

Core Values and Behaviors
The House of Bishops
of The Episcopal Church
Based on our Episcopal Ordination Vows

1. We have promised to be faithful in prayer and in the study of Holy Scriptures so that we may have the mind of Christ.

We therefore commit to pray for and with our brother and sister bishops, and to be faithful in worship whenever we are gathered as a House.

2. We have promised to proclaim and interpret the Gospel of Christ, enlightening the minds and stirring up the conscience of our people.

We therefore commit to engage in continuing education and formation together through the programs of the House of Bishops and the College for Bishops.

3. We have promised to encourage and support all baptized people in their gifts and ministries.

We therefore commit to work together as a House to provide sound teaching and clear guidance for living in our time.

4. We have promised to guard the faith, unity and discipline of the Church.

We therefore commit to making our House a living example of faith, unity and discipline by

Respecting every member of the House and honoring each other in all we do.

Submitting to each other in mutual accountability.

Accepting the responsibilities and joys of collegiality.

5. We have promised to share with our fellow bishops in the government of the whole Church.

We therefore commit to faithfully attending gatherings of the House of Bishops and to participating fully in House committees, task groups and other bodies.

6. We have promised to be merciful to all, to show compassion to the poor and strangers, and defend those who have no helper.

We therefore commit to be responsive to those in our House who feel marginalized or excluded, and those who are striving to offer their gifts more fully.

May God, who has given us the will to do these things, give us the grace and strength to accomplish them.