



REF:ACT/LT/GS/2023/22

27 February 2023

OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF TANZANIA ON THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE GENERAL SYNOD OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND WITH REGARD TO SAME SEX BLESSINGS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

To all bishops, clergy, lay faithful in the Anglican Church of Tanzania and our brothers and sisters in Christ in the other parts of the Anglican Communion.

Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, will be with us in truth and love.

Grace, mercy and peace be with you from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love (cf. 2 John 1:3).

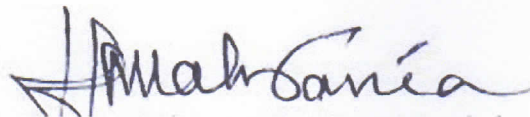
Greetings in the mighty name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

In the name of God, Amen

1. As you are aware that at its recently regular meeting, the Synod of the Church of England voted in favor of a resolution to allow same-sex civil union to be blessed in the Church of England. It is said that this resolution has not yet canceled the previous position of the Church of England that marriage is between two people, a man and a woman, in a committed life long relationship. It is argued that the synod of the Church of England voted in favor to bless same sex people and not their relationships. This is a very difficult distinction so to make.

2. We are sorry to say that this decision has left many questions for Christians in various parts of the Anglican Communion and even non-Christians including here in Tanzania and especially considering that under article 3(3) of its constitution, the Anglican Church in Tanzania is part of the Anglican Church throughout the world in the fellowship of the churches with one Holy, Catholic and apostolic church having a connection with the Archbishop of Canterbury.

3. Being deeply disappointed by the Church of England's decision, the Anglican Church of Tanzania do reaffirm statement made in 2006 that same sex unions has no biblical ground whatsoever and based on the decision made our relationship with the Church of England(Mother Church) is severely impaired. The Anglican Church of Tanzania will not affirm this decision as it has no legal binding effect to any constituent member church of the Anglican Communion.
4. The Anglican Church in Tanzania shall continue to teach that marriage is between a man and a woman and affirm its orthodox teaching that anything contrary to Scriptures is against the will of God. We call upon all clergy and lay faithful to prayer so the will of God will be discerned to the church not only here but the global church.
5. May our joy be to follow to the end the road on which we have embarked in following Jesus Christ, the Son of God and Saviour of the world.
6. We call upon the Church of England to refrain from making decisions that will continue to bring pain to the Anglican Communion and the body of Christ in general.
7. We pray that you all live by faith in the Son of God who loved you and gave himself for you (Cf. Gal. 2, 20) that you may be faithful to your calling and never lose sight of the great privilege that is ours: to collaborate in communicating Christ to the world and to build his Kingdom of holiness, justice and love.



The Most Rev Dr. Maimbo Mndolwa

PRIMATE AND ARCHBISHOP – ANGLICAN CHURCH OF TANZANIA



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