



## Whole and Holy

We give you thanks, O God,  
for since the dawn of creation  
you have sent your Spirit,  
showering her gifts  
upon the full spectrum of humanity,  
uniting them with understanding,  
to hear a message of justice and peace.

Through her inspiration the young saw visions,  
the old dreamed dreams,  
and your truth was revealed.

You challenged Peter with a vision:  
a sheet lowered from the heavens, filled with  
animals that Jewish Law had labeled profane.  
Your voice told him, “kill and eat,”  
but Peter objected: “No, Lord;  
far be it from me to eat anything that is unclean!”  
Your response to him touches deep into our souls:  
“Who are you to call anything  
that I have made, ‘unclean?’”

The vision spoke of the dignity  
of every human person,  
and led to a more inclusive church in Peter’s day.  
We cling to this same vision,  
for it acknowledges us as your beloved creations.  
It is no illusion, but your Spirit moving in our midst,  
testifying that the whole of our being,  
including our sexuality, was created good,  
in your divine and hallowed image.

You, O God, have created us whole and holy,  
and continue to mold us into a people  
empowered to offer you love and thanks  
and service and praise.  
Sanctify us completely, and preserve  
the whole of our being — spirit, soul, and body —  
blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
One God, forever and ever. Amen.

*An Act of Thanksgiving based on  
Ps. 103:1-2, Acts 10:9-16 and 1 Thess. 5:23  
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ECC Vicar to the Rocky Mountain Region*

The Welcoming and Affirming Churches of the Ecumenical Catholic Communion across the Rocky Mountain Region celebrate and support our LGBTQ siblings during and beyond Pride Month.

With great joy we celebrate the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision affirming that LGBTQ workers are protected under the 1984 Civil Rights Act! Free at last! Yah, right. How’d that work for our Black siblings, who still have the knee of prejudice on their necks? Free at last, until yet another Black transwoman becomes too visible and loses her life.

Yes, we applaud this victory in the courts, but at the same time we continue to challenge the parts of our own Christian tradition that excluded and condemned people for being and living into the truth of their lives and loves. Contrary to the Roman Church in the U.S.A., we oppose any restrictions on same-gender couples’ adoption rights. We also challenge the current Administration’s assertion that one’s personal religious beliefs trump a queer person’s right to health care, and its threatening to withhold federal funding if our schools allow transgender athletes to play.

No, we aren’t there yet, but together in prayer, love and commitment we’ll get there.