

## **Resolution #1** **Revised Text (as passed)**

We believe that the Old and New Testaments are divinely inspired, and we seek to be obedient to them as our guiding authority.<sup>1</sup> With Anglicans over the centuries we acknowledge the “Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as ‘containing all things necessary to salvation,’<sup>2</sup> and as being the rule and ultimate standard of faith.”<sup>3</sup>

We are determined to remain in the Episcopal Church and the wider fellowship of the Anglican Communion. However, the General Convention of the Episcopal Church has no authority to alter or amend received truths. As members of this Church we are committed to live by and give witness to the “substantial deposit of Christian Faith and Order committed by Christ and his Apostles to the Church unto the end of the world and therefore incapable of compromise or surrender...”<sup>4</sup>

Therefore, in light of the heritage and tradition of our Biblical faith:

1. We affirm the Creedal confession of the Triune God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and of the unique saving work of Jesus Christ. We cannot use liturgies that depart from scriptural revelation and the historic Faith.
2. We affirm that in God’s love for all people, the only sexually intimate relationships receiving His blessing in Scripture and Tradition are those of a man and a woman within an intended life-long, faithful, marital covenant. The Church cannot bless any other sexual relationship, and we cannot recognize the blessing of any other.
3. We affirm the right of conscience for those who cannot agree with changes in the Faith, Order, or Practice of the Episcopal Church when those changes contradict the expressed mind of the worldwide Anglican Communion and the historic catholic faith. We cannot accept canons, which mandate clergy and laity to comply with such changes.

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<sup>1</sup> **2 Timothy 3:16**

<sup>2</sup> **Article 6 of the 39 Articles of Religion**

<sup>3</sup> **Lambeth Conference 1888**

<sup>4</sup> **Chicago-Lambeth Quadrilateral 1886**

The 11/2/2002 vote, by ballot, was as follows:

**Clergy**

93 ballots received  
47 needed for passage  
73 yes  
14 no  
6 abstentions

**Lay**

174 ballots received  
88 needed for passage  
119 yes  
49 no  
6 abstentions