embrace ordination, able to
  embrace the calls you place on them, able to listen deeply to the calls they have squashed or
  denied themselves over many years.
- We pray that you would protect, nurture and encourage each one of us as we step into many new spaces and opportunities to serve you through our church. Rise up women who can serve you as pastors, SMPs, lay preachers, lay presiders over the Sacraments, and ignite a passion for service in your name among the women of our church. Call them loud and clear and unblock the ears of their hearts so they can hear your call.
- We pray that you wrap your arms of love, comfort and care around all our sisters and brothers in the LCANZ who feel hurt and troubled by the YES to women's ordination. Heal and cheer them and lift their eyes only toward you so you can be their strength and so that your love and assurance can fill them. Fill each one of us with compassion and empathy for those who are hurting over this and help us be wounded healers to them, as we follow in the steps of our Wounded Healer. Help us to walk together in Christian unity.
- Loving God, we lift up to you the wives of our pastors of the LCANZ. Wrap your arms of love around each and every single one of these precious sisters. You know exactly where each one of them is at, with some weeping, some leaping for joy, some anxious, some preparing for ordination and others simply coming to terms with what the ordination of women and men might mean for them. You meet each of us where we are. Sustain the wives of our pastors at this time according to your unfailing love, and grant them your peace.
- We also bring before you those men of our church who are preparing to be pastor's husbands.
   Strengthen them to be men after your own heart and get our church community ready for them and their gifts.
- Provide for us all safe and grace-filled spaces throughout our church.

We pray all this in Jesus' name. Amen.