

COVER PAGE

The Archives of the Episcopal Church
Acts of Convention 2022
Source Documentation for Resolution 2022-A055

Title: The Episcopal Church-Presbyterian Dialogue

I. *Copyright 2022 The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America.*

The Acts of Convention is a digitally-encoded creation of The Archives of the Episcopal Church. All rights reserved. Limited reproduction of excerpts of documents generated by this database is permitted for personal, research, and educational activities by members and organizations of the Episcopal Church. Systematic or multiple copy reproduction; electronic retransmission or redistribution; print or electronic duplication of any material for a fee or for commercial purposes; altering or recompiling any contents of the database for electronic re-display, and all other re-publication that does not qualify as fair use are not permitted without prior written permission.

Send written requests for permission to re-publish to:

Rights and Permissions Office
The Archives of the Episcopal Church
107 Denson Drive
Austin, Texas 78752
Email: research@episcopalarchives.org
Telephone: 512-472-6816

II. *Digital Copy Note*

The following document is a custom, digital copy of text authored by The Episcopal Church and The Presbyterian Church.

This text was originally included in the *Reports to the 80th General Convention*. Due to its length, the Archives has extracted the statement and provides it below as a supplementary text source document.

Episcopal-Presbyterian Agreement on Local Sharing of Ministries

PREAMBLE: The Urgency of the Times

Such a Time as This

The Book of Esther recalls a time of great challenge. Likewise, our current time finds our world amid many challenges, including a global pandemic with still yet unknown overall effects on the Church. The global Christian Church around the world has found itself in a season of reinvention and redefinition. The events of 2020 have called us to ask ourselves what it truly means to be Christian. Individual congregations have been challenged to adapt to a changing world in ways that have shattered our links with the past and old ways of doing church. In so doing, we have focused on the core duties of being Christ in the world. This has created both challenges and opportunities.

Global Pandemic and Racial Endemic

Our time stands in particular need of unity. Both the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Episcopal Church acknowledge the historical and present reality of sin of racism and white supremacy that denies the impartiality of God, the reconciling work of Christ, the gift of the Holy Spirit poured forth into all persons. Both bodies acknowledge their complicity and that they are called to end all racial discrimination, repenting and ministering to those injured by it. We cannot remain silent about this divisiveness, nor did Jesus: “Recognizing what they were thinking, Jesus said, ‘Any country that divides itself into groups which fight each other will not last very long.’” (Matt 12.25, GNT). Reform always comes from the margins, whether it be that prophetic voice crying in the wilderness or activists on city streets protesting the death of another person of color as if Black lives do not matter.

Accordingly, there is a present and historical urgency borne in this agreement is to move both churches toward that unity in mission. The triune mission of God is the foundation of the church’s unity and its mission in the world. It is among the last of Jesus’ prayers: “That they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.” (John 17.21, ESV)

This document represents the culmination of many decades of dialogues between the Episcopal Church in America and the Presbyterian Church (USA).⁽¹⁾

The Church, guided by God’s wisdom, can embrace this opportunity and examine how ecclesial bodies can work together.

Supplemental Materials

Table of contents:

1. [Episcopal-Presbyterian Agreement on Local Sharing of Ministries](#)

Episcopal-Presbyterian Agreement on Local Sharing of Ministries

Tearing Down Ecclesiastical Barriers

Old walls had prevented mission and ministry together, and in this time of notable change, the participants of the bi-lateral dialogue between the Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian Church (USA) invite our ecclesial bodies to consider this limited exchange agreement on the local sharing of ministries for passage at the General Convention and General Assembly.

The old walls preventing work together have been torn down through a vastly changing world and church context. With the foundation of the 2008 Episcopal Presbyterian Agreement, our common full communion partners of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and the Moravian Church (Northern and Southern Provinces), our work together through Churches Uniting in Christ, work together in public witness as well as numerous collaborative local ministries, a pathway has been created for continued mission and ministry together, toward the unity that God calls us to.

Thus, the Presbyterian/Episcopal Dialogue requests our respective authorizing bodies to consider the following Agreement; to continue the Dialogue with future deliberations; and that both of our Heads of Communion commit themselves publicly to this effort and to consider a public celebration of our progress to date and our hope for the future.

Psalm 133:1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, when kindred live together in unity! (St. Helena Psalter)

INTRODUCTION ⁽²⁾

The Church does not live for itself. It is called into being by the Gospel of Jesus Christ to serve the mission of the triune God in the world. 'The Church belongs to God. It is the creation of God's Word and the Holy Spirit. It cannot exist by and for itself.'⁽³⁾ The mission of God is a single, all-embracing mission which confronts the Church with a range of complementary tasks. Impelled by the joyful duty of giving praise and thanks to God for all the blessings of creation and redemption, the Church seeks to serve God by making known the Good News of salvation and by meeting human need wherever it finds it. In accordance with God's purpose to 'gather up all things in Christ' (Eph. 1:10), the Church is called to embody in an anticipatory way the reconciliation and communion of all people.

The Church knows well that its mission is compromised at every point by its disunity, which continues at many levels despite the great ecumenical achievements of the last century. How can the Church credibly proclaim the unity of humankind when it is too fractured to recognize a common baptism and to gather around one eucharistic table in the one apostolic faith? We have institutionalized divisions in the Church and come to accept them as normal, forgetting that they

are a stumbling-block and a barrier to faith for many. We overlook the fact that they stand in conflict with the will of Christ and amount to a refusal of the unity which is his gift.

The witness of the Church – its service of the mission of God – will be greatly enhanced by the overcoming of historic divisions between the churches⁽⁴⁾. The removal of barriers between our two churches, The Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian Church (USA), while not providing an instant or complete solution to the problems and challenges confronting the Church, will be a step of great importance, especially when seen together with other comparable steps being considered by our churches. In many places in rural and urban parts of the United States, for example our churches have diverse communities that have benefited greatly from the sharing of ordained ministries.

Missionally, our two churches could expand in joint planting of new worshipping communities, as well as a partner in union or federated parishes which are referred to as ecumenical congregations⁽⁵⁾. The matter is not less urgent, nor are the advantages less significant, in the deepening of our covenant relationship in order to establish new eucharistic communities and mission projects which feed the body, mind, and souls of God's people.

The proposals in this paper have been formulated out of our obedience to the Gospel and the better discharge of our call to mission. Unity is for the sake of mission. Changes in the socio-economic pattern of life in the U.S. in recent years provide an opportunity to develop the unity between our two churches. When Christians demonstrate in their lives that the barriers which divide the rest of society do not divide the Church, the Gospel is proclaimed. We may be certain that we are called, together, to grow in mission, the mission of the Church, within the mission of the triune God.

AFFIRMING THE CURRENT ECUMENICAL AGREEMENT

This group affirms the current Episcopal Presbyterian Agreement of 2008. Among these were:

- We acknowledge one another's churches as churches belonging to the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church;
- We acknowledge that in our churches the Word of God is authentically preached and the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist are duly administered;
- We acknowledge one another's ordained ministries as given by God and instruments of grace, and look forward to the time when the reconciliation of our churches makes possible the full interchangeability of ministers;
- We acknowledge that personal and collegial oversight (episcopate) is embodied and

exercised in our churches in a variety of forms, episcopal and non-episcopal, as a visible sign of the Church's unity and continuity in apostolic life, mission, and ministry.

- We agree that The Episcopal Church will invite members of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to receive Holy Communion in their churches and the Presbyterian Church (USA) will invite members of The Episcopal Church to receive Holy Communion in their churches. We encourage the members of our churches to accept this Eucharistic hospitality and thus express their unity with each other in the one Body of Christ.

In short, we recognize and affirm the validity of one another's churches which provide for their covenant communities word and sacrament, ordered ministries, as well as the embodiment and exercise of the ministry of oversight (communally, collegially, and personally). However, due to the divergence in our equally valid ecclesiastical polities, and to some extent, existing church traditions and customs limit interchangeability of ordered ministers, and thus full communion, at this time.

Despite this recognition, this group believes it has prayerfully discerned a way forward through which our two churches may continue to journey together in a complementary manner and enriching each other as we participate in the mission of God.

THE WAY FORWARD

In our current agreement, our two churches agreed "that authorized ministers of our churches may, subject to the regulations of the churches and within the limits of their competence, carry out the tasks of their own office in congregations of the other churches when requested and approved by the diocesan bishop and local presbytery." Furthermore, a conditional was established on this point of agreement that "because we do not yet have reconciliation and full interchangeability of ordained ministries, all authorization for these special opportunities must conform to the Book of Common Worship and the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and the Book of Common Prayer and the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church."

Our current agreement also calls the two denominations to "encourage diocesan bishops and presbyteries to provide a regular occasion for planning, discussing, resourcing for missional, educational and liturgical life together. In addition, to explore possibilities for new church development and redevelopment together," as well as provide a process to support and implement the above recommendations (guidelines).

Our two churches have agreed to be in dialogue for the specific purpose of considering the question of the mutual recognition of ordained ministries, as a step towards the unity that is

Christ's will for his Church. Our current agreement enabled The Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian Church (USA) in June of 2017 to formally and publicly participate in the Churches Uniting in Christ recognition of ordered ministry. This public proclamation underscores and casts away possible barriers of our current agreement to move forward in missional partnership.

On the basis of converging but not yet wholly compatible understandings of the ordained ministry, and sufficient agreement in faith and ministry, together with a marked growing together of our two churches over recent decades, this group proposes that our churches deepen our current relationship.

Sharing in ecumenical ministry

We agree with the World Council of Churches' 2013 *The Church: Towards a Common Vision* in regard to ordered ministry,

there is no single pattern of ministry in the New Testament, though all churches would look to Scripture in seeking to follow the will of the Lord concerning how ordained ministry is to be understood, ordered and exercised. At times, the Spirit has guided the Church to adapt its ministries to contextual needs (cf. Acts 6:1-6). Various forms of ministry have been blessed with the gifts of the Spirit. Early writers, such as Ignatius of Antioch, insisted upon the threefold ministry of bishop, presbyter and deacon. This pattern of three related ministries can be seen to have roots in the New Testament; eventually it became the generally accepted pattern and is still considered normative by many churches today... Among the several means for maintaining the Church's apostolicity, such as the scriptural canon, dogma and liturgical order, ordained ministry has played an important role. Succession in ministry is meant to serve the apostolic continuity of the Church.⁽⁶⁾

Both The Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian Church (USA) reflect the threefold ordered ministries expressed by Ignatius of Antioch (bishop, presbyter and deacon), however in our polities express them differently or "locally adapted" and both denominations hold, in the broad ecumenical sense, apostolic succession.⁽⁷⁾ Both The Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian Church (USA) have recognized the gift of *episkopé*, the ministry of oversight, locally adapted, as expressed in the 2017 Churches Uniting in Christ mutual recognition or ordered ministry.

Specifically, the ecumenical dialogue between The Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian Church (USA), in round two and in this round three, recognize that diocese bishops and presbytery moderators have similar constituted ecclesial authority and expression of the gift of

episkopé as it relates to presiding at ordination, as well as installing or instituting a presbyter to a pastoral relationship.

Guided by the World Council of Churches' 1982 foundational paper, *Baptism, Eucharist, Ministry*, Chapter VI, as well as the 2013 *The Church: Towards a Common Vision* (Faith and Order Paper No. 214), presbyteries and dioceses are strongly encouraged to invite presbytery moderators and diocese bishops to participate in each other's celebrations of ministry, not only ordinations but also installations and institutions, and bishops and moderators share an ecumenical blessing. It is also strongly encouraged in their ordination of presbyters that each also includes bishops from other denominations with whom each church shares recognition of mutual ministry (i.e. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and Northern Province and the Southern Province of the Moravian Church in America). Finally, we fervently pray that when a presbytery moderator is installed, an Episcopal bishop or their designee be present, and when an Episcopal bishop is consecrated, a Presbyterian moderator or their designee be present, and both be invited in those moments of celebration to share an ecumenical blessing.

Limited orderly exchange of ministers

Within the current agreement (2008-2009), and without exceeding the discretion of The Episcopal Church bishops and Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) presbyteries, there shall be provision for the following exchange of ordered ministers between our churches:

- the acceptance of Episcopal presbyters (those ordained and referred to as priests) in Presbyterian placements and in ecumenical ministries where the Presbyterian Church has the right of appointment;
- the acceptance of Presbyterian Church presbyters (specifically those ordained and consecrated to the ministry of the word, sacrament, and teaching, referred to as ministers of word and sacrament or teaching elders) in Episcopal appointments such as ecumenical ministries and cooperating parishes where the Episcopal Church has the right of appointment.
- This agreement does not enable ordained Ruling Elders and Commissioned Pastors (also known as Commissioned Ruling Elder) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), nor deacons of The Episcopal Church or Presbyterian Church (U.S.A), to be considered.

THE GUIDELINES FOR LIMITED ORDERLY EXCHANGE OF MINISTERS

For missional purposes and in consultation between the diocesan bishop and local presbytery, a presbyter may be licensed (permitted) by the appropriate Ecclesiastical Authority to serve under the following guidelines.

The limited orderly exchange process begins with the identification of a ministry needed by the appropriate Ecclesiastical Authority of the inviting body and the identification of a presbyter from the sending body who may serve in that ministry setting.

The Ecclesiastical Authority of the inviting body initiates the process of the limited orderly exchange between the placement or ecumenical ministry to be served and the presbyter. The presbyter does not initiate the process of exchange.

The inviting body shall consult with the appropriate Ecclesiastical Authority of the presbyter to determine the suitability of the potential service and to receive the concurrence of the sending body. The presbyter remains accountable to the sending church for the continuation of ministerial status.

Both The Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) agree that experience in and knowledge of one's own tradition is seen as necessary before serving in a different tradition. Therefore, the limited orderly exchange of minister's opportunities are only open to presbyters who have been ordained for at least three years and active within the ministry of their denomination.

Presbyters serving in a limited orderly exchange position shall be temporary under this agreement. The service of presbyters should ordinarily be for a two- to four-year period, which may be renewed. Should a presbyter of one church intend to serve permanently in another church then the process of the transfer or reception of ministerial status should be followed according to the rules of the receiving Church.

Should a disciplinary process be necessary, the presbyter remains under the jurisdiction of the sending body, but the inviting body may be asked to participate as necessary.

Pension and medical coverage is through the church of ecclesiastical membership.

Functions

When a presbyter is licensed or commissioned by the appropriate Ecclesiastical Authority, the presbyter is authorized to:

- to exercise pastoral or administrative responsibility;
- lead public worship as a presbyter under the direction of diocesan bishop or presbytery;
- preach the Gospel;
- celebrate and administer the sacraments within the guidelines specified below;

- prepare persons for Baptism, Confirmation, Reception, and the Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows, and shall function under the direction of diocesan bishop or presbytery;
- and present the good news of Jesus Christ in such a way that people are led to receive Christ as Savior and follow Christ as Lord in the fellowship of the Church, assisting with the diocesan presbytery's ministry of evangelism partnership.

While a presbyter serves a particular placement or ecumenical setting because we do not yet have reconciliation and full interchangeability of ordained ministries, as stated in the current agreement, all authorization for these special opportunities must conform to the Book of Common Worship and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and the Book of Common Prayer and the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church. What this means explicitly is that:

- Presbyterian presbyters will use the authorized or commended worship resources of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) unless authorized by the diocesan bishop to use Episcopal worship resources (with the exception of Eucharist prayers);
- Episcopal priests will use the authorized or commended worship resources of The Episcopal Church unless authorized by the presbytery to use Presbyterian worship resources;
- Priests and presbyters are bound to the Eucharist liturgies of their respective prayer books and denominational resources when they preside;
- Both priests and presbyters may use authorized or commended worship resources of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, in which both churches are in full communion, including the Eucharist liturgies, with the authorization of the "inviting" Ecclesiastical Authority.

Training, Examination, and Oversight

A presbyter who serves under the terms of this Agreement on Limited Orderly Exchange of Ministers shall receive such preparation and instruction, or formation, as determined by the diocesan bishop or presbytery to be appropriate to the particular placement or ecumenical setting and length of time shall be determined by the Ecclesiastical Authority's own rule.

The presbyter shall be examined by the appropriate Ecclesiastical Authority as to personal faith, motives for seeking to serve, and the areas of instruction determined by diocesan or presbytery.

The presbyter authorized under the terms of this Agreement shall work under the supervision of the diocesan bishop or presbytery. The diocesan bishop or presbytery may at any time withdraw

this authorization for reasons it deems good and sufficient. A presbyter shall be assigned as a mentor and local supervisor.

An authorization may be for no more than four years, and no less than two. Within an appropriate time before the expiration of the commission, the presbyter shall review the covenant relationship with the diocesan bishop and presbytery. The commission may be renewed with the consent of all interested parties (i.e. diocesan bishop and presbytery, presbyter, authorized representative(s) of a particular placement or ecumenical ministry).

A presbyter who has been authorized and later ceases to serve in the specified ministry may continue to be listed as available to serve but is not authorized to perform the functions specified above until commission is renewed in order to serve in placement or ecumenical setting by the appropriate Ecclesiastical Authority.

Celebration of an Ecumenical Ministry

When the diocesan bishop or presbytery is satisfied with the qualifications of a presbyter to serve a particular placement or ecumenical ministry providing the services described above, it shall commission and institute/install the presbyter to service as designated by the diocesan bishop or presbytery while also abiding by the following:

Both diocese and presbytery will be invited to the Service.

The inviting diocesan bishop or presbytery moderator shall, at the time of such celebration, read this preface to the Service:

The Ecclesiastical Authority of this Diocese/Presbytery is satisfied that A.B. accepts the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church and desires to serve this Church in full accord to [the Episcopal Presbyterian Agreement]. We are about to confer upon A.B. the grace and authority of Holy Orders/ordered ministry as this Church has received them and requires them for the exercise of the ministry of a presbyter.

The certificates of the commission shall contain the words:

Acknowledging the ministry which A.B. has already received and hereby adding to that commission the grace and authority of Holy Orders/ordered ministry as understood and required by this Church for the exercise of the ministry of a presbyter.

Following the rites of each church for instituting or installation, the presenters present the presbyter

saying:

In baptism, N. was clothed with Christ. N. was ordained a presbyter by Bishop N. of the Diocese of N./the Presbytery of N., and is now called by God through the voice of the church to serve as _____.

The people respond:

We remember with joy our common calling to serve Christ, and we celebrate God's call to N., to serve among us as _____.

The sending bishop or presbytery moderator asks the candidate to reaffirm their particular ordination in regard to a priest or a presbyter.

The inviting bishop or presbytery moderator addresses the presbyter, saying:

While affirming and upholding your ordination vows as a presbyter in The Episcopal Church/ Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), while you labor in covenant relationship with the Diocese of N./Presbytery of N., will you honor the doctrine, discipline, and worship of Christ as this Church has received them? And will you, in accordance with the Constitution/canons of this Church, obey the ecclesiastical authority of the bishop and presbytery, and other ministers who may have authority over you and your work during this covenant relationship?

Answer:

I am willing and ready to do so, and I solemnly declare that I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and I do solemnly engage to conform to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Episcopal/Presbyterian Church as required in order to be commissioned to labor as _____ under covenant agreement of our two churches.

At the appropriate time during the service of institution or installation, the presbyter kneels facing the people and is surrounded by the bishop, presbytery moderator, and all other priests and presbyters. With the bishop and presbytery moderator's hands laid on the presbyter, as well as the other priests and presbyters, one of the following⁽⁸⁾, or a similar prayer, is said aloud by the inviting bishop or presbytery moderator:

Come to our help, Lord, Holy Father, almighty and eternal God; you are the source of

every honor and dignity, of all progress and stability. You watch over the growing family of humanity by your gift of wisdom and your pattern of order. When you had appointed high priests from among the people of Israel to lead your people, you also chose others to serve with them and to help them in their task; and so there grew up the ranks of presbyters and the offices of Levites, established by sacred rites.

In the desert, you extended the spirit of Moses to seventy wise men who helped him to rule the great company of his people. You shared among the sons of Aaron the fullness of their father's power, to provide worthy priests in sufficient number for the increasing rites and worship, and elders to care for the spiritual and temporal welfare of God's people. With the same loving care you gave companions to your Son's apostles to help in teaching the faith: they preached the gospel to the whole world. Lord, grant also to us such fellow workers, for we are weak and our need is greater. Provide for us presbyters who will provide for the worship and care of your people as we seek to be the body of Christ in the world.

Almighty Father, strengthen by your Holy Spirit this servant of yours the dignity of your eternal priesthood in Christ, as a servant of servants. Renew within him/her/them the Spirit of holiness. As a co-worker with bishops, pastors and fellow presbyters may he/she/they be faithful to the ministry that he/she/they receives from you, Lord God, and be to others a model of right conduct. May he/she/they be faithful in working with your people, as well as ordered deacons, fellow presbyters and pastors, so that the words of the Gospel may reach the ends of the earth, and the family of nations, made one in Christ, may become God's one, holy people. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

OR

O God, the source of all holiness, whose grace is ever effective, whose blessing is ever fulfilled, pour out on these servants of yours the gift of your blessed Holy Spirit. By their noble and exemplary lives let them prove that they are elders of the people, true to the Gospel of Christ our Lord and to the norms for presbyters as laid down by Paul to Timothy and Titus. Let them meditate on your law day and night, so that they may believe what they have read, teach what they have believed, and practice what they have taught. May justice, constancy, mercy, courage, and all the other virtues be reflected in their every way of life. May they inspire others by their example, and hearten them by their admonitions. May they keep pure and spotless the gift of their calling. For the worship of your people may they celebrate the mystery of Holy Communion and living a sacramental life in

community. May they through persevering charity mature in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, reflecting Christ clearly, and rise on the day of the Resurrection with a good conscience, true faith, and the full gifts of the Holy Spirit. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

Followed by a declaration similar to

N., you are instituted/installed to service in this church as _____ in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him.

Following the service of institution or installation, the Eucharistic celebrant shall be the bishop in Episcopal settings, and ordinarily the authorized presbyter in PC (U.S.A.) settings.

An appendix with terms relating to both the Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian Church (USA) can be found at [https://www.dropbox.com/s/5r1fggoqzyhoiqo/local sharing of min with glossaries TEC PCUSA Dialogue Jan 2021.docx?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/5r1fggoqzyhoiqo/local%20sharing%20of%20min%20with%20glossaries%20TEC%20PCUSA%20Dialogue%20Jan%202021.docx?dl=0)

End Notes

- (1) The Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) have been in ecumenical dialogue since the 19th century.
- (2) Adapted from *For the Sake of the Gospel: Mutual Recognition of Ordained Ministries in the Anglican and Uniting Churches in Australia*, 2001.
- (3) *The Nature and Purpose of the Church*, Faith and Order Paper No. 181 (Geneva: WCC, 1998), §9.
- (4) See *The Book of Common Prayer* p. 855: “The mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.”
- (5) See *Together Towards Life: Mission and Evangelism in Changing Landscapes*. Edited by Jooseop Keum (Geneva: WCC, 2013).
- (6) *The Church: Towards a Common Vision* (Faith and Order Paper No. 214) (Geneva: WCC, 2013), 26. Cf. Ignatius of Antioch’s Letter to the Magnesians 6 and 13; Letter to the Trallians 7; Letter to the Philadelphians 4; Letter to the Smyrnaeans 8.
- (7) See *The Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America* (Philadelphia: PCUSA, 1789), “bishop” and “pastor” are interchangeable, and it is the pastor, as moderator of

the session, that oversees as a member of the presbytery and presides at the ordination of elders and deacons. Cf “The Successor to Peter: A Paper for Discussion from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)”, Unilateral Discussion PC(USA) and Vatican. Louisville, Kentucky, December 6-7, 2000. Endnote 5, “It may be of some interest that prior to the 1983 reunion of the northern and southern branches of Presbyterianism, the Book of Order of the northern branch, the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., offered several titles for ministers of Word and Sacrament, among them the title ‘bishop.’ If one looks, say, at the roll calls in the minutes of the Presbytery of Philadelphia around the middle of the nineteenth century one will read ‘The following bishops were in attendance’ The concept was that every installed pastor of a congregation is bishop of a congregationally constituted diocese. He or she is surrounded by presbyters or ‘elders’ and assisted by ‘deacons.’” Here, on a small scale, as a parochial diocese, Presbyterians have the historic threefold ministry expressed by Ignatius.

(8) Prayers adapted from Catholic Church, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, *Ceremonial of Bishops: Revised by Decree of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council and Published by Authority of Pope John Paul II (Revised)*, “Rite of Ordination of Presbyter”. Liturgical Press, 1989.