LEADER: Lord, we gather with thanksgiving for mothers who nurtured us from the moment you knit us in their wombs.

PEOPLE: For this, we give you praise.

LEADER: For mothers who prayed and lived in obedience to the Spirit to become living examples of your providential care,

PEOPLE: Oh, Lord, we give you praise.

LEADER: For mothers who sacrificed and saved and served for the good of their children and generations unborn,

PEOPLE: Oh, Lord, we give you praise.

LEADER: For mothers who did not know how to love us because they had never been loved themselves, so they wounded us out of their own pain,

PEOPLE: Oh, Lord, we seek your face.

LEADER: For mothers who abandoned us for an elusive peace and are still restless because our childhood faces haunt their dreams,

PEOPLE: Oh, Lord, we seek your face.

LEADER: For mothers whose children never took their first breaths but now live free in the joy of your presence,

PEOPLE: Oh, Lord, we seek your face.

LEADER: For women who yearn for the blessing of children and await the delight of motherhood that only you can provide,

PEOPLE: Oh, Lord, we seek your face.

LEADER: For women who mothered us without birthing us and soothed the broken places in our spirits,

PEOPLE: Oh, Lord, we give you praise.

ALL: May the faces of mothers shine with the radiance of your glory as they rejoice in the beauty of your love. Amen

By Rev. Dr. Latonya L. Agard

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