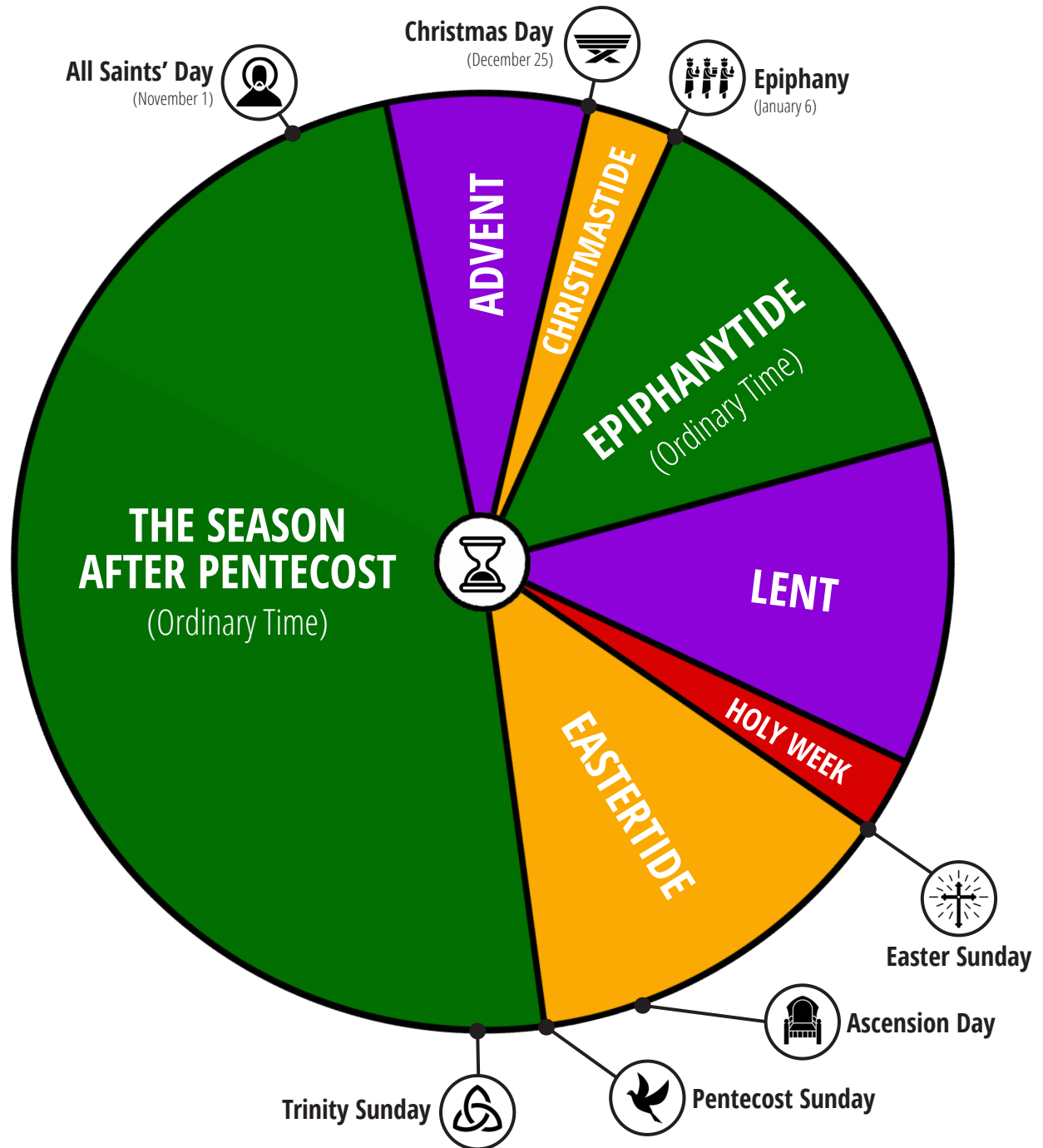


The Calendar of the Church Year

“Redeeming the time” (Ephesians 5:16)
“Declaring to you the whole counsel of God” (Acts 20:27)





The Calendar of the Church Year

* = Additional days not included on the main graphic.



ADVENT. "Advent" means "coming." A season of waiting and watching for the Lord's first (and second) coming. Begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas. *Color: Purple or Blue.*

Christmas Day (aka the Feast of Our Lord's Nativity). A celebration of Christ's birth by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary. Always December 25. *Color: White or Gold.*

CHRISTMASTIDE (aka Christmas Season). A 12-day celebration of the Lord's coming. Begins on Christmas Day and ends on January 5, the day before Epiphany. *Color: White or Gold.*

The Epiphany (aka the Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles). "Epiphany" means "manifestation." A celebration of Christ's incarnate life and his manifestation to the magi, and thus to the Gentiles. Also called "Three Kings' Day." Always on January 6.

EPIPHANYTIDE. The season after Epiphany (ordinary time). *Color: Green.*

**The Baptism of the Lord.* The first Sunday after Epiphany. A commemoration of Christ's baptism in the Jordan River by John the Baptist. *Color: White.*

**Ash Wednesday.* The first day of Lent. A day of prayer and fasting. "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." *Color: Purple or Black.*

LENT. A 40-day period of prayer and fasting to prepare for Easter and commemorate Christ's 40-day fast in the wilderness. Ends on Maundy Thursday. *Color: Purple.*

HOLY WEEK. Begins on Passion/Palm Sunday and ends Easter Day. *Color: Red or Purple.*

**Paschal Triduum (aka Easter Triduum).* The main events of Holy Week. Begins on the evening of Maundy Thursday, runs through Good Friday and Holy Saturday, and ends on Easter Day.

Easter Sunday. A celebration of the resurrection. "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!" *Color: White or Gold.*

EASTERTIDE. A fifty-day season that begins on Easter Day and ends on Pentecost Sunday. A celebration of Christ's resurrection and the hope of new creation. *Color: White or Gold.*

Ascension Day. Forty days after Easter Day. A celebration of Christ's exaltation to the right hand of the Father. Also called Holy Thursday. *Color: White.*

Pentecost Sunday. Fifty days after Easter Day. A celebration of the Holy Spirit being poured out from the risen and ascended Christ upon the church. *Color: Red.*

THE SEASON AFTER PENTECOST. The time of the church. *Color: Green.*

Trinity Sunday. The Sunday after Pentecost Sunday. A celebration of the God of the gospel, having celebrated the gospel of God (the Son's incarnation and the Spirit's outpouring) in the previous seasons. *Color: White.*

All Saints' Day. A solemn feast honoring the whole communion of saints. *Color: White.*

**Christ the King Sunday.* The final Sunday of the church calendar (i.e., the Sunday before the first Sunday of Advent). A proclamation of Christ's universal sovereignty. *Color: White.*