

The draft texts, proposed by the bishops of the Church of England, will be considered by General Synod in February alongside other proposals in response to a six-year process of listening, learning and discernment on questions of identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage known as *Living in Love and Faith*.

The bishops have also made a direct public apology to LGBTQI+ people for the way in which the Church has rejected or excluded them, admitting: "We have not loved you as God loves you, and that is profoundly wrong."

The apology is set out in a pastoral letter from the bishops of the Church of England which also recognises that they disagree over same-sex marriage and proposes a way forward which could be put in action within months.

A report - Living in Love and Faith: A response from the Bishops of the Church of England about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage – sets out the bishops' proposals and recommends areas for further work.

There is also a book of draft worship resources – *Prayers of Love and Faith*. It is a range of prayers and readings which could be used in a church service, such as a Service of the Word or a Service within a Celebration of Holy Communion.

Read our press release for more about the Bishops' immediate response to the Living in Love and Faith journey and download the full report below.

- A response from the Bishops of the Church of England about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage (503.22 KB)
- Draft Prayers of Love and Faith (692.51 KB)

## **Resources**

In their discernment and decision-making, the bishops have drawn upon the resources produced as part of the LLF process. These include the LLF Book and a number of LLF essays that can be found in the **online library** on the LLF Hub and are listed in **this document**.

# Marriage, civil marriage and holy matrimony

- A Brief History of Marriage Law Julian Rivers
- Family and Household Nathan MacDonald
- Theology of Marriage Simon Oliver
- Christian Theology and the Family Susannah Cornwall
- Blessing and LLF Isabelle Hamley
- Blessing Walter Moberly

## The Church and disagreement

- Unity, Division and Living in Love and Faith as the Church of England Andy Angel
- Inclusion and Exclusion in the New Testament Jennifer Strawbridge
- Change in the Church: How the Church can change its mind, with particular reference to moral questions Will Adam
- Holiness and Inclusivism in Isaiah and Ezekiel: An Exercise in Theological Exegesis Nathan MacDonald

#### **Sexuality and disagreement**

- Can channels of grace be in conflict? Walter Moberly
- Disagreement about the Bible Mike Higton
- Moberly-Wright Conversation Walter Moberly and Chris Wright
- Further Thoughts Walter Moberly and Chris Wright
- How does God communicate through the canon of Scripture? Chris Wright
- Conscience Sean Doherty

#### **Bodies and sex**

The Body: Holiness and Sin - Amy Daughton

- Bodies, Gender and Sexuality Isabelle Hamley
- Reflections on the Song of Songs Walter Moberly

**Source URL:** https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/living-love-and-faith/bishops-response-living-love-and-faith