

Early in the triennium, the Task Force on Liturgical and Prayer Book Revision communicated with every diocesan bishop, encouraging each bishop to create a diocesan liturgical commission and share with the Task Force the name of the chair or a contact person in the diocese. As the Task Force learned of diocesan liturgical commissions it posted that information on its website www.episcopalcommonprayer.org. In February 2020, the Task Force published guidelines for diocesan liturgical commissions.

Through the diocesan liturgical commissions and social media, the Task Force invited worshipping communities and individuals to submit new liturgical materials. Over the course of three meetings (in-person and online), Working Group I reviewed twenty-four (24) submissions of alternative liturgical texts or sets of texts. Using the *Principles to Guide the Development of Liturgical Texts* and the *Guidelines for Expansive and Inclusive Language* as developed by the Task Force, each submission or collection was evaluated to determine if it satisfactorily met all criteria of the *Principles* and *Guidelines*. Every submission was read by each member of Working Group I for review of language and theology. Most submissions were read aloud within Working Group I to hear their cadence and iteration.

Of the twenty-four submissions, six were found to meet the full requirements of the *Principles* and the *Guidelines*. These six are commended to the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music for its continued review. The following is one of the six examples:

Feast

Priest The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest Let us adore the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Priest We praise and adore you with all our hearts and minds and strength, O God, for from the very beginning you delighted in your creation. You exulted to play among your sons and daughters. You urged our universe into being, breathing life into the void, and, over primal waters, sending out your Word to call forth the creatures of the deep.

You filled us, also, with your breath of life. Our bodies move in harmony of movement with all that surrounds us. In the dance of creation, the world joins with your Spirit and anticipates the fulfillment of your presence.

All **Let the sea roar, and all that fills it.**

Let the trees clap their hands, and the rivers sing with joy.

Priest You set us a place in this your garden of delight, where we could take our part in creation. And now, in gratitude, in deep gratitude, we join our voices with all your creatures in ceaseless song:

All ***Sanctus***

Holy holy holy Lord
God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna in the highest
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the highest

Priest Holy and Divine Lover, you have never ceased to bless us, and shower us with gifts. You formed us in your image. You gave us the breath of life, the power to know, the ability to delight, and the desire to share with creation in your abundance.

But how often we have betrayed you, and squandered your gifts! How often we have deceived ourselves, and hurt one another! We sought only after ourselves, and we tried to possess what we were meant to enjoy, leaving us without happiness, fulfillment, or passion.

Yet, you have never abandoned us. Daily you have searched us out and called to us. And when we could only see you as Judge, remote and unapproachable, you came to us tender and vulnerable. You lured us again and again to rekindle our love for you and your creation.

Through the ages, you have endured our fickle wanderings. Dining with Abraham and Sarah, wrestling through the night with Jacob and calling Moses to approach you on bare feet, in ever-new ways you continued to pledge yourself to us. With a shielding cloud in the heat of day and a fiery

light in the darkness, you journeyed with your chosen people Israel through the wilderness.

To consummate your love for us, your very Word of invitation became flesh, conceived in Mary's womb as Jesus, your child. Jesus lived among us. He ate and drank with us, in our greatest joys and deepest woes turning no one aside from his care.

We rejected him in the body, nailing him to a tree. But you triumphed over our worst intentions, and raised him bodily from the dead. And our salvation was won.

What gift can we give in return? You gave your only child, that we might have life. We offer you ourselves, our souls and bodies. And we set this table: Bread and Wine, crafted from the fruit of your creation, for us to share.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

We remember. Gathered again at this table, laying before you this bread, this wine, and ourselves, our souls and bodies, we declare our vow of love:

All **Christ you dwelt among us.**
Christ you died at our hands.
Christ you rose again.
Christ we long for your return.

Priest Divine love, Holy wisdom, Author and Source of all, come down upon this meal of bread and wine. By your Holy Spirit, make this bread and wine the gift of your presence, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

All **Embrace your people, O God.**

Priest Praise to you, O Lord, for the goodness of this food and drink. As we take the bread on our tongue, the wine to our lips, we ask you to feed us with your presence, now known to our senses.
By your Holy Spirit, make us also holy, that we may receive your gifts without shame or anxiety, and be united with you and one another through this Sacrament of your Love.

All **Embrace your people, O God.**

Priest May your redemption spread from this feast across the whole creation, that all may be cleansed and made new in You. Draw us again to live beneath your shadow, that we and all creation may flourish as a garden and blossom like the vine.

All **As this bread was scattered over the hillsides and then was brought together and made one, so let all your people be brought together from the ends of the earth into your Kingdom.**

Priest Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you, our God and Creator, in voices of unending praise.

All **Amen.**

Bisahop As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

All **Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Bread is broken

Priest Whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

Words of Invitation

Priest Eat, my friends, and drink, and be alive with joy and love.