

## **Collect in Honour of the Women's Suffrage Petition**

E te Matua

Father and Mother God

You want us to be fully who  
you have made us to be  
and to have life in all its fullness.

Thank you for the faithful  
witness of the women and men  
who through this suffrage petition  
sought to allow us to live into this reality.

E te Matua

Mother and Father God

strengthen those who continue  
to struggle to end gender inequality  
both in our land and around the world.

This day, we hold before you those women  
with limited educational opportunities, those  
women who dis-proportionally experience poverty,  
those women who still earn less than men,  
we pray for the one in four women of this land  
who experience violence and abuse,  
and we pray for the men who perpetuate  
such violence - Lord in your mercy would you bless  
the women and men of our land with the miracle  
of forgiveness and the miracle of peace.

We pray for the many, many women in our world  
who still cannot exercise voting rights or  
represent their people in parliament.

May we, all tasked with continuing to  
bear witness to gender injustice  
and the flourishing of all people,  
share your deep desire for all your  
beloved children to live in unity,  
equality and mutual honour. Amen