
O God of Creation, We See All around Us

BY CAROLYN WINFREY GILLETTE

O God of creation, we see all around us:
how richly diverse are the people you've made!
In all of our neighbors who daily surround us,
your love for your children is ever displayed.
We're made in your image, we're equal before you;
yet often injustice and hatred abound.
Forgive us the ways that we sin and ignore you,
accepting the structures that push others down.

Christ Jesus, you lived in the same way you taught us;
you welcomed the people that others despised.
You talked and you ate with the poor and the outcast;
you saw every person through welcoming eyes.
Forgive our re-building the walls you have broken—
our making of barriers you came to tear down.
The gift of your cross is the world's reconciling
with God and with all of God's people around.

O God, by your Spirit, now give us a vision
of life in your kingdom through Jesus your Son—
where birthright and culture don't lead to division,
your children are welcomed as members of one.
God, now may we work with a new dedication
for justice, equality, freedom, and peace,
until we are called to your great celebration
and share at your table in your banquet feast.

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