

Standing Committee for the Publication of the *Book of Praise*

c/o 110 West 27th Street, Hamilton, ON, L9C 5A1

REPORT TO GENERAL SYNOD GUELPH 2022

Introduction:

The Standing Committee for the Publication of the *Book of Praise* (SCBP, hereinafter referred to as the Committee) hereby submits a report on its activities regarding the mandate given by General Synod Edmonton, 2019. Throughout the report, references to the Committee's mandate are provided based on the various articles published in the *Acts General Synod of the Canadian Reformed Churches – Edmonton, AB, 2019*.

We give thanks to the LORD for allowing us to work together as a Committee to fulfill the mandate given to us by General Synod Edmonton. The 2014 *Book of Praise* continues to be well received by the churches, and also by others. This is evidenced by the fact that over the past years we have received and granted numerous copyright requests to make use of a variety of Psalms and Hymns (and even some prose sections) from the *Book of Praise* in other publications. In 2022, by God's grace, we may celebrate the 50th anniversary of the publication of the *Book of Praise*. The first complete Anglo-Genevan Psalter, a labour of love and a contribution to the psalmody of the English-speaking world, was published in June 1972. What a blessing that our humble efforts are serving to facilitate the praise and worship of our great and awesome God by members in our churches and beyond!

Overview of the report:

For ease of reading, the report is divided into four sections. Each section deals with one key element of the Committee's mandate, and is organized under headings and subheadings with specific references to the *Acts 2019*:

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2.0 Study and propose appropriate changes to the forms for Lord's Supper

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SECTION ONE

Mandate received from General Synod Edmonton, 2019

1.0 Implementation of GS decisions re. changes in the *Book of Praise*:

1.1 Article 145, 4.2.7

Amend the first sentence of BC Article 34 by removing the word “expiation” and replacing it with “propitiation”.

The committee has noted this change for future publications of the Book of Praise.

2.0 Study and propose appropriate changes to the forms for Lord’s Supper as per the following considerations:

2.1 Acts, Art. 23 consideration 3.1

Regional Synod East (RSE) Nov. 2018 makes a valid point that the English language has changed and therefore the use of masculine pronouns in the forms for Lord’s Supper could make them liable to misinterpretation.

2.2 Acts, Art. 23 Consideration 3.2

General Synod has been served by SCBP in matters of linguistic changes to the liturgical forms (see GS 2013 Art. 101). It would be advisable to ask the committee to study this and propose appropriate changes to the Lord’s Supper forms giving special attention to the personal nature of self-examination. In this process the churches would have the opportunity to interact with any proposed changes.

Due to the time required to review and propose the alternate Psalms and new hymns, the committee was not able to study and make a proposal about these matters in time for its report to GS Guelph.

The committee requests that this mandate be extended to Synod 2025.

3.0 Fostering Awareness (*Acts, Art. 145*)

The Committee notes with gratitude the many expressions of interest in our *Book of Praise*. During the past three years, the Committee has continued to respond to various requests for information regarding the *Book of Praise*, and has dealt with a number of requests to copy, in whole or in part, the Psalms and Hymns as well as other parts of the *Book of Praise*. These requests originated from within as well as from outside of our federation of churches. The Committee is delighted that there remains considerable interest at home and abroad in the Anglo-Genevan Psalter.

The Committee continues to maintain its website as part of its efforts of promotion and awareness for the *Book of Praise*. The website can be found at www.bookofpraise.ca.

The Committee requests Synod that the mandate to foster an increased awareness of the existence of the *Book of Praise*, among others in the English-speaking world, be continued. Further, the Committee requests that Synod mandate the Committee to continue to maintain the Committee website at www.bookofpraise.ca.

4.0 Seek input and propose alternate non-Genevan renditions of the Psalms and seek input from the churches concerning replaceable and additional hymns (Acts, Article 142)

4.1 Mandate Regarding Alternate Psalm Renditions and Additional Hymns

4.1.1 Concerning the Psalms:

4.2.1.1 to seek input from the churches as to which non-Genevan renditions of the Psalms could be added to enhance the Psalm section of the Book of Praise.

4.2.1.2 to compile a list of suitable additional Psalm renditions for possible inclusion in the Book of Praise, using the TPH as primary resource.

4.1.2 Concerning the Hymns:

4.2.2.1 to seek input from the churches concerning replaceable and additional hymns for the 2014 Book of Praise, using the TPH as a primary resource.

4.2.2.2 to compile a list of such hymns keeping in mind that at this time the final number of hymns in the Book of Praise should not exceed 100 (as per GS 2004), and being flexible with the structural template (Apostle's Creed) of the hymn-section of the 2014 Book of Praise.

4.2.3 To send at least 18 months before the next general synod, an explanatory report to the churches together with a provisional list of songs for immediate testing, in the worship services if so desired, so there can be well-considered feedback to the next general synod.

4.2.4 To receive feedback from the churches on the Committee's interim report and include its evaluation of that feedback along with actionable recommendations in its report six months before the next General Synod.

4.2 Process of Fulfilling the Mandate

4.2.1 Request for Recommendations from the Churches

Recognizing that time was of the essence in fulfilling our mandate, the committee began to work on the above-noted mandate as soon as the draft Acts of Synod Edmonton 2019 were posted. A letter was sent to the churches on June 6, 2019, requesting the following information:

Related to the Psalms:

- i. Recommendations for non-Genevan renditions of the Psalms (text and music) that could be added to the Book of Praise to enhance the Psalm section of the Book of Praise. As per our mandate, we request that you make use of the Trinity Psalter Hymnal as a primary resource for your suggestions. Further, it would be helpful to the committee if you provide reasons why you feel each rendition would be a suitable and/or desirable addition.

Related to the Hymns:

- i. Recommendations for additional hymns for the Hymn section of the Book of Praise. As per our mandate, we request that you make use of the Trinity Psalter Hymnal as a primary resource for your suggestions. As with the Psalms, so for the hymns we request your assistance by providing an explanation as to why you feel each hymn you submit would be a suitable addition to the Book of Praise. Further, please keep in mind that the churches have decided not to exceed 100 hymns in the Book of Praise. This means that we could add up to 15 new hymns (unless a number of hymns are also replaced). Since we have an 18-month window to complete our work, we ask that you provide us with a reasonable number of submissions to enable us to successfully consider all of the feedback and report back to the churches within the timeframe mandated.
- ii. Recommendations for hymns in the current Book of Praise which could be deleted to make room for other hymns.

In view of the timeline given in the mandate by General Synod Edmonton 2019, namely, that the Committee submit a report to the churches at least 18 months before the next General Synod (May 2022, the Lord willing), we aimed to have a preliminary report in the hands of the churches by November 2020. We asked the churches, therefore, to submit their recommendations by December 31, 2019.

4.2.3 Ministers' and Accompanists' Surveys and Feedback

The committee also surveyed the ministers in the federation. The ministers were asked to respond to the following questions:

1. Which psalms do you tend to choose infrequently or very rarely for use in the worship services?
2. What keeps you from choosing those psalms for use in worship?
3. Which hymns do you tend to choose infrequently or very rarely for use in the worship services?
4. What keeps you from choosing those hymns for use in worship?

The committee received detailed responses from 30 ministers in the Federation.

The committee also surveyed the accompanists in the churches and asked them to consider the following questions:

1. Which psalms do you find difficult for the congregation to sing?
2. Which musical elements in these psalms make them difficult to sing?
3. Which hymns do you find difficult for the congregation to sing?

4. Which musical elements in these hymns make them difficult to sing?

The committee received feedback in two different ways from the churches. Some of the churches sent in a combined accompanists' report, while others sent in individual responses to the questions. In all, the committee received a total of 17 responses.

The committee also received several databases from individuals that tabulated the frequency of singing each of the Psalms and hymns of the Book of Praise in the worship services of several churches over a period of several years.

The committee thanks all the ministers, musicians, and music committees for providing detailed feedback. All this information was collated and sorted so that the committee could work with this vast amount of data in proposing alternate Psalms and new hymns.

4.2.4 Submissions from the Churches

The committee received submissions from 45 churches proposing 289 alternate Psalms and over 194 new hymns for consideration. All this data was collated in terms of the churches recommending each song and the reasons given for the recommendations.

The committee worked with the Principles and Guidelines for the Selection of Music in the Church, as printed in Appendix 2B of the Acts of General Synod Chatham 2004 (p. 176-177, <https://canrc.org/documents/7936>).

In addition to these guiding principles, the committee adopted some further guidelines for the addition of non-Genevan Psalm renditions to enhance the Book of Praise. The additional guidelines adopted were:

1. The Trinity Psalter Hymnal is to be the primary source for additional Psalm renditions. Other possible sources:
 - A. [The Psalter](#) (1912 used by the PRCA)
 - B. [The Scottish Metrical Psalter](#) (words only)
 - C. [Sing Psalms](#) (from the Free Church of Scotland) (link to words only)
2. Use of antiquated language should be avoided.
3. Special consideration is to be given to those Psalms infrequently sung due to melody more than words.
4. Commonly sung Psalms can be considered for the sake of providing variety of choice.
5. Additions can include alternate melodies for the same rhyming or alternate Psalm renditions altogether.
6. Melodies with a strong association to a well-known hymn should be avoided if possible.
7. Alternate Psalm renditions which communicate the message of the whole Psalm should be preferred over those which are partial.

4.2.5 Evaluation Process

Three sub-committees -- for Psalms 1-75, Psalms 76-150, and the hymns -- were appointed to deal with all the proposed songs. These sub-committees evaluated all the submissions received from the churches and made recommendations to the full committee. The full committee then worked through these recommendations to decide which alternate psalm settings and additional hymns would be included in the proposal for testing to the churches.

Regarding the number of hymns being proposed, it should be noted that the SCBP did its work with the understanding that "*the final number of hymns in the Book of Praise should not exceed 100 (as per GS 2004).*" The Committee was aware that this limit is being appealed to General Synod but does not hold a view on this matter, nor does it intend to prejudice the churches' decision on this matter. Our aim was simply to provide the churches with a selection of hymns from which to choose. Further, it should be noted that the Committee also considered recommendations from the churches regarding hymns that could perhaps be deleted from the current *Book of Praise*.

Many evenings were spent by the individual committee members preparing their reviews of the songs allotted to them, for presentation to the respective subcommittee. Each subcommittee then prepared a report along with a recommendation on each song, which was in turn presented to the full committee for discussion and decision. Not all the songs submitted by the churches were ultimately proposed by the committee for testing.

Once the Committee had identified the songs that would ultimately be sent to the churches for testing, permission for use of the songs during the testing period had to be sought from the various copyright holders. In total, permission was sought and received from 17 different copyright holders to test these songs in worship until May 2022. In a couple of instances, small fees were paid to obtain this permission. New permissions will have to be sought from each of the copyright holders should Synod approve any of the copyrighted songs or extend the time frame of the churches to sing these songs and provide feedback.

4.2.6 Additional Challenges

Besides the sheer volume of submissions from the churches, the Committee faced three additional challenges:

1. Many of the TPH-recommended songs contain archaic language. In some cases, these could be left unchanged, in view of the history, status and style of the hymn, but in other cases we felt it was necessary to try to update or otherwise improve the lyrics of certain hymns.

2. In many cases, more up-to-date versions of the hymn could be found in other hymnals. Thus, though the TPH remained our primary resource, other hymnals were consulted as well. Sometimes, these other hymnals had different versions of the particular hymn we were working on. These versions used other wording, or had a different number of stanzas. Thus, though the TPH was our primary resource, sometimes we judged that another hymnal had a better version of a particular Psalm or hymn.
3. Though GS Edmonton mandated us to provide the churches with “a *provisional list of songs*,” points 1. and 2. above make it clear that we could not simply give the churches a list of song titles and leave it to the churches to find the hymns. The variety of wording and music notation made it necessary to specify not only which alternate psalms and additional hymns, but also which version of these Psalms and hymns, are being recommended to the churches.

4.2.7 Sending the Proposed Songs to the Churches for Review

In the end, the committee chose a total of 40 alternate Psalm renditions and 43 hymns to recommend for testing by the churches.

After consideration of the various ways in which these proposed songs could be made available to the churches, the committee concluded that it would be best to post them on the Book of Praise website, www.bookofpraise.ca, in PDF format, under password protection, as required by some of the copyright holders. In a letter dated January 4, 2021, the committee informed the churches that the additional Psalm renditions and a list of recommended hymns would be posted by mid-January. By way of this letter, the churches were given a link to the principles and guidelines for church music adopted by General Synod 2004 and were given the additional guidelines that were adopted for the evaluation of alternate Psalms for use when evaluating and testing the proposed songs. Instructions were included on how to obtain a login to the portal holding the PDF copies of songs submitted for testing.

An electronic survey form was also integrated into the website so that tabulation and feedback could be used by the committee in reviewing all the feedback from the churches.

Many of the recommended songs for testing are protected by copyright. To legally display, play the music, copy, reproduce and/or distribute the words and images, a copyright License must be purchased. The churches were required to purchase a Copyright License from Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI), which provides legal compliance for storing and projecting of song lyrics, printing of songs, distributing and recording of songs in the service. Additionally, if a church posts live recorded services including the music and singing, a Streaming License had to be added. The license costs are based on the size of the congregation. These requirements will continue for any copyrighted songs approved by

Synod for further testing and/or for inclusion in the *Book of Praise*; that is, the requirements are not limited to the evaluation period.

4.2.8 Receiving and Processing the Feedback from the Churches

The churches were requested to provide their feedback on the proposed songs by July 31, 2021, to allow the committee sufficient time to review all the feedback and comments to finalize its report to GS Guelph 2022 by November 10, 2021. The committee realizes that the testing timeline was tight. Unfortunately, the world was struck by a COVID-19 pandemic, which had a big impact on church life in North America. Many areas faced capacity restrictions and many churches had to worship via livestream. The restrictions made the process for testing difficult. Several churches requested that the SCBP extend the July 31st deadline for reporting. The committee itself faced a deadline to submit the report and thus could not grant extensions.

Of the 67 churches in the Federation, 41 churches provided feedback on some of the songs, while 26 churches did not provide any feedback. On average, the responding churches provided feedback on 35 Psalms and 37 Hymns. The committee appreciates the work that the churches did under difficult circumstances to provide the feedback. At the same time, we want to note that the circumstances negatively affected the ability of the churches, by their own report, to carry out a thorough review of the proposed songs. Sometimes feedback was given on songs that had not yet in fact been tested by the congregation. That said, the amount, variety, and detail of the feedback received from the churches gave the committee confidence to make final recommendations on the proposed alternate psalms and additional hymns.

To review the feedback from the churches, the committee again divided the initial labour, this time via two subcommittees, one for the Psalms and the other for the hymns. Each subcommittee studied the feedback from the churches and prepared a post-feedback recommendation that was presented to the committee of the whole. The whole committee then decided on the final recommendation.

4.2.9 Conclusion

It became apparent that, regrettably, the committee would not be able to review all the feedback from the churches and prepare final recommendations for all of the proposed Psalms and hymns in time for the November 10, 2021 deadline for our report. In view of that fact, we decided to submit final recommendations to GS Guelph on 20 of the proposed Psalms and 20 of the proposed hymns. You will find a supplement containing our final recommendations for these Psalms and hymns attached to this report. The supplement provides the committee's initial review and recommendation for each song proposed for testing, followed by a review of the post-testing feedback, and a final recommendation to synod.

The committee will continue to meet and by early 2022, the Lord willing, hopes to submit its review and recommendations on the

balance of the proposed Psalms and hymns, together with recommendations regarding hymns that may be considered for removal from the *Book of Praise*. In this way, the committee members appointed for a three-year term can complete their tasks, avoiding the need to make new appointments to complete the process.

The Lord blessed the work of the committee. Even though we faced restrictions on face-to-face meetings, the committee met over 100 times, predominately in Zoom meetings, and individual members also spent hours of personal time reading feedback, preparing reviews, and meeting in subcommittees. The committee was blessed with a spirit of cooperation and diligence in doing the work.

We pray that the work that has been completed and the work that is yet to be done may be to the benefit of the churches and to the glory of God. Soli deo Gloria.

5.0 Contact with Australian Sister Churches (Acts, Art.145)

5.1 Official Communication

General Synod Edmonton 2019 mandated the Committee to maintain contact with the Australian Deputies, in matters relating to the *Book of Praise*, and the development of an Australian version of the *Book of Praise*. The SCBP received a request from the Standing Committee for the *Australian Book of Praise* to allow them to include a slightly adapted preface as found in the *Book of Praise 2014* in the *Australian Book of Praise*. The SCBP granted their request with a minor adaptation and gave thanks with our sister churches in Australia on the soon to be published *Australian Book of Praise*.

5.2 Recent decisions by the FRCA Synod (June 2021)

From the report of the Standing Committee for the *Australian Book of Praise* (SCABP) the SCBP learned that the Deputies for the SCABP reported with God's blessing they were able to fulfill their task. The *Australian Book of Praise: Anglo Genevan Psalter* is in the last stages of production; the Lord willing, by the time Synod Albany June 2021 is convened the book will be available for distribution in the churches. The SCBP expresses thankfulness to the Australian Deputies for their communication as the project unfolded, and it is our prayer that the *Australian Book of Praise* will be used with joy, to bring glory to God's name and for the edification of the church.

5.2.1 The following relevant decisions were gleaned from the approved Acts of Synod Albany 2021 found at [Microsoft Word - Acts of Synod 2021 \(final Word4\) \(frca.org.au\)](#).

5.2.2 To express gratitude of the FRCA to the brothers W Helder, G van Popta and W Gortemaker for their contribution to the *Australian Book of Praise*.

5.2.3 Maintain good contact with the Standing Committee for the Publication of the Book of Praise of the Canadian Reformed Churches

5.3 Request to Continue Mandate

The Committee requests Synod that the mandate to maintain good contact with the Standing Committee for the *Australian Book of Praise* be continued.

6.0 Corporate Status (Acts, Art. 145)

The Committee has maintained its status as a corporation; all necessary documents for this purpose have been kept up to date. This also includes filing the Annual Income Tax forms with Revenue Canada. This is a legal requirement even though the Committee does not operate under an annual budget, and the Corporation does not generate an income or profit.

The Committee requests Synod that the mandate to maintain its corporate status be continued for the purpose of protecting the interests of the Canadian Reformed Churches in matters concerning the *Book of Praise*.

7.0 Maintain Archives and Website (Acts, Art. 145)

7.1 Archives

The Committee continues to maintain archives at our permanent address, in the Theological College library. Dr. J. Smith took over the activities of archivist for the past three years. Further, to maintain the integrity of the archives, the Committee has taken a decision to implement tri-annual inspections of the archives in the September/October before General Synod. Since the archives are housed at CRTS, sr. Margaret Alkema (librarian for CRTS) agreed to assist the Committee with these inspections. There is no archives inspection report available for this report due to the significant amount of time that the additional proposed songs project took from the committee members. An archives inspection report will be presented to General Synod 2025.

7.2 Website

As mentioned previously in this report, the Committee continues to maintain its website as part of its efforts of promotion and awareness for the *Book of Praise*.

A portal was created on the website for the purpose of holding PDF copies of all the proposed alternate Psalms and additional hymns. Members of the churches could obtain access via a login with password. This also served to satisfy the requirements of some of the copyright holders.

The website can be found at www.bookofpraise.ca.

7.3 Request to Continue Mandate

The Committee requests that the mandate to maintain the archives and website be continued.

8.0 Appointment of a committee member to validate and submit to the treasurer of the General Fund all expenses being submitted for committee work

The committee appointed br. Brian Vanderhout to validate and submit to the treasurer of the General Fund all expenses being submitted for committee work.

9.0 Publication, Contract, Printing and Distribution (Acts, Art. 145, 4.2.6 and 4.3)

9.1 Publication

The Committee maintains a list of corrigenda, which are submitted to Premier Printing for inclusion in the next print run. Corrigenda items include formatting changes, punctuation, and other minor corrections.

A publisher's report is attached to this report outlining the distribution of the *Book of Praise*.

9.2 Proposed Funding Model (Acts, 145 4.2.6)

9.2.1 Background

General Synod Dunnville mandated the Committee to negotiate a contract renewal with Premier Printing with an expiry date of February 28, 2022. However, as we discussed this matter with Premier Printing, particularly in relation to the Committee's mandate to make as much of the *Book of Praise* available online as possible, it became evident that there is a tension between protecting the investment that our publisher makes in layout, publishing, and inventory of the print and digital editions of the *Book of Praise*, and making this material freely available online. For example having the content of the *Book of Praise* available online could result in decreased sales of the print and digital versions, potentially restricting Premier's ability to recoup its investment through sales of the book.

At that time it was thought that, in order to resolve this tension, it might seem better to have the churches bear the cost of layout and publishing (through a fixed-price project negotiated with a publisher – in this case Premier Printing), and to have the cost of printing covered simply through the purchase of the books. In this way, Premier Printing does not have to carry the financial burden of layout and publishing and attempt to recoup that through sales of the book. That also frees the Committee and the Churches up to publish the content online, without negatively affecting our publisher's financial investment in the project.

The Committee feels it is important to note that Premier Printing has never seen the *Book of Praise* as a major profit-making enterprise in their business, nor has the *Book of Praise* ever been a major source of profit for their business. On the contrary, they have very generously gone over and above

what would be reasonably expected of them in order to ensure that the churches have been able to publish the *Book of Praise*, and that individuals have access to both the print and digital versions. As such, the Committee feels that Premier Printing's interests should be respected and protected.

The Committee is grateful to Premier Printing for the ongoing excellent relationship that we have with them, and would like to see this relationship continued in a way that protects their interests as publisher, while at the same time allowing the churches to use and promote their *Book of Praise* in a variety of ways (e.g. through publication of the songs online).

For this reason, the Committee was mandated by GS Edmonton 2019 to serve synod with a report regarding its proposal to move the costs of layout and publication, which will include a discussion of the financial implications to the General Fund. This should include an evaluation of the impact of creating an online version and a four-part harmony version.

Since Synod Edmonton 2019, the committee met with br. William Gortemaker on September 5, 2019, at CRTS. This was very beneficial in terms of allowing the Committee members to meet the publisher and discuss some practical matters surrounding our relationship as Committee and publisher and the work of publishing and printing the *Book of Praise*. A large portion of this meeting was devoted to discussing items such as projected costs of production for a future edition of the *Book of Praise*, and financial implications of publishing a future edition of the *Book of Praise* with the songs arranged in four-part harmony. From the meeting it became apparent that a proposal would very much depend upon such factors as:

- the changes that will be proposed and accepted by General Synod. If the songs of *Book of Praise* (BOP) were produced in four-part harmony, would it become, e.g. similar in size to the *Trinity Psalter Hymnal* (TPH)? It was noted that TPH has smaller font size and less white space, etc.
- Four-part harmony adds more data input costs and would mean that the BOP would be 900-1050 pages, plus any additional hymns we might add, increasing the cost of the book.
- A larger BOP will have thinner paper which will make it harder for seniors, e.g. to turn the pages.
- Print will also be smaller.
- More online sales will affect costs for print runs.

The committee also discussed with br. Gortemaker the implications of allowing more online "free" content owned by the committee, which would result in Premier Printing Ltd. losing their ability to recoup their costs. There are also copyright issues to be considered, especially in view of the proposed addition of alternate Psalms and additional hymns, since that will increase the number of copyright holders the Committee will have to work with. The

number of new songs added by Synod, and what the churches want the book to look like will have a large impact on proposing funding models.

A subsequent Zoom meeting was held on September 14, 2021 with brs. Dave and William Gortemaker to discuss the issues having an impact on the funding model. Several possible funding models – including the current model – were proposed for consideration. SCBP and Premier Printing have had multiple discussions over the last 10 years on the topic of the publishing and funding model currently used. Pressures from different directions have suggested that the model is not working for all the parties involved, whether they be individual churches, individual users, the Committee or the Publisher. Premier and SCBP have explored the *status quo* and several alternative models in order to see whether one of them might alleviate most of the pressures.

Our conclusion was that the recent pressures are the result of diverse and changing desires for how churches and individuals want to use the *Book of Praise* and its content. The desires and the interests of members, individual churches, SCBP, and Premier are at times competing interests. Ideally, the funding and publishing model would align with the interests the churches value and how the churches prioritize them.

Thus, the fundamental question the churches need to answer is: *what do the churches want from the Book of Praise? i.e. what do we value or how do we prioritize?* In order to help the churches to understand the question, and determine the answer, following are some of the competing desires which have been expressed regarding the *Book of Praise*, as examples of what the churches may value, and their potential consequences:

- End-user pays – individual churches/users pay directly and individually for the *Book of Praise*, at such time as they buy its content, in whatever format.
- Open-source content availability – the content of the *Book of Praise* is publicly available for public use and distribution in any number of creative formats.
- All *Book of Praise* content is freely available (no paywall).
- All *Book of Praise* content is available online.
- Church members have the *Book of Praise* available in format conducive to regular home use.
- Wide range of product formats (e.g. large-print, scored for other instruments).
- Legibility (e.g. font size) and whitespace (conducive for comfortable reading).
- Single-address content management – One party is responsible to SCBP for maintenance of master files of and edits to *Book of Praise*.
- Single-licensee control – SCBP has only one party to manage in terms of content usage and product authorization.

- Tight copyright control – SCBP can reasonably ensure that it is fulfilling its duty to the various copyright holders.
- Availability of a quality printed book at a reasonable cost.
- Publication of the *Book of Praise* in four-part harmony.
- One complete liturgical songbook for the churches.
- Ease of use (e.g. form factor suitable for digital devices, only one book to carry around [i.e. not several volumes])

While each of these of itself has some merit, **it is practically impossible to achieve many of these simultaneously**. For instance:

If it is a priority for the churches to stay out of the business of managing up-front costs:

- Someone (e.g. a publisher) has to take on the costs of preparation, production, and inventory, with a reasonable expectation of recouping those costs by way of sales.
 - The publisher would reasonably require control of the format(s) by which the content is publicly available.
 - The content could not be freely available elsewhere.
- Having one source for all formats would reduce risk and thus cost.

If it is a priority to make the *Book of Praise* content freely available:

- End-users would be less likely to pay for the content in other (e.g. printed) formats.
 - Costs of content preparation could not be reliably recouped in this way, and the churches as a whole would need to cover this up front.
 - A decreased number of purchasers of the printed book might threaten the viability of a quality printed book at a reasonable cost, requiring the churches to subsidize the costs of production and inventory
- Ensuring the rights and managing the demands of multiple copyright holders would be almost impossible.
- What is freely available might lose perceived value.
- While accessibility to content might be increased, would it result in more or less usage outside of worship services (e.g. in the home)?

If it is a priority to add hymns and have all music set in four-part harmony (perhaps with overleaf notation?):

- The current font size, whitespace, page dimensions, and binding style cannot be maintained; i.e. something has to be sacrificed:
 - The content could be split into several volumes, increasing the cost of preparation and production, and decreasing portability and ease of use.

- Font size and whitespace could be reduced, thereby also decreasing legibility and readability, perhaps necessitating large-print editions.
- Page dimensions could be increased, reducing portability and compatibility with digital editions
- The time and labour that it would take to publish a new edition of the *Book of Praise* would greatly increase.

9.2.2 Conclusion

As a result of our discussions, it has become clear that it is not possible for the committee to propose a funding model to the churches at this time. Before the committee is able to propose a sustainable publishing and funding model for the future that will meet the needs of the churches, it will need to have a better understanding of what the churches want from the *Book of Praise*.

9.2.3 Recommendation

1. That Synod mandate the SCBP to survey the churches to determine the priority/relative importance of the various desires that have been expressed with regard to the *Book of Praise*.
2. That Synod mandate the SCBP to review the input of the churches and, on the basis of that input, propose a publishing and funding model to GS 2025.

9.3 Revised Contract

The committee was mandated by Synod Edmonton 2019, to negotiate a temporary extension of the contract with Premier Printing Ltd. past the current expiry date of February 28, 2022. A Zoom meeting with brs. Dave and William Gortemaker from Premier Printing Ltd was held on Saturday October 30, 2021. The SCBP reviewed an updated wording of the contract taking into account the new realities of digital technologies and digital assets. The language of the contract also protects the publisher from allowing all kinds of free content to be put out on the web, thereby possibly affecting future sales of either the hardcopy of the book or a digital version.

The new contract will serve for a period of five years with the understanding, as noted in the contract, that it can be amended and changed at any time. When the SCBP proposes a new funding formula to GS 2025, a new contract in line with the new funding proposal will be submitted.

A copy of the updated contract is attached to this report as Appendix 1.

9.4 Publisher's Report

Premier Printing Ltd. provides the Committee with a report outlining the number of hardcopy books printed and distributed broken down by each edition type. Pulpit and accompanist and electronic editions are each reported on separately. It can be seen that digital sales make up the largest portion in part due to the pandemic requiring churches to livestream services with the songs being projected. Digital copies of the *Book of Praise* seem to be where the future is heading. Sales to Australia will no longer be segregated from the total international sales since the Australian churches have published their own book in 2021.

10.0 **Committee Membership (Acts, Article 151)**

10.1 Members as appointed by Synod Edmonton (Acts Art. 151, Par 6.1)

Synod Edmonton appointed Committee members as follows:

A. Boeringa (2022)

Rev. R. den Hollander (2022)

Dr. K. Dieleman (2022)

J. Jans (2022)

J. Jager (2022)

Dr. M. Jongsma (2025)

Dr. J. Smith (2022)

B. Vanderhout (2028)

Rev. D. Wynia (convenor) (2022)

10.2 Completion of the terms of A. Boeringa, Rev R. den Hollander, Dr. K Dieleman, J. Jans, J. Jager, Dr. J. Smith and Rev. D. Wynia (convenor)

Synod Edmonton 2019 appointed additional members for a period of three years to assist with the project of proposing alternate Psalms and additional Hymns. The members appointed to the committee to assist with this project are: A. Boeringa, Rev. R. den Hollander, Dr. K. Dieleman, J. Jans and J. Jager.

Rev R. den Hollander asked to be relieved of his committee duties in April 2021 due to personal circumstances. The committee thanks these members for the countless hours of work and meeting time that this project took. The

Committee recommends that Synod formally thank these brothers and sisters as members of the Committee.

Brs. Rev. D. Wynia and Dr. J. Smith will complete their terms of three synods at the end of Synod 2022. We are grateful for these brothers and for their dedicated work on the Committee throughout the years of their term. The Committee recommends that Synod formally thank Rev D. Wynia and Dr. J. Smith for their work as members of the Committee.

10.3 Suggested Future Membership

The Committee recommends that its membership continue to be set at 4 members. The Committee will provide General Synod with recommendations for replacements for Rev. D. Wynia and Dr. J. Smith in a separate letter.



SECTION TWO

11.0 Committee Proposals

11.1 Amend the wording and musical notation of Hymn 1 and the Apostles' Creed, Article 145, 4.2.8

GS Edmonton 2019 (Acts, Article 145, Recommendation 4.2.8) mandated the SCBP to review a letter from the Winnipeg-Grace Canadian Reformed Church in which it is proposed that the Apostles' Creed (in the section of Ecumenical Creeds as well as the entry in the Heidelberg Catechism L.D. 7 Q & A 23) be amended to read "he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand," and that Hymn 1 be revised accordingly. Currently, the Apostles' Creed as it is found in the section of Ecumenical Creeds and in Lord's Day 7 of the Heidelberg Catechism reads as follows: "he ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand." Hymn 1 reads as follows: "he ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand."

The SCBP reviewed the letter from Winnipeg Grace. We also sought the advice of Dr. William Helder and Dr. Jason VanVliet. Based on our consideration of their advice, we decided it would be best if the wording of Hymn 1 were to be changed from "he ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand" to "he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand". This would require a slight change to the music notation, namely, to remove the slur that ties the 8th notes at the beginning of this line, as follows:

Current Version	Proposed Change
	
and sit-teth at the right hand	and is seat-ed at the right hand

Since Hymn 1 is "our hymn", to which the SCBP holds copyright, we restrict ourselves on this occasion to a recommendation that Hymn 1 be changed, as

proposed, namely, that “he ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand” be changed to “he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand”.

11.1.1 Considerations:

11.1.1.1

“Sitteth” is indeed an archaic expression, and a request has been made that the expression be updated.

11.1.1.2

Strictly speaking, the modern English equivalent of “sitteth” would be “sits” (as currently found in the Apostles’ Creed in the Ecumenical Creeds and Lord’s Day 7 in the Book of Praise). However, that would not fit the music for that line of Hymn 1.

11.1.1.3

“Is seated” does fit the music of that line of Hymn 1, as shown in the attached file.

11.1.1.4

“Is seated” also lines up with Biblical expressions in which Christ’s position at the right hand of God is referred to (cf. Luke 22:69, Colossians 3:1).

11.1.1.5

Although the resultant text of Hymn 1 would be different at this point from that of the Apostles’ Creed in the Ecumenical Creeds section of the Book of Praise, and in Lord’s Day 7, they are already different at that point, and, given the constraints of the music of Hymn 1, they cannot be identical.

11.1.2 Recommendation:

That the wording of Hymn 1 be changed from “he ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand” to “he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand”, and that the proposed musical change be adopted, and that these changes be implemented when a new edition of the *Book of Praise* is prepared.

11.2 Hymn 46 – Proposed revision to lyrics in stanza 1

11.2.1 While reviewing the current collection of hymns, the committee noted that the third line in stanza one reads “They that wilds inhabit shall their worship bring”. It seems like a less than appropriate way to describe, in this day and age, those who are referred to as “desert tribes” in Psalm 72:9.

11.2.2 The committee proposes to change the wording of the third line of stanza 1 to “Many distant peoples shall their worship bring”

11.2.3 Considerations

11.2.3.1

The original wording “they that wilds inhabit” may or may not be racist, but given the missional intent of the hymn in 1912, the wording could be construed as having particular people

groups in mind rather than geographical areas. The SCBP has received some feedback criticizing the wording because of the possible former interpretation.

11.2.2.1

The Hebrew word (“tsiy”, plural “tsiyim”) is very rare, and thus its meaning is not clear. The makers of the RSV decided that it was a spelling mistake for “tsarim” which means “foes.” Hebrew dictionaries, however, suggest it is connected with the noun “tsiyah” which means “dry region,” and thus have suggested the translation “desert dwellers”, hence “desert tribes” in NIV and ESV.

11.2.2.2

A replacement wording can retain the geographical sense suggested by the Hebrew dictionaries without the possible misreadings of the current wording: "Many distant peoples"

11.2.4 Recommendation:

That this updated version of Hymn 46 be approved for inclusion when a new edition of the *Book of Praise* is prepared.

11.3 Hymn 55 – Proposed revision to lyrics

11.3.1 While reviewing the current collection of hymns, the committee noted that this hymn still uses archaic pronouns “thee” and “thou” in reference to God. Since this hymn has no copyright, the committee is able to update the pronouns referring to God.

11.3.2 The committee suggests that the pronouns referring to God could be updated as follows:

Verse 1

Who trusts in God, a strong abode
in heaven and earth possesses;
who looks in love to Christ above,
no fear his heart oppresses.
In you alone, O Lord, we own
our hope and consolation,
our shield from foes, our balm for woes,
our great and sure salvation.

Verse 2

Though Satan’s wrath beset our path
and worldly scorn assail us,
while you are near, we will not fear;
your strength shall never fail us.
Your rod and staff shall keep us safe
and guide our steps forever;

no shades of death, nor hell beneath
your people from you sever.

Verse 3

In all the strife of mortal life
our feet shall stand securely;
temptation's hour shall lose its power,
for you shall guard us surely.
O God, each day direct our way;
renew us by your Spirit
until we stand at your right hand
through Jesus' saving merit.

11.3.3 Recommendation:

That this updated version of Hymn 55 be approved for inclusion when a new edition of the *Book of Praise* is prepared.

11.4 Hymn 60 – Proposed revision to lyrics of stanza 4

11.4.1 Observations:

11.4.1.1

The SCBP previously based the text of Hymn 60 (Until He Comes) in our current *Book of Praise* on that found in the *Book of Praise* (1908 edition) of the Presbyterian Church of Canada. The hymn being in the public domain, the SCBP adapted it significantly and claimed copyright to its version.

11.4.1.2

However, the current text/syntax of stanza 4 is awkward (with possibly a Dutch-ism in line 2) and its intended meaning is hard to grasp:

Thus, by his suffering Christ achieved
that we the Spirit have received,
and unity, as brothers, gained
until he comes.

11.4.2 Considerations:

11.4.2.1

Stanza 4 correctly states that it is through Christ's work that believers receive the Holy Spirit and the blessing of unity in the Spirit. See Acts 2:33 and Eph 4:3.

11.4.2.2

Acts 2:33 links the outpouring of the Spirit to Christ's exaltation to the right hand of God (rather than to Christ's suffering).

11.4.2.3

The link to Acts 2:33 can be strengthened and the complications in wording eliminated with this revision to stanza 4, which still fits within the flow of Hymn 60:

Thus Christ, exalted to His throne,
Sent down the Spirit to His own
And gave us unity as one
Until he comes.

11.4.3 Recommendation:

To replace the existing Hymn 60:4 with the version given above, when a new edition of the *Book of Praise* is prepared.

11.5 Hymn 58 – Proposal to Replace the Melody

11.5.1 Observations:

11.5.1.1

In the course of reviewing the current hymn section of the *Book of Praise* for hymns that might possibly be removed to make room for others, Hymn 58 (Our Children, Lord, as Covenant Heirs) came up for discussion. The Committee thought it best to retain this hymn but observed that it could benefit from a better melody.

11.5.2 Considerations:

11.5.2.1

There are relatively few baptism hymns in the *Book of Praise*, and the SCBP previously improved the lyrics to make this hymn more covenantal and doctrinally accurate. Hence it would be best to retain the text of this hymn if possible.

11.5.2.2

In response to a survey sent to the accompanists in our churches, asking them to identify problematic melodies, a comment was received on this hymn, noting especially the fact that the melody does not end on the tonic. Thus the melody feels unfinished: the musical pattern introduced in the first half of the melody is not “resolved” in the second half. For the joyous occasion of baptism, then, it ends on an unsatisfactory note.

11.5.2.3

The St. Peter melody, used in TPH 492 for the hymn, "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds," is well suited to the lyrics of Hymn 58, and can therefore serve to enhance the use of this baptism hymn.

11.5.3 Recommendation:

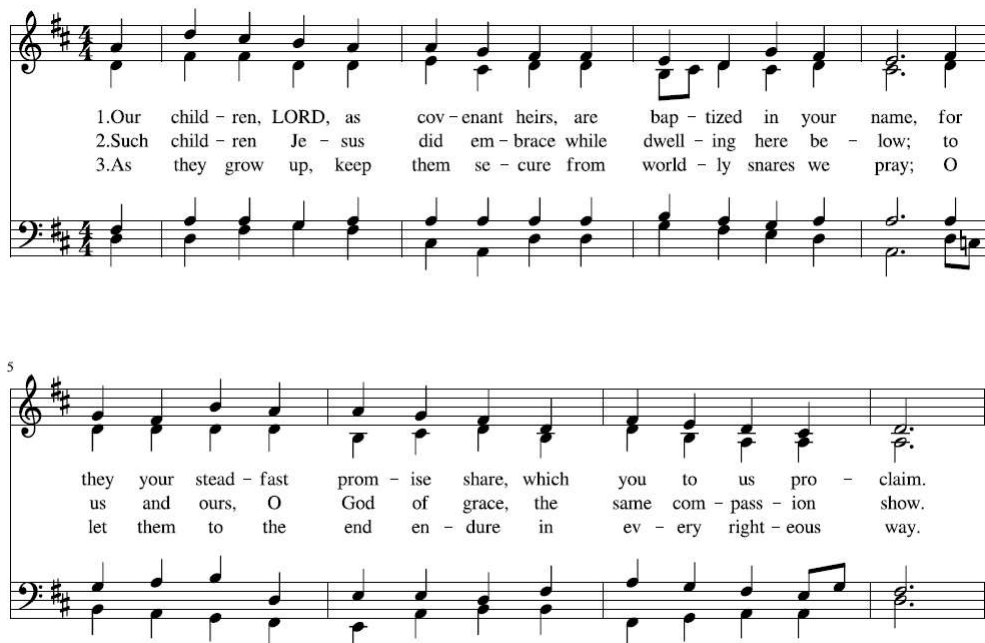
To replace the current melody of Hymn 58 in the *Book of Praise* with the St. Peter melody, when a new edition of the *Book of Praise* is prepared.

Hymn 58

“Our Children, LORD, as covenant heirs”

ST. PETER

Alexander R. Reinagle, 1836



1. Our child - ren, LORD, as cov - enant heirs, are bap - tized in your name, for
2. Such child - ren Je - sus did em - brace while dwell - ing here be - low; to
3. As they grow up, keep them se - cure from world - ly snares we pray; O

5
they your stead - fast prom - ise share, which you to us pro - claim.
us and ours, O God of grace, the same com - pass - ion show.
let them to the end en - dure in ev - ery right - eous way.

SECTION THREE

12.0 Committee Address

The Committee served as the address to which correspondence regarding the *Book of Praise* could be directed. The Committee requests that the mandate to receive, scrutinize and evaluate the contents of correspondence from the churches be continued, and to report to the next General Synod as to the validity of the suggestions made.

12.1 Permanent Mailing Address

Standing Committee for the *Book of Praise* (SCBP)
c/o Canadian Reformed Theological Seminary
110 West 27th Street
Hamilton, Ontario, L9C 5A1

12.2 Email Address

In addition to the regular mailing address, correspondence may be sent electronically to: bookofpraise@canrc.org.

12.3 Meetings and Place of Meeting

The Committee regularly met at the facilities of the Theological Seminary, our official address, until COVID prevented face-to-face meetings in March 2020. Zoom meetings were held instead of face-to-face meetings and the technology thankfully allowed the work of the committee to continue efficiently. Since publishing the report to Synod Edmonton, the Committee in full has met 46 times which included meetings to review and evaluate the songs that were proposed to the churches for testing and to consider the feedback of the churches. In addition to these meetings, the Committee divided itself into 3 sub-committees which met in addition to the 46 meetings. Over 100 meetings were held despite the challenges of COVID restrictions. All meetings were conducted in excellent harmony.

12.4 Archives

The Committee's central archives are maintained at our permanent address, in the Theological College library. Dr. J. Smith serves as archivist. The Committee requests that Synod mandate that the Committee archives continue to be kept in this way.

SECTION FOUR

13.0 Acknowledgments and Summary of Requests

13.1 Acknowledgments

As the Committee worked out its mandate in the past 3 years, some expert advice was required in specific areas. The Committee is grateful that such advice was always provided when requested. The Committee therefore wishes to acknowledge with appreciation the contributions of the following individuals in their respective areas of expertise:

Dr. W. Helder (Hamilton, ON) for ongoing input on language, poetry and copyright related issues.

Rev. G. Ph. Van Popta (Hamilton, ON) for input and advice related to past operations and decisions of the Committee.

Dr. J. Van Vliet (Hamilton, ON) for advice.

Sr. M. Alkema (Hamilton, ON), for her willingness to inspect the archives and provide advice on archival matters to the Committee.

Sr. M. Rietema for her willingness to collate the surveys to ministers and accompanists.

Sr. R. Kuik for proof reading materials.

13.2 Summary of Requests

- 13.2.1 Re: Par 2.0. The Committee requests Synod that the mandate to study and propose appropriate changes to the forms for Lord's Supper be extended to Synod 2025.
- 13.2.2 Re: Par 3.0. The Committee requests Synod that the mandate to foster an increased awareness of the existence of the *Book of Praise*, among others in the English-speaking world, be continued and that the Committee be mandated to continue maintaining the Committee website.
- 13.2.2 Re: Par 5.0: The Committee requests Synod that the Committee be mandated to maintain good contact with our Australian sister churches or the Standing Committee for the Australian Book of Praise be continued.
- 13.2.3 Re: Par 6.0: The Committee requests Synod that the mandate to maintain its corporate status be continued for the purpose of protecting the interests of the Canadian Reformed Churches in matters concerning the *Book of Praise*.
- 13.2.4 Re: Par 7.0: The Committee requests that the mandate to maintain the archives and website be continued.
- 13.2.5 Re: Par 9.0: The Committee requests Synod to mandate the Committee to survey the churches to determine the priority/relative importance of the various desires that have been expressed with regard to the *Book of Praise*.
- 13.2.6 Re: Par 9.0: The Committee requests that Synod mandate the committee to review the input of the churches, and on the basis of that input, propose a publishing and funding model to GS 2025.
- 13.2.7 Re: Par 10.2: The Committee requests that srs. A. Boeringa and Dr. K. Dieleman and brs. Rev. R. den Hollander, J. Jans, J. Jager, Dr. J. Smith and Rev. D. Wynia are formally thanked for their work on the Committee.

The Committee is pleased to make members available to General Synod when the proposed alternate Psalms and additional hymns are going to be discussed, should questions arise or further explanations be required.

Respectfully submitted,

The Standing Committee for the Publication of the *Book of Praise*:

Alisha Boeringa *
Rev. Rolf den Hollander * - April 2021
Dr. Karen Dieleman *
Jeff Jans *
John Jager *
Dr. Martin Jongsma
Dr. Jannes Smith
Brian Vanderhout, secretary/treasurer
Rev. Dick Wynia, convenor

Publisher's Report for Synod 2022 - Appendix 1

	2018	2019	2020	2021*	TOTAL
Deluxe Edition					
Printed	-	-	-	-	-
Distribution Canada	184	140	164	38	526
Distribution US	19	9	34	20	82
Distribution Australia	-	268	-	-	268
Distribution International	-	-	-	-	-
Total Distribution	203	417	198	58	876
Inventory Oct 2021					525
Standard Edition					
Printed	-	-	-	-	-
Distribution Canada	1,122	801	1,205	577	3,705
Distribution US	7	9	30	21	67
Distribution Australia	-	425	-	-	425
Distribution International	-	-	1	-	1
Total Distribution	1,129	1,235	1,236	598	4,198
Inventory Oct 2021					3,969
Pulpit / Accompanist Set					
Printed	-	-	-	-	-
Distribution Canada	8	8	11	7	34
Distribution US	3	3	-	-	6
Distribution Australia	-	-	-	-	-
Distribution International	-	-	-	-	-
Total Distribution	11	11	11	7	40
Inventory Oct 2021					26
Electronic Editions**					
Distribution in Canada	665	624	5,487	1,231	8,007
Distribution US	16	14	14	5	49
Distribution Australia	97	70	961	59	1,187
Distribution International	11	9	29	5	54
Total Distribution	789	717	6,491	1,300	9,297

* 2021 through September 30

** corporate purchases included, listed as number of members

Appendix 2
PUBLISHING AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT made in duplicate this the ___th day of _____, 2021,

BETWEEN:

516455 ONTARIO LTD. a corporation incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario, carrying on business as Standing Committee for the Publication of The Book of Praise of the Canadian Reformed Churches, hereinafter referred to as "the Committee"

OF THE FIRST PART

and

PREMIER PRINTING LTD. a corporation incorporated under the laws of the Province of Manitoba, hereinafter referred to as "the Publisher,"

OF THE SECOND PART

WITNESSES AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS the Committee has compiled material known as *Book of Praise*, and is desirous of producing and publishing said *Book of Praise*,

AND WHEREAS the Publisher has indicated a desire to provide for the printing and publishing of said *Book of Praise*.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and promises contained herein, IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Except as hereinafter expressly provided, all ownership and control in, to and over the compilation and publication or any aspect whatsoever of *Book of Praise* shall at all times be vested in the Committee.
2. This Agreement is intended to provide only for the production and publication of *Book of Praise* as a whole, and shall not apply in any way to the publication or production of portions only of *Book of Praise*, and such partial production or publication shall be subject of further agreement between the Publisher and the Committee.
3. The laws of the Province of Ontario shall at all times apply to this Agreement in determining the respective rights and obligations of the parties to this Agreement, and irrespective of the parties' residence and the place of execution of this Agreement.
4. In the event of the insolvency, receivership, bankruptcy or assignment for the benefit of creditors or liquidation of the Publisher for any cause whatsoever, all rights granted herein

shall revert to the Committee, and the Committee shall be entitled to receive free of charge, such digital source files and digital assets as may be required for the printing of *Book of Praise*.

5.

- a. The term "produce" or any form thereof, shall, for the purpose of this Agreement include typesetting, music engraving, printing and binding.
- b. The term "publish" or any form thereof, shall, for the purpose of this Agreement include selling and distributing.

AUTHORITY TO PUBLISH AND PRODUCE

6. The Committee hereby grants to the Publisher, subject to the terms of this Agreement and any renewal thereof, the exclusive right to publish, produce, and distribute, in whole or in part, *Book of Praise* in any form in the English language.
7. The Publisher shall keep the Canadian Reformed Churches and their English-speaking sister Churches supplied with copies of *Book of Praise* according to their needs. The number of copies to be produced from time to time shall be decided upon in consultation with the Committee.
8. No changes, additions or alterations in or to the text of *Book of Praise* shall be made by the Publisher without the written consent of the Committee, and the Publisher shall act with the approval of the Committee with respect to all matters of quality and design, and in particular, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the selection of type, paper, cover, colour and method of binding.
9. The Publisher shall publish and produce *Book of Praise* at its own expense, as soon as, in its opinion conditions permit, so long as it is not prevented from doing so by circumstances beyond its control.

FINANCIAL TERMS

10. The Publisher shall use its best efforts to provide *Book of Praise* to purchasers at a reasonable price, and shall be entitled to retain the revenues generated by the sale of *Book of Praise*, provided that
 - a. the retail price of *Book of Praise* shall be determined from time to time upon the mutual written agreement of the Committee and the Publisher, and
 - b. the Publisher shall endeavor to provide *Book of Praise* to be purchased at a lower price by collective bodies such as churches and schools.
11. The Publisher shall not commence any new printing without first consulting the Committee and without having received from the Committee a statement in writing setting

out whether or not, and if so, which, changes are to be made to the contents of *Book of Praise*.

12. The Publisher shall render tri-annual statements prior to General Synods, which statements show in detail the number of copies printed; the number sold in Canada, in the United States, and internationally; the number currently in physical inventory, such numbers to include digital and physical versions.
13. The Publisher shall regularly report to Hope Publishing Company (“Hope”) and to the Committee the number of copies sold under royalty license P2009-137, and shall remit to Hope any royalty fees owed.

ADVERTISING AND PUBLICITY

14. The Publisher shall advertise the availability of *Book of Praise* in advertisements throughout the English-speaking world.
15. The Publisher shall provide the Committee with a number of free copies as agreed upon from time to time so as to enable the Committee to distribute these to selected periodicals and to use them for other promotional purposes.

DURATION AND TERMINATION

16. If the Publisher should at any time during the existence of this Agreement fail to comply with or fulfill any of the terms or conditions thereof, this Agreement shall terminate at the option of the Committee and all rights granted herein shall revert to the Committee.
17. This Agreement shall remain in force for five (5) years from the publication date of the first printing of *Book of Praise* under this Agreement, and thereafter from time to time as agreed upon by the Committee and the Publisher, and this Agreement shall be binding upon the successors in business and assigns of the parties hereto.
18. This Agreement may be terminated by either the Committee or the Publisher by twelve (12) months' notice in writing, and upon termination, such digital source files and digital assets as may be required for the printing of *Book of Praise* shall be surrendered to the Committee, at no cost to the Committee.
19. Upon termination of this Agreement by the Committee, the Publisher shall be entitled to deplete his existing stock, and the Committee shall not interfere with the Publisher's efforts, and shall not publish or advertise a new edition until existing stock is depleted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have hereto affixed their corporate seals as attested by their respective signing officers, this the ____th day of _____, 2021.

SIGNED, SEALED & DELIVERED

in the presence of:

516455 ONTARIO LTD.

Per:

PREMIER PRINTING LTD.

Per:
