

Christian Calendar 2015-2019
Quadrennial Theme: Spirituality for These Critical Times

Year 1 **The Essence of Christian Spirituality** (CC 2015-2016)

Scope 1 **Rootedness in the Faith**

Strand: **Jesus' Life and Times**

Season	Included Sundays	Celebration	Lectionary Title	Scriptural References	General Concept
Advent and Christmastide	(1)November 29, 2015	First Sunday of Advent	The Ethnic and Historical Roots of Jesus	Genesis 17:1-8 Matthew 1: 1-17	Jesus is a child of history and of his times.
	(2)December 6, 2015	Second Sunday of Advent/Family Sunday	The Call of Mary	Isaiah. 7:14 Luke 1:26-35	The woman chosen to be Jesus' mother was of lowly status in society.
	(3)December 13, 2015	Third Sunday of Advent/Human Rights Sunday	Living under the Powers of Domination	Isaiah 9:2-5 Luke 2:1-3	The family of Jesus lived under the dominating powers of the Roman Empire.
	(4)December 20, 2015	Fourth Sunday of Advent	The Birth of Jesus	Isaiah 9:6-7 Luke 2:4-7	Being born among the lowly, Jesus shared their aspirations to bring about a new era of shared prosperity, justice and peace.
	(5)December 27, 2015	First Sunday after Christmas	Announcing Jesus' Ministry	1 Samuel 2:1-10 Luke 1:46-53	Jesus imbibed his mother's character and standpoint towards the world.
	(6)January 3, 2016	Epiphany Sunday	A Light to the Nations	Isaiah 46:9 Matthew 2:1-11	God's offer of salvation includes all peoples.
	(7)January 10, 2016	First Sunday after Epiphany/Christian Unity	<u>Jesus Observing the Rites of His Faith/ Young</u>	<u>Genesis 17:9-13</u> <u>Leviticus 12:2-6</u> <u>Luke 2:21</u>	<u>The rites of the church embody its historic faith. Jesus</u>

Epiphany			<u>Jesus at the Temple</u>	<u>Psalm 122:1-9</u> <u>Luke 2:41-52</u>	<u>grew up being nurtured in the teachings of the faith.</u>
	(8)January 17, 2016	Second Sunday after Epiphany/National Bible Sunday	Simeon: Witness to the Appearance of the Messiah	Isaiah 40:31 Luke 2:22-38	Waiting for God's deliverance requires perseverance and patience. The Bible remains a faithful witness to the unfolding of God's plan of salvation.
	(9)January 24, 2016	Third Sunday after Epiphany	Escape to Egypt, Return to Israel	Hosea 11 Matthew 2:13-23	There were powerful forces that threaten the mission of the Messiah.
	(10)January 31, 2016	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany	John the Baptist: Preparing the Way of the Lord	Isaiah 40:3-5 Luke 3:1-20	Like John the Baptist preparing the way of the Lord, the church prepares the world for the coming of the Kingdom.
	(11)February 7, 2016	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany/Transfiguration Sunday	Moses, the Lawgiver and Elijah, the Prophet	Exodus 19:3-6 Luke 9:28-36	Moses and Elijah representing the Law and the Prophets point to Jesus as the Messiah.

Scope 2 **Identity**
 Strand: **Jesus, the Christ**

Season	Included Sundays	Celebration	Lectionary Title	Scriptural References	General Concept
Lent	(12)February 14, 2016	First Sunday in Lent	The Emergence of Jesus' Christhood	Isaiah 11:1-5 Matthew 16:13-16, 4:1-11	Reflecting on his religious heritage and personal history, Jesus came to realize his messianic destiny.
	(13)February 21, 2016	Second Sunday in Lent	Jesus as the Suffering Messiah	Isaiah 53:1-12 Matthew 16:21-23	Jesus embraced his destiny as a suffering Messiah.
	(14)February 28, 2016	Third Sunday in Lent	Jesus, the Messiah for All	Genesis 21:18-20 Matthew 15:21-28	The inclusiveness of Jesus' mission is formed through his encounters with outcasts and people of other faiths.
	(15)March 6, 2016	Fourth Sunday in Lent	Jesus' Encounters with the Powerful and Wealthy	Psalms 72:1-7 Mark 10:17-25	Jesus is challenging the powerful and the wealthy to become compassionate, repentant, and just.
	(16)March 13, 2016	Fifth Sunday in Lent	The Mystery of the Messianic Grace	Isaiah 58:6-12 Matthew 20:1-16	Jesus is the embodiment of God's grace.
	(17)March 20, 2016	Sixth Sunday in Lent/Palm Sunday	Entry to Jerusalem	Psalms 118:26 Mark 11:1-10	Jesus defines his being the Messiah not from the Jewish and imperial perspectives but according to God's call.
	(18)March 27, 2016	Resurrection Sunday	The Victory of the Crucified Messiah	Job 19:25-27 Luke 24:1-12 Matthew 4:11	God vindicated Jesus' choice as the Messiah.
	(19)April 3, 2016	First Sunday after	Encountering the	Joshua 1:9	The risen Messiah

Eastertide		Resurrection	Doubters and the Fearful	Mark 16:4-8 John 20:24-29	manifests himself to the doubting and fearful disciples. Experiencing the Risen Lord removes our doubts and fears.
	(20)April 10, 2016	Second Sunday after Resurrection	Witnessing to the Risen Lord	Isaiah 43:10-12 John 21:4-19	Having encountered the Risen Lord, the disciples went about telling the good news of God's victory over sin and death.
	(21)April 17, 2016	Third Sunday after Resurrection	Affirming Christ's Lordship	Psalms 24:1-2 1 Corinthians 10:14	The earth belongs to the Risen Lord and not to idols and gods shaped created by people.
	(22)April 24, 2016	Fourth Sunday after Resurrection	Knowing God through the Risen Christ	Psalms 2:7 Colossians 1:15-17	Jesus Christ is the expression of who God is for us.
	(23)May 1, 2016	Fifth Sunday after Resurrection	Mothering as a Messianic Function	1 Samuel 1:9-20 Matthew 23:37	Mothering is a way of witnessing to God.
	(24)May 8, 2016	Sixth Sunday after Resurrection	Glorification of the Crucified Messiah	Isaiah 52:13 Acts 1:6-11	Jesus' ascension has opened up our own destiny to share in his glory.

Scope 3 **Unity and Solidarity**

Strand: *The Church United as a Community of the Spirit of Christ*

Season	Included Sundays	Celebration	Lectionary Title	Scriptural References	General Concept
Pentecost	(25)May 15, 2016	Pentecost Sunday	The Birth of the Church	Genesis 11:1-9 Acts 2:1-13 John 16:12-16	The ascension of Christ is the moment of descent of the Holy Spirit.
	(26)May 22, 2016	First Sunday after Pentecost/Trinity Sunday/UCCP Sunday	Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit	Isaiah 42:1-4 Matthew 28:19 Ephesians 4:4-6	As Jesus Christ ascended to the Father, the Holy Spirit was sent forth from the Father and the Son.
	(27)May 29, 2016	Second Sunday after Pentecost	The Holy Spirit and Christian Spirituality	Isaiah 61:1-2 Luke 4:16-21	The Spirit of Christ liberates, transforms, and empowers.
	(28)June 5, 2016	Third Sunday after Pentecost	The Liberating Power of the Spirit	Exodus 5:1 Galatians 5:13	The Spirit brings freedom from all forms of material and spiritual bondage.
	(29)June 12, 2016	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	The Transforming Presence of the Holy Spirit	Isaiah 65:17-25 Revelation 21:5	Jesus grew up being nurtured in the teachings of the faith.
	(30)June 19, 2016	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	The Empowering Power of the Spirit	Zechariah 4:6 Exodus 4:1-17 Acts 4:1-13 Ephesians 4:13	The Holy Spirit empowers the church to be bold in proclaiming the Gospel, and equips it to fulfill her tasks.
	(31)June 26, 2016	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost	The Unifying Power of the Spirit	Jeremiah 32:38-39 John 17:20-21	: There is unity in the diverse expressions of faith, practice, and

					worship. Unity is expressed in the common confession of Christ and adherence to the Statement of Faith, conformity to the programs and policies of the church, sharing of gifts among churches, and a common witness in the community.
(32)July 3, 2016	Seventh Sunday after Pentecost	The Forgiving Power of the Spirit	Jeremiah 31:34 Luke 15:11-24		The Holy Spirit makes a forgiving community by restoring the alienated back to the fellowship of the church.
(33)July 10, 2016	Eighth Sunday after Pentecost	The Reconciling Power of the Holy Spirit	Genesis 33:1-17 Philemon 1:1-35		The Holy Spirit heals broken relationships.
(34)July 17, 2016	Ninth Sunday after Pentecost	The Nurturing and Equipping Power of the Spirit	Exodus 4:1-17 Ephesians 4:11-12		The Holy Spirit instructs the faithful on the enduring faith of the church which equips them to face the challenges of the present realities.
(35)July 24, 2016	Tenth Sunday after Pentecost	The Welcoming Presence of the Holy Spirit	Ruth 2:1-16 Galatians 3:28		The Holy Spirit breaks down barriers that divide the church and society to form an inclusive community.

	(36)July 31, 2016	Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost	The Comforting and Sustaining Presence of the Holy Spirit	Isaiah 40:1-2 Matthew 5:4, 11:28-30	The Holy Spirit enables the church to bring comfort to the distressed and hurting and to sustain those who suffer in order for them to live in hope.
	(37)August 7, 2016	Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost	The Redeeming Power of the Holy Spirit	Hosea 3:1-5 Mark 10:45	A redemptive church gives up something of herself to free the captives from the powers to enable them to regain their dignity.
	(38)August 14, 2016	Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost	The Convicting Power of the Holy Spirit	2 Samuel 12:1-10 Luke 19:1-10	The Holy Spirit convicts the church of her complacency, false righteousness, timidity, and inaction.
	(39)August 21, 2016	Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost	The Equipping Power of the Holy Spirit	Exodus 4:1-17 Ephesians 4:11-12	The gift of the Holy Spirit equips the church to fulfill her tasks.

Scope 4 **Fruitful Lifeworks**

Strand: ***The Church Bearing the Fruit of the Spirit***

Season	Included Sundays	Celebration	Lectionary Title	Scriptural References	General Concept
Kingdomtide	(40)August 28, 2016	First Sunday in Kingdomtide/Mission Sunday	Love as a Kingdom Value	Deuteronomy 6:5 1 Corinthians 13:13	Underlying everything, the church does is love, without which, her works are nothing. It is the sacrificial love lived out by Jesus.
	(41)September 4, 2016	Second Sunday in Kingdomtide	Joy as a Kingdom Value	Psalms 100 Habakkuk 3:17-18 Philippians 4:4-7	The church rejoices in the midst of adversities.
	(42)September 11, 2016	Third Sunday in Kingdomtide	Peace as a Kingdom Value	Isaiah 32:16-18 Matthew 5:9	The church participates in peace building by uncovering the roots of injustice and pursuing genuine peace.
	(43)September 18, 2016	Fourth Sunday in Kingdomtide	Patience as a Kingdom Value	Isaiah 40:28-31 Lamentations 3:26 Luke 8:15	Patience means not falling into despair, nor giving up hope in the coming of salvation.
	(44)September 25, 2016	Fifth Sunday in Kingdomtide	Kindness as a Kingdom Value	Micah 6:8 Luke 10:25-37	The church is compassionate and sensitive to the needs of the people and acts to address their situation.
	(45)October 2, 2016	Sixth Sunday in Kingdomtide	Goodness as a Kingdom Value	Psalms 23:6 Psalm 31:19	Goodness is found in the church that

				Romans 12:2	chooses right from wrong, truth from falsehood, and justice from the injustice.
(46)October 9, 2016	Seventh Sunday in Kingdomtide	Faithfulness as a Kingdom Value		Ruth 1:16-17 Hosea 2:19-20 Mark 8:34	A faithful church is loyal and obedient to Christ.
(47)October 16, 2016	Eighth Sunday in Kingdomtide	Humility as a Kingdom Value		Proverbs 11:2 Mark 10:35-45	The church governs by humble service.
(48)October 23, 2016	Ninth Sunday in Kingdomtide	Discipline as a Kingdom Value		Proverbs 29:11 1 Samuel 21:1-8 1 Corinthians 9:25	The church adheres to values and principles rather than personal interests to prevail.
(49)October 30, 2016	Tenth Sunday in Kingdomtide	Continuing Transformation of the Church as a Kingdom Value		2 Kings 22:11-20 23:1-3 Romans 14:17	The UCCP as heir of the Reformation believes in the continuing transformation of the church.
(50)November 6, 2016	Eleventh Sunday in Kingdomtide	Pastoral Formation: Its Role in Kingdom Building		1 Samuel 3:1-19 2 Timothy 1:11-14	The church is served by a ministry that grows with the congregation under the guidance of ecclesiastical leaders.
(51)November 13, 2016	Twelfth Sunday in Kingdomtide	Ministering to the Migrant Workers and their Families		Psalms 137:1-6 Acts 28:2	The church undertakes special ministries to the migrant workers and their families.
(52)November 20, 2016	Thirteenth Sunday in Kingdomtide	Gathering the Fruit of the Spirit		Isaiah 57:14-16 Ephesians 5:17-21 2 Peter 1:5-7 1 Corinthians 12:1-11	The ministries of church reflect the presence of the Spirit in its life and work.