



Build a Longer Table



Build a longer table, not a
higher wall,
feeding those who hunger,
making room for all.
Feasting together, stranger
turns to friend,
Christ breaks walls to
pieces; false divisions
end,



Build a safer refuge, not a
larger jail;
where the weak find
shelter, mercy will not
fail.

For any place where
justice is denied,
Christ will breach the jail
wall, freeing all inside.



Build a broader doorway,
not a longer fence.
Love protects all people,
sparing no expense.
When we embrace
compassion more than
fear,
Christ tears down our
fences: all are welcome
here.



When we lived as exiles,
refugees abroad,
Christ became our
doorway to the reign of
God.

So must our tables
welcome those who roam.
None can be excluded; all
must find a home.

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Wesley, Frank, 1923-2002. The Hand of God is My Refuge, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59261> [retrieved July 4, 2024]. Original source: Estate of Frank Wesley, http://www.frankwesleyart.com/main_page.htm.

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