

There is Room in God's Great Welcome

HOLY MANNA 8.7.8.7 D ("God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens")

There is room in God's great welcome; See! The doors are open wide!

Here on earth as in God's heaven, hear the call to come inside!

There is so much room for difference— men and women, gay and straight.

In God's love, the rooms are countless, but there is no room for hate.

There is room in our good nation if we stand on justice-ground.

God has made a good creation; colors, cultures all abound.

Welcome, sister! Welcome, brother! All those yearning to breathe free!

There is room for one another but no room for bigotry.

There is room for understanding, for the outcast and the poor;

For the Christian, Jew and Muslim— there is room for these and more.

For the people on the fringes, for the ones with long career,

There is room for building bridges, but there is no room for fear.

There is room in faithful churches for the wounded and oppressed:

Women who've been told they're worthless, refugees who feel distressed,

Immigrants who fear the future, people scorned and pushed and shoved.

God, may we seek what you treasure: may we all make room for love.

Biblical References: Deuteronomy 10:19; Leviticus 19:34; Isaiah 56:1-8; Matthew 5:26-48; 25:31-46; Mark 5:25-34; Luke 10:35-47; 13:29; 14:15-24; John 3:16-17; 14:2; 10:16; 13:3-35; Acts 2:21; 8:26-40; 10:34; Romans 13:10; Galatians 3:28; Ephesians 4:30-5:1; Hebrews 13:1 and 1 John 4:7-8.

Tune: William Moore's *Columbian Harmony*, 1825 ("God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens") [\(MIDI\)](#)

Alternate tune: RESTORATION, Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835 ("Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy") [\(MIDI\)](#)

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Deuteronomy 10:19 You shall love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt

Leviticus 19:34 Love the alien in your land

Isaiah 56:1-8 God gathers the people including those who feel excluded

Matthew 5:26-48 - We can't just love those close to us; even the tax collectors do that

Matthew 25:31-46 Just as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me

Mark 5:25-34 Woman who was healed after suffering 12 years

Luke 10:35-47 The Samaritan was the good neighbor

Luke 13:29 - From east and west and north and south at God's banquet table

Luke 14:15-24 The Great Banquet Feast

John 3:16-17 For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that everyone who believes in his will have eternal life.

John 14:2 - In my Father's house are many rooms

John 10:16 - I have sheep who are not in this pasture

John 13:3-35 - Beloved, let us love one another

Acts 2:21 Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved

Acts 8:26-40 - Conversion of Ethiopian eunuch

Acts 10:34 - God shows no partiality, but in every nation there are people who follow him

Romans 13:10 - Love does no wrong to a neighbor

Galatians 3:28 - All are one in Christ Jesus

Ephesians 4:30-5:1 - Be kind to one another

Hebrews 13:1 - Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers

1 John 4:7-8 - Beloved, let us love one another