

Episcopal Church in Western Oregon
Report to the 135th Annual Meeting of Convention
October 28, 2022

LITURGY & MUSIC WORKING GROUP

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Activities Report

- Convened a **Lenten Worship Planning Workshop** on Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2023 at Grace Memorial Episcopal Church in Portland, Oregon, with online and in-person participation, in partnership with Music that Makes Community.
- **Available Liturgical Resources:** The Bishop has commissioned us to be a resource to the churches of the diocese and a channel of communication about our ongoing liturgical life. We have begun gathering existing liturgical resources to ensure all serving clergy can easily access approved resources, as well as vetted alternative and supplemental liturgical materials. We are highlighting resources already available from TEC, but perhaps not widely known. These will be made available on the LMWG web page.
- Bishop Akiyama has asked the LMWG to thoughtfully propose prayers and texts that we may use together as a diocese that is liturgically beautiful, that removes anti-semitism, that broadens our use of expansive gendered imagery, and that deepens our relationship with God, one another, and creation. Our intent is to experiment across the diocese with shared texts, gather feedback, revise as necessary, and propose the final revisions to SCLM for use as experimental liturgy that rises up out of local context. In light of this, we have developed **a revision of EOW Prayer 3** that includes improvements in the spoken/chanted rhythm of the text, clarification of imagery, as well as theological extensions of the existing emphasis in the text. Overall, we attempted to emphasize the existing feminine imagery, highlight the life, teachings, and liberative practice of Jesus rather than simply his coming and proclamation, and by de-centering humanity, bring to the forefront that we are both a part of creation, and participants with creation in God's liberative work. This revision will be presented for use by the diocese along with a method of feedback and revision in order to propose the final revisions to SCLM for use as experimental liturgy that rises up out of local context.

- We are working towards facilitating communication among congregations about who is doing what and why, what questions or conundrums people have, what challenges people are finding as well as what solutions they are trying, etc. To that end, we are developing a **Liturgical Practices survey** (or set of surveys) so that we can begin the process of dialogue across the diocese, sharing wisdom and experience with one another.

Expenditures

\$0

2023 Goals Progress

- Partial completion of Available Resources, Liturgical Practices survey, and EOW Prayer 3 revisions.

2024 Goals

- We will be inviting congregations to join in trying certain approved liturgical experiments together so that we can share our experiences, beginning with the release of the revised EOW 3 Eucharist prayer and a clear method of feedback.
- Clergy and liturgical leaders will be invited to respond to a survey (or series of surveys) beginning early in the year.