**Resolution 3-01**

**To Reject the Use of AI-Created Sermons in All Montana District Congregations**

Whereas, the capabilities and regular use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and
Large Language Models (LLMs) have dramatically increased in recent years; and

Whereas, these tools are being experimented with and are now commonly used in
many industries and across many vocations; and

Whereas, these tools are advertised to pastors as time-saving devices for the
writing of sermons; and

Whereas, pastors are called to spend more time in God’s Word, not less; and

WHEREAS, Biblically-based and doctrinally sound resources are readily available as reference tools utilized by pastors; and

Whereas, it has pleased God to call flesh-and-blood men, created in His image,
baptized and redeemed in the blood of Jesus, to search for lost sheep, to call sinners to
repentance, to announce forgiveness of sins in Jesus’ name, and to be His preachers and
teachers in this world (Mt. 28:18–20; Jn. 20:19–23; Acts 1:8; AC V and XIV); and

Whereas, it is contrary to God’s establishment of the Office of the Ministry and
His design and plan for His Church to be served by an artificial intelligence created in the image and
likeness of men (Eph. 4:4–15); and

Whereas, AI is unguided by the power of the Holy Spirit and susceptible to the influence of the Devil (the wolf in technological clothing) and can be used to deceive God’s people (John 8:44); and

Whereas, the primary duties of the called and ordained pastor are the in-person
preaching of the Lord’s Word to the congregation(s) entrusted to his care, the visitation
of the sick and dying, and the administration of the Lord’s Sacraments according to the
Lord’s institution (2 Tim. 4:1–5); and

Whereas, no AI can replace this incarnational, relational, in-person work; and

Whereas, those pastors who would use AI and LLMs to craft a complete
sermon are turning away from the very work of the ministry to which they have been called; and

Whereas, those pastors who would use AI and LLMs to craft a complete
sermon espouse—knowingly or unknowingly—a functional view of the Office of the
Ministry, deny the incarnational reality of the Lord’s ministry among His people, and do not walk in concord but apart from their brothers in the Office of the Ministry who labor at faithful preaching and administration of His Sacraments; therefore be it

*Resolved*, that the elders and other leaders of each congregation in the Montana
District recognize the “wolf in technological clothing” and discuss with their pastor the
great dangers of the use of AI for creating a complete sermon; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the elders and other leaders of each congregation in the Montana
District declare without equivocation that the congregation will not accept AI-created
sermons preached from their pulpits under any circumstances; and be it further

*Resolved*, that each pastor in the Montana District reject every public and private
temptation to make use of this and other such tools in the delivery of God’s Law and
Gospel to His people; and be it finally

*Resolved*, that the Montana District in convention ask the LCMS in convention to
adopt and make this resolution their own, that the Synod may walk together on this
issue.