

As you may be aware, at the last Diocesan Convention Bishop Hollingsworth appointed a Task Force on Expansive Language in response to Resolution D078: Authorization of Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Expansive Language) for Trial Use, passed at the 79th General Convention held in Austin, Texas last year. It is hoped that the task force will gather some resources that will assist in teaching liturgy and informing parishioners both on the new expansive language liturgies and on the purpose and historical foundations of our liturgical forms. Additionally, we hope to receive feedback and reflections from congregations and clergy to report to The Episcopal Church's Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music.

For some time, the use of language in our liturgy has been the topic of robust conversation particularly around contextual access, e.g., issues of gender and culture. It is for this reason that we are exploring the use of expansive language in our liturgies. The use of expansive language seeks to recognize the depth and breadth of the diverse and comprehensive makeup of the Episcopal Church. In essence, this exploration is about real people and how they encounter the divine in the liturgy of the church.

The Diocesan Task Force on Expansive Language, convened by the Rev. Rosalind Hughes, hopes to be a resource, provide resources, and develop resources for those parishes and clergy seeking to explore trial liturgies that speak to their congregational context.

We also realize that some clergy have already begun using some of the trial liturgies. If you fall in that category, we would be most interested in your and your congregation's experience thus far, both positive and negative.

This is a time of exploration in the Church that invites all of us to participate in how we engage in worship through liturgical practice. Your thoughts, suggestions, and feedback are most appreciated as we begin this process of exploration. Your voice is important; feel free to [contact us](#).

Stay tuned for more information on how you might use these liturgies in your parish context. The following resolves are included here to give context.

*Resolved*, That the 79th General Convention authorize The Holy Eucharist: Rite II, including Eucharistic Prayers A, B, and D, (Expansive Language) for trial use throughout this church as a proposed revision within pages 355-382 of the Book of Common Prayer pursuant to Article X(b) of the Constitution; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the period of trial use for these liturgies shall extend until the completion of the next comprehensive revision of the Book of Common Prayer; and be it further

*Resolved*, That The Holy Eucharist: Rite II, Eucharistic Prayer C, be referred to the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music for possible revision for trial use; ...

Yours in Christ,

The Revs. David Bargetzi, Debra Bennet, John Drymon, Rosalind Hughes, Lisa Tucker-Gray, and the Rt. Rev. Arthur Williams