

125 Limeridge Road West, Unit 2,  
Hamilton, ON L9C 2V3  
30 September 2014

Commission on the Marriage Canon  
Anglican Church of Canada  
80 Hayden Street  
Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2

Dear Members of the Commission,

Forty-five years ago my husband and I had the privilege of being married in St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church in Hamilton, Ontario. At that time we did not have a Eucharist because my husband, then a United Church member, would not have been able to receive communion. Now, of course, any baptized person may partake.

In this and many other ways the Anglican Church of Canada has grown in wisdom and practice since that time. It is my belief that in order to follow Christ's example and his teaching in the second Great Commandment, we must as a church demonstrate that our love for others is all-inclusive. If we as a Christian community continue to deny marriage to same-sex couples, then we are not showing our love for all.

I realize that there are priests who would find themselves unable to perform same-sex marriages because of the dictates of their own consciences. A solution to this would be for them to refer a couple to a neighbouring priest who does perform same-sex marriages.

I urge you to draft a motion which will allow all to partake in the sacrament of marriage.

Thank you for your consideration,

E. Clare Stewart

Church of the Resurrection, Hamilton, Ontario