

LGBT+ Inclusion in the Episcopal Church

Session 3 Notes – Queer Theology

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Background Reading:

- Article: “Radical Love: Why Christianity is a Queer Religion”
https://www.huffpost.com/entry/radical-love-why-christia_b_841547
- Book Recommendation: *Outside the Lines: How Embracing Queerness Will Transform Your Faith* by Mihee Kim-Kort

Key Concepts

- Constructive or Liberation theologies – God calls us to see the context and oppression of our times, and to respond with love to strive for the Kingdom of God.
- The final promise of our Baptismal Covenant “To strive for justice and peace on the earth, and respect the dignity of every human being.”
- Called to a radical love – A love that breaks down all socially constructed barriers
- Why “Queer”?
 - Breaking down false binaries,
 - Breaking barriers of gender or sexuality.
 - Breaking social, religious, traditional norms
- Love is – Patient, kind... builds up, no longer male and female...
- Jesus – Always breaking barriers, in the name of Love
- Queer theology –
 - Seeks out queer perspectives, stories, witness
 - Seeks the queerness in scripture
 - Orients us toward what matters the most – living the Love that Jesus proclaimed

Key Scriptures about boundary-crossing, inclusive love

- God's intimate knowledge and love of us: Psalm 139
- Nothing can stop the Love of Christ: Romans 8:21-29
- Love is... 1 Corinthians 13:4-10
- Unity in Christ... Galatians 3:25-29, Colossians 3:11
- David and Jonathan: 1 Samuel 18:1-5
- The Song of Mary: Luke 1:46-55
- Jesus' mission statement: Luke 4:14-21
- Jesus' Commandment to us: John 13:34
- Jesus and outcast women:
 - John 8:1-11, John 4:4-42, Luke 7:36-50
- The Good Samaritan: Luke 10:25-37

Treating people with dignity: James 2:1-4