

## AGENDA 1.2.13.4 (2.1.13)

# Adopt Lutheran–Uniting *At the Table* statement

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### PROPOSED MOTION

*Submitted by General Church Board*

**PROPOSED THAT** General Synod receive and adopt *At the Table: The Eucharist* as an agreed statement between the Lutheran Church of Australia and the Uniting Church in Australia.

### REASONS FOR PROPOSAL

The document *At the Table: The Eucharist*, produced by the Lutheran Church of Australia (LCA) – Uniting Church in Australia (UCA) official Dialogue, is presented to General Synod for adoption as an agreed statement between the LCA and UCA.

The September 2022 General Pastors Conference considered the document and resolved the following:

The GPC recommends that the 20th Convention of General Synod receive and adopt *At the Table: The Eucharist* as an agreed statement between the LCA and the UCA.

This document is the culmination of over a decade of study and consultation in the service of our two churches' Declaration of Mutual Recognition, adopted by our 2009 General Synod, which commits us to work towards a Concordat for 'intentional sharing in pastoral ministry and in mission' and 'full communion, so that members from either denomination may share in Holy Communion in each other's churches'.

In 2018 an earlier version was shared with the Commission on Theology and Inter-Church Relations and LCA District pastors conferences (with a corresponding process in the UCA), with comments and questions returned to the Dialogue for further study and reflection in *At the Table* where appropriate.

Delegates are directed to the document's Preface and Introduction for background and context, noting that it builds on earlier, briefer statements of agreement about the Lord's Supper.

The Dialogue is now studying other topics under the mandate to work toward a possible Concordat.

Dialogues work in obedience to our Lord's prayer for the unity of the church in John 17, and in the hope that the Holy Spirit will impart some gift from each other to each other. Adopting this document will provide a richer foundation for our journey as God's people together, and for local congregational cooperation under the oversight of District bishops where this occurs.