

Mosaic (Week 1): An Introduction to Diversity

Prayers for the Week

Weave these two prayers into your devotional life this week, both used during yesterday's worship service:

Adapted from Rev. Katherine Hawkins (Liturgies Outside):

God of unity and love, Your Son told us to judge not so that we will not be judged, to condemn not so that we will not be condemned, and to forgive so that we will be forgiven.

Your servant St. Paul admonished us to be in agreement with one another, having the same mind and the same purpose, working hard to preserve the unity and peace made possible by Your Spirit in us.

Yet though we are called to be of one mind, we have a wide array of ideas. Called to be united, we are more comfortable with our own kind. And called to live in harmony, so often we'd rather dissent.

Creative God, remind us anew that our diversity of body, mind, and culture is a beautiful reflection of Your own expansive spirit. Enable us to embrace our diversity as a way to draw closer to You and to one another, amen.

Adapted from Rev. Bruce Prewer (The Uniting Church of Australia):

God of all souls, You love diversity, so may You continue to give us the grace to treasure each and every person, celebrate our differences, and show respect in our disagreements.

As You do, may our unified diversity, centered on Jesus our Lord who is saving us, be a light and healing balm in our fractured world, amen.

Explore More this Week

- Why does workplace diversity training so often fail? [Top 4 Reasons Diversity And Inclusion Programs Fail](#)
- Christians should lead the way in conversations about diversity and inclusivity: [Christians Should Lead the Way in Diversity and Equity](#)
- Listen to the beautiful community covenant of one of our denomination's seminaries, focused squarely on diversity, inclusivity, hospitality, mutual respect, and graciousness: [Our Commitment to Diversity & Inclusion - Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary](#)
- Test your own unconscious bias by taking the Harvard Implicit Bias Test: [Take a Test](#)
- A TED talk entitled, "Are you biased? I am," providing some great examples of unconscious bias: [Are you biased? I am | Kristen Pressner](#)
- Two great one minute videos on unconscious bias, and how to take steps to overcome it:
 - [Unconscious Bias Test](#)
 - [How To Overcome Unconscious Bias](#)
- "All of Us," an award-winning 3 min. video on unconscious bias and how to rise above it: [All of Us](#)

