

**National Coming Out Day Resources**  
**From the Disciples LGBTQ+ Alliance**  
[www.disciplesallianceq.org](http://www.disciplesallianceq.org)

**NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY LITANY**

*We invite you to use or adapt this litany as a call to worship or another worship element in prayer and proclamation of the belonging the church extends to people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.*

One: We are gathered by the God who creates;

All: The God who liberates and heals.

One: We are filled by the Spirit who breathes life into our bodies;

All: The Spirit who brings us together as one.

One: We are led by Christ, whose yoke is easy.

All: By Christ, whose burden is light.

One: Though we are many, we are united in grace,

All: We a mosaic made in God's image.

One: Though we are many, we are God's children,

All: We are beautiful in the colors we express of God's love.

## PRAYER

*We likewise invite you to use or adapt this prayer as a worship element that petitions and proclaims for Christ's open invitation to be extended to all.*

God who breathes life into each of our bodies,

You speak creativity into chaos,  
and all that you make is good.

We are made in your image,  
bearing your grace, your peace,  
and your love.

We are created by you, our creator,  
to go out and to create—  
wholeness where things are fragmented,  
harmony where things are out-of-tune,  
peace where there is strife,  
and love where there is hatred.

Forgive us, God, for the places in which we  
have not embraced this call.

Forgive us for the fragmented identities,  
the dissonance between us and you,  
the strife we have placed on others,  
and the hatred we have failed  
to put to an end.

As Jesus confronted people around him  
when they had twisted your call  
into something it was not—  
flip over the tables of our heart,  
and let us see the simplicity of your  
all-embracing love.

God who is present with all people—  
Lead us and unite us in your Spirit,  
who mends together things that are broken.

Send us forward with your radical love—  
a love that discriminates against no person,  
a love that celebrates the abundance of ways  
that we humans, your creation,  
walk and love and live.

Hold us together with your radical love—  
when we are despised for our difference  
or when we don't know what to make  
of the difference of another.

Shine through us with your radical love—  
so that we, your people,  
may form a mosaic made in your image,  
where beauty, hope, healing, and love  
color every corner of who we are.

Amen.

## BLURBS

*We invite you to use either of the blurbs below in newsletters, bulletins, and other outlets to provide more information about National Coming Out Day.*

— Long Blurb —

National Coming Out Day is October 11, a day that encourages public awareness and celebration of minoritized sexual orientation and gender identity. Many take the idea to remember their own coming out story, and some choose to come out publicly for the first time on National Coming Out Day. Robert Eichberg and Jean O'Leary founded the first National Coming Out Day on October 11, 1988, the day of the second national march for equality for persons of all gender and sexual identities in Washington D.C.

Many people assume they know no or few people who are LGBTQIA+. National Coming Out Day can be a day for Christians to ask themselves how they are building spaces that don't just tolerate but fully welcome and celebrate minoritized sexual orientations and gender identities, especially in a world in which many lack a safe space to "come out." An individual's coming out is a path of their own, and can look many different ways. As Christians, may we extend the welcome of Christ, who says "'Come to me, all who are tired, weary, and worn, and I will give you rest."

More resources:

- Full-service liturgy provided by the Alliance in 2010:  
<http://welcomingresources.org/worshipforNationalComingOutDayorSolidaritySunday.pdf>
- The Human Right Campaign's resource guide to coming out:  
<https://www.hrc.org/resources/resource-guide-to-coming-out>
- The Trevor Project's resource guide to coming out:  
<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/about/programs-services/coming-out-as-you/>

— Short Blurb —

National Coming Out Day is October 11, a day that encourages public awareness and celebration of minoritized sexual orientation and gender identity. Many take the idea to remember their own coming out story, and some choose to come out publicly for the first time on National Coming Out Day. This day challenges Christians to ask themselves how they are building spaces that don't just tolerate but fully welcome and celebrate minoritized sexual orientations and gender identities, especially in a world in which many lack a safe space to "come out." May we extend the welcome of Christ, who says "'Come to me, all who are tired, weary, and worn, and I will give you rest."