A panel of poets engaged with their own faith traditions will discuss the challenges and excitement of retelling inherited sacred texts, especially for those of us in queer, femme, or nonbinary bodies, and indigenous or previously colonized communities. We’ll share approaches for re-hearing and rewriting traditional sacred stories, and offer strategies for others to do the same.

Introductions and Disclaimers
- Poets don’t speak for a whole tradition just themselves
- Importance of messing with stories that are in YOUR OWN tradition/avoiding appropriation. More on this later
- Quick poll about who is in the room

1. Each panelist shows an image or text of a story or challenge from a text they have grappled with
   - Read poem/ Discuss process of poem (5 min max)
   - Why did you choose this story/text?
   - What major challenges did you foresee?
   - What surprised you about the poem that happened?

2. Panelists will answer questions generated by the others (2 each)

3. How to choose a sacred story: Participants may chat in small groups or scribble anti-socially in their own notes about sacred stories that bother them/that have been important to them/that won’t leave them alone as a way to generate what they want to work with.
   - Refining of processes that we saw from Part 1.
   - Revisit issue of appropriation/permission if necessary

4. Questions from participants (on notecards?) Possibly in groups with different panelists