

Episcopal Ecological Network



(EpEN)

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This paper
prepared for the
EpEN by
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Resolution A055:

Authorize Daily Prayer for All Seasons

Talking Points

Resolves:

That the 77th General Convention authorize liturgical materials entitled "Daily Prayer for All Seasons," found in the Blue Book report of the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music, for publication and distribution by Church Publishing Incorporated for experimental use by individuals and in congregations and other church groups wishing to pray or meditate throughout the day.

Explanation for A055

Just as the *Book of Common Prayer* is threaded throughout with familiar scripture, this new resource draws heavily on the collects, rhythms and patterns that those who have used and love the BCP's daily office will recognize. This new resource is intended as a complement to the Daily Offices and Daily Devotions for Individuals and Families in the 1979 BCP, to encourage individuals and small groups, particularly those not already using the full Daily Offices, to take time to pray during the day.

Key Points:

- ☛ These materials are developed from an Anglican perspective:
 - ☛ resonating with Scripture
 - ☛ rooted in Anglican theological tradition
 - ☛ reflecting Anglican liturgical sensibilities, such as formal, metaphoric language with high literary value
- ☛ As a church with a *Book of Common Prayer*, we value authorized liturgical materials. The quality and theological coherence of materials available in print and online varies significantly.
- ☛ All of these proposed materials are for optional use.

Specifics about this resolution on authorizing daily prayer for all seasons:

- ☛ These liturgies expand the "Daily Devotions for Individuals and Families" in the 1979 BCP (pp. 136-140), significantly enriching them and encouraging practices of daily prayer.
- ☛ They are simple to use. Each office is complete in itself, requiring no reference to other books and no skipping of pages or moving back and forth in different parts of a book.
- ☛ The eight hours of the day re-interpret the Benedictine monastic cycle, assigning a theme to each hour (e.g., "Praise" at dawn/waking up; "Love" at mid afternoon).



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- An individual or small group might use just one or two of the hours each day. They can be prayed, for example, on a train while traveling to work or school, or at the beginning of a church committee meeting.
 - There is set of offices for each season of the church year, with two sets, Creation and Rest, for the long season after Pentecost, drawing worshipers into the rhythms of the calendar and providing variety over the course of a year.
 - The prayers expand understanding of God by using a variety of images rooted in scripture and Christian tradition.
 - Many of the offices include brief meditations from a variety of sources, some contemporary, some from Christian tradition, inviting a spiritual connection with Christians from other times and places.

This paper and any updates are available at this QR Code:

