To Reach Across Borders

Lord of All,

Some of us make our homes on hills, others in valleys. Some in tall buildings, some on shorelines, some at risk on the street. And we divide up our patches with lines we scratch into the ground And call them borders.

Where the lines don’t suffice, we build fences. Where fences fail, we dig moats. Where moats aren’t enough, we erect walls.

But what if we were to look across these borders? Across fence, moat, and wall And see you on the other side?

Lord, teach us to reach across all borders, Fabricated or natural, To join with all our brothers and sisters To unify, and not separate. To honor all who wander Seeking hope, seeking opportunity—seeking you As assuredly as we seek you.

Lord, let no border ring our hearts. May we find a place within them for all. Turn our hands from building walls Toward building justice. Stretch our arms across fence, wall and moat To seek out those on the other side That we might find you in each other’s eyes In each other’s hands In each other’s wounds.

Amen