

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2024 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2024-A115
Title: Authorized Use of Alternative Texts for the Good Friday Liturgy
Proposer: Task Force on Indigenous Liturgy
Topic: Liturgy

Directly Related: (Attached)

2022-D058 Refer a Resolution on the Trial Use of Alternate Good Friday Liturgy (Referred)

Indirectly Related: (Available in the [Acts of Convention](#) database, searchable by resolution number)

2022-C030 Establish a Task Force to Address Anti-Semitic Language in Common Texts
2006-C001 Develop Materials to Address Anti-Jewish Prejudice

Supplemental Documents: (Linked)

[Alternative Texts for the Good Friday Liturgy](#)

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2022, selecting “direct” resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. The “direct” resolutions are attached and “indirect” resolutions are available in the Acts of Convention database. Committee members who require other research assistance should contact the Archives through the [Research Request Form](#).

A115 - Authorized use of alternative texts for the Good Friday liturgy

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: Task Force on Indigenous Liturgy

Has Budget Implications: No

Cost:

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: No

Requests New Interim Body: No

Changes Mandate Of Existing lb: Yes

Directs Dfms Staff: No

Directs Dioceses: No

Directs Executive Council: No

HiA: No House Assigned

Legislative Committee Currently Assigned: No Committee Assigned

Completion Status: Incomplete

Latest House Action: N/A

Supporting Documents: Yes

Resolution Text

Resolved, That the 81st General Convention, authorize for use until the 82nd General Convention, with the consent of the Bishop or the Ecclesiastical authority, the alternative texts for the Good Friday Liturgy for use throughout the church, with the consent of the ecclesiastical authority; be it further

Resolved, That the alternative texts for the Good Friday Liturgy, be provided to the church at no cost via electronic distribution; and be it further

Resolved, That the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music be directed to engage a dynamic equivalence translation of the alternative texts for the Good Friday liturgy into Spanish, French, and Kreyol languages; and be it further

Resolved, That the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music be directed to develop a process for evaluation of the ongoing use of the alternative texts for the Good Friday liturgy among the dioceses and congregations of this church.

Explanation

The history of anti-Jewish violence rooted in the misunderstanding and misuse of the Good Friday liturgy calls us to be exceptionally sensitive to concerns about language that in our

current time is perceived as anti-Jewish or anti-Semitic. The alternative texts of the Good Friday liturgy attempt to honor the existing covenant between God and the Jewish people, and the dignity of those for whom we pray.

The alternative text of the Good Friday liturgy can be found as a support document on this resolution and also in the report to the 81st General Convention (otherwise known as the blue book report) of the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music.

Support Document:

[Alternative Texts for the Good Friday Liturgy](#)



Resolution Number: 2022-D058
Title: Refer a Resolution on the Trial Use of Alternate Good Friday Liturgy
Legislative Action Taken: Referred
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 80th General Convention approve for trial use an Alternate Liturgy for Good Friday with Revised Passion Translation. This service and translations should be made available digitally for use by worshipping communities.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Baltimore, 2022* (New York: General Convention, 2023), pp. 598-599.