

**CONSTITUTION OF THE CATHEDRAL  
CHURCH OF ST. LUKE**  
(Revised, October 3, 2012<sup>1</sup>)

**ARTICLE I**

Section 1. The Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Saint Luke, Portland, to be constituted as hereinafter provided, shall be the Trustees of said Church as provided in the Act of Incorporation of the same, approved February 24, 1879.

Section 2. The Chapter shall consist, when complete, of:

The Bishop of the Diocese;

The Priests permanently ministering in the Cathedral, not exceeding two, who shall be known as Resident Canons;

Three Canons who shall be Priests of the Diocese in active duty, and who shall be designated as Precentor, Missioner and Sacrist;

The Standing Committee of the Diocese;

The Wardens of St. Luke's Church, Portland, and

Nine Lay persons of same.

Section 3. Seven members shall constitute a quorum of the Chapter for the transaction of all business; provided, that such quorum shall include the Bishop, or in his absence a Resident Canon, and not less than two other clerical and three lay members.

Section 4. The Senior Resident Canon present shall be, in the absence of the Bishop, the presiding officer at all meetings of the Chapter.

Section 5. The annual meeting of the Chapter shall be held at the Cathedral ~~on the day~~ during the month preceding that appointed for the Annual Convention of the Diocese; and stated and special meetings as may be provided in the bylaws.

**ARTICLE II**

Section 1. The Resident Canons shall be appointed by the Bishop with the approval of the Wardens and vestry of St. Luke's Church, Portland, in accordance with the Instrument of Donation of the Cathedral. They shall be subject to removal only by the Bishop, acting with the approval of the said Wardens and vestry, or of the Chapter.

Section 2. The Bishop may, at his or her discretion, appoint one of the Resident Canons as Dean of the Cathedral, to have the superintendence of all services and pastoral duty and to rank as Senior Canon, without regard to the date of his appointment.

Section 3. Three Canons shall be elected by the Annual Convention of the Diocese on the nomination of the Bishop, from the Priests in active duty of not less than five years' canonical residence. At the first election they

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<sup>1</sup> The 2012 revisions modernized language (changing, for example, “vestrymen” to “vestry”) and allowed flexibility in the meeting date for the annual meeting of Chapter (from the older stipulation “on the day preceding the Annual Convention of the Diocese”).

shall be divided by lot into three classes, to hold their office for one, two, and three years respectively; after which one Canon shall be similarly nominated and elected at each Annual Convention, and shall hold his office for three years, and until his successor be duly chosen. Vacancies in the office of Canon shall be filled only by nomination and election at the Annual Convention, as provided above. When a Canon shall retire for any reason from the active ministry he or she shall thereupon relinquish his or her Canonry.

Section 4. The Bishop may appoint such Honorary Canons as he shall from time to time see fit, and shall announce their appointment to the Annual Convention. Honorary Canons shall relinquish their title when they cease to be canonically resident in the Diocese.

Section 5. The Nine Lay Members of the Chapter who, with the Resident Canons and the Wardens, shall represent therein the Parish of St. Luke's, Portland, shall be freely chosen by the parishioners of the same qualified to vote for Wardens and Vestry members, from their own number, at their Annual Meeting. At the first election the nine thus chosen shall be divided by lot into three classes, to serve for one, two, and three years respectively; and at each subsequent Annual Meeting three shall be elected, qualified as above, to serve for three years. Vacancies occurring before the expiration of such term of office shall be filled only by the parishioners aforesaid, at an Annual or Special meeting; and each vacancy shall be created by the choice of any member by election as Warden of the Parish.

### ARTICLE III

Section 1. The Chapter constituted and appointed as above provided, shall hold the property of the Cathedral under its Charter, in Trust. First, for the use and benefit of the congregation ordinarily worshipping therein, and under the terms of the Instrument of Donation of the same; and secondly, for all Episcopal and Synodical functions appertaining to the Bishop and Diocese of Maine, and appropriate to a Cathedral Church.

Section 2. For all such purposes, and all other purposes consistent with the Instrument of Donation and Act of Incorporation of the Cathedral, and the laws and usages of the Church, the Bishop, Resident Canons, and the Wardens and vestry of St. Luke's Church, Portland, shall constitute the Lesser Chapter and shall be the ordinary Custodians of the Cathedral, receiving all revenues not specially appropriated by the donors thereof, and providing for all expenses connected with the support of its clergy and other officers the due maintenance of public worship, and the care of the buildings and grounds, and all other property thereto belonging.

Section 3. The Lesser Chapter aforesaid shall annually report to the Chapter, in detail, the condition of the Cathedral and its property, and all receipts and expenditures connected with the same; and such report shall be laid by the Chapter before the next Annual Convention of the Diocese. A similar report shall be made to the Parish at its Annual Meeting.

Section 4. The Lesser Chapter shall meet from time to time on the appointment of the Bishop or Senior Canon, or at the call of any two members, and shall be the Bishop's Council of Advice in regard to the ordinary duties and services of the Cathedral.

Section 5. The Bishop, or in the bishop's absence the Senior Canon present, shall preside at all meetings of the Lesser Chapter; but in all other respects the Chapter may determine its own rules of proceeding and bylaws, subject in all cases to the Bishop's approval.

### ARTICLE IV

This Constitution may be altered or amended at any meeting of the Chapter by a vote of a majority of all the members of the same, with the approval of the Bishop; provided, that a written proposition for such alteration or amendment shall have been approved by vote of a majority of those present at a meeting held not less than one month previous to such final action.