

I have never liked quoting scripture because for as much Good News is written in our holy texts, there are many horrible and deplorable pieces that have been used to hurt and oppress people since the beginning of time. At this point in our Christian story, we currently use our holy texts to exclude Christians who are LGBTQIA from marriage.

The Anglican community needs to stop hiding behind its holy texts and traditions in the name of God to hurt the very people whom God has called us to love. We love because God first loved us. Because of this love, we stopped using our holy texts and traditions to promote the oppression of women, support slavery, and segregation of races. We actively tell our fellow LGBTQIA Anglicans every day that they and their relationships are not good enough for marriage when we exclude them from one of our church's most celebrated sacraments.

At the end of the day, I don't want to be part of a community that deliberately and purposely injures and excludes a member from receiving the sacrament of marriage based on whom s/he is called to love.

Mary-Kathryn Barbier
St. Matthias
Diocese of Niagara
mary-kathryn@hotmail.ca
519 993-1042