



EPC

A Global Movement of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches

44-24 (to the Theology Standing Committee)
From the Permanent Judicial Commission

The **Permanent Judicial Commission** recommends that the 44th General Assembly **DECLINE** amending the *Book of Worship* 3-3 I and **REFER** to the permanent Committee on Theology the question of whether the Westminster Standards limit receiving Communion to those baptized; and that Recommendation **44-25** be answered by this action.

Rationale: The PJC noted that term “true believers” is used both in the **Westminster Confession of Faith** and *Essentials of Our Faith* whereas the term “baptized believers” is not, leading to potential inconsistency of language and incompatibility between the proposal and other constitutional documents. There may be “true believers” who have not been baptized. The proposed amendment also raises questions regarding the relationship of the “visible church” and the “true church.” The question of whether the **Westminster** Standards limits admission to the Lord’s table to only “baptized believers” and how that should be reflected in the *Book of Worship* are significant and best addressed by the Permanent Committee on Theology.

www.epc.org/2024report-pjc