



### **Resolution Creating a Celebration Day for Hudson Stuck**

**Whereas**, Archdeacon Hudson Stuck is a legendary figure in the church in Alaska and in mountaineering circles, thanks to his role in organizing a historic expedition to record the first successful summit of Denali, North America’s highest peak at 20,310 feet, on June 7, 1913; and

**Whereas**, Archdeacon Hudson Stuck also is remembered for advocating the preservation of Alaska Native culture – he lamented the “steamroller” effect of non-indigenous cultural incursions – while expanding the Episcopal Church’s ministry among Indigenous communities; and

**Whereas**, Archdeacon Hudson Stuck immigrated from England to Texas in 1885, went to the University of the South to study theology, then moved to Alaska in 1904, where he served as Archdeacon of the Yukon and the Arctic, a territory of 250,000 square miles, at the invitation of Missionary Bishop Peter Trimble Rowe; and

**Whereas**, Archdeacon Hudson Stuck first left his mark in Fairbanks at St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, by creating a library and reading room for men as a free-time alternative to the local saloons and brothels, starting a mission church in Fairbanks, and overseeing the development and opening of an Episcopal hospital; and

**Whereas**, under the title Archdeacon of the Yukon and the Arctic, Hudson Stuck traveled 1,500-2,000 miles each winter by dogsled and snowshoe to visit and perform services in the scattered communities of the Yukon and Arctic Mission, and used a shallow launch to travel 1,800-5,200 miles along the Yukon River and its tributaries each summer to visit Athabascans at their hunting and fishing camps, traveling a total of up to 30,000 miles along the rivers of Alaska over the course of his ministry; and

**Whereas**, Archdeacon Hudson Stuck wrote and published five memoirs of his time in Alaska, in part to draw attention to the exploitation of the Alaska Native peoples that he witnessed in his work; and

**Whereas**, Archdeacon Hudson Stuck organized and led the first successful ascent of Denali, the tallest mountain in North America, recruiting Harry Karstens, a respected guide, as well as Robert G. Tatum, John Fredson, Esaias George, and Walter Harper, and departing from Nenana, Alaska on March 17, 1913 to reach the summit of Denali on June 7, 1913; and



49<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska  
Resolution #2024-01

**Be it therefore resolved,** that the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska recognize Archdeacon Hudson Stuck as a dedicated social reformer and champion of Alaska's Indigenous people; and

**Be it further resolved,** that the congregations of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska are urged to include a celebration and prayer for Hudson Stuck on the Sunday closest to October 10; and

**Be it further resolved,** that the Bishop and the Diocesan Deputies to General Convention petition for the inclusion of the celebration of Hudson Stuck on the Liturgical Calendar of the Episcopal Church at the 2027 General Convention of the Episcopal Church.

The Lessons Appointed for Use at this Celebration:

[Psalm 104:1-25](#)

[Leviticus 25:18-24](#)

[Revelation 22:1-5](#)

[Luke 8:22-25](#)

Respectfully submitted by,

The Resolution Committee, 49<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska