***The Hymnal 1982***

The Hymnal 1982 is the [hymnal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hymnal) of the [Episcopal Church in the United States of America](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Episcopal_Church_(United_States)). It is one in a series of 7 official hymnals of the Episcopal Church, including The Hymnal 1940. The Episcopal Church requires that the words of hymns be from officially approved sources, making the official hymnals perhaps more important than their counterparts elsewhere.  The Hymnal 1982 was put together based on the Joint Commission's work by the Standing Commission on Church Music.  The Hymnal 1982 was approved by both houses of [General Convention](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General_Convention_of_the_Episcopal_Church_in_the_United_States_of_America), the governing body of the Episcopal Church, in 1982. It is published by [The Church Pension Fund](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=The_Church_Pension_Fund&action=edit&redlink=1).

In addition to the service music, The Hymnal 1982 has 720 hymns. It is strongly founded on congregational singing, and takes some beginning steps toward multiculturalism, including eight hymns based on [spirituals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spiritual_(music)), two on [Ghanaian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ghana) work songs,[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Hymnal_1982#cite_note-3) two on Chinese hymns, two on "Amerindian" songs, one Hispanic American song, and one by a Mexican composer.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Hymnal_1982#cite_note-Temperley10-1)

The Hymnal quotes a canon (Canon 24, Section 1), giving the final authority over the music used in services to the priest.