

WELCOME THE STRANGER

“Any immigrant who lives with you must be treated as if they were one of your citizens. You must love them as yourself, because you were immigrants in the land of Egypt.” Leviticus 19:33,34 CEB *“He (Jesus) replied, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘You must love your neighbor as you love yourself.’”* Matthew 22:37-39 CEB

“Welcome the stranger into your land.”

We’ve been excluded; we all understand;
so, we should welcome those now reviled--
we’re in some way an immigrant’s child.

Refrain:

**God welcomes people, each one the same,
whatever country, color, or name,
or what they name God during their prayer.
Inclusive Love will listen and care.**

Jesus our Savior issued this call:

“Love God completely, this first, above all:
and, love your neighbor just as yourself.”

So may God’s world find wholeness and health.

When we are fearful of folk unknown,
God's gracious Spirit will challenge our own:
"Greet your new sister, brother, in peace;
let trust unite, and justice increase."

Words: R. Frederick Crider ©2017 www.fredshymns.com Some rights reserved. Lev. 19:33-34 CEB; Matt. 22:37-39 CEB

Suggested Tune: "ASSURANCE" Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873 9 10.9 9 with refrain (cf. "Blessed Assurance" p. 369 UMH)

Hymns'17.2.12email