

## Diversity

*Read 1 Corinthians 12*

Father, in the Church, in Your Body,  
we flinch at our diversity.  
How often we wish that others weren't so  
painfully different than us!  
If only "they" were as enlightened as we are!

But You remind us that diversity is a blessing,  
a good and perfect gift  
from You, our all-wise, all-loving Father.  
How could we function as a Body without tough bones,  
angular elbows,  
stretchy tendons, and  
sensitive nerve cells?  
Diversity enables us to be who we need to be as a whole.  
Diversity is given to nurture our unity,  
not destroy it.  
We need each other!  
We need our differences!

In the Body of Christ there is no place for  
partisanship or  
self-centered pride.  
Individually, each of us is  
small and incomplete.  
Only together, only in our  
head-spinning  
ever-challenging variety  
are we the Body of the glorious, universal Christ.

*Together we are the Body of Christ.  
How crucial it is that we live  
patient, persistent, forbearing love,  
for we are members of each other.  
We are all vitally connected.  
If we harm another believer, we harm ourselves,  
our brothers and sisters, our cause, and  
our Savior Himself.*

### **Hymn: One in Jesus**

<http://lnwhymns.com/Hymn.aspx?ID=69>