

A Proverbs Prayer

Loving God, we are created in your very image, but as LGBTQ2S+ children, we are often told otherwise. We are told that our gender identities or sexual orientations are wickedly sinful. A sin that somehow destroys God's creation. Whereas for us, our identities represent nothing but love, joy, and fulfillment of being our true selves.

The Book of Proverbs states that seven things are detestable to our creator.

- The haughty eyes that queer people receive from fellow Christians when they enter a non-affirming place of worship.
- A lying tongue that aids in vocalizing hurtful words towards our queer siblings in Christ.
 - Hands that shed innocent blood through massacres, hate crimes and suicide.
- Hearts that devise up wicked schemes to excommunicate, remove, or kill any signs of queerness in Church.
- Feet that are quick to rush into evil, fighting against human rights and protections for our most vulnerable.
 - A false witness who pours out lies, sharing false accusations that sin is the core of our identities.
- And those who stir up conflict in the community, dividing and hurting those who wish for unity.

Our God has taught us to love people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions. As affirming congregations, Jesus has led us to love as He loved. Jesus also teaches us that 'blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled'. Lord, we are starving and dehydrated from constant hatred and harm towards us. We pray that you give us the strength to continue forward, fighting for our rights and the rights of many others who have been victimized by those who claim to follow you.

Loving God, walk with us and our church leaders as we strive to make everyone feel and be welcomed in the house of the Lord. Hear our prayers as we learn to follow you.

Amen.

Affirming Ministries
United Church of Canada

