

## The Global South Fellowship Of Anglican Churches (GSFA)

3 October 2025

## GSFA Statement on the Appointment of the Rt Revd Dame Sarah Mullally, Bishop of London, as the Archbishop of Canterbury

While we shall of course pray for Bishop Mullally as she assumes this historic position, we feel compelled to say that we feel this appointment is a missed opportunity to reunite and reform the Anglican Communion.

In June, we issued an <u>open letter</u> to the Crown Nominations Commission urging that 'the next Archbishop of Canterbury should be someone who will uphold the orthodox faith shared by the great majority of global Anglicans'. So we are deeply saddened that the person still perceived by many to be the spiritual leader of now some 100 million Anglicans worldwide has played a leading role in the Church of England's departure from Anglican tradition and the clear teaching of Scripture in matters of marriage and sexuality.

When the Church of England's General Synod opened the door to the blessing of same sex relationships at its February 2023 General Synod she described this as 'A moment of hope'. For us, it was a moment of lament because we believe that the teaching of Jesus and the whole of Scripture is fundamental to human flourishing, both now and for eternity, and should not be compromised by the pressures of a particular culture.

Sadly therefore, our position must remain as it was in our <u>Ash Wednesday statement</u> of February 2023 when we stated that we were no longer able to recognise the then Archbishop of Canterbury as the 'first amongst equals' leader of the global Communion.

Grievous though this turn of events is, it is not unexpected and is one further symptom of the crisis of faith and authority that has afflicted the Anglican Communion for the past quarter of a century. To remedy this, the GSFA offers to all orthodox Provinces a framework of covenanted relationships, rooted in an explicit commitment to orthodox Anglican doctrine and mutual accountability which we commend to the whole Communion as a matter of urgency. Only in this way, we believe, will it be possible to restore confidence, clarity and unity as we continue to obey our Lord's Great Commission to make disciples of all nations.

The Most Rev Dr Justin Badi Arama Primate of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and Chairman of GSFA