

As part of the efforts to protect minorities, the issue of the social status of intimate relationship between two people of the same sex has come to the fore in recent years. This thesis called *Attitudes towards same-sex couples in the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren* examines how the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren (hereafter ECCB) has approached the issue. In order to gain a deeper understanding of the current starting point, the first part of the thesis discusses views on homosexuality and same-sex relationships throughout history. Then it focuses more closely on developments in the Czech environment, as well as on Christian, and specifically protestant, approaches. The second part of the thesis is devoted to the ECCB documents and debates on the topic. It concentrates on attitudes towards homosexuality and same-sex relationships and, in relation to the issue of same-sex marriage, on the ECCB's approach to marriage. Based on ECCB agendas, it traces the Church's basis for a liturgy of blessing same-sex couples. The third and final part of the paper presents the practice of blessing same-sex couples in ECCB based on research. The research consists of two parts. The first is a questionnaire survey examining how widespread blessing same-sex couples is in the Church and what factors play a role. The second part, in the form of a case study, shows what a worship gathering on this occasion might look like in practice. Finally, it reflects the research findings in a wider liturgical and theological discussion.