



TEC Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music  
Addressing General Convention Resolution C056, *Liturgies for Blessing*

## **An Outline of a Rite for Witnessing and Blessing a Lifelong Covenant**

### **The Word of God**

- Proper Opening Acclamation / Dialogue
- (Optional introductory comments by celebrant, explaining the purpose of the gathering and bidding prayer for the couple)
- Proper Collect
- Proper Readings
- Sermon

### **The Blessing**

- Declaration by the couple of their desire for the blessing of God and the Church
- Presentation of the couple by friends / family / representatives of the congregation
- Affirmation by the congregation; pledge of support
- Prayers of the People (for the Church and world, with special prayers for the couple)
- Vows
- Blessing and exchanging of rings
- Blessing of the couple
- The Peace
- (Blessing of the congregation and dismissal if Holy Communion is not to follow)

### **The Holy Communion**

*The Liturgy of the Eucharist is celebrated as usual except:*

- Proper Preface