



The Evangelical Episcopal Communion

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Amen.

By the Grace of God and under the authority of its Constitution and Canons
hereby formally recognizes the

DIOCESE OF ST. POLYCARP
as an ecclesiastical province of the Evangelical Episcopal Communion, henceforth to be known as the

PROVINCE OF ST. POLYCARP

In recognition of its faithful growth, spiritual maturity, missional fruitfulness, and commitment to the historic Christian faith and apostolic order, the Province of St. Polycarp is granted all rights, responsibilities, privileges, and obligations belonging to a province within this Communion.
May its bishops shepherd with humility, its clergy serve with faithfulness, its congregations flourish in unity and love, and its ministries faithfully advance the gospel of Jesus Christ.

“Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

Revelation 2:10

Given under our hands and the seal of the Evangelical Episcopal Communion on this 14th day of July, in the
Year of Our Lord 2026.

Presiding Bishop

Patriarch



EVANGELICAL EPISCOPAL COMMUNION

Office of the Patriarch, the Most Rev. Dr. Russell McClanahan

Office of the Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev. Dr. Page Brooks, Presiding Bishop

To the Most Reverends Robert Wilson and Lawrence Harkless,
Archbishops of St. Polycarp

And to the Bishops, Clergy, Religious, and Faithful
of the Diocese of St. Polycarp

Grace, mercy, and peace be unto you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

It is with thanksgiving to Almighty God and great joy that the Evangelical Episcopal Communion formally recognizes the elevation and transition of the Diocese of St. Polycarp to the status of an ecclesiastical province within the Evangelical Episcopal Communion, henceforth to be known as the Province of St. Polycarp.

What began as a diocese has, by the grace of God, developed into a broader expression of episcopal ministry capable of providing oversight, unity, formation, and pastoral care across multiple dioceses and areas of mission.

Accordingly, the Evangelical Episcopal Communion receives and recognizes the Province of St. Polycarp as a duly constituted province of this Communion, possessing the ecclesiastical responsibilities and privileges appropriate to provincial status, subject to the Holy Scriptures, the historic faith and order of the Church, and the Constitution, Canons, concordats, and governing instruments of the Evangelical Episcopal Communion.

The Province of St. Polycarp shall continue to participate fully in the common life, mission, worship, and councils of the Evangelical Episcopal Communion. Its provincial leadership shall exercise spiritual and administrative oversight in a manner consistent with the catholic faith, apostolic order, servant leadership, mutual accountability, and covenantal relationships that unite the jurisdictions of our Communion.

We commend the Province of St. Polycarp to the example and intercession represented by its patron, St. Polycarp of Smyrna, bishop, martyr, and faithful witness to the apostolic faith. May the Province reflect his steadfast devotion to Christ, his pastoral care for the Church, and his courageous preservation of the faith once delivered to the saints.

We offer our gratitude to the episcopal leadership, clergy, and faithful who have labored faithfully to bring the Diocese of St. Polycarp to this significant moment. We also recognize that this elevation is not merely an honor but a sacred responsibility—a call to greater service, expanded mission, and the faithful formation of future generations.



EVANGELICAL EPISCOPAL COMMUNION

Office of the Patriarch, the Most Rev. Dr. Russell McClanahan

Office of the Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev. Dr. Page Brooks, Presiding Bishop

May the Holy Spirit guide the Province of St. Polycarp in this new season. May its bishops shepherd with humility, its clergy serve with faithfulness, its congregations flourish in love, and its ministries advance the gospel of Jesus Christ. May all its work contribute to the unity of the Church, the making of disciples, and the extension of God's kingdom throughout the world.

Given under our hands and seals on this 14th Day of July, in the Year of Our Lord 2026.

Yours in the service of Christ and His Church,

Archbishop Russell T. McClanahan

The Most Reverend Dr. Russell McClanahan
Patriarch, Evangelical Episcopal Communion

P. Brooks

The Most Reverend Dr. Page Brooks
Evangelical Episcopal Communion