

**General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022
Archives' Research Report**

Resolution No.: 2022-D025
Title: Lili'uokalani, by the Grace of God, Queen of the Hawaiian Islands
Proposer: The Ven. Steven Costa
Topic: Church Calendar, Lesser Feasts/Fasts

Directly Related: (Attached)

2018-A065 Authorize Continued Use of *Lesser Feasts and Fasts* 2006
2015-C002 Refer a Resolution to Include Queen Lili'uokalani in the Church Calendar (Referred)

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

None

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2018, 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](#) or call 800-525-9329.

D025 - Lili'uokalani, by the Grace of God, Queen of the Hawaiian Islands

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: The Ven. Steven Costa

Endorsed by: The Rev. Jasmine Bostock, Ms. Kimberly Arakawa

Requests New Interim Body: No

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: No

Has Budget Implications: No

Cost:

HiA: HB

Legislative Committee Currently Assigned: 12 - Prayer Book, Liturgy & Music

Completion Status: Incomplete

Latest House Action: N/A

Supporting Documents: Yes

Resolution Text

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring,

That this 80th General Convention recognize Queen Lili'uokalani of Hawai'i, whose exemplary Christian life provides a model of a strong indigenous woman for the entire Episcopal Church by her nonviolent response to imperialism and oppression, and an unflinching commitment to justice and reconciliation, by adding her commemoration to the calendar of Lesser Feasts and Fasts (or such other calendar as may be adopted for the use of The Episcopal Church) on November 11th with the following Collect and Propers:

COLLECT:

Almighty God, we praise your Name for Queen Lili'uokalani, who, in the midst of great adversity remained steadfast in her commitment to peace, forgiveness and of service to you. Accept, we pray, our gratitude for her perseverance, her gift of song, and her love for her people. All this we ask in the name of your Son Jesus Christ, who lives, and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

LESSONS:

Isaiah 26:1-8

Psalms 57:7-11 (or the whole Psalm)

Colossians 3:12-15

Matthew 5:38-45

PROPER PREFACE (Of A Saint-1)

For the wonderful grace and virtue declared in all your saints, who have been the chosen vessels of your grace, and the lights of the world in their generations.

Explanation

The Diocese of Hawai'i passed a resolution at its 46th Diocesan Convention asking that that the 78th General Convention commemorate Queen Lili'uokalani (September 2, 1838 – November 11, 1917) in Holy Women, Holy Men or any subsequent Calendar of Commemoration. Due to the discussion of the various the Church's commemorations in the liturgical calendar, action on the resolution has been delayed until clarification of inclusion in the Church's liturgical calendar (see 2015-C002 and 2018-A065).

Queen Lili'uokalani is an example of a strong indigenous woman who lived a life committed to justice, nonviolence, and reconciliation. Her words, actions, and legacy, bear witness to her deep faith in Christ Jesus, and her steadfastness in life as an example of a baptized and confirmed member of our Church and of the Cathedral of St. Andrew in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

A persistent advocate for justice and nonviolence, who recognized the "Beloved Community" in her own day, the Queen refused sanction the use of force or to encourage her people to respond violently when faced by heavily armed forces from the United States Navy acting in support of a band of insurrectionists (largely from the United States and Europe) as her government was illegally overthrown (January 17, 1893). In doing so, she prevented the undue bloodshed of her people against overwhelming force. She appealed to President Grover Cleveland by surrendering her throne to the American government and asked her subjects to respect her decision. She was forcefully removed from her throne and subsequently imprisoned for her witness in opposition to American imperialism. Her model of grace left a powerful symbol of God's love that continues to be at the center of the Native Hawaiian community and to the entire Church.

The Queen was also a well known musician and composer. One of her most well-known compositions is the Queen's Prayer or Ke Aloha o Ka Haku sung most Sundays at parishes in Hawai'i. It is based upon the readings of the only two books allowed to her during her imprisonment, the Holy Bible and the Book of Common Prayer. As a neighbor to St. Andrew's Cathedral, she received refuge during the counterrevolution with the Anglican Sisters at St. Andrew's Priory School for Girls. They and the Bishop, the Right Reverend Alfred Willis, would minister and visit her during her imprisonment and these deeds of charity would influence Her Majesty to become a member of our Church. The lyrics reflect her faith in the face of adversity:

O kou aloha no, aia i ka lani

Your love is in heaven

A 'o kou 'o ia i'o, he hemolelo ho'i	Your truth, so perfect.
Ko'u noho mihi ana, a pa'ahao ia	I live in sorrow, imprisoned.
O 'oe ku'u lama, kou nani, ko'u ko'o	You are my light, your glory my support
Mai nana 'ino'ino, na hewa o kanaka	Behold not with malevolence, the sins of man,
Aka e huikala, a ma'ema'e no	But forgive, and forgive.
No laila e ka Haku, ma lalao kou 'eheu	And so, O Lord, beneath your wings,
Ko makou maluhia, a mau loa aku no	Be our peace, forever more.

The remembrance and commemoration of Her Majesty has been practiced in the congregations of Diocese of Hawai'i, on her birthday, September 2nd, the anniversary of her baptism and confirmation (by Bishop Willis) on May 18, and on the anniversary of her death November 11th (or the Sunday closest to that date). She is also remembered by churches in North America and Oceania in witness to her non-violent response to imperialism and faith in Christ Jesus. It is fitting in the 21st century to have The Episcopal Church formally recognize this commemoration on November 11th of an indigenous Episcopalian who was and is an example and inspiration of living out her Baptismal faith, of nurturing the "Jesus Movement" in our day, and seeking the Beloved Community in these Islands, which was her earthly Kingdom, and throughout the world.



Resolution Number: 2018-A065
Title: Authorize Continued Use of Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2006
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted and Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention authorize the continued use of Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2006; and be it further

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention commend the continued availability of Great Cloud of Witnesses 2015 for the 2018-2021 triennium; and be it further

Resolved, That the new commemorations in Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2018 proposed by the SCLM be authorized for trial use and be included in the calendar for the 2018-2021 triennium, under Article X(b); and be it further

Resolved, That the SCLM provide the 80th General Convention with a clear and unambiguous plan for a singular calendar of Lesser Feasts and Fasts.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), p. 679.



Resolution Number: 2015-C002
Title: Refer a Resolution to Include Queen Lili'uokalani in the Church Calendar
Legislative Action Taken: Referred
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention of the Episcopal Church take the appropriate actions to consider and then to include a Commemoration each year for Queen Lili'uokalani in Holy Women, Holy Men or any subsequent Calendar of Commemoration.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), p. 920.