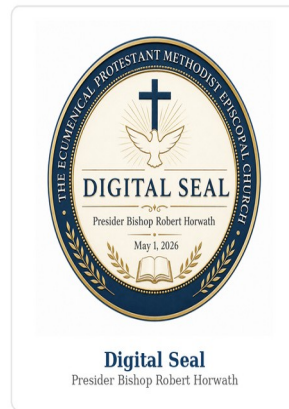


INSTRUMENT OF INSTITUTION AND FOUNDING THE ECUMENICAL PROTESTANT METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Founded May 1, 2026

Official Ecclesiastical Emblems

The Ecumenical Protestant Methodist Episcopal Church



Founding Declaration

On May 1, 2026, Presider Bishop Robert Horwath, a baptized Christian minister and founder, instituted and founded The Ecumenical Protestant Methodist Episcopal Church as an independent Protestant Methodist-Anglican and Episcopal church for the worship of Almighty God, the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the administration of the sacraments and rites of the Church, the formation of clergy and laity, and the fulfillment of the Great Commission.

Founder's Ecclesiastical Record Note

For the internal religious record of the Church, the Founder records his prior reception of ecclesiastical orders under the name Andrew Michael, including ordination to the diaconate on June 28, 2022, ordination to the priesthood on March 1, 2023, and consecration to the episcopate on March 1, 2023, as reflected in the uploaded ordination and consecration record. The Church receives this record as part of the Founder's ecclesiastical history while also declaring that the continuing authority, doctrine, worship, ministry, and discipline of this Church are governed by its own Constitution, Canons, Bylaws, Articles of Religion, standards, and written instruments.

Name and Identity

The Church is constituted under the name The Ecumenical Protestant Methodist Episcopal Church, abbreviated EPMEC. It may publicly describe its members as Methodist Episcopalians. It is not affiliated with, subordinate to, sponsored by, or legally connected to any existing Methodist, Anglican, Episcopal, Roman Catholic, or other denomination.

Foundational Standards

The Church receives as its standards Holy Scripture; the Apostles', Nicene, and Athanasian Creeds; the Thirty-Nine Articles/Articles of Religion; the 1662 Book of Common Prayer; the Ordinal as adapted or received; Wesley's doctrinal sermons and Explanatory Notes upon the New Testament where consistent with the Church's formularies; the General Rules; and these Constitution, Canons, and Bylaws.

Official Bible and Prayer Book

The official Bible of the Church is the King James Bible with Apocrypha. The official prayer book is the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, received and adapted for the doctrine, worship, discipline, mission, and technological age of this Church.

Polity and Corporation Sole

The Church is governed under Christ by the Presider Bishop as Founder, Head of the Church, Supreme Ordinary, and Corporation Sole. The Church is not governed by a synod, conference, convention, connectional structure, congregational vote, or parliamentary body. All missionary bishops, bishops, priests, deacons, lay ministers, members, missions, parishes, and institutes of the Church are subordinate to the Presider Bishop and to the binding standards of this Church.

Orders, Online Mission, and Sacraments

The Church may appoint, ordain, receive, license, or recognize deacons, priests, and bishops in person or online by written instrument, recorded declaration, two-way video, or other reliable technological means under the authority of the Presider Bishop. As adapted for the technological age, the needs of the people, and the mission of the Church under the Great Commission, the Church permits online sacraments and rites as provided in its canons and pastoral directives; however, Holy Baptism must be administered in person with water in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Institutional Effect

This Instrument of Institution is included in the total governing document of the Church and is to be read together with the Constitution, Canons, Bylaws, Articles of Religion, standards, official style, legal and religious liberty declarations, and promulgation page. It is an internal ecclesiastical act and public religious declaration, not a substitute for civil filing, tax, insurance, zoning, property, employment, or legal advice.

Perpetual Deposit and Successor Limitation

No future Presider Bishop, successor corporation sole, bishop, clergy member, lay member, council, committee, synod, conference, convention, connection, corporation, trustee, or group has authority to alter, replace, abolish, suspend, or redefine the Articles of Religion, the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, the King James Bible with Apocrypha, the adapted or received Ordinal, the Creeds, the General Rules, Wesleyan doctrinal standards as received, the Constitution, Canons, Bylaws, or the essential government of the Church. Any attempted alteration is null, void, and invalid ipso facto within the internal ecclesiastical law of the Church and automatically separates and excommunicates the actor from the communion and ministry of the Church.



Virtual Signature of Presider Bishop Robert Horwath

Presider Bishop Robert Horwath, Founder, Head of the Church, Supreme Ordinary, and Corporation Sole

Institution Date: May 1, 2026 | Publication Date: June 15, 2026