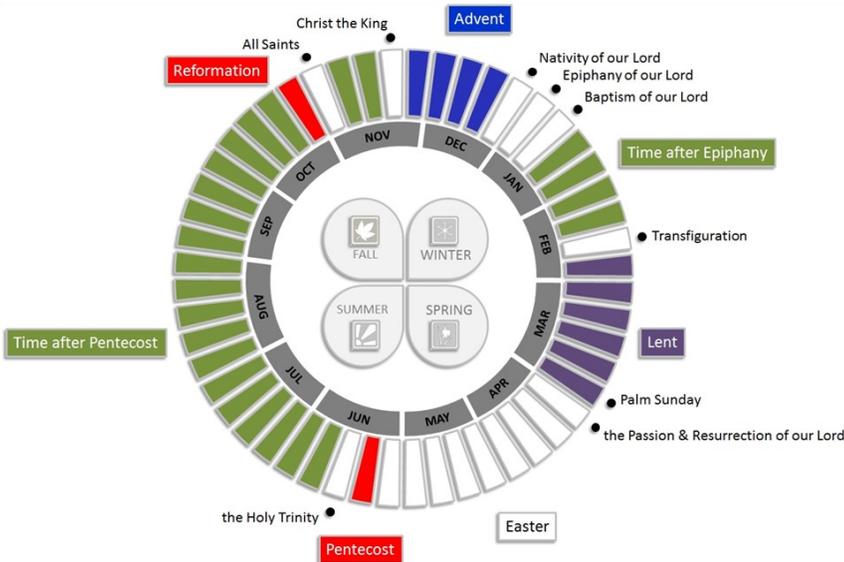


Worship & Music News



Ever wonder about our Lutheran Calendar and the colors of our season? I have and what a surprise!!

It was our first Bible Study on Wednesday night, Pastor Kim was leading and we were going to read our first reading when she mentioned we first must read the Pray of the Day. Pastor had look up the prayer and said the prayer is from our calendar year “B”.

Calendar??? “A” “B” “C” (that is another interesting point maybe for later). I thought this would be very interesting to look deeper into and share. My source of information is found on the ELCA website.

Many of the colors are associate with the seasons and are closely linked with the experience of Christians in the Northern hemisphere. Christians in the Southern hemisphere will experience the church year differently.

Advent: Blue is associated with Advent suggesting Hope. This originated in Scandinavia, probably because purple dye was to expensive for churches to use.

Christmas: White is calling to mind the purity of the newborn Christ and to our light and joy in him. Some also use Gold.

Epiphany of Our Lord: White (see Christmas)

Baptism of Our Lord: White (see Christmas)

Time after Epiphany: Green is used for its symbolism of our growth in Christ. Green, in a sense , is a “neutral color” used when more festive or more somber color is not appointed.

Transfiguration of Our Lord: White (see Christmas)

Ash Wednesday: Purple is the preferred color, as this is the first day of Lent. Historically, black has also been used on this day, since it is the color of the ashes to which we will all return.

Lent: Purple is associated with Lent suggesting repentance and solemnity.

Sunday of the Passion: Scarlet is the preferred color of this day of Holy week as it suggest the deep color of blood. (Scarlet is to be distinguished from the brighter color of red, which is appointed for the Day of Pentecost, Martyrs’ Days, and certain church celebrations). If a church does not have scarlet vestments, purple may be used.

Days of Holy Week: Scarlet or purple may be used for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week.

Maundy Thursday: For this fourth day of Holy Week celebrated as the institution of the Lord’s Supper, scarlet or white is used.

Good Friday: No vestments or paraments are used on this day after the stripping of the altar on Maundy Thursday night.

Vigil of Easter: White or Gold used on this night, suggests of joy in the Resurrection.

Easter Day: Gold or white is suggested for this day. The gold color symbolizes that this day is the “Queen of Feasts”.

Sunday of Easter: White suggests the joy of the Resurrection.

Day of Pentecost: Red, as the color of fire, is used this day when we remember the tongues of fire descended on the crowd in Jerusalem.

The Holy Trinity: White, the joy of the Resurrection.

Time after Pentecost: Green, to indicate our growth in faith as we follow the teaching and ministry of Christ.

Christ the King: The final day of the Church year uses White, a festive color suggesting light, joy, and the celebration of our Lord.