



**Responding to the  
Sacred:  
Gender and Liturgy in  
Conversation**

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12-17th April 2021

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**MONDAY**  
**12TH APRIL**  
**7PM**

**Contextualising with Bridget Nichols and Merete Thomassen**

Bridget Nichols will give an overview of gender and liturgy in the Anglican Communion to provide a context for discussion. Merete Thomassen will respond drawing on her experience of liturgical revision in the Lutheran Church in Norway.

**TUESDAY**  
**13TH APRIL**  
**7PM**

**Made in God's Image with Beverley Clack and Harriet Harris**

Beverley will talk about questions raised in relation to the (gendered) nature of God and humankind, and Harriet will respond.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**14TH APRIL**  
**7PM**

**Responding to the Masculine with Bill Paterson and Léon Van Ommen**

Bill Paterson will talk the changing nature of masculinity and his work with men's groups. Léon Van Ommen will respond in terms of how this might be integrated into the discussion of liturgical change.

**THURSDAY  
15TH APRIL  
7PM**

**Embodiment with Lisa Isherwood and  
Marion Chatterley**

Lisa Isherwood will talk about body and feminist theology from her experience of teaching and academic leadership over many years, and Marion will respond.

**FRIDAY  
16TH APRIL**

**Gathering Feedback**

Send the team your thoughts and questions. It's also your last chance to email us for the link to Saturday's Zoom plenary: [genandlit@gmail.com](mailto:genandlit@gmail.com)

**SATURDAY  
17TH APRIL  
10AM**

**Zoom Conference Plenary, chaired by  
Trevor Hart**

Our speaker and conference attendees will have a chance to discuss issues and themes brought up over the week, with opportunity for live q and a from our audience.

**2PM**

**Concluding Act of Worship: Modelling  
Ideas**

## **Our Speakers and Contributors include:**

**The Revd Canon Dr Marion Chatterley** (SEC) is Vice Provost at St Mary's Cathedral in Edinburgh. She is honorary LGBTQ+ chaplain at the University of Edinburgh, co-facilitates a monthly LGBTQ+ and spirituality group and has a ministry amongst people who are living long-term with HIV. She is already involved in encouraging conversations on a theology of gender identity within the Diocese.

**Professor Beverley Clack** (Oxford Brookes University) is Professor in the Philosophy of Religion. She is a member of the Executive Board for the journal *Feminist Theology*, and a member of the Methodist Church. From 2012-16 she was City Councillor for St Clements Ward in Oxford, and from 2016-2018 she was a member of the Labour Party's National Policy Forum. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

**The Revd Dr Harriet Harris** (SEC & University of Edinburgh) is lead University Chaplain of the multi-faith Chaplaincy Team she established at Edinburgh, Her research field covers Protestant fundamentalism, feminism and philosophy of religion.

**The Revd Canon Professor Trevor Hart** (SEC) is Rector of Saint Andrew's, St Andrews and Canon Theologian of St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth. He was formerly (1995-2013) Professor of Divinity and founding Director of the Institute for Theology, Imagination and the Arts in the University of St Andrews. He has served four terms on the Doctrine Committee of the SEC, including two as Convener.

**The Revd Dr Jenny Holden** (SEC) is Assistant Curate at St John's, Crown Terrace in Aberdeen City Centre. Prior to ordination she was involved in various activities encouraging participation in science by all, including schoolchildren, young and female academics in the UK and in Europe-wide organisations.

**Professor Lisa Isherwood** (University of Wales, Trinity St David) is Director of the Institute for Theological Partnerships and Professor of Feminist Liberation Theologies at the University of Winchester, UK. She writes and teaches on religion, gender & sexuality, biblical studies and feminist theology.

**Dr Alison Jasper** (SEC) recently retired from full time work at Stirling University as Senior Lecturer in Religion and Gender Studies. She has an academic background in Christian theology, philosophy and feminist biblical hermeneutics. She was Chair of the Board of Trustees for Stirling and District Women's Aid from 2012-2018. She is married to a priest in the SEC and lives in Glasgow. She has three daughters.

**The Rev Canon Prof. David Jasper** (SEC) is emeritus Professor of Literature and Theology at the University of Glasgow, and a serving priest in the Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway. His more recent research has been focussed on early Christian theologians and Desert theology.

**Dr Bridget Nichols** (Church of Ireland Theological Institute) is a lecturer in Anglicanism and Liturgy and President of Societas Liturgica. She has published widely in this area. She is a consultant to the CoE Liturgical Commission, and previously was Lay Chaplain and Research Assistant to three successive Bishops of Ely.

**Dr Armand Léon Van Ommen** (SEC & University of Aberdeen) is a lecturer in practical theology at the University of Aberdeen and a member of the SEC Liturgy Committee. His research focuses on liturgy, ritual, narrative, suffering and reconciliation. Recently he has been developing an interest in liturgy through the eyes of those who are autistic.

**Dr Bill Paterson** (PhD) (Be Mindful Fife) is a mindfulness coach. He has worked at the front line of mental health in Fife; teaching Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy; Mindfulness Based Living Course; Compassion Based Living Course for young people (11-18 year old). Between 2016-17 he spent 18 months on secondment to CAMHS, and continues to work with LAAC. He is also interested in the subject of masculinities and has considerable practical experience of running men's groups.

**The Revd Dr Merete Thomassen** (Lutheran Church of Norway, and University of Oslo) is an Associate Professor in Liturgical Studies at the Faculty of Theology. She wrote her PhD thesis on gender and liturgy with reference to the ecumenical decade of churches in solidarity with women 1988-1998 and was closely involved in liturgical revision in Norway in the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Dr Kathryn Wills** (University of Glasgow) is an English teacher turned researcher who has spent the last five years researching her doctorate on the theological implications of Yves Bonnefoy's translations of key WB Yeats poems. She is now developing these ideas into a book. She has long been passionate about feminist theology and is also exploring the Gothic and gender. At a practical level, she is at the coal face, attempting to deal with problematic issues for women within the Roman Catholic church.



**A Space to Bless, live from St Mary's Cathedral  
Every day at noon (12:00-12:15 BST)  
Monday 12 April - Friday 16 April**

Queen Jesus Productions presents 'A Space to Bless from St Mary's Cathedral' - a radical queer space for contemplation, connection and meditation.

Each daily chapter will be live-streamed at noon from the stunning St Mary's Cathedral - offering a gathering, a text, space for meditation and a blessing, for a short time each day.

The five chapters will incorporate elements of Jo Clifford's groundbreaking play *The Gospel According to Jesus, Queen of Heaven*, reimagined in this unique setting - inspired by and respecting the building's use, stunning physical features and fascinating history.

**The Gospel According to Jesus, Queen of Heaven - 18:00 (BST) on Friday 16 April**

The week will close with a screening of *The Gospel According to Jesus, Queen of Heaven*, recorded as live and streamed from Augustine United Church in Edinburgh on Saturday 19 December and Sunday 20 December 2020.

Queen Jesus Productions is pleased to offer all conference goers a free ticket to attend all five chapters and the screening of *The Gospel*. Please contact Annabel to book your ticket. ([annabel.cooper.online@gmail.com](mailto:annabel.cooper.online@gmail.com))

More info: <https://www.queenjesusproductions.com/a-space-to-bless-st-marys>

The Conference Steering Committee are most grateful to the following people and organisations:

Scottish Episcopal Church Liturgy Committee

Rev Canon Audrey O'Brien Stewart, Canon Missioner, Glasgow and Galloway

Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane

Bishop Ian Paton

Jim and Maida Gibson

The Vestry of St Margaret's, Newlands

Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway

Petko Marinov, Digital Missioner, Glasgow and Galloway

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