

The Place Bible Study

September 15, 2020

Understanding the Christian Year/Seasons

• The Christian year divides first into the seasons that lead us through the birth, life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus, the Christ: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Holy Week (a part of Lent), and Easter, which ends on the Day of Pentecost. This is followed by the long Season After Pentecost, when, baptized by God's fiery Spirit, the focus becomes our sending to the world God so loves, in light of the story of Jesus we have lived through once again in the first part of the year.

Understanding the Christian Year Seasons (cont'd)

• Each cycle of seasons spiral us ever deeper into what God calls us to—whole and abundant life for all. The Christian year is a gift of time marked by what God has done for us, none of which we could do for ourselves. It has been called "the church's year of grace."

What is Lectionary?

 Three-year cycle of weekly lections is composed by and used by the vast majority of mainline Protestant churches in Canada and the United States.

The gospel readings for each year come from one of the book of gospels according to the following pattern:

Year A – Matthew Year B – Mark Year C – Luke
Readings of John are found throughout the lectionary.
Once you complete the three-year cycle you've read through almost the entire bible.

- Built around the seasons of the Church Year, and includes four listing of scriptures for each Sunday:
 - (1) Old Testament (2) Psalm (3) Epistles (4) Gospel reading

The seasons of the Church Year reflect the life of Christ. Consequently, the gospel lections for each Sunday provide the focus for that day.

Revised common Lectionary 2020 Year A				
Epiphany 2019	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Liturgical Colour: W	hite			
Epiphany January 5	Isaiah 60:1-6	Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12
Baptism of our Lord January 12	Isaiah 42:1-9	Psalm 29	Acts 10:34-43	Matthew 3:13-17
2 nd Sun Epiphany January 19	Isaiah 49:1-7	Psalm 40:1-11	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	John 1:29-42
3 rd Sun Epiphany January 26	Isaiah 9:1-4	Psalm 27:1, 4-9	1 Corinthians 1:10- 18	Matthew 4:12-23
4 th Sun Epiphany 5 February 2	Micah 6:1-8	Psalm 15	1 Corinthians 1:18- 31	Matthew 5:1-12
5 th Sun Epiphany February 9	Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12)	Psalm 112:1-9 (10)	1 Corinthians 2:1- 12 (13-16)	Matthew 5:13-20
6 th Sun Epiphany February 16	Deuteronomy 30:15- 20	Psalm 119:1-8	1 Corinthians 3:1-9	Matthew 5:21-37
7th Sun Epiphany February 23	Exodus 24:12-18	P≨alm 2 or 99	2 Peter 1:16-21	Matthew 17:1-9

Daily Readings for Year B

Go to Today's Readings

Note: For the readings after Pentecost: the first reading pairs with the semi-continuous strand of

Thursday, November 26, 2020: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Zechariah 13:1-9; Revelation 14:6-13 Friday, November 27, 2020: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Zechariah 14:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-18 Saturday, November 28, 2020: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Micah 2:1-13; Matthew 24:15-31 Sunday, November 29, 2020: First Sunday of Advent. Monday, November 30, 2020: Psalm 79; Micah 4:1-5; Revelation 15:1-8

Tuesday, December 1, 2020: Psalm 79; Micah 4:6-13; Revelation 18:1-10

Wednesday, December 2, 2020: Psalm 79; Micah 5:1-5a; Luke 21:34-38

Thursday, December 3, 2020: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; Hosea 6:1-6; 1 Thessalonians 1:2-10

Friday, December 4, 2020: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; Jeremiah 1:4-10; Acts 11:19-26

Saturday, December 5, 2020: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; Ezekiel 36:24-28; Mark 11:27-33

Sunday, December 6, 2020: Second Sunday of Advent

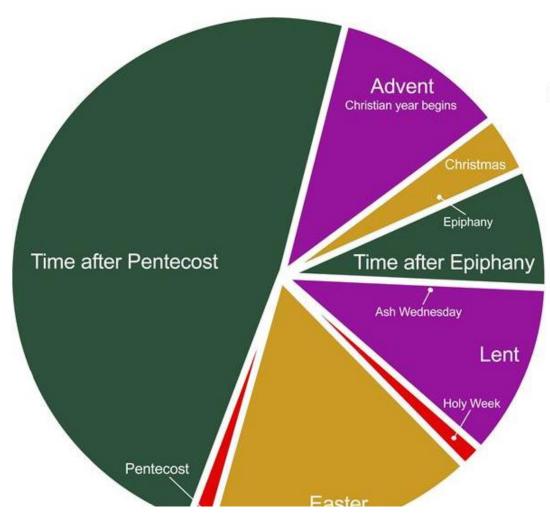
Monday, December 7, 2020: Psalm 27, Isalah 26:7-15; Acts 2:37-42

Tuesday, December 8, 2020: Psalm 27; Isaiah 4:2-6; Acts 11:1-18

Wednesday, December 9, 2020: Psalm 27, Malachi 2:10-3:1; Luke 1:5-17

Thursday, December 10, 2020: Psalm 126; Habakkuk 2:1-5; Philippians 7-7-14

The Christian Year



Colors of the Christian Year

The colors express visually what is happening in the life of the church. Each color symbolizes the nature of the season or festival being celebrated.

- Advent purple or blue
- Christmas gold or white
- Ordinary Time green
- Lent purple
- Holy Week red
- Easter gold or white
- Pentecost red
- Ordinary Time green

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Purple/blue – royalty.

Gold/White – White symbolizes purity, holiness, as well as respect and reverence. Gold symbolizes what is precious and valuable,.... Gold is refined by fire...an enduring substance, or wealth.

Green – Green symbolizes the renewal of vegetation and generally of living things and the promise of new life – green pastures in our lives.

Red – flame and fire of the holy spirit, symbolizes **redemption** for it is by the blood of Jesus that we are redeemed from sin. It is through the blood of Jesus that we have **salvation**.

Season of Epiphany

Epiphany comes from the Greek word which means to show or reveal, when Christ was revealed to non-Jews.

Epiphany of The Lord

12 days after Christmas, January 6th. Also known as "Three Kings Day" or "Feast of Epiphany".

It is the Celebration of the coming of the three wise men (magi) who brought gifts to the Christ child.

Season after The Epiphany (Ordinary Time)

The season length varies because it ends when the season of Lent begins. The three main events focused on during the Epiphany season are the visit of the wise men (Magi), the baptism of Jesus, and Jesus' miracle at the marriage at Cana.



- The First Sunday of Epiphany: The Baptism of Jesus
- The Second Sunday of Epiphany: The Wedding at Cana—Jesus turns water into wine
- The Third Sunday of Epiphany: The Calling of the First Disciples
- The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany: The Purification of Mary and the Presentation of Jesus
- The Last Sunday: The Transfiguration of Jesus



Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday, "Day of Ashes", begins the first day of the season of Lent (season of preparation for Easter). Ash Wednesday is a time of repentance. It is a reminder when Christians confess their sins, profess their devotion to God and the need for reconciliation with God.

Ashes in the form of a cross on the forehead and fasting are symbolic of this day. We see these acts of repentance biblically in instances of sackcloth and ashes.



A Time of Renewal and Preparation

The period of 40 days (not counting the Sundays) before Easter in the Christian calendar; it is a time of reflection for many Christians as they prepare to remember and celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.



- Attend Ash Wednesday Service with Family
- Read the book of Mark, reflecting on Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.
- Get a Lenten Devotional book for daily reading and reflection.
- Do 40 days of something-special prayers for family, church, neighbors; 40-day project that helps others
- Fasting food or giving up a habit