

Historic Sanctuary | February 10, 2024 | 4:30 pm

CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR 535 W Roses Rd. San Gabriel, CA 91775



#### Welcome & Introductions

The Rev. Jeff D. S. ThornBerg Rector, Church of Our Saviour

Context

The Rev. Canon Susan Russell

Moderator

The ordination of women matters to the whole church

## Panel Question 1

How has your experience of women as priests informed, inspired and influenced your own call to ministry?

### Panel Question 2

We are celebrating the 80th anniversary of the ordination of Florence Li Tim-Oi in the 50th anniversary year of the ordination of the Philadelphia Eleven – and we have yet to finish the work of eradicating sexism and dismantling patriarchy in the church. Where have you seen progress and where do you still see "opportunities for growth" toward those goals?

## Questions from the House

#### Panel Question 3

What is your greatest hope for the church and why are you hopeful about it?

Closing

The Rt. Rev. John Taylor Bishop of the Diocese of Los Angeles

# MEET OUR PANEL



### The Rt. Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori

The Rt. Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori was presiding bishop of The Episcopal Church from 2006 to 2015, the first woman in that role and the first to lead a province of the Anglican Communion. She championed the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals, issues of domestic poverty, climate change and care for the earth, and equal inclusion of LGTBQ Episcopalians.

Born in Pensacola, Florida, Schori grew up in Seattle and New Jersey. She holds a bachelor's degree in biology from Stanford University, and a master of science degree and a Ph.D, both in oceanography, from Oregon State University. She was a research scientist before she discerned a call to ordained ministry. She earned a master of divinity degree from Church Divinity School of

the Pacific and was ordained in 1994.

Schori was a university lecturer and hospice chaplain in Oregon before she was elected bishop of Nevada in 2001. She is the author of many articles and books, including *The Heartbeat of God: Finding the Sacred in the Middle of Everything* (with Joan Chittister); *A Wing and a Prayer: A Message of Faith and Hope*, and *Gathering at God's Table: The Meaning of Mission in the Feast of the Faith*.



## The Rev. Dr. Fennie Chang

Originally from Taiwan, Rev. Dr. Fennie Chang was ordained an Episcopal priest in 2012 in the Diocese of Los Angeles. She served as Episcopal campus minister at UC-Irvine for six years before beginning her current ministry as vicar at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Hacienda Heights.

Chang received her Ph.D. from the University of Toronto and has more than 10 years' college teaching experience. In the Diocese of Los Angeles, she convenes the Episcopal Asiamerica Ministries Chinese clergy, and is a twice-elected deputy to General Convention. She also served on the team of interpreters who staffed the 2022 Lambeth Conference of Anglican bishops.



### The Rev. Canon Melissa McCarthy

The Rev. Canon Melissa McCarthy began discerning her call to ministry at St. George's Church, Riverside, in 2001. She was ordained to the transitional diaconate in June 2005 and to the priesthood in January 2006. In her first 18 months of ordination she served at St. Mark's Church in Berkeley, Calif., in a non-stipendiary position while pursuing a master's degree in homiletics at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific, from which she also received her master of divinity degree.

McCarthy was called to serve the Church of the Epiphany as the associate under the leadership of the Rev. Canon Hank Mitchel. In 2008, she became priest-in-charge and eventually was appointed vicar beginning July of 2009.

McCarthy also has held various leadership roles in the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles, having served on the Corporation of the Diocese, the Bishop's Commission on Ministry, Diocesan Council, the Disciplinary Board, and the Standing Committee, as well as serving as dean of Deanery 1 since 2011. She now serves as Canon to the Ordinary. McCarthy began her work in this position in 2017 where she continues in joyful service to the Diocese of Los Angeles.



### The Rev. Mary Tororeiy

The Rev. Mary Tororeiy is an ordained priest and a Hebrew Bible scholar. She is currently serving as vicar of St. Paul's Episcopal and Shepherd of the Desert Lutheran churches in Barstow, California. She teaches Hebrew Bible at The Episcopal School of Theology at Los Angeles (Bloy House), and at Pacific Lutheran Seminary, Berkeley.

Tororeiy was ordained deacon in the diocese of Eldoret, Kenya in 2002 and ordained priest in 2003. After debating about it for several years, the diocese of Eldoret voted to ordain women in 2001. Tororeiy was one of first three women to be ordained in the diocese.

Tororeiy is a member of the Circle of Concerned African Women Theologians, an organization started by pioneering African women theologians to help provide space for women in ministry to share the challenges and joys of ministry, as well as encouraging them to publish.



#### The Rev. Canon Susan Russell (moderator)

The Rev. Canon Susan Russell serves the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles as the Canon for Engagement Across Difference and is a part-time member of the pastoral and preaching staff at All Saints Church in Pasadena.

Active in LGBTQ and women's issues, Russell served as president of Integrity USA (2003-2009) and continues to serve as a member of the leadership team of the Episcopal Church's LGBTQ Caucus. A founding member of the HRC (Human Rights Campaign) Religion Council, she has also worked on the National Clergy Advisory Board for Planned Parenthood, as a member of the Task Force for the Study of Marriage for the Episcopal Church and as the co-chair of the Episcopal Church's Task Force for Communion Across Difference.

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