THE 2018-2019 CHRISTIAN CALENDAR AS OBSERVED IN THE
CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Liturgical Calendar is made up of seven seasons. The seasons of the year are centered around the
birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ; the sending of the Holy Spirit to the Church and our
part in the Kingdom of God. Different Seasons of the Christian Year have liturgical colors and symbols
associated with them to remind us of the meaning of the season.

ADVENT: The Christian year begins four Sundays before Christmas (December 2, 2018). It is a time
of expectation and preparation of the coming Messiah. The color for this season is
PURPLE, which is symbolic of royalty, patience and mourning. Referred to as Sundays
in Advent.

Christmastide: December 25, 2018 through January 5, 2019 A time to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ,
Emmanuel. The color for this season is WHITE, which is symbolic of purity and joy.
Referred to as Sundays after Christmas Day.

THE EPIPHANY: Epiphany begins January 6, 2019 and continues until Ash Wednesday. Epiphany refers to
the Star of Bethlehem appearing after the birth of Jesus. We are made aware of God’s
presence in our reality. The color on the first Sunday is WHITE, thereafter the color is
GREEN, signifying the growing Church and the spreading of the Gospel Referred to as
Sundays of the Epiphany. Transfiguration Sunday is March 3, 2019 and the color is
WHITE.

LENT: The season of preparation and self-denial. Forty days, (excluding Sundays) before Easter.
A season of soul searching and repentance. It begins with Ash Wednesday (March 6, 2019)
and takes us through Jesus’ final days. During Holy Week we travel the final steps of Jesus
to the Cross. Palm Sunday (April 14, 2019)-Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Lent is
associated with Christ’s suffering and sacrifice. The color for this season is PURPLE
which is symbolic of patience and mourning. Referred to as Sundays in Lent.

EASTER: (April 21, 2019). Christ is Alive! As Disciples of Christ we are resurrected with Christ,
and live a life of joy. Easter season lasts for fifty days, in that period we hear again the
stories of the resurrected Christ as he appears to the disciples. Ascension is the fortieth
day after Easter. His ascent in to heaven. The color for this season is WHITE, which is
symbolic of purity and joy. Referred to as Sundays after Easter Day.

PENTECOST: On the day of Pentecost which is the seventh Sunday after Easter (June 9, 2019) we
celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the birth of the Church of Jesus Christ. Pentecost
recognizes the descent of the Holy Spirit. The color for this season is RED which is
symbolic of Blood and Fire. Referred to as Sundays after Pentecost.

KINGDOMTIDE: Begins with the last Sunday in August. The season of the Christian Year that we walk
with Jesus as he does miracles, tells His parables and feeds the hungry. This is the season
of fulfillment, of harvest in which the nature of the Kingdom of God is celebrated in a
special manner. The color for this season is GREEN which symbolizes hope and growth,
a season of spiritual growth for the Church. Referred to as Sundays in Kingdomtide.

Reformation Sunday: Is observed the Sunday nearest to October 31st. This celebration is in commemoration
of the Protestant movement. The color for this day is RED. (2019 Reformation Sunday
will be November 3rd and the color will be white since it is the First Sunday.)