

## RESOLUTION 2022-05

WHEREAS, the United Nations General Assembly has passed two resolutions—the first, on March 2 condemning Russian aggression against Ukraine, and the second reiterating the condemnation and addressing humanitarian issues, and

WHEREAS, The United States Congress has approved a nearly \$40 billion military and humanitarian aid package for Ukraine, and

WHEREAS, North Carolina’s National Guard has provided military equipment to Ukraine to “support their fight for democracy and freedom” (quotation from Governor Roy Cooper on April 28, 2022, after a February Executive Order No. 251 that directed state agencies to terminate agreements that directly benefitted Russia), and

WHEREAS, this 139<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Convention asks our discernment of “priorities for mission,” reminding us of our call to follow the example of our Lord Jesus Christ;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 139<sup>th</sup> annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina urge the Diocese and all parishes to express solidarity with the people of Ukraine through the following actions:

- A. Gather and publish prayers for Ukraine for leaders of the Prayers of the People during services, private meditation, Collects, newsletters, bulletins, etc. [see attachment for contributed prayer]
- B. Cooperate in regional and national ecumenical efforts to advocate for the victims of the war in Ukraine and its refugees; and
- C. Cooperate with Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) in its efforts to support victims and refugees.

Adopted the 4<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2022 by the 139<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Diocese of East Carolina.

Shurley Ray Weddle  
Secretary of Convention

## A Prayer for Ukraine

Holy and gracious God, we pray that You make Your presence known to the people of Ukraine as they face the tragedy of war. Strengthen, comfort, and protect them.

We pray for the innocent, the frightened, and all who have lost family, friends, homes, and communities. We pray especially for an end to the Russian invasion; an end to the bombing of civilians, their homes, hospitals, schools, orphanages, and churches; and an end to the threat of nuclear disaster. We ask that You extend Your sheltering grace over the Ukrainian military and all others who have taken up arms to protect their homeland. May they trust in Your mighty power and be filled with courage.

We pray for the world that in this crisis all people will act in solidarity with our Ukrainian brothers and sisters. Continue to guide the leaders of all nations and grant them the grace and the wisdom to find a swift resolution to this tragic conflict.

Have mercy, dear Lord, on Ukraine and the whole world that truth, justice, and freedom may prevail everywhere. We beg these mercies in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

*Amen*

Prayer written and contributed by retired priest the Reverend Thom May, parishioner at St. James, Wilmington, and celebrant at St. Mary's, Burgaw.