

GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2018
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2018-C030

TITLE: Proposed Baptismal Covenant Language

PROPOSER: Connecticut

TOPIC: Liturgy

Directly Related: (Attached)

2015-C015 Refer a Resolution to Amend the Baptismal Covenant

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

2015-A058 Authorize Liturgical Materials Honoring God in Creation

2009-C034 Refer a Resolution to Develop a Pentecost Season Creation Cycle

1991-A195 Affirm Environmental Responsibility and an Environmental Stewardship Team

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1976 through 2015, 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 at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.

C030 Proposed Baptismal Covenant Language

Proposer	Diocese of Connecticut
Endorsed by	
Sponsored by	
Page numbers	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A
HiA / Leg. Cttee	/
Current Status	Resolution Filed
Version	Original (as filed)
Review Status	Not yet reviewed

RESOLUTION TEXT

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 79th General Convention authorize the trial addition to the Baptismal Covenant of an additional question concerning our responsibility as baptized Christians to care for God's creation; and be it further
- 2 *Resolved*, That the additional question and response be worded as follows:
- 3 "Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect and restore the beauty and integrity of all creation?"
- 4 "I will, with God's help."; and be it further
- 5 *Resolved*, That use of this additional question and response be authorized for trial use as part of the Baptismal Covenant for the triennium following the 79th General Convention, beginning on the first Sunday of Advent 2018.

EXPLANATION

In 2014 the 230th Convention of ECCT passed Resolution 11, which referred identical language to the 78th General Convention. The Convention tabled the resolution pending anticipated Prayer Book revision. Over the three years since, there has been evidence that increasingly destructive climate change is a reality that will only worsen, despite the denial of many in government. It is more imperative than ever for the Church to witness to the responsibility of all people to care for creation. One meaningful way to do this is to expand the Baptismal Covenant—the central guidepost for Episcopal members of the Body of Christ.



Resolution Number: 2015-C015

Title: Refer a Resolution to Amend the Baptismal Covenant

Legislative Action Taken: Referred

Final Text:

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention authorize the trial addition to the Baptismal Covenant of a sixth question concerning our responsibility as baptized Christians to care for God's creation; and be it further

Resolved, That the additional question and response be worded as follows:

"Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation?

I will, with God's help." ; and be it further

Resolved, That use of this additional question and response be authorized for trial use as part of the Baptismal Covenant for the triennium 2016-2018.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), p. 841.