



A Prayer for Churches Leading Change

Suggested Date: March 7, 2027

God of justice and possibility,

You have called the church to be a community where people are known, loved, and invited to use the gifts you have given them. You call us to become communities where every person can flourish and where the gifts of women are received with joy.

Help us look honestly at our own church.

Give us eyes to notice the traditions, practices, expectations, and assumptions that shape our life together. Show us where our words of affirmation are reflected in our actions, and show us where there is still work to do.

When change feels uncomfortable, give us courage.

When familiar ways feel easier, give us imagination.

When we discover barriers we did not intend to create, give us humility to acknowledge them and determination to remove them.

Help us ask better questions about who preaches, who leads, who makes decisions, whose ideas are trusted, whose gifts are nurtured, and whose calling is celebrated.

May our commitment to women in ministry be visible not only in what we believe, but in the everyday life of our congregation—in our worship, our policies, our leadership, our budgets, our invitations, and our relationships.

Make this church a place where women do not have to prove that they belong, but are given the freedom, support, and opportunity to follow your call fully.

And as we lead change within our own congregation, may that change ripple beyond us, offering a witness to the wider church of what is possible when all whom you call are empowered to lead.

Optional: And now we join in praying the prayer Jesus taught us by saying...

Amen.



A Prayer for Using Our Influence

Suggested Date: March 14, 2027

God who calls and equips,

You have placed us in relationship with one another, and through those relationships, you have given each of us opportunities to encourage, empower, advocate, and create change.

Teach us to recognize the influence we carry and to use it for the flourishing of others.

When a woman's voice is overlooked, help us amplify it.

When her contributions are dismissed, help us name their value.

When doors have been closed, help us open them.

When someone needs encouragement, help us offer it generously.

When bias shapes a conversation or a decision, give us courage to interrupt it.

Remind us that sometimes a single invitation can change the direction of a life. A name spoken in the right room can create an opportunity. A word of encouragement can strengthen a calling. A courageous conversation can begin changing a culture.

Keep us from believing that affirmation alone is enough.

Help us pay attention to the tangible choices we make and the ways those choices shape the lives and ministries of women around us.

Make us generous with our relationships, our resources, our platforms, our opportunities, and our influence.

And when we have the power to make a difference, do not let us underestimate what that difference might mean.

May the way we lead make room for others to lead. May the opportunities we create today become pathways for women to flourish tomorrow.

Optional: And now we join in praying the prayer Jesus taught us by saying

Amen.



A Prayer for Expanding Leadership

Suggested Date: March 21, 2027

God of abundant gifts,

You call people of every gender, race, age, background, and experience to participate in the work of your church.

Your Spirit is not limited by our expectations. Your calling does not follow the boundaries people create. Your gifts are poured out abundantly among your people. And yet, we confess that our church leadership does not always reflect that abundance.

We are grateful for the many gifts already present within our churches and communities. Open our eyes to recognize leadership in all the ways it appears among us. Help us discover gifts we have not yet noticed, nurture voices that are still emerging, and create opportunities for more people to answer your call with confidence and joy. Expand our vision of who can lead.

Help us notice whose voices are present and whose are missing. Help us examine who receives opportunities, who is invited into decision-making, who is encouraged to develop their gifts, and who is trusted with meaningful authority.

Challenge the patterns that repeatedly place leadership in the same hands. Give us imagination to seek out gifts we have overlooked and courage to make room for leadership that may look different from what we have known.

May women not simply be present in spaces of leadership, but fully empowered within them. May they be called, hired, ordained, invited, trusted, heard, supported, and celebrated.

And may the girls and young women growing up in our churches see women preaching, pastoring, teaching, leading, and making decisions so often that they never have to wonder whether there is room for their gifts.

Transform not only how we lead, but who leads among us.

May the leadership of your church more fully reflect the breadth and beauty of the people you have called.

Optional: And now we join in praying the prayer Jesus taught us by saying

Amen.



A Prayer for Becoming Change-Leaders

Suggested Date: March 28, 2027

God who makes all things new,

Throughout the story of your people, change has often begun when someone had the courage to imagine that another way was possible.

We give thanks for those who have helped us see what that possibility looks like.

We remember the women who preached when few expected to hear their voices, who led when others questioned their calling, who entered rooms where women had rarely been welcomed, and who created new possibilities for those who would come after them.

We give thanks for the churches that chose a different path, for leaders who opened doors, for communities that changed policies and practices, and for people who refused to accept that “this is how it has always been” must determine how it will always be.

Help us tell these stories.

Let us celebrate the women whose faithful leadership is changing congregations and communities. Let their stories remind us that change is possible and invite us to imagine what might be possible among us.

And give us courage to become part of the story ourselves.

May our churches become places where people can see what equity looks like in practice—where women’s leadership is ordinary and celebrated, where gifts matter more than gender, and where the next generation encounters fewer barriers than the generations before them.

Help us remember that we are showing others what is possible through the choices we make today.

Through our worship, our leadership, our policies, our invitations, and our stories, let us offer a glimpse of the church we believe can be.

May we not only hope for change. May we lead in ways that make change visible.

Optional: And now we join in praying the prayer Jesus taught us by saying

Amen.