

1 **78th General Convention Resolution A182: Using Education, Community Dialogue and**
2 **Internal Audit to Respond to All Forms of Racial Injustice**

3 Resolved, the House of Bishops concurring, That the 78th General Convention of the Episcopal
4 Church recognize that many Episcopalians find it challenging to understand or know how to
5 respond to 21st century systemic racial injustices that still occur in multiple contexts including
6 but not limited to education; employment; housing; health care; banking; voting rights;
7 immigration; policing, courts, and prisons, etc., be it further

8 Resolved, That the 78th General Convention affirms that the Gospel, our Baptismal Covenant,
9 and our Marks of Mission call individuals, churches, dioceses, provinces, and the wider Church
10 to find more effective and productive ways to respond to racial injustice as we love our
11 neighbors as ourselves, respect the dignity of every human being, and transform unjust structures
12 of society; and be it further

13 Resolved, That the 78th General Convention declare that “not knowing” and “not having the
14 eyes to see and ears to hear” are serious obstacles to transforming unjust structures and therefore
15 direct the Church at every level for this triennium to commit to increase the use of study,
16 education, research, anti-racism training, liturgies, and Christian formation instruction that
17 specifically address systemic racial injustice; and be it further

18 Resolved, That the 78th General Convention urge the Church at every level to increase the
19 number of dialogues about systemic racial injustice it has with local, state and national bodies
20 within the public and private spheres and that these dialogues be used to identify, examine, and
21 offer correctives to policies and practices within and among these bodies that result in systemic
22 racial disparities and injustices; and be it further

23 Resolved, That the 78th General Convention urge dioceses and congregations to create vehicles
24 for listening to diverse neighbors and developing reconciling relationships; such options might
25 include (a) listening campaigns in local communities, (b) partnerships with churches and
26 organizations comprised predominately of a different race or culture (especially those targeted by
27 oppression), (c) neighborhood prayer walks, (d) storytelling and speak-out events designed to
28 facilitate truth-telling, healing and action, (e) and others with which leaders throughout the
29 Church are familiar; and be it further

30 Resolved, That the 78th General Convention encourage Justice and Advocacy Ministries to
31 partner with other church offices and organizations as appropriate to host, resource, and
32 moderate an ongoing online forum for Episcopalians dedicated to the ministry of racial justice
33 and reconciliation, with spaces dedicated to sharing about local and diocesan efforts and
34 resources; and be it further

35 Resolved, That the 78th General Convention encourage Justice and Advocacy Ministries to
36 partner with Youth Ministries to commission a gospel-centered, Internet-integrated, action-
37 oriented, anti-racism youth ministry curriculum for congregations throughout The Episcopal
38 Church, including those not in the United States, to be provided in English, Spanish and Haitian
39 Creole; and be it further

40 Resolved, That the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music produce and post online a set of
41 prayers for racial reconciliation and justice, suitable for inclusion in the Prayers of the People;
42 and be it further

1 Resolved, That the 78th General Convention urge the Executive Council to conduct its own
2 internal audit to assess to what extent, if at all, racial disparities and systemic racial injustices
3 exist within the Church (including but not limited to clergy salaries and deployment); and be it
4 further

5 Resolved, That the 78th General Convention request that the Executive Council report back to
6 the 79th General Convention on the results of the internal audit; what concrete steps it and the
7 wider Church took to address systemic racial injustice in the wider culture; and how effective
8 those steps were.