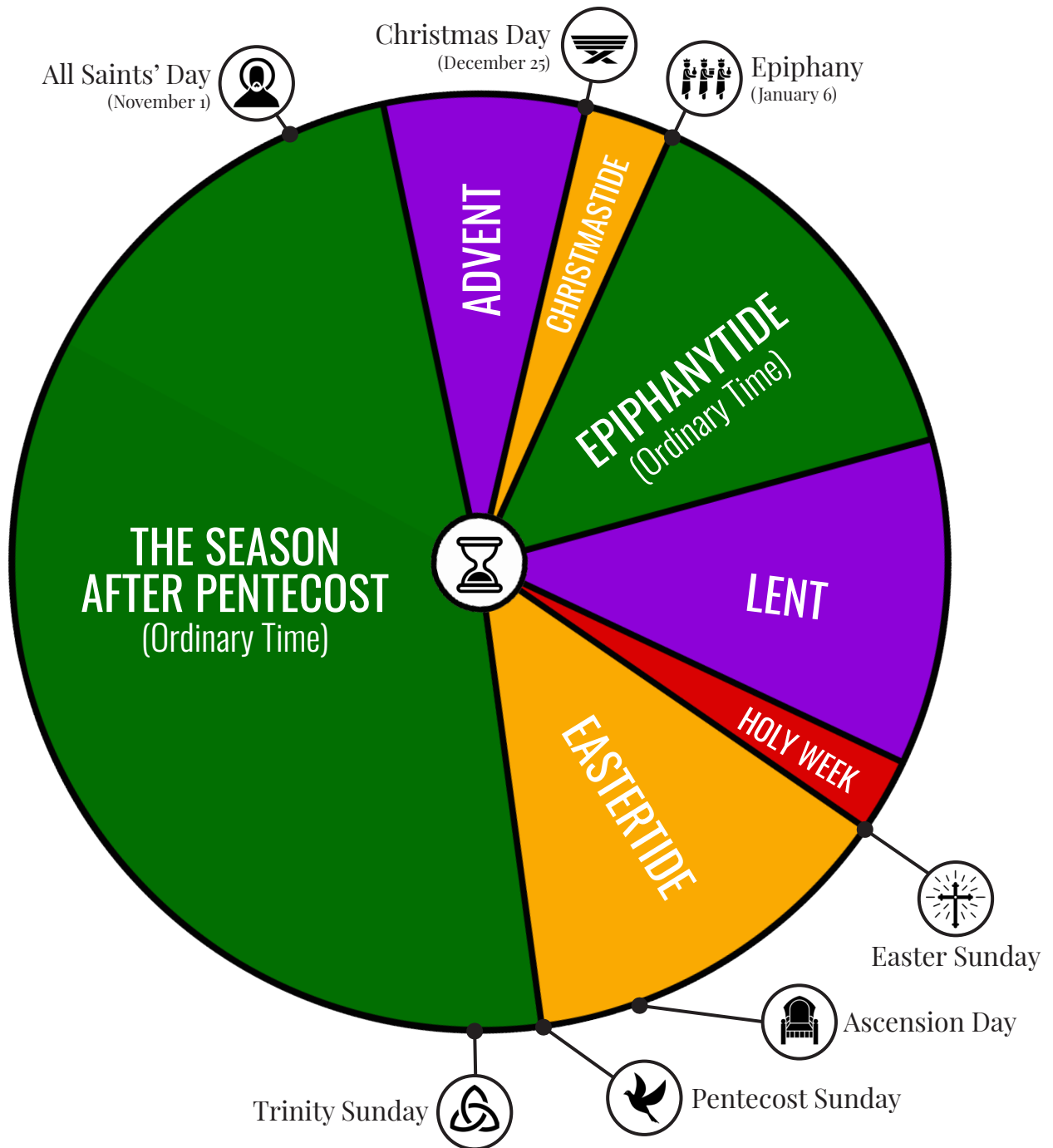


Calendar of the Church Year

Redeeming the Time Together

“Declaring to you the whole counsel of God.” (Acts 20:27)

“Redeeming the time.” (Ephesians 5:16)





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 coming at Christmas, and for his second coming to judge the living and the dead. The first season of the Christian year. Begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas. *Color: Purple.*

Christmas Day (aka the Feast of Our Lord’s Nativity). Always December 25. *Color: White.*

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

The Epiphany (aka the Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles). “Epiphany” means “manifestation.” A celebration of Christ’s life and his manifestation to the magi (wise men), and thus to the Gentiles (non-Jews). 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.*

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. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! *Color: White or Gold.*

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

Ascension Day. Fortieth day of Easter. A celebration of Christ’s exaltation to the Father’s right hand. Also called Holy Thursday. Sometimes observed on the following Sunday. *Color: White.*

Pentecost Sunday. Fiftieth day of Easter. 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. A time to renew the church’s focus on evangelism and discipleship. *Color: Green.*

Trinity Sunday. The Sunday after Pentecost Sunday. A celebration of the Triune God, having celebrated the works of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit 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.*