

## A Report From the 1552 Liturgy Working Group October 2016

### Background

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The formation of ANiC was accompanied by the wise decision to approve liturgies that were in use at the time churches joined. By the beginning of 2014 there were a number of authorized liturgies within ANiC including the 1662 BCP, the 1962 (Canadian) BCP, the BAS, Common Worship, the Kenyan Rites and "Any form of service authorized by the House of ANiC Bishops under Section II Article 3, to the extent permitted by such authorization." Under the chairmanship of Bishop Bill Thompson and then Archbishop Bob Duncan the ACNA Liturgy and Common Worship Task Force began to produce texts with the goal of a book of texts for Common Prayer in modern English for mid-2016, and a final Prayer Book scheduled for 2019. Conscious of its mission context and faithful to its past, this ambitious and welcome task produced its first versions of Holy Eucharist October 2013.

Within ANiC, in early 2014 the 1552 Liturgy Working Group was struck, comprising Canons David Short and J I Packer, Archdeacons Dan Gifford and Bruce Chamberlayne, and the Rev Josh Wilton. Recognizing that ANiC/ACNA includes believers already formed by the evangelical and the Laudian traditions, the Working Group aimed to produce a sister rite to the ACNA rites, using the same modern English, somewhat briefer, more closely reflecting the 1662 standard, following the architecture of the 1552 service, to complement the fuller ACNA rites. The new rite would be trialed over a period of two years with the ultimate hope of its inclusion in the book of ACNA texts for Common Prayer. Permission was given by Bishop Bill Thompson, Archbishop Bob Duncan and the ANiC house of bishops.

We sought further input from Archbishop Bob Duncan in 2015 stating:

Our aim for this liturgy is that it would be unitive, complementing the work of the ACNA LTF. As far as possible, we have sought to follow the language of the ACNA rites. In early 2014 the ANiC House of Bishops gave permission for the development of this liturgy and permission for its trial use (under ANiC canons). Should the liturgy meet with approval and prove useful, our hope is to offer it to the ACNA LTF for inclusion beside the two communion rites already authorized.

### Process

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Between April 2014 and April 2015 the ANiC Liturgy Working Group met to create the new liturgy. In April 2015 the first version of the rite was completed and made available to all ANiC parishes through the ANiC website. Bishop Charlie Masters wrote a letter of commendation ([http://www.anglicannetwork.ca/bm\\_041315.htm](http://www.anglicannetwork.ca/bm_041315.htm)). A version with US spelling was made available through the ACNA site. The service included rubrics, exhortation, seasonal greetings, offertory sentences, proper prefaces, the Ten Commandments and the Summary of the Law, and a note of purpose at end of the service.

A mechanism of feedback was created through the ANiC website, and feedback was called for by the end of summer 2016, to give parishes a year to trial the service.

## Report on Progress

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The rite is being used as the main Sunday Communion service in a number of parishes in ANiC, and as an occasional service with other communion rites in others. It is also being used in two US dioceses we are aware of.

The feedback received has been almost universally positive. There are minor editing suggestions, and several more substantial questions which the Working Group will address in the next 5 months. We are now receiving requests that permission be granted for use of this rite beyond 2017.

## The Way Forward

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Our goal has always been that the 1552 liturgy would be unitive, inclusive and comprehensive; attractive to those from an evangelical Anglican heritage as well as flexible for use by Church planters. Ultimately we hope it would take its place alongside the other Communion liturgies in the ACNA book of Common Prayer when it is finally produced.

ANiC, as part of ACNA rejoices in the shared standard of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer. This shared understanding is enshrined in the ACNA Constitution and Canons which affirm the 1662 BCP "as a standard for Anglican doctrine and discipline."<sup>1</sup> The ANiC Canons share the same commitments, stated more strongly: "The Book of Common Prayer (1662), with the Ordinal and the 39 Articles, is the doctrinal standard for ANiC."<sup>2</sup>

The Modern English 1552 Version is an attempt to enrich the life of North American Anglicanism by offering a Communion liturgy which has the identical form, pattern and architecture of the 1662 service; indeed there are only minor differences. At the end of this document is a side by side comparison of the architecture of five Communion services, the 1552, 1662 and the three ACNA Communion rites. Most notable in the comparison is the difference between the pattern of the 1552/1662 rites, and the three ACNA rites beginning at the prayer of consecration. The additions in the ACNA rites reflect the older heritage of 1549 (and the Hippolytus rite), while the 1552 order is identical to that of the 1662—even the words of consecration are the same.

We note that the Modern English 1552 service was removed from the ACNA website and that another rite, the 'Ancient Canon', based on the rite of St. Hippolytus, is now available for download. This is somewhat puzzling.

The path of wisdom would seem to be to welcome both approaches to the Lord's Supper together in one Church. A Prayer Book for all Anglicans to use is the most positive outcome. Anglicans of evangelical and Laudian heritage must welcome one another and walk together, seeking further light from Christ. To exclude one heritage would foreclose this welcome and create an ill-advised uniformity.

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<sup>1</sup> Constitution Article 1: Fundamental Declarations of the Province, . . . "essential for membership," 6. *We receive The Book of Common Prayer as set forth by the Church of England in 1662, together with the Ordinal attached to the same, as a standard for Anglican doctrine and discipline, and, with the Books which preceded it, as the standard for the Anglican tradition of worship.*

Canons Title II, Canon 2 Of the Standard Book of Common Prayer, Section 1 *The Book of Common Prayer as set forth by the Church of England in 1662, together with the Ordinal attached to the same, are received as a standard for Anglican doctrine and discipline, and, with the Books which preceded it, as the standard for the Anglican tradition of worship.*

<sup>2</sup> Section II, Article 1, II.1.1 of the ANiC Canons.

## Side by Side Comparison of the Pattern of Holy Communion

1552	1662 BCP	ACNA Ancient Text	ACNA Standard Text	ACNA Common Text
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acclamation</li> <li>• Collect for Purity</li> <li>• 10 Commandments</li> <li>• Kyrie</li>   <li>• Collect</li> <li>• Lessons</li> <li>• Nicene Creed</li> <li>• Sermon</li> <li>• Offertory / Collection</li> <li>• Prayer for Church</li>   <li>• Invitation</li> <li>• General Confession</li>   <li>• Absolution</li> <li>• Comfortable Words</li> <li>• The peace</li> <li>• "Lift up . . ."</li>   <li>• The Sanctus</li> <li>• Prayer of Humble Access</li> <li>• Prayer of Consecration</li>   <li>• Distribution &amp; Reception</li> <li>• Lord's Prayer</li> <li>• Post Communion Prayer #1, 2 or 3</li> <li>• Gloria</li> <li>• The Blessing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collect for Purity</li> <li>• 10 Commandments</li> <li>• Kyrie (Lord have mercy)</li>   <li>• Collects</li> <li>• Lessons</li> <li>• Nicene Creed</li> <li>• Sermon</li> <li>• Offertory / Collection</li> <li>• Prayer for Church Mil</li>   <li>• Invitation</li> <li>• General Confession</li>   <li>• Absolution</li> <li>• Comfortable Words</li> <li>• "Lift up. . ." (sursum corda)</li> <li>• The Sanctus</li> <li>• Prayer of Humble Access</li> <li>• Prayer of Consecration</li>   <li>• Distribution &amp; Reception</li> <li>• Lord's Prayer</li> <li>• Post Communion Prayer #1 or #2</li> <li>• Gloria</li> <li>• The Blessing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acclamation</li> <li>• Collect for Purity</li> <li>• 10 Commandments</li> <li>• Kyrie (Lord have mercy) or Trisagion</li> <li>• Gloria</li> <li>• Collects</li> <li>• Lessons</li> <li>• Sermon</li> <li>• Nicene Creed</li>   <li>• Prayers of the People</li>   <li>• The Confession &amp; absolution of sin</li>   <li>• Comfortable Words</li> <li>• The Peace</li> <li>• "Lift up. . ." (sursum corda)</li> <li>• The Sanctus</li>   <li>• Prayer of Consecration longer form</li> <li>• Lord's Prayer</li> <li>• The Fraction</li> <li>• Prayer of Humble Access</li> <li>• Agnus Dei</li>   <li>• Distribution &amp; Reception</li>   <li>• Post Communion Prayer</li> <li>• The Blessing</li> <li>• The dismissal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acclamation</li> <li>• Collect for Purity</li> <li>• 10 Commandments</li> <li>• Kyrie (Lord have mercy) or Trisagion</li> <li>• Gloria</li> <li>• Collects</li> <li>• Lessons</li> <li>• Sermon</li> <li>• Nicene Creed</li>   <li>• Prayers of the People</li>   <li>• The Confession &amp; absolution of sin</li>   <li>• Comfortable Words</li> <li>• The Peace</li> <li>• "Lift up. . ." (sursum corda)</li> <li>• The Sanctus</li>   <li>• Prayer of Consecration longer form</li> <li>• Lord's Prayer</li> <li>• The Fraction</li> <li>• Prayer of Humble Access</li> <li>• Agnus Dei</li>   <li>• Distribution &amp; Reception</li>   <li>• Post Communion Prayer</li> <li>• The Blessing</li> <li>• The dismissal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acclamation</li> <li>• Collect for Purity</li> <li>• 10 Commandments</li> <li>• Kyrie (Lord have mercy) or Trisagion</li> <li>• Gloria</li> <li>• Collects</li> <li>• Lessons</li> <li>• Sermon</li> <li>• Nicene Creed</li>   <li>• Prayers of the People</li>   <li>• The Confession &amp; absolution of sin</li>   <li>• The Peace</li> <li>• "Lift up. . ." (sursum corda)</li> <li>• The Sanctus</li>   <li>• Prayer of Consecration longer form</li> <li>• Lord's Prayer</li> <li>• The Fraction</li> <li>• Prayer of Humble Access</li> <li>• Agnus Dei</li>   <li>• Distribution &amp; Reception</li>   <li>• Post Communion Prayer</li> <li>• The Blessing</li> <li>• The dismissal</li> </ul>