

Equal in Faith 2015 Litany

Presider: Gracious Creator and Giver of all Life,

You have gathered us together in this place
and united us with others throughout the world,
people of many faiths joined as one
to help all to see the inequities women experience in our faith traditions.

All: **Holy Wisdom,
Enlighten us so that we can enlighten others.**

Presider: Caring Advocate,

Your healing love brings justice and reconciliation. Why is it, then, that too often
women's lives and gifts are unacknowledged or sacrificed? We hear promises of
hope and reconciliation while injustice abounds within our religious traditions.

We long for your presence and your all-encompassing love to be revealed more
fully in our communities of faith.

All: **Spirit of Hope and Healing,
Fill us with your love that it may spill overflowing into the world
and produce change.**

Presider: Author of Justice and Mercy,

Nourish our spiritual paths and open our eyes to the violence, subjugation and
subsequent poverty that millions of women and girls endure far too often in the
name of faith.

All: **Spirit of Life and Wholeness,
Open our hearts that your will and living words may enter the world through
us, revealing the far-reaching consequences of institutional injustice.**

Presider: Creative Spirit,

In many religions, an idol is made of men when they are defined as like you while
women are defined as not like you. This false image acts to silence, exclude, and
circumscribe the lives of women in our communities of faith.

All: **Holy Wisdom,**

**Renew our language to correct this distorted image,
and eradicate from our discourse words used to exclude women
from fully participating in the life you give us.**

Presider: Source of All Gifts,

We know that bondage to unresponsive and unchanging religious practices perpetuates injustice, but you have given us freedom to take the words handed down to us and interpret them in a way that opens our minds and hearts to your gifts of service and leadership in whomever they are found.

Embolden us to speak out when women's gifts are usurped and to discard traditions that fail to recognize the equality of women's vocations and spiritual voice.

**All: Spirit of Hope and Healing,
Help us to recognize your gift of women's religious leadership,
to name the injustice of women's rejection,
and to encourage women's full acceptance.**

Presider: Sacred Darkness,

Source of life and fount of love, you created women and men in your image, offering us full equality and humanity.

Over time, women have been dehumanized, claimed as property, enslaved and denied equal access to empowering resources that you would have all of us share.

Too often, women even work against one another, perpetuating the patriarchal foundations of injustice.

**All: Spirit of Life and Wholeness,
Help us to recognize your image in each other;
to befriend and advocate for each other;
and to join together with you in your work of justice for all,
that your radiant beauty may once again be fully revealed in our shared
humanity.**

Presider: Creator of all things new,

You give us time in which to live, a fresh morning every day to begin anew a marvelous journey toward a more just and gracious world—a world in which all

your gifts in all people are celebrated and put to work for the benefit of all creation.

Who will go out and spread the inclusive message of women's equality?
Who can make it happen?

All:

Holy Wisdom,

**Guide us in your ways,
And we will spread the message that we are all created in your image,
Fully equal in faith, ability, and being.**

**Empower us to work for justice and equality, and help us, in turn, to
empower others.**