

Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

1st Session of the 46th Synod **Business Paper: Tuesday 22 October 2002**

(Unless otherwise stated, page references are to the Standing Committee's Report - see Part 5 of the Synod Business Rules for ordinance procedures.)

Members are reminded that speaking times are as follows -

- (a) for motions that a proposed ordinance be approved in principle -
 - the mover may speak for up to 20 minutes, and up to 5 minutes in reply, and
 - other members may speak for up to 3 minutes*
- (b) for other motions (except motions moved in the Synod in Committee) -
 - the mover may speak for up to 10 minutes, and up to 5 minutes in reply, and
 - other members may speak for up to 3 minutes*
- (c) for motions moved in the Synod in Committee, members may speak for up to 3 minutes.*

Members of Synod are asked to identify themselves each time they speak.

- 1. Devotions will be led by Canon John Chapman: see attached**
- 2. Minutes of 21 October 2002**
- 3. Petitions**
- 4. Procedural motions from members**
- 5. Calling of motions on the business paper**
- 6. Motions about proposed ordinances**

Proposed to be taken from 4:30 pm

6.1 Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2002: passing as an ordinance

That the Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2002 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.
(Page 1 of the Further Materials) (Bishop Peter Tasker/Mr Peter Kell)

6.2 Relinquishment of Holy Orders Amendment Ordinance 2002: passing as an ordinance

That the Relinquishment of Holy Orders Amendment Ordinance 2002 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.
(Page 188) (Mr Philip Gerber)

6.3 Conduct of the Business of Synod Amendment Ordinance 2002: passing as an ordinance

That the Conduct of the Business of Synod Amendment Ordinance 2002 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.
(Page 133) (Mr Mark Payne)

6.4 General Synod - Long Service Leave (Amendment) Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002: introduction

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Long Service Leave (Amendment) Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002
(Page 168) (Mr Mark Payne)

- 6.5 **General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Special Tribunal) Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002: introduction**
- Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Special Tribunal) Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002
(Page 143) (Mr Philip Gerber)
- 6.6 **General Synod - Special Tribunal Procedure Amendment and Repeal Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002: introduction**
- Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Special Tribunal Procedure Amendment and Repeal Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002
(Page 177) (Mr Philip Gerber)
- 6.7 **General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Suspension from Duties) Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002: introduction**
- Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Suspension from Duties) Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002
(Page 148) (Mr Neil Cameron/Mr Justice Peter Young)
- 6.8 **General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Tribunals) Amendment Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002: introduction**
- Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Tribunals) Amendment Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002.
(Page 154) (Mr Neil Cameron/Mr Justice Peter Young)
- Proposed ordinances for which no specific time has been proposed***
- 6.9 **Synod Membership Ordinance 1995 Amendment Ordinance 2002: approval in principle**
- That the Synod Membership Ordinance 1995 Amendment Ordinance 2002 be approved in principle.
(Page 199) (Bishop Glenn Davies)
- 6.10 **Synod and Standing Committee (Membership) Amendment Ordinance 2002: introduction**
- Synod permits the introduction of the Synod and Standing Committee (Membership) Amendment Ordinance 2002
(Page 192) (Mr Robert Tong)
- 6.11 **General Synod - Chancellors Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002: introduction**
- Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Chancellors Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002.
(Page 138) (The Rev Chris Moroney)
- 6.12 **General Synod - Holy Communion Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002: introduction**
- Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Holy Communion Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002.
(Page 162) (Bishop Glenn Davies)
- 6.13 **Synod Elections Amendment Ordinance 2002: introduction**
- Synod permits the introduction of the Synod Elections Amendment Ordinance 2002
(Page 68 and 196) (Mr Mark Payne)

6.14 Church Administration (Heritage Property) Amendment Ordinance 2002: introduction

Synod permits the introduction of the Church Administration (Heritage Property) Amendment Ordinance 2002.

(Page 116)

(Mr Mark Payne)

6.15 General Synod - Constitution of A Diocese Alteration Canon 1995 Adopting Ordinance 2002: approval in principle

That the General Synod - Constitution of A Diocese Alteration Canon 1995 Adopting Ordinance 2002 be approved in principle.

(Page 159)

(Mr Robert Tong)

7. Other motions

To be taken at 7:00 pm

Motion 7.1 was moved on Tuesday 15 October. Paragraph (a) was adopted on 16 October and paragraph (b) on 21 October. Paragraphs (c) and (d) were discussed on 21 October. A separate report about those paragraphs will be provided.

7.1 Diocesan Mission initiatives

Synod, having adopted the Diocesan Mission -

- (1) commends to regional councils, area deaneries, parishes, organisations and individuals the Mission, Goal, Fundamental Aim and Fourfold Policy, and
- (2) urges them to undertake the following initiatives, where relevant, and to develop their own further strategies in their situation -

- (a) In the light of the policy -

“To call upon God for such outpouring of his Spirit that his people will be assured of his love through his word, seek to please the Saviour in all things, manifest the godly life and be filled with prayerful and sacrificial compassion for the lost in all the world.”

Synod requests that -

- (i) in the normal program of every level of diocesan life, and in the lives of individuals and families, serious attention be given to pray for the mission and for willingness to become actively involved, and the appropriate study of God's word, and
- (ii) each level of the diocese also have such special conferences, prayer days or nights, conventions, rallies and seminars to promote prayerful dependence upon God and attention to the teaching of his word, and
- (iii) Lent be specially marked in church gatherings as a season of corporate and urgent prayerfulness and specific preaching in line with this mission policy, and
- (iv) prayer groups within parishes be organised and encouraged to persist in the prayerful support of the mission, and
- (v) leaders within a parish commit regular time to pray with each other, and their colleagues in other parishes and in other ministries, and
- (vi) Christian publishers produce Bible study and discussion group material and devotional material for individuals, couples and families to equip adult, children and youth groups to study God's word and promote prayer, and
- (vii) Anglican Media produce materials through *Southern Cross* and the Web site to stimulate and assist those praying for the mission including, in particular, a prayer diary with forms of prayers for the mission, and
- (viii) the Archbishop, regional bishops, archdeacons and clergy exercise continued leadership in prayerful dependence upon God in all meetings, conferences

and committees in which they are engaged, as well as in public preaching and teaching of God's word, and

- (ix) a small task force or forces be set up to promote prayerfulness for the mission and thanksgiving in prayer, and to share information on the progress of the mission.

- (b) In the light of the policy -

“To enable parish churches to expand numerically, equip and nurture their members, and become the mother-churches of as many fellowships and congregations as possible; and also to take further initiatives to create fellowships by penetrating structures of society beyond the reach of the parish church with the gospel.”

Synod requests that -

For individuals

- (i) individuals consider how they might reach out and minister to unchurched friends and acquaintances, and

For ministers

- (ii) ministers re-evaluate their timetable and parish responsibilities to free up time (at least one day a fortnight) to review existing initiatives and develop new initiatives in the parish, and
- (iii) ministers take time to rethink parish ministry and retrain in congregational planting, and

For parishes

- (iv) each parish council consider how they can best contribute to this policy, and
- (v) each parish consider its ability to reach their parish mission field and whether they need to ask for outside help for the task of the mission, and
- (vi) parishes take the initiative in planting new congregations in fellowship with existing congregations, and
- (vii) each parish try to plant at least as many congregations as there are primary schools in their parish, and
- (viii) new churches be developed with other organisations e.g. schools, hospitals, retirement villages, and
- (ix) each parish have a children's and youth ministry and, where possible, both Sunday morning and evening services and services at other times, and
- (x) each parish consider opportunities to create ministry partnerships with another parish or organisation for mutual support and the direct sharing of resources, and
- (xi) each parish undertake an audit using an instrument such as the National Church Life Survey or the Natural Church Development program, and
- (xii) each parish consider how they can reach out to unchurched groups in their community, for example, unbelieving spouses of church members and the unchurched among single people, professional people, high rise or gated communities, ethnic communities, sports clubs, young people in shopping centres, workers in the hospitality industries, shift workers, the illiterate, young mothers, retired people, and the like, and
- (xiii) each parish consider linking with organisations such as Anglicare to encourage and facilitate ministries to the marginalised, destitute and mentally ill, and
- (xiv) each parish consider becoming involved with community organisations to input a Christian ethos, and
- (xv) each parish providing scripture ministry in all schools in their parish, and

For regional councils

- (xvi) regional councils evaluate how to encourage parishes in their region in this policy, and
- (xvii) where possible, regional councils invest their resources to seed fund parish initiatives and deploy church planting evangelists, and

For Standing Committee and other bodies

- (xviii) a network of evangelists be seed funded to plant new work among specialised groups within society, especially non-Anglo Saxon groups and the indigenous communities, and
 - (xix) a peer group advisory service be developed to help parishes meet the opportunities for mission, and
 - (xx) research be undertaken on -
 - (1) the effectiveness of combining or dividing parishes, and
 - (2) models of church reinvigoration and church planting, and
 - (3) the financial development of parishes, and
 - (4) the base numbers and goal numbers of the mission, and
 - (5) the areas (geographical and sociological) where we are not reaching the community, and
 - (6) where we have the most effective outreach, and
 - (xxi) a strategy be developed for accessing property for use for church planting and for church planters, in particular, the strategy of leasing buildings in shopping centres for ministry, and
 - (xxii) new architectural and building models be developed for multipurpose buildings, and a resource be created to assist parishes undertake building programs, and
 - (xxiii) a communications system be developed to allow mission material to be shared easily, and
 - (xxiv) materials and strategies be prepared to assist individuals and parishes as they seek to reach out to the unchurched, particularly in the work place, and
 - (xxv) a small task force be set up to promote an increase in the level of sacrificial giving to pay for increased activity at the parish level, and to contribute more to world mission, and
 - (xxvi) consideration be given to setting up a task force to examine -
 - (a) the effects of new ministries on marginal parishes,
 - (b) provision of procedures for making ministries and property redundant,
 - (c) the need for systems of communication between new and existing ministries,
 - (d) the need for new dispute resolution procedures, and
 - (e) other possible negative effects of proposed changes in strategy.
- (c) In the light of the policy -

“To multiply the number of well-trained persons (ordained, lay, full time, part time, voluntary) lovingly dedicated to the creation and development of such parishes, congregations and fellowships by proclaiming the gospel.”

Synod requests that -

- (i) 1,000 full-time pastoral workers and 10,000 lay pastoral workers be trained and deployed in the next 10 years, and
- (ii) Moore College be resourced to exercise the theological leadership in training our diocesan personnel for the mission, and
- (iii) training programs for lay pastoral ministry be created and published, and
- (iv) parishes recruit their most gifted members into the evangelistic task of the mission and,
- (v) people be recruited and trained for cross cultural, evangelistic and church planting ministries, and
- (vi) each parish employ at least one more catechist in 2003 than in 2002, and
- (vii) regional councils give priority to supporting seed funding to assist increasing parish staff, and

(viii) *each parish council consider how each member of their parish can be encouraged to identify, use and enhance their God-given gifts in the fulfilment of the mission,*

(ix)

(Note: subparagraph (viii) inserted by the Synod on 16 October 2002.)

(d) In the light of the policy -

“To reform the life of the Diocese (including its culture, ordinances, customs, use of resources, and deployment of ministry) to encourage and enable the fulfilment of the fundamental aim.”

Synod requests that -

- (i) the Archbishop reform the pattern and licensing of ministers to reflect better the current diversity of full-time and part-time ministry employees, and to consider creating a role of “pastor” for congregations, and
- (ii) the regional bishops and archdeacons, while retaining their pastoral role, become missionary bishops and archdeacons developing and assisting new work in their regions, and
- (iii) the business of Synod be reorganised to focus upon matters of principle rather than details of committee work, and
- (iv) policy task forces be created to help co-ordinate the various agencies involved in the delivery of ministries funded by the Synod, and
- (v) a ministry portfolio be established to oversee the work of recruiting, training, retraining and deploying ministers, and
- (vi) the parish system, parish boundaries and parochial status be reviewed, and
- (vii) the creation of a church membership and partnership in the mission be considered, and
- (viii) an evaluation be undertaken of the effectiveness of current programmes or organisations and their contribution to the mission, and how those programs or organisations might be made more effective, and
- (ix) the Archbishop invite the heads of other churches to join in the mission.
- (x)

(The Rev Phillip Jensen)

Motions for which no time has been specified

7.2 Support for churches and parishes without a minister

Synod respectfully requests that the Archbishop set up a committee to review the effectiveness of the Diocese in supporting parishes and churches during times when they are without a minister taking into account the following principles -

- (a) The committee should review, amongst other things, the experiences of churches and ministers who have recently been involved in this process.
- (b) Matters to be investigated should include
 - The opportunity for parishes and churches to consider options for new directions for ministry, growth and change.
 - The timing of presentation board process, especially when long service leave is taken after a minister finishes.
 - The accuracy of advice from Diocesan Presentation board members to parish nominators.
 - The accuracy of advice from parishes to prospective ministers.
 - Tenure of other parish staff and the effect this can have in the parish.
 - The availability and level of episcopal support for churches without a minister.
 - Processes to deal with and resolve problems in churches and parishes.
 - The availability and level of parish administration support.

- (c) The committee should comprise both laity and clergy but exclude those that are (or have been recently) diocesan presentation board representatives.
- (d) The committee should provide a report to the next session of the Synod outlining the problems and making recommendations as to any changes that would improve our processes and support our church people at a time when they may most need it.
(Mr Ross Mitchell)

7.3 Open meetings of the Standing Committee

Synod requests that the Standing Committee -

- (a) open its meetings to members of the Synod as observers subject to the Standing Committee's right in the case of a matter which is commercially or personally sensitive or otherwise affects the interests of the Diocese to restrict access while that matter is dealt with, and
- (b) make its agenda and supporting papers for its meetings available to members of the Synod upon request, except in relation to any matter which the Diocesan Secretary considers is likely to be regarded by the Standing Committee as being commercially or personally sensitive or as otherwise affecting the interests of the Diocese.
(Ms Kath White)

7.4 Funding for indigenous peoples' ministry

Synod recommends to the Standing Committee that 5% of income from all sales of the Property Trust per annum be added to the Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Trust Fund for Indigenous ministry within the Diocese.

(Mr Tom Mayne/The Rev John McIntyre)

7.5 Assistance to other dioceses

Considering the difficult and even parlous states of some of the dioceses of the Anglican Church of Australia and especially in the Province of New South Wales, Synod agrees to set up a Commission under the leadership of the Archbishop which would report to the Mission Taskforce to investigate ways by which this Diocese can bring help to another Diocese that may request it. Such help could include the possibility of sending clergy and other pastoral workers along with pastoral "tools" to that Diocese for the specific furtherance of Gospel ministry and outreach.

And

That such Commission be empowered to contact selected diocesan bishops to discuss this proposal and/or possibilities of sending help.

The Commission is to consist of the Archbishop (ex officio as President/Chairman), Mr Warwick Olson, the Rev John Cornford and Bishop Glenn Davies, the Chief Executive Officer of Anglican Youthworks, Deaconess Margaret Rodgers and the mover, with power to co-opt.

(The Rev Neil Flower/Canon John Cornford)

7.6 Home Mission Society

Synod requests that the Standing Committee set up a committee to investigate the present ways in which our Diocese is fulfilling the original and ongoing intentions of the Home Mission Society, and to report back to Synod.

(The Rev Dr Robert Doyle)

7.7 Use of the word "priest"

Synod reaffirms the decision of resolution 20/97 Liturgical Revision - The use of the word "Priest".

Synod considers -

- (a) that the good reason for our reformers retaining the word "priest" in the Book of Common Prayer is its derivation from the Greek "presbuteros" (which means a senior person, an "elder", or a mature leader), and
- (b) that much of this meaning has been lost, because modern English has come to use "priest" to mean a person who mediates between man and God, and therefore encourages all involved in liturgical revision, in place of the word "priest", to use words like "elder", "president", "presbyter" or "minister".

Synod now considers that our current convention, of using the word "priest" in legislation and formularies describing New Testament ministers, is unhelpful, confusing and dangerous.

Synod asks that the Standing Committee bring to the next session a report, on the action needed to replace the word "priest" with "presbyter" in all our legislation and formularies and, if possible, legislation to this effect.

(The Rev Chris Clerke/ The Rev Joseph Thiem)

7.8 Terrorism

Synod -

- (a) Acknowledges the horror of the terrorist attacks in Bali on 12/10/2002 and the USA on 11/09/2001, deploras the loss of innocent lives from many nationalities and supports **reasonable** efforts to bring the perpetrators of such attacks to justice.
- (b) Affirms that God's people are called to be peacemakers. Synod further affirms that retaliation and revenge have no part in a Christian response to acts of violence and terror, rather a Christian response needs to focus on establishing and doing justice as well as calling people individually and collectively to repentance and restored right relationship with God and each other.
- (c) Calls on the Australian Government to -
 - (i) encourage and support **reasonable** International efforts to address ~~the root causes of~~ **factors which contribute** to terrorism, particularly through appropriate overseas aid and restructuring of the world's economic system, and
 - ~~(ii) use its influence to dissuade the US Government from the use of pre-emptive military action in Iraq, and~~
 - ~~(iii) refrain from all support of such action, and~~
 - (ii) commit itself to work ~~at all times~~ **wherever possible** through the United Nations in any **reasonable** endeavours focussed on building a secure basis for world peace, and
 - (iii) to work through the United Nations to ensure that all countries possessing nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction submit to regular International inspection and audit so stockpiles are further reduced and eliminated, and.
- (d) Asks the Secretary of Synod to inform the Prime Minister, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Leader of the Opposition, the leader of the Democrats and the Leader of the Greens, and the Shadow Minister of Foreign Affairs of this resolution.
- (e) Calls on members of the Diocese to work and pray for peace in every aspect of their lives, modelling for the world the Gospel alternative to violence and terror.

(Marked up to indicate amended form of motion)

(The Rev Chris Albany)

7.9 Anglican sports ministries

Synod encourages its members -

- (a) to thank God for the widely esteemed evangelistic ministry of the former "Archbishop's Olympic Games Taskforce", and
- (b) to thank God for its recent re-naming by the Standing Committee to "Anglican Sports Ministries" in order to continue and facilitate evangelism through sport by connecting Diocesan churches with a major part of Australian culture, and

- (c) to pray for effectiveness in ASM's "Rugby World Cup Taskforce" in seeking to reach locals, players and tourists in October/November 2003 with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, and
 - (d) to pray for wide support following the Archbishop's recent endorsement of this new development, **and**
 - (e) to pray that God will raise up a continuous supply of gifted and visionary leaders for the ministry, and**
 - (f) to encourage the search for appropriate ways of raising funds to maintain Anglican Sports Ministries and grow it to its full potential under God.**
- (Marked up to indicate amended form of motion) (Bishop Brian King/
The Rev Gordon Boughton)

7.10 Freemasonry

Synod -

- (a) affirms its support of the 1988 Synod Report on Freemasonry, and
- (b) affirms that Freemasonry and Christianity are incompatible, and
- (c) affirms that Freemasonry teaches a system of false religious beliefs that are contrary to biblical Christianity.

Synod encourages all Christians who are members of a Masonic Lodge to demonstrate their undivided loyalty to Jesus Christ by withdrawing from the Lodge.

Synod requests that the Standing Committee undertake the preparation and production of a clear and unambiguous pamphlet suitable for wide distribution, examining the beliefs of Freemasonry and explaining why they differ from Biblical Christianity, and explaining why it is wrong for a Christian to belong to the Lodge.

(The Rev Bill Winthrop)

7.11 Compensation cases

Synod requests that the Standing Committee examine and report to the next session of the Synod on the issue of enforced silence with regard to the outcomes of future compensation cases, if any, involving alleged sexual offences by clergy or lay workers.
(Motion first printed today) (The Rev Lindsay Johnstone)

7.12 Amendment of the Conduct of the Business of Synod Ordinance 2000

Synod requests that the Standing Committee bring to the next session of Synod an ordinance to amend the business rules so that the "call-over" referred to in Rule 3.3(h) shall only apply to those motions which have appeared on the business paper for the previous day.

(Dr Rod James)

7.13 Great St Helen's London - Archbishop of Canterbury

Synod commends the churchwardens and staff of Great St Helen's London for their courageous, principled and self sacrificial stand over the recent appointment of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and asks the President of Synod to write conveying this message on our behalf to the wardens and rector of Great St Helen's, with copies for the outgoing and incoming Archbishops of Canterbury, the Church Society and the Reform.

(The Rev Phillip Jensen)



Indicative Timetable for Synod Business

References to items and motions are references to items and motions in today's business paper.

Tuesday 22 October 2002	
3:00 pm	Bible study/prayer Formal matters Thereafter, motions for which no time has been specified (from Motion 7.3 onwards)
4:30 - 5:45 pm	Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2002: Motion 6.1 Relinquishment of Holy Orders Amendment Ordinance 2002: Motion 6.2 Conduct of the Business of Synod Amendment Ordinance 2002: Motion 6.3 General Synod - Long Service Leave (Amendment) Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002: Motion 6.4 General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Special Tribunal) Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002: Motion 6.5 General Synod - Special Tribunal Procedure Amendment and Repeal Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002: Motion 6.6 General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Suspension from Duties) Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002: Motion 6.7 General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Tribunals) Amendment Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002: Motion 6.8
7:00 pm	Diocesan Mission Initiatives: Motion 7.1 Other matters in the order listed on the business paper.

Bible Reading, Hymn & Prayers: Tuesday 22 October 2002

Bible Reading (Matthew 2:1-12; 27:54; 28:16-20):

Matthew 2:1-12

¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ²and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

³When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵"In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will be the shepherd of my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

⁹After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Matthew 27:54

⁵⁴When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"

Matthew 28:16-20

¹⁶Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version

Hymn: O for a thousand tongues

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and king,
the triumphs of his grace!

2. Jesus, the name that charms our fears
and bids our sorrows cease;
this music in the sinner's ears
is life and health and peace.
3. He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean,
his blood availed for me.
4. He speaks - and, listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.
5. Hear him, you deaf! his praise, you dumb,
your loosened tongues employ;
you blind, now see your saviour come,
and leap, you lame, for joy!
6. My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim
and spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of your name.

Charles Wesley 1707-88

Tune: Lyngham 8 6 86 extended

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Pianist: The Rev Jackie Stoneman