

Creator of every body

A prayer

Erica Lea-Simka

Oh, Creator of every body in all our glorious diversity,

We thank you that we are each and all wonderfully made. Forgive us when we forget that we each and all have a seat at your abundant welcome table. Move us from ignorance to sensitivity, from judgment to humility, from fear to fellowship—ever deepened by remembering that we are all already one in your love.

May we know deep in our being that you call each of us your beloved as we are made in your image. Remind us that we are most whole as Christ's body when we are unified in the sacred calling of faithful discipleship. Open our minds and hearts to serve and to be served by our siblings in faith, especially those who live with all types of disabilities.

May the Holy Spirit transform us so that we more clearly recognize your presence in each other as we experience your presence at work within ourselves. Give us wisdom as we deepen our commitment to solidarity with all struggles, remembering that all justice is intertwined. Strengthen our bodies to be of service as part of the Body of Christ that is made of many bodies.

In the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen.¹

About the author

Erica Lea-Simka is a Christian minister with over ten years of experience serving as a missionary and pastor. She has served primarily Baptist congregations in Wyoming, Texas, North Carolina, and Washington, DC. She currently serves as pastor of Albuquerque Mennonite Church in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

1 This prayer was originally published on the Mennonite Church USA's webpage Welcoming EveryBODY, <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/ministry/peacebuilding/learn-pray-join/welcoming-everybody/>. See this webpage for more resources on accessibility and disability inclusion.