

Prayer Points – Updated 12 December 2024

Please pray:

- Lord, you are our Immanuel, God with us, who comes to us during this busy time of year to remind us of your hope, peace, joy and love. Give us moments of quiet contemplation and refreshment in the midst of the flurry of activity as we prepare to celebrate your birth at Bethlehem.
- Sustain and uphold all women and men in ministry across our LCANZ as they are busy preparing services, preaching, organising and running events, and caring for the people of their congregations during this Advent and Christmas season
- Be with the women who are preparing to meet with those of the church who are preparing the pathway for the ordained ministry. Be with those who are continuing and beginning their studies. Stir the hearts of the women and men of our church to discern their callings.
- Be with those in our church who have longed for the ordination of women for so long and who are now filled with uncertainty, frustration and grief. Let your joy be their strength.
- 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 all of 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.
- We bring before you those men of our church who are preparing to be pastors' husbands. Strengthen them to be men after your own heart and get our church community ready for them and their gifts. Help them as their support and nurture their wives in pursuing their calling to the ordained ministry.
- Provide for us all safe and grace-filled spaces throughout our church.

We pray all this in Jesus' name. Amen.