Proposed Resolution Regarding Recommitting to the Gospel Work of Sanctuary

Whereas our nation is challenged by current U.S. Government policies explicitly targeting our immigrant congregants and neighbors; and

Whereas that targeting includes mass abductions, detentions and deportations, abandonment of Constitutional rights and legal protections, inhumane incarceration conditions, forced family separation, profiling based on race, ethnicity, language and type of work, and the rescission of sensitive locations status of churches, impeding our call to Christian service and evangelism; and

Whereas the Baptismal Covenant of The Episcopal Church calls us to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as ourselves; and

Whereas the mission of the church is to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ by striving for justice and peace among all people while respecting the dignity of every human being; and

Whereas in alignment with those core values, the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles has declared itself to be a sanctuary diocese by resolutions adopted at its 2016 Diocesan Convention and reaffirmed at its 2018 Diocesan Convention; therefore be it

Resolved, that the 130th Annual Meeting of Convention in the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles recommit to this Gospel work by continuing its ministry in the Name of our Savior and Holy Family -- who themselves fled as refugees -- through the work of the Sanctuary Task Force and the Sacred Resistance movement; and be it further

Resolved, that congregations be encouraged to display the notice provided by the diocese indicating that immigration enforcement is not welcome on church properties without a judicial warrant for a particular individual; and be it further

Resolved, that all members of the Diocese encourage legislators in their regions to work toward humane, rational, and comprehensive immigration reform that reflects the best of the American civic virtues of equality and justice, following Christ's Great Commandment to love God and one's neighbor as one's self; and be it further

Resolved, that all members of the Diocese continue to engage in sacred resistance, praying and working for the God's kingdom on earth as in heaven and proclaim God's love for all people, especially those who at this time are living in fear of harassment, persecution, discrimination, and unlawful and unconstitutional abduction, detention and deportation.

Submitted by the Rev. Dr. Francisco García, the Rev. Canon Jaime Edwards-Acton, the Rev. Dr. Greg Kimura, and the Rev. Canon Susan Russell.

Notes:

Passed at Diocesan Convention 2016: Resolution regarding Becoming a Sanctuary Diocese

Passed at Diocesan Convention 2018: Resolution Regarding Reaffirmation and Recommitment to Support the Work of Sanctuary-Sacred Resistance